

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1021
ANSWERED ON:14.07.2004
POST OFFICES IN GRAM PANCHAYATS
Sen Smt. Minati

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

- (a) the total number of Gram Panchayats where post offices have not been opened in the country so, State-wise; and;
(b) The details of the norms laid down for opening post offices?

Answer

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

- (a) As per information available with this office, on 31.3.2003, there were 1,15,605 Gram Panchayat villages in the country without post offices, State/Circle-wise figures are given in the Annexure-I.
(b) The details of the norms laid down for opening post offices are given in the Annexure-II.

ANNEXURE-I

Sl. Name of Circle No. of Gram Panchayat
No. villages without Post office

1	ANDHRA	6278
2	ASSAM	68
3	BIHAR	1445
4	CHHATTISGARH	11285
5	DELHI	NIL
6	GUJARAT	5175
	D.N. HAVELI	NIL
	D & DIU	2
7	HARYANA	3705
8	HIMACHAL	626
9	J&K	1631
10	JHARKHAND	1040
11	KARNATAKA	467
12	KERALA	NIL
	LAKSHDWEEP	NIL
	MAHE	NIL
13	M. PRADESH	9259
14	MAHARASHTRA	15767
	GOA	11
15	NORTH EAST	
	ARUNACHAL	1826
	MANIPUR	149
	MEGHALAYA	582
	MIZORAM	296
	NAGALAND	734
	TRIPURA	390
16	ORISSA	363
17	PUNJAB	9019
	CHANDIGARH	10
18	RAJASTHAN	1009
19	TAMIL NADU	3988
	PONDICHERRY	NIL
20	UTTAR PRADESH	35881
21	UTTRANCHAL	4549
22	WEST BENGAL	NIL
	A & N ISLAND	27
	SIKKIM	23

TOTAL

115605

ANNEXURE-II

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 of 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.