

NPCI/RuPay/009/2024-25

20th June 2024

To,

All Members – RuPay,

Dear Sir / Madam,

Subject: Blocking of Magstripe and Fallback Transactions on RuPay Cards

Presently, all Point of Sale (POS) terminals in India are capable of processing EMV chip based transactions. However, there have been cases of card misuse where counterfeit cards, created using the magstripe data of EMV cards, were used to perform transactions as magstripe or fallback transactions.

Hence, as part of our ongoing efforts to enhance transaction security, NPCI shall be blocking magstripe and fallback transactions for RuPay cards as prescribed below. This action is aimed at mitigating the risks associated with card skimming and cloning frauds.

Key Points:

- 1) The RuPay Steering Committee meeting held on 1st February 2024 endorsed the implementation of below rules for blocking Magstripe and Fallback transactions.

Transaction Type	Magstripe		Fallback	
	Domestic	International	Domestic	International
Debit	To be declined	Allowed	To be declined	To be declined
Credit	To be declined	Allowed	To be declined	To be declined
Prepaid*	Allowed	Allowed**	To be declined	To be declined

*As per RBI's Master Directions on PPIs, Gift PPIs may continue to be issued with or without EMV Chip and PIN enablement.

**Applicable for Forex Cards.

- 2) Internationally acquired transactions using magstripe shall be permitted for credit and debit cards as magstripe transactions are still permitted in other geographies. Issuers are advised to implement suitable controls as they see fit to mitigate the risks associated with magstripe transactions.
- 3) The above changes will take effect from **1st July 2024**.

Please make note of the above and disseminate the information to the concerned officials.

Yours sincerely,

SD/-

Kunal Kalawatia
Chief of Products