

SEBI's UPI (@valid) & 'SEBI Check'

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Why in the News?

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is set to introduce a structured unified payment interface (UPI) address mechanism.

- **UPI (@valid)** - It aims to enhance investor protection and combat unauthorised money collection in the securities market
- It is expected to streamline the ***collection of funds by intermediaries*** from investors.
- It is for registered intermediaries to tackle the rising number of unregistered entities in the stock market that are misleading investors.
- Through this process, investors can identify legitimate Sebi-registered market intermediaries before making payments.
- It will be exclusively allocated by the ***National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)*** only for payment collection by Sebi-registered intermediaries.
- The regulator has made it ***mandatory for all intermediaries*** to obtain the new UPI IDs. For investors, the use of a structured UPI handle will remain optional.

NPCI is the umbrella organisation for operating retail payments and settlement systems in the country, that owns and operates the UPI platform.

- **Benefits** - To address the growing issue of impersonation and to enhance investor confidence in the securities market.
- It is designed to proactively curb fraudulent activities, enabling investors to easily identify legitimate Sebi-registered market intermediaries and make payments securely and efficiently.
- **SEBI CHECK** - To provide an additional layer of security and help investors verify the authenticity of an entity before proceeding with any financial transaction.
- This will allow investors to verify the authenticity of UPI IDs either by scanning a QR code or by entering the UPI ID manually.
- The tool will also include a feature to confirm the bank details such as bank account number and Indian Financial System Code (IFSC) of an intermediary.
- Both will be available for use by common investors with effect from October 1, 2025.

References

1. [The Indian Express | Sebi's new verified UPI IDs](#)
2. [The Hindu | SEBI mandates dedicated UPI address](#)



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