

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1226
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2010
DEVELOPMENT OF POSTAL SERVICES
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to develop postal services in the country through franchisee schemes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented in the country including Gujarat?

Answer

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

- (a) In order to augment the postal network, Franchisee Outlets are opened in urban areas of the country where post offices are not available due to non-fulfillment of norms prescribed for opening of post offices.
- (b) Franchisee Scheme has created additional access points in areas where it was not possible to open post offices due to non-fulfillment of norms prescribed for opening of post offices. In this scheme, only specified counter services are franchised. Products and services offered through Franchisee Outlets include sale of stamps and stationery, booking of registered/speed post articles and booking of money orders etc.
- (c) Franchisee scheme has been launched on 08.02.2007 in the country including Gujarat Postal Circle, where 48 Franchisee Outlets are functioning at present.