

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1986
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2004
EXPANSION OF POSTAL SERVICES
Singh Shri Dushyant

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

- (a) Whether the Government has taken any step for the expansion of postal network in the country during last three years;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof particularly in Rajasthan; and
- (c) the various expansion proposals mooted for the postal sector in Tenth Five Year Plan, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Details of post offices opened, Postal Circle- wise, during the last three Annual Plans viz; 2001-2002, 2002- 2003 and 2003-2004 are given in Annexure. In Rajasthan Circle 53 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices (GDS Offices), 7 Departmental Post Offices and 202 Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras have been opened during the last three years.

(c) Post offices are opened under Plan subject to fulfilment of distance, population and income norms and availability of resources. Annual targets for opening post offices are fixed for the plan period but State-wise targets are decided only on yearly basis.

For the Tenth Five Year Plan, targets have been approved only for the first two years. Implementation programme for the next three years using Plan resources requires approval of the competent authorities. Meanwhile post offices continue to be opened by relocating post offices to needy areas.