

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2289
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2014
E PAYMENT SYSTEM
Chavan Shri Harishchandra Deoram

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) proposes to include rural villages/towns into the fold of electronic payment system;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise along with the time by which it is likely to be implemented;
- (c) whether electronic payment facility is provided to customers free of charge;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to include all towns/villages in the country through e-payment system?

Answer

THE FINANCE MINISTER (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) and (b) As per Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines, Core Banking Solutions (CBS) enabled banks participate as members of national payment systems like Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS)/ National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT) / National Electronic Clearing Service (NECS). As on 14.11.2014 there are about 1,17,486 branches of 157 banks participating in NEFT as direct members. About 178 banks and financial institutions with a branch coverage of 1,15,071 participating under RTGS. Besides this, more than 800 banks are participating as sub-members of other banks in these national payment systems. List of bank branches participating is available on the website of RBI <http://www.rbi.org.in>.

(c) to (e) RBI has prescribed the maximum ceiling of fee which a bank can levy on its customers for the above electronic payment products. For instance, the maximum NEFT charges (exclusive of service tax) for amounts upto Rs.10,000/- is Rs.2.50 and for amounts above Rs.2.00 lakh it is Rs.25/-.