To:
Chairman / Managing Director
Public Sector Banks

Subject: Promotion of digital payments

Sir,

A Committee of Secretaries deliberated upon the above subject, in a meeting held in the Cabinet Secretariat on 20.7.2017, in which representatives of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), major banks and National Payments Corporation of India also participated.

2. During the discussions at the previous meeting of the Committee of Secretaries, held on 21.6.2017, it was noted that the cost to banks of servicing transactions was lower for digital transactions than for cash transactions. RBI’s Master Circular on Customer Service in Banks provides that while the decision to prescribe service charges is left to individual banks, banks should ensure that the charges are reasonable and not out of line with the average cost of providing services. It further stipulates that banks should take care to ensure that customers with low volume of activities are not penalised.

3. Against this background, the bank is requested to note for appropriate follow-up, the recommendation made by the Committee of Secretaries that Public Sector Banks not impose any additional charges for digital transactions, other than those prescribed by RBI.

Yours faithfully,

(Amit Agrawal)
Joint Secretary
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