

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 522
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2020

REVISITING OF UPI BASED BHIM APP

522: SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY:

will the Minister of Electronics and Information Technology be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is revisiting the UPI-based BHIM App;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of each of the objectives set when the scheme was launched;
- (d) whether all the objectives have been achieved and if so, the details thereof, objective-wise;
- (a) the number of people using BHIM App now, State-wise and month-wise, since its inception; and
- (f) whether it is also a fact that the scheme is facing funding crunch since Ministry is managing with only Rs 100 crores whereas it has approved Rs 500 crores when scheme was launched?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE)

(a) and (b) : Yes, Sir. In order to encourage the digital payments and unleash the power of mobile phones for digital payments, BHIM app was launched on 30th December, 2016. BHIM app is a UPI (Unified Payments Interface) based payment interface developed by NPCI (National Payments Corporation of India) which allows real time fund transfer using a single identity like your mobile number or name. In order to make BHIM app more effective the following new features such as offers, donation, multiple accounts, local language support and limit enhancement etc have been incorporated alongwith enhancement in existing features under BHIM2.0.

(c) and (d): NPCI conducted a pilot launch of UPI system on 11th April 2016. Banks have started to upload their UPI enabled Apps from 25th August, 2016 onwards and BHIM app was launched on 30th December, 2016. “The main purpose of BHIM App was to provide uniform experience of UPI and also to support those banks who have not developed any UPI app for their customers. It is also useful for customers who don’t want install separate app for their different bank accounts. BHIM App is a bank agnostic app for online person to person funds transfer and is available on Android and iOS platforms.

(e): State wise data is not available, month wise BHIM app users has been mentioned at **Annexure-I**.

(f): No sir, promotion of BHIM app is a part of ‘promotion of Digital payments’ scheme by Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) and there is no funding crunch for promotion of Digital payments.

Annexure-I

Months	BHIM App users Since Inception (Million)
Dec'19	17.83
Nov'19	17.44
Oct'19	17.12
Sep'19	16.79
Aug'19	16.39
Jul'19	15.99
Jun'19	15.64
May'19	15.32
Apr'19	15.00
Mar'19	14.61
Feb'19	14.19
Jan'19	13.84
Dec'18	12.92
Nov'18	12.40
Oct'18	11.81
Sep'18	11.18
Aug'18	10.57
Jul'18	9.94
Jun'18	9.26
May'18	8.56
Apr'18	7.86
Mar'18	7.14
Feb'18	6.54
Jan'18	6.05
Dec'17	5.54
Nov'17	5.03
Oct'17	4.58
Sep'17	4.15
Aug'17	3.71
Jul'17	3.25
Jun'17	2.87
May'17	2.45
