

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:419

ANSWERED ON:22.04.2015

POST OFFICES IN VILLAGES

Puttaraju Shri C.S.;Ram Mohan Naidu Shri Kinjarapu

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

- (a) the number of post offices in the country in rural and urban areas, separately State/UT-wise;
- (b) the number of villages provided with post office along with those which are yet to be provided with this facility;
- (c) whether the Government has set any target for setting up of post offices in every village;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the action plan prepared by the Government to provide post offices in all the villages;
- (e) whether the Government has received proposal from various States for opening of new post offices in rural areas; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof, State/UTwise and the action taken by the Government on each of the proposal?

Answer

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

(a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 419 FOR 22nd APRIL, 2015 REGARDING "POST OFFICES IN VILLAGES".

(a) State/UT-wise and category-wise number of post offices functional in rural and urban areas of the country (as on 31.03.2014) is at Annexure-I.

(b) State/UT-wise number of villages with post offices and number of villages without post offices in the country (as on 31.03.2014) is at Annexure-II. The villages without post offices are provided postal facilities through existing nearby post offices.

(c) & (d) Opening of new post offices by relocation and redeployment is an ongoing activity. This is taken up under Plan Scheme - "Rural Business & Access to Postal Network", subject to fulfillment of certain prescribed norms, availability of Plan support and manpower. The norms for opening of new post offices in different categories are detailed at Annexure-III.

Department of Posts has decided to open 400 new Gramin Dak Sewak Post Offices (GDSPOs) in rural areas by redeployment & relocation during 12th Plan under the Plan Scheme to increase access of postal services in uncovered rural areas, out of which 252 GDSPOs have already been opened during 2012-13, 2013-14 & 2014-15, details are at Annexure-IV. The target for opening of new GDSPOs during current financial year is 92. The Postal Circle-wise physical targets for the current financial year is at Annexure-V. In addition, a village where a GDSPo is not justified as per norms, the services are offered through other GDSPo's and also Franchise Outlets (FOs) & Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras (PSSKs). The number of FOs and PSSKs functional in the country (as on 31.03.2014) are at Annexure-VI.

(e) & (f) Yes, Madam. The Postal Circle-wise number of proposals received for opening of post offices and status of action taken on the proposals are at Annexure-VII.