

**Opening of new post offices**

**412. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for opening of new post offices pending with Government, State-wise;

(b) whether Government have fixed any target to open new post offices in North-Eastern Region during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;

(c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD):** (a) The number of proposals for opening new post offices, pending with Government, State-wise, is given in Statement I (See below)

(b) Post offices are opened subject to compliance with distance, Population and income norms prescribed for this purpose and subject to availability of resources and targets in the Annual plan, Since the plan targets were approved by the Competent authority only for the first two years the targets for the N.E. Region during this period are given below:

Year	Assam Postal Circle consisting Assam State only	North-Eastern Postal Circle consisting States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura	Sikkim
	Target	Target	Target
2002-03	16	10	02
2003-04	15	11	03

(c) and (d) Location-wise details of new post offices opened during the 2002-03 and 2003-04 of Tenth Five Year Plan period in North-Eastern Region are given in Statement II (See below) Targets were fully achieved in both years except in Sikkim State where in 2002-03 only one post office was found justified and opened against a target of 2 post offices.

From 2004-05, Plan support is also being given for the Non Returnable Contribution component of 298 Branch Post Offices and 103 Departmental Sub Post Offices in North Eastern circle, opened with State Governments as sponsor, in order to sustain communication facilities at existing levels.

**Statement I**

*The number of proposals for opening of new post offices pending with Government, State-wise*

Sl. No.	Name of State	Number of proposals pending
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Nil
2.	Assam	03
3.	Bihar	30
4.	Chhattisgarh	Nil
5.	Delhi	Nil
6.	Gujarat	04
7.	Haryana	01
8.	Himachal Pradesh	06
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	12
10.	Jharkhand	Nil
11.	Karnataka	02
12.	Kerala	15
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Nil
14.	Maharashtra	Nil
15.	Goa	Nil
16.	Orissa	19
17.	Punjab	02
18.	Rajasthan	02
19.	Tamil Nadu	12
20.	Uttar Pradesh	20
21.	Uttaranchal	Nil
22.	West Bengal	74
23.	Sikkim	Nil
24.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Nil
25.	Arunachal Pradesh	01

Sl. No.	Name of State	Number of proposals pending
26.	Manipur	08
27.	Meghalaya	03
28.	Mizoram	01
29.	Nagaland	Nil
30.	Tripura	02
TOTAL:		217

**Statement II**

*Location-wise details of new post offices opened during the year 2002-03 and 2003-04 of Tenth Five Year Plan period in North Eastern region*

Sl. No.	Name of post office opened	Name of District in which located
<b>2002-2003</b>		
<b>Assam</b>		
1.	Barpara Sub Post Office	Bongaigaon
2.	Chapaguri Branch post office	Bongaigaon
3.	Burikhamas Branch post office	Barpeta
4.	Bhairagum Branch post office	Barpeta
5.	Nathpur Branch post office	Karimganj
6.	Milanpur Branch post office	Sonitpur
7.	Adarshgaon Branch post office	Tinsukia
8.	Dologapur Branch post office	Kokrajhar
9.	Chirakuti Pt. 1 Branch post office	Dhubri
10.	Guraimariagaon Branch post office	Dibrugarh
11.	Nashanshali Branch post office	Darrang-
12.	Chekwari Branch post office	Goalpara
13.	Madhyoyr Branch post office	Nagaon

Sl. No.	Name of post office opened	Name of District in which located
14.	Leku Branch post office	Darang
15.	Teliapara Branch post office	Darang
16.	Rongkini Branch post office	Karbianglong
	<b>Sikkim</b>	
1.	Chung Theng Sub post office	Gangtok
	<b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>	
1.	Khopa Branch post office	Lohit
	<b>Manipur</b>	
1.	None Sub post office	Tamenglong
2.	Kongba Bazar Branch post office	Imphal East
3.	Central Agriculture University Branch post office	Imphal West
4.	Maulkol Branch post office	Churachandpur
	<b>Meghalaya</b>	
1.	Lawsotun Branch post office	East Khasi hills
	<b>Mizoram</b>	
1.	Tural HEP Branch post office	Kilasib
	<b>Nagaland</b>	
1.	Lumami Branch post office	Zunheboto
	<b>Tripura</b>	
1.	Bhadra Palli Branch post office	North Tripura
2.	Golabari Branch post office	North Tripura
	<b>2003-3004</b>	
	<b>Assam</b>	
1.	Patharquarry Sub post office	Kamrup
2.	Barpatha Branch post office	Kamrup
3.	Baoli Basti Branch post office	Cachar

Sl. No.	Name of post office opened	Name of District in which located
4.	Bhurunga Branch post office	Karimganj
5.	Rangauip Pt. II Branch post office	Hailakandi
6.	Karrbil Bangal Branch post office	Sonitpur
7.	Amarpur Branch post office	Tinsukia
8.	Padumoni Branch post office	Dibrugarh
9.	Pocharchar Branch post office	Dubri
10.	Bambarahi Branch post office	Goiaghat
11.	Chaidi Branch post office	Barpeta
12.	Thanguri Branch post office	Nalbari
13.	Chatabor Branch post office	Morigaon
14.	Budhbazar Branch post office	Lakhimpur
15.	Chamuapara Branch post office	Darang
<b>Sikkim</b>		
1.	Majitar Sub post office	Gangtok
2.	Baudang Branch post office	Gangtok
3.	Dipudara NAHPC complex Branch post office	Gangtok
<b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>		
1.	Balemu Branch post office	West Kamene
2.	Palin Sub post office	Kurungkame
<b>Manipur</b>		
1.	Sahumphal Branch post office	Chandel
2.	Sekmajin Khonou Litang Makhong Branch post office	Thoubal
<b>Meghalaya</b>		
1.	Umshning (EKH) Branch post office	East Khasi hills
2.	Captain Reserve Branch post office	West Garo hills

Sl. No.	Name of post office opened	Name of District in which located
<b>Mizoram</b>		
1.	Ralvang	Lunglei
<b>Nagaland</b>		
1.	Tsosesunyu Branch post office	Kohima
2.	Ziphenyu Branch post office	Kohima
<b>Tripura</b>		
1.	Joalikhhammar Branch post office	South Tripura
2.	Taraniandar	North Tripura

### **Broadband and internet growth in the country**

413. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has submitted its final recommendations to encourage broadband and internet growth in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that internet and broadband base in the country is languishing at 0.4% and 0.02%; and

(c) if so, what Government are doing or propose to do to increase its base?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes Sir, based on 31.12.2003 figures.

(c) The recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India on accelerating growth of Internet and Broadband penetration are under examination by the Government.