

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:608
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2009
OPENING OF BRANCH POST OFFICES
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to open branch post offices in the rural areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Maharashtra;
- (c) whether any target has been fixed under the Eleventh Five Year Plan in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT)

- (a) Initially, a target for opening of 3000 new Branch Post Offices in the rural areas of the country during the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) was proposed, but due to non- availability of funds, the targets could not be implemented during the past years viz. 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10. However, a target for opening 150 Branch Post Offices by relocation of existing branch post offices has been allocated to Circles during the current year (2009- 10) provided no expenditure is involved.
- (b) Since no targets could finally be allotted to Circles for opening of new post offices due to non availability of funds, the question does not apply. Still however, out of 150 branch post offices proposed to be opened through relocation, a target for opening of branch post offices by relocation in the State of Maharashtra allotted is 10 for the current financial year, provided no expenditure is involved. Circle wise details are given in the annexure.
- (c) It was proposed to open 3000 branch post offices during the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) as also 300 were targeted to be opened by relocation, but due to paucity of funds, targets for the previous years as also the current financial year viz. 2009-10 could not be implemented. Still, however, a target of 150 branch post offices (10 for Maharashtra Circle) has been fixed relocation provided no expenditure, whatsoever, is incurred.
- (d) Does not apply.