

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1769
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2012
MOBILE BANKING
Mutterwar Shri Vilas Baburao;Sharma Shri Jagdish

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to connect villages with the population of 2000 with the mobile banking during the first phase of the scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of public/private sector banks presently providing mobile banking facilities in villages; and
- (d) the steps taken for the security of employees and vehicles engaged in mobile banking?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (d) In order to extend the reach of banking to the rural hinterland, Banks 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` the Financial Inclusion Campaign. By March, 2012 banking facilities have been provided to 74,194 such villages mainly through brick & mortar branches, business correspondents agents (BCAs) and mobile banking, etc.

The Reserve Bank of India(RBI) granted general permission in July 2010 to domestic scheduled commercial banks (other than RRBs) to operationalise Mobile branches in Tier 3 to Tier 6 centres (with population upto 49,999 as per Census 2001) and in rural, semi urban and urban centres in the North Eastern States and Sikkim, subject to reporting.

The scheme of mobile branch envisages the extension of banking facilities through a well protected van with arrangements for two or three officials of the bank sitting in it with books, safe containing cash, etc.