

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 879
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 09.02.2018

BHIM APP FOR ALL MOBILE PAYMENTS

879. SHRI C. M. RAMESH:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is working on a strategy to make BHIM app for all mobile payments for its seamless nationwide network;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ; and
- (c) the transaction cost for (a) above when compared to the existing ones and whether it accepts all modes of digital payments?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) and (b): The Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) app was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 30th December 2016 to promote Digital transactions. BHIM App was envisaged as a starter App to bring new as well as financially excluded citizens in digital banking. It uses UPI (Unified Payments Interface) platform (now BHIM platform) to offer payment services and is bank agnostic Mobile app i.e. not owned by any bank.

Government of India is promoting the BHIM app as policy favoured instrument and instructed the Ministries/Departments to use BHIM as one of the preferred payment option.

(c): In BHIM app P2P (Person to Person) no transaction cost is applicable to person/individual for a transaction. In respect of merchant transactions, there is a charge (Merchant Discount Rate), and the Government has decided to reimburse any such charge on payments made by BHIM app to registered merchants upto value of Rs 2000/- for a period of 2 years from 01.01.2018.

Therefore, the transaction charges for the user are NIL for most payments made on the BHIM app/platform and compares favourably with any other alternative mode of digital payment.
