

Govt: 14 banks integrated with Aadhaar Pay

**BY KOMAL GUPTA &
SURANJANA ROY**

NEW DELHI

The government will soon launch Aadhaar Pay, a service that will enable people to make or receive payments through the Aadhaar unique identity number and biometrics.

More than 14 banks have already been integrated with Aadhaar Pay, the government said on Friday.

“More than 14 banks have already been integrated with Aadhaar Pay. With this, people will not be required to carry their phones or cards for payments. They can visit any merchant, share their Aadhaar number and verify themselves using biometrics to pay and receive money,” said Ravi Shankar Prasad, law and IT minister at a press conference.

Aadhaar Pay will also be available on the recently launched Bharat Interface for Money, or BHIM, an app developed by the government to further its cashless push.

As per the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), as on date, Aadhaar’s total saturation percentage is 91.7% (as per Census 2011) while over 99% of adults above the age of 18 have been assigned Aadhaar numbers.

There has also been a pickup in usage of Aadhaar-based transactions. Till now, more than 33.87 crore transactions have been carried out through the Aadhaar-enabled payment system (AEPS) with 119 banks operating on it.

komal.g@livemint.com