

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1219**

ANSWERED ON Monday, December 8, 2025/Agrahayana 17, 1947 (Saka)

**Bank Branches in Madhya Pradesh**

†1219. SMT. ANITA NAGARSINGH CHOUHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the urgent need for bank branches in the tribal majority areas of Raipuria and Madrani (Jhabua district) and Kakrana (Alirajpur district) of Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any survey or prepared any proposal for establishing branches of nationalised banks in these areas, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, whether the Government is likely to consider establishing new bank branches in these regions in view of their geographical inaccessibility, growing population and the need to ensure access to various Government schemes, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government so far for establishing bank branches in the aforesaid areas?

**ANSWER**

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance  
(SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)

(a to d) As per the extant Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines, rolling out of banking outlets in uncovered areas is a continuous process looked after by the State/ Union Territory Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC/UTLBC), in consultation with the concerned State Government, member banks and other stakeholders. Banks, inter-alia, consider proposals for opening banking outlets in the light of RBI's instructions, their business plans and their commercial viability. To further assess the viability for opening a banking outlet, banks carry out survey as required.

In terms of the revised guidelines issued by RBI vide circular dated May 18, 2017 on 'Rationalization of Branch Authorization Policy' the term "Branch" has been substituted by "Banking Outlet (BO)" which includes both physical brick and mortar branches and Business Correspondent (BC) outlets, to enable banks in expanding their network even in remote rural areas in a cost-effective manner for hassle free services to customers.

RBI has granted general permission to domestic Scheduled Commercial Banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks) to open banking outlets including branch 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 i.e. centres having population less than 10,000 (Tier 5 and Tier 6 centres).

Further, the endeavor of the Government is to ensure availability of banking outlet (Bank branch/ BC /India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)) within 5 kilometres (km) of all inhabited villages in the country. Availability of banking outlets is monitored by a Geographic Information System (GIS) based App., namely, Jan Dhan Darshak Application (JDD App). Based on the data uploaded by Banks on the JDD App, as on 31.10.2025, 99.91% villages in the country are covered with banking outlets (Bank Branch/ BC / IPPB) within a radius of 5 km.

As per the JDD App, the villages namely Raipuria and Madrani in Jhabua District and Kakrana village in Alirajpur District of Madhya Pradesh are covered by banking outlets within 5 km radius.

Details of Banking Infrastructure in Jhabua and Alirajpur District of Madhya Pradesh, as on 30.11.2025, is as under:

State	District	Branches	BC	ATM	IPPB
Madhya Pradesh	Jhabua	91	2963	52	116
Madhya Pradesh	Alirajpur	52	1610	31	101

*Source: JDD App*

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