

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:304

ANSWERED ON:03.07.2009

LEAD BANK SCHEME

Patel Shri Bal Kumar;Rao Shri Nama Nageswara;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a high-level Committee set up by the Government to review the functioning of Lead Bank Scheme has submitted its Report;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE(SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (c): Pursuant to the announcement in the mid-term review of Annual Policy for the year 2007-08, the High Level Committee was constituted by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) under the chairpersonship of Smt. Usha Thorat, Deputy Governor, RBI to review the Lead Bank Scheme (LBS). In its draft Report, the Committee has concluded that the LBS is useful and needs to continue. It has, inter alia, recommended that the scope of the LBS should cover initiatives for financial inclusion, financial literacy and an improved information system for reporting and monitoring progress. The draft Report of the Committee has been placed by the RBI on its website www.rbi.org.in for comments pending finalisation and implementation.