## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF POSTS

# LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3689 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2019

#### **BUILDING OF POST OFFICES**

### †3689. SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether most of the post offices in the country including Jabalpur are being operated from dilapidated buildings and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (b) whether new and well-managed buildings are not being arranged for the proper functioning of post-offices due to economic reasons;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to increase the banking and financial functions with the intention to operate the post offices on the lines of banks and if so, the details thereof and steps taken by the Government in this regard?

#### **ANSWER**

## MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS, HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)

- (a) No, Sir. At present, none of the Post Offices in the country is being operated from a building which has been declared dilapidated by Postal Civil Wing or Municipal Authority.
- (b) & (c) No, Sir. During the last five years, 62 new post office buildings have been constructed across the country and 4114 postal buildings have been renovated and given face-lifting with financial expenditure of around `730.0 Crore. Further, when a building is taken on rent for the purpose of operating a post office, it is ensured that the building meets all requirements, like prescribed schedule of accommodation, connectivity, good physical condition of the building and other essential facilities. The rent is revised periodically as per the agreement. If any rented building is not found suitable, the post office is shifted to another suitable building.

(d) Yes, Sir. In order to improve the functioning of Department, Core Banking Solution (CBS) has been implemented in 23760 Post Offices and 996 Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) have also been installed. Our ATM cards are inter-operable with the banks. Further, intra-operable Net-Banking and Mobile Banking facilities have been launched in Core Banking Post Offices for Post Office Saving Bank (POSB) customers. With this facility, a POSB customer can be able to view balances, view transaction details, open new Recurring Deposit (RD)/Time Deposit (TD) accounts, close RD/TD Accounts, make Public Provident Fund deposits, transfer fund to another Post Office Savings Account and lodge stop cheque request etc, online. Further, India Post Payments Bank(IPPB) has been incorporated as a public limited company under the Department of Posts with 100% Government of India equity on 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2016. As on date, 1,36,078 Post Offices have been rolled out as IPPB access points which are currently offering a bouquet of banking services to its customers.

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