

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1133

Answered on Monday, December 2, 2024/ Agrahayana 11, 1946 (Saka)

Opening of New Branches of SBI

1133. Shri Gopal Jee Thakur:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to open new branches of the State Bank of India during the current financial Year;
- (b) whether there are few branches of the State Bank of India in the rural areas of Darbhanga district as a result of which the people are facing inconvenience in banking activities;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to open a branch of the State Bank of India within a distance of five kilometres to solve the problem of the general public; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (d) State Bank of India plans to open 500 new branches across India during current Financial Year. 135 new branches have already been opened during the current FY 2024-25, till 31.10.2024.

As per information provided by the State Bank of India (SBI), SBI is having 34 branches in Darbhanga District, out of which 14 branches are in the Rural Areas. Opening of one branch of SBI in rural area of Darbhanga District is under process.

In terms of revised guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on 18th May 2017 regarding 'Rationalization of Branch Authorization Policy', the term "Branch" has been substituted by "Banking Outlet (BO)". It includes both physical brick and mortar branch and Business Correspondent (BC) outlet to enable banks in expanding their network even in remote rural areas in a cost-effective manner for hassle free services to customers.

Currently, the endeavour of the Government is to ensure availability of a banking outlet (Bank branch/ Business Correspondent/ India Post Payments Bank) within 5 kilometres of all inhabited villages in the country. Availability of banking outlets is monitored by a Geographic Information System (GIS) based App., namely, Jan Dhan Darshak (JDD) App.

Based on the data uploaded by Banks on the Jan Dhan Darshak (JDD) App, all 39,133 villages in Bihar are covered with banking outlets within a radius of 5 kms. The banking infrastructure in the State of Bihar is as under:

District/State	Branch	BC	ATM	IPPB
Darbhanga District	252	8,007	206	343
Bihar	8,188	1,75,763	6,609	9,058

Source: Jan Dhan Darshak App
