

**Opening Remarks by Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj on the launch
of the BHIM App in Bhutan, 13 July 2021**

- **Lyonpo Namgay Tshering, Hon. Finance Minister of Bhutan;**
- **Minister Nirmala Sitharaman ji, Hon. Finance Minister of India;**
- **Dr. Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad, Hon'ble Minister of State for Finance, of India;**
- **Dasho Penjore, Governor, Royal Monetary Authority, Bhutan;**
- **Dasho Kinga Singye, Foreign Secretary of Bhutan;**
- **Gen. V. Namgyel, Ambassador of Bhutan to India;**
- **Distinguished Colleagues.**

Kuzuzampo & Namaskar!

In August 2019, while addressing the students at the Royal University of Bhutan, Prime Minister Modi had said that **no two countries** in the world understand each other so well or share so much as India and Bhutan, and that New Delhi and Thimphu are “natural partners” in bringing prosperity to their people.

Prime Minister Modi's words ring true today as we launch the BHIM App in Bhutan- a milestone in India-Bhutan cooperation and a “first” of sorts. **Today Bhutan becomes the first country to adopt UPI standards for its QR code.** This builds on the success that we all achieved together last year in November 2020 **when Bhutan became the first and the only country to both issue and accept RuPay cards.**

I will close by saying that India and Bhutan are an example for the world – a bond that is beyond a mere political tie but instead, is one of friendship and compassion. Today our relationship spans all areas of human endeavour for mutually beneficial growth and progress. The

fin- tech sector is no exception, and as our two countries today launch the BHIM UPI, warm congratulations to both sides for this significant moment in our bilateral relations.

Thank you!

Tashi Delek!