

PRESS RELEASE

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March 7, 2017

26000 Cr of 'organised fleecing' & 'legalised pillage' of ordinary Indians by Modi Govt in name of Digital India!

Bank registers ringing to 26000Cr in Bank/ATMcharge from every Indian in name of Digital as ModiGovt watches smugly!

After the unwitting and devastating decision of Demonetisation forced upon the people of India, the Modi Government is brazenly indulging in ‘Organised Loot’ and ‘Legalised Plunder’ in the name of Digital Transactions.

After 4 months of the Demonetisation disaster, the people of India still don’t know how much cash has been deposited in the banks. We were told that the cost of printing the new currency notes would be around Rs 12,000-15000 Crore. In order to recover the same cost- Shri Modi and his Government are now levying all kinds of charges and taxes and defrauding the honest exchequer.

There are 5 kinds of charges/taxes levied on such transactions by the Government.

- 1- Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) when we shop through Cards
- 2- Over the counter transaction charges
- 3- Charges on ATM transactions after a fixed number of transactions in a month.
- 4- Charges for not maintaining a Minimum Balance
- 5- Charges on Online Transaction. Government charges Service Tax on this fees.

- (i) The banks have levied charges on ‘over the counter’ cash transactions – Banks have started charging Rs 150 per transaction

for cash deposits and withdrawals beyond four free transactions in a month.

Up to five non-home branch transactions will be free, subject to a maximum per-day deposit of Rs 50,000. For larger deposits or the sixth transaction, bank would charge Rs 2.50 per Rs 1,000, or Rs 95 per transaction, whichever is higher.

These charges amount to burning holes in the pockets of the hard working honest citizens. Why should people pay to withdraw and deposit their own hard earned money?

- (i) **State Bank of India, India's largest bank has done away with the minimum balance criteria for savings bank accounts. The Congress-UPA Government in 2012 had done away with such a charge, but the Modi Government has re-introduced it.**

After the Congress Party's timely intervention The Finance Ministry has advised the Banks and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) not to levy Minimum Balance Charges- But we are yet to hear from the RBI and the Banks of what it plans to do with their anti-people and retrograde announcement.

- (ii) As of now the **Merchant Discount Rate (MDR)** i.e The rate charged to a merchant by a bank for providing debit and credit card services, which is paid by the consumer is:-

- 0.25% for a debit card transaction worth Rs 1000**
- 0.5% for a debit card transaction worth Rs 1,001 to Rs 2000**
- 1% for a debit card transaction more than Rs 2000**

According to various media reports, **the MDR can now be increased from April 1, 2017.** As a responsible political party, we would like to request the Government to clarify its stand whether it is planning to increase this rate as

reported by the media? In case, the MDR increases, we urge the Government not to fleece the already burdened citizens of the country.

In the name of Digital Transactions, Last Year, the Modi Government has earned Rs 6750 Crore Taxes/Charges from us. This year, this amount is expected to climb to Rs 26000 Crore.

The Government wants to earn almost double the amount which it used to print new currency notes, as a result of its Demonetisation decision. The mask of 'Digital India' is peeling off from this Governmen's face. Modi Government has indulged in nothing but plain extortion in the name of Digital India.