

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF POSTS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 204
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1ST AUGUST, 2018**

ESTATE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SCHEME

*204. SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many Post Office buildings across the country, particularly in Mumbai have been declared as heritage buildings and if so, the details thereof, location-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has launched the Estate Property Management Scheme under the Department of Posts, if so, the details including the aims and objectives thereof along with the funds sanctioned, allocated and released thereunder and the time by which the remaining funds are likely to be released;
- (c) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the fact that many post office buildings in the country are in a dilapidated condition, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has received any request from people's representatives to renovate such post offices, if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto along with the remedial measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to modernize post offices across the country?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)**

- (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *204 FOR 1ST AUGUST, 2018 ON “ESTATE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SCHEME”.

(a) Yes, Madam. 36 Post Office buildings across the country including Mumbai GPO in Mumbai, Maharashtra have been declared as heritage buildings. The details of heritage buildings, location-wise, is at **Annexure –I**.

(b) The Government has a Scheme of Estates Management with an allocation of Rs.243.5 crores for the years 2017-2020. The key objective of the Scheme is to ensure development of an appropriate infrastructure to provide a congenial work environment and improve the delivery of postal services in a cost effective way for the benefit of the customers. The Scheme includes construction of postal buildings including Post Offices, mail offices, administrative offices, staff quarters, besides preservation and conservation of heritage buildings and reconstruction of dilapidated buildings. The Scheme also includes construction of toilets, installation of Roof Top Solar Power Packs and Rain Water Harvesting structures so as to contribute to Swachhata and sustainable development. Details of the Scheme are at **Annexure-II**.

Out of a total sanction of Rs. 178.04 crore for the years 2017-18 and 2018-19, total amount allocated and released in the two years has been Rs.160.64 crore. The details of fund sanctioned, allocated and released for the year 2017-18 and 2018-19 are as under.

Year	(Funds in Rs. crore)		
	Sanctioned	Allocated	Released
2017-18	93.04	93.04	93.04
2018-19	85	85	67.60*

*In addition to this Rs. 4.01 crore is approved for release.

The remaining funds of Rs. 13.39 crore is likely to be released from time to time in due course based on requirements, latest by March 2019.

(c) Yes, Madam. As per the information available with the Department, a few Post Office buildings have got dilapidated and the details of the same are in **Annexure III**.

(d) Requests have been received from people’s representatives regarding restoration of Mumbai GPO, renovation of Motilal Nagar Post Office, Goregaon West and Vishnunagar Post Office, Dombivili in Maharashtra, Mirzapur Head Post Office and Chunar Sub- Post Office in Uttar Pradesh. The details of such requests including the action taken thereon are at **Annexure- IV**.

(e) The Government has taken steps to improve the “Look and Feel” of Post Offices based on standardized exteriors and counter halls, placing proper signages and standees including induction of technology for modernization of services. In addition, funds are provided for site preparation for Post Office Passport Seva Kendra, setting up of India Post Payments Bank counters, providing ramps and rails under the Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan for improving the accessibility of Post Offices for differently abled persons.

ANNEXURE AS REFERRED TO IN PART (a) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 204 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 01.08.2018 REGARDING ESTATE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SCHEME.

List of Heritage Buildings

S.No	Name of Heritage Building	Name of the Circle
1	Patna General Post Office (GPO)	Bihar
2	Bhagalpur Head Post Office (HPO)	
3	Postal Training Centre (PTC), Darbhanga	
4	New Delhi General Post Office	Delhi
5	Delhi General Post Office	
6	Mandi Head Post Office	
7	Chhotta Shimla Post Office	Himachal Pradesh
8	Shimla General Post Office	
9	Ambedkar Chowk Post Office	
10	Kasauli Post Office	
11	Mumbai General Post Office	
12	Nagpur General Post Office	
13	Director of Accounts (Postal), Nagpur	
14	Pune General Post Office	Maharashtra
15	Panaji Head Post Office	
16	Amritsar Head Post Office	Punjab
17	Circle Office, Trivandram	Kerala
18	Postal Training Centre, Mysore	Karnataka
19	Divisional Office Bellary	
20	Circle Office, Bangalore	
21	Varanasi City Post Office	
22	Varanasi Head Post Office	Uttar Pradesh
23	Lucknow General Post Office	
24	Circle Office, Lucknow	
25	Agra Head Post Office	
26	Chennai General Post Office	
27	Udhagamandalam Head Post Office	
28	Nagapattinam Head Post Office	
29	Return Letter Office (RLO), Kolkata	West Bengal
30	Darjeeling Head Post Office	
31	Cooch Behar Post Office	
32	Kolkata General Post Office	
33	Baruipur Head Post Office	
34	Behrampur Head Post Office	
35	Alipore Head Post Office	
36	Diamond Harbour Head Post Office	

ANNEXURE AS REFERRED TO IN PART (b) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 204 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 01.08.2018 REGARDING ESTATE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SCHEME.

Estates Management Scheme

Title of the Scheme

Scheme of Estates Management

Sponsoring Agency (Ministry/Department/Autonomous Body or Undertaking)

Ministry of Communications/Department of Posts

Total Cost of the Scheme

Rs. 243.5 crores (for the period 2017-18 to 2019-20)

Proposed duration of the Scheme

This Scheme is continued beyond the 12th Five Year Plan as Estates Management involves infrastructure management of the Department of Posts from the time of its inception and has to be a continuous process. There is no change in the core objectives of the Scheme as it moves beyond the 12th Five Year Plan

The proposed duration of this continuing Scheme is 2017-18 to 2019-20, to align with the remaining duration of the 14th Finance Commission. However, as this Scheme relates to Estates Management, it will need to continue beyond 2019-20, after evaluation as laid down by the Ministry of Finance.

Nature of the Scheme: Central Sector Scheme/Centrally Sponsored Scheme

Central Sector Scheme

Components of the Scheme

Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) has recommended Rs. 243.5 crore for Estates Management Scheme for the period 2017-2020 and same has been approved by the competent authority. The year –wise outlay is as under:

Year	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total
Outlay (Rs cr.)	73.5	81	89	243.5

The details of the components of the Scheme for the period 2017-18 and 2018-19 and sanctions are as follows:

Rs. in crore

S. No.	components	2017-18	2018-19
1	Construction of Postal buildings Post office/Mail office(PO/MO) and related	56.8	42.8

	activities		
2	Construction of small Post Offices and Mail Offices	-	7.2
3	Construction of Administrative Office	3.98	-
4	Construction of Staff Quarters	3.53	-
5	Upgradation of the Postal buildings including renovation and other activities such as restoration, Preservation/Conservation of Heritage Building	7.95	28
6	Construction of Toilets, Installation of Solar Power Pack, Construction of Rain water harvesting structure under Swachhta Action Plan	20	-
7	Purchase of land and office space	-	5
8	Technology Induction, Consultancy and Project Management of Estates	0.24	1
9	Gender Concerns	0.54	1
	TOTAL	93.04	85

Aims and objectives of the Scheme

The key objective of the Scheme is to ensure development of an appropriate infrastructure to provide a congenial work environment and improve the delivery of postal services in a cost effective way for the benefit of the customers. The Scheme also provides for residences to employees of the Department of Posts. This is intended to be achieved through continuous and targeted programmes for infrastructure.

ANNEXURE AS REFERRED TO IN PART (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 204 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 01.08.2018 REGARDING ESTATE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SCHEME.**Details of the Dilapidated Post Office Buildings**

I. No.	Circle	Post Office	Status
1	Andhra Pradesh	Machhlipatnam Post Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Built in the year 1974• Got dilapidated due to corrosive action, being close to sea.• Declared beyond repair by Civil Wing in 2010• Taken up reconstruction• Expenditure sanction – Rs.4.14 crore.• Project likely to be completed by 31.10.2018
2	Tamilnadu	Kuzhithurai Post Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Built in the year: 100 years back during the period of Maharaja of Travancore.• Transferred to Department of Posts in 1951.• Got dilapidated due to corrosive action, being close to sea. It had outlived its life.• Taken up reconstruction 2012• Expenditure sanction – Rs.2.11 crore.• New building for Post Office has completed in 8.6.2018.
3	Maharashtra	Vishnunagar Post Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Built in the year 1993-94.• Declared dilapidated by Civil Wing in 2013, as it was beyond repair.• The matter of reconstruction is in process.
4	Maharashtra	Motilal Nagar Post Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Built in the year 1985.• Declared embarked as dangerous and not suitable for occupation by Brihan Mumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) on 02.09.2014• Post Office shifted to rental building.• Approved for planning, reconstruction under the Scheme.
5	Arunachal Pradesh	Daporijo Post Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Built in the year 1996-97.• Got dilapidated, as the building is perpetually water logged in a low lying marshy area rendering it damaged beyond repair and inhabitable.• Taken up for reconstruction• Expenditure sanction – Rs.1.77 crore. on 31.10.2016• Tender in process.

ANNEXURE AS REFERRED TO IN PART (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 204 TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 01.08.2018 REGARDING ESTATE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SCHEME.

Details of representations received from public representatives and action taken thereon

S No.	Name of public representative	Request made	Action taken/being taken
1	Shri Gajanan Kirtikar, MP(Lok Sabha)	Renovation/Restoration of Mumbai General Post Office.	Mumbai GPO, with an area of approx. 1,89,402 sq. ft., was built in the 1913 as India-Saracenic Style and listed as Grade-I heritage building in the Heritage Regulation for Greater Mumbai 1995. As the building is more than 100 years old, it is in urgent need of restoration. The Heritage buildings' repair and maintenance are undertaken by Indian National Trust for Art & Cultural Heritage (INTACH). Hence, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed with INTACH for supervision of restoration work of Mumbai General Post Office(GPO). The cost of its restoration as estimated by INTACH is Rs. 58.2 crore and INTACH has submitted estimate of Rs. 2.99 crore for phase-I. An amount of Rs 2 Crores has been allotted to Maharashtra Circle for restoration work of Mumbai GPO.
2		Reconstruction of Motilal Nagar Post Office	Motilal Nagar Post Office building construction was completed in 1995, on the plot of land of 1003.71 Sq. meters acquired by the Department in 1979. On 02.09.2014, the building was declared as dangerous and non suitable for occupation by Brihan Mumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) after a piece of slab in the building collapsed. Hence the premise was vacated and shifted to a nearby rented building. Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute (VJTI), Mumbai was entrusted with the task of conducting an enquiry to know the cause of deterioration and as per the test report of VJTI that building is in dilapidated condition and beyond repairs as such, it requires reconstruction. The reconstruction of Motilal Nagar Post Office has been approved by the Department.

3	Ms. Anupriya Patel MP (Lok Sabha)	Prevailing bad condition of the building of Post Offices in Mirzapur.	At present, Mirzapur Divisional Office has been shifted to a newly constructed Departmental building situated in Head Post Office (HPO) Campus. Rs. 30 lakhs has been released for Mirzapur Head Post Office and Chunar Sub Post Office
4	Dr. Shrikant Eknath Shinde, MP (Lok Sabha)	Dilapidated condition of the building of Vishnunagar Post Office, Dombivili.	The Post Office has been vacated as it cannot be renovated. The matter for approval of reconstruction of Vishnunagar Post Office is in process.
