

- (8) Follow-up action is taken up with the service providers, wherever deficiencies noticed in achieving the Quality of Service benchmarks.

Modernisation of post offices

1022. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to modernize all the post offices in the country with latest facilities etc.;
- (b) if so, the number of post offices modernized during the years 2007-08 and 2008-09;
- (c) the total investment to be made by Government on the modernization of post offices during 2009-10;
- (d) whether Government plans to diversify post offices in other fields; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Modernization of post offices across the country with latest facilities is an ongoing process subject to availability of resources and technical feasibility.

(b) During the year 2007-08 and 2008-09, the Department computerized 1411 post offices and modernized 500 Post Offices.

(c) A sum of Rs. 287 Crores has been projected during 2009-10 for computerization and modernization of Post Offices.

(d) and (e) The Post Offices offer a diverse range of Communication, Information, Logistics and Financial Services. New products and services are introduced from time to time subject to feasibility.

Calls between cities without STD

1023. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that land line subscribers of Delhi and Mumbai can talk in between without any STD facilities; and
- (b) if so, what is preventing the Government to extend identical facilities to other metropolitan cities like Chennai and Kolkata?