

## CHAPTER II

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### ORIGIN AND GROWTH OF POSTAL SERVICES - A REVIEW

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#### Introduction

The arrival of a postman is watched with great interest. An unemployed man waits for him with a dream of getting an appointment order. A lover waits for a letter from his lover. A housewife waits for a letter from her husband who is placed elsewhere on transfer. An old woman thinks of receiving a letter from her grandson. A business man waits for an order, kids for a greeting card, etc. A postman carries memoirs of many and sundry. Everyman's Encyclopedia defines a post office as denoting a government department possessing a monopoly as to carriage of letters.

The postal system was started in India by the East India Company and dates back to 1837 when postal services were

opened to public. The first postage stamp was issued in Karachi in 1852 (valid only in Sind). In 1854, the company constituted the Postal Services as a special entity under a Director General and issued a postage stamp on an all India basis. In 1880, Money Order System was introduced. The Post and Telegraph system, received statutory recognition under Act VI of 1898. Post Office Savings Bank was started in 1882 and Postal Life Insurance in 1884. The Railway Mail Service was started in 1907 and Air Mail Service in 1911. In 1972 Postal Index Number (PIN) was introduced.

Quick Mail Service was introduced in 1975. Speed Post Service was introduced on 1st August, 1986. Here articles are delivered within time frame (24 hours) with 'Money Back Guarantee' for any service defect. Being a member of Universal Postal Union (UPU) India has direct postal links with almost all countries. On the initiative of Montgomery Blair, Post Master General of the U.S.A., a conference was held in Paris in 1863 at which certain broad principles were agreed upon. The idea of reform was then taken up by Dr. Von Stephan, Head of the Prussian Postal Service. His draft Treaty establishing a General Postal Union was laid before the First Congress, at Bern in 1874, and was put into force, as the 'Convention' in 1875. Under it, for postal purposes, international frontiers are regarded as

non-existent and there is an unrestricted right to use the services of any other country, with an obligation to pay for mail sent in transit via another country. All countries, except a few unimportant territories are now party to the constitution and convention.

At the time of Independence, on August 15, 1947 there were 22,116 Post offices of various types in the country handling Rs. 124 crores of Postal services. Since Independence a systematic attempt has been made to see that every village in India enjoy postal facilities.

The growth of the Post offices, both in terms of area and population has been spectacular since independence. At the time of Independence, a Post office served on an average, an area of 146 sq. km. and a population of 16,000. But on 1st January, 1990 there were 1,47,102 Post offices serving nearly 4,700 per Post office and over 22 sq.km. area.

The number of Post offices in Andhra Pradesh are 16,212 out of which 91.4 per cent are in rural areas and 8.6 per cent branches are in urban areas and on an average each Post office serves 16.91 sq km. in area. In number of Post offices Andhra Pradesh stands next only to Uttar Pradesh.

**Administration**

The administration of Posts and Telegraphs and Telephones is under the control of the Department of Communications. The Secretary of the Department of Communication is holding charge of the office of the Director General Posts and Telegraphs and is also the Chairman of P & T Board.

For administrative convenience, the activities of the Department have been divided into 16 territorial units called P & T circles, viz., Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Delhi, Gujarat, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, North Eastern, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

**Finances**

The accounts of the P & T Department are maintained on a commercial basis. The Department pays a dividend to the General Revenues at the rate of 4.75 per cent on the net capital advanced upto 1963-64. On the additional capital outlay after 31st March, 1964, it was decided to pay dividend at the rate of 6.75 per cent.

**A Public Utility Service**

In spite of the commercial overtones in accounting, the P & T remains first and foremost in public service and maintained

irrespective of cost. Extension of postal services to the remote and undeveloped villages, naturally involved the maintenance of many unremunerative Post offices and consequent loss to the Department.

It appears that a reasonably small deficit in the postal section is a part of the department's philosophy because this section is aimed to be run 'primarily and essentially as a 'Public Utility Service.' The Postal tariffs are expected to yield revenues equal or nearly equal to the total, operational costs of the postal branch. With this basic aim the department has continued to expand its net-work of post offices in rural areas which are increasingly recording losses. These uneconomic post offices in the rural areas showing persistent losses have gone on without a stringent assessment of their viability.

### **Financial Services**

The Post offices in India function like ordinary banks. It runs a Savings Bank Department, first opened in 1885, which accepts deposits and pays out cheques. Its money order System (started in 1880) enables the public to transfer sums of money from one place to another.

**PIN Code**

As from August 15, 1972, the P & T Department has introduced a Postal Index Number Code (PIN code) more or less on the pattern of ZIP in USA. Under this system the names of the post offices are intended to be replaced by numbers. For the present however, the names are retained the numbers being added to avoid confusion between similar sounding Post office names. Thus Thalavadi in Kerala and Talavadi in Tamil Nadu, will have separate numbers hereafter, and there will be no confusion in the matter of delivery despite the dangerously similar names the two Post offices have (see Table 2.1).

Under this system, India is divided into 8 regions. The code is six digit number, the first digit standing for the region, the second and third digit stand for a sub-area in the region. The last three digits stand for the particular Post office of delivery, for example PIN code Number 686 001 represent Kottayam (Kottayam I). 6 is the regional number (Kerala and Tamil Nadu) 86, the second and third digits stand for Kottayam Postal division. Offices in town centres having zonal delivery numbers form a separate group and retain the same zonal numbers as the last 5th and 6th digit in the new code.

### **The Postman**

The Postman is a very useful public servant. His work is very hard. He has to do his duty in sun and rain. He gets up early in the morning goes to the Post office. There, he gets his mail. He puts the letters in his bag. then he goes on his beat. He goes from door to door. Everybody waits from him. He brings good as well as bad news. He walks all day long. By evening, he is a tired man. We must not only understand his plight, pleasure and pains but also what is expected of him and the other postal staff to the customers.

We must take pleasure to understand that Andhra Pradesh has the second largest number of Post offices next to Uttar Pradesh. Andhra Pradesh has 16,199 Post offices of which 14,821 are in the rural sector. The average area covered by a Post office is 16.97 Sq. km and it serves 4095 people in Hyderabad circle.

The Department has also decided to introduce Rural Postal Insurance Scheme for the villages. Among the other new schemes proposed to be introduced are 'Express Parcel Service' with assured 'Three Day Delivery' and making use of 'Private Airline' for speedy delivery of letters and parcels. 'Metro Mail Channel Service' was introduced in February 1994 and it proved to be effective, 98 per cent of mail was delivered by

next day. All letters dropped in special blue colour letter boxes installed at select Post offices destined for Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Bangalore are sorted out and delivered the next day. 'Rajadhani Channel' was introduced in July for Lucknow, Chandigarh, Simla, Jaipur, Bhopal and Ahmedabad. This has been linked to <sup>Metro</sup> Channel and letters could be delivered on the second day.

Speed Post Service is available to Hyderabad and Vijayawada. Money Order sent through Speed Post is costlier by Rs. 5/- over and above Money order commission. From Head Post office, Ongole, we have Speed post facility, to face the tough competition from Private courier services, rates have been fixed to carry the postal articles on the basis of weight and distance to be carried. The chart giving the particulars at Head Post Office, Ongole are in the following manner:

SPEED POST : PARTICULARS OF WEIGHT AND PRICE CHARGED

	Destination within 500 kms	Beyond 500 kms
Weight upto 200 gms	Rs. 20/-	Rs. 30/-
201 to 500 gms	Rs. 30/-	Rs. 40/-
Each additional 500 gms or part	Rs. 10/-	Rs. 15/-
Acknowledgement fees Re. 1/- weight limit 20 kgs.		

Source : Head Post Office, Ongole.



For operational purposes, the country is divided into 15 Telegraphic circles, 16 Postal circles, 17 Post and Telegraph Civil Circles, 5 Post and Telegraph Electrical Circles and 31 Telephone Districts. Q.M.S. now covers all State capitals, head quarters of all Union Territories and important commercial towns. Within the State the Regional QMS connects most of the district head quarters.

In the history of any society, organisation, institution state, nation, union, association, certain days will be remembered over a period of time specifying special significance, like the day of inauguration, the day of formation, anniversary, the day of Independence and the like. Similarly Postal Department celebrates certain dates of importance viz.

National Postal Week	: October 8 to 15 th
World Postal Day	: 9th October
National Postal Day	: 10th October
Mails' Day	: 12th October
The Day of Philately	: 13th October

With special reference to Prakasam the other spectrum, i.e. Staff, officials, extra departmental staff are being represented by their unions like;

1. Indian Postal Employees Federation
2. National Federation of Postal Organisations and

one Federation for E.D. Staff, National Federation of Postal Employees, All India Postal Employees Association III Class & E.D. etc.

Yet another side of the scene the Government and the Department is chalking out several policies, programmes for the better working of the postal services. Slowly and steadily Postal department is trying to come out from the monopoly of the Government i.e. exclusive authority. Indian Post Offices Act, 1898 was proposed to be amended in view of the economic liberalisation policy. A spurt in competition with private courier services is to be faced now with determination, dedication and through devolution of powers. The recent thinking of the department is the introduction of 'Very High Speed Post' system. The department also thinks of introduction of 'Credit Card'.

When the department has decided to enhance the rates of cards used for answering T.V. Serials and 'Quiz Programmes' the actual implementation of it took years together and only in 1996 Budget it could be proposed and it will take some more time to print the new cards in special colour.

The department proposes installation of "Very Small Aphercher Terminals" (V.S.A.T) in 75 centres by the end of 8th

Five Year Plan. At present this facility is available to Simla, Delhi, Patna, Lucknow, Bangalore and Madras cities. The Department plans to extend this benefit to all the District Head Quarters.

With the introduction of 'Metro Channel' and 'Rajadhani Channel' Mail will be delivered to Metropolitan cities and capital cities on the next day or the subsequent day. The department also proposes to install an additional 3000 computer based counters in addition to 2000 personal computer based counters.

In yet another angle 'Awards' are presented, people are identified in the Department who are rendering their 'Best Services' to the consumers and they are rewarded with rewards like 'Dak Seva Award', 'Megh Doot Award', etc. at 'State' and 'National' level respectively.

### **Rural Postal Scheme**

The government has evolved a new scheme 'Panchayat Sanchar Yojana' to provide basic postal facilities to rural areas through people's participation. The salient features of the scheme are:

1. Participation of the gram panchayats will be voluntary.

2. An unemployed educated youth within the panchayat will be identified to perform the postal functions within the area of the panchayat.
3. Gram Panchayat will earmark a suitable building for locating the 'Panchayat Sanchar Seva Kendra.'
4. Postal facilities would be made available to the people on all days of week, except sundays and postal holidays.

#### **Dead Letters - Department's Concern**

As the number of postal articles are increasing casualties also have increased. About 53,000 postal articles, mostly letters were getting stranded every day. The Returned Letter Offices (R.L.O's) were doing their best to decipher the addressee of the addresses or senders, but in spite of their best efforts, 4000 letters were being accounted dead every day.<sup>1</sup> Bombay topped the list in death-rate with 181 letters a day, followed by Lucknow with 150 and Ahmedabad with 130.

#### **Profile of Prakasam District**

Prakasam District is one of the newly formed districts in the State, with parts from Kurnool, Guntur and Nellore

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1. Manorama Year Book, 1993.

districts. The district was formed on 2-2-1970. It is bounded on the North by Guntur District, on the South by Cuddapah and Nellore Districts on the West by Kurnool District and on the East, Bay of Bengal.

The Prakasam District is administered at present with three Revenue Divisions, viz., Ongole, Kandukur and Markapur. Formerly 14 Taluks in the district, were reorganised into 56 Mandals with effect from 25-5-1985. Ongole Division has 20 Mandals, Kandukur division has 24 and 12 in Markapur division. The erstwhile 17 panchayat samithies, i.e. excluding municipal areas of the district are now divided into 56 mandals and commissioned to function from 15-1-1987.

The district occupies an area of 17,626 sq kms. The total population of the district is 27,59,166 of which rural population is 23,05,264 and 4,53,902 urban. The percentage of rural population to the urban population is 84 per cent. There are 1011 inhabited and 82 un-inhabited villages in the district. 12 urban areas are located in the district, including four municipalities namely, Ongole, Markapur, Kandukur and Chirala. Workers constitute 48.64 per cent of the total population of which 12.23 per cent are cultivations 23.5 per cent are agricultural labourers and 12.91 per cent are other workers. The literacy rate in the district is 33.93 per cent which is lower than the State average i.e. 44.1 per cent.

As regards facilities for education there are 2570 Primary schools, 215 Upper primary schools, 249 High schools, 68 Junior colleges, 24 Degree colleges for education (T.T.I & B.Ed.), 3 Polytechnic colleges, 9 Industrial training institutes and countless numbers of Convents, Public schools, Residential schools, Residential college, etc. In addition to these educational institutions there are four Residential schools. 2 Oriental colleges, one P.G.Centre and one Law college with a scholar strength of 31,272, and with an enrollment of 89,266 students and 2,905 Teachers in aided, government and Panchayat raj department and 971 lecturers. The district has 140 Hospitals and dispensaries. Regarding banking, 196 branches of Commercial banks, including Regional Rural Banks, and 26 Co-operative banks are functioning in the district.

In Prakasam District there are 195 co-operative credit societies with a membership of 7,64,031. There are 27 societies of weavers, milk producers and industrial co-operative societies as per 1991 census with a membership of 19,705 and 74 Fisheries co-operatives with a membership of 11,194. There are 320 milk producers co-operatives societies with a membership of 58,800 and 150 industrial co-operative societies with a membership of 10,399. There are 58 police stations manned by 100 officers and 1428 other staff.

The above basic information is produced with an intention of knowing to how many people postal services are required in the form of the number of post offices, postmen, other personnel working in the department to reach out people, establishments, organisations, institutions, societies, individuals, pensioners and offices, etc.

Prakasam district with its far and wide net work of Post offices, field staff, agents and their own staff is doing wonders in realising its plans of mobilising savings from people. To cite one simple example, during 1994-95 when the District Administration was asked to collect a target net of 56.25 crores of rupees, it crossed the limit and collected 66.44 crores of rupees. Government gives an incentive of Rs. 75,00,000 to those districts which achieves 100 per cent target and Prakasam District was qualified for the incentive for the year 1994-95. The above achievement had been possible through post offices, its field staff, among others. For this purpose the particulars of post offices may be noted.

Table 2.2 depicts the mandalwise number of post offices spread over the Prakasam district. The ratio between total post offices and the number of villages in each division speaks of a very good coverage of postal services to almost every village in the district. For instance in Ongole division 229 Post offices

(including head offices, sub offices and branch post offices) cater the postal needs of 271 villages. In case of Kandukur division, the average number of villages covered per Post office is around two villages per Post office. Again in Markapur division the coverage of Post offices per village is appreciably one Post office per one village (see Table 2.2).

Table 2.4 reveals that the number of Post offices both in urban and rural areas increased over a period of time since independence. When compared to 1973 the number of urban branches increased by 46.31 per cent and the rural post offices by 24.45 per cent in 1990. When compared to 1947 when 16,000 persons covered by a Post office, the coverage of population per post office declined to 4,900 during 1973 and further to 4,700 during 1990. This speaks of the expansion of postal net work and improvement in the postal services. Similarly, area covered per post office had also been coming down from 146 sq. kms. during 1947 to 22 sq. kms. during 1990.

Table 2.5 depicts the picture of net work of post offices in Andhra Pradesh as on July, 31st 1994. It is observed that for every 7 villages there are 4 post offices in Andhra Pradesh. The ratio between number of villages and number of post offices being 1.8 : 1. It is also heartening to note that 84.31 per cent of post offices in Andhra Pradesh are located in



rural areas (see Table 2.5). the area covered per post office in Andhra Pradesh is almost 17 sq kms. The population per post office in Andhra Pradesh is around 4,100 (see Table 2.5).

In Prakasam district there are 761 total postal offices comprising 5 Head offices, 122 sub-offices and 634 branch offices. The population covered per post office in urban areas is 9070 and in rural areas it is 2654.

Inspite of the wide postal net work in the district, there have been many complaints on the functioning of postal services of the district.

Many newspapers carried many news items regarding the non-availability of stationery in the post offices, non-availability of National Service Certificates hurdles in encashment of N.S.C's, lack of provision of certain amenities, indifferant attitude of the staff, complaints of missing registered post, parcels, damage of articles in transit, non-delivery of money orders, acknowledgement cards, letters, among other things on one side. On the other side extra departments staff (EDS) tried their best to bring all the pressure on the Government to look into their grievances for better working conditions, for regular appointments, for better emoluments and the like. On yet another side Dak Ratna, Seva Ratna and Meghdoot and the like awards wre presented to those dedicated staff members of the

different post offices. From yet another angle we heard of swallowing of savings deposits money by the officials at the helm of affairs of post offices and the people resorting to court of law for justice.\*

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\*Missing /Delayed Registered Letters: A complaint from Ravela Suresh Babu, Kondepi, reached Ongole Consumer Council on 27-December, 1993 on missing register letter. He took a demand draft for Rs. 800/- in favour of the Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts of India, Hyderabad, to pursue his further studies, and sent it by registered post on 19-10-1993. Though more than 2 months passed the RL did not reach the addressee. Then Ongole Consumer Council addressed Post Master General, Hyderabad on the issue. On their advise a complaint was preferred with with Senior Superintendent of Post offices, Prakasam District. At last missing RL could be traced and delivered to the addressee on 21-1-1994, thereby saving one valuable year to the complainant.

Misappropriation of Depositors Savings: Sri Gangi Setty Yelamanda, a resident of Ramanagar, Ongole (Attender working in D.C.T.O's office, Kandukur) had a post office savings bank account in Ramanagar Post office. He had a deposit of Rs. 4,804.45 as on 22-5-19985. On the pretext of making an entry of interest the then Post Master Sri Manohar Prasad asked the pass book of the depositor and 103 slip, acknowledging the receipt of the pass book, was given. The then post master was alleged misappropriation of depositors' savings. On knowing the developments departmental inspection and enquiry took place and disciplinary action was taken against him but at the cost of the depositors. They had to run from pillar to post for justice and withdrawal of deposits. Ongole consumer council took the case and Senior Superintendent of Post Offices, Prakasam was addressed to settle it. On his refusal a case was filed with District Consumers Forum. On hearing both the sides the Forum directed the postal authorities to pay the balance of amount to the complainant along with interest.

Missing delivery : T. Satyanarayana, a resident of Markapur was to receive a aregistered letter, from M/s Ravi Leela Dairy Products Ltd., Hyderabad; the registered letter was sent on 10.4.95 from Khairatabad Post Office, Hyderabad (Vide Regd No. 43615 RL) and it did not reach the destination. So a case was filed in the District Consumers Forum and the case is pending.

## Conclusions

Postal services like any other public utility services in India enjoy monopoly since there is no parallel agency doing such service in our country. Though the net work of postal services has been expanding year after year, the much needed improvement in the quality of service has not been commensurate with. It is evident from the foregone analysis that there are variety of lapses committed by postal authorities while rendering services to the customers. Hence, an investigation into the services by the postal department by obtaining peoples' opinion has been thought of in order to know the feelings of consumers

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Letter Returned to the Sender : The purpose of usage of PIN code is for speedy delivery and full address is meant for proper delivery but at times proves other wise. M. Nageswara Rao, Maddipodu, addressed a letter to Consumer Education Research Centre, Ahmedabad 380 006. Posted a cover at Ongole on 10th July, 1993 was returned to the sender on 17th July 1993. On the envelop showed the postal seals of only Ongole and Maddipadu, while the destination was Ahmadabad. It shows apathy, indifferent and callous attitude of the post office. A case was filled in the Consumer Forum against postal department for the lapse.

∟ xerox copy for perusal. See Annexure

Delayed Delivery : Chirala, a coastal township is around 50 Kms from Ongole duly connected with number of buses and electric trains. Six letters addressed to President, Federation of consumer organisations of Prakasam District, 7-5-119; Ramalayam Street, Ongole were posted at Chirala on 18-3-1996. Generally such letters are delivered to the addressee the subsequent day. But these letters travelled at a snail's pace and reached Ongole on 23-3-1996. Cases of similar nature are countless in number.

of postal services and to suggest better ways to the postal department for the betterment of services.

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(contd.)

Problem of Payment of Maturity : Rural post offices take more time for repayment of money to the depositors after maturity of the schemes on the pretext of getting permission from their Divisional Office. One such case is against Monthly Income Scheme. It is a scheme for 5 years, and the interest is credited every month to the depositor's Savings Bank account and the principle amount is paid on the expiry of fixed term. M. Krishna Murthy, a resident of Addanki has Monthly Income Scheme Account and a Savings Bank account. Interest was credited regularly to his Savings Bank account. But on maturity the principle amount was not paid for long as it required directions and orders from divisional office. No interest is paid for the administrative delay of the department. Ongole Consumer Council had to intervene for an early payment.

TABLE 2.1

## POSTAL INDEX NUMBER (PIN)

Zone No.	States/Union Territories covered
1	Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh
2	Uttar Pradesh
3	Rajasthan, Gujarath, Daman and Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli
4	Maharashtra, Goa and Madhya Pradesh
5	Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka
6	Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Pondicherry and Lakshadweep
7	West Bengal, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim, Orissa, Andaman and Nicobar Islands
8	Bihar

Source : General Studies Manual, Tata Mc Graw Hill, 1993.

**TABLE 2.2**  
**MANDALWISE NUMBER OF POST OFFICES IN THE DISTRICT**  
**AS ON 31-3-1992**

S.No.	Name of the Mandal	No. of villages	Post Offices			Total
			Head offices	Sub- offices	Branch offices	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<u>Ongole Division</u>						
1.	ONGOLE	20	1	16	8	25
2.	Tangutur	17		3	11	14
3.	Kothapatnam	7		2	5	7
4.	Naguluppalapadu	18		3	12	15
5.	Chimakurthy	24		2	17	19
6.	Maddipadu	20		1	14	15
7.	S.N. Padu	16		1	12	13
8.	Addanki	20		1	14	15
9.	Korisapadu	10		2	8	10
10.	J. Pangulur	15		1	14	15
11.	Ballikuruva	14		-	7	7
12.	Santamagulur	11		2	6	8
13.	Martur	13		2	8	10
14.	Yeddanapudi	8		-	7	7
15.	Chirala	5	1	9	2	12
16.	Vetapalem	5		3	-	3
17.	Chinaganjam	7		3	4	7
18.	Parchur	14		1	10	11
19.	Inkollu	7		2	7	9
20.	Karamchedu	20	-	2	5	7
<b>DIVISION TOTAL</b>		<b>271</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>229</b>

(Contd. Table 2.2)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>Kandukur Division</b>						
21.	Kandukur	20	1	6	13	20
22.	Gudlur	19		1	11	12
23.	Oletivaripalem	25			14	14
24.	Ponnalur	23		1	9	10
25.	Kondepi	22		3	9	12
26.	Jaarugumalli	25		1	13	14
27.	Singarayakonda	9		1	7	8
28.	Ulavapadu	12		2	10	12
29.	Lingasamudram	23		1	10	11
30.	Kanigiri	40	1		14	15
31.	H.M. Padu	27		3	9	12
32.	Pamur	29		2	12	14
33.	Veligandla	26		2	8	10
34.	C.S. Puram	38		1	13	14
35.	Pedacherlopalli	22		8	1	9
36.	Podili	32		2	11	13
37.	Konakanamitla	34	34	3	13	1 1
38.	Marripadu	27			15	15 15
39.	Darsi	38		4	13	17
40.	Talluru	16		1	9	10
41.	Mundlamuru	29			16	16
42.	Donakonda	30		1	19	20
43.	Kurichedu	19		1	11	12
44.	Tarlupadu	26		2	13	15
<b>Kandukur Division Total</b>		<b>611</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>321</b>

(Contd. Table 2.2)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<u>Markapur Division</u>						
45.	Markapur	24	1	4	13	18
46.	Dornala	19		1	12	13
47.	Peddaraveedu	16		1	16	17
48.	Y. Palem	31		1	15	16
49	Tripuranthakam	18		2	16	18
50	Pullalacheruvu	19		1	13	14
51	Giddalur	22		5	16	21
52	Racherla	14		2	15	17
53	Komarolu	21		2	17	19
54	Bestavaripeta	21		2	17	19
55	Cumbury	16		4	12	16
56	Arthaveedu	13		2	21	23
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<b>Markapur Division Total</b>		<b>234</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>211</b>
<b>District Total</b>			<b>5</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>761</b>

Source : Hand Book of Statistics, Prakasam District 1991-92  
 Compiled and Published by Chief Planning Officer, Ongole.



TABLE 2.3

## AMOUNT COLLECTED UNDER NATIONAL SMALL SAVINGS SCHEME

(Rupees in crores)

S.No.	Security	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1994-95
1.	Post office Savings Bank	12.36	15.9	8.00	10.00
2.	Post office Recurring Deposits	6.14	8.49	4.00	3.9
3.	Post office Cumulative time deposits	0.048	0.08	8.00	1.23
4.	Post office Time deposits	0.32	0.37	0.06	0.69
5.	National Savings Certificates				
	VII Issue	--	0.03		
	VIII Issue	1.99	1.43	8.00	1.23
6.	Indira Vikas Patras	7.9	3.55	0.83	0.69
7.	Kisan Vikas Patras	31.76	5.45	7.78	10.41
8.	Monthly Income Scheme	2.70	1.17	0.97	6.24
9.	National Savings Scheme	1.15	1.16		
10.	Public Provident Fund	64.09	57.63		
<b>Gross Collection</b>					

Source : Office records Special Tahasildar National Small Savings Scheme Ongole. and

Senior Superintendent of Post offices, Prakasam Division.

**TABLE 2.4**  
**POST OFFICES AND COVERAGE SINCE INDEPENDENCE**

	As on 15-8-1947	As on 30-9-1973	As on 1-1-1990
No. of Post offices:	22,116	11,116	16,264
Urban		1,05,130	1,30,838
Rural			
Coverage of Poulation per Post office	16,000	4,900	4,700
Area covered per Post office	146 sq km	29 Sq km	22 Sq km

Source : Compiled from Manorama Year Book.

**TABLE 2.5**  
**PARTICULARS OF POST OFFICES IN ANDHRA PRADESH**  
**AS ON JULY 1994**

Particulars	No.	National averages
No. of villages in Andhra Pradesh	29,341	
No. of Post offices	16,212	
Post offices in Rural areas	13,660	
Urban	2,552	
Area covered per Post office	16.96 Sq.km.	22.01 km
Population covered per Post office	4,088	5,677

Source : Yojana, July 31, 1994.

**TABLE 2.6**  
**PARTICULARS OF POST OFFICES IN PRAKASAM DISTRICT**

Particulars	No.
No. of Head offices	5
Sub offices	122
Branch Post offices	634
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>761</b>
Staff on Scale	
Urban	31
Rural	630
Extra Departmental Staff	1313
Population covered	
Per Post office Urban	9070
Rural	2654

Source : Office records of Sr. Supt. of Post Offices, Ongole, Nandyal.