

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:267

ANSWERED ON:17.12.2008

EXPANSION OF SBI OPERATIONS IN RURAL AND SEMI-URBAN AREAS

Mandal Shri Sanat Kumar

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total branches of the State Bank of India (SBI) functioning in rural and semi-urban areas at present;
- (b) whether the SBI has proposed to add 1,000 branches in rural and semi-urban areas during the current year;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the SBI proposes to expand its marketing mechanism and tie-up with business facilitators to double the growth of deposits and advances from rural branches;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the extent to which it is likely to help the rural and semi-urban population in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE(SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (f) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 267 for answer on 17th December, 2008 regarding `Expansion of SBI Operations in Rural and Semi-Urban Areas` tabled by Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal.

(a): According to information furnished by the State Bank of India (SBI), presently there are a total of 7446 branches of SBI functioning in rural and semi-urban areas, out of which, 4250 are rural and 3196 are semi-urban branches.

(b) & (c): Yes, Sir. The SBI has received authorisation to open a total of 1069 branches of which 519 will be rural branches and 550 will be semi-urban branches.

(d) to (f): The vision of the Bank is that business from rural and semi-urban branches should be as much from urban and metro branches in 3 to 5 years. Towards this end the Bank is engaging Business Correspondants (BCs) and Business Facilitators (BFs) for penetration into rural and semi-urban areas, setting up a number of Customer Service Points (CSPs) for Business Correspondents and targetting to open 40 lakh smart cards no-frill accounts this year.