GOVERNMENT OF INDIA COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3107 ANSWERED ON:12.03.2003 POSTAL AND TELECOM FACILITIES CHANDRA NATH SINGH:NIVEDITA MANE

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

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the poor quality of the essential services in the areas of post telegraph and telecommunications in Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra, particularly in hilly and rural areas;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the directions issued by the Government to improve the services of the post, telegraph and telecommunications in these States?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Basic postal services in terms of daily delivery and collection of mails have been provided to all the rural areas throughout the length and breadth of the country including Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra. In additionsale of stamps and stationary is also done through delivery agents when undertaking deliveries in areas where no post office exists.

The quality of telegraph services measured has consistently shown satisfactory performance above 91% in Uttar Pradesh and above 95% in Maharashtra. Information relating to telecommunication facilities is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Continuous efforts are made by the Department of Posts to expand the postal network by opening Post Offices and Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras (PSSKs) subject to fulfillment ofelevant norms and availability of resources. During 2002- 2003 the targets allocated for opening of post offices and Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras (PSSKs) Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh are given in the Annexure.

Regarding telegraph facilities, improvement in quality of service is an ongoing process and standard instructions are available in this regard. Regarding telecommunications services, the information will be laid on the Table of the House shortly.

ANNEXURE

Targets for opening of Post Offices and PSSKs for the year 2002-2003

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S1. Circles EDBOs DSOs PSSKs
No. Normal Tribal Normal Tribal
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1 Maharashtra 25 5 6 1 150 2 Uttar 18 Nil 1 Nil 200 Pradesh