NPCI/2025-26/IMPS/132

To,
All Members – IMPS

Subject: Enablement of Bulk Payments in IMPS

With the objective of supporting instant one-to-many transactions through IMPS, Bulk Payments will now be enabled in IMPS. This functionality extends IMPS to the bulk disbursal segment, enabling customers to initiate a single debit request that results in multiple credits to beneficiaries in real-time.

IMPS members may offer this functionality to their customers, subject to adherence to the latest IMPS Bulk Payments Technical Specifications released by NPCI (on 12th March 2026, as updated from time to time) and compliance with the requirements listed below:

1. Purpose Code: Remitter Bank shall mandatorily populate purpose code '89' for all IMPS Bulk Payment transactions.
2. Functionality of Bulk Payments: Every Bulk Payment transaction request shall be assigned a unique set of identifiers for the purpose of traceability, reconciliation, and auditability.
   a. Each Bulk Payment transaction shall be identified by a Parent Transaction ID and Parent Retrieval Reference Number ("Parent RRN").
      Parent Transaction means the overarching bulk payment transaction received by NPCI from the member for processing, containing all Child Transactions (as per the threshold listed below).
   b. Each Child Transaction shall be assigned a Child Transaction ID and a Child Retrieval Reference Number ("Child RRN").

Type:
Circular

Product / Brand:
IMPS®

Category:
IMPS Bulk Payment

Member:
All Members

Region:
Domestic

System:
IMPS Product

Published:
12 March 2026

Effective:
05 May 2026

Action:
Member Onboarding
Customer Channel Changes
Customer Communication

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Child Transaction means each individual payment transaction within a Parent Bulk Transaction, received by NPCI from the member for processing and is processed independently while still linked to the Parent Transaction.

3. IMPS Transaction Limit: The existing IMPS per transaction limit, as prescribed by NPCI, will continue to apply for every Beneficiary.
4. Settlement & Reconciliation:
   a. Every Child Transaction under the Bulk Payment transaction shall be treated as an individual IMPS transaction for the purpose of processing, settlement, dispute management and applicability of fees.
   b. The "Purpose Code" and "Parent RRN" will be added to the remitter raw data file and adjustment report file that will be shared with the Remitter Bank/ Prepaid Payment Instrument Issuer, and would require them to make necessary changes to the processing, clearing and reconciliation processes as maybe required.
5. Fees & Charges: Existing switching fee and interchange fee shall be applicable to each Child Transaction.
6. All Bulk Payment transactions shall continue to be governed by existing IMPS Procedural Guidelines, Operating and Settlement Guidelines (including Dispute Resolution process), circulars and Specification Documents released from time to time. For raising disputes, IRCS will have an option for the IMPS Members to search for transactions using both Parent RRN and Child RRN.
7. The role and responsibility of each Member are annexed to this Circular.
8. Members are advised to ensure that the contents of this Circular are promptly cascaded to their respective Sub-members and other concerned entities for necessary compliance.

Yours sincerely,

SD/-

Kunal Kalawatia
Chief of Products & Marketing

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Annexure

Roles & Responsibilities:

1. Remitter Banks/Prepaid Payment Instrument Issuers ("PPI Issuers") shall be responsible for the following main activities:
   a. Offering the functionality of Bulk Payment transactions to their respective customers through their various payment channels.
   b. Mandatorily populating purpose code '89' for all IMPS Bulk Payment transactions
   c. Sending a consolidated bulk IMPS fund transfer request to NPCI which should comprise account details of multiple beneficiaries.
   d. Generating unique Parent Transaction ID and Parent RRN for every Bulk Payment transaction.
   e. Generating Child Transaction ID and Child RRN for every Child Transaction in Bulk Payment transaction.
   f. Verify and check per beneficiary limits in a Bulk Payment transaction.
   g. Ensuring that for any failed Child Transaction/s, the amount is reversed back to customer's account.
   h. Updating reconciliation processes in accordance with the new format of reconciliation report formats.

2. Beneficiary Banks / Prepaid Payment Instrument Issuers ("PPI Issuers") shall be responsible for the following main activities:
   a. Credit the beneficiary's account in real-time and send confirmation to NPCI.
   b. Return the transaction with the appropriate response code, as applicable.
   c. Accept and return purpose code '89' for all IMPS Bulk Payment Transactions.
   d. Continue to follow reconciliation and dispute resolution process as per existing IMPS process.

3. NPCI will ensure:
   a. Processing Bulk Payments transactions by treating every Child Transaction as an individual transaction and sending an individual credit request to respective Beneficiary Banks.
   b. Send a single consolidated response to the Remitter Bank/ PPI Issuer upon receipt of status of Child Transactions from the beneficiary banks, providing the transaction status of each Child Transaction, namely Success, Failure, or Deemed.
   c. Add Purpose Code and Parent RRN columns in the remitter raw data file and the adjustment report file shared with Remitter Bank/PPI Issuer.
   d. Apply switching fee and interchange fee for every Child Transaction as per the existing IMPS pricing model.