

after 13.30 G.M.T. This bulletin will be issued daily for about six weeks from the 1st May 1953.

POST OFFICES IN PATNA

1235. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the total number of Posts and Telegraph offices opened in the District of Patna during the years 1952 and 1953?

(b) How many applications are pending and how many have been rejected during the said period?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Opened from 1st January, 1952 to 31st March, 1953.

Post offices—121.

Telegraph offices—Nil.

(b) 38 applications for post offices for groups of villages are pending, 68 applications for post offices for individual villages, were rejected because the population is less than 2,000.

HEALTH MINISTER'S DISCRETIONARY GRANT

1236. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state the amount granted to the various institutions of the State of Bihar from the Minister's Discretionary Grant in the years 1951-52 and 1952-53?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): A statement showing the amount granted to the various institutions in the State of Bihar from the Health Minister's Discretionary Grant in the years 1951-52 and 1952-53 is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix X, annexure No. 37.]

TELEGRAMS IN HINDI

1237. **Shri B. N. Roy:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether Government propose to make arrangements for sending telegrams in Hindi at the District Headquarters in the year 1953-54?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): The Government have already made arrangements for booking and delivery of telegrams in Hindi at the headquarters of 69 districts. Their policy is to extend the Hindi service initially to all the District headquarters in states where Devnagari script is used and to others subsequently.

WOOL

1238. **Prof. D. C. Sharma:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the total quantity of wool produced in Punjab every year?

(b) Which are the wool producing areas in that State?

(c) What steps have the Government taken to develop wool trade since 1947?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) About 52,000 maunds.

(b) Hissar, Kangra, Ferozepur and Karnal Districts.

(c) Development of the wool trade within the State is the responsibility of the State Government. Government of India have no information readily available with them on the steps taken by the State Government to develop the trade since 1947.

THEFT OF MAIL BAGS IN MAHASU DISTRICT

1239. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether mail bags while in transit from Simla to Rampur, sub-divisional Headquarters in Mahasu District of Himachal Pradesh were looted on or about the 10th March, 1953;

(b) the place where the incident occurred;

(c) whether any inquiry has been made;

(d) if so, the result thereof; and

(e) the number of insured covers, registered covers and money orders looted?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) A part of the mails was stolen and damaged.

(b) Naula—between Narkanda and Rampur.

(c) and (d). The case has been reported to the police and is still under enquiry.

(e) *Articles lost:*

Insured V.P. parcels—One.

Registered parcels—Four.

V.P. parcels—Two.

Articles damaged:

Insured V.P. parcels—Two.

Registered parcels—One.