

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.200  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2016**

**POST OFFICES IN RURAL AREAS**

†200. SHRI HARISH CHANDRA ALIAS HARISH DWIVEDI:  
SHRI SADASHIV LOKHANDE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of post offices functioning in the country separately in rural and urban areas along with the number of employees working in these post offices, State-wise;
- (b) whether post-office facilities have been provided in all the villages of the country including in Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the total number of such villages where this facility is yet to be provided, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for opening post offices in all the villages; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the target fixed in this regard?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &  
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)**

(a) State/UT-wise number of post offices functioning in the country (as on 31.03.2016) in rural and urban areas along with number of employees working in these post offices are at **Annexure-I**.

(b) & (c) The State/UT-wise number of villages with post office and number of villages without post office of the country including Uttar Pradesh are at **Annexure-II**. The villages without post office are provided postal facilities through existing nearby post offices.

(d) & (e) Opening of new post offices in rural areas by relocation and redeployment is an on-going activity. This is taken up under Plan Scheme - "Rural Business & Access to Postal Network", subject to fulfillment of certain prescribed norms, availability of plan support and manpower. Department of Posts fixed target to open 400 new Branch Post Offices (BOs) in rural areas by redeployment & relocation during 12<sup>th</sup> Plan Period under the plan scheme to increase access of postal services in villages of the country, out of which 344 BOs have already been opened during financial years 2012-13 to 2015-16 and target for opening of new BOs during current financial year 2016-17 is 97. In addition, a village where a BO is not justified as per norms, the postal services are offered through nearby BOs. The norms for opening of a BO are at **Annexure-III**

**ANNEXURE-I**

**State/UT-wise Number of Post Offices functioning in urban and rural areas of the country (as on 31.03.2016) and Number of Employees working in these Post Offices**

| Sl. No. | States/UTs           | No. of Post Offices in urban areas | No. of Post Offices in rural areas | Total No. of Post Offices | No. of Employees working in these Post Offices |
|---------|----------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 1       | Andhra Pradesh       | 780                                | 9542                               | 10322                     | 22132  |
| 2       | Assam                | 381                                | 3631                               | 4012                      | 11036  |
| 3       | Bihar                | 464                                | 8573                               | 9037                      | 24840  |
| 4       | Chhattisgarh         | 269                                | 2888                               | 3157                      | 6381   |
| 5       | Delhi                | 470                                | 84                                 | 554                       | 5050   |
| 6       | Gujarat              | 809                                | 8117                               | 8926                      | 20613  |
| 6.1     | Dadar & Nagar Haveli | 1                                  | 37                                 | 38                        | 105  |
| 6.2     | Damna & Diu          | 5                                  | 14                                 | 19                        | 43   |
| 7       | Haryana              | 369                                | 2315                               | 2684                      | 6408   |
| 8       | Himachal Pradesh     | 119                                | 2666                               | 2785                      | 8159   |
| 9       | Jammu & Kashmir      | 198                                | 1503                               | 1701                      | 3681   |
| 10      | Jharkhand            | 270                                | 2839                               | 3109                      | 8772   |
| 11      | Karnataka            | 1054                               | 8609                               | 9663                      | 26089  |
| 12      | Kerala               | 854                                | 4203                               | 5057                      | 18821  |
| 12.1    | Lakshdweep           | 6                                  | 4                                  | 10                        | 39   |
| 13      | Madhya Pradesh       | 811                                | 7475                               | 8286                      | 17603  |
| 14      | Maharashtra          | 1235                               | 11366                              | 12601                     | 22951  |
| 14.1    | Goa                  | 54                                 | 204                                | 258                       | 818  |
| 15      | North East:          | 0                                  | 0                                  | 0                         | 0  |
| 15.1    | Arunachal Pradesh    | 31                                 | 270                                | 301                       | 665  |
| 15.2    | Meghalaya            | 32                                 | 459                                | 491                       | 1217   |
| 15.3    | Mizoram              | 39                                 | 350                                | 389                       | 1172   |
| 15.4    | Manipur              | 48                                 | 654                                | 702                       | 2060   |
| 15.5    | Nagaland             | 31                                 | 299                                | 330                       | 1001   |
| 15.6    | Tripura              | 56                                 | 654                                | 710                       | 1753   |
| 16      | Odisha               | 596                                | 7573                               | 8169                      | 18809  |
| 17      | Punjab               | 410                                | 3400                               | 3810                      | 4380   |
| 17.1    | Chandigarh           | 42                                 | 9                                  | 51                        | 527  |
| 18      | Rajasthan            | 643                                | 9675                               | 10318                     | 19549  |
| 19      | Tamil Nadu           | 1817                               | 10218                              | 12035                     | 32104  |
| 19.1    | Puducherry           | 39                                 | 57                                 | 96                        | 409  |
| 20      | Telangana            | 586                                | 5249                               | 5835                      | 13347  |
| 21      | Uttarakhand          | 209                                | 2512                               | 2721                      | 8062   |
| 22      | Uttar Pradesh        | 1933                               | 15729                              | 17662                     | 45451  |
| 23      | West Bengal          | 1267                               | 7495                               | 8762                      | 15607  |
| 23.1    | Andaman&Nicobar      | 15                                 | 85                                 | 100                       | 164  |
| 23.2    | Sikkim               | 12                                 | 197                                | 209                       | 448  |
|         | <b>Total</b>         | <b>15955</b>                       | <b>138955</b>                      | <b>154910</b>             | <b>370266</b>                                  |

**ANNEXURE-II****State/UT-wise Number of Villages with and without Post Office in the country  
(as on 31-03-2016)**

| Sl. No. | States /UTs          | No. of Villages with Post Office | No. of Villages without Post Office | Total No. of Villages |
|---------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1       | Andhra Pradesh       | 9381                             | 13721                               | 23102                 |
| 2       | Assam                | 5383                             | 20806                               | 26189                 |
| 3       | Bihar                | 9712                             | 29796                               | 39508                 |
| 4       | Chhattisgarh         | 2937                             | 17468                               | 20405                 |
| 5       | Delhi                | 152                              | 48                                  | 200                   |
| 6       | Gujarat              | 8206                             | 9874                                | 18080                 |
| 6.1     | Dadar & Nagar Haveli | 38                               | 34                                  | 72                    |
| 6.2     | Daman & Diu          | 12                               | 13                                  | 25                    |
| 7       | Haryana              | 2315                             | 4449                                | 6764                  |
| 8       | Himachal Pradesh     | 4032                             | 13850                               | 17882                 |
| 9       | Jammu & Kashmir      | 1526                             | 5142                                | 6668                  |
| 10      | Jharkhand            | 2837                             | 26026                               | 28863                 |
| 11      | Karnataka            | 9971                             | 18407                               | 28378                 |
| 12      | Kerala               | 1635                             | 0                                   | 1635                  |
| 12.1    | Lakshdweep           | 10                               | 0                                   | 10                    |
| 13      | Madhya Pradesh       | 8876                             | 46798                               | 55674                 |
| 14      | Maharashtra          | 13176                            | 27830                               | 41006                 |
| 14.1    | Goa                  | 215                              | 132                                 | 347                   |
| 15      | North East:          |                                  |                                     |                       |
| 15.1    | Arunachal Pradesh    | 254                              | 3611                                | 3865                  |
| 15.2    | Meghalaya            | 664                              | 5215                                | 5879                  |
| 15.3    | Mizoram              | 385                              | 453                                 | 838                   |
| 15.4    | Manipur              | 662                              | 1920                                | 2582                  |
| 15.5    | Nagaland             | 312                              | 995                                 | 1307                  |
| 15.6    | Tripura              | 651                              | 415                                 | 1066                  |
| 16      | Odisha               | 7436                             | 40241                               | 47677                 |
| 17      | Punjab               | 3400                             | 9181                                | 12581                 |
| 17.1    | Chandigarh           | 9                                | 14                                  | 23                    |
| 18      | Rajasthan            | 9720                             | 30098                               | 39818                 |
| 19      | Tamil Nadu           | 11349                            | 26102                               | 37451                 |
| 19.1    | Puducherry           | 64                               | 382                                 | 446                   |
| 20      | Telangana            | 5368                             | 7839                                | 13207                 |
| 21      | Uttarakhand          | 2518                             | 13243                               | 15761                 |
| 22      | Uttar Pradesh        | 15596                            | 86101                               | 101697                |
| 23      | West Bengal          | 7494                             | 30426                               | 37920                 |
| 23.1    | Andaman & Nicobar    | 85                               | 416                                 | 501                   |
| 23.2    | Sikkim               | 197                              | 255                                 | 452                   |
|         | <b>Total</b>         | <b>146578</b>                    | <b>491301</b>                       | <b>637879</b>         |

**NORMS FOR OPENING OF EXTRA DEPARTMENTAL BRANCH POST OFFICES**

**1. Population:**

**(a) In Normal Areas:**

3000 population in the group of villages (including 1000 population in the proposed post office village).

**(b) In Hill, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:**

500 population in an individual village or 1000 population in a group of villages.

**2. Distance:**

**(a) In Normal Areas:** The minimum distance from the nearest existing post office should be 3 Kms.

**(b) In Hill, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:** The distance limit will be the same as above except that in Hill Areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate in cases where such relaxation is warranted by special circumstances which should be clearly explained while submitting a proposal.

**3. Anticipated Income:**

**(a) In Normal Areas:** The minimum anticipated revenue will be 33 1/3% of the cost.

**(b) In Hill, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:** The minimum anticipated income will be 15% of the cost.

It is further to be ensured that as a result of opening of a new post office, the loss in respect of the parent post office does not increase beyond the permissible limit nor does its income reduces below the minimum prescribed.

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