

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4892

TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2026/ CHAITRA 02, 1948 (SAKA)

Circulation of Digital e-Rupee

4892. Shri Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the circulation of Digital e-Rupee is still nominal;
- (b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to promote the circulation of digital e-Rupee; and
- (c) whether the Government has any plan to promote the use of Digital e-Rupee especially for payments abroad and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a): The total digital e-Rupee (₹) in circulation is ₹ 783.16 crore in value terms as on March 12, 2026. The cumulative transaction value of ₹ in retail segment till March 12, 2026 is ₹33,191 crore.

(b): Currently, ₹ is in pilot stage and the objective of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is to test multiple use cases that can be served by ₹. The pilot started with person to person and person to merchant payments and subsequently, offline and programmable functionalities are also being tested. The specific feature of programmability is being leveraged for multiple Direct Benefit Transfer schemes. The technical architecture is also being reviewed on an on-going basis and multiple functionalities like interoperability with UPI, capability to process decimal payments etc. have been introduced. RBI also plans to conduct Public Awareness Campaigns to educate the citizens of the country about digital e-Rupee's features.

(c): RBI is engaging bilaterally with the Central Banks of UAE, Bank of Mauritius, Monetary Authority of Singapore, and participating in multilateral projects of the Bank of International Settlements (BIS) Innovation Hub Singapore for Project Mandala and Project Rialto to further improve cross-border payment processing and settlement using digital e-Rupee. However, all of the above initiatives are currently in the exploratory stage, and no cross-border arrangements have been made operational at present.
