

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6356  
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2003  
IMPROVEMENT OF POSTAL NETWORK  
RAMESH CHENNITHALA

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

- (a) whether average population served by post offices in India is less in comparison to U.K. and Sri Lanka;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ; and
- (c) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to further improve postal network in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY( SH THIRUNAVUKKARASAR)

(a) Yes, Sir. The average population and area served per post office in India is 6566 and 21.22 sq.km. respectively, as against 4192 and 14.40 sq. km in Sri Lanka and 3377 and 13.84 sq. km in U.K.

(b)&(c) : Given the population and geographical extent to be covered by the network in U.K. and Sri Lanka vis-À-vis that in India, these indicators do not form a proper basis for comparison. India has the largest postal network in the world and Government continues to improve the access to postal facilities by expanding the network, subject to norms and availability of resources under Plan Schemes. The postal system in India also extends the facility of daily delivery and collection of dak and sale of postage stamps at the doorstep of the customers throughout the length and breadth of this country.