



GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
GANGTOK

Ref. No: 205 /DIR (HE)/EDN

Date: 12/8/26

Public Notice

This is to inform all candidates wishing to apply for financial assistance under Nar Bahadur Bhandari Fellowship that, as per Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2026: Top Global Universities, the following universities have been ranked as the top 20 universities of the world **for the year 2026.**

Rank	University	Address	Overall Score
1	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	Cambridge, United States	100.0
2	Imperial College London	London, United Kingdom	99.4
3	Stanford University	Stanford, United States	98.9
4	University of Oxford	Oxford, United Kingdom	97.9
5	Harvard University	Cambridge, United States	97.7
6	University of Cambridge	Cambridge, United Kingdom	97.2
7	ETH Zurich- Swiss Federal Institute of Technology	Zurich, Switzerland	96.7
8	National University of Singapore (NUS)	Singapore	95.9
9	University College of London (UCL)	London, United Kingdom	95.2
10	California Institute of Technology (Caltech)	California, United States	94.8
11	The University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong	94.2
12	Nanyang Technological University (NTU)	Singapore	93.9
13	The University of Chicago	Chicago, United States	93.5
14	Perking University	Beijing, China (Mainland)	93.1
15	University of Pennsylvania	United States	92.7
16	Cornell University	Ithaca, United States	92.4



=17	Tsinghua University	Beijing, China	91.9
=17	University of California, Berkeley (UCB)	Berkeley, United States	91.9
19	The University of Melbourne	Sydney, Australia	91.2
20	University of New South Wales (UNSW), Sydney	Sydney, Australia	90.8

Every year, 2 (two) meritorious students who secure **admission in a Master's Course** in one of these universities will be provided financial assistance of up to Rs. 50 lakhs under NBBFS.

However, **candidates belonging to non-affluent families will be given preference over candidates belonging to affluent families.** The following criteria will be used to determine candidates belonging to "affluent" families:

- Candidates whose either parent was a Group-A/Class-I State or Central Government officer before the age of 40 (forty) years, or
- Candidates whose both parents were Group-B/Class-II State or Central Government officers before the age of 40 (forty) years, or
- Candidates with parent or parents have a gross annual income of Rs. 8,00,000/- (Rupees eight lakhs), not including income from salary or income from agricultural land.

For this purpose, candidates belonging to non-affluent families are required to submit documents attached with this public notice (at Annexure-I and Annexure-II).

Applicants should also submit the following documents:

- Class X certificate and marksheet,
- Class XII certificate and marksheet, and
- Graduation degree.

Candidates securing admission for courses such as Masters in Business Administration (MBA), Languages and Management courses shall not be eligible.

Last date for submission of applications for the 2026-27 Academic Session is 30th September, 2026.




Director (Higher Education)
Education Department

ANNEXURE-I

Stamp paper

Rs. 50/-

**BEFORE THE LD. OATH COMMISSIONER, GANGTOK DISTRICT,
SIKKIM**

AFFIDAVIT

I _____, son/daughter of _____
(father's name and _____
(Mother's name) aged about _____ years, by faith _____,
resident of _____,

Wish to apply for financial assistant under the Nar Bahadur Bahandari Fellowship Scheme. In this regards, I solemnly affirm and state on oath as under:

1. That neither my father nor my mother was a Group-a/Level-I Central Government or State Government employee before the age of 40(forty) years.
2. That both my parents were not Group-B/Level-II Central Government or State Government employees before the age of 40(forty) years.
3. That the annual income of my parent/parents is less than Rs. 8, 00,000/- (Rupees eight lakhs) excluding income from salaries and agricultural activities.

DECLARATION

I, _____, hereby declare that all the information provided by me in this affidavit is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I fully understand that any false statement or misrepresentation of facts in this affidavit or elsewhere will render me liable to return the financial assistant provided to me under the Nar Bahadur Bhandari Fellowship Scheme, and shall also be liable for prosecution under relevant laws.

VERIFICATION

I, _____, the deponent above named do hereby verify that the statements in this affidavit are true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and nothing material has been concealed therein.

And I sign this Affidavit on this the _____ day of _____
2024, at Gangtok District, Sikkim.

IDENTIFIED BY

DEPONENT

ANNEXURE-II

Letterhead of concerned Area-Councillor or Area-Panchayat

To whom it may concern

This is to state that _____, son/daughter of _____ (Father's name) and _____ (Mother's name), aged about _____ years, resident of _____, wishes to apply for financial assistant under the Nar Bahadur Bhandari Fellowship Scheme. In this regard, I hereby certify the following:

1. That neither _____ (father's name) nor _____ (mother's name) was a Group-A/Level-I Central Government or State Government employee before the age of 40 (forty) years.
2. That both the parents were not Group-B/Level-II Central Government or State Government employees before the age of 40 (Forty) years.
3. That the annual income of the parent/parents is less than Rs. 8,00,000/- (Rupees eight lakhs) excluding income from salaries and agricultural activities.

(Signature, name, date & official seal)