**International Symposium on 'Harnessing Digital Innovations in Payments Systems for Financial Inclusion, Resilience, Productivity Gains, and Inclusive Growth**

**SUMMARY**

1. An international symposium on **'Harnessing Digital Innovations in Payments Systems for Financial Inclusion, Resilience, Productivity Gains, and Inclusive Growth**' was held on 6 March 2023. A panel discussion was held in the symposium. An opening presentation by Dr. Ruth Godwin Groen, Managing Director, Better Than Cash Alliance (BTCA), preceded the panel discussion. Dr. Ruth also moderated the discussions. The expert panel had Representatives from international organizations, **Dr. Ralph Oyini Mbouna,** Head of Digital Transformation, Smart Africa, **Ms**. **Harsha Rodrigues**, Head of Corporate Strategy for Women's World Banking. Women’s World Banking, **Mr. Pedro De Vasconcelos**, Lead technical specialist and financing facility for remittances (FFR) manager, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and **Mr. Sudhanshu Prasad**, General Manager, Department of Payment and Settlement Systems, Reserve Bank of India, who participated in the symposium.
2. The symposium was attended by GPFI delegates as also the representatives of the Global South countries. Around 50 countries and international Organizations participated in the symposium. The symposium emphasized the importance of efficient, reliable, and accessible digital payment systems in promoting economic growth and development. India's efforts in fostering trust in digital payment systems were highlighted, along with the country's continuous growth in digital payment transactions.
3. The discussions provided valuable insights into how digital payment systems effectively remove the barriers to financial inclusion for all, including women. The crucial role of interoperable digital payments in achieving regional integration was also stressed. Focussed discussions also took place on how customer protection measures are instrumental in building users’ trust in digital payment systems and how digital payment systems are in accelerating low-cost remittance flows.