

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:308

ANSWERED ON:24.08.2011

FINANCIAL SERVICES IN POST OFFICES

McLeod Smt. Ingrid;Sivakumar Alias J.K. Ritheesh Shri K.

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

- (a) the various financial services offered by the Post Offices at present;
- (b) whether these services have been economically viable;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Postal Department proposes to enter into the banking arena; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 308 FOR 24TH AUGUST, 2011 REGARDING "FINANCIAL SERVICES IN POST OFFICES"

(a) The Department of Posts offers primarily two kinds of financial services through post offices. These are the department's own financial services (such as Money Order, Postal Life Insurance and Rural Postal Life Insurance) and financial services offered on an agency or partnership basis. These are Small Savings Schemes on behalf of Ministry of Finance, New Pension Scheme on behalf of Pension Fund Regulatory Development Authority and International Money Transfer Service.

(b)&(c) It cannot be ascertained whether these services have been economically viable as expenditure incurred indirectly by the department on various such services cannot be separately identified.

(d)&(e) The Department of Posts proposes to look into the feasibility of setting up a Post Bank but the proposal is still at a conceptual stage.