

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7016
ANSWERED ON:18.05.2012
NANO BRANCHES IN RURAL AREAS
Panda Shri Prabodh;Tarai Shri Bibhu Prasad

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the nationalised banks including Bank of Baroda have launched a programme of setting up nano branches in remote areas uncovered by banking facilities in the various States of the country including Gujarat, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and bank-wise?

Answer

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri Namo Narain Meena)

(a) and (b) In order to extend the reach of banking to the rural hinterland, Banks (including Bank of Baroda) were advised in 2010-11 to provide appropriate banking facilities to habitations having a population in excess of 2000 (as per 2001 census) by March, 2012 under 'Swabhimaan' campaign. These services are to be provided using the Business Correspondent and other models, with appropriate technology back up. As per reports received from State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC) Convener Banks, out of 74,398 such villages identified, 74,194 villages have been covered by March, 2012. The State-wise details is given at Annexure.

Further, the banks have been advised to set up Ultra Small Branches in villages covered under Business Correspondent model.