

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1632  
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2009  
CLOSURE OF POST OFFICES  
Patil Shri A.T. Nana;Wankhede Shri Subhash Bapurao

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

- (a) whether several post offices in the country have been given closure notice by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of post offices which have been closed in the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) the criteria likely to be adopted in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to review the decision in this regard; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a) No, Sir. No closure notice has been given to any Post Office by the Government.

(b) & (c) Does not apply in view of (a) above.

However, a few post offices have been closed down in extreme circumstances due to non- fulfillment of prescribed norms or due to court orders for vacation of rented buildings where alternate suitable accommodation could not be found. Details of post offices closed during the last three years and the current year (upto October 2009) are annexed (Annexure-I).

In addition to this, some of the post offices have been relocated / merged to other needy and justified locations with a view to rationalize the existing postal network. Details of such post offices are also annexed (Annexure - II and Annexure - III).

(d) & (e) There is no proposal to review the decision regarding closure of Post Offices in view of the fact that opening and retention of branch post offices is heavily subsidized to the extent of 66.66% in normal rural areas and upto 85% in hilly, tribal, desert and inaccessible areas. Even Sub Post Offices are subsidized, and the permissible limit of annual loss is upto Rs. 2400 per annum in normal rural areas and upto Rs. 4800 in hilly and tribal areas.