

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1481  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2018**

**MODERNISATION OF POST OFFICES**

1481. SHRI SIRAJUDDIN AJMAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of modernisation/upgradation of the Post Offices particularly in rural areas;
- (b) the new scope of activities assigned to the Post Offices under the modernisation process;
- (c) the total investment made in the project during each of the last three years and the current year, States/UTs-wise;
- (d) the number of savings accounts of girl child opened in post offices under Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao scheme during each of the last three years and the current year, States/UTs-wise; and
- (e) the other facilities proposed to be provided to the girl child under the scheme?

ANSWER

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

(a) Madam, the current status of modernization, upgradation of the Post Offices particularly in rural areas under Information Technology (IT) Modernization project of Department of Posts is at **Annexure A**

Department of Posts is also implementing a Plan Scheme - "Rural Business and Access to Postal Network" under which basic infrastructure equipments like table, chair, almirah, signage boards and cash chests are provided to rural branch post offices to meet the basic infrastructure requirements. Postal Circle wise details of funds made available are at **Annexure B**.

(b) As new scope of activities, the Department of Post has set up India Post Payments Bank as a Public Limited Company with 100% Government equity under the Department of Posts. The Payments bank will leverage the physical and IT infrastructure of the Post office and will focus on low-cost, low-risk, technology based solutions to extend access to formal banking especially in rural, un-banked and under-banked areas. 650 Branches and 3250 Access Points of the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) have been formally launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 01-09-2018.

(c) The IT Modernization Project of Department of Posts is pan India programme and implementation of this project is centrally monitored and the expenditure on account of this Project is made centrally. No expenditure is incurred State/UTs-wise. The expenditure incurred for the Project for the last three years and the current year till 30-11-2018 is furnished below:-

Year	Expenditure ( In Crores of Rs)
2015-16	307.19
2016-17	188.42
2017-18	415.64
2018-19 (up to 30-11-2018)	153.56

(d) There is no scheme with the name “Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao” in the Department of Posts. “Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana” is however, one scheme exclusively for Girl Child available in the Post Offices. States / UTs wise number of Sukanya Samriddhi Accounts opened in Post Offices during the last three years and the current year upto 31-10-2018 is attached as **Annexure C**

(e) Details of facilities available to the Girl Child under Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana scheme is attached as **Annexure D**.

## Annexure A

IT Modernization Project of Department of Post is being undertaken with a total outlay of Rs. 4909 crores. The project involves computerization, Modernization and networking of 1,55,000 Post Office in the country, including 1.29 Lakh Branch Post Offices in rural areas run by the Gramin Dak Sevaks.

The project involves providing Central Server based integrated, modular and scalable solution for all the operations of Department of Posts including Mails, Human Resource, Banking, Insurance and Finance & Accounts. It also involves creation of IT infrastructure like Data Centre, Disaster Recovery Centre, setting up of a Wide Area Network (WAN) and providing solar powered and portable hand-held computing devices (Micro ATM compliant) to all the Branch Post offices.

The project is being implemented through eight different segments. Brief progress of each segment is given below:

Sl. No.	Name of the segment & its scope	Present position/Targets achieved. ( as on 30.11.2018)
1	Change Management (CM): Preparing the workforce for the complete change in Departments' working after implementation of IT project.	120 change management workshops in 4 phases were organized, in which 3523 participants (Train the Trainers) attended. Training activities are going on in all the Postal Circles.
2	Data Centre Facility ( DCF): Hosting Primary Data centre and building Disaster Recovery centre for the DoP	Data Centre is operational from 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2013 at Navi Mumbai. Disaster Recovery Centre (DRC) has been powered on at Mysore on 15 <sup>th</sup> May, 2015..
3	Financial Services Integrator (FSI): Implementation of solutions for Core Banking and Core Insurance in all Post Offices. Providing multiple delivery channels- internet banking, mobile banking, ATM and Interactive Voice Response (IVR) and SMS etc.	So far total 23652 Post Offices have been migrated under Core Banking Solution (CBS) and 25,573 Post Offices have been migrated under Core Insurance Solution for Postal Life Insurance. Total 995 ATMs have been made inter-operable w.e.f. 31-12-2016.
4	Net work Integrator (NI): Providing connectivity for each departmental post office location in order to ensure uninterrupted network connectivity through one single WAN	28,313 locations have been net worked on a single Wide Area Network (WAN) as on 30-11-2018.
5	Core System Integrator (CSI): Implementation of the solutions for Mail Operation, Retail, logistic Post, Philately, Finance and Accounts & Human Resources and integration with other SIs.	Implementation is in progress. As of now Roll out has been completed in all the offices of 507 divisions and other related offices in 23 Postal circles (Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana ,Tamilnadu, Rajasthan, Haryana , Delhi ,Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Jharkhand , Gujarat, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand , West Bengal, North East and J&K).

6	<p>DARPAN Rural Hardware (RH): Providing connectivity, hardware &amp; solar power panels to Branch Post Offices in rural areas.</p>	<p>Supply of Rural Hardware has been completed in all rural Branch Post Offices</p>
7	<p>Rural System Integrator (RSI): Implementation of the solution for integrating all the FSI/CSI applications to the Branch Post Offices.</p>	<p>1,28,804 Hand Held devices have been rolled out in Rural Branch Post Offices as on 11-12-2018.</p>
8	<p>Mail Operation Hardware (MOH): Providing hardware to Mail Offices and handheld devices to Postmen.</p>	<p>Funds to the tune of 35.30 Cr have been allotted to the Postal Circles for the procurement of 38,509 Smart Phones for Postmen. Under Mail Operations Hardware, supply of desk top computers and Gen Sets to RMS offices has been completed. UPS and Weighing Scales have also been procured.</p>

### **Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana (SSY)**

Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana (SSY) is also known as girl child prosperity scheme which was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2015 in Panipat, Haryana.

The account can be opened by the natural or legal guardians of the girl child. Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana offers a small deposit investment for the girl children as an initiative under 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' campaign. One of the key benefits of the scheme is higher rate of interest. The present rate of interest for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2018-19 is 8.5%

#### **Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana: Salient features**

- Sukanya Samriddhi account can be opened till a girl child attains an age of 10 years.
- Only one account is permissible for every girl child but not exceeding two accounts in a family.
- Account can be opened in any of the Post Offices including Branch Post Offices located even in the remotest part of the country.
- An account can be opened with an initial amount of Rs. 250. Thereafter, deposit can be made in the multiple of Rs.100 with a minimum of Rs. 250 per financial year.
- The maximum limit of deposits in the account is Rs.1,50,000 per financial year.
- The maturity period of the account is 21 years from the date of opening the account.
- Sukanya Samriddhi Account is transferrable anywhere in India.
- An amount up to 50% of the balance of previous year is allowed as withdrawal for higher education on attaining the age of 18 year.
- In the event of marriage of a girl child on or attaining the age of 18 years, the account can be finally closed and amount accumulated in the account along with interest can be paid.
- Girl child may operate her account, if she wishes to do so on or after attaining the age of 10 years. This would give a lot of financial independence to the girl child as well.

#### **Benefits of Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana**

- The amount deposited in Sukanya Samriddhi Account is exempted from tax under Section 80C of IT Act, 1961, up to a maximum of Rs.1.5 lakh in a financial year. Also, the amount paid as maturity at the time of account closure is completely tax free.
- Though the account is a saving account, high interest is paid for the welfare of the girl child.

**AnnexureC**

**Sukanya Samridhi Yojana Accounts opened during 01.04.2015  
to 31.10.2018**

Name of Postal Circle	Name of State including UTs	F. Y. 2015-16	F. Y. 2016-17	F. Y. 2017-18	F. Y. 2018-19
		Total No. of SSA Accounts opened during 2015-16	Total No. Of SSA Accounts opened during 2016-17	Total No. of SSA Accounts opened during 2017-18	Total No. of SSA Accounts opened during upto 31.10.2018
A. P.	A. P.	316692	74041	85132	51655
Assam	Assam	99805	23288	19621	11922
Bihar	Bihar	253458	115329	115483	56310
Chattisgarh	Chattisgarh	136515	61975	90012	38085
Delhi	Delhi	88106	26135	25641	14421
Gujarat	Gujarat	127121	64524	58885	33968
Haryana	Haryana	186223	62363	48277	38662
H. P.	H. P.	105484	25290	32029	17850
J & K	J & K	91933	7897	5460	1895
Jharkhand	Jharkhand	315855	80030	30699	13250
Karnataka	Karnataka	386358	86303	114430	99281
Kerala	Kerala	178669	41749	45914	29609
M. P.	M. P.	247466	110930	88441	323622
Maharashtra	Maharashtra	372774	164634	155090	93853
	Goa	16881	3452	2194	1516
North East	Arunachal Pradesh	6199	1621	1417	1012
	Meghalaya	2854	943	539	386
	Mizoram	1739	516	396	1058
	Manipura	14490	3608	2983	1713
	Nagaland	2889	499	277	205
	Tripura	12493	5510	3089	2116
Odisha	Odisha	236651	53858	72260	41280
Punjab	Punjab	154233	47976	47799	35226
Rajasthan	Rajasthan	254982	103753	164232	77618
Tamilnadu	Tamilnadu	623399	146509	141518	83360
Telangana	Telangana	202859	52564	58358	39294
U. P.	U. P.	749538	168557	184539	103327
Uttarakhand	Uttarakhand	168763	27508	34415	18515
West Bengal	West Bengal	384989	45763	64869	28439
	Sikkim	3948	759	675	1178
<b>Total</b>		<b>57,43,366</b>	<b>16,07,884</b>	<b>16,94,674</b>	<b>12,60,626</b>

**ANNEXURE - B****Postal Circle-wise Plan Funds allocated for infrastructure equipment, signages and cash chests / Iron safes to rural Branch Post Offices(BOs) under the Plan Scheme - "Rural Business & Access to Postal Network" during last two financial years and current financial year 2018-19**

Sl. No	Postal Circles	Funds allocated for basic Infrastructure Equipment, Signages and Cash Chests (amount in Rupees)			
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	Andhra Pradesh including Telangana	23074370	7825000	11056250	12535000
2	Assam	4240000	2900000	6790000	6682500
3	Bihar	19302500	7186000	6875000	8365000
4	Chhattisgarh	5255000	1916000	6187500	7317500
5	Delhi	650000	73000	254617	987500
6	Gujarat including Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	12307500	4248000	3775000	4170000
7	Haryana	3667000	889000	3650000	3757500
8	Himachal Pradesh	3980000	1429000	1712500	2700000
9	Jammu & Kashmir	2663000	913000	862500	1925000
10	Jharkhand	4805000	1620000	4712500	5382500
11	Karnataka	13441000	4760000	4625000	4745000
12	Kerala including Lakshadweep	5351500	1821000	4350000	4107500
13	Madhya Pradesh	14005500	5178000	5803500	6307500
14	Maharashtra	19374500	7522000	5325000	5445000
15	North East [States include Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura]	3360000	7803000	28400000	23490000
16	Odisha	12081000	4168000	4650000	4695000
17	Punjab including Chandigarh	5316000	1920000	4850000	4857500
18	Rajasthan	14678000	4977000	3873316	4745000
19	Tamil Nadu including Puducherry	14772500	5112000	3712500	3882500
20	Uttar Pradesh	17068000	5610000	7650000	8970000
21	Uttarakhand	5265000	1773000	2825000	3175000
22	West Bengal including Sikkim and Andaman& Nicobar Islands	21460000	4629500	6112500	5257500
	<b>Total</b>	<b>22,61,17,370</b>	<b>8,42,72,500</b>	<b>12,80,52,683</b>	<b>13,35,00,000</b>

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