

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The Speed Post Service is available at three cities namely Ahmedabad, Vadodara and Surat.

(b) No proposal for extension is under consideration at present

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Rent Liability for Patna Post Office in Sahebganj District of Bihar

2510. **SHRI SIMON MARANDI:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Patna post office in Sahebganj district of Bihar is functioning in a rented building;

(b) if so, the monthly rent fixed therefor;

(c) whether the rent therefor is being paid regularly; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) No post office by the name of PATNA exists in Sahebganj district. However, the position of PATNA post office is that this post office in Sahebganj district (Bihar) is functioning in a rented building.

(b) The monthly rent fixed is Rs. 80/- with effect from 1.12.82.

(c) Rent has not been paid since December, 1989.

(d) The reason for non-payment of the rent is that the landlord is not willing to accept the existing rent and he is pressing for en-

hancement of rent. The case for enhancement of rent is being processed.

Decentralisation of work of office of R.L.O. Jaipur

2511. **SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued orders to decentralise the office of R.L.O. Jaipur and distribute its work among the district headquarters;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor:

(c) whether any employees of Department of Posts are authorised to open mail under Post Office Act, 1898;

(d) whether the employees who have been authorised to open mail in Rajasthan have been given necessary training therefor and if so, their number and the period of such training; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to check tampering of mail?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir. An order was issued to experimentally decentralise the work of RLO, Jaipur to the Head post office in Rajasthan. The experiment was to run for six months, but it has been kept in abeyance from 1st August, 1990.

(b) RLO is an old institution of the Department which has been working under old procedures. Decentralisation of a portion of the RLO work is a part of restructuring of this institution for making it more efficient.

(c) Employees of the Returned Letter Office designated for the purpose, are au-