

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES  
LOK SABHA

**UN-STARRED QUESTION No. 2878**

TO BE ANSWERED ON 3 AUGUST 2018 (FRIDAY)/ SHRAVANA 12, 1940 (SAKA)

**Bank Service in Rural Areas**

**2878. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:**

**SHRI NAGENDRA KUMAR PRADHAN:**

**SHRI HARI MANJHI:**

**SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:**

**SHRI BALABHADRA MAJHI:**

**SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:**

**SHRIMATI RANJANBEN BHATT:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the banking services are badly affected in rural areas, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the total rural population covered by banking service and ATMs at present, State/UT-wise including Odisha;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to provide the banking service at panchayat level in rural areas, if so, the details thereof and the number of Panchayats that have not been covered with banking facility so far along with the time period by which it will be covered, State/UT-wise including Gujarat;
- (c) whether the Government has prescribed any yardstick to open bank branches in the country and if so, the details thereof along with the percentage of population that have not been covered according to such yardstick;
- (d) the practical problem faced by the Government to facilitate banking services at panchayat level areas and the corrective measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) the manner in which the Direct Benefit Transfer scheme is likely to be implemented in the rural branches; and
- (f) the steps taken to enhance the penetration of banking services at Panchayat level?

## **Answer**

### **The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance**

#### **(SHRI SHIV PRATAP SHUKLA)**

(a) to (f) As per extant guidelines dated 18.5.2017 on rationalizing of Branch Authorization Policy, Reserve Bank of India has granted general permission to domestic Scheduled Commercial Banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks), to open banking outlets at any place in the country, without seeking prior approval of RBI in each case, subject to at least 25 percent of the total number of banking outlets opened during a financial year being in unbanked rural centres with population less than 10,000.

As informed by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), as on 31.3.2018, 50,748 (35.57%) branches out of 1,42,651 total branches of Scheduled Commercial Banks are in rural centres, i.e. centres having population less than 10,000. They have further informed that details of rural population covered by banking services and ATMs are not available with them. However, State/UT-wise number of bank branches of Scheduled Commercial Banks in rural centres as on 31.03.2018 is at Annexure-1. State/UT-wise number of ATMs as on 01.08.2018 is at Annexure-2.

Under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), all the villages across the entire country have been mapped by banks into 1.59 lakh Sub-service Areas (SSAs), based on the criteria to 1000 – 1500 households. Out of total SSAs, 0.33 lakh SSAs are covered by bank branches and 1.26 lakh SSAs without bank branches have been covered with inter-operable Business Correspondents (BCs).

As informed by Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Mission, Cabinet Secretariat under DBT, benefits like wage payments, fuel subsidies, food grain subsidies etc. are sent directly into the beneficiaries' account. The benefits are transferred using preferably Aadhaar Payment Bridge (APB), or through NEFT/RTGS.

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Annexure-1 as referred to in Para 2 of reply to the Lok Sabha Un-starred question no. 2878 for  
03.08.2018 regarding Bank Service in Rural Areas

Number of Functioning Branches of Scheduled Commercial Banks as on 31.03.2018 – State/UTs -wise

Region/State/ UTs	RURAL
<b>CENTRAL REGION</b>	
CHHATTISGARH	1,063
MADHYA PRADESH	2,306
UTTAR PRADESH	7,716
UTTARAKHAND	938
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,023</b>
<b>EASTERN REGION</b>	
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR IS	23
BIHAR	3,266
JHARKHAND	1,348
ODISHA	2,568
SIKKIM	72
WEST BENGAL	3,662
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,939</b>
<b>NORTH EASTERN REGION</b>	
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	73
ASSAM	1,309
MANIPUR	80
MEGHALAYA	170
MIZORAM	67
NAGALAND	53
TRIPURA	235
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,987</b>
<b>NORTHERN REGION</b>	
CHANDIGARH	11
HARYANA	1,616
HIMACHAL PRADESH	1,209
JAMMU & KASHMIR	890
NCT OF DELHI	68
PUNJAB	2,534
RAJASTHAN	2,853
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,181</b>
<b>SOUTHERN REGION</b>	
ANDHRA PRADESH	2,383
KARNATAKA	3,485
KERALA	331
LAKSHADWEEP	6
PUDUCHERRY	51
TAMIL NADU	2,926
TELANGANA	1,536
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,718</b>
<b>WESTERN REGION</b>	
DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	14
DAMAN & DIU	3
GOA	279
GUJARAT	2,488
MAHARASHTRA	3,116
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,900</b>
<b>All India</b>	<b>50,748</b>

Source: RBI

**Annexure-2 as referred to in Para 2 of reply to the Lok Sabha Un-starred question no. 2878 for  
03.08.2018 regarding Bank Service in Rural Areas  
State/UT-wise number of ATMs as on 31.03.2018**

State/UT	ATMs of Scheduled Commercial Banks and White Label ATMs
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	115
ANDHRA PRADESH	10436
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	248
ASSAM	3805
BIHAR	7949
CHANDIGARH	648
CHHATISGARH	3262
DADRA NAGAR HAVELI	139
DAMAN	95
DELHI	8744
DIU	13
GOA	1032
GUJARAT	11726
HARYANA	6497
HIMACHAL PRADESH	1786
JAMMU AND KASHMIR	2516
JHARKHAND	3768
KARNATAKA	17664
KERALA	9644
LAKSHWADEEP	17
MADHYA PRADESH	10066
MAHARASHTRA	25651
MANIPUR	335
MEGHALAYA	409
MIZORAM	171
NAGALAND	316
ORISSA	6988
PONDICHERRY	591
PUNJAB	7384
RAJASTHAN	9386
SIKKIM	196
TAMIL NADU	25277
TELANGANA	10365
TRIPURA	491
UTTAR PRADESH	19937
UTTARAKHAND	2677
WEST BENGAL	11722
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>222066</b>

Source: RBI