

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3028

ANSWERED ON:18.08.2004

POST OFFICES IN RURAL AREAS

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

- (a) the number of post offices functioning in the rural areas of Gujarat and Maharashtra, district-wise;
- (b) the number of villages in the said States where the post office facility has not been provided as yet; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government to open post offices in such villages?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) The number of post offices functioning in the rural areas of Gujarat and Maharashtra, district-wise are given in the Annexure-I and II.

(b) The number of villages in the states of Gujarat and Maharashtra, in which post offices are not available are 9904 and 24,943 respectively. However, postal facilities for delivery, collection of mail and sale of stamps and postal stationery is provided to all villages.

(c) Post offices are opened in Gram panchayat villages, on their fulfilling of population, distance and financial norms, subject to availability of resources. The norms are given in Annexure-III.

**ANNEXURE-I**

District wise information of Post Offices functioning in rural areas of Gujarat

Sl.No.	Name of districts	Total number of rural Post Offices
1	Ahmedabad	371
2	Banaskantha	396
3	Gandhinagar	99
4	Maheana	356
5	Patan	241
6	Sabarkantha	566
7	Amreli	336
8	Bhavnagar	367
9	Jamnagar	340
10	Junagadh	357
11	Kutch	474
12	Porbandar	146
13	Rajkot	448
14	Surendranagar	312
15	Anand	210
16	Bharuch	378
17	Dahod	286
18	Dang	56
19	Kheda	357
20	Narmada	123
21	Navsari	267
22	Panchmahal	268
23	Surat	578
24	Vadodara	503
25	Valsad	205
Total		8190

**ANNEXURE-II**

District-wise information of Post Offices functioning in rural areas of Maharashtra

Sl.N	Name of districts	Total number of rural Post Offices
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1	Aurangabad	299
2	Jalna	186
3	Beed	308
4	Dhule	243
5	Nadurbar	193
6	Nasik	596
7	Nanded	439
8	Parbhani	165
9	Hingoli	118
10	Latur	271
11	Jalgaon	483
12	Osmanabad	273
13	Ratnagiri	661
14	Kolhapur	509
15	Sangli	385
16	Sindhudurg	364
17	Thane	347
18	Raigad	402
19	Mumbai	0
20	Satara	624
21	Solapur	482
22	Ahmednagar	606
23	Pune	614
24	Akola	216
25	Washim	159
26	Amravati	417
27	Buldana	335
28	Bhandara	172
29	Gondia	123
30	Chandrapur	327
31	Gadchiroli	198
32	Nagpur	263
33	Wardha	166
34	Yeotmal	350

Total	11294
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### Annexure III

#### NORMS FOR OPENING POST OFFICES

1. Norms for opening Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices:

1.1 Population :

(a) In Normal Areas:

3000 population in a group of villages (including the PPO village)

(b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:

500 population in an individual village or 1000 population in a group of villages.

1.2 Distance

(a) In Normal Areas:

The minimum distance from the nearest existing post office will be 3 Kms.

(b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:

The distance limit will be the same as above except that in Hilly Areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate in cases where such relaxation is warranted by special circumstances which should be clearly explained while submitting a proposal.

### 1.3 Anticipated Income:

(a) In Normal Areas:

The minimum anticipated revenue will be 33 1/3% of the cost.

(b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:

The minimum anticipated income will be 15% of the cost.

## 2. Criteria for upgrading/opening Departmental Sub Post Offices:

(a) In Rural Areas:

The minimum work load of the Extra Departmental Branch Post Office, Proposed to be upgraded, should be five hours per day.

The permissible limit of annual loss is Rs. 2400/- in Normal Rural areas and Rs. 4800/- in Tribal and Hilly areas.

(b) In Urban Areas:

In Urban areas, the post office should initially be self-supporting, and, at the time of the first annual review, it should show a 5% profit to be eligible for further retention.

The minimum distance between two post offices should be 1.5 Kms. In cities with a population for 20 lakhs and above, and 2 Kms. In other Urban Areas. No two delivery offices, however, should be closer than 5 Kms. For each other.

Heads of Circles have powers to relax the distance condition in 10% of the cases.

A Delivery Post Office in urban Area should have a minimum of 7 Postmen's beats.