GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3526
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2014
ESTABLISHMENT OF AMPCS
Antony Shri Anto

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

(a) whether the Government has introduced Automated Mail Processing Centres (AMPCs) in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including its salient features and the locations where AMPCs are established;

(c) whether the Government is planning to establish more AMPCs in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has received any representations regarding the establishment of more AMPCs in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these are likely to be set up?

Answer

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

(a) Yes Madam.

(b) The Automated Mail Processing Centres were first installed at Mumbai in 1993 and at Chennai in 1996.These AMPCs comprised of two High Speed Letter Sorting Machines having speed of 30,000 articles per hour and Advanced Compact Suites (ACS) for bar-coding and preliminary segregation of letters. These AMPCs have outlived their rated life of 15 years. The AMPC at Chennai has stopped functioning and hence the same has been condemned. The AMPC at Mumbai is still working. These machines did not have an Optical Character Recognition (OCR) component. OCR machines can read and code articles about 30 to 40 times faster than it can be done by human eye.The machines at Mumbai and Chennai can sort only letters. However, since the composition of mail is changing, and number of flats, expresses (Speed Post) and registered articles is increasing faster than other types of mail, the Department had planned machines with state- of- art technology in the 11th Plan Period. OCR technology based machines were installed at Delhi and Kolkata in the year 2012

with one Letter Sorting Machine and a Mixed Mail Sorter at each location. Letter Sorting Machine (LSM) can sort normal letters at a speed of 35,000 letters per hour whereas Mixed Mail Sorter (MMS) can sort large letters, documents and packets at the rate of 20,000 items every hour.

(c) Two new centres are planned to be set up during the 12th plan period at Bangalore (Karnataka) and Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh). In addition the old sorting machines at Mumbai and Chennai are planned to be replaced with new sorting machines with latest OCR technology.

(d) No, Madam. No representation has been received.

(e) In view of (d) above, the question does not arise.