

News-item captioned "Skeletons in RBI Cupboard"

1346. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been invited to a news which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 29th April, 1982 under the heading 'Skeletons in RBI cupboard;

(b) the persons responsible for the theft of Rs. 1.19 lakhs from the bins in an underground vault of the Reserve Bank of India;

(c) the action taken against the persons involved in theft;

(d) whether all the bins have since been checked and found intact; and

(e) what precautionary measures have been taken to avoid such thefts in future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Reserve Bank of India has lodged a complaint with the Delhi Police and the police investigations are in progress. Reserve Bank has reported that one class IV employee of the bank is suspected to be responsible for the theft of Rs. 1,10,00/-. The action to be taken against the persons involved would depend upon the outcome of the police investigation.

(d) Reserve Bank of India has reported that the work of checking up all the bins is in progress and so far no other shortage or irregularity has been detected.

(e) In the light of the findings of this case, Reserve Bank of India have issued certain comprehensive instructions to all its offices to avoid thefts of such nature in future.

New regional rural banks for Madhya Pradesh

1347. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently Reserve Bank of India has approved five

new regional rural banks for Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when the new Regional Rural Bank is going to start its work in Vidisha district?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b). The Reserve Bank of India has recommended to the Government establishment of five new regional rural banks for covering the following districts in Madhya Pradesh:—

1. Bhind and Morena
2. Chhindwarah and Seoni
3. Mandsaur and Ratlam
4. Shahadol
5. Balaghat and Mandla

(c) There is no recommendation of the Reserve Bank of India at present for the establishment of a Regional Rural Bank in Vidisha district.

Bank robberies in Metropolitan Cities

1348. SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN:
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many bank robberies were committed in the capital and other metropolitan cities like Bombay, Calcutta and Madras during the last two years (year-wise) and what is the amount involved;

(b) what positive measures have been taken by Government to improve the security system in the banks to prevent bank robberies;

(c) have Governmental reviewed the working of the security arrangements with a view to bringing improvements; if so, details thereto; and

(d) in how many cases of bank robberies have been solved and what is the amount that has been recovered so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (d). A statement indicating the number of bank robberies/dacoities that took place in the Metropolitan Cities of Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Delhi during the years 1980 and 1981 along with the amount involved, the number of cases where the culprits have been apprehended and the amount recovered is enclosed.

(b) and (c). As bank dacoities & robberies are essentially a law & order matter, the State Governments are expected to take adequate measures to curb dacoities and robberies and apprehend the culprits when they are committed. Public Sector

Banks have also been instructed to tighten the security measures within their premises. Detailed instructions have also been issued by Government to public sector banks regarding the specific additional security measures that should be taken by them. It may not be desirable in the public interest to disclose the details of these measures.

Finance Minister has also, during a meeting with the Chief Executives of Public Sector Banks held at Delhi on 6th July 1982, asked them to tighten the security arrangements within the banks. Government have also decided to set up a high powered Committee to review the security arrangements in Banks.

STATEMENT

CASES OF BANK DACOITIES/ROBBERIES DURING THE YEAR 1980 AND 1981 IN METROPOLITAN CITIES

Sl. No.	Name of the City	No. of cases	Total Amount involved	No. of cases where culprits have been apprehended	Amount recovered
1980					
1.	Delhi;			Nil	
2.	Bombay			Nil	
3.	Calcutta	1	2,41,096	1	9,000
4.	Madras			Nil	
1981					
1.	Delhi	2	7,66,920	2	2,25,000
3.	Bombay	1	1,00,000	1	1,00,000
3.	Calcutta	2	4,40,000	1	10,000
4.	Madras			Nil	

Fall in gold price owing to smuggling from Gulf Countries

1349. SHRI A. T. PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of gold in India have fallen during the recent few weeks;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware that the smuggling of gold from Gulf countries into India in excessive quantities is the major reasons for the fall of prices of gold; and

(d) if so, special measures proposed to be taken by Government to check the smuggling of gold?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir,