

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1388  
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2015  
PANCHAYAT SANCHAR SEWA YOJANA  
Patle Smt. Kamla Devi

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

- (a) the number of villages covered under the Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Yojana in the country State-wise including Chhattisgarh during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the time by which all villages across the country are likely to be covered under the said scheme;
- (c) whether the said scheme has been successful in rural areas of the country;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to make the scheme successful and strengthen the monitoring mechanism of the scheme?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) The Postal Circle-wise number of PSSKs functional including Chhattisgarh during 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 & 2014-15 [upto 26.02.2015] is at Annexure. Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras (PSSKs) under the 'Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Yojana' scheme are opened at the Gram Panchayat Head- quarters which are without Post Offices. However, the existing postal delivery system already covers each and every village of the country. This scheme is being implemented by Gram Panchayats through agents appointed by them (Gram Panchayats) with the written consent of the concerned Superintendent/ Senior Superintendent of Post Offices. Opening of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras is an on-going activity. This is opened subject to demand from the heads of the Gram Panchayats in the form of written application.

(c)&(d) The extent to which the scheme achieves its objective of providing basic postal facilities at Gram Panchayat Headquarters is dependent upon the

(i) level of interest shown on part of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Yojana agents; (ii) the level of commitment shown by the PSSK agents over the functioning of the Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendra; and (iii) the selection of suitable candidates by Gram Panchayats.

(e) The PSSK agents have been allowed to work as direct agent of Rural Postal Life Insurance (RPLI) business for increasing the volume of business and income of the PSSKs. The functioning of the PSSKs is being monitored regularly by the Field Officer viz. Inspector of Post Offices/ Asstt. Superintendent of Post Offices/ Senior/ Superintendent of Post Offices during their visits to these kendras.