Subject: Promotion of Payments through cards and digital means in the Smart Cities.

1. The Cabinet Secretariat vide its Order dated 1st April 2016, constituted a Task Force under the chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Investment & Public Assets Management (DIPAM) for ensuring implementation of the Cabinet decisions on promotion of payments through cards and digital means.

2. The Task Force is of the considered view that the digital infrastructure proposed in smart cities, should ensure sufficient touch points that facilitate digital payments for goods and services offered in smart cities. Smart cities may, therefore, include digital payments infrastructure requirement while sizing up their infrastructure requirements. Software/Applications for various services, e.g. integrated transport network, utilities, etc. in smart cities should facilitate multiple digital payment options at no extra cost to the customer.

3. Pan city development envisages application of IT to improve governance, delivery of public services and infrastructure in Smart Cities. Smartness means applying frugal innovation, building on existing infrastructure and services to get more out of them, making better use of resources, etc. All cities are, therefore, advised to take into consideration decision of the Task Force and ensure inclusion of sufficient touch points along with necessary infrastructure to facilitate digital payments for goods and services offered in smart cities.