

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**MINISTRY OF FINANCE**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 09.11.2010**

**ANSWERED ON**

**BANKING AND FINANCIAL RELATED SERVICES IN ALL HABITATIONS .**

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Shri Nand Kumar Sai

Will the Minister of COALCOALCOALCOALFINANCE be pleased to state :-

(a) whether the Government has asked all the banks to overperform to achieve their targets of providing banking and related financial services in all habitations of 2000 by 2011 instead of 2012 in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether all the banks have initiated action so far in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the action plan prepared by various banks so far?

**ANSWER**

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance

(Shri Namo Narain Meena)

(a) to (e): On the basis of the recommendations of the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) High Level Committee to review Lead Bank Scheme, lead banks were advised by the RBI in November 2009 to constitute a Sub-Committee of the District Consultative Committees (DCCs) to draw up a roadmap to provide banking services through a banking outlet in every village having a population of over 2000 by March 2011. Such banking services may not necessarily be extended through a brick and mortar branch but can be provided through any of the various forms of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) based models including through Business Correspondents (BCs). The above mentioned target date was revised to March 2012 by RBI to align it with the Government's budget announcement 2010-11, which, inter-alia, advised banks to provide appropriate banking facilities to habitations having population in excess of 2000 (as per 2001 census) by March, 2012. Accordingly, the SLBCs have identified about 73,000 unbanked villages having population of more than 2000 for extending banking facilities. These villages have been allocated to various banks for the provision of banking facilities. State-wise details of number of villages allocated is enclosed as Annex.