

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1457

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2011

FRANCHISEE COUNTER IN POST OFFICES

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

- (a) the details of the special counters, franchisee, postal sale counter opened in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, circle-wise;
- (b) whether the performance of these outlets been assessed by the Government;
- (c) if so, the details and outcome thereof;
- (d) The action taken by the Government thereon;
- (e) Whether the Government proposes to set up special counters in those areas where basic services are not available; and
- (f) If so, the details thereof and the time by which these special counters are likely to be set up, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT)

- (a) Circle-wise details of franchisee postal outlets opened in the country during each of the last three years and current year are at Annexure-I.
- (b) Yes, Madam.
- (c) The performance of franchisee outlets scheme as assessed in 2007-08 and it was found that the scheme was meeting its intended objectives.
- (d) The franchisee scheme was launched initially on pilot basis in 100 identified locations of specified Circles in February, 2007 and based on the assessment, the scheme was expanded in all urban areas in January, 2008 to meet the increasing demand for postal facilities.
- (e) & (f) Yes, Madam. Opening of franchisee outlets is an on-going process. The franchisee outlets are opened in the areas where opening of post office is justified but it cannot be opened for some reasons. This is also subject to receipt of applications from suitable candidates. During current financial year 2011-12, physical targets for opening of 125 franchisee outlets have been issued to the Circles. The Circle-wise details are enclosed at Annexure-II.