#### NCDT 2023

Ist National Conference on "Design Thinking -Trans Disciplinary Challenges & Opportunities"

7th & 8th July 2023





Organized by

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Chair,
Andhra University
In Collaboration with
Andhra University Trans-

**Disciplinary Research Hub** 

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## Naraharisetti Pavani

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# DESIGN THINKING

Trans-Disciplinary Challenges & Opportunities - Arts & Law -

Andhra University, July 7th & 8th, 2023



EDITOR : PROF. M. JAMES STEPHEN CO-EDITORS : DR. G. VEERRAJU, DR. S. HARANATH, DR. RAJA MANIKYAM

### **NCDT 2023**

## 1st National Conference on Design Thinking: Trans-Disciplinary Challenges & Opportunities

Arts & Law

7-8, July 2023 Andhra University

## **PROCEEDINGS**

Organized by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Chair, Andhra University In Collaboration with Andhra University Trans-Disciplinary Research Hub

#### 2023 1st National Conference on

#### **Design Thinking: Trans-Disciplinary Challenges & Opportunities**

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#### **PREFACE**

Dear Distinguished Delegates and Guests,

Welcome to "Design Thinking and Trans-disciplinary Opportunities and Challenges in Arts & Law," an inspiring anthology that explores the convergence of design thinking with the realms of arts and law. As the editor of this edited book, it is my privilege to present this collection of thought-provoking chapters that illuminate the synergies and complexities within these multidisciplinary domains.

Design thinking, renowned for its human-centered approach and innovative problem-solving methodologies, has transcended traditional boundaries and found fertile ground within the fields of arts and law. This book serves as a platform to explore the rich interplay between design thinking, artistic expression, and legal frameworks, paving the way for transformative collaborations and novel approaches.

Within these pages, you will encounter a tapestry of insights, experiences, and intellectual explorations that shed light on the vast opportunities and intricate challenges at the intersection of arts and law. Esteemed contributors, including artists, legal scholars, practitioners, and researchers, have meticulously crafted chapters that examine diverse aspects, from the incorporation of design thinking in legal processes to the transformative role of creativity in shaping legal frameworks.

As the editor, I am deeply grateful for the dedication and intellectual rigor demonstrated by the contributors. Their commitment to scholarship, artistic practice, and legal expertise has enriched the depth and breadth of this publication, making it a valuable resource for scholars, practitioners, and enthusiasts seeking to explore the transformative possibilities at this interdisciplinary crossroads.

I would also like to extend my sincere appreciation to the anonymous peer reviewers, whose rigorous evaluations and valuable feedback have contributed to the scholarly integrity and relevance of the chapters. Their expertise and discerning insights have played an instrumental role in shaping this book into a comprehensive exploration of the intersections between design thinking, arts, and law.

Finally, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the readers who embark on this intellectual journey. It is through your engagement, curiosity, and open-mindedness that the true impact of this book will be realized. I encourage you to embrace the diversity of perspectives presented within these pages, to reflect on the opportunities and challenges they reveal, and to envision a future where design thinking and trans-disciplinary collaborations reshape the landscapes of arts and law.

Prof. James Stephen Meka Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Chair Professor Andhra University

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## **NCDT 2023**

## 1st National Conference on

**Design Thinking: Trans-Disciplinary Challenges & Opportunities** 

## A Study on Indian Postal Services in Financial Inclusions

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Abstract: Post Office Savings Bank schemes play a vital role. It provides numerous benefits to the investors. Post office saving bank is the largest savings institution in the country. Rural people are facing an extremely risky environment when they save in the informal sector. Postal savings funds play a significant role in rural India. 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. There are a number of attractive schemes, well designed to meet the individual requirements of different small savers. The major instruments of post office saving schemes enjoy tax benefits such as exemption of investment contribution or interest income from tax or both up to certain limits. The Post Office Savings Bank (POSB) is the oldest banking system in the country established in 1882 by the British government to mobilize savings. It functions under the Postal Department and operates as an agent for the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, for which it receives commission. It has the largest network of 155,618 post office branches of which 90 percent are located in rural areas. The network is significant as it is twice the number of all bank branches put together in the country. It remains the only formal system offering financial services in rural areas for many years

Keywords: Financial services, Savings, Investment, Socio-economic development, Post Offices Saving Schemes.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Post Office Savings Bank schemes play a vital role in Indian Economy. It provides numerous benefits to the investors. Post office saving bank is the largest savings institution in our country. Rural people are facing an extremely risky environment when they save in the informal sector. Postal savings funds play a significant role in rural India. It provides numerous benefits to the investors. Post office saving bank is the largest savings institutions in the country and offer high returns than banks. There are a number of attractive schemes, well designed to meet the individual requirements of different small savings. The major instruments of post office saving schemes enjoy tax benefits such as exemption of investment contribution or interest income from tax or both up to certain limits. The Post Office Savings Bank (POSB) is the oldest banking system in the country established in 1882 by the British government to mobilize savings. It functions under the Postal Department of Government of India. The Indian post which partially do banking activity under the ministry of finance is doing an excellent job towards providing easy financial services to the people throughout the country especially in the remote areas through its huge network of more than 1,59,225 post offices across the country. Savings Schemes provided by the Indian Postal Department are risk free investment options that are safe and secured and provide capital gains without Tax Deduction at Source. These savings schemes have attractive interest rates with nomination facility and are transferable to any Post Office across India.

#### **II.METHODOLOGY**

The study is based on secondary data. Secondary data was collected through magazines and official websites of Indian postal department. Supporting literature from relevant sources, journals, research reports, websites etc. also forms the sources of secondary data.

#### III. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To study the role of Indian post offices in Financial Inclusion.
- > To describe, in brief, the important features of post office investment schemes.
- > To analyze the awareness, preferences and experiences of household investors on post office saving schemes.

#### Role of Indian Post in Financial Inclusion:

The Indian post can harvest the benefits of its huge network, extensive outreach and lower cost and at the same time it will be able to contribute towards the national objective of financial inclusion. Establishment of Post Bank of India may be another strong decision to associate Indian post in financial inclusion. Indian post has already applied to the RBI for a banking license, if the license is granted. It will be a great achievement for Indian post which will enable post offices to perform full banking activities. Indian post can give a new dimension to the process of financial inclusion and can reach an extra mileage in the field of financial inclusion.

The government has made the post office as the banks also which will accept savings The post offices will give various services. They are not only involved in delivering mails but also accept deposits, deliver retail service like sale of forms, bill collection etc. provide savings schemes, life insurance cover etc. There are about 1, 59,225 post offices in the country which provides different types of saving schemes. It provides the risk-free investment options which are safe and secured and provides the capital gains without Tax Deduction at Source (No TDS). There are various investment schemes available for an individual and they choose the best suitable for them. The various financial institutions are present like commercial banks, cooperative banks, post office savings banks, life insurance corporation public limited company. The various schemes provided by the post offices like the Savings Account Schemes, Recurring Deposit Schemes, Time Deposit Schemes, Public Provident Fund Schemes, and Monthly Income Schemes. National Savings Certificates, Kisan Vikas Patras, and Senior Citizens Savings Scheme. The basic financial services given by the Department of Posts are the Post Office Savings Bank. It is the oldest and biggest banking service institution in the nations. The Department of Post works the Post Office Savings Scheme on behalf of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

#### IV.POST OFFICE SAVING SCHEMES

#### 1. Post Office Savings Account (SB)

The Post Office Savings Account (SB) is comparable to any savings account offered by a retail bank. The minimum deposit amount is ₹500 and the minimum withdrawal amount is just ₹50. It offers a 4% interest rate. A savings bank account can be opened by both adults and minors. There is no maximum investment amount and a tax exemption of up to ₹10,000.

#### 2. National Savings Recurring Deposit Account (RD)

One of the well-known post office savings programmes that you can use is the National Savings Recurring Deposit Account (RD). It has a minimum monthly deposit requirement of ₹100 and an annual interest rate of 5.8%.

#### 3. National Savings Time Deposit Account (TD)

The National Savings Time Deposit Account (TD), a tenure-based fixed deposit account with no upper investment limits, has a ₹1,000 minimum investment requirement. For a five-year period, this post office savings plan offers you an alluring 6.7% interest rate.

#### 4. National Savings Monthly Income Account (MIS)

A post office savings programme called the National Savings Monthly Income Account (MIS) offers a 6.6% interest rate. The smallest investment allowed is ₹1,000. The maximum investment amount for individual accounts is 4.5 lakhs, and for joint accounts it is 9 lakhs.

#### 5. Senior Citizens Savings Scheme Account (SCSS)

Any person over the age of 60 may open a Senior Citizens Savings Scheme Account (SCSS) through the post office. However, retired government workers over the age of 55 and retired military personnel over the age of 50 are also permitted to open such accounts. The required minimum investment is ₹1000 rupees, and the maximum investment amount is 15 lakhs. The interest rate, which is set at 7.4%, is also very lucrative.

#### 6. Public Provident Fund Account (PPF)

With a minimum deposit of ₹500, the PPF account offers an alluring long-term investment option for Indian adults. The maximum deposit per fiscal year is ₹1.5 lakhs. A PPF account has an interest rate of 7.1%.

#### 7. Sukanya Samriddhi Account (SSA)

A unique government programme called the Sukanya Samriddhi Account (SSA) was created in India to empower young girls. It has a 7.6% interest rate, a ₹250 minimum deposit requirement, and a maximum investment cap of ₹1.5 lakhs per fiscal year.

#### 8. National Savings Certificates (NSC)

Any post office will sell National Savings Certificates for a price starting at ₹1000. There is no upper limit, and the attractive annual interest rate of 6.8% is offered.

#### 9. Kisan Vikas Patra(KVP)

Any Indian adult can open a KVP individually or jointly under the new Kisan Vikas Patra scheme, provided they have a minimum balance of ₹1,000. The offered interest rate is 6.9%.

#### 10. PM CARES for Children Scheme, 2021

If a child has lost both parents and the last surviving parent due to the COVID-19 pandemic, an account will be opened in the child's name, and a one-time lump sum payment from the PM CARES fund will be made. The beneficiary will receive a monthly allowance of ₹4,000 until the age of 18 from the deposit of ₹10 lakh. They can then earn interest until the age of 23 on that sum of ₹10 lakhs according to the monthly income account scheme.

#### V. NEW OPPORTUNITIES OF FINANCIAL SERVICES OFFERED BY POST OFFICE

The Financial service offered by Post office includes Savings and Postal Life Insurance (PLI) / Rural Postal Life Insurance (RPLI). The Post Office small savings scheme provides a secure, risk free and attractive investment option for the small investors and offers the savings products across its 1,59,225 Post offices. The Post Office savings bank is the oldest and by far the largest banking system in the country, serving the investment need of both urban and rural clientele. These services are offered as an agency service for the Ministry of Finance, Government of India. Several products on offer serve various investment requirements of the customers

#### Money transfer

It offers wire transfers and international money orders, besides issuing traveler's cheques and 22 foreign currencies to foreign travelers. It also offers prepaid forex cards in seven currencies, demand drafts in 11 currencies and wire transfer in 13.

#### National Pension Scheme

Right now, the NPS facility is available at nearly 800 branches across the country. The NPS is a lowcost retirement plan. It is also portable and can be accessed from any part of the country.

#### Mutual funds

A qualified mutual fund adviser is available at designated branches of the post office. An investor can submit application forms, payment cheques and KYC documents at these branches. However, the facility has not taken off due to removal of entry load.

#### Life insurance

Insurance Schemes Two type of insurance like Rural Postal Life Insurance (RPLI), Postal Life Insurance (PLI) with different policies schemes are also available for the persons availing insurance facilities. To encourage the rural masses to take part in the insurance schemes, Micro Insurances policies - RPLI polices with less sum assured has been introduced.

Postal Life Insurance is open only to employees of the Central and state governments, public undertakings and semi-government organizations. The IRDA has allowed the post office to sell insurance policies of private companies.

#### Commercial banking

India Post is among the 36 companies that have applied for banking licenses. The launch of commercial banking operations could pitchfork the post office to the forefront of financial services in India.

#### **ATM**

Some selected post office also offers ATM services. We can withdraw cash or carry out money transfer using this ATM services. Postal department is issuing separate ATM card to customer for this services. Postal department is planning to extend this facility to every city.

#### VI. FUTURE PLANS OF POST OFFICE

Presently, India Post has signed MOU with different revenue authorities for dispatch of land records especially Mutation Certificates through Speed Post to the land owners. But the Post Offices can help the revenue authorities in computerizing all the land records in the villages and also they can arrange billing to the landlords on yearly or half yearly basis which are presently maintained manually. Through the concerted efforts of all the stakeholders over a period, Post Offices can be used as an appropriate platform for agricultural practices,

monsoon prediction, local medical knowledge, advanced medical counseling centers etc. All these things can be done for a nominal fee that can make the postal network also viable. Above all, India Post has the ability to convert the vision of a new India into reality by proper utilization of its vast network. Just a sense of urgency is required for a large-scale training and motivation of the postal employees to achieve the national development goal.

#### VII. MAHILA SAMMAN SAVING CERTIFICATE 2023

Mahila Samman Saving Certificate is a new small savings scheme launched specifically for female investors, was announced in Budget 2023 to promote investment among women. Accounts opened under this scheme will be single-holder accounts that can be opened at the Post Office or any registered bank. Any woman can open a Mahila Samman account can be opened for herself or on behalf of a little girl. Women investors must submit Form - I by March 31, 2025.

Any woman can open a Mahila Samman account can be opened for herself or on behalf of a little girl. Women investors must submit Form - I by March 31, 2025. The interest rate on the deposits made under this scheme is 7.5% annually. The interest will be compounded quarterly and credited to the account. As per a government notification issued on March 31, 2023, The interest payable to the account holder in respect of any account opened or deposit made which is not in consonance with the provisions of this Scheme shall be payable at the rate applicable to the Post Office Savings Account.

The deposit matures two years following the deposit date, at which point the account holder may request the remaining funds by completing a Form-2 application. For calculating the maturity value, every fraction of a rupee that is not exactly one rupee will be rounded up to the closest rupee. Any amount that is fifty paisa or more counts as one rupee in this calculation; any quantity that is less than fifty paisa is not taken into account. The account holder may withdraw up to 40% of the balance by submitting a Form-3 application after the first year from the date of account opening but before the account matures.

Every initiative will drive employment, income generation and growth. This can happen not by corporatization but allowing freedom and flexibility to the Postal Department so that it could restructure itself and operate competently with functional autonomy and financial independence having a separate budget and control by the Department of Posts. Corporatization is not the only solution to make the loss-making India Post profitable.

#### VIII. CONCLUSION:

In the end, we can say that the Indian postal service is doing a very good job and helping the country to succeed in socio-economic and communication development. Today also, the postal service is considered the best in the public sector. In this digital world, where everything is becoming online, still, there are a large group of people who still depend on the postal services.

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