

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2287
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2003
POSTAL SERVICES
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether over 5000 Gram Panchayat Villages, many urban agglomerations and officially developed areas in the country are without Post Offices;
- (b) if so, step taken to improve the postal facilities at such places and the number of new Post Offices planned and actually opened during each of the last three years, State/UT and category-wise; and
- (c) the time by which all the villages and extension areas of the existing cities will be effectively covered by postal services?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHR THIRUNAVUKKARASAR)

- (a) There are approximately 3752 Gram Panchayat villages and a number of urban agglomerations without Post Offices.
- (b) Post Offices are opened subject to fulfillment of prescribed norms and availability of requisite resources. The number of new Post Offices targeted and actually opened during the last three years is given in the Annexure. However, Circles have also been empowered, inter-alia, to redeploy offices located in close proximity to other post offices in urban areas, to meet the emerging needs of newly developed urban settlements.
- (c) All areas including villages and urban extensions are provided with basic postal facilities such as daily delivery of dak at the doorstep, collection of mails from Letter Boxes and sale of postage stamps and stationery, also at the doorstep in rural areas. However, Post Offices are opened only in such areas where the requisite norms for opening of Post Offices are met, subject to availability of resources.

ANNEXURE

Circle-wise Post Offices opened during last three years

Sl. Circles 2000-01 2001-02 2002-03
No.

Target Achievement Target Achievement Target Achievement

1. Andhra 16 8 15 3 3 3
pradesh

2. Assam 33 33 37 37 16 16

3. Bihar 54 71 60 38 15 15

4. Chattisgarh 26 26 26 26 21 21

5. Delhi 6 6 4 4 2 2

6. Gujarat+ 23 12 22 20 15 15

7 Haryana 16 3 3 1 1 1

8. Himachal 8 3 5 5 2 2

9. J&K 6 6 13 13 5 5

10. Jharkhand 23 1 16 1 10 8

11. Karnataka 23 23 22 15 10 9

12 Kerala 5 5 3 3 3 3

13 M.P. 18 18 24 24 15 17

14 Maharashtra+ 67 67 74 75 38 38

15 North 42 6 37 15 10 10
East+

16 Orissa 12 12 16 16 11 11

17 Pubjab+ 17 14 14 14 6 6

18 Rajasthan 22 22 24 24 20 20

19 Tamil 17 17 7 7 6 6
Nadu+

20 Uttar 45 45 42 40 19 19
Pradesh

21 Uttaranchal 6 7 26 16 4 4

22 West 65 10 60 59 43 35
Bengal+

TOTAL 550 415 550 456 275 266

+ (1) Gujarat includes Daman and Diu

(2) Maharashtra includes Goa

(3) Kerala includes Lakshdweep Islands

(4) North East Includes Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura

(5) Punjab includes Chandigarh

(6) Tamil Nadu includes Pondicherry

(7) West Bengal includes Sikkim