

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2208
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH JULY 2016/7TH SHRAVANA SAKA,1938
NON-CASH TRANSACTIONS**

2208. SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT:

QUESTION

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is incentivising the use of non-cash transactions such as debit cards, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether merchants or retailers have set minimum purchase requirements and amounts for using debit or credit cards for making payments, if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether this inhibits small value transactions and defeats Government's efforts for a cashless and paper trail economy, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY FOR FINANCE
(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)**

- (a) In compliance to the announcement in the Budget Speech (Para – 64) for 2015-16, action has been taken to promote payments through cards and digital means. Cabinet has approved 23 measures (19 short term and 4 medium term) which will help:
- i. Providing access to financial payment services to every citizen along with ability to conduct Card/ digital transactions
 - ii. Migration of Government payments and collections to cashless mode by equipping each payment/ collection desk with a method to accept Card/ digital receipts.
 - iii. Migrate payment transactions from cash dominated to non-cash through incentivization of card/ digital payments.
 - iv. Enhance acceptance infrastructure in the country to promote digital transactions.
 - v. Encourage corporates, institutions and merchant establishments to facilitate card/digital payments.
- (b)-(c) No such criteria has been prescribed by the Government.