

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2548  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2021**

**POSTAL SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS**

†2548. SHRI SANGAM LAL GUPTA:  
SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI:  
SHRI MANOJ TIWARI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to expand postal services to improve its services in the rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the details of the works carried out by the Government for the welfare of Gramin Dak Sevaks; and
- (c) the amount of funds released by the Government to improve postal services in the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS, EDUCATION AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)**

- (a) Yes Sir, the Government has expanded postal services to improve its services in rural areas.
- (b) In addition to the current National Saving Schemes, the Government has extended additional five National Saving Schemes such as Monthly Income Scheme, Senior Citizen Savings Schemes, Kisan Vikas Patra, National Savings Certificate, Public Provident Fund from 1,31,312 Branch Post Offices of the country from 23.07.2020 onwards. The services of India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) including Door Step Banking and Aadhaar Enabled Payment from 1.1 Lakhs rural post offices have been made available. Aadhaar Updation & Enrolment services have also been made available from Departmental Post Offices of rural areas. In addition, Business to Citizen (B2C) services such as utility bill payments, insurance premium collections, mobile top up recharges, Government to Citizen (G2C) services such as Permanent Account Number (PAN) card, Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, National Pension Scheme etc have been made available from selected Departmental Post Offices of rural areas.

There are various welfare measures for Gramin Dak Sevaks (GDSs) such as Children Education Facilitation allowances @ Rs. 6000/- per annum, Emergency leave for a maximum of 5 days in a calendar year, 180 days Maternity leave for women GDS, Limited Transfer facility (one time for male GDSs and two for female GDSs) and Compassionate Appointments for the dependent of deceased GDS. In addition, there are various financial assistances extended by the Government under the Scheme "Circle Welfare Funds for Gramin Dak Sevaks". The details of assistances are at **Annexure-I**.

- (c) An amount of Rs. 75.3 crores have been released by the Government to improve the postal services in the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years.

**Annexure referred to in reply of para (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred question No.2548 to be answered on 10.03.2021 raised by Hon'ble Member of Parliament Shri Sangam Lal Gupta, Shri Chandra Prakash Joshi, Shri Manoj Tiwari, regarding "Postal Services in Rural Areas"**

- 1) Financial Assistance to families of deceased GDSs to meet immediate expenses following death, irrespective of whether death occurs during duty/outside duty hours Rs. 10,000/-
- 2) Death due to terrorist activity/dacoity, while on duty Rs. 1,50,000/-
- 3) Financial Assistance in case of death of GDSs due to riots, attack by robbers & terrorists while not on duty Rs. 12,000/-
- 4) Financial Assistance in case of death of GDSs while being on duty due to accident Rs. 25,000/-
- 5) Funeral Expenses on death of GDS (payable in cases in which last rites of deceased GDS are performed by brothers or sisters or near relatives in the absence of any other next of kin) Rs.5,000/-
- 6) Financial Assistance in case of major surgical operations in ailments, like Cancer, brain hemorrhage, kidney failure/transplant, heart surgery etc. Rs. 20,000/-
- 7) Financial Assistance in case of accident of GDS while being on duty, requiring hospitalization for more than three days.Rs.5000/-
- 8) Financial Assistance for nutritional diet to GDS suffering from TB (only once for a maximum period of six months, provided the GDS has put in at least six years of service & treatment is taken in government hospital).

Indoor Treatment	–	Rs. 400 p.m.
Outdoor Treatment	–	Rs. 200 p.m.
- 9) Grant of Scholarship under educational Schemes to the children of GDS (as per existing terms & conditions). IIT, AIIMS and IIM Rs.1000/pm.

**Technical Education**

  - (i) Degree Rs.280/p.m.
  - (ii) Diploma Rs.190/p.m.

**Non-Technical Degree**

BA/BSc/B.Com/ Degree in fine Arts Rs.150/p.m.

ITI Certificate Courses Rs.940/p.a.
- 10) Incentive for excellence in academic achievement for 10th and 12th Class.

1 <sup>st</sup> Position in the Circle/Region-	Rs.1,000/-
2 <sup>nd</sup> Position in the Circle/Region-	Rs.8,00/-
3 <sup>rd</sup> Position in the Circle/Region -	Rs.7,00/-
4 <sup>th</sup> Position in the Circle/Region -	Rs.6,00/-
5 <sup>th</sup> Position in the Circle/Region -	Rs.5,00/-
- 11) Scholarship for physically handicapped children of GDS (for maximum 8 years & as per the existing terms & conditions) Rs.200 p.m.
- 12) Financial Assistance in cases of natural calamities, like fire, floods etc. Rs.5000/-
- 13) Financial Assistance in cases of GDS Employee suffering from COVID-19 Rs.20000/- (Maximum) : As a welfare policy initiative in view of new health

challenges for our GDS as front end warriors suffering from COVID019, a one time Financial Assistance of Rs 20,000/- only has been provisioned.

### **REPAYABLE LOAN**

- (i) For construction of one room with flush toilet facilities for housing the Branch Post Office. Rs. 50,000/-
- (ii) For purchase of Computer/Laptop to encourage computer literacy amongst GDS.Rs.20,000/-
- (iii) For purchase of moped/scooter/Motor cycle which will also facilitate travel while discharging duty like exchange of BO Bag, visit to Account Office etc.Rs.20,000/-.
- (iv) The GDS will be eligible for loan on maximum two occasions in his entire career with a maximum ceiling of Rs. 50000/- subject to condition that previous loan amount has been fully repaid and there is no outstanding loan against the GDS.

### **ONE TIME REPAYMENT AT THE TIME OF RETIREMENT**

- (i) The scheme will be contributory in nature with a component of grant-in-aid from Central Postal Welfare Fund of the Department.
- (ii) Each GDS will contribute Rs.20/- per month.
- (iii) A GDS who has not claimed any kind of assistance or grant from Circle Welfare Contributory Fund in his entire service will be paid a lump sum amount at the time of retirement. The slabs for payment will be as under :-

(i)	Less than 5 years no amount payable.
(ii)	5 years from the date of start of contribution – Rs.1000
(iii)	10 years from the date of start of contribution – Rs.2000
(iv)	15 years from the date of start of contribution – Rs.3000
(v)	20 years from the date of start of contribution – Rs.4500
(vi)	25 years from the date of start of contribution – Rs.5500
(vii)	30 years from the date of start of contribution – Rs.6500
(viii)	35 years from the date of start of contribution – Rs.8000
(ix)	40 years from the date of start of contribution – Rs.9000
(x)	More than 45 years from the date of start of contribution – Rs.11000

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