

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF POSTS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1450
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH FEBRUARY, 2026**

CLOSURE OF POST OFFICES IN KERALA

1450 DR. JOHN BRITTAS:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of post offices closed and proposed to be closed in Kerala during the last 36 months;
- (b) whether application of minimum distance norms of 1.5km radius in urban areas and 3km in rural areas is inappropriate for a densely populated State like Kerala;
- (c) whether any expert study has been conducted before closures, including on disruption of pension payments, Senior Citizen Savings Scheme and other essential services to senior citizens;
- (d) whether revenue from PLI and other postal services was excluded while assessing viability; and
- (e) the number of permanent and GDS staff affected due to closures?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(DR. PEMMASANI CHANDRA SEKHAR)**

- (a) 41 Post Offices have been merged in the Circle during the last 36 months.
- (b) Rationalization exercise was implemented in the Circle as per the prescribed distance norms. There are no separate distance norms prescribed for Kerala and Directorate norms are followed Pan India.
- (c) Rationalization exercise was implemented across the county and Post Offices not meeting the departmental norms are merged/relocated. Merger of Post Offices is implemented after the review / study of proposals submitted on the basis of income cost criteria and distance norms and ensuring that there is no disruption of postal services to the public.
- (d) Revenue from PLI and other postal services incorporated in the formula for calculating income cost ratio, was taken into account along with the distance norms criteria while identifying/merging the Post offices for merger.
- (e) No permanent and Gramin Dak Sevak (GDS) staff are affected due to merger/relocation of post offices, as they are accommodated at nearby post Offices as per their request.
