

PRESS RELEASE

Unity Small Finance Bank Commences Business

Mumbai, November 01, 2021 – Unity Small Finance Bank Limited (Unity Bank), has commenced operations. Having complied with all requisite regulatory approvals, the Bank has begun operations in record time, with a quick turnaround from the RBI’s approval received on October 12, 2021. Unity Bank is founded by Centrum Financial Services Limited (Centrum), the established and profitable small business lending arm of the Centrum Group and Resilient Innovations Private Limited (BharatPe), one of India's fastest-growing fintech companies.

Unity Bank will be a digital first bank with a business model of collaboration and open architecture, uniting all its stakeholders to deliver a seamless digital experience. The Bank commences operations with Centrum’s successful MSME and Micro Finance businesses and teams, a capital infusion of approx. Rs 1,100 crores, total assets of about Rs 2400 crores, active customer base of over 2 lakhs, 145 offices including a branch in Centrum House, Mumbai, getting off to a strong start.

Jaspal Bindra, Executive Chairman, Centrum Group, said “We thank the RBI for giving us approval to commence operations at Unity Bank. We aim to make it a truly New Age Bank. The Bank is well capitalized, significantly higher than the minimum regulatory requirement, giving us the platform to build a robust technological infrastructure, hire the best talent and work with credible vendor partners. The combined expertise of Centrum and BharatPe, business strengths and our proven success, will provide a strong foundation to drive growth in the Bank.”

“I would like to sincerely thank the Reserve Bank of India for granting us the approvals for commencing the operations of Unity Bank. We are committed to work tirelessly to build India’s first truly Digital Bank. With the capitalization and approvals in place, we will now focus on building tech-first products that will redefine the way India banks.”, added **Ashneer Grover, Co-Founder and Managing Director, BharatPe**.

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About Centrum Group

Founded in 1997, Centrum has diversified fee businesses and a lending platform for institutions and individuals. Institutional services include Investment Banking, Broking to FIIIs, Pension Funds, Indian Mutual Funds, Domestic Institutions etc. It also provides Wealth Management Services to HNIs and Family Offices, Affordable Housing finance in tier 2 & 3 cities and Retail Broking. Its Asset Management business offers funds across Private Debt and Venture Capital.

About BharatPe

BharatPe was co-founded by Ashneer Grover and Shashvat Nakrani in 2018 with the vision of making financial inclusion a reality for Indian merchants. In 2018, BharatPe launched India's first UPI interoperable QR code, the first zero MDR payment acceptance service. In 2020, post-Covid, BharatPe also launched India's only zero MDR card acceptance terminals – BharatSwipe. Currently serving over 70 lakh merchants across 140+ cities, the company is a leader in UPI offline transactions, processing 11 crores+ UPI transactions per month (annualized Transaction Processed Value of . US\$ 11+ Bn). The company has already facilitated disbursement of loans totaling to over Rs. 2,800 crores to its merchants, since launch. BharatPe's POS business processes payments of over Rs. 1,400 crores per month. BharatPe has raised over US\$ 650 million in equity and debt, till date. The company's list of marquee investors includes **Tiger Global, Dragoneer Investment Group, Steadfast Capital, Coatue Management, Ribbit Capital, Insight Partners, Steadview Capital, Beenext, Amplo and Sequoia Capital**. In June 2021, the company announced the acquisition of PAYBACK India, the country's largest multi-brand loyalty program company with 100 million+ members.