

NISH

Admission to Diploma in Indian Sign Language Interpretation

[DISLI]

2026–

2027

PROSPECTUS

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SPEECH & HEARING

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NISH
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SPEECH & HEARING
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,

National Institute of Speech & Hearing
Admission to DISLI 2026-27

KERALA, INDIA

1. THE INSTITUTION

1.1. The National Institute of Speech & Hearing (NISH) is an academic institution under the Ministry of Social Justice, Government of Kerala. It was established as a society of the Government of Kerala, registered under the Travancore–Cochin Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies Registration Act, 1955. NISH has been set up with the primary aim of taking up educational and rehabilitation programs necessary for the integration of individuals with disabilities. NISH conducts courses both for professional preparation and for higher education of people with disabilities.

2. THE COURSE

2.1. This prospectus is for the Diploma in Indian Sign Language Interpretation-D.I.S.L.I. This is a diploma-level course recognized by the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), and its main aim is to prepare skilled and efficient manpower to work effectively in the field of deaf education and rehabilitation.

2.2. The curriculum consists of theory and practical classes in sign language usage, cultural perspectives of the different approaches to deaf education, and interpreting concepts and issues. The candidates admitted to the course will be trained to have professional communicative competence in sign language and the ability to interpret at a professional level in verbal languages and vice versa.

2.3. Advanced sign language skills, perspectives on sign language usage, rules of interpretation, the role and ethics of an interpreter, etc are taught in this course, and hence, the ability to understand and assimilate these principles is important to be successful in this course.

2.4. The graduates of the DISLI course may work as interpreters in schools, colleges, and institutes where the deaf population studies and works, as well as other places where interpreting services are required. This course will also help teachers of the deaf to effectively communicate with their students.

2.5. The total duration of the course will be two years (400 days consisting of 2400 hours), distributed over four semesters, to be completed in a maximum of three years from the date of admission to the programme. One academic year is divided into two semesters. Each semester has 100 working days, with 600 hours excluding admissions and final semester examinations. The total number of courses is 8: Four practical courses and four theory courses.

2.6. On successful completion of the course, the candidates will be issued a certificate by the examining body nominated by RCI. RCI is the appellate authority for approved courses in the field of rehabilitation in India.

3. NUMBER OF SEATS

The total number of seats for the course is 20.

4. RESERVATION OF SEATS

4.1. Reservation Policy for admission shall be applicable for SC/ST/OBC/PwD/EWS category as per the policy of the concerned State Government/Union Territory. However, preference in admission to RCI approved diploma and certificate level courses will be extended to parents and siblings of PwDs on the basis of percentage of disability; with minimum 50% disability being awarded 5 marks and 10 marks for 100% disability (Circular F.No.: 25-1/NBER(Policy)/RCI/2016 RCI-27016/34/2022-NBER) dated 22nd July 2026. (Applicable to first blood relation only)

4.2. If any merit category seat remains unfilled in the above categories, the same will go to the general merit.

5. WHO CAN APPLY?

5.1. As this is a two-year course, the responsibility of the person with DISLI is to develop professional communicative competence in sign language and English/Malayalam and develop the professional attitude and ethics required to be an interpreter.

5.2. Those who apply for the course at NISH should have passed Higher Secondary or its equivalent with a minimum of 50% marks. However, relaxation in the percentage of marks at 12th examinations for the reserved categories is to be strictly followed as per the policy of the State/Central government.

5.3. The candidate should have functional hands and hearing in the normal range.

5.4. The candidate should have verbal fluency in any regional language and/or English.

6. HOW TO APPLY?

6.1. Candidates SHOULD apply online through the RCI website <https://nber-rehabcouncil.gov.in>.

6.2. All applicants should have an email ID and a mobile phone number on which notifications and RCI OTP verification can be received. Paper notifications through postal mail will not be sent.

7. SCHEDULE OF ADMISSION

7.1. Interview Dates and Commencement of Classes:

S.No:	Description	Dates
1	First round interview	2nd September, 2026
2	Second round interview	10th September, 2026
3	Commencement of Classes	18th September, 2026

8. METHOD OF SELECTION

8.1. Admission to DISLI will be on a merit basis. Students satisfying the RCI-prescribed eligibility criteria will be admitted for the academic session 2026-2027. Admission will be denied if there is any falsification in certificates or the details in the application form do not match the supporting documents.

9. FEE STRUCTURE

9.1. Fees are payable at the time of admission in full for the first year. No installment is allowed.

9.2. The fee will not be refunded after admission closes.

9.3. The students will be able to receive the caution deposit only after two years, even if they discontinue the course in between.

9.4. Additionally, the student has to pay the examination fees and enrollment fee as specified by the examining body nominated by RCI.

9.5. No fee exemption for reservation candidates (SC/ST/OBC/PWD/EWS)

N o.	Fee Item	Amount
1	Tuition Fee for the first year	10000/-
2.	Tuition fee for the second year (payable at the start of the 2 nd academic year)	10000/-
3	Caution Deposit (Refundable)	5000/-
4	Library	1000/-

5	Graduation Fee*	1000/-
	Total fees payable at the time of admission	17,000/-
	Total fee	28,000/-

9.6. ₹500 will be collected as Union Fee from all the candidates at the time of admission, and an additional amount of ₹250 needs to be remitted every semester to the NISH student's union account

9.7. Internships form an integral part of the course of study. Students are responsible for meeting all expenses incurred during the internship.

9.8. Fees will be collected through **SB Collect** (State Bank Collect)
(Please see Annexure I for payment method through SB Collect)

*likely to change

10. GENERAL INFORMATION

10.1. Candidates selected after the interview will be informed by email / SMS. No paper notifications will be sent by RCI.

10.2. If any information given in the application by the candidate is found to be false on verification at the time of the interview or even at a later stage, the candidate will forfeit his/her claim for admission and continuation in the course.

10.3. All candidates admitted to the course must execute an undertaking stating that if they discontinue the course at any time after the closure of admissions, they will be liable to pay the full course fee. Please note that fees once paid are non-refundable.

10.4. All students are required to complete a **six-month assistantship** at the National Institute of Speech and Hearing (NISH) upon successful completion of the course. The assistantship must be completed within **one year** from the date of the final examination. Students may complete the assistantship in scheduled phases/turns, as decided by the head of the department.

10.5. If a student secures employment during the assistantship period, they may request discontinuation of the remaining assistantship by submitting a formal request along with valid supporting documents. Such requests will be considered and processed as per the institute's rules and approval procedures.

11. GENERAL CODE OF CONDUCT

11.1. All the candidates admitted to the DISLI programme at NISH will abide by the rules and regulations issued from time to time by the Executive Director, NISH.

11.2. Ragging in any form is strictly forbidden on the campus. A Zero-Tolerance Policy is implemented, and any such case will be reported to the police immediately.

11.3. A policy document is available regarding the prevention of sexual harassment on campus. The Internal Complaints Committee, NISH (ICC-NISH), is in operation on campus to oversee the implementation of the policy. All complaints will be addressed immediately.

11.4. **Mandatory Declaration:** Students must submit a signed declaration at the time of admission, pledging not to use drugs or alcohol on campus.

11.5. **Zero-Tolerance Enforcement:** The university has implemented a zero-tolerance policy against narcotics, covering campus premises and affiliated hostels.

11.6. **Immediate Action & Police Involvement:** Violation of this policy will lead to immediate disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion.

11.7. Students are required to wear the **NISH-approved uniform** and maintain a neat, clean, and professional appearance at all times.

11.8. Students are required to maintain the buildings and campus clean, and equipment should be handled with care. If any damage to the building or equipment is caused, the cost will be recovered from the person responsible.

11.9. Students' entry into classrooms or labs after the commencement of a session will not be entertained, nor shall they be allowed to leave the session without the permission of the faculty in charge.

11.10. Every student will be issued an Identity Card, which must be worn around the neck using the tag provided. This is applicable at all times when the student is on campus. If the card is lost or damaged, duplicate cards will be issued on payment of additional fees.

11.11. If a student is absent for more than 15 consecutive working days without a satisfactory explanation or approved leave, the absence is deemed unauthorized. Such unauthorised absences will be reported to RCI and may also lead to disciplinary action by the institute.

11.12. Leave of absence granted only on medical grounds will be considered for granting relaxation of the minimum attendance requirements.

11.13. Any student found to be behaving in a manner that affects the discipline of the institute/ department will be subject to disciplinary action by the Department Disciplinary Committee.

12. EVALUATIONS, EXAMINATIONS AND ISSUE OF DIPLOMA

12.1. The admitted candidates will be evaluated continuously throughout the academic year. There will be internal assessments and one final examination at the end of each semester. The examination for theory papers shall be conducted in English. The medium of instruction shall be Indian Sign Language (ISL) and English/Malayalam.

12.2. Each candidate should obtain minimum 40% marks in theory and 50% marks in practical, separately in internal as well as external examinations, for passing in the programme. A higher pass percentage is required in the practical course since DISLI is a skill-based course, and ISL interpreters need to have a high level of skill

and competency to be able to interpret a language effectively. The other examination, attendance and rules for completion of the program will follow the National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation's (adjunct body of RCI) Scheme of Examination 2023 for Diploma level programmes.

12.3. Minimum 75% attendance in theory and practical is required. Since DISLI is a skill-based course, a high level of attendance in practical classes is required to develop competency in the skills.

12.4. The scheme of Examination will be as per the National Board of Examination in RCI or the examining body.

12.5. The Examination Body will award a degree in Diploma in Indian Sign Language Interpretation (DISLI) recognized by RCI.

Required Documents Checklist

1. 3 Latest colored Photographs
2. 10th Marksheet & Certificate(Original + 1 self attested copy)
3. 12th Marksheet & Certificate(Original + 1 self attested copy)
4. Fees Rs. 17,750/- payable at the time of admission
5. Adhar Card(Original + 1 self attested copy)
6. Caste Certificate (SC/ST/OBC/EWS/OEC)(Original + 1 self-attested copy)
7. UDID card or UDID Enrollment Number, if applicable (Original + 1 self-attested copy)

Note: RCI norms and regulations are applicable

Any other details not specifically covered by the above clauses will be decided by the Executive Director, and such decision will be final.

Annexure I



National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation(NBER), New Delhi.
An Adjunct Body of Rehabilitation Council of India, under Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment



INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE APPLICANT

NBER-ePRAVESH-2026 (Online Counselling for Admissions to various Diploma Courses under National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation(NBER), New Delhi)

National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation (NBER), an adjunct body of Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), invites online applications from eligible candidates for admission to its various Certificate & Diploma Level Courses in Special Education and Disability Rehabilitation offered by RCI's approved Institutions/University Departments across the country. Online admission to these Courses will be made through Centralised Online e-Counselling on a merit basis only.

Eligibility conditions for admission: For admission: A Candidate should have:

- a) Senior Secondary (10+2) or equivalent with minimum 50% marks
- b) Functional hands
- c) Fluency in at least one language
- d) Hearing in the normal range

The reservation and relaxation for SC/ST/OBC/PWD and other categories shall be as per the rules of the Central Government/ State Government, whichever is applicable.

Parents and siblings of PwDs will be given preference in admission on the basis of the percentage of disability, with a minimum of 5 marks for 50% disability and maximum 10 marks for 100% disability (applicable to the first blood relation only).

Registration Fee: Rs. 500/- for General, EWS and OBC applicants, Rs. 350/- for SC, ST, PwD applicants will be accepted only through the Online mode - Debit / Credit Card/Net Banking/UPI.

The registration fee is non-refundable/non-adjustable.

Particulars	Tentative Timelines
Registration (including Choice filling) Start date	5th August, 2026
Registration (including Choice filling) End date	24th August, 2026
TTI wise Merit list Live (1st Round merit list) (1st choice course - TTI wise)	26th August, 2026
Reporting at Institute for Admission - Start date (1st Round counselling) (verification of candidate documents, admissions and self declaration of verification by TTIs)	29th August, 2026
Reporting for Admission End time (1st Round result)	3rd September, 2026
TTI wise Merit list Live (2nd Round merit list) (2nd choice course - TTI wise)	5th September, 2026

Reporting at Institute for Admission - Start date (2nd Round counselling) (verification of candidate documents, admissions and self declaration of verification by TTIs)	8th September 2026
Reporting at Institution for admission End date (2nd Round Counselling)	11th September, 2026
Final list of all admitted candidates TTI wise and Pending candidates (showing remarks of the TTI for non admitted candidates, if any)	15th September, 2026
Commencement of Classes	18th September, 2026

Course eligibility criteria for admission to diploma-level courses are as under :

S . No .	Course Code	Course Name	Abbreviation	Duration (Yrs)	ELIGIBILITY
1	1701	Diploma in Indian Sign Language Interpretation	D.I.S.L .I.	2	For admission, a candidate should have: a) Senior Secondary (10+2) or equivalent with a minimum of 50% marks b) Functional hands c) Fluency in at least one language d) Hearing in the normal range The reservation and relaxation for SC/ST/OBC/PWD  and other categories shall be as per the rules of the Central Government/ State Government, whichever is

					applicable.
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While filling the application form of NBER-Pravesh-2026

- Only one application shall be considered for registration against one email. Registration of multiple applications against one e-mail ID shall not be accepted.
- Applicants will select the names of five institutes/courses in the order of preference as per his/her choice for admission to that institute.

Admission Process Flow

1. Online Registration & Choice Filling

Candidates seeking admission in Rehabilitation Courses must first complete the Online Registration Process and submit their choice of institute. This process includes the following 6 steps:

Online Registration Steps:

Step 1: Register with Personal Details

Step 2: Upload Educational Qualifications

Step 3: Upload Photograph, Signature, and Relevant Documents

Step 4: Pay the Registration Fee

Step 5: Fill in the Choices of Institutes/Courses

Step 6: Print the Completed Application Form

2. Merit List & Result Declaration

- NBER will prepare and display the Merit List and Seat Allotment Results based on the candidate's category, percentage of marks, and choice filling.
- Results, including the Rank and Allotted Institute/Course, will be available on the candidate's dashboard.

3. Reporting & Admission to the Institute

- Candidates who are allotted a seat must report to the respective Institute/College within the specified timeframe. Failure to take admission within the deadline may result in loss of the allotted seat or lower priority in further counselling rounds.

Important points for online application

Required documents for RCI-Pravesh-2026 Application:

- Before starting to fill out the Online Application, you should keep ready with you the following details & documents:
- Valid Email ID (the email should be valid for at least 1 year)
- Valid Mobile No. (Mobile number should not be registered with DND (Do Not Disturb Service))
- Personal details
- Details of Educational Qualification
- Image of scanned photograph in jpg/jpeg
- Image of scanned signature in jpg/jpeg
- Debit / Credit Card/Net Banking / UPI details for making online payment
- Please ensure that you check your Email Inbox, Junk mail and Spam regularly after registration to get Login Credentials (Registration ID & Password) & proceed with the registration process.
- Fill in the details on the online application form. Since your eligibility will be screened based on the information furnished by you, it is required to exercise sufficient care to correctly furnish the details of your qualification, etc. If some entered information is to be corrected/ edited, then click on the edit button, do the necessary corrections and then proceed to Payment.
- Please note that once payment of the application fee is made, you will not be allowed to change/modify any information in the application form. You can view the application details by clicking the button 'View Application' and can take a printout of the same for your record.

Standard Operating Process (SOP) to get admission to Certificate & Diploma level

training

1. Visit the NBERS website <https://nber-rehabcouncil.gov.in> for detailed information regarding creating an ID, instructions, admission guidelines, schedule, list of diploma & certificate level courses, duration, eligibility, syllabus, course fee, State-wise list of Training institutes, etc.
2. The candidates will have to create a User ID.
3. Using the ID, the candidate will apply for an online registration form by completing all details, including language of learning & examination.
4. Candidates will fill in choices of Course-wise TTIS from any State for the First round and Second round (counselling) in the registration form. Choices will be limited to two Courses and a maximum of three TTIS from any State for both courses.
5. The candidate will also upload all necessary scanned original colour documents and pay online registration fees as eligible.
6. Candidates must verify all entered data along with supporting documents and submit a self-declaration of correctness of their data, including the language option for learning & examination.
7. Candidates will get an option of change/modification for details filled in the online form during 21st to 23rd August only. This chance will be granted only once during the period.
8. The candidate will receive an acknowledgement of online application with photo.
9. As per the timeline in the circular, on logging in on the NBER portal, the candidate will be able to see the merit list of eligible candidates as per the first choice of course with chosen TTI-wise published on the portal.
10. Candidates will have to mark the seat & confirm in the desired TTI of choice if within sanctioned intake before the start date of reporting. In case of being in the waiting list (i.e above intake), they will have to track for updates till the admissions are continued.
11. If the candidate has marked the seat and not reported for admission in the TTI during the first round till 2nd September or till 10th September in the second round,

the confirmation of seat will be cancelled, and the TTI may admit the next eligible candidate on the last day of the respective round.

12. The candidate, if admitted in the 1st round, will not be seen in the merit list of the 2nd round.

13. After the end date of 1st round counselling or 2nd round counselling, the merit list will be terminated, and admission cannot be claimed.

14. Admissions will be only through the 1st or 2nd counselling merit list. No other chances will be granted.

Annexure II

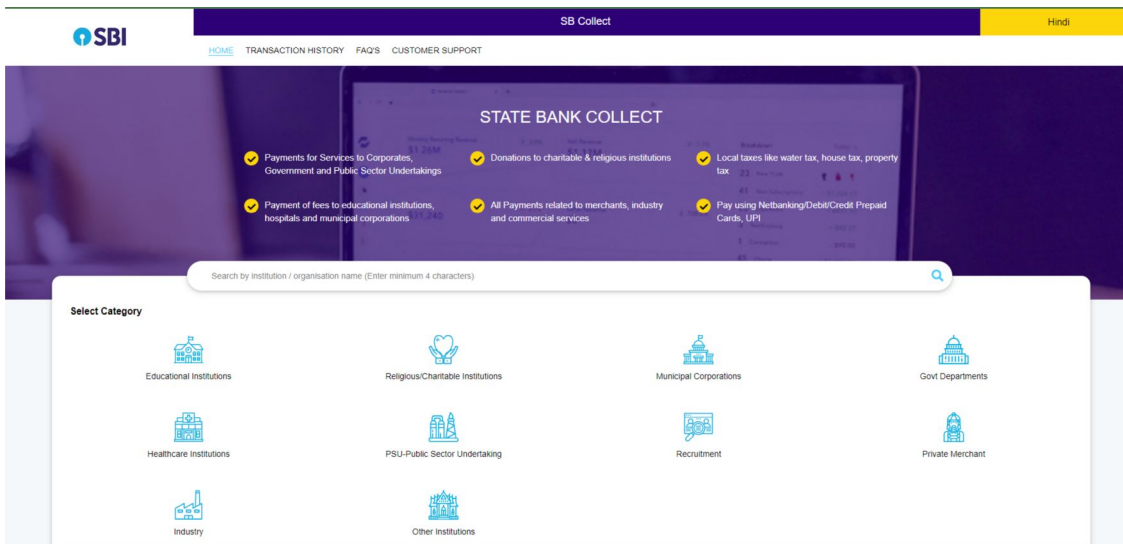
SBI Collect

1. **Access SBI Collect Website:** Initiate a web browser session and direct it to the SBI Collect website by entering "SBI Collect" in the address bar, followed by pressing Enter.
 2. Proceed to the SBI Collect Homepage.
 3. **Select Category:** From the provided options, choose the appropriate category. As a
-

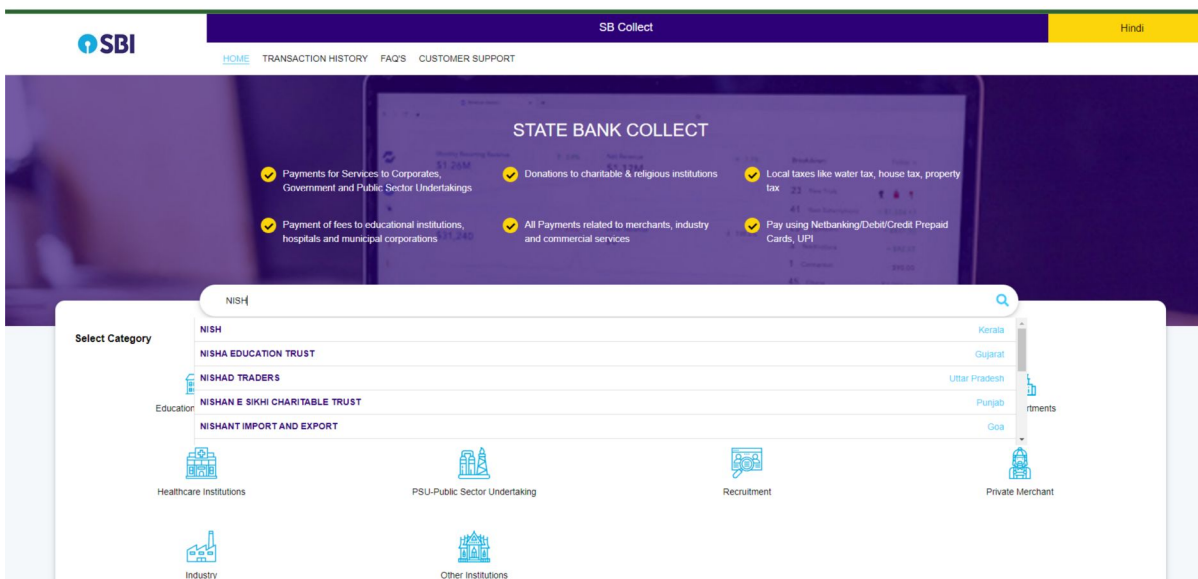
student of NISH, opt for "Educational Institutions."

4. **Enter Institute Name (NISH):** Input "NISH" into the designated field for the institution's name. From the dropdown menu below, select "Kerala." Subsequently, click on the NISH option displayed to access the payment interface.
5. **Choose Payment Category:** Utilize the dropdown menu to select the relevant payment category, aligning with the type of fee to be paid
6. **Complete Student Details:** Accurately input personal information. It is imperative to ensure the precision of all provided details to circumvent payment discrepancies.
7. **Verify Details:** Prior to proceeding, meticulously review all entered details to guarantee their accuracy, thereby mitigating potential errors during the payment process.
8. **Select Payment Method:** From the array of available options, including internet banking, debit card, credit card, UPI, and others, designate the preferred payment method.
9. **Confirmation:** Upon successful completion of the payment transaction, acknowledge receipt of a confirmation message or document as conclusive evidence of payment. Retain this confirmation for record-keeping purposes

Step 1



Step 2



Step 3

- Select the payment category from the drop down.

SBI SB Collect

HOME TRANSACTION HISTORY FAQ'S CUSTOMER SUPPORT

Payment Progress

Select Payee → **Enter Payment Details** → Verify Payment Details → Complete Payment → Print Receipt

NISH | NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SPEECH AND HEARING, KARIMANAL POST, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM-695583

Enter Payment Details

Payment Category: --Select any Category--

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Step 4

- Enter the name of the course

SBI SB Collect

HOME TRANSACTION HISTORY FAQ'S CUSTOMER SUPPORT

Payment Progress

Select Payee → **Enter Payment Details** → Verify Payment Details → Complete Payment → Print Receipt

NISH | NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SPEECH AND HEARING, KARIMANAL POST, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM-695583

Enter Payment Details

Payment Category: --Select any Category--
Diploma Course

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Step 5

- Enter the details

Step 6

Step 7

UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

GRADUATION FEE

LIBRARY FEE

EDUCATIONAL TOUR FEE

FINE

SUPER FINE

Remarks :

THANK YOU

Enter Your Details

☒ Individual ☐ Organisation / Corporate

Name * : _____ Date of Birth * : [dd/mm/yyyy] 

Mobile No * : _____ Email ID : _____

On successful completion of payment, you will receive the transaction reference number on this mobile number On successful completion of payment, you will receive the transaction reference number on this email ID

☐ I have read and agreed to the [Terms & Conditions](#)

Enter the text as shown in the image * : _____ 

Select one of the Captcha options *

☒ Image Captcha ☐ Audio Captcha

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Step 8

- Complete the payment process

Payment Progress

Select Payee  Enter Payment Details  Verify Payment Details  Complete Payment  Print Receipt 

Not Banking

 State Bank of India
Bank Charges: 11.0 [Click Here](#)

 Other Banks Internet Banking
Bank Charges: 11.7 [Click Here](#)

Card Payments

This payment mode is not available between 23:30 hours IST and 00:30 hours IST

 RuPay Debit Card
Bank Charges: 0.0 [Click Here](#)

 Credit Cards
Bank Charges: 0.0 [Click Here](#)

 Prepaid Cards (Indi RuPay PPC)
Bank Charges: 04.9 [Click Here](#)

Other Payment Modes

 Branch
Bank Charges: 09.0 [Click Here](#)

 NEFT/RTGS
Bank Charges: 10.0 [Click Here](#)

 UPI is not available between 22:30 hours IST and 23:30 hours IST
 UPI
Bank Charges: 0.0 [Click Here](#)