

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1695

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2014

REVIVAL OF POST OFFICES

Karunakaran Shri P.;Maurya Shri Keshav Prasad;Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

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

- (a) the number of employees who lost their employment due to closure of post offices across the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to take any steps for revival/promotion of postal services;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to promote postal services to deal with private sector competition?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) Department of Posts has no approved policy for closure of post offices and therefore, no employee of the department is losing his/her employment due to closure of post offices. However, Department is implementing the scheme of rationalization for maximum utilization of existing postal network. Under this scheme, existing post offices which do not fulfill the prescribed norms for opening of post offices, are relocated to needy areas when such relocation takes place, and the existing surplus staff, if any, are redeployed, and hence none of them lose their jobs.

(b) to (d) The promotion of various premium products offered by the Department is a continuous exercise and the focus is always on garnering a greater share of the market for competing products like speed post, express parcel etc. This is ensured through enhancing the visibility and value of existing as well as new products of the Department. Action is taken to monitor the quality of service of various products, promote the service features and make customers aware about the product by promoting the same through print and electronic media. Besides this, Department also undertakes other activities i.e. conducting Market Research for customer satisfaction, direct marketing and organizing exhibitions, press conferences and customer meets.