

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3096

To be answered on the March 20, 2023/Phalgun 29,1944 (Saka)

PSB Branches

3096. SHRI KARTI P. CHIDAMBARAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Public Sector Bank (PSB) branches that have been completely shut down in the last five financial years including provisional data for the current year, PSB-wise and year-wise;
- (b) the total number of PSB branches that have been merged with other banks during the said period, PSB-wise and year-wise;
- (c) the number of branches shut down in metropolitan, urban, semi-urban and rural areas during the said period, PSB-wise and year-wise;
- (d) the number of branches merged with other banks in metropolitan, urban, semi-urban and rural areas during the said period, PSB-wise and year-wise;
- (e) the number of staff persons in PSBs during the said period, PSB-wise and year-wise; and
- (f) whether there has been a reduction in staff strength at PSBs over the time and if so, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE
(DR. BHAGWAT KARAD)

(a) to (f): Banks may merge their branch with another branch of the bank or completely close their branches, while ensuring that customers of the branch, which is being merged or closed are informed well in time, before actual merger/closure of the branch so as to avoid inconvenience to them in addition to other requirements as per Reserve Bank of India (RBI) master circular on branch authorisation. As per inputs received from Public Sector Banks (PSBs), no branch of a PSB has been either completely shut-down or merged with other banks.

PSBs are commercial entities governed by their respective boards. The requirement of manpower in each PSB is determined by the respective PSB keeping in view various factors which include, *inter alia*, business requirement, spread of activities, superannuation and other unplanned exits. Appointment of officers and staff is done accordingly by the PSBs and it varies from year to year based on their requirements.

The number of staff persons in PSBs as on 31st March of last five-years and as on 31st December 2022, PSB-wise and year-wise are at Annex.

Number of staff persons in PSBs as on 31st March of last five-years and as on 31st December 2022, PSB-wise and year-wise

Bank name	Number of staff persons as on					
	31.3.2018	31.3.2019	31.3.2020	31.3.2021	31.3.2022	31.12.2022
Bank of Baroda	84,437	84,100	84,113	82,017	78,749	76,958
Bank of India	48,680	48,807	49,767	51,459	51,825	52,678
Bank of Maharashtra	12,932	12,913	12,532	12,387	12,702	13,103
Canara Bank	93,964	92,513	91,598	88,213	86,919	85,728
Central Bank of India	36,843	35,675	33,481	32,335	30,289	31,272
Indian Bank	44,032	43,011	42,061	42,601	40,751	42,184
Indian Overseas Bank	28,990	27,219	25,625	24,306	23,013	22,237
Punjab National Bank	1,12,187	1,06,836	1,03,105	1,01,802	1,03,144	1,04,615
Punjab & Sind Bank	9,320	8,948	8,862	8,832	8,725	9,164
State Bank of India	2,63,227	2,56,486	2,48,635	2,42,597	2,39,048	2,35,006
UCO Bank	23,943	23,133	22,436	22,012	21,617	21,856
Union Bank of India	76,694	77,027	80,097	78,203	75,201	76,168

Source: Public Sector Banks.
