

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 242

ANSWERED ON TUESDAY, 02 DECEMBER, 2025/AGRAHAYANA 11, 1947 (SAKA)

GROWTH OF DIGITAL PAYMENTS IN SEMI-URBAN INDIA

242. Dr. ANIL SUKHDEORAO BONDE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has reviewed the growth of digital payment infrastructure in tier-3 cities;
- (b) the percentage increase in UPI transactions in Maharashtra;
- (c) whether RBI has directed banks to expand rural QR coverage; and
- (d) the measures taken to ensure cyber-security of small-value transactions?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c) The year-on-year growth of digital payment infrastructure is attached as Annexure – I. The details of UPI transactions in Maharashtra is attached as Annexure – II.

The Government and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have been taking up various initiatives to encourage the deployment of digital payment acceptance infrastructure in tier-3 to 6 centers, North-Eastern States, Ladakh, Jammu, and Kashmir. The RBI through the Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) provides grant support to the banks and fintechs for deployment of digital payment infrastructure (such as POS Terminals and QR codes). As of October 31, 2025, approximately 5.45 crore digital touch points have been deployed through PIDF.

(d) In order to prevent payment-related frauds including the small value transaction, various initiatives have been taken up by the Government, RBI, and the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). These, inter alia, include device binding between the customer's mobile number and device, two-factor authentication through PIN, daily transaction limits, and restrictions on use cases. NPCI also provides a fraud monitoring solution to all the banks to generate alerts and decline transactions using AI/ML-based models. RBI and banks have been conducting awareness campaigns through short SMS, radio campaigns, and publicity on the prevention of cyber-crime.

Annexure-I

“Year on Year growth in Digital Payment Infrastructure”

	POS Terminals (Lakhs)	QR Codes (UPI + Bharat QR)
Sep' 2024	93.43	6134.95
Sep' 2025	121.24	7151.61
Y-o-Y Growth	29.77%	16.57%

Annexure - II

Monthly UPI transactions in Maharashtra in FY 2025 – 26

Month (FY 2025-26)	UPI Volume (in Crore)	% Increase in UPI Volume
October	214.63	8.76%
September	197.34	-0.61%
August	198.55	4.21%
July	190.54	9.39%
June	174.18	-29.30%
May	246.38	3.42%
April	238.23	-
