

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF POSTS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.258
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16th DECEMBER, 2015**

OPENING AND UPGRADATION OF POST OFFICES

**†*258. SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH:
SHRI RAMA KISHORE SINGH:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of post offices and sub-post offices across the country as on date, State-wise;
- (b) the targets set and achieved by the Government for opening of new post offices, sub-post offices during the Eleventh Five year Plan and proposed under Twelfth Five Year Plan, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has reviewed the expansion of post offices and ongoing pending postal and telecommunication projects in various States;
- (d) if so, the details and outcome thereof along with the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard and the action taken to open the proposed post and sub-post offices expeditiously; and
- (e) the details of proposals received for opening and upgradation of post offices including the district level post offices in newly bifurcated States?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

- (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Contd.....2/-

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.258 FOR 16th DECEMBER, 2015 REGARDING "OPENING AND UPGRADATION OF POST OFFICES".

(a) Postal Circle-wise number of post offices including sub-post offices functional in the country are at **Annexure-I**.

(b) Postal Circle-wise details of targets set and achievements for opening of new Branch Post Offices (BOs) and Sub-Post Offices (SOs) during Eleventh Five Year Plan are at **Annexure-II**. Department of Posts has decided to open 400 new BOs and 412 SOs during 12th Five Year Plan under the Plan Scheme "Rural Business & Access to Postal Network". The targets for opening of post offices Postal Circle-wise during first four years of 12th Five Year Plan are at **Annexure-III**. The Postal Circle-wise opening of remaining 56 BOs and 43 SOs for the financial year 2016-17 has not been decided so far as it will depend on allocation of budget in the annual plan.

(c) & (d) Review of expansion of post offices is an on-going process. On review, if it is found that opening of new post offices are justified in particular areas as per prescribed norms for opening of new post offices, post offices are opened in those areas by relocation & redeployment under Plan Scheme.

As regards telecommunication projects, various schemes are implemented with the financial support from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) for expansion of telecom services in rural and remote areas, details are at **Annexure-IV**.

(e) The details of proposals received for opening and upgradation of post offices including the district level post offices in newly bifurcated States are at **Annexure-V**.

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ANNEXURE-I

[Refers Part (a) of the Question]

**Postal Circle-wise and Category-wise Number of Post Offices functional
in the country**

Sl. No.	Name of the Postal Circles	Head Post Offices (HOs)	Sub-Post Offices (SOs)	Branch Post Offices (BOs)	Total No. of Post Offices
1	Andhra Pradesh	59	1533	8783	10375
1.1	Telangana	36	817	4927	5780
2	Assam	19	607	3386	4012
3	Bihar	31	1020	8016	9067
4	Chhattisgarh	10	337	2800	3147
5	Delhi	12	391	148	551
6	Gujarat	34	1294	7598	8926
6.1	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	4	34	38
6.2	Daman & Diu	0	7	12	19
7	Haryana	16	481	2180	2677
8	Himachal Pradesh	18	448	2316	2782
9	Jammu & Kashmir	9	256	1434	1699
10	Jharkhand	13	443	2643	3099
11	Karnataka	58	1654	7955	9667
12	Kerala	51	1447	3556	5054
12.1	Lakshadweep	0	9	1	10
12.2	Mahe	0	1	3	4
13	Madhya Pradesh	43	1020	7260	8323
14	Maharashtra	59	2052	10490	12601
14.1	Goa	2	102	154	258
15	North East [States include Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura]	9	326	2585	2920
16	Odisha	35	1163	6971	8169
17	Punjab	21	700	3086	3807
17.1	Chandigarh	1	40	8	49
18	Rajasthan	48	1301	8980	10329
19	Tamil Nadu	93	2698	9243	12034
19.1	Pondicherry	1	34	61	96
20	Uttarakhand	13	380	2330	2723
21	Uttar Pradesh	72	2471	15109	17652
22	West Bengal	45	1667	7047	8759
22.1	A & N Islands	1	26	73	100
22.2	Sikkim	1	22	186	209
	Total	810	24751	129375	154936

Contd.....4/-

ANNEXURE-II

[Refers Part (b) of the Question]

Postal Circle-wise targets issued for opening of Branch Post Offices (BOs) and Sub-Post Offices (SOs) and its achievements during 11th Five Year Plan Period

Sl. No.	Name of the Postal Circles	BOs		SOs	
		Targets	Achievements	Targets	Achievements
1	Andhra Pradesh	24	20	20	19
2	Assam	13	13	11	11
3	Bihar	13	13	13	11
4	Chhattisgarh	13	5	7	9
5	Delhi	6	4	11	11
6	Gujarat	13	12	15	14
7	Haryana	13	13	12	12
8	Himachal Pradesh	11	11	9	9
9	Jammu & Kashmir	10	8	6	4
10	Jharkhand	15	15	8	8
11	Karnataka	19	9	15	19
12	Kerala	9	14	8	10
13	Madhya Pradesh	18	10	16	17
14	Maharashtra	24	14	20	17
15	North East	13	13	11	11
16	Odisha	16	15	12	13
17	Punjab	14	14	8	8
18	Rajasthan	23	21	17	24
19	Tamil Nadu	24	24	18	18
20	Uttarakhand	11	11	13	9
21	Uttar Pradesh	24	20	14	23
22	West Bengal	14	13	11	9
	Total	340	292	275	286

Contd.....5/-

ANNEXURE-III

[Refers Part (b) of the Question]

Postal Circle-wise Targets for opening of Branch Post Offices (BOs) and Sub-Post Offices (SOs) during financial years 2012-13 to 2015-16 under the Plan Scheme "Rural Business & Access to Postal Network" of the 12th Five Year Plan Period

Sl. No.	Name of the Circles	Targets for opening of BOs and SOs from 2012-13 to 2015-16	
		BOs	SOs
		Target	Target
1	Andhra Pradesh	25	23
2	Assam	23	17
3	Bihar	21	16
4	Chhattisgarh	26	15
5	Delhi	8	19
6	Gujarat	19	18
7	Haryana	17	18
8	Himachal Pradesh	13	8
9	Jammu & Kashmir	10	10
10	Jharkhand	17	14
11	Karnataka	19	18
12	Kerala	9	12
13	Madhya Pradesh	18	16
14	Maharashtra	20	19
15	North East	32	25
16	Odisha	18	16
17	Punjab	15	15
18	Rajasthan	18	17
19	Tamil Nadu	19	20
20	Uttarakhand	10	8
21	Uttar Pradesh	22	24
22	West Bengal	12	12
	Total	391	360

Contd.....6/-

ANNEXURE-IV

[Refers Parts (c)&(d) of the Question]

Details of schemes being implemented by the Department of Telecommunications for expansion of telecom services in rural and remote areas

(i) Bharat Net/ National Optical Fibre Network (NOFN) was planned in 2011 to connect all 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats in the country through optical fibre utilizing existing fibers of Public Sector Undertaking viz. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), Rail Tel and Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL) (and of any desirous private operator) and laying incremental fibre wherever necessary for providing broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats. As on 30.11.2015, 1,03,643 km. of duct and 74,994 km of optical fibre cable covering 32,049 Gram Panchayats have been laid.

(iii) On 10.09.2014, the Government approved a proposal to implement a Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for North-Eastern Region (NER). The project envisages to provide mobile coverage to 8621 identified uncovered villages by installation of about 6673 mobile towers, installation of 321 mobile tower sites along National Highways and strengthening of transmission network in the NER. The estimated cost of implementation is Rs. 5336.18 crore. The Project would be funded from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF). State-wise details are as under:

Sl. No.	States	No. of villages proposed to be covered	No. of Towers proposed for uncovered villages	No. of Towers proposed along National Highways
1	Arunachal Pradesh	2805	1893	149
2	Assam	2503	1874	33
3	Manipur	528	384	53
4	Meghalaya	2374	2162	11
5	Mizoram	252	227	19
6	Nagaland	134	112	48
7	Sikkim	23	19	1
8	Tripura	2	2	7
	Total	8621	6673	321

(iii) 2199 mobile towers are being set up in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected States with a total estimated cost of Rs.3567.58 crore, State-wise break-up is as under:

Sl. No.	States	No. of total locations identified by Ministry of Home Affairs
1	Andhra Pradesh	54
2	Bihar	184
3	Chhattisgarh	497
4	Jharkhand	782
5	Maharashtra	60
6	Madhya Pradesh	22
7	Odisha	253
8	Telangana	173
9	Uttar Pradesh	78
10	West Bengal	96
	Total	2199

1134 sites are radiating as on 30.11.2015.

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ANNEXURE-V
[Refers Part (e) of the Question]

Details of proposals received for opening and upgradation of post offices including the district level post offices in newly bifurcated Andhra Pradesh and Telangana States

Sl. No.	Name of the States		Locations	Category
1	Andhra Pradesh	(i)	Podili, Prakasam	Upgradation of Sub-Post Office to District level Post Office
		(ii)	Ram Nagar, Ongle	Upgradation of SO from Non-delivery to Delivery SO
		(iii)	Yedlavanipalem, Chilkalapudi	Opening of new BO
		(iv)	Perecherla, Guntur	Upgradation of SO from Non-delivery to Delivery SO
		(v)	Lathambavi, Narsaraopet	Opening of new BO
		(vi)	Nellatur, Nellore	Upgradation of SO from Non-delivery to Delivery SO
		(vii)	Kamalanabhapuram, Visakhapatnam	Opening of new BO
		(viii)	Bharishingapuram, Srikakulam	Upgradation of BO into SO
		(ix)	B.N.Kandriga , Tirupathi	Upgradation of BO into SO
		(x)	Peepal Groove School, Sodam, Chittoor	Opening of new BO
2	Telangana	(xi)	Begumpet, Hyderabad	Upgradation of Sub-Post Office to District level Post Office.
		(xii)	Uppalachelaka, Khammam	Opening of BO
