

Sl.No.	Name of the Postal Circle	Total
16.	Odisha	146.06
17.	Punjab	1033.84
18.	Rajasthan	388.55
19.	Tamil Nadu	477.79
20.	Telangana	164.16
21.	Uttarakhand	149.62
22.	Uttar Pradesh	806.45
23.	West Bengal	1591.16
TOTAL		9395.00

#### **Set of stamps and first-day covers**

2620. DR. SONAL MANSINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision to release stamps and first-day covers of twelve great women classical dancers; and

(b) whether there is any provision to release set of stamps of two women artists, each from folk theatre, folk and folk music forms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) As per the guidelines, Commemorative Postage Stamps are issued on subjects/themes/institutions/personalities/events that have a national or international stature or have made national/international contribution or impact or reflect national/international areas of concern.

At present no proposal for release of Commemorative Postage Stamp and First-Day Cover on Twelve Great Women Classical Dancers is pending with the Department of Posts. Further, at present no proposal for release of set of Commemorative Postage Stamps on two women artists, each from folk theatre, folk and folk music forms, is pending with the Department of Posts.

#### **Services offered by post offices**

2621. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the services offered by post offices have deteriorated due to shortfall in staff strength;

(b) if so, the details of staff in post offices, State-wise;

(c) whether Government proposes to conduct any special drive to fill-up the existing vacancies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the action proposed by Government to arrest deteriorating services in post offices across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No Sir. Vacant posts, on account of retirement, promotion, death and deputation, are being manned by appropriately redeploying the available staff to ensure that postal services are not affected.

(b) The details of staff in post-offices, State-wise are as under:—

Postal Circle	Multi Tasking Staff	Postman /Mail Guard	Postal Assistant	Lower Selection Grade/Higher Selection Grade-I and II	Postmaster Grade-I, II and III
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	841	2063	3061	885	96
Assam	629	709	1582	52	21
Bihar	1340	1277	2057	1054	70
Chhattisgarh	273	370	722	342	20
Delhi	2061	2353	3206	301	47
Gujarat	1899	3311	3799	1076	59
Haryana	584	672	1475	243	38
Himachal Pradesh	367	370	1122	22	37
Jammu and Kashmir	198	135	633	9	13
Jharkhand	441	586	1089	283	27
Karnataka	1295	2960	4687	1266	117
Kerala	1108	1989	4746	166	84
Madhya Pradesh	853	1135	2711	649	55
Maharashtra	3172	5139	9401	405	214
North East	316	386	702	171	6
Odisha	885	1267	2135	1014	67
Punjab	950	1141	2656	108	48
Rajasthan	1060	1772	2150	994	42
Tamil Nadu	2192	4422	7096	1470	242

1	2	3	4	5	6
Telangana	680	1285	1823	320	35
Uttar Pradesh	2383	2581	5779	2129	182
Uttarakhand	271	316	1222	30	28
West Bengal	3156	4379	6958	331	119
TOTAL	26954	40618	70812	13320	1667

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to conduct any special recruitment drive to fill-up the existing vacancies. Recruitment to fill up vacant posts is done periodically by holding departmental examination, direct recruitment through Staff Selection Commission and also by individual Circles as per the provisions of the relevant recruitment rules. Further, Departmental Promotion Committee is convened regularly for filling up vacancies on the basis of seniority-cum-fitness. Recruitment to fill up vacant posts is a continuous process.

#### **Introduction of 5G network**

2622. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that introduction of 5G network in the country is taking time due to objections from telecom companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when 5G spectrum would be available in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) The standards for IMT 2020 (International Mobile Telecommunications 2020), also known as 5G technologies in industry, are being finalized and trials of the technologies are in progress globally. The Department of Telecommunications is also working with telecom service providers/original equipment manufacturers on technological studies. On application, the necessary spectrum for testing/experimenting 5G equipment/technology is being allocated to telecom service providers/equipment manufacturers for a period of three months.

#### **Broadband connectivity in Gram Panchayats to Telangana and Andhra Pradesh**

2623. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that broadband connectivity has not been completed in all Gram Panchayats (GPs) of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh;