

## **NPCI strengthens RuPay Contactless with new features**

- ***RuPay cardholders can make contactless offline payments at POS in areas with limited network***
- ***An additional feature of reloadable wallets in the form of RuPay Contactless (offline) will facilitate seamless day-to-day retail transactions***

**Mumbai – December 16 2020:** National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) said that it has introduced RuPay Contactless (Offline) feature, which also provides reloadable wallets within RuPay Card, for day to day transit payments. NPCI has also introduced RuPay Contactless (Offline) feature for retail payments on pilot basis. These additional features will augment the overall transaction experience for the RuPay cardholders and revolutionize the overall card payment ecosystem.

This RuPay card comes with a reloadable wallet feature where customers can store money to ensure quick and seamless transactions without any irregularities even if they witness poor connectivity at the POS machines. The RuPay NCMC (National Common Mobility Card) offline wallet can be used to make ticket payments in transit including metros, bus tickets, cab fares etc enabling automatic quick cashless payments, thereby, reducing the wait time, traffic congestion and in turn the transit time. These transactions are faster than a regular card transaction, and works as a queue buster.

Additionally, with RBI's approval for pilot on retail offline transactions, offline wallet facility is extended to retail stores (as a part of pilot). The lack of internet connectivity or low speed of internet, especially in remote areas, stores located in basements etc. is usually a major impediment in conducting digital transactions. Against this backdrop, providing an option of offline payments, is expected to further the adoption of digital payments.

This facility would be a boost for merchants as it reduces physical payments time to “tap and go” mode and it's easy acceptance infrastructure facilities smooth payments in areas of poor network coverage.

**Nalin Bansal, Head of RuPay & NFS, NPCI said,** “We are delighted to unveil the new RuPay Contactless (offline) feature which is aimed at transforming the transaction experience for customers by deploying enhanced NFC technology and innovative card payment solutions. We are confident that with the advent of the stellar RuPay contactless (offline) feature, the acceptance infrastructure for RuPay will increase exponentially and will result in the rapid on-boarding on both merchants and consumers in various geographies across the nation. With the recent announcement to increase the transaction limit on contactless payments, customers are set to witness an all new level of security, convenience and safety. We, at NPCI believe that the RuPay Contactless Offline feature will strengthen the digital payments ecosystem by furthering financial inclusion and help realise the dream of a less cash economy.”

This unique feature will benefit the customers immensely by opening up new avenues of acceptability and creating a greater penetration of RuPay's network in the country.

**About NPCI:**

**National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)** was incorporated in 2008 as an umbrella organization for operating retail payments and settlement systems in India. NPCI has created a robust payment and settlement infrastructure in the country. It has changed the way payments are made in India through a bouquet of retail payment products such as RuPay card, Immediate Payment Service (IMPS), Unified Payments Interface (UPI), Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM), BHIM Aadhaar, National Electronic Toll Collection (NETC Fastag) and Bharat BillPay. NPCI also launched UPI 2.0 to offer a more secure and comprehensive services to consumers and merchants.

NPCI is focused on bringing innovations in the retail payment systems through use of technology and is relentlessly working to transform India into a digital economy. It is facilitating secure payments solutions with nationwide accessibility at minimal cost in furtherance of India's aspiration to be a fully digital society.

For more information, visit: <https://www.npci.org.in/>

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