

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3621
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2004
PACT WITH RELIANCE INFOCOMM
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

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

- (a) whether the Reliance Infocomm has signed pact with the postal department for using the post office as bill collection centres;
- (b) if so, the number of proposals in this regard worked out by the Reliance Infocomm with the postal department;
- (c) by when the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard;
- (d) the extent to which the post offices across the country are ready for distribution network for various services providers; and
- (e) the extent to which pact will be helpful for both Reliance and the postal department?

Answer

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

- (a) Yes, Sir. Department of Posts has signed an agreement in Gujarat and Maharashtra Postal Circles with Reliance Infocomm for using the postal network as Bill Collection Centres on the lines of similar arrangements made with other service providers in various parts of the country.
- (b) Gujarat and Maharashtra postal circles have signed one agreement each with Reliance Infocomm for utilizing the postal network of identified Post Offices as Bill collection centres.
- (c) No proposal from Reliance Infocomm on Bill collection is pending for decision.
- (d) The Post Offices are already providing such services in the country.
- (e) Such arrangements are mutually helpful for service providers and the Department of Posts. The former can use the well established postal network. The Postal Department can generate revenue from the facilities provided in this manner.