

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:543

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2004

BANKS OPERATING IN THE COUNTRY

Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram;Gehlot Shri Thaawar Chand

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise details of the bank-branches operating in the country presently;
- (b) whether the Government particularly keeping in view the need of the rural areas, propose to open branches of the banks in the Country; and
- (c) if so, details thereof, state-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) The details of the branches of the commercial banks presently operating in the country, as on 30.9.2004 in various States/UTs, as reported by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), are given in the enclosed Annex,

(b)&(c) As per RBFs extant policy, it is left to the discretion of the Banks themselves to assess the need for opening additional branches in any area of the country, considering certain factors such as business potential, viability, infrastructure, security, etc. The RBI encourages the banks for opening more branches in rural areas and gives priority to such requests. The RBI has issued 43 authorisations to the banks for opening of branches at rural centres during the current year from 1.4.04 to 31.10.04.