

SLBC



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M E S S A G E

Since introduction of Lead Bank Scheme (LBS) in 1969, the member banks of the State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) have helped, over the years, in filling spatial gaps in the spread of branch network, orderly growth of institutional credit and have brought about the much need coordination among the various institutions in the rural areas. SLBC has emerged as an effective fora under LBS and SLBC is taking proactive role for all round development of the State at generating plentiful economic opportunities for the underprivileged & deprived sections of the society.

Though much has been achieved in this field, the scheme is still relevant as the country has a substantial number of people below the poverty line and they are still deprived of the services offered by Indians banking sector. It is the responsibility of the banks to bring 'the hitherto excluded people into the banking fold by opening of No-Frills account and issuing General Credit Cards etc at a concessional rate of interest. Sincere efforts need to be taken by banks as a challenge for 100% financial inclusion in the coming years to ensure that the benefits of high economic growth percolate to the poorest of the poor.

The Banks in the State of west Bengal are actively participating in the developmental activities of SMEs and allied activities of agriculture for sustaining the well being of the rural economy by offering various kinds of loans to the farmers, artisans SHGs and different employment generation schemes. Their contribution in the socio-economic upliftment of the people in the State of West Bengal is commendable under the leadership of the Convener Bank, SLBC and proper guidance of the Government, RBI & NABARD.

On this special occasion of 100th Special SLBC Meeting of West Bengal on 12th September 2007, I extend my warm greetings and best wishes to United Bank of India, Convener, SLBC, West Bengal.

Vinod Rai