

(c) whether prescribed radiation emission levels for telecom towers in the country are one tenth of the global norms?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) No Sir. As per the quarterly performance monitoring reports submitted by various service providers for the quarter ending June 2014 and September 2014, it is seen that the service providers are generally complying with the benchmark for the parameter call drop rate. In respect of 2G, for the quarter ending June, 2014 & September 2014, only 6 licenses each, out of 183 licenses, had not met the benchmark for this parameter. In the case of 3G all the service providers are meeting the benchmark for the parameter "Circuit Switched Voice Drop Rate".

(b) Base Transmitting Stations (BTSs) are established by the telecom service providers/ infrastructure providers at suitable locations, as per their Radio Frequency (RF) Network Planning for proper coverage of the area and as per their service requirement to fulfill the license conditions. The number of mobile towers required for the BTSs is decided by the telecom service providers as per their business and commercial requirements. At present no assessment has been made to increase telecom tower network to around 6,25,000.

(c) Yes Sir. The present prescribed limits in India for EMF radiations from Base Station is 1/10th of the existing International Standards prescribed by International Commission on Non Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) and are as follows:

Frequency Range	Power Density (Watt/Sq.Meter)	
	International Standard (Prescribed by ICNIRP)	Standard adopted in India
400MHz to 2000MHz	$f/200$	$f/2000$
2GHz to 300GHz	10	1

(f is frequency in MHz)

Improvement in efficiency of postal services

684. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has proposed plans to improve efficiency of postal services, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is planning any Public Private Partnership model in postal services, if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is any proposal to raise employment in postal services for rural areas, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

Performance of Post Offices is monitored on selected Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) on Mails, Savings Bank and Money Orders through a web based mechanism.

The Government has undertaken the following steps to improve efficiency of Postal Services by:

- (i) Introduction of a Mail Network Optimization Project (MNOP), for consolidation and optimization of operational network.
- (ii) Process redesigning at Speed Post Hubs and Intra Circle Hubs.
- (iii) Strengthening of end-to-end online tracking system, resulting in increase in online tracking.
- (iv) Regular performance review of all Postal Circles.

(b) and (c) No Sir.

(d) and (e) There is no new proposal to raise fresh employment in postal services for Branch Post Offices situated in rural areas. In fact, whenever any vacancy arises in any Departmental cadre, irrespective of its location in rural area or urban area, the same is filled up as per the provisions of the Recruitment rules of that particular cadre. Till filling up of vacancy, the work of the post is managed by redistribution/combination of duties and temporary attachment of personnel from other Post Offices etc.

There are sufficient numbers of sanctioned posts of Gramin Dak Sevak (GDS) employees in rural areas. In addition, the Department has recently directed for expeditious filling up of all vacant posts of Gramin Dak Sevak Branch Postmasters.

Vacant posts in Ministry of Communications and Information Technology

†685. SHRI JUGUL KISHORE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the strength of employees belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes is low in the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.