

Miscellaneous concessions : The facility for hire-purchase of machinery provided by the National Small Industries Corporation was extended to this Territory in 1964. Small-scale industrial units are eligible for price preference from 7 per cent to 15 per cent, in respect of the products purchased by Government Departments. Moreover, the Administration being a subscribing member of the Indian Standards Institution, all instructions of standards finalised by the Institution can be used by industrial units in the Territory. The engineering and consumer units in the Territory, however, have not shown sufficient enthusiasm in adopting the standards. Industrialists were also taken on tour on a few occasions to industrial centres in India in order to familiarise themselves with the technological advances in the industrial sector.

V. Small Savings

Prior to merger the French Post Offices did not extend savings bank facilities to the public, although such facilities were made available by Indian post offices. After merger, the mobilisation of small savings in the Territory became the responsibility of the National Savings Organisation headed by the National Savings Commissioner with headquarters at Nagpur. The District Savings Officer and the Assistant Regional Director both stationed in Pondicherry since 1956 and 1971 respectively function under the supervision of the Regional Director, National Savings (Government of India), Madras. The Assistant Regional Director and the District Savings Officer who exercise jurisdiction over Pondicherry are responsible for promoting small savings in the Territory. In Karaikal region, the functions are performed by the Assistant Regional Director, Tiruchchirapalli, and the District Savings Officer Nagappattinam. While the salary and allowances of the Assistant Regional, Director and District Savings Officer at Pondicherry are borne by the National Savings Organisation, free furnished office accommodation is provided by the Pondicherry Administration.

State Advisory Board : The State Advisory Board was constituted to advise and guide the Administration on measures to popularise the small savings scheme in the Territory. This Board was last reconstituted in January 1975 with the Chief Secretary as Chairman and the Finance Secretary as Vice-Chairman.

Operation of schemes : The Small Savings Schemes are operated, as anywhere else, through Post Offices. As on 1 January 1976, in all 60 post offices in Pondicherry region attended to savings bank work. As many as 33,856 post office savings bank accounts were in operation in Pondicherry region as per the data furnished by the Head Post Office, Pondicherry. In Karaikal region all the ten Sub-Post Offices and 17 Branch Offices render savings bank facilities. Records held in the Mahe Post Office seem to show that Post Office Savings Bank facility was introduced in Mahe as far back as 1882, simultaneously with the introduction of such facility in British India. Besides the Post Office at Mahe, Post Offices in Naluthara, Pallur and Pandakkal have been providing Savings Bank facilities since 1966, 1969 and 1970 respectively.

Fixed Deposit Scheme : A new type of account known as the Fixed Deposit Scheme was introduced on 15 March 1968 which, however, was in force only upto 31 July 1971. A new facility known as Blocked Deposit introduced with effect from 1 April 1970 continues to be in force.

The Cumulative Time Deposit Scheme : The Cumulative Time Deposit Scheme was introduced during 1959-60. The Five and Fifteen Year Cumulative Time Deposit accounts were discontinued with effect from 1 October 1973. The Ten Year Cumulative Time Deposit Scheme continued to be in force. The Time Deposit Scheme introduced with effect from 16 March 1970 and the Recurring Deposit Scheme introduced on 1 April 1970 continue to be in force.

Cash Certificates : In Pondicherry region three series of Savings Certificates, viz. the 10-Year-National Savings Certificates (I Issue), the 10-Year Defence Deposit Certificates and the 12-Year National Defence Certificates were available to the public till 15 March 1970. With effect from 16 March 1970 the 7-Year National Savings Certificates (II, III, IV & V Issues) were put on sale.

In Mahe region, the 1944 National Savings Certificates are known to be the earliest to be issued by the Mahe Post Office. The next series were that of the 12-Year National Plan Savings Certificates. This was followed by the 12-Year National Defence Certificates. After this came the 10-Year National Savings Certificates (first issue). The Seven-year National Savings Certificate Scheme II, III & IV issues with more attractive terms were introduced with effect from 16 March 1970 which, however, did not prove very popular in Mahe region.

Pay Roll Savings Group : Pay roll savings groups have been formed in a number of establishments since its inception in the year 1962.

The progress of Pay Roll Savings Groups since then with their membership and collections will be evident from the following statement :

Year	No. of existing P.R.S.G's	New P.R.S.G's formed	Total No. of P.R.S.G's in existence	Existing membership in old P.R.S.G's	New members enrolled under new P.R.S.G's	Total membership under P.R.S.G's (old & new)	Annual collection as on 31 March every year
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1962-63	7	12	19	221	632	853	41,880
1963-64	19	14	33	853	174	1,027	59,040
1964-65	33	13	46	1,027	222	1,249	74,280
1965-66	46	18	64	1,249	203	1,452	90,540
1966-67	64	17	81	1,452	198	1,650	1,09,260
1967-68	81	24	105	1,650	538	2,188	6,43,220
1968-69	105	21	126	2,188	360	2,548	7,37,470
1969-70	126	18	144	2,548	919	3,467	9,94,705*
1970-71	144	22	166	3,467	289	3,756	4,07,530*
1971-72	166	36	202 †	3,756	1,077	4,833	5,40,455
1972-73‡	117	29	146	5,427	510	5,937	6,17,170
1973-74‡	146	21	167	5,718	358	7,076	8,28,150
1974-75‡	167	10	177	8,775**	222	8,997	8,85,205

* The collections were less due to maturity of accounts.

† The total number of groups came down from 202 to 117.

‡ The figures relate to Pondicherry and Karaikal regions.

** Chiefly due to increase in membership in the old P.R.S. Groups during the year.