

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5377
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25TH MARCH, 2026**

CLOSURE OF COLONIAL-ERA POST OFFICES IN KOLAR GOLD FIELDS

5377. SHRI M MALLESH BABU:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that colonial-era post offices in Kolar Gold Fields including Bharathnagar, Coramandel, Oorgaum and the historic Champion Reefs Post Office (built in 1907) are facing closure or shifting due to allegedly inaccurate reports provided by local postal authorities and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the specific criteria and data metrics used to justify the proposed closure or relocation of these offices and whether a public consultation was conducted with local residents;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to upgrade the infrastructure and provide modern digital services at these historic sites, rather than closing them, to preserve their heritage status while ensuring efficient public service; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to order an independent inquiry into the decision-making process of the local postal division to ensure that these closures are not being influenced by external interests and to ensure transparency in the management of these public assets?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Post Offices not meeting the departmental norms i.e. distance/population/ income norms are being merged or relocated under the ongoing network rationalization activity. Since Bharathnagar and Champion Reefs Sub Post Offices are not fulfilling the departmental norms, these are to be relocated. However, there is no proposal for relocation under consideration in respect of Oorgaum and Coramandal Sub Post Offices. There are four post offices within the range of 3.5 kms of Champion Reefs Sub Post Office, while Marikuppam Sub Post Office is situated at just 1.7 Kms away. The nearest post office in case of Bharathnagar Sub Post Office, is BEML (Bharat Earth Movers Limited) Nagar Sub Post Office located at a distance of 2.7 kms. Since optimization of the postal network is a continuous process based on objective departmental parameters, local resident's consultations are not mandated for network rationalization. However, all postal services are being catered through nearest post office to the public in the said area.

(c) No Sir. All the available Postal services and digital services viz., India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) door-step banking, Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AEPS) etc., are being provided through the post offices situated in the local areas.

(d) In view of (a) to (c) above, question doesn't arise.
