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AN ANALYSIS OF POST OFFICE AND THEIR SERVICES IN INDIA AS WELL AS IN JHARKHAND

Dr. U. S. Singh*

Badal Rakshit**

Abstract

The beginnings of this vast postal network can be traced back to the year 1727 when the first Post Office was set up in Kolkata. Subsequently, General Post Offices (GPOs) were also set up in the three Presidencies of Kolkata (1774), Chennai (1786) and Mumbai (1793). To bring some uniformity amongst the Post Offices, the Indian Post Office Act of 1837 was enacted. This Act was followed by the more comprehensive Indian Post Office Act of 1854. Jharkhand suffers from resource curse, it accounts for more than 40% of the mineral resources of India, but it suffers widespread poverty as 39.1% of the population is below the poverty line and 19.6% of the children fewer than five years of age are malnourished. The state is primarily rural, with only 24% of the population living in cities. There are 24 districts in the state of Jharkhand. All the 24 districts of the state have a total of 3097 post offices spread across the state. Post Offices in the country are categorised as Head post office, Sub post office and Branch Post Office. Branch Post Offices are mostly located in rural areas and are manned by Gramin Dak Sevaks. The Sub Post Offices are Departmental Offices located in both rural and urban areas. Head Post Offices are located in important towns and cities mostly at district levels. Among all the above institutions, Post Office Savings Bank plays a vital role. Rural people are facing an extremely risky environment when they save in the informal sector. It provides numerous benefits to the investors. Post office saving bank is the largest savings institutions in the country and offer high returns than those given by scheduled banks. Indian postal service is undergoing a transformation. India post is started to explore the new ways to increase mail volumes and retain the customers they have. To stay in the competition, post must continually modernize across all areas of their operations.

Key Words: Postal services, Schedule banks, Poverty line, Rural area, Informal sector.

Introduction

Indian post office is the lifeline for rural India. they are not only dependent for their financial services such as deposits, withdrawal, transfer of funds, payments etc. but also postal services like letters, parcel, IPO's, registered post, speed post,

* Head, Department of commerce, Markham College of commerce, Hazaribag

** Resarch scholar, Department of commere and Management Vinoba Bhave University, Hazaribag