

CBSE makes mental health, career counsellors mandatory in affiliated schools

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

KOTA, JAN 24: In a significant policy reform aimed at strengthening students' mental health and providing them with career guidance, the Central Board of Secondary Education has made the appointment of socio-emotional and career counsellors mandatory in all affiliated schools. For this, the national education board amended Clause 2.4.12 of the CBSE Affiliation Bye-Laws, 2018, following a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed before the Rajasthan High Court in July 2025 by Kota-based advocate Sujeet Swami and some psychology experts. The PIL highlighted rising

mental health challenges among students, including academic stress and lack of structured career guidance, and sought mandatory provisions for qualified counsellors and a uniform mental health support framework in schools. During the hearing in September 2025, a bench headed by the Chief Justice of Rajasthan High Court sought responses and suggestions from the CBSE, the Rajasthan Board of Secondary Education (RBSE), the University Grants Commission, and the state government. After considering the submissions, the CBSE introduced key amendments through a circular on January 19,

2026. Under the revised provisions, the CBSE has added two new sub-clauses. Clause 2.4.12.1 mandates that every CBSE school appoint one regular Counselling and Wellness Teacher, or socio-emotional counsellor, for every 500 students. Clause 2.4.12.2 makes the appointment of a Career Counsellor compulsory. Earlier, CBSE norms required the appointment of a full-time psychological counsellor only in schools having more than 300 students in Classes 9 to 12, while smaller schools were permitted to engage part-time counsellors. The education board has prescribed minimum eligibility criteria for these

counsellors. The Counselling and Wellness Teacher must possess a graduate or postgraduate degree in Psychology or a postgraduate degree in Social Work with specialisation in mental health or counselling. They must also undergo a mandatory 50-hour CBSE-recognised capacity-building programme. Their responsibilities include student and parent counselling, social-emotional learning, crisis intervention, identification of mental health concerns, sensitisation of teachers and parents, and maintaining confidentiality and ethical standards. The CBSE has

also introduced flexibility for smaller schools through a Counselling Hub and Spoke School Model, under which "Hub" schools mentor nearby "Spoke" schools. For career guidance, it has mandated a student-to-counsellor ratio of 1:500 for students of Classes 9 to 12. The minimum qualification for a Career Counsellor includes a graduate or postgraduate degree in disciplines such as Humanities, Science, Social Sciences, Management, Education or Technology. According to Advocate Sujeet Swami, who filed the PIL, the plea had sought amendments to address the mental health needs of

students from primary to senior secondary levels. It had stressed the importance of expert career guidance, particularly after Class 10. He noted that with the CBSE implementing the changes, they wait for similar reforms at RBSE-affiliated schools. Advocate Amit Dadhich of the Rajasthan High Court welcomed the decision. He said that representations have been made before the court to develop a structured mental health support system for college and university students in Rajasthan, with positive outcomes expected soon.

IN BRIEF

Over 70 fugitives wanted by India located abroad

NEW DELHI, JAN 24: Over 70 fugitives, wanted by India, were located abroad during 2024-25, according to an official report. As many as 203 fugitives wanted by other countries were detected/located in India during the same period. A total of 71 "wanted persons/fugitives wanted by India" were located abroad in 2024-25, according to the annual report of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. The number of such wanted fugitives located abroad is the highest in the over a decade time, officials claimed. A total of 27 fugitives/wanted persons returned to India, from abroad in the last financial year, said the ministry's annual report for 2024-25. It also gave details on the working of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), which acts as the National Central Bureau (NCB) - the nodal point for Interpol in India. During the period of April, 2024 to March, 2025, 74 Letters Rogatory (LRs) were sent abroad, out of which 54 pertained to CBI cases and 20 of them to state law enforcement and other central agencies, the report said. Letters Rogatory is a judicial request to authorities abroad to seek cooperation in a probe being conducted by Indian investigating agencies.

RTI can't replace probe, trial, says UP Information Commission; turns down CCTV footage request

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

LUCKNOW, JAN 24: The Uttar Pradesh State Information Commission has ruled that CCTV footage can be provided only if it forms part of a court order or a police probe, noting that the RTI Act can not be treated as a substitute for investigation or trial. The ruling was given by a bench headed by State Information Commissioner (SIC) Mohammad Nadeem, while hearing a plea under the Right to Information (RTI) Act seeking CCTV footage from a hospital in the Bijnordistrict. In his order, the information commissioner said, "Unless the CCTV footage of a hospital premises is part of a police investigation or a judicial order, it cannot be made available to any individual merely on demand."

Hearing an appeal filed by Kulwant Singh, the SIC observed that even if allegations related to fake medical practices are assumed to be true, their examination should be carried out through a police investigation, a competent court or departmental disciplinary proceedings. The RTI Act, he said, cannot be treated as a substitute for investigation or trial. He noted that hospitals are public health institutions where hundreds of patients, their attendants, doctors and staff move daily. According to an official statement, Nadeem said CCTV footage records not only the activities of the appellant but also those of many other patients and individuals, making it an issue directly linked to their privacy. "Unless there is a valid reason or larger public interest, the RTI law does not permit violation of anyone's privacy."

Kailash Satyarthi in favour of regulation of social media to reduce negative impact

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

HYDERABAD, JAN 24: Nobel Peace Laureate Kailash Satyarthi on Saturday favoured regulation of social media, including access to minors, to reduce its negative impact though on a positive note, it can help in spreading moral values and building communities. Satyarthi's comments came against the backdrop of Australia banning social media for Under-16s. "I think social media must definitely be regulated, not banned, anywhere in the world. Because a lot of hatred, violence, a lot of untruth and fake things are propagated through social media," Satyarthi, who is in the city to attend the Hyderabad Literary Festival, told PTI. "We also see how social media is misused for trafficking of children, child sexual abuse; these

things have to be regulated," he said, when asked if he favoured a ban on social media for children in India, like in Australia. The misuse of social media should be stopped, he said. In India, the Andhra Pradesh government has appointed a committee to

explore, among others, the possibility of restricting or banning children below 16 years of age from accessing online platforms. Australia has become the first country to ban social media for children under 16 from December 10, 2025, blocking access to

various platforms. Satyarthi also said his organisation had fought for stopping and criminalising online child sexual abuse, which is an organised crime.

AWARDING OF ATM CONTRACT AT KATI HAR DIVISION

E-auction is invited for awarding of ATM contract over Katihar Division. Auction Catalogue No.: KIR-ATM-26-07. Rate Unit: Annual Licensing Fee. Auction Start Date & Time (All Lots) : At 10:00 hrs. on 09-02-2026.

SL.No.	Lot No./Category	Description
AA/1	ATM-KIR-BOE-Gen-132-25-1 (ATM - General)	Awarding ATM Contract at Barsoi railway station in the existing earmarked site/structure (As per sketch plan attached in lot).
AA/2	ATM-KIR-KIR-Gen-131-25-2 (ATM - General)	Awarding of ATM at Katihar Railway Station.
AA/3	ATM-KIR-KNE-Gen-133-25-1 (ATM - General)	Awarding of ATM Contract at Kishanganj Railway Station for the period of five years.

Lot end date & time: At 10:50 hrs. on 09-02-2026. Initial Cooling off period is 30 minutes. Successive lots closing interval 10 minutes. Note : Prospective bidder are requested to visit e-Auction leasing module on IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in for more details.

Sr. DCM, Katihar

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
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E-AUCTION FOR STATIC CATERING UNIT OVER RANGIYA DIVISION

E-auction is invited for Static Catering Unit over Rangiya Division. Auction Catalogue No.: CATG-RNY-51. Rate Unit: Annual Licensing Fee. Auction Start Date & Time (All Lots) : At 11:00 hrs. on 03-02-2026.

SL.No.	Lot No./Category	Description
AA/1	Catg-RNY-GLPT-GMU-553-24-1 (Catering - General Minor Unit (GMU))	Provision of Catering Services through GMU at PF-1 of Goalpara Town Railway Station of 'D' Class.
AA/2	Catg-RNY-RPAN-GMU-525-23-1 (Catering - General Minor Unit (GMU))	Provision of Catering Services through GMU at PF-1 of Rangapara North Station of 'D' Class.
AA/3	Catg-RNY-GVR-GMU-598-26-1 (Catering - General Minor Unit (GMU))	Provision of catering units (Tea Stall) at the circulating area of Goreswar Railway Station of 'E' Class.
AA/4	Catg-RNY-VNE-GMU-451-22-1 (Catering - General Minor Unit (GMU))	Provision of Catering Services through Special Minor Unit for at PF-1 of Viswanath Charali Railway Station of 'E' Class.
AA/5	Catg-RNY-RPAN-GMU-524-23-1 (Catering - General Minor Unit (GMU))	Provision of Catering Services through General Minor Unit at PF-1 of Rangapara North Railway Station of 'D' Class.
AA/6	Catg-RNY-HML-GMU-218-22-1 (Catering - General Minor Unit (GMU))	Provision of Catering Services through Genral Minor Unit at PF-1 of Helem Railway Station of 'E' Class.
AA/7	Catg-RNY-HRSN-GMU-236-22-1 (Catering - General Minor Unit (GMU))	Provision of Catering Services through General Minor Unit at Circulating area of Harsinga Railway Station of 'E' Class.
AA/8	Catg-RNY-DKGN-GMU-160-22-1 (Catering - General Minor Unit (GMU))	Provision of Catering Services through GMU1 at PF-1 of Dekargaon Railway Station of 'E' Class.
AA/9	Catg-RNY-ULG-GMU-542-23-1 (Catering - General Minor Unit (GMU))	Provision of Catering Services through GMU reserved for Women at PF-2 of Udalguri Railway Station of 'D' Class.
AB/1	Catg-RNY-NBQ-SMU-486-22-1 (Catering - Special Minor Unit (SMU))	Provision of Catering Services through Special Minor Unit for ST (Scheduled Tribe) at PF-1B of New Bongaigaon Station of 'B' Class.
AB/2	Catg-RNY-DQL-SMU-182-22-1 (Catering - Special Minor Unit (SMU))	Provision of Catering Services through SMU1 at Circulating area of Dhalabail Railway Station of 'E' Class.
AB/3	Catg-RNY-BVU-SMU-599-26-1 (Catering - Special Minor Unit (SMU))	Provision of catering units (Tea Stall) at the PF-1 of Balipara Railway Station of 'E' class.
AB/4	Catg-RNY-ULG-SMU-544-26-1 (Catering - Special Minor Unit (SMU))	Provision of Catering Services through SMU reserved for people who have been dislocated / displaced due to their land having been taken over by the Railways for its own use belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBC) at PF-2 of Udalguri Railway Station of 'D' Class.
AB/5	Catg-RNY-ULG-SMU-564-25-1 (Catering - Special Minor Unit (SMU))	Provision of Catering stall (tea stall) reserved for the minority category at PF-1 of Udalguri Station of 'E' Class.
AB/6	Catg-RNY-NBQ-SMU-487-22-1 (Catering - Special Minor Unit (SMU))	Provision of Catering Services through Special Minor Unit ST (Scheduled Tribe) reserved for women at PF-1B of New Bongaigaon Station of 'B' Class.
AB/7	Catg-RNY-CGS-SMU-148-22-1 (Catering - Special Minor Unit (SMU))	Provision of Catering Services through SMU1 at PF-1 of Changsari Railway Station of 'E' Class.
AB/8	Catg-RNY-BPRD-SMU-597-26-1 (Catering - Special Minor Unit (SMU))	Provision of Catering Services at Special Minor Unit (reserved for Scheduled Caste) at PF-1 Barpeta Road Station of 'A' Class.
AB/9	Catg-RNY-NHLN-SMU-561-24-1 (Catering - Special Minor Unit (SMU))	Provision of Special Minor Unit (SMU) reserved for ST at PF-1 of Naharlagun station

Lot end date & time: At 14:20 hrs. on 03-02-2026. Initial Cooling off period is 30 minutes. Successive lots closing interval 10 minutes. Note : Prospective bidder are requested to visit e-Auction leasing module on IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in for more details.

Sr. DCM, Rangiya

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
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ELECTRICAL WORKS IN RANGIYA DIVISION

Tender Notice No.: RNY-EL-T-23-2025-26. Dated: 21-01-2026. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work: Tender No.: RNY-EL-T-23-2025-26; Name of Work: At Dangtal - Electrical works in connection with Development of play ground including drainage system and provision of 02 nos changing rooms adjacent to Dangtal indoor stadium. Advertisment Tender Value: ₹30,56,761.22/-; Earnest Money: ₹61,100/-; Date & time of closing of tender at 13:00 hrs. on 13-02-2026. Complete information alongwith the tender document of above e-tender will be available in the website www.ireps.gov.in

Sr. DEE/Rangiya

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
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NIQ NOTICE

NIQ No.: 18/DI&CO/DARJ Date: 21.01.2026
Quotations are invited by the DI&CO, Darjeeling, for the supply of Breakfast and Lunch for the Folk Dance Workshop and Programme to be held from 8th to 10th February, 2026, at Dinabandhu Mancha, Siliguri.
Last date for submission of quotations is 07.02.2026 up to 2:00 p.m. The quotations will be opened on the same day at 4:00 p.m. For further details, please contact the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- District Information & Cultural Officer, Darjeeling
MemoNo.: 870(3)/ADVT./SDI&CO/SLG.
Date : 24.01.2026.

NIQ NOTICE

NIQ No.: 17/DI&CO/DARJ Date: 21.01.2026
Quotations are invited by the DI&CO, Darjeeling, for the supply of a Vehicle on a hire basis, including Fuel, for the Folk Dance Workshop and Programme to be held from 8th to 10th February, 2026, at Dinabandhu Mancha, Siliguri.
Last date for submission of quotations is 07.02.2026 up to 2:00 p.m. The quotations will be opened on the same day at 4:00 p.m. For further details, please contact the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- District Information & Cultural Officer, Darjeeling
MemoNo.: 870(3)/ADVT./SDI&CO/SLG.
Date : 24.01.2026.

NIQ NOTICE

NIQ No.: 16/DI&CO/DARJ Date: 21.01.2026
Quotations are invited by the DI&CO, Darjeeling, for Venue Branding, Inaugural Programme, Decorative Lighting, and Flower Decoration for the Folk Dance Workshop and Programme to be held from 8th to 10th February, 2026, at Dinabandhu Mancha, Siliguri.
Last date for submission of quotations is 07.02.2026 up to 2:00 p.m. The quotations will be opened on the same day at 4:00 p.m. For further details, please contact the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- District Information & Cultural Officer, Darjeeling
MemoNo.: 870(3)/ADVT./SDI&CO/SLG.
Date : 24.01.2026.

बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Bank of India BOI ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH KOLKATA ZONE 5, BTM Sarani, 2nd Floor, Kolkata-700001

E-AUCTION TO BE HELD ON 25.02.2026

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES MORTGAGED TO THE BANK

Whereas, the Authorized Officer of Bank of India under the Securitization & Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (S4 of 2002) & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(1)(f) read with rules 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notice, to borrowers and Authorized Officer has taken possession of the properties described herein below. Offers are invited by the Authorized Officer under sub-rule 5 & 6 of rule 8 of the said Act in respect of e-auction on the date, place and time mentioned. Public at large and borrowers and guarantors in general are being informed hereby that e-auction under SARFESI Act in holding of noted properties will be conducted for sale on the terms & conditions presented in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 and to the following conditions for realization of the Debts due to the Bank.

Name & Address of Borrowers / Guarantors with Branch Name	Description of the Property	Secured debt / Amount due (In Rs.)	Date of Demand Notice & Date of Possession	Reserve Price (In Rs.) & Earnest Money Deposit (EMD, In Rs.)
ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH Account Name: M/s Raj Motors & M/S Rupa Equipments & Implements Borrower/Guarantor: 1. Majibur Rahman 2. Rupsona Parvin Sarkar Address: Vill-Bogran, PO. Kamajhora, Raiganj, Uttar Dinajpur- 733134	EQM of land & building in the name of Majibur Rahman Sarkar situated at a Mouza Chatporua JL No 184, Kh No 1375, Plot No 199, Area- 15 Satak, b. Mouza- Kamajhora JL No 157, Kh No 2024, Plot No 820, Area 7 Satak. Bounded by: North: Land of Mukul Ghosh & Gouri Shankar, South: Land of Shankar Saha, East: PWD Road, West: Land of Bhabesh & Bijoy Das.	Rs. 89,40,521.64/- with further interest & charges from 30.06.2016	02.11.2016 & 21.01.2017 (Symbolic Possession)	Rs.1,79,34,000.00 & Rs.17,93,400.00
ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH Account Name: M/s Gouri Trading Co Borrower/Guarantor: 1. Mr. Nandan Debnath 2. Mrs. Gouri Debnath 3. Mr. Niranjan Debnath Add: Vill- East Santinagar, Ward No.20, PO-Dist. Alipurduar, West Bengal- 736121	EQM of land & building in the name of Rupsona Parvin Sarkar situated at Mouza Bogran JL No 156, Kh No RS 243, LR 1452/1, Plot No RS & LR 247, Area 5 Decimal, Kamajhora, Raiganj, Uttar dinajpur. Bounded: On the North by: Common passage, On the South by: Land of Haralai Roy, On the East by: Land & Building of Sekendar Ali, On the West by: Land of West Bengali area.	Rs.44,87,257.07/- with further interest & charges from 30.06.2016	02.11.2016 & 21.01.2017 (Symbolic Possession)	Rs.38,00,000.00 & Rs.3,80,000.00
ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH Account Name: M/s Newline Auto Tract Pvt. Ltd. Borrower/Guarantor: 1. Mr. Subhas Ganguly 2. Mr. Siddhartha Gandopadhyay Add: Reg Office: Regent House, 1st floor, 12, Govt. Place East, Kolkata-700069. Corporate Office: Malda Auto Complex, Sisir Ganguly Enclave, Gabgachi, NH-34, Malda-732103.	Land & Building standing area 5.00 decimal in the name of Guarantor Smt Gouri Debnath, situated at Mouza- Damampur, Vill- East Shantinagar, PO & PS & Dist. Alipurduar, West Bengal- 736121, JL No 51, Hal Khatian No 1341 & 804 corresponding to LR Khatian No 3704, Hal Dag No 2466 corresponding to Dag/Plot No 4926 represented by sale deed I- 3655 dated 16.07.1993. Classification of land "Bastu" Bounded: On the North by: House of Gopal Mandal, On the South by: Municipal Road, On the East by: House of Brojendra Debnath, On the West by: House of Budhadey Bhattacharjee.	Rs.1,46,32,208.35/- with further interest & charges from 08.04.2025	08.04.2025 & 12.11.2025 (Symbolic Possession)	Rs.64,28,640.00 & Rs.6,42,864.00
ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH Account Name: M/s Newline Auto Tract Pvt. Ltd. Borrower/Guarantor: 1. Mr. Subhas Ganguly 2. Mr. Siddhartha Gandopadhyay Add: Reg Office: Regent House, 1st floor, 12, Govt. Place East, Kolkata-700069. Corporate Office: Malda Auto Complex, Sisir Ganguly Enclave, Gabgachi, NH-34, Malda-732103.	Land & building in the name of Subhas Ganguly at Mouza: Mohanbati, JL 151, Kh. No Rs-726, LR-7536, Plot No Rs-2628, LR-998/9362, Area: 5.775 Dec. NH- 34, PS: Raiganj, Dist: Uttar Dinajpur (Vide Title Deed No 8285 dt 13.11.2006) Bounded: North: Land tin shed structures of Paul Brothers & others, East: 60 ft wide NH-31, South: Land tin shed structure of Subir Roy, West: Land tin shed structure of Subir Roy.	Rs.16,84,47,888.32/- with further interest & charges from 30.06.2014	01.09.2014 & 29.12.2014 (Symbolic Possession)	Rs.44,40,000.00 & Rs.4,44,000.00

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

- Auction sale/bidding would be only through "Online Electronic Bidding" process through the website <https://baanknet.com/>
- Date and time of Auction 25-02-2026 between 11.00 a.m. to 05.00 p.m. for all properties, followed by unlimited extensions of 10 minutes each, viz the auction process would run for 120 minutes in first stance and in case a valid bid is received in last 10 minutes, the auction would get extended by another 10 minutes. The process would continue until there are no valid bids during last 10 minutes. Auction would commence at one notch above Reserve Price, as mentioned above. Bidders shall improve their offers in multiples of Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand only). Interested parties can inspect the properties at site on 20.02.2026 & 21.02.2026 between 11.00 a.m. and 04.00 p.m.
- The intending bidders should register their names at [portal https://baanknet.com/](https://baanknet.com/) and get their User ID and password. Prospective bidders may find how to register for auction, mode of auction, and other processes to be followed on the above-mentioned link. Intending bidders may contact for any query on 033-2231-4094/033-2210-7448, Mr. N Chingheingamba (+91-9774845415) & Mr. Suresh Kumar (+91 9204882300).
- The above properties/assets shall be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS", "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WITHOUT ANY RECOURSE BASIS". The intending bidders should make their own enquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property put on auction and the claim/rights/dues affecting the property, the time and cost involved in taking physical possession (for properties under symbolic possession) prior to submitting their bid. All the accrued statutory dues including property tax, energy charges etc shall be borne by the successful bidder. The Authorized Officer/Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third party claims/rights/dues and also for the delay, costs and/or legal issues involved in taking physical possession (in case of properties under symbolic possession).
- Particulars specified in the schedule above have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorized Officer/Bank. Authorized Officer and / or Bank will not be answerable for any error, mis-statement or omission in this public notice.
- The aforesaid properties shall not be sold below the Reserve Price mentioned above. Intending bidders are required to deposit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) stated above in the wallet provided on the [portal https://baanknet.com/](https://baanknet.com/). Details of the process for depositing EMD in the wallet can be found on the above-mentioned link.
- The intending bidders should register themselves on the above-mentioned portal well before the auction date, in any case no later than 24-02-2026 up to 4.00 p.m.
- The highest / successful bidder shall have to deposit 25% of the bid amount, adjusting the EMD already paid immediately after acceptance of bid by the Authorized Officer in respect of the sale, failing which the EMD shall be forfeited. The highest bidder shall be declared to be the successful bidder/purchaser of the properties mentioned herein provided always he is legally qualified to bid.
- The balance 75% of the bid/purchase money shall be payable on or before 15th day (during banking hours) of confirmation of the sale by the Authorized Officer or such extended period as agreed upon in writing by solely at the discretion of the Authorized Officer. In case of default in payment by the successful bidder the amount already deposited by the bidder shall be forfeited and the Authorized Officer / Bank will be at liberty to cancel the auction and conduct fresh auction.
- On receipt of the entire sale consideration, the Authorized Officer shall issue the Sale Certificate in the name of bidder and the sale shall be considered complete thereafter and that the Bank shall entertain no claims.
- The Authorized Officer is not bound to accept the highest bid or any or all bids and reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof and vary, modify and waive any condition of sale in his absolute discretion.
- The successful bidder/purchaser would bear all the charges / fees payable for conveyance deed, taxes including Service Tax/TDS (As per Section 194 IA for properties valued Rs.50 Lakhs & above) if any.
- This publication is also thirty days' notice under Rule 8(i) of the Security Interest (Enforcement), Rules 2002 to the above borrowers / guarantors/mortgagors to the advance.
- For downloading further details, process compliance & terms & conditions, please visit: <https://www.bankofindia.bank.in>.

Date : 25.01.2026
Place: Kolkata

Sd/- Authorized Officer
Bank of India