India Post Payments Bank

Source: PIB

Why in News?

India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has marked a significant milestone in the world of banking services with its continued profit streak, demonstrating its commitment to sustainable financial inclusion and citizen empowerment.

IPPB on August 22,2023 reported its first-ever operational profit of Rs 20.16 crore for 2022-23. The bank saw a 66.12% growth in overall revenue.

What is India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)?

- About:
 - Launched on September 1, 2018, with 100% equity owned by the Government of India.
 - IPPB embarks on its transformative journey with the launch of pilot branches.
 Pilot branches opened in Ranchi, Jharkhand, and Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
 - Leveraging India's vast postal infrastructure with 1,55,000 Post Offices and 3,00,000 postal employees.
- Vision: To create an accessible, affordable, and trusted bank for all citizens.
- Principles and Approach:
 - IPPB adopts the principles of India Stack to drive its operations.
 - **Paperless, Cashless, and Presence-less Banking:** Aims to facilitate banking through innovative technology and secure transactions.
 - Implements Biometrics integrated smartphones and biometric devices for seamless transactions.
 - IPPB delivers simple and affordable banking solutions through intuitive interfaces available in 13 languages.
- Empowering Financial Inclusion:
 - IPPB is committed to serving the unbanked and underbanked.
 - Contributed to the vision of a less cash economy and <u>Digital India.</u>
 - Ensured equal opportunities for financial security and empowerment.
- Empowerment Initiatives:
 - Recognized the tireless contributions of **Postmen/Gramin Dak Sevaks.**
 - Introduced <u>'Niveshak Didi'</u> initiative, for empowering women beneficiaries.
 - IPPB introduced services including loan referral services, low-cost health & accidental products like Antyodaya Shramik Suraksha Yojana for Shramyogis registered on the e-Shram portal, Digital Life Certificate to pensioners, citizen services initiatives like Aadhaar-mobile update, child Aadhaar enrolment, <u>Aadhaar based</u> <u>banking transactions (AePS)</u>, enabling citizen access to govt. <u>Direct Benefit Transfer</u> programmes like <u>PM KISAN</u> etc.
- Future Goals:
 - Aims to transform into a Universal Service platform.
 - Leverages technology for expanded accessibility and reach.
 - Focuses on innovation to empower citizens and contribute to a digitally inclusive

society.

Payment Bank:

- Payments banks were part of the <u>Reserve Bank of India's</u> strategy of offering differentiated banking licenses.
- A committee headed by Dr. Nachiket Mor recommended setting up of 'Payments Bank' to cater to the lower income groups and small businesses.
 - A payments bank is a differentiated bank, offering a limited range of products.
- It can accept demand deposits only that is savings and current accounts, not time deposits.
- Payment banks are restricted to holding a maximum balance of Rs. 2,00,000 (Rupees Two lakh only) per individual customer.
 - Payment Banks cannot accept Non-Resident Indian (NRI) deposits.
- The Payment Banks cannot set up subsidiaries to undertake non-banking financial services activities.

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