

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1614

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2009

FRANCHISING OF POSTAL OUTLETS

Bheiravdanji Shri Gadhvi Mukeshkumar;Raghavan Shri M. K.

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal for the launch of scheme for franchising postal outlets in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Gujarat; and
- (c) the extent to which increase in mail/registered mail alongwith the revenue has been registered in the country during the current year?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT)

(a) In order to augment the Postal network, Franchisee Outlets are being opened in urban areas of the country especially in new upcoming urban townships, special economic zones, major highway projects, upcoming new industrial centres, colleges etc. where post offices are not available due to non- fulfillment of norms prescribed for the opening of post offices. The scheme was introduced on 8.2.07.

(b) As on 31.03.2009 there are 850 franchise outlets operating in urban areas of the country which includes 42 in the Gujarat Circle. State/Circle-wise details of franchise outlets available in the country as on 31.03.2009 are annexed. (Annexure-I)

(c) The ordinary/registered (in brackets) mail traffic for the past three years is 645.98 crores (21.73 crores) during 2006-07, 619.13 crores (19.98 crores) during 2007-08 and 634.27 crores (19.82 crores) during 2008-09. The figures of 2008-09 are tentative. (Annexure-II). The increase in traffic of unregistered mail during 2008-09 against 2007-08 has been 2.45%. The decrease in traffic of registered mail during 2008-09 against 2007-08 is 0.80%.

The revenue earned by the Department on account of sale of stamps and stationery and postage realized in cash (which includes all forms of mail/parcel traffic) is Rs. 45 crores for 2008-09, which is a decrease of 2.81% against the previous year 2007-08.