

Urgent need to revoke the merger of RMS Offices with Speed Post Hubs

SHRI A. A. RAHIM (Kerala): Sir, the recent directive from the Department of Posts to merge Railway Mail Service (RMS) offices with Speed Post hubs and process Registered Post alongside Speed Post has raised serious concerns. Under the new order, 312 RMS offices will be permanently closed and 93 cities, including 12 in Kerala, will lose their sorting hubs or RMS offices. Processing Speed Post and Registered articles in the same hub is likely to cause delays due to back routing, space constraints, and the elimination of 12 mail offices. Additionally, the absence of standardized postage rates means customers are being charged differently for similar services, undermining trust.

This move will force many employees to relocate, adversely affecting their health and productivity. Over 3,000 temporary workers face job losses and skyrocketing unemployment. Additionally, relocating mail offices away from railway premises will increase transit delays and costs.

This merger imposes unnecessary financial burdens. Coupled with the New Post Office Act allowing private players in logistics and communication, the public postal system risks losing its competitive edge.

I urge the Union Government to revoke this order and safeguard RMS offices. Furthermore, new posts should be created in RMS with regular recruitment to strengthen the system and ensure its sustainability.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): The following hon. Members associated themselves with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member, Shri A.A. Rahim: Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla (Tamil Nadu), Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu (Tamil Nadu), Shri Sandosh Kumar P (Kerala) and Shri Haris Beeran (Kerala).

Demand for restoring education to State List for a more effective system

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, this is to urge the Government to restore education in India to the State List to empower States to address local needs and uphold federalism. Historically a State List subject, it was shifted to the Concurrent List during the Emergency in 1976 as a centralizing measure. This decision, made under extraordinary circumstances, has since become redundant and increasingly misaligned with India's diverse educational landscape. India's vast diversity — with 26