

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1654
TO BE ANSWERED ON 4TH MAY, 2016**

SAVINGS ACCOUNT FOR GIRLS

1654. SHRI GODSE HEMANT TUKARAM:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to open one crore saving accounts in post offices for the girl child;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the target achieved so far, State-wise; and
- (c) the manner in which these accounts will be beneficial to the girl child?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Yes, Madam
- (b) Achievement with respect to circle-wise number of Sukanya Samridhi Accounts opened is as given in “**Annexure - I**”.
- (c) The salient features and benefits of these accounts to the girl child are as given in “**Annexure – II**”

Contd...2/-

Annexure - I

S. No.	Name of Postal Circle	Number of Accounts opened till 31.03.2016
1	Andhra Pradesh (includes Telangana)	746338
2	Assam	147604
3	Bihar	266432
4	Chattisgarh	144383
5	Delhi	115455
6	Gujarat	187260
7	Haryana	257389
8	Himachal Pradesh	128625
9	Jammu n Kashmir	117880
10	Jharkhand	424891
11	Karnataka	902910
12	Kerala	301121
13	Madhya Pradesh	326107
14	Maharashtra (includes Goa)	606480
15	North East (includes Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura)	46297
16	Odisha	291535
17	Punjab	212794
18	Rajasthan	300840
19	Tamilnadu	1235234
20	Uttar Pradesh	978263
21	Uttarakhand	232492
22	West Bengal (includes Sikkim)	558549
	Total	8528879

Salient features and benefits of Sukanya Samriddhi Account

- i. 'Sukanya Samriddhi Account' is a new Small Savings Scheme for welfare of girl child.
- ii. An account can be opened in the name of Girl Child under 'Sukanya Samriddhi Account' (SSA) by legal Guardian/Natural Guardian.
- iii. Guardian can open only one account in the name of one girl child and maximum two accounts in the name of two different girl children. The natural or legal guardian can open two or three accounts if twin girls are born as second birth or triplets are born in the first birth itself.
- iv. An account under SSA can be opened immediately on birth of girl child and upto the age of 10 years from the date of birth.
- v. Minimum amount for opening SSA is Rs 1000/- (subsequent deposit should be in the multiple of Rs 100/-).
- vi. A minimum of one thousand rupees shall be deposited in a financial year but the total money deposited in an account on a single occasion or on multiple occasions shall not exceed Rs 1.5 Lakh in a financial year.
- vii. There is no limit on the number of deposits. The deposits in 'Sukanya Samriddhi Account' can be made in the form of Cash or Demand Draft or Cheque.
- viii. The interest applicable since introduction of the scheme is as under :

Year	Rate of Interest
2014-15	9.1%
2015-16	9.2%
2016-17 (1 st Quarter)	8.6%
- ix. 50% (half of the fund) of the accumulated amount in 'Sukanya Samriddhi Account' can be withdrawn for girl's higher education and marriage after she attains 18 years of age.
- x. Account is to be closed at the time of marriage & amount accumulated in the account will be paid for her marriage.
- xi. 'Sukanya Samriddhi Account' can be closed after completion of 21 years from the date of opening of account.
- xii. The account can be transferred anywhere in India if the girl shifts to a place other than city or locality where the account stands.
- xiii. The amount deposited towards SSA is deductible under Sec 80C of Income Tax Act, 1961 upto Rs. 1.5 lakhs.
