

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1191
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2010
MODERNISATION OF POST OFFICES
Muttemwar Shri Vilas Baburao

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

- (a) whether Department of Posts is suffering of losses for the last many years;
- (b) if so, the total losses suffered by the Department of Posts during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether the Department of Posts has taken any decision to make the postal services better, to expand computer networking and postal services to provide pension facilities to the 'Dak Sewak' posted in villages and to provide arrear of allowances to the employees;
- (d) if so, whether Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) and Parliamentary Committee has expressed their deep dissatisfaction over the working of Department of Posts;
- (e) if so, the number of villages having no post offices in the country; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government for this plight of Department of Posts?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT)

(a) & (b) The Department of Posts is running in deficit. The deficit of the Department of Post during the last three financial years are as under:

2007-08 Rs. 1511.44 crores

2008-09 Rs. 3593.09 crores

2009-10 Rs. 6634.38 crores

The deficit of the Department for the current year will be ascertained at the close of the financial year.

(c) (i) The Department of Posts has undertaken IT modernization project under XI Five Year Plan for expansion of Computer networking. Till 31.03.2010, 12604 Post Offices have been computerized in the country. The computerization of Post Offices is an ongoing activity.

(ii) In pursuance of recommendations of One-man Committee constituted by the Government, it has been decided to introduce Service Discharge Benefit Scheme on contribution basis under Annuity Scheme.

(iii) Orders for payment of arrears of revision of pay in respect of Departmental officials and Time Related continuity Allowance (TRCA) for Gramin Dak Sevaks have been issued. The arrears have also been paid.

(d) There is no such report either of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India or Parliamentary Committee expressing their deep dissatisfaction over the working of the Department of Posts.

(e) As on 31.03.2009, 138861 villages were having post offices out of the total number of 617145 inhabited villages in the country. However, all inhabited villages have access to Postal facilities.

(f) The Department has initiated introduction of various Premium Products in its Mail Business and Financial Services to increase the revenue and reduce thereby the deficit of the Department. The revenue receipt of the Department during the last three years have

been as under:

2007-08 Rs. 5494.90 crores

2008-09 Rs. 5862.33 crores

2009-10 Rs. 6271.82 crores

The services of the Department are being upgraded by computerizing the Post Offices and by providing better facilities to the customers.