

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1514
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2006
PRIVATE BANK BRANCHES IN RURAL AREAS
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines, new private sector banks were required to open up 25 per cent of branches in rural / semi-urban areas but these banks have only 9.52 per cent of branches in rural areas;
- (b) if so, the steps taken to meet the prescribed target by opening more branches in rural areas and to step up credit disbursement in rural areas; and
- (c) the details of total number of branches of private banks in urban, semi-urban and rural areas?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWANKUMAR BANSAL)

(a) & (b) The banking licence issued to New Private Sector Banks, which are set up after 1993, includes a stipulation that 25% of the branches should be opened in semi-urban and rural areas. The total number of branches of New Private Sector Banks in rural and semi urban areas constitutes 26.88% of their total branches.

(c) The details of total number of branches of Private Sector Banks in urban, semi-urban and rural areas are as under:-

Areas	Nc.of branches
Rural	113
Semi-urban	1849
Urban	1755
Metropolitan	1508
Total	6215