

**Supreme Court Of India
Acknowledgement**

e-Filing No.	: ED-SCIN01-110512-2026	e-Filed Date/Time	: 16-09-2026 10:52:39 AM
Efiled	: Misc. Document	Filed In	: W.P.(C) NO. 651/2026
Petitioner	: FEDERATION OF ALL INDIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION		
Respondent	: NATIONAL TESTING AGENCY AND ORS		
Advocate	: MADHULIKA UPADHYAY (4185)		
Payment Details	: Court Fee: Rs. 20 Printing Charges: Rs.0 Total: Rs. 20 (Online (Receipts no. : EPSDL1605095110320519))		

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**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
ORIGINAL WRIT JURISDICTION**

WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO. 651 OF 2026

IN THE MATTER OF:

FEDERATION OF ALL INDIA

MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

...Petitioner (s)

VERSUS

NATIONAL TESTING AGENCY & ORS. ...Respondent (s)

**ADDITIONAL AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE
UNION OF INDIA**

FOR INDEX PLEASE SEE INSIDE

**ADVOCATE FOR THE RESPONDENT:
MADHULIKA UPADHYAY**

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ADDITIONAL AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE
UNION OF INDIA IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE
ORDER DATED 19.08.2026

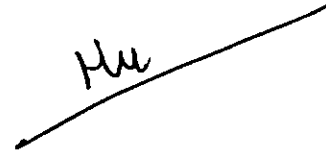
INDEX

S. No.	Particulars	Page No.
1	Additional Affidavit on behalf of the Union of India.	1-14
2	<u>ANNEXURE 'A-1'</u> True copies of Orders dated 16.05.2026, 14.08.2026, 20.08.2026, 26.08.2026, 27.08.2026 and 28.08.2026 issued by	15-28

	Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) for appointment of Officers/Officials in NTA.	
3	<u>ANNEXURE 'A-2'</u> True copies of Office Memoranda dated 07.07.2026 for allocation of Office Space at Government of India Press, Minto Road to NTA.	29-34
4	<u>ANNEXURE 'A-3'</u> True copy of Advertisement dated 25.07.2026 for engagement of General Manager - Information Security (Chief Information Security Officer) issued by NTA.	35-49

Filed By :

New Delhi
Filed on : 16.09.2026



MADHULIKA UPADHYAY
ADVOCATE FOR THE UNION OF INDIA
CODE NO. 4185

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**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
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WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO. 651 OF 2026

IN THE MATTER OF:

FEDERATION OF ALL INDIA

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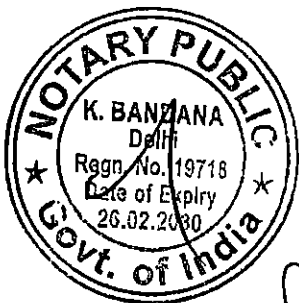
VERSUS

NATIONAL TESTING AGENCY & ORS. ...Respondent (s)

**ADDITIONAL AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE
UNION OF INDIA IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE
ORDER DATED 19.08.2026**

I, Deepti Gaur Mukerjee, D/o Late Col Surendra Kumar Gaur, aged 57 years, working as Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India, do hereby solemnly affirm and state on oath as under:

1. I say that I am authorised to represent the Union of India in the above matter and am duly authorised to file the present Additional Affidavit. I am well conversant with the facts and circumstances of the case as appearing from the official records



(Handwritten signature)

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and am competent to swear the present Additional Affidavit on behalf of the Union of India.

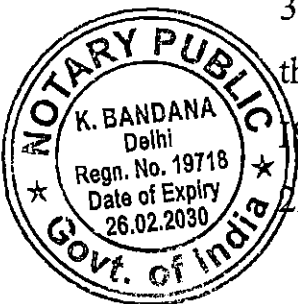
2. That it is respectfully submitted that the present Compliance Affidavit is being filed by the Union of India in compliance with the Order dated 19.08.2026 passed by this Hon'ble Court, whereby this Hon'ble Court was pleased to direct as follows:

".....We have conveyed to the learned Solicitor General that this Court is concerned about institutionalisation of the NTA, for which it shall monitor implementation of the suggestions by Dr. K. Radhakrishnan Committee, as considered and if necessary modified by Nandan Nilekani Committee.

3. An affidavit filed on behalf of the petitioners giving certain suggestions is already handed over to the learned Solicitor General. The suggestions given therein may be placed before the Committee for its consideration.

4. We direct the Secretary, Ministry of Education to file a detailed affidavit indicating the process in the implementation of Dr. K. Radhakrishnan Committee report. The affidavit with necessary details shall be filed within a period of three weeks from today. "

3. The **High-Level Committee of Experts (HLCE)** under the chairmanship of Dr. K Radhakrishnan, former chairman ISRO, was constituted by the Ministry of Education on 22.06.2024, which submitted its report on 21.10.2024. The

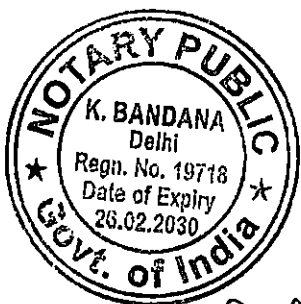


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report makes 101 recommendations covering Reformation of National Common Entrance Testing (Phase-1); Reformation (Phase-2) Long Term Perspectives; Reforms for India as a Global Leader in Digital Education Testing; and Monitoring & Periodic Appraisal by Ministry of Education, Government of India.

4. The **High-Powered Steering Committee (HPSC)**, constituted by the Ministry of Education under the Chairmanship of Dr. K. Radhakrishnan himself, and has been monitoring the implementation of the HLCE recommendations, through in-person meetings, presentations, and periodic reviews of the measures and steps undertaken from time to time. The Director General, NTA has been apprising the Committee of the progress made. During the course of these reviews and deliberations, the HPSC assessed the various steps taken towards implementation of the HLCE recommendations. Dr. K. Radhakrishnan has filed his own affidavit dated 28.05.2026 before this Hon'ble Court indicating the steps taken to implement the recommendations made by the HLCE.

5. The **High-Powered Task Force (HPTF)** has been constituted vide Notification No. 1/28/5/2026-Cab. dated 27.07.2026 under the Chairmanship of Shri Nandan Nilekani, former Chairman UIDAI, to study and recommend comprehensive reforms in the examinations conducted by the



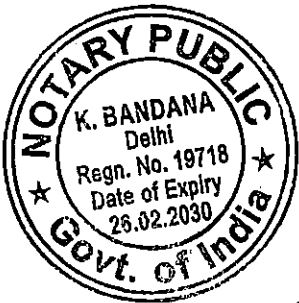
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NTA. The HPTF shall inter alia review and recommend reforms to make the examination system robust, secure, transparent, trustworthy and future-ready. The committee's recommendations will be anchored in the utilization and leveraging of the latest technologies. The HPTF has commenced its work and has held comprehensive discussions with various stakeholders, including DG NTA and the Department of Higher Education. The HPTF has also consulted with Dr K. Radhakrishnan, the chairman of the High-Powered Steering Committee (HPSC).

6. In compliance with paragraph 3 of the Order dated 19.08.2026, the suggestions contained in the Note dated 17.08.2026 filed on behalf of the Petitioner have been placed before the HPTF for its consideration in the course of its deliberations.

HUMAN RESOURCE AND ORGANISATION STRUCTURE:

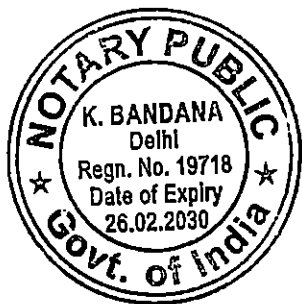
7. Dr. K Radhakrishnan, Chairman of the HPSC, vide his affidavit dated 28.05.2026, at para 7B had stated the position about strengthening of NTA and role of Test Indenting Agencies (TIA). Also, NTA in its affidavit, dated 28.05.2026, in para 17 had described the steps taken for restructuring and strengthening of the leadership of NTA (as per R.01 and R.02 of HLCE committee's recommendations). In continuation of



5

the same, it is stated that, as part of the implementation of the recommendations of the HLCE on human resources and organisational structure, the National Testing Agency is being strengthened to a functional-vertical structure. The functional-vertical structure enables domain-specific capability-building within each core area of competence, whereas in the earlier structure, the human resources of NTA were deployed into specific exam-wise verticals. The Terms of Reference (ToR) of the HPTF, under Shri Nandan Nilekani, also includes recommendations for reforms to strengthen and institutionalise the governance mechanisms of NTA, from organisational structure to human resource management and statutory framework. The recommendations of this Task Force regarding the organizational structure of NTA will be duly taken into account in the institutional restructuring of NTA.

8. At the Apex leadership level, an officer of the rank of Secretary to the Government of India has been posted as the Director General (DG) of the National Testing Agency, and the entire reforms and restructuring of NTA are being carried out under his leadership. Also the proposals for the upgradation of the post of DG, from a Joint Secretary level post to the level of additional secretary to the Government of India, as well as the creation of 5 senior positions at the level of Joint Secretary are under the active consideration of the Government. In continuation of para 15 D of this Ministry's affidavit dated



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03.08.2026, wherein it was stated that two officers of the rank of Joint Secretary to Government of India had been posted to NTA, it is also submitted that two Joint Directors were posted in NTA under Central Staffing Scheme (CSS) vide order dated 16.05.2026. Further to these appointments, a total of 14 officers comprising of 1 Joint Secretary; 4 Directors; 1 Joint Director (Deputy Secretary level); 2 Deputy Secretaries; 2 Under Secretaries; 2 Section Officers and 2 Assistant Section Officers have been posted to the National Testing Agency (NTA) in August 2026 itself. Thus, the senior leadership of the National Testing Agency accordingly now draws officers from the Indian Administrative Service, the Indian Police Service, Indian Revenue Service, Indian Statistical Service, Indian Ordnance Factory Service, Indian Supply Service, etc., bringing to bear specialist expertise across multiple domains, in line with the HLCE recommendation for a multi-disciplinary and cross-cadre leadership team. True copies of Orders dated 16.05.2026, 14.08.2026, 20.08.2026, 26.08.2026, 27.08.2026 and 28.08.2026 issued by Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) are enclosed herewith and marked as **Annexure A-1 (colly.)** (15-28)



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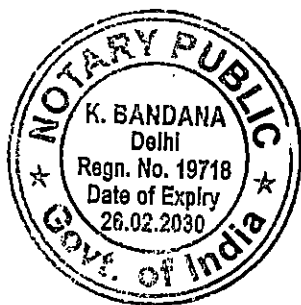
9. In terms of the professional cadre recommended by the HLCE, as placed on record in the Compliance Affidavit dated 03.08.2026 at Part IV(E), domain specialists are being recruited from the open market, across the verticals of Technology,

Human Resources, Assessment R&D, Test Centres, Candidate Experience, Information Security, Test Security and Vigilance. The selection process for these professionals is underway, in the NTA.

10. The full new institutional establishment of the National Testing Agency, covering the entirety of the Government cadre, and the professional cadre required for the strengthened mandate, is presently under active consideration and will be operationalised after due consideration of the final recommendations received from the HPTF.

PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE:

11. In implementation of the recommendation of the HLCE on physical infrastructure, dedicated office space for the National Testing Agency has been allotted in the Government of India Press Building on Minto Road, New Delhi, by the Directorate of Printing and by the Directorate of Estates, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India. The fifth floor and parts of fourth and sixth floor of the said building have been allotted to the National Testing Agency comprising of 55,524.53 square feet of office space. Confidential Operations have been shifted in the last one month to the newly allotted government office building of NTA. True copies of Office Memoranda dated 07.07.2026 are enclosed herewith and marked as **Annexures A-2** (colly.).



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(29-34)

12. The above allotments will ensure that the functional verticals and the apex leadership of the National Testing Agency will be in a secured government premise. This will also ensure that the confidential operations division can be structured with the level of security that has been mandated by the HLCE.

13. **Security Arrangements in the Confidential Area:**

- (a) The security arrangements for the Confidential Area, has been strengthened, consolidated and a comprehensive security protocol being prepared for the facility.
- (b) The CISF security cover has been provided at Minto Road pursuant to MHA UO No: III-11039/29/2026-G dated 10th August 2026. Subsequently, 39 CISF personnel have been deployed who are responsible for security, appropriate access-control and screening measures, including frisking using X-ray baggage screening machine and Door Frame Metal Detectors (DFMDs). The CISF has been deployed at suitable locations at all the entry and exit points for monitoring and regulation of access into the confidential area.



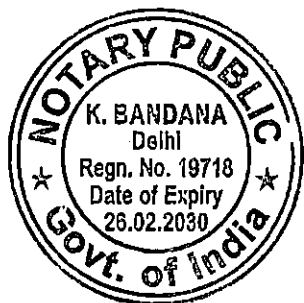
9.

INFORMATION SECURITY:

14. On Information Security, the National Testing Agency, as placed on record in the Ministry's Compliance Affidavit at Part IV(E), has designated a dedicated Chief Information Security Officer (CISO). The position of General Manager, Information Security (CISO) has been advertised and the selection process is at an advanced stage. Independent third-party cyber-security audits by CERT-In and C-DAC empanelled agencies continue to be undertaken, in continuation of the arrangement placed on record at Part IV(C) of the Ministry' Compliance Affidavit. True copy of Advertisement dated 25.07.2026 issued by NTA is enclosed herewith and marked as **Annexure A-3.** (35-49)

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:

15. Standard Operating Procedures, as recommended by the HLCE, have been defined for the key operational processes of the National Testing Agency and are being applied across the examination cycle. The Standard Operating Procedures cover, inter alia, question-paper setting, translation, printing, packing, tracking, movement, examination-day protocols, opening of trunks, examination centre security, and the return movement & computation of result, in the sequence and to the effect placed on record at Part II of the Compliance Affidavit dated 03.08.2026. The complete, granular Standard Operating

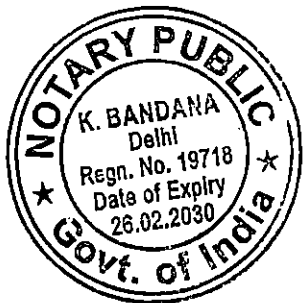


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Procedures are, for reasons of operational security, not being placed on the public record.

16. The Ministry has already, in its affidavit dated 03.08.2026, placed on record before this Hon'ble Court the strict measures undertaken by NTA in compliance with the recommendations of the High Level Committee of Experts to ensure the integrity of the examination, especially regarding the setting of question papers, translation of question papers, printing, packing, tracking them through QR (Quick Response) codes and Aadhaar authentication, movement of Question Papers to the custodian banks, security protocols followed on the examination day, and for the opening of trunks and conduct of the examination, as well as the security measures at the examination centres, including the return movement of the OMR answer sheets and the computation of results. The efforts of the NTA, in coordination with the Department of Higher Education, to ensure whole-of-government coordination, training and preparedness of personnel so as to ensure candidate-friendly arrangements, effective grievance redressal, and to counter misinformation were also placed on record.

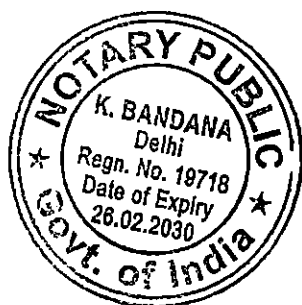


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17. The National Testing Agency, in its affidavit dated 28.05.2026, described therein the measures that have been put into place to ensure proper coordination with State and District authorities through the SLCCs and the DLCCs, along with

intensive coordination with the Chief Secretaries, DGPs of State Governments and UTs, and District Magistrates/ Superintendents of Police across the country, as well as the training and coordination procedures established for the storage, transportation, and administration of question papers. The Aadhaar-based biometric authentication, face authentication, multi-layer frisking mechanism, installation of mobile jammers, CCTV monitoring, deployment of AI tools, and the five-tier oversight structure for monitoring the examination structure have been described in detail therein and, for the sake of brevity, are not being repeated. The grievance redressal mechanism, test centre mix and allocation policies and stakeholder engagement have also been placed on record vide the same affidavit.

18. Dr. K. Radhakrishnan, in his affidavit dated 28.05.2026, placed on record his observations as the Chairman of the High-Powered Steering Committee constituted to oversee the implementation of the recommendations of the HLCE. In addition to the above, the affidavit also described the process of shifting examination centres to Government centres, as well as the deployment of Government school functionaries as City Coordinators and Invigilators, the deepening of the involvement of the test-indenting agencies, and the SOPs to ensure examination preparedness of all examination functionaries. Dr. Radhakrishnan also described the efforts



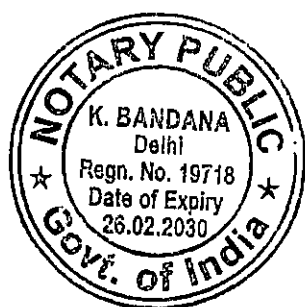
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undertaken for improving grievance reporting and redressal, helpdesk services and the data analytics undertaken to identify suspicious patterns, aberrations, and indicators of malpractice through analysis of candidate responses.

19. In terms of the mandate of HPTF, the following categories of matters are presently under its consideration:

(a) The possible migration of NEET (UG) from the pen-and-paper mode to Computer-Based Testing, including the design of the transition, the sequencing, the infrastructure prerequisites, and the equity implications for rural, women and low-connectivity-district candidates. This is the matter placed on record at Part VI of the Compliance Affidavit dated 03.08.2026, and awaits the recommendations of the HPTF, in structured consultation and concurrence of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the National Medical Commission;



(b) A national examination-grade Computer-Based-Testing infrastructure strategy, to close the geographic gap in test-centre availability, to standardise centre-level examination-grade specifications and to permit the migration to Computer-Based Testing from the pen-and-paper-

12

mode examinations. The strategy is under active formulation on the basis of a multi-model sourcing architecture.

- (c) The further strengthening of the institutional establishment of the National Testing Agency, including any further structural, cadre or governance modifications that the HPTF may recommend, over and above what has been placed on record at Parts IV and V of the Compliance Affidavit dated 03.08.2026; and

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Regn. No. 19718
Date of Expiry
26.02.2030

- (d) Such other matters as may fall within the terms of reference of the HPTF at clauses (a) to (j) of the Notification dated 27.07.2026, including student well-being, an inclusive examination framework and a time-bound implementation roadmap.

20. The Union of India respectfully places on record its firm and continuing commitment to the integrity, credibility and continued strengthening of the national examinations conducted by the National Testing Agency and prays that this Hon'ble Court may be pleased to take the present Additional Affidavit on record.



Deepthi Gaur
DEPONENT

दीप्ति गौड़ मुकर्जी / DEEPTI GAUR MUKERJEE
सचिव / Secretary
भारत सरकार / Government of India
शिक्षा मंत्रालय / Ministry of Education
उच्चतर शिक्षा विभाग / Division of Higher Education
कर्मचारी भवन-2, नई दिल्ली / Employees Bldg-2, New Delhi

24

VERIFICATION

I, Deepti Gaur Mukerjee, the deponent, do hereby verify that whatever is stated hereinabove at Paragraph Nos. 1 to 20 is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief as per the records. No part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed therefrom. Verified at New Delhi on this 16th day of September, 2026.

Beary

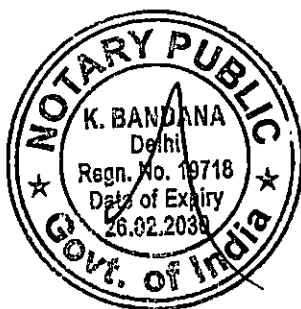
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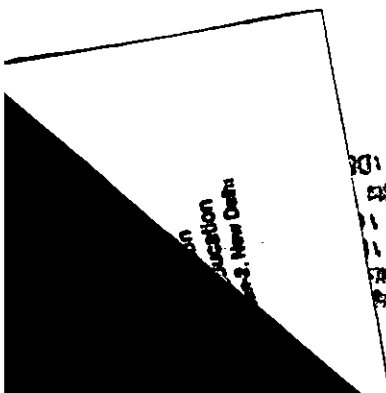
Deepti Gaur

DEPONENT

दीप्ति गौड़ मुकुर्जी / DEEPTI GAUR MUKERJEE
सचिव / Secretary
भारत सरकार / Government of India
शिक्षा मंत्रालय / Ministry of Education
उच्चतर शिक्षा विभाग / D/o Higher Education
कर्मचारी भवन-2, नई दिल्ली / Employees Bhavan-2, New Delhi



ATTESTED
NOTARY PUBLIC DELHI
Govt. of India



शिक्षा विभाग
नई दिल्ली
16 सितंबर 2026
दीप्ति गौड़ मुकुर्जी
सचिव

Immediate

No. 4/15/2026-EO (MM-I)
Government of India
Department of Personnel & Training
(Office of the Establishment Officer)

Kartavya Bhawan-3, New Delhi
Dated the 16th May, 2026

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Appointment of Joint Directors in the National Testing Agency (NTA) under the D/o Higher Education .

Based on the recommendations of the Civil Services Board, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the following proposal: -

- (i) Appointment of Shri Akash Jain, IRS (IT) (2013) as Joint Director in the National Testing Agency (NTA) under the D/o Higher Education on 'lateral shift' basis for a tenure upto 04.12.2029 (i.e. balance period of four years deputation tenure under Central Staffing Scheme at Deputy Secretary level) or until further orders, whichever is earlier; and
- (ii) Appointment of Shri Aditya Rajendra Bhojgadhia IA&AS (2013) as Joint Director in the National Testing Agency (NTA) under the D/o Higher Education under the Central Staffing Scheme on 'lateral shift' basis for a tenure upto 16.05.2028 (i.e. total tenure of 06 years away from cadre at DS level) or until further orders, whichever is earlier.


16.05.2026

(Ajit Kumar Ranjan)

Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India

Email: dir.mm@nic.in

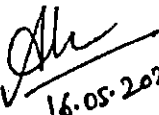
D/o Higher Education,
(Shri Vineet Joshi, Secretary),
New Delhi.

No. 4/15/2026-EO(MM-I)

Dated: 16th May, 2026

Copy forwarded for information & necessary action: -

1. Prime Minister's Office (Ms. Manmeet Kaur, Director), New Delhi
2. Cabinet Secretariat (Ms. Kavita Singh, Joint Secretary), New Delhi
3. D/o Personnel and Training (Ms. Rachna Shah, Secretary), New Delhi
4. D/o Revenue (Shri Arvind Shrivastava, Secretary), New Delhi
5. O/o CAG [Ms. Swati Pandey, Principal Director (Personnel)], New Delhi
5. PS to MOS (PP)/PSO to Secretary (P)
6. PPS to EO/Dir(SM)/US(CM)/SO(MM-I)/Guard file


16.05.2026

(Ajit Kumar Ranjan)

Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India

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A-22011/02/2024-E.I
Government of India
Ministry of Education
(Department of Higher Education)

US-3, 20046, Karavya Bhavan – 02.
New Delhi, Dated - 14 08 2026

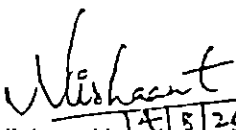
OFFICE ORDER No. 125 / 2026-E.I

In continuation to this Ministry's Office Order No. 124/2026-E.I and in pursuance of P&T's Order No. cs-21/10/2026-CS-I(P) dated 05.08.2026, the following officers of Central Secretariat Service (CSS), are hereby directed to report to the ADG & Joint Secretary, HR & Admin, National Testing Agency[NTA], First Floor, NSIC-MDBP Building, Okhla Industrial Estate, Delhi with immediate effect and until further orders.

Sl. No.	Name of the Officer (Shri)	Designation
1.	Deepak Kumar Misra	Under Secretary
2.	Dipak Kumar Mahta	Under Secretary
3.	Sonu Kumar	Section Officer

2. Further, Ms. Yachna Kumari, Assistant Section Officer is hereby taken on the strength of this Ministry w.e.f. the date of her reporting in this Ministry i.e. 14.08.2026(FN) She is also directed to report to the ADG & Joint Secretary, HR & Admin, National Testing Agency[NTA], First Floor, NSIC-MDBP Building, Okhla Industrial Estate, Delhi, with immediate effect and until further orders.

3 This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.


(Nishant Upadhyaya)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel. No 011- 24014905

Copy to-

1. Officers concerned, with directions to report to Ms. Ruchita Vij (IRS:2004), ADG & Joint Secretary, HR & Admin, National Testing Agency[NTA], First Floor, NSIC-MDBP Building, Okhla Industrial Estate, Delhi-110020 with immediate effect and send joining report to Administration of M/o Education through proper channel. Further, the officers concerned are requested to transfer their Biometric attendance-id on attendance portal and mark their attendance in NTA accordingly.
2. PPS to Secretary (HE)/PPS to Secretary (SE&L)
3. PPS to JS(TE)/PPS to DG(NTA)/ PPS to JS(A)
4. National Testing Agency(NTA) [Kind Attn- Ms. Ruchita Vij (IRS:2004), ADG & Joint Secretary, HR & Admin], First Floor, NSIC-MDBP Building, Okhla Industrial Estate, Delhi-110020

17

A-22011/02/2024-E.I
Government of India
Ministry of Education
(Department of Higher Education)

US-3, 20046, Kartavya Bhavan – 02,
New Delhi, Date - 20.08.2026

OFFICE ORDER No. 129 / 2026-E.I

In pursuance of DoP&T's Order no. 6/02/2026-CS-I(S) dated 14.08.2026 and Ministry of Science & Technology's Office Order No. A-32011/02/2024-Estt.I(E-48812) dated 19.08.2026, and subsequent to his joining this Ministry w.e.f. 20.08.2026(FN), **Sh. Shivam Kushwaha, Section Officer (DoB: 03-04-1992)** is taken on the strength of this Ministry w.e.f. 20.08.2026(FN).

2. Further, in pursuance of DoP&T's aforementioned Order No. 6/2/2026-CS-I(S) dated 14th August, 2026, **Sh. Shivam Kushwaha, Section Officer** is directed to report to the ADG & Joint Secretary, HR & Admin, National Testing Agency [NTA], First Floor, NSIC-MDBP Building, Okhla Industrial Estate, Delhi, with Immediate effect and until further orders.

3. This issues with the approval of competent authority.

Digitally signed by
Nishant Upadhyaya
Date: 20-08-2026
16:23:26

(Nishant Upadhyaya)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel. No. 011- 24014905

Copy to:

1. Officer concerned, with directions to report to Ms. Ruchita Vij (IRS:2004), ADG & Joint Secretary, HR & Admin, National Testing Agency [NTA], First Floor, NSIC-MDBP Building, Okhla Industrial Estate, Delhi-110020 with immediate effect and send joining report to Administration of M/o Education through Proper Channel. Further, the officer concerned is requested to transfer his Biometric attendance-id on attendance portal and mark his attendance accordingly .
2. PPS to Secretary (HE)/PPS to Secretary (SE&L).
3. PPS to JS(TE)/ PPS to JS(A).
4. National Testing Agency(NTA) [Kind Attn- Ms. Ruchita Vij (IRS:2004), ADG & Joint Secretary, HR & Admin], First Floor, NSIC-MDBP Building, Okhla Industrial Estate, Delhi-110020
5. All Bureau Heads in the Ministry of Education.
6. All Divisional Heads in the Ministry of Education.
7. All Branch Heads in the Ministry of Education.
8. Department of Personnel and Training [Kind attention: Sh. Mukesh Kumar, Under Secretary], GPOA – 3, Netaji Nagar, New Delhi-110023 w.r.t their Order No. cs-6/2/2026-CS-I(P) dated 14.08.2026
9. Department of Science & Technology [Kind attention: Sh. Niwesh Kumar, Under

18

Secretary], Technology Bhawan, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi with request to forward updated Service Records and LPC of Sh. Shivam Kushwaha, SO to this Ministry.

10. US(Vig.)/US(S&S)/US(CDN)/US(EE.I)/US(Cash,RTI&IFC)/ US(Coord.)/US(Parl.).
11. S&S/Vig./Cash/PU/CR/CSL/E.II/E.III/E.IV/CDN/IFC/RTI/IFD/CBIU/Caretaker.
12. CMIS Unit with the request to reflect the changes on the official website/e-office portal of the Ministry.
13. All dealing hands of E-I/E.IV Section.
14. Personal file/Office Order file

19

F. No. A.22014/1/2021-E.II(Pt)
भारत सरकार/Government of India
शिक्षा मंत्रालय/Ministry of Education
(उच्चतर शिक्षा विभाग/Department of Higher Education)

W.H. No. 2UG19, Kartavya Bhavan-2,
New Delhi, dated the 20th August, 2026

OFFICE ORDER NO. 6/2026-E.II

Sh. Saurabh Kumar, Assistant Section Officer (DR-2025) of Central Secretariat Services (CSS) cadre is hereby directed to report to the ADG & Joint Secretary, HR & Admin, National Testing Agency (NTA), First Floor, NSIC-MDBP Building, Okhla Industrial Estate, Delhi with immediate effect and until further orders.

2. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Digitally signed by
JAI SHANKAR PRASAD
Date: 20-08-2026
12:50:49

(Jai Shankar Prasad)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel. No. 011-24014903

Copy to:

1. Officer concerned, with directions to send joining report to Administration of M/o Education through proper channel. Further, the officer concerned is also directed to mark his biometric attendance in NTA.
2. PPS to Secretary (HE)/PPS to Secretary (SE&L).
3. PPS to JS(TE)/ PPS to JS(A).
4. National Testing Agency (NTA) [Kind Attn- Ms. Ruchita Vij (IRS:2004), ADG & Joint Secretary, HR & Admin, National Testing Agency (NTA), First Floor, NSIC-MDBP Building, Okhla Industrial Estate, Delhi-110020]
5. Department of Personnel and Training [Kind attention: Sh. L. Raghavendran, Under Secretary, CS-I(A)], GPOA – 3, Netaji Nagar, New Delhi-110023.
6. S&S/Vig./Cash/CSL
7. CMIS Unit with the request to upload on e-office
8. Personal file/Office Order file

Government of India

20

Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions

Department of Personnel & Training

503, Ground Floor, GPOA 3,

Netaji Nagar, New Delhi – 110023

Dated the 26th August, 2026

ORDER

With the approval of the Competent Authority, the following CSS Officers are hereby transferred and posted, as under, with immediate effect and till further orders:-

S. No.	Name of the officer (S/Shri/Ms.)	Designation	CSL No.	Present Cadre Unit	Posted to (Cadre Unit)
1	Sunil Kumar Pal	Deputy Secretary	7090	Defense	NTA (M/o Education)
2	Rajeev Barhee(*)	Under Secretary	8701	Education	NTA (M/o Education) (On promotion)

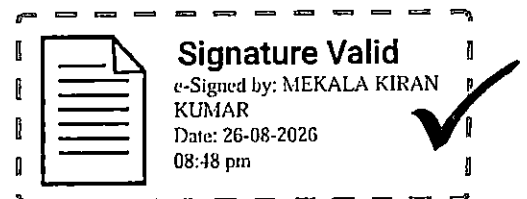
(*) In partial modification of this Department's order No.4/6/2026-CS.I(D) dated 25.08.2026, the officer is transferred to NTA on his promotion to Deputy Secretary on 01.09.2026.

2. The officer(s) shall stand relieved from the present cadre unit accordingly.

(M. Kiran Kumar)

Copy to (through e-HRMS 2.0):

1. Officers concerned;
2. Ministries/ Departments/Organizations concerned;
3. Assistant Director (OL), Hindi Section, DoP&T, Kartavya Bhawan-3, New Delhi - for Hindi version;
4. Internal Distribution - US(Trg)/SO(APAR), CS.I Division, DoP&T.



22

Most Immediate

No. 4/27/2026-EO (MM-I)
Government of India
Department of Personnel & Training
(Office of the Establishment Officer)

Kartavya Bhawan-3, New Delhi

Dated: 27th August, 2026

To

Chief Secretary,
Government of Andhra Pradesh,
Amaravati- 522238.

Subject: Appointment of Shri Prasanna Venkatesh V, IAS (AP: 2012) under Central Staffing Scheme – reg.

Sir,

I am directed to convey that the competent authority has approved the appointment of Shri Prasanna Venkatesh V, IAS (AP: 2012) as Director in the National Testing Agency (NTA) under the D/o Higher Education under the Central Staffing Scheme for a period of five years from the date of taking over charge of the post or until further orders, whichever event takes place earlier. He may kindly be relieved of his duties immediately with instructions to take up his new assignment in the National Testing Agency (NTA) under the D/o Higher Education, Delhi.

2. It may be noted that as per ACC's directions conveyed in DoP&T's Circular No. 3/4/2004-EO(MM-I) dated 17th August, 2005, an officer should join the post within three weeks from the date of issue of DoP&T's appointment order, failing which the process of debarment from the Central Staffing Scheme shall be initiated.


27/08/2026
(Ajit Kumar Ranjan)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
Email: dir.mm@nic.in

No. 4/27/2026-EO (MM-I)

Dated: 27th August, 2026

Copy forwarded for information & necessary action:-

1. D/o Higher Education (Ms. Deepti Gaur Mukerjee, Secretary) with the request to forward a copy of notification of appointment in respect of Shri Prasanna Venkatesh V, IAS (AP: 2012), as and when the same is issued.
2. PS to MOS (PP)/PSO to Secretary (P)
3. PPS to EO/Dir(SM)/US(CM)/SO(MM-I)/Guard file.
4. Shri Prasanna Venkatesh V, IAS (AP: 2012), through Chief Secretary, Government of Andhra Pradesh.


27/08/2026
(Ajit Kumar Ranjan)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

No. 4/26/2026-EO (MM-I)
Government of India
Department of Personnel & Training
(Office of the Establishment Officer)

Kartavya Bhawan-3, New Delhi

Dated: 27th August, 2026

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Shri Ravi Kumar Singh, IPS (UT:2012), who was recommended for Central deputation by the M/o Home Affairs, has been selected for appointment as Director in the National Testing Agency (NTA) under the D/o Higher Education under the Central Staffing Scheme for a period of five years from the date of taking over charge of the post or until further orders, whichever event takes place earlier. He may kindly be relieved of his duties immediately with instructions to take up his new assignment in the National Testing Agency (NTA) under the D/o Higher Education, Delhi.

2. It may be noted that as per ACC's directions conveyed in DoP&T's Circular No. 3/4/2004-EO(MM-I) dated 17th August, 2005, an officer should join the post within three weeks from the date of issue of DoP&T's appointment order, failing which the process of debarment from the Central Staffing Scheme shall be initiated.


(Ajit Kumar Ranjan)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

Email: dir.mm@nic.in

M/o Home Affairs,
(Shri Govind Mohan, Secretary),
Kartavya Bhawan-03, New Delhi.

No. 4/26/2026-EO (MM-I)

Dated: 27th August, 2026

Copy forwarded for information & necessary action:-

1. D/o Higher Education (Ms. Deepti Gaur Mukerjee, Secretary) with the request to forward a copy of notification of appointment in respect of Shri Ravi Kumar Singh, IPS (UT: 2012), as and when the same is issued.
2. PS to MOS (PP)/PSO to Secretary (P)
3. PPS to EO/Dir(SM)/US(CM)/SO(MM-I)/Guard file.
4. Shri Ravi Kumar Singh, IPS (UT: 2012) through Secretary, M/o Home Affairs, New Delhi


(Ajit Kumar Ranjan)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

24

Most Immediate

No. 4/28/2026-EO (MM-I)
Government of India
Department of Personnel & Training
(Office of the Establishment Officer)

Kartavya Bhawan-3, New Delhi

Dated: 27th August, 2026**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

Shri Amit Samdariya, IRS (C&IT:2016), who was recommended for Central deputation by the D/o Revenue, has been selected for appointment as Joint Director (Deputy Secretary level) in the National Testing Agency (NTA) under the D/o Higher Education under the Central Staffing Scheme for a period of four years from the date of taking over charge of the post or until further orders, whichever event takes place earlier. He may kindly be relieved of his duties immediately with instructions to take up his new assignment in the National Testing Agency (NTA) under the D/o Higher Education, Delhi.

2. It may be noted that as per ACC's directions conveyed in DoP&T's Circular No. 3/4/2004-EO(MM-I) dated 17th August, 2005, an officer should join the post within three weeks from the date of issue of DoP&T's appointment order, failing which the process of debarment from the Central Staffing Scheme shall be initiated.


27/08/2026
(Ajit Kumar Ranjan)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

Email: dir.mm@nic.in

D/o Revenue,
(Shri Arvind Shrivastava, Secretary),
Kartavya Bhawan- 01, New Delhi.

No. 4/28/2026-EO (MM-I)

Dated: 27th August, 2026

Copy forwarded for information & necessary action:-

1. D/o Higher Education (Ms. Deepti Gaur Mukerjee, Secretary) with the request to forward a copy of notification of appointment in respect of Shri Amit Samdariya, IRS (C&IT:2016), as and when the same is issued.
2. PS to MOS (PP)/PSO to Secretary (P)
3. PPS to EO/Dir(SM)/US(CM)/SO(MM-I)/Guard file.
4. Shri Amit Samdariya, IRS (C&IT: 2016) through Secretary, D/o Revenue, New Delhi


27/08/2026
(Ajit Kumar Ranjan)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

25

No. 33/16/2026-EO(SM-I)
Government of India
Secretariat of the
Appointments Committee of the Cabinet
Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions
Department of Personnel & Training

New Delhi, 28.08.2026

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the proposal for appointment of **Shri Anshuman Sharma, IRS (IT:2005)** as **Joint Secretary, National Testing Agency (NTA)** under the Department of Higher Education, from the date of assumption of the charge of the post, for a tenure of five years or until further orders, whichever is earlier, by temporarily upgrading a vacant post of DS/ Director to the level of Joint Secretary in NTA, for an initial period of two years.

 28/08/26
(Annies Kanmani Joy)
Director
Tel: 24010544

To

Department of Higher Education
(Ms. Deepti Gaur Mukerjee, Secretary)
New Delhi

Copy to:-

1. Prime Minister's Office (**Shri C. Sridhar**, Additional Secretary).
2. PS to Home Minister/ PS to MoS (PP).
3. Cabinet Secretariat (**Ms. Kavita Singh**, Joint Secretary).
4. Secretary, Department of Revenue.
5. Officer concerned.
6. PSO to Secretary (P)/PPS to EO/ PS to DS (MM).
7. Sr. Technical Director, NIC, DoPT.
8. Guard file.

 28/08/26
(Annies Kanmani Joy)
Director

Immediate

No. 4/25/2026-EO (MM-I)
Government of India
Department of Personnel & Training
(Office of the Establishment Officer)

26

Kartavya Bhawan-3, New Delhi
Dated the 28th August, 2026

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Appointment of Ms. Sathiya S, IRS (IT:2011) as Director in the National Testing Agency (NTA) under the D/o Higher Education.

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the recommendation of the Civil Services Board (CSB) for appointment of Ms. Sathiya S, IRS (IT:2011), Director, M/o Cooperation, as Director in the National Testing Agency (NTA) under the D/o Higher Education under the Central Staffing Scheme on 'lateral shift' basis for a tenure upto 24.08.2030 (i.e. balance period of her five year deputation tenure under Central Staffing Scheme at Director level) or until further orders, whichever is earlier.


28/08/2026
(Ajit Kumar Ranjan)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
Email: dir.mm@nic.in

M/o Cooperation,
(Shri Ashish Kumar Bhutani, Secretary)
Atal Akshay Urja Bhawan, New Delhi.

No. 4/25/2026-EO (MM-I)

Dated the 28th August, 2026

Copy forwarded for information & necessary action:-

1. Prime Minister's Office (Ms. Manmeet Kaur, Director), New Delhi
2. Cabinet Secretariat (Ms. Kavita Singh, Joint Secretary), New Delhi.
3. D/o Higher Education (Ms. Deepti Gaur Mukerjee, Secretary) **with the request to forward a copy of notification of appointment in respect of Ms. Sathiya S, IRS (IT:2011), as and when the same is issued.**
4. PS to MOS (PP)/PSO to Secretary (P)
5. PPS to EO/Dir(SM)/US(CM)/SO(MM-I)/Guard file
6. Ms. Sathiya S, IRS (IT:2011) through Secretary, M/o Cooperation.


28/08/2026
(Ajit Kumar Ranjan)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

F. No. 4/1/2025-CS.I (D) (Part File)

Government of India

Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions

Department of Personnel & Training

503, Ground Floor, GPOA 3,

Netaji Nagar, New Delhi – 110023

Dated the 28th August, 2026

ORDER

With the approval of the Competent Authority, Shri Pankaj Kumar, Director (CSL No. 6874) is hereby transferred from Department of Bio-Technology and posted to M/o Education, for further posting in NTA, with immediate effect and till further orders.

2.??D/o Bio-Technology is accordingly requested to relieve the officer immediately.

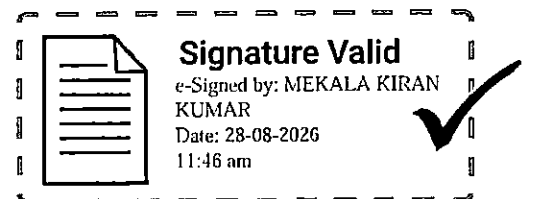
(M. Kiran Kumar)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Tele.: 011-26773442

Copy to (through e-HRMS 2.0):

1. Officer concerned;
2. Ministries/ Departments/Organizations concerned;
3. Assistant Director (OL), Hindi Section, DoP&T, Kartavya Bhawan - 03 , New Delhi - for Hindi version;
4. Internal Distribution - US(Trg)/SO(APAR), CS.I Division, DOPT.



By-E-mail/Speed Post

फाइल सं.03/01/2024-T&P

भारत सरकार/ Government of India

आवासन और शहरी कार्य मंत्रालय/ M/o Housing & Urban Affairs

मुद्रण निदेशालय/Directorate of Printing

Website <https://dop.nic.in>, E-Mail ID, dir-pr@nic.in

B-Wing, 4th Floor, GPI, Building,
Minto Road, New Delhi
Dated:07.07.2026.Office Memorandum/कार्यालय ज्ञापन

Subject: Allocation of office space at Government of India Press, Minto Road to National Testing Agency (NTA)-reg.

In supersession of this Directorate's O.M. of even no. dated 13.05.2026 (copy enclosed), the undersigned is directed to convey the approval of the competent authority to allocate entire 5th floor of Govt. of India Press Building, Minto Road, New Delhi to National Testing Agency (NTA) for office accommodation on the following terms and conditions:

- i. The allocation of office space shall be purely on a temporary basis on monthly rental terms as assessed by the CPWD.
 - ii. The rent shall be revised on the basis of revision of rent by the Directorate of Estates/re-assessment by CPWD from time to time.
 - iii. Utility charges, including electricity, water etc. shall be borne by the NTA on a pro-rata basis, as calculated by the Press.
 - iv. The NTA shall also bear, on a pro-rata basis, the cost of maintaining common areas, housekeeping facilities, and applicable taxes, as determined by the Press.
 - v. The NTA shall take possession of furniture & fixtures, civil, electrical and electronic equipment from CPWD and shall be responsible for their safekeeping and maintenance as well as the maintenance, repair and security of the area exclusively under their use.
 - vi. The NTA shall make necessary arrangements for networking, connectivity, and related infrastructure as per its requirements, and shall bear the entire expenditure incurred thereon.
 - vii. Any minor work inside the allotted area will be the responsibility of the NTA, without affecting the building structure.
 - viii. The NTA shall ensure restricted entry of private individuals into the premises. Where necessary, entry shall be regulated through gate passes so as to maintain and assure the security of the space under their allocation.
 - ix. Directorate of Printing/GPI, Minto Road reserves the right to revoke the Agreement at any time by giving thirty days notice without assigning any reason thereof and the tenant shall have to vacate the allocated premises on the basis of the notice.
2. NTA is, therefore, requested to comply with the aforesaid terms and conditions and take over the possession of the allocated space accordingly.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.


07.07.26
(Rajender Singh)
Deputy Director (T&P)

To

The Director,
National Testing Agency (NTA),
First Floor, NSIC-MDBP Building,
Okhla Industrial Estate, New Delhi-20

30

F. No. 01/6/2017-T&P
Government of India
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Directorate of Printing

Dated : 13 .05.2026

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Allocation of space to National Testing Agency (NTA) in Government of India Press Building, Minto Road, New Delhi – Regarding.

The undersigned is directed to convey the approval of the competent authority to allocate 5th floor in the Government of India Press Building, Minto Road, as demarcated in the enclosed plan, to National Testing Agency (NTA).

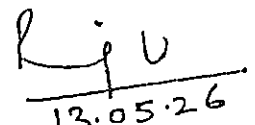
2. To ensure the smooth relocation to the new allotted space, CPWD will assist the NTA for the following:

- a. Inventories provided by the CPWD.
- b. Service functionalities provided by the CPWD.
- c. Familiarisation of different spaces and facilities available.
- d. Familiarisation with security and safety features.
- e. Familiarisation of movement plan and parking spaces.

3. NTA is requested to appoint a nodal officer(s) for the relocation and direct them to liaise with the CPWD for smooth shifting of the offices.

4. Further, the electricity charges, water charges and other utility charges are to be paid by NTA on pro-rata basis and other T&C, if any, will be communicated to NTA in due course.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.


13.05.26

Rajender Singh

Deputy Director(T&P)

To:

1. The Director, National Testing Agency (NTA).

Copy To:

31

1. The Joint Secretary, PMO, South Block, New Delhi
2. The Sr. PPS to the Secretary, M/o Housing and Urban Affairs
3. The Sr. PPS to the Addl. Secretary (CV), M/o Housing and Urban Affairs
4. The PPS to the Joint Secretary (CV), M/o Housing and Urban Affairs
5. The PPS to the Joint Secretary (L&E), M/o Housing and Urban Affairs
6. The Sr. PPS to the DG, CPWD
7. The Staff Officer to the Cabinet Secretary, Rashtrapati Bhawan
8. The DIG, CISF (for information and necessary action please)
9. The Director (CV), M/o Housing and Urban Affairs (for information please)
10. Executive Engineer (Civil), CPWD

32

By-E-mail/Speed Post

फ़ाइल सं.03/01/2024-T&P
भारत सरकार/ Government of India
मुद्रण निदेशालय/Directorate of Printing
Website <https://dop.nic.in>, E-Mail ID, dir-pr@nic.in

B-Wing, 4th Floor, GIP, Building,
Minto Road, New Delhi
Dated: 03 .08.2026.

Office Memorandum/कार्यालय ज्ञापन

Subject: Allocation of office space at Government of India Press, Minto Road to National Testing Agency (NTA)-reg.

In continuation to this Directorate's O.M. of even no. dated 07.07.2026 (copy enclosed) on the above subject, the undersigned is directed to convey the approval of the competent authority to allocate C-Wing, 4th Floor of Govt. of India Press Building, Minto Road, New Delhi to National Testing Agency (NTA) for office accommodation on the same terms and conditions as mentioned in the above said O.M. dated 07.07.2026.

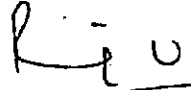
2. NTA is, therefore, requested to comply with the terms and conditions and take over the possession of the allocated space accordingly.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Encl: As above

To

The Director General
National Testing Agency (NTA),
First Floor, NSIC-MDBP Building,
Okhla Industrial Estate, New Delhi-20


03.08.26
(Rajender Singh)
Deputy Director (T&P)

33

No. D-11011/78/2019 (E- 9119420)
Government of India
Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs
Directorate of Estates
(Office and Market)

Room No. 15, Block-2, Jodhpur officers Hostel
New Delhi, Dated 24.08.2026

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: - Additional allotment of office space to National Testing Agency (NTA) in Press Building, Minto Road, New Delhi-reg.

The undersigned is directed to refer to the subject cited above and to state that the Competent Authority has decided to allot additional office i.e. 6th floor (Part) 'A' wing in the press building on Minto road as demarcated in the enclosed plan on the same terms and conditions as mentioned earlier.

2. Therefore, NTA is requested to comply with the terms and conditions and take over the possession of the allocated space accordingly.

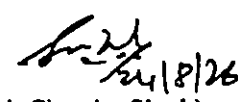

(Lokesh Chandra Singh)
Deputy Director of Estates
Tel No.23072499

To

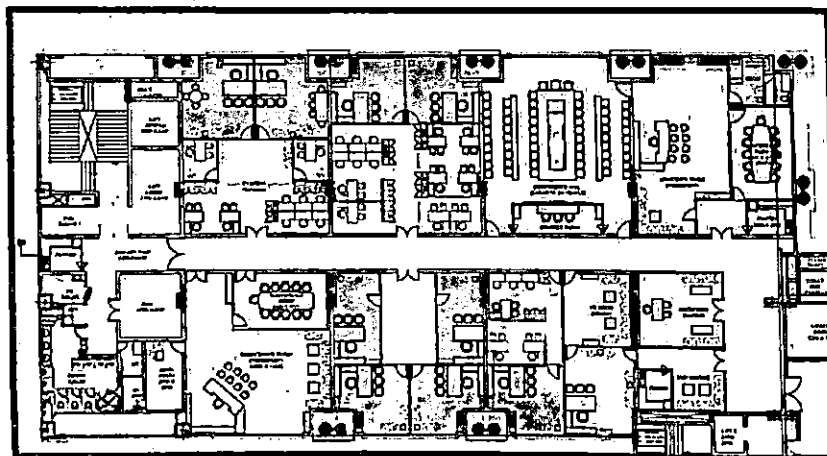
The Director General, National Testing Agency (NTA), 1st Floor, NSIC-MDBP Building, Okhla Industrial Estate, New Delhi-20.

Copy to:-

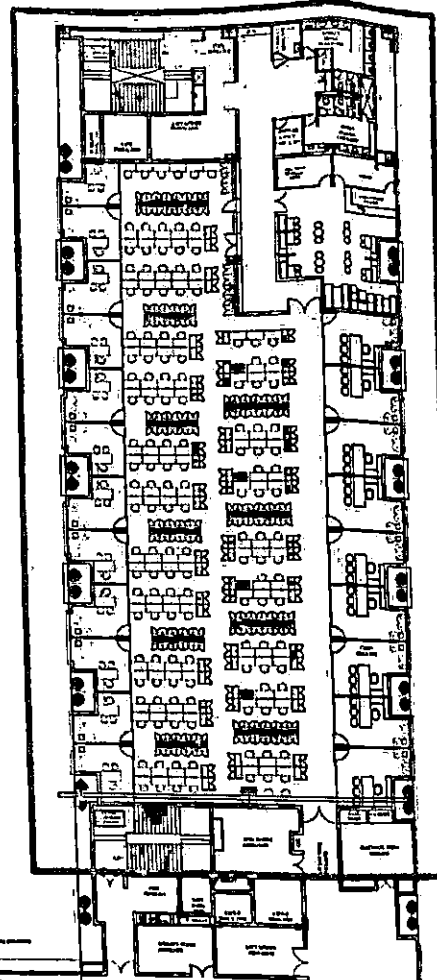
1. The Joint Secretary, PMO, Sewa Teerth, New Delhi.
2. Chief Architect (PRND), CPWD, Sankalp Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. Sr. PPS to the Secretary, D/o Capital Development, MoHUA, Sankalp Bhawan, New Delhi.
4. Sr. PPS to Joint Secretary (CV), D/o Capital Development, MoHUA, Sankalp Bhawan, New Delhi.
5. Sr. PPS to Joint Secretary (L&E), D/o Capital Development, MoHUA, Sankalp Bhawan, New Delhi.
6. Sr. PPS to the DG, CPWD, Vidyut Bhawan, New Delhi.
7. The DE-I/DE-II, Directorate of Estates, Jodhpur Officers Hostel, New Delhi.
8. The DIG, CISF (for information and necessary action please).
9. The Deputy Director (T&P), Directorate of Printing, GIP Building, Minto Road, New Delhi.


(Lokesh Chandra Singh)
Deputy Director of Estates

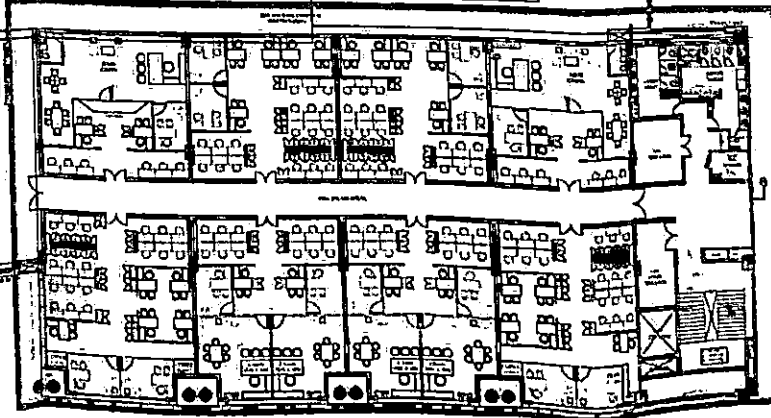
34



WING - A



WING - C



WING - B

SIXTH FLOOR PLAN NATIONAL TESTING AGENCY (NTA)

National Testing Agency
(NTA)
L & DO

THIS BUILDING ON MONTO
ROAD, NEW DELHI
LOCATION OF SPACES FOR NATIONAL TESTING
AGENCY SHALL AT THE FLOOR OF THIS
BUILDING WING B AND

De

FOR THE ARCHITECT
ONLY ARCHITECT



राष्ट्रीय परीक्षा एजेंसी
National Testing Agency

Excellance in Assessment



आज़ादी का
अमृत महोत्सव

(उच्चतर शिक्षा विभाग, शिक्षामंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के तहत एक स्वायत्त संगठन)

(An Autonomous Organization under the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India)

No.: A-A8/17/2026-Admin (15066)(2)

Date: 25/07/2026

VACANCY NOTIFICATION

National Testing Agency invites applications for one (1) post of **General Manager – Information Security (Chief Information Security Officer)** from interested/eligible/suitable candidates on contract basis initially for a period of three (3) years, extendable based on performance and organizational requirement

For Eligibility Criteria / Qualification / Experience, Process of Application and Selection, etc., please see the detailed advertisement attached with this Vacany Notification.

Eligible candidates may submit their applications in the format provided at Annexure-I alongwith all required document as mentioned in the detailed advertisement which should reached by email to: dir-admin@nta.gov.in, within 30 days from the date of publication of this advertisement.

9

25-7-2026

V V Patil, IOFS

Director (Administration)



पहलीमंजिल, एनएसआईसी-एमडीबीपीबिल्डिंग, ओखलाइंडस्ट्रियलएस्टेट, नईदिल्ली-110020

First Floor, NSIC-MDBP Building, Okhla Industrial Estate, New Delhi -110020

फ़ोन/Telephone: 011-69095-250/वेबसाइट/Website: nta.ac.in ई-मेल/e-mail: vv.patil@nta.ac.in





राष्ट्रीय परीक्षा एजेंसी
National Testing Agency

Excellence in Assessment



आज़ादी का
अमृत महोत्सव

(उच्चतर शिक्षा विभाग, शिक्षामंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के तहत एक स्वायत्त संगठन)

(An Autonomous Organization under the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India)

Advertisement for Engagement of General Manager - Information Security (Chief Information Security Officer) on Contract Basis

1. About the National Testing Agency

The National Testing Agency (NTA) has been established as a premier, specialist, autonomous and self-sustained testing organisation under the Ministry of Education, Government of India, to conduct entrance examinations for admission and fellowship in higher educational institutions. NTA conducts some of the country's largest and most high-stakes examinations - including JEE (Main), NEET (UG), UGC-NET, CUET (UG & PG), CMAT, GPAT and several others - collectively serving crores of candidates every year, across 500-plus cities in India and at select international centres.

NTA's digital ecosystem - covering candidate portals, application and registration platforms, fee payment, admit cards, computer-based testing systems, item banks, result-processing engines, and integrations with national digital public infrastructure - holds the personal data of crores of candidates and is the foundation of every examination outcome. The cyber-security of these systems, and of the underlying infrastructure, is therefore non-negotiable. NTA is undertaking a comprehensive strengthening of its information-security capability in line with applicable laws, including the Digital Personal Data Protection Act 2023, the Information Technology Act 2000, CERT-In directions and MeitY guidelines. To lead this critical function, NTA invites applications for engagement of a General Manager - Information Security (designated Chief Information Security Officer) on a contractual basis from candidates with the requisite qualifications and experience.

2. Position Details

Name of Post	General Manager - Information Security (Chief Information Security Officer / CISO)
Number of Positions	01 (One)
Nature of Engagement	Contract, initially for a period of three (3) years, extendable based on performance and organisational requirement.
Age Limit	Preferably below 55 years as on the last date of application. Relaxation may be considered for exceptional candidates with strong cyber-security leadership credentials.
Remuneration	Consolidated monthly remuneration, commensurate with qualifications, experience and industry benchmarks, to be decided by the competent authority. The remuneration package will be competitive and negotiable for exceptional candidates.



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Job Location	National Testing Agency, Head Office, New Delhi. The position may require travel to data-centre sites, partner institutions and stakeholder offices, especially during examination cycles and incident response.
Reporting To	Director General, National Testing Agency.

3. Role Overview

The General Manager - Information Security, designated as NTA's Chief Information Security Officer (CISO), will head the cyber-security function of the Agency and be responsible for the security posture of all NTA systems, applications, networks, data and digital workflows. The role spans the full information-security stack - threat modelling, security architecture, vulnerability management, security operations, identity and access management, application security, encryption, cloud security, data-protection compliance, third-party risk management, incident response, and security culture - across the entire technology footprint of NTA.

The role requires a seasoned cyber-security leader with deep technical command, strong governance instincts and the ability to operate at the intersection of security, technology and public-trust. The CISO will report to the Director General, NTA, and will work closely with NTA's technology, test-security, vigilance, candidate experience, and finance & legal functions. The incumbent will be the Agency's senior-most interface with CERT-In, NCIIPC, MeitY and other Government cyber-security bodies, and with empanelled security partners and auditors. Given the centrality of the digital examination ecosystem to NTA's mandate and public credibility, the CISO is one of the most institutionally critical positions in NTA.

4. Qualifications and Experience

Essential Qualifications	- B.E. / B.Tech. / M.E. / M.Tech. / M.Sc. in Computer Science, Information Technology, Electronics, Cyber Security, or an allied discipline from a recognised university or institution of repute. A Master's degree or higher in Cyber Security or Information Security will be an added advantage. - Consistently good academic record. - Minimum 12 years of post-qualification experience in information security, cyber security, security operations, or allied functions. - Of these, at least 5 years must be at a senior leadership level (e.g., Chief Information Security Officer, Head of Information Security, Senior Director - Cyber Security, Vice President - Information Security) in a large enterprise. - At least one professional certification in information security from among: CISSP, CISM, CISA, CRISC, CGEIT, CCISO, OSCP, GIAC (any track), or equivalent from a recognised international body.
Desirable Experience	Prior experience as CISO or Head of Information Security in a large transaction-intensive organisation - banking, financial services,



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75
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	telecom, e-commerce, e-governance, or major public-sector technology platform. • Demonstrated experience of having successfully led the response to at least one major cyber-incident from detection through containment, eradication, recovery and post-incident review. • Experience of running an in-house or outsourced 24x7 Security Operations Centre (SOC) at scale. • Prior engagement with CERT-In, NCIIPC, MeitY, STQC or similar Government cyber-security bodies on advisories, audits or incident reporting. • Familiarity with the Digital Personal Data Protection Act 2023 and its operational implementation, including the role of the Data Protection Officer. • Experience of cloud security architecture across AWS, Azure or GCP - including identity, network, data, workload and DevSecOps controls. • Familiarity with ISO 27001, NIST CSF, PCI DSS, SOC 2, and other recognised cyber-security frameworks.
Skills and Competencies	• Strong technical command across the information-security stack - network security, application security, endpoint security, cloud security, identity & access, data protection, cryptography and DevSecOps. • Excellent governance instincts - ability to define policy, set standards, drive compliance and run committees and governance forums. • Proven incident-response and crisis-management capability under pressure, with clarity on technical containment, communication and stakeholder coordination. • Outstanding stakeholder-management skills - across senior Government functionaries, regulators, partners, vendors, auditors and senior leadership. • Strong analytical orientation, with the ability to use threat intelligence, security telemetry and risk metrics to drive prioritisation and decisions. • High personal integrity, ability to handle highly confidential and sensitive information with absolute discretion, and a strong public-service orientation.



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5. Key Roles and Responsibilities

The CISO will be responsible for the following, which is indicative and not exhaustive:

5.1 Information-Security Strategy, Policy and Governance

- Define and maintain NTA's information-security strategy, policies, standards, procedures and architecture across the entire technology stack.
- Establish and chair a structured Information Security Governance forum with regular reporting to the Director General and Governing Body, covering risk posture, control effectiveness, audit findings and incident landscape.
- Build and maintain NTA's Information Security Manual - a master document codifying all policies, standards, SOPs and incident-response playbooks.
- Define security risk-appetite statements, security KPIs and a risk register, and maintain these through periodic review cycles.
- Run a structured security exception-management process, with documented sign-offs and time-bound remediation plans for accepted exceptions.

5.2 Security Architecture and Engineering

- Define security architecture standards across the entire technology stack - applications, APIs, databases, networks, cloud, endpoints, mobile and identity.
- Drive the adoption of zero-trust principles, secure-by-design and privacy-by-design across all NTA platforms, in coordination with NTA's technology function.
- Establish secure development standards (SAST, DAST, dependency-scanning, secure code review) and integrate them into the software-delivery pipeline.
- Define and enforce data-classification, data-handling, data-retention, data-encryption (at rest and in transit) and key-management standards.
- Establish standards for cryptography, certificate management, secrets management and Hardware Security Modules (HSMs) for high-sensitivity workloads such as question-paper systems and result systems.

5.3 Security Operations Centre and Threat Management

- Operate a 24x7 Security Operations Centre (SOC) capability - in-house or through empanelled Managed Security Service Providers (MSSPs) - with continuous monitoring, threat hunting, and incident response.
- Build and maintain a Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) platform with comprehensive log coverage, use-case engineering and analytics.
- Establish threat-intelligence feeds, threat-hunting processes and proactive detection capabilities for advanced persistent threats and emerging attack patterns.



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- Run a continuous vulnerability management programme - asset discovery, vulnerability scanning, prioritisation, remediation tracking, and metrics on time-to-remediate.
- Maintain a structured cycle of penetration tests, red-team exercises, secure code reviews, third-party security audits and bug-bounty engagements (where applicable).

5.4 Identity, Access and Privilege Management

- Establish and enforce identity and access management (IAM) standards across all NTA systems, including for employees, contractors, vendors and candidates.
- Implement privileged access management (PAM) for all administrative and high-impact accounts, with session recording, just-in-time access and approval workflows.
- Drive multi-factor authentication, single sign-on, conditional access and modern authentication mechanisms across the technology footprint.
- Run periodic user-access reviews, joiner-mover-leaver controls, and orphan-account clean-ups across all critical systems including question paper systems and result systems.
- Define and enforce role-based access control with least-privilege, particularly for teams handling confidential examination material.

5.5 Regulatory Compliance and Data Protection

- Drive compliance with CERT-In directions, MeitY guidelines, the Digital Personal Data Protection Act 2023, the Information Technology Act 2000, ISO 27001 and other applicable standards.
- Serve as, or work closely with, NTA's Data Protection Officer (DPO) on the operational implementation of the Digital Personal Data Protection Act 2023 - covering data-fiduciary obligations, consent management, data-subject rights, breach notification and cross-border transfer controls.
- Maintain NTA's records of processing activities, privacy impact assessments and data-flow maps; institutionalise privacy-by-design across the candidate-data lifecycle.
- Coordinate with NTA's finance and legal function on cyber-security and data-protection compliance for vendor contracts, including data-processing agreements, breach-notification clauses and audit rights.
- Submit prescribed compliance reports, breach notifications and incident reports to CERT-In, the Data Protection Board (when constituted) and other regulatory authorities, as required.

5.6 Cyber-Incident Response and Crisis Management

- Lead NTA's cyber-incident response across the full lifecycle - detection, triage, containment, eradication, recovery and post-incident review.
- Maintain a comprehensive Cyber Incident Response Plan with named roles, decision trees, communication protocols and regulatory notification timelines.



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- Run table-top exercises and crisis-simulation drills periodically, covering scenarios such as ransomware, data breach, DDoS, application compromise, supply-chain attack and insider threat.
- Coordinate cyber-incident response with NTA's vigilance, candidate experience and legal functions to ensure coherent technical, legal and communication response.
- Coordinate with CERT-In, NCIIPC and other Government cybersecurity bodies on cyber-incidents impacting NTA, including timely notifications and post-incident reports.
- Conduct structured post-incident reviews and translate findings into concrete control improvements, SOP updates and training inputs.

5.7 Security of Examination-Critical Systems

- Define and oversee enhanced security controls for examination-critical systems - covering question paper systems, candidate registration, fee payment, admit card systems, computer-based testing platforms, OMR processing, normalisation engines and result systems.
- Establish strict access controls, encryption standards, immutable logging and tamper-evident storage for all examination-critical workloads.
- Run pre-examination security readiness reviews of all examination-supporting systems before each examination cycle, in coordination with NTA's technology function.
- Coordinate with NTA's test-security function on the technical security of examination-day workflows - including biometric authentication, face-matching, CCTV systems and live monitoring infrastructure.
- Maintain an examination-specific cyber-incident response readiness on examination days, with elevated SOC monitoring and rapid-response capability.

5.8 Third-Party Risk and Supply-Chain Security

- Establish a structured Third-Party Risk Management (TPRM) programme covering all technology vendors, MSSPs, BPO partners, hosting providers and SaaS partners that have access to NTA systems or data.
- Define security requirements for vendor contracts and run pre-onboarding security assessments for all material vendors, in coordination with NTA's finance and legal function.
- Run continuous monitoring of high-risk vendors through audits, security questionnaires, attestations and vulnerability disclosures.
- Define standards for software supply-chain security including software bill of materials (SBOM), open-source component governance and code-signing.



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42



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- Maintain incident-coordination protocols with major vendors so that vendor-side incidents impacting NTA are escalated and managed in line with NTA's response framework.

5.9 Security Awareness, Culture and Capability Building

- Build a security-aware culture across NTA - through structured training, simulations, policy enforcement and recognition.
- Run mandatory security-awareness training for all NTA staff, contractors and field workforce (Centre Superintendents, City Coordinators, Observers, Invigilators), in coordination with NTA's HR and capacity-building function.
- Run periodic phishing simulations and similar awareness exercises, and use the data to drive targeted improvements.
- Build and lead a high-performing in-house Information Security team covering governance, security operations, application security, identity, cloud security and DevSecOps.
- Manage relationships with empanelled security agencies, MSSPs, audit firms and technology vendors with strong SLA, quality and confidentiality discipline.
- Plan and manage the function's budget and contracts in compliance with GFR and NTA financial norms; define and track security KPIs and dashboards, and report progress to the Director General and Governing Body.

6. Key Result Areas (KRAs)

- Demonstrably strong cyber-security posture across NTA's technology stack, with measurable improvements in vulnerability remediation timelines, control coverage and audit ratings.
- Zero major cyber-incidents impacting confidentiality, integrity or availability of examination-critical systems; for any incidents, rapid detection, containment and recovery within published SLAs.
- Full compliance with CERT-In directions, the Digital Personal Data Protection Act 2023, MeitY guidelines and other applicable standards, with timely regulatory submissions.
- An operational 24x7 SOC capability with comprehensive log coverage, threat-hunting practice and metrics-driven continuous improvement.
- A robust third-party risk management programme covering all material vendors and partners, with documented assessments and continuous monitoring.
- A measurable security-aware culture across NTA, with training coverage, phishing-, simulation results and reporting metrics on an upward trajectory.
- A capable, motivated and professionally strong Information Security team within NTA.



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7. Selection Process

Shortlisting will be done on the basis of qualifications, experience and suitability of the candidate for the position. Shortlisted candidates will be invited for a personal interview (with the option of a presentation on cyber-security strategy and operations excellence for NTA) before a Selection Committee constituted by the competent authority. The Selection Committee may include senior cyber-security experts. NTA reserves the right to fix suitable criteria for shortlisting and to limit the number of candidates called for interview. Given the sensitive nature of the role, comprehensive background verification will be undertaken before any offer is made. The decision of the Selection Committee will be final and binding.

8. How to Apply

- Eligible candidates may submit their applications in the format provided at Annexure-I, along with a detailed CV, a brief (maximum 2-page) write-up on their vision for information security and cyber resilience at NTA, and self-attested copies of certificates in support of qualifications, experience and professional certifications.
- Applications may be submitted by e-mail to the address notified on the NTA website, with the subject line "Application for the Post of GM - Information Security (CISO), NTA".
- Applications must reach NTA within 30 days from the date of publication of this advertisement on the NTA website. Applications received after the last date or in any form other than prescribed shall not be entertained.
- Candidates already employed in Government / PSU / Autonomous Bodies must route their applications through proper channel or submit a No Objection Certificate (NOC) at the time of interview.
- Mere fulfilment of the minimum qualifications and experience does not entitle a candidate to be called for interview. NTA reserves the right not to fill this post or to cancel the recruitment process at any stage without assigning any reason.

9. General Conditions

- The engagement will be purely on contractual basis and will not confer any right for regular appointment or absorption in NTA.
- Given the sensitive nature of the role, the selected candidate will be required to sign a comprehensive non-disclosure agreement and submit to periodic background verification.
- Canvassing in any form will lead to disqualification.
- Incomplete applications, or applications not accompanied by the required supporting documents, are liable to be summarily rejected.
- In case of any dispute, the decision of the Director General, NTA shall be final.



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44

ANNEXURE - I APPLICATION FORM

Engagement of General Manager - Information Security (CISO), National Testing Agency

To,

The Director General
National Testing Agency
(Ministry of Education, Government of India)
New Delhi

**Subject: Application for the Post of General Manager -
Information Security (CISO), NTA.**

Reference: Advertisement dated _____

**Paste recent
passport-size
photograph
(self-attested)**

Sir/Madam,

With reference to the above-mentioned advertisement, I wish to apply for the post of General Manager - Information Security (CISO), National Testing Agency. My details are furnished below for kind consideration:

A. Personal Details

1. Full Name (in block letters)	
2. Father's / Husband's Name	
3. Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)	
4. Age (as on last date of application)	
5. Gender	
6. Nationality	
7. Category (Gen / OBC / SC / ST / EWS / PwBD)	
8. Aadhaar Number	
9. PAN Number	

45

10. Mobile Number	
11. Alternate Contact Number	
12. E-mail Address	
13. Present / Correspondence Address	
14. Permanent Address	

B. Educational Qualifications

(Starting from the highest qualification. Attach self-attested copies of certificates.)

S. No.	Qualification / Degree	University / Institution	Year of Passing	% / CGPA	Division / Class
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					

C. Employment History / Work Experience

(In chronological order, starting with the most recent. Attach additional sheet in the same format, if required.)

S. No.	Organisation / Employer	Designation	Period (From - To)	Last Pay Drawn / CTC	Brief Description of Role & Responsibilities
1					
2					
3					

4/6

S. No.	Organisation / Employer	Designation	Period (From - To)	Last Pay Drawn / CTC	Brief Description of Role & Responsibilities
4					
5					
6					

Total Post-Qualification Experience (Years / Months)	
Experience at CISO / Head of Information Security level (Years / Months)	
Experience in Information Security / Cyber Security (Years)	
Experience in running 24x7 SOC operations (Years, if any)	
Largest user / data / transaction base secured (scale)	
Experience in Government / PSU / Autonomous Body (if any)	

D. Professional Certifications and Training

(Include relevant certifications such as CISSP, CISM, CISA, CRISC, CGEIT, CCISO, OSCP, GIAC tracks, ISO 27001 Lead Auditor / Implementer, certifications in cloud security (AWS / Azure / GCP), AI / ML security, or allied areas.)

S. No.	Certification / Training	Issuing Body / Organisation	Date / Year	Validity / Expiry
1				
2				
3				

4.7

S. No.	Certification / Training	Issuing Body / Organisation	Date / Year	Validity / Expiry
4				
5				

E. Key Achievements / Major Information Security Initiatives Led

(Briefly describe up to five major information-security / cyber-security / incident-response / transformation initiatives led by you, indicating scale, role played and measurable outcomes. May attach separate sheet. Do NOT include any classified or sensitive details that would breach prior employer confidentiality.)

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

F. References

(Two professional references, preferably from senior positions, who can be contacted.)

Name and Designation	Organisation and Address	Contact Number and E-mail

48

G. Additional Information

1. Current Employer and Designation	
2. Current Gross Remuneration / CTC (per annum)	
3. Expected Remuneration (per annum)	
4. Notice Period / Earliest Date of Joining	
5. Whether any criminal case / departmental enquiry / vigilance proceeding is pending against you? (Yes / No - if yes, give details)	
6. Disclosure of any current or recent engagements with security vendors / MSSPs / audit firms that may bear on the role at NTA (Yes / No - if yes, give details)	
7. Languages Known (Read / Write / Speak)	

H. List of Enclosures

- Detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV / Resume).
- Vision Statement (maximum 2 pages) on information security and cyber resilience at NTA.
- Self-attested copies of certificates of educational qualifications.
- Self-attested copies of experience certificates / appointment letters.
- Copies of professional certifications (CISSP, CISM, CISA, etc.) with current validity.
- Copy of latest salary slip / Form 16 (for verification of CTC).
- Copy of a Government-issued photo identity (Aadhaar / PAN / Passport).
- No Objection Certificate (NOC), if employed in Government / PSU / Autonomous Body.
- Any other document in support of the candidature (please specify):

Declaration

I hereby solemnly declare that all the statements made and information furnished in this application are true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that in the event of any information being found false, incorrect or incomplete, or ineligibility being detected before or after the selection / appointment, my candidature / appointment is liable to be cancelled / terminated without any notice or compensation, and appropriate action may be initiated against me. I further declare that I have no objection to any verification of the particulars

49

furnished by me, including comprehensive background and security verification. I also undertake to disclose proactively any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest with security vendors, MSSPs, audit firms or other entities that may bear on my role at NTA.

Place: _____

Date: _____

(Signature of the Applicant)

Name: _____

ITEM NO.36

COURT NO.4

SECTION PIL-W

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Writ Petition(s)(Civil) No(s). 651/2026

FEDERATION OF ALL INDIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

NATIONAL TESTING AGENCY & ORS.

Respondent(s)

FOR ADMISSION

IA No. 157111/2026 - EX-PARTE AD-INTERIM RELIEF

WITH

W.P.(C) No. 668/2026 (X)
FOR ADMISSION

W.P.(C) No. 659/2026 (X)
FOR ADMISSION
IA No. 158602/2026 - STAY APPLICATION

W.P.(C) No. 675/2026 (PIL-W)
FOR ADMISSION

Date : 18-09-2026 These matters were called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PAMIDIGHANTAM SRI NARASIMHA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ALOK ARADHE

For Petitioner(s) : Ms. Neema, AOR
Mr. P. V. Yogeswaran, AOR

Ms. Charu Mathur, Adv.
Mr. Gaurav, Adv.
Ms. Ritu Reniwal, AOR
Mr. Yashpal, Adv.

Ms. Tanvi Dubey, AOR
Mr. Yash Dubey, Adv.
Mr. Mekala Ganesh Kumar Reddy, Adv.
Mr. Shashank Tiwari, Adv.

Respondent(s) : Mr. Tushar Mehta, Solicitor General
Ms. Aishwarya Bhati, ASG
Mr. Archana Pathak Dave, ASG
Mr. Pankhuri Srivastava, Adv.
Ms. Astha Singh, Adv.
Mr. Madhav Sinhal, Adv.

Ms. Prerna Dhal, Adv.
 Ms. Megha Pushkarna, Adv.
 Ms. Shreya Jain, Adv.
 Ms. Sunit Chaudhary, Adv.
 Miss Madhulika Upadhyay, AOR

Mr. Tushar Mehta, Solicitor General
 Ms. Pankhuri Shrivastava, Adv.
 Ms. Neelam Sharma, Adv.
 Mr. Rajeev Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Shreekant Neelappa Terdal, AOR

Mr. Laxmikant Matadan Shukla, AOR
 Mr. Rakesh Binjola, Adv.
 Ms. Vidisha Sharma, Adv.
 Ms. Mannu Singh, Adv.
 Mr. Sanjay Kumar Regar, Adv.
 Mr. Mayank Dubey, Adv.
 Mr. Sandeep Lamba, Adv.

Mr. Abhishek Chandra Mishra, AOR

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following
 O R D E R

1. I.A.No. 251021 of 2026 - application for intervention/impleadment is allowed.
2. Pursuant to our order dated 19.08.2026, the Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, has filed an affidavit. In compliance of Para 3 of our order, suggestions contained in the Note filed by the petitioner have been placed before the High Powered Committee for its consideration.
3. It is further stated in the affidavit that the *"NTA is transitioning from exam-specific units to functional vertical structure to build specialized, domain-specific capabilities across core operational areas."* It is also stated that *"NTA leadership has been upgraded with a Secretary level Officer as Director General, supported by Cross Cadre Officers from IAS, IPS, IRS,*

along with open-market recruitment of domain specialists in security, HR and R&D.” It is averred in the affidavit that “senior leadership of NTA accordingly now draws officers from IAS, IPS, IRS, Indian Statistical Service, Indian Ordnance Factory Service, Indian Supply Service etc. bringing to their specialist expertise across multiple domains. Confidential operations have also been relocated to a dedicated 55,524 sq. ft. government facility at Minto Road, New Delhi, protected by 39 CISF personnel, X-Ray screening, metal detectors and strict access control protocols.”

4. The affidavit also suggests various other steps that have been taken. We direct NTA to place the affidavit on its web-portal so that the progress made can be seen by other stakeholders.

5. We direct the Joint Secretary, DoPT, who is coordinating with the High Powered Task Force to file an affidavit indicating the progress made by the Committee. Let the requisite affidavit be filed within two weeks from today.

6. Any suggestions by the learned counsel/stakeholders can be sent to Ms. Madhulika Upadhyay, Advocate at the e-mail address, i.e. cas-unit76@gov.in

7. List on 09.10.2026.

(JAYANT KUMAR ARORA)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(NIDHI WASON)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR