

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1848
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH FEBRUARY, 2026**

CLOSURE AND MERGER OF POST OFFICES IN KASARAGOD

1848. SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to close or merge long-standing sub-post offices and branch post offices in Kasaragod district, including Talankara, Uppala Gate and Hosbettu, citing revenue considerations and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that these post offices serve coastal and rural populations with limited access to banking and digital services and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the impact on small savings schemes, pension disbursement and financial inclusion has been assessed and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether public protests and representations from local bodies and employees' organisations have been received opposing such closures and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken or proposed to ensure continuity of essential postal services in remote and economically weaker areas?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(DR. PEMMASANI CHANDRA SEKHAR)**

- (a) Post Offices not meeting the departmental norms are merged/relocated. Since Uppala Gate and Hosbettu Branch Post Offices are not fulfilling departmental norms, these will be merged. However, Talankara (Talangara) Sub Post Office is not planned for merger.
- (b) Yes, Sir. These post offices serve coastal and rural populations. However, public of these areas are being provided banking and digital services by other post offices as also the bank branches are situated in these areas.
- (c) Impact on small savings schemes, pension disbursement and financial inclusion has been assessed and details are attached as **Annexure**.
- (d) Yes, Sir. Protest was organized by Samyuktha Samara Samithi in front of Head Post Office Kasaragod. Service Unions (JCA of NFPE and FNPO) organized Dharna in front of Kasaragod Head post office.
- (e) Melas and Special drives are conducted for popularizing various products and services of India Post. The Department of Posts has been providing all essential postal services including mail delivery services as well as financial inclusion services through its extensive network of post offices and the same shall remain continued across the country including all remote and economically weaker areas.

Annexure referred to in reply of para (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred question No. 1848 to be answered on 11th FEBRUARY, 2026 regarding “Closure and Merger of Post Offices in Kasaragod”

1. As far as Talangara (Talangara) Post Office is concerned there is no pension beneficiary under its jurisdiction. While taking the proposal of merging of Talangara Post Office to Kasaragod Head Post Office there were only 1,886 accounts of which number of Savings Accounts are only 450. Though there are 1,211 Recurring Deposit accounts, major number of accounts were opened through Mahila Pradhan Kshetriya Bachat Yojana (MPKBY) Agents by the depositors of outside of Talangara area. There are 2 other Co-op Banks (Kerala Bank and Kasaragod Town co-operative bank are functioning there. So the merger may not have a severe impact on financial inclusion.

2. In the case of Uppala Gate Branch Post Office, only 26 new accounts opened during this financial year and total number of accounts standing in that office is 264. Similarly, Hosebettu Branch Post Office has just 236 accounts only and considering the nearby sub post office and public sector bank, there would not be any adverse impact on financial inclusion. Hosebettu Branch Post Office has opened only 40 new accounts upto 30.09.2025. The minimum number of accounts required to be opened by a BO in the current financial year is 400.
