

corporating the concept of 'area approach' to the task of banking development and securing increased involvement of the commercial banks in development of the economy at district level. A coordinated action on the part of all the banks operating in a district together with State agencies concerned with developmental programme to increase the flow of credit to credit supported economically viable productive activity is the essence of the Scheme. To achieve this objective coordination forums have been created at the district level. Lead Banks have strengthened their administrative infrastructure in their lead districts. Other banks have also designated District Coordinators to facilitate liaison. Reserve Bank of India have designated specific officers (Lead District Officers) to closely oversee the implementation of the Scheme in specific districts allotted to them, to facilitate increased loaning. District Credit Plans are being prepared by the Lead Banks and are being implemented by commercial banks and cooperative banks jointly.

In view of the foregoing it would not be correct to say that the Lead Bank Scheme has proved to be a failure, although it is recognised that conceptually the Scheme has greater potential. Efforts are being made to achieve this potential through the strengthening of the Coordination machinery, reorienting the attitudes of the personnel towards the concept of joint effort, improving the quality of credit planning, establishing a linkage between district credit planning and performance budgeting and evolving a functional system of monitoring and evaluation.

Spy Network operating in Air Headquarters

*139. SHRI SATYAPAL MALIK:

SHRI RAMCHANDRA
BHARADWAJ:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Air Force intelligence authorities have unearthed a spy network operating in the Air Headquarters in New Delhi;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) what action has been taken by Government against the persons apprehended in this connection; and

(d) what steps have been taken to check such activities?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) to (d) An incident of a junior official of Air Headquarters carrying a way certain unclassified papers from his office was detected during a surprise check, on 21-1-1983 at closing hours. He was arrested on 29-1-1983. Thorough investigations have been made by all concerned agencies and it is found that it was a case of theft of waste papers/forms etc. and that it was not a case of spying.

Arrears of Income Tax against big industrial houses

*140. SHRI RAMANAND
YADAV:

SHRIMATI AMARJIT
KAUR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large amounts of income tax arrears are pending against big industrial houses in the country for the last four year; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what measures are proposed to be taken by Government to recover these arrears?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table the House.