

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS**

**LOKSABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2911
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03rd August 2018/Shravana 12, 1940(SAKA)**

Digital Payments Economy

2911. SHRI JANAK RAM:

QUESTION

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- a) whether the Government has instructed its departments/offices/public sector firms and autonomous bodies to encourage their employees to use debit cards for personal transactions and serve as ambassador for the Government's push for a digital payments economy and if so, the details thereof;
- b) whether whether the Government has asked its Ministries/Departments to liaise with banks to ensure that all the employees possess a debit card; and
- c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI Pon. RADHAKRISHNAN)**

- (a) to (c): Yes, the Department of Expenditure (DOE) has issued an advisory to all Ministries/Departments to encourage its employees to make use of Debit Cards for personal transactions instead of cash vide OM No. 25 (30)/E.Coord/2016 dated 1stDecember 2016. Given the progress made in banking technology, it is assumed that each employee would be in possession of a Debit/ATM card linked to his/her bank account. Ensuring and encouraging government employees to maximise the usage of Debit cards for personal related transactions instead of cash would go a long way serving with the employees serving as 'ambassadors' for the digital push and also motivate, encourage the general public in taking up the cause.

In the advisory issued vide OM No. 25 (30)/E.Coord/2016 dated 1st December 2016 by DOE, all Ministries/Departments have been requested to encourage their employees to make use of Debit Cards instead of cash for personal related transactions. Ministries/Departments should liaise with their accredited banks and set up special camps to facilitate obtaining of and ensure that all its employees are in possession of Debit Cards. Ministries/Departments may also issue similar advisories to their attached/subordinate offices, PSUs, Autonomous Bodies etc.
