

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3253
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2012
REGULARISATION OF GRAMEEN DAK SEVAKS
Rani Killi Krupa

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

- (a) the number of Grameen Dak Sevaks presently working in various parts of the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to regularise the services of the Grameen Dak Sevaks;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) The details are given in Annexure I.

(b) No, Madam.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to (b) above.

(d) Gramin Dak Sevaks and their working conditions are governed by Gramin Dak Sevaks (Conduct & Engagement) Rules, 2011. The GDS (Conduct & Engagement) Rules are non-statutory in nature. Gramin Dak Sevaks are engaged on terms and conditions which are significantly different from those of regular employees. The job profile, working hours, working conditions, applicability of rules for the regular Departmental employees and that of the Gramin Dak Sevaks are all together different. Gramin Dak Sevaks are only entitled to protection under Article 311(2) of the Constitution of India as held by the Apex Court and not in other matters. While the regular Govt. employee superannuates on completion of age of 60 years, Gramin Dak Sevaks can enter the service on attaining age of 18 years & remain in engagement up to 65 years. Further, the essential qualifications for all the categories of Gramin Dak Sevaks other than Branch Post Masters is 8th and in case of Branch Post Masters it is matriculation whereas the essential qualification of erstwhile Group D now designated as MTS Group C & Postman is Matriculation & that of Postal Assistant is 10+2. Thus, the regular Govt. employees and Gramin Dak Sevaks are two separate and distinct categories. The Gramin Dak Sevaks before engagement are required to give a certificate that they have other sources of income besides the allowances paid or to be paid by the Government for adequate means of livelihood for themselves and their families. They work for a minimum of 3 hours and for a maximum of 5 hours per day. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the matter of Superintendent of Post Offices vs. PK Rajamma (1977) (3) SCC has held that GDS are holders of the civil post outside the regular civil services. The issue of conferment of status of regular departmental employees to the Gramin Dak Sevaks with 8 hours duty was examined by the Group of Ministers in the year 1998 following recommendation made by Justice Talwar Committee but the same was not agreed to. Therefore, there is neither justification nor there is any proposal pending with the Department to confer status of regular departmental employees to such Gramin Dak Sevaks.