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## STATE GOVERNMENT

### **Bengaluru Ranked Among Top Locations For Tech Enterprises In Asia**

Bengaluru, along with Singapore and Shenzhen, figure in the list of best locations for tech enterprises in Asia. A research report 'Top Locations in Asia: Technology Sector,' released by Colliers Research and based on a comprehensive study of 16 cities in developed and emerging markets across Asia, examines nearly 50 criteria across a spectrum of socio-economic, property and human factors to determine the viability of these cities as tech hubs, as a workability index for the tech sector.

The report recommends the best urban locations for technology firms. Bengaluru, Singapore and Shenzhen stand out as top choices for starting or expanding technology operations in Asia. Modest long-run growth prospects hold down developed cities such as Tokyo and Taipei, for the sector.

While emerging cities offer high growth potential and low operating costs, they tend to score lower on employment criteria and human aspirational metrics.

#### **Highest quantum of start-up**

"Popularly known as the Silicon Valley of India, Bengaluru has been chosen as the No 1 choice in Asia for technology occupiers. Bengaluru's top ranking is based on its socio-economic strengths, making it among the fastest-growing cities in Asia, with an average predicted annual GDP growth of 9.6 per cent till 2022.

Further, it benefits from a wide and experienced talent pool. The city has the largest number of higher education institutions across India relative to its population, with an employability ratio of 24 per cent for the IT sector. As the natural hub for technology start-ups, Bengaluru has attracted the highest quantum of start-up investment at an annual average of \$4 billion over the last three years.

The city clearly has an edge with the largest stock of Grade A office space in Asia after Tokyo, low employer costs (reflecting moderate staff costs and office rents), and is among the top 10 inexpensive cities with respect to cost of living," said Joe Verghese, Managing Director, Colliers International India.

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**Source: Businessline, Sept 18, 2018.**

### **Issue of Certificate of Origin**

As you are all aware, Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) has been authorized by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) to issue the Certificate of Origin to exporters for the products manufactured in India. This Certificate is an integral part of the export document.

We hereby request you to kindly utilize this unique service offered by the Chamber. The Secretariat has been strengthened effectively to provide you the Certificate within the shortest time keeping in mind your utmost requirement and convenience.

We therefore earnestly request you to avail this facility and also give us an opportunity to serve you and interact on a regular basis.

**For Members we charge Rs.60/- per certificate**

**For Non Members we charge Rs.120/- per certificate**

### **""Karnatakas Compete With China Scheme Envisages Creation Of 9 Lakh Jobs**

The Karnataka government's 'Compete with China' scheme, which is aimed at recreating manufacturing jobs and boosting employment for locals, is expected to create nine lakh jobs in the next four years.

Chief Minister H. D. Kumaraswamy on Tuesday met the core vision group members of all the nine clusters. He said the government has set aside Rs 2,000 crore for each cluster as government support in terms of equity and it envisages Rs 3,000 crore from the private sector in each cluster. In addition, the government has allocated Rs 500 crore to undertake skill development training programmes in all the identified districts.

As part of the 'Compete with China' scheme, the Karnataka government has identified nine districts to foster innovation and product diversification. It also plans to have manufacturing and assembling activities right from the village level to the taluk and district level in each cluster.

The existing manufacturing and service base of the district would be adequately utilised and scaled up. Programmes to be implemented in various districts include Kalaburgi for manufacturing of solar power goods, Chitradurga for manufacture of LED lights, Hassan for manufacture of sanitary goods, Koppal for manufacture of mechanised toys, Mysuru for an ICB manufacturing unit, Bellary for the textile industry, Chikkaballapur for mobile phone components, Tumkur for sports and fitness goods, and Bidar for the manufacture of agricultural implements.

Addressing the Vision Group for Solar Power Goods, Gaurav Gupta, Karnataka Principal Secretary, Department of Commerce and Industries and IT BT and Science and Technology, said, "Through the 'Compete with China' scheme, the government is keen on expanding its industrial development footprint in other parts of the state and we intend to start implementation by February 2019. Karnataka is planning to set up a mini secretariat in order to fast-track implementation and will provide all assistance with regard to infrastructure, land, training and equity in the SPV that is set up. This initiative will also contribute to the Centre's vision of becoming a \$5-trillion economy by 2025."

Karnataka's 'Compete with China' programme was envisioned with the objective of scaling up production capacities of the state's manufacturing sector in line with China's success story.

**Source: Businessline, Sept 26, 2018.**

## **BIAL: Hassle-Free Journey With Biometric Self-Boarding Technology**

Bangalore International Airport Ltd (BIAL) – operators of Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru (BLR Airport) – and Vision-Box have signed an agreement to launch paperless biometric self-boarding technology, aimed at transforming passenger experience and creating future-ready airport.

### **First of its kind**

The biometric self-boarding technology will further bolster the government's ambitious DigiYatra project, aimed at developing a digital ecosystem to provide paperless air travel.

With the implementation of the biometric technology, BLR Airport will become the first airport in India to simplify the journey by making it paperless from registration to boarding. The biometric technology will identify passengers by their face at the airport, avoiding stops and the repeated presentation of boarding passes, passports or other physical identity documents.

“Your face is your boarding pass,” said Hari Marar, BIAL’s Managing Director & CEO, while describing the revolutionary technology that is set to transform air travel.

### **Hassle-free journey**

“Vision-Box’s biometric technology, combined with its passenger flow platform will enable a seamless journey for our passengers, without obstacles, waiting lines or hassles, from registration to boarding,” Marar added.

The contract was signed on Wednesday in Lisbon, Portugal, between Marar and Vision-Box CEO Miguel Leitmann. The ceremony was attended by Portuguese Prime Minister António Costa, Minister of Economy Manuel Caldeira Cabral, Ambassador of India to Portugal Nandini Singla, Secretary of State of Internationalisation Eurico Brilhante Dias, and other government representatives.

Vision-Box CEO Miguel Leitmann said, “This is the first end-to-end face recognition-based walk-through experience in Asia and the largest in the world. It is also one of the most significant steps towards the Digital India campaign endorsed by the Government.”

The first implementation milestone at BLR Airport will be completed in the first-quarter of 2019, with Jet Airways, Air Asia and SpiceJet passengers as first users.

**Source: Businessline, Sept 7, 2018**

## **BESCOM to Popularise E-Vehicle Charging Stations**

**BENGALURU:** In order to encourage increased use of electric vehicles, BESCOM will soon start an awareness campaign advertising the new rates for electric vehicle charging stations fixed by Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC). The rates, which work out to ₹ 4.85 per unit for the company operating the charging station, were fixed in May.

In the past few months, several privately-owned EV charging points have cropped up around the city. This has been made possible by the special tariff announced by the KERC. However, users still say that the penetration of these charging points, in the outskirts of the city as well as on the highways, needs to be far higher to instil confidence to opt for electric vehicles.

To achieve this goal, BESCOM is also planning a network of 11 charging points for Bengaluru in addition to around 129 more being planned by other agencies like the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation and Namma Metro. The special rates, which are significantly lower than the earlier rates of around ₹ 8 per unit, will help fuel the move towards electric vehicles, the company is hoping.

Shortly after the announcement of new tariffs, Ather Energy, a startup, announced the creation of AtherGrid, a network of 60 charging points in the city, making it possible to find a charging point every 4 km. This network will be in place by the end of the year according to the company making it more feasible to invest in an electric vehicle.

In 2017-18, only 1,400 new electric vehicles were sold in Karnataka of which 250 are electric cars, according to the Society of Manufacturers of Electric Vehicles.

“There is a serious lack of options for people looking to buy electric vehicles. Even if one were to choose from the limited models available, it is scary to imagine a car running out of charge. For a two-wheeler, you can still push it to a safe place. Not many people know about the subsidies or the costs involved,” manager of a dealership that sells electric two wheelers said.

**Source: Indian Express, Sept 13, 2018**

## **VTU to Make Syllabus More Industry-Oriented**

Keeping in mind the declining placement opportunities for engineering graduates, Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) is working on updating its curriculum so that students are industry-ready. The university has established 19 Board of Studies (BOS) committees that will look into framing the syllabus for courses in the third to eighth semesters.

“The new model curriculum has been implemented from the 2018-2019 academic year for first-year students. Curriculum for the next few semesters is being developed by a group of experts. We want it to be industry-oriented and meet the requirements of industry. So we have several members from industry on the board,” said H.N. Jagannath Reddy, Registrar of VTU. He added that faculty members of the Indian Institutes of Technology and the Indian Institute of Science were also on the Board of Studies to weigh in on how the university could improve the standard of the curriculum.

Students will have to complete a mini-project between the fourth and fifth semesters. This is over and above the mandatory final-year projects. “The idea is to find a balance between hands-on experience and theoretical knowledge,” he said.

Sources who were part of the BOS said that the committees were also looking at introducing new computer languages as many that are currently being taught are outdated. Committee members have also suggested a short module on entrepreneurship and an introduction to the startup ecosystem to be made mandatory for students.

“We are also planning to put more emphasis on concepts such as data analytics and virtual laboratory,” a source said.

The move has been welcomed by both faculty members and students, who feel it will be a “refreshing change”.

Sheshadri S., a final-year engineering student, said: “Many of the concepts taught in our classes are obsolete, which we found extremely irrelevant during our internship. Revamping the syllabus is the need of the hour,” he said.

**Source: The Hindu, Sept 26, 2018**

## AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING

Press Information Bureau  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Government of India

### Agmark online system is being implemented across the country to conduct quality control functions

Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Shri Radha Mohan Singh today launched the online software for Agmark. On this occasion he said that fulfilling Prime Minister's Digital India dream and following its footsteps, the application processes related to Agmark certification are being done online by the Directorate of Marketing & Inspection (DMI). The process of application will be simple, quick, transparent and 24x7.

He informed that the Agmark online system is being implemented across the country to conduct quality control functions. Through the Agmark online system, certificate of authorisation (domestic), permission of printing press, permission of laboratories (domestic) and services related to laboratory information management system will be provided online.

Shri Singh said that the existing procedures for Agmark certification were in physical form and time consuming. The use of modern technologies by the National Informatics Center has made these processes easy, reliable and cost effective by providing online electronic mode. In the new online application system, there are provisions for online receipt of fees from the applicants. Payment will be received in digital mode through [bharatkosh.gov.in](http://bharatkosh.gov.in) website.

He concluded by wishing success to Agmark's online software and said that it has become necessary to explore all possibilities so that maximum benefits from this software program can reach the farmers and packers.

### BCIC INFORMATION DIGEST



	Mechanical Data (Width x Height)	Advertisement Tariff (Monthly)	
Full Page	18 cm x 26 cm	Back cover (Colour)	Rs. 7,500/-
Half Page	18 cm x 13 cm	Inside front cover Colour	Rs. 5,000/-
Book Size	21 cm x 29.7 cm	Back inside Cover (Colour)	Rs. 5,000/-



## ECONOMIC AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS

Press Information Bureau  
Ministry of Corporate Affairs  
Government of India

30 SEP 2018

### Government constitutes Competition Law Review Committee to review the Competition Act

In pursuance of its objective of ensuring that Legislation is in sync with the needs of strong economic fundamentals, the Government has constituted a Competition Law Review Committee to review the Competition Act.

The Competition Act was passed in the year 2002 and the Competition Commission of India was set up in pursuance of the same. The Commission started functioning in right earnest from 2009 and has contributed immensely towards the development of competition and fair play practices in the Indian market. During the past nine years the size of the Indian Economy has grown immensely and India is today amongst the top five Economies in the World and poised to forge ahead further. In this context, it is essential that Competition Law is strengthened, and re-calibrated to promote best practices which result in the citizens of this country achieving their aspirations and value for money.

#### The Review Committee comprises of the following:

- |      |   |               |
|------|---|---------------|
| i    | Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs                              | - Chairperson |
| ii.  | Chairperson, Competition Commission of India (CCI)                    | - Member      |
| iii. | Chairperson, <a href="#">Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India</a> | - Member      |
| iv.  | Shri Haigreve Khaitan, M/S Khaitan & Co.                              | - Member      |
| v.   | Shri Harsha Vardhana Singh, IKDHVAJ Advisers LLP                      | - Member      |
| vi.  | Ms. Pallavi Shardul Shroff, Advocate,                                 | - Member      |

#### M/S Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co.

- |       |  |          |
|-------|--|----------|
| vii.  | Dr. S. Chakravarthy, IAS (Retd.), Hony. Visiting Prof. ASCII | - Member |
| viii. | Shri Aditya Bhattacharjea, Professor of Economics,           | - Member |

#### Delhi School of Economics

- |     |                                    |                  |
|-----|------------------------------------|------------------|
| ix. | Joint Secretary (Competition), MCA | Member Secretary |
|-----|------------------------------------|------------------|

**The Terms of References of the Committee are as follows:-**

- i. To review the Competition Act/ Rules/ Regulations, in view of changing business environment and bring necessary changes, if required;
- ii. To look into international best practices in the competition fields, especially anti-trust laws, merger guidelines and handling cross border competition issues;
- iii. To study other regulatory regimes/ institutional mechanisms/ government policies which overlap with the Competition Act;
- iv. Any other matters related to competition issue and considered necessary by the Committee.

The Committee shall complete its work and submit its report within three months of the date of its first meeting

## Issue of Certificate of Origin

Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) has been authorized by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) to issue the Certificate of Origin (Non Preferential) to exporters for products manufactured in India. This Certificate is an integral part of the export document process.

MEMBERS	Rs.60 per Certificate of Origin
NON - MEMBERS	Rs.120 per Certificate of Origin

**Contact : Mr. Prithvi**  
Secretary



Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce  
No. 3/4, 3rd Floor, C Block, Unity Buildings, JC Road, Bangalore - 560 002  
| Phone (91) (080) 2223321, 24-25 | Fax: (91) (080) 22232233 | Website : [www.bcic.in](http://www.bcic.in)

**Press Information Bureau  
Ministry of Corporate Affairs  
Government of India**

**28 SEP 2018**

**High Level Committee Constituted on Corporate Social Responsibility**

A High Level Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility – 2018 (HLC-2018) has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri. Injeti Srinivas, Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) to review the existing framework and guide and formulate the roadmap for a coherent policy on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

The Committee is expected to review the existing CSR framework as per Act, Rules and Circulars issued from time to time and recommend guidelines for better enforcement of CSR provisions. It will analyze outcomes of CSR activities/programmes/projects and suggest measures for effective monitoring and evaluation of CSR by companies. Suggestions are also expected on innovative solutions, use of technology, platform to connect stakeholders, and social audit.

The provisions of section 135 of Companies Act, 2013 (Act) pertaining to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) came into force on 01.04.2014 with a view to promoting responsible and sustainable business through inclusive growth.

The four years of implementation have enabled compilation of data on the number of companies complying with CSR provisions, funds allocated and spent across various sectors, geographical spread of CSR spending, etc. Experience has also been gained on the quantum, outreach and impact of CSR (which is estimated to be around Rs. 38, 000 crore up to FY 2016-17) and immense feedback has been received on how CSR provisions can be leveraged to have larger and more impactful outcomes.

The existing provisions of in Companies Act, 2013 with respect to CSR fully empower the Board of a Company to decide on their CSR Policy, approve projects and oversee implementation. Many suggestions with respect to CSR such as local preference, earmarking CSR spend for backward areas, contribution to national/state funds, notifying priority areas, monitoring compliance, supplementing / complimenting government programmes, etc. have been received from various stakeholders. The Ministry had earlier set up a High Level Committee on CSR in 2015 which made several recommendations, including review of CSR framework after three years which is almost over.

The composition of High Level Committee is as follows:

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Members</b>	<b>Role</b>
1.	Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs	Chairperson
2.	DG, Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs	Member
3.	Chairman, SEBI or his representative (not below the rank of ED)	Member
4.	Mr. N. Chandrasekharan, Chairman Tata Sons	Member
5.	Mr. Amit Chandra, MD, Bain Capital Private Equity	Member
6.	Mr. P. S. Narasimha, Additional Solicitor General	Member
7.	Prof. Anil K Gupta, Founder Honey Bee Network & Prof. IIM-A	Member
8.	Mr. Prakash Padukone, Former World Badminton Champion, Arjuna Awardee & Padma Shri	Member
9.	Mr. S Santhanakrishnan, CA & Consultant	Member
10.	Mr. Mathew Cherian, CEO Helpage India	Member
11.	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs	Member Convener

The Committee shall submit its report within three months from the date of holding its first meeting. The recommendations of this Committee shall be submitted to the Government.

**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Corporate Affairs**

**11-September-2018**

**MCA Notifies Issue & Transfer of all Shares in Dematerialised Form only by all Unlisted Public Companies**

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has notified that with effect from 2nd October, 2018, issue of further shares and transfer of all shares by unlisted public companies shall be in dematerialised form only. The MCA has taken this step as a measure for further enhancing transparency, investor protection and governance in the corporate sector. The rules in this regard have been amended accordingly.

According to the MCA, the major benefits of dematerialisation of securities which will now be available to unlisted Public companies include:-

- i. Elimination of risks associated with physical certificates such as loss, theft, mutilation, fraud etc.
- ii. Improving the corporate governance system by increasing transparency and preventing mal-practices such as benami shareholding, back dated issuance of shares, etc.
- iii. Exemption from payment of stamp duty on transfer.
- iv. Ease in transfer, pledge etc. of securities.

Unlisted Public Companies are expected to facilitate the dematerialisation of their securities in coordination with Depositories and Share Transfer Agents. Any grievances arising out of such Dematerialization of securities will be handled by the IEPF Authority. The measure is expected to significantly enhance the Corporate Governance standards in the country.

**FINANCE**

**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Finance**

**10-September-2018**

**Extension of Due Dates for Filing of FORM GSTR-1 and FORM GSTR-3B in Certain Cases**

It has been observed that the number of taxpayers who have filed FORM GSTR-3B is substantially higher than the number of taxpayers who have furnished FORM GSTR-1. Non-furnishing of FORM GSTR-1 is liable to late fee and penalty as per the provisions of the GST law. In order to encourage taxpayers to furnish FORM GSTR-1, a one-time scheme to waive off late fee payable for delayed furnishing of FORM GSTR-1 for the period from July, 2017 to September, 2018 till 31.10.2018 has been launched.

In this regard, the due date for furnishing FORM GSTR-1 for the period from July, 2017 to September, 2018 has been extended till 31st October, 2018 for all registered persons having aggregate turnover above Rs 1.5 crores including the registered persons in Kerala, or whose principal place of business is in Kodagu (Karnataka) and Mahe (Puducherry). For taxpayers having aggregate turnover up to Rs 1.5 crores, the due date for furnishing FORM GSTR-1 for the quarters from July, 2017 to September, 2018 has been extended till 31st October, 2018. Notification Nos. 43 and 44/2018 – Central Tax dated 10th September, 2018 have been issued in this regard. For registered persons having aggregate turnover up to Rs 1.5 crores in Kerala, or whose principal place of business is in Kodagu (Karnataka) and Mahe (Puducherry), the due date for furnishing FORM GSTR-1 for the quarter July, 2018 to September, 2018 would continue to remain as 15th November, 2018 as notified vide notification No. 38/2018-Central Tax dated 24th August, 2018.

Further, for those taxpayers who will now be migrating to GST as per the procedure specified in notification No. 31/2018-Central Tax, dated 06.08.2018, the last date for furnishing the details of outward supplies of goods or services or both in FORM GSTR-1 and for filing the return in FORM GSTR-3B for the months of July, 2017 to November, 2018 has been extended till 31.12.2018. Notification Nos. 45, 46 and 47/2018 – Central Tax dated 10th September, 2018 have thus been issued for extension of dates for filing FORM GSTR-3B.

It is hereby clarified that as per the provisions of section 16 (4) of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, the registered person shall not be entitled to take input tax credit in respect of any invoice after the due date of furnishing of the return for the month of September following the end of financial year to which such invoice pertains; or furnishing of the relevant annual return, whichever is earlier. The taxpayers are thus, advised to furnish their returns on time to ensure that input tax credit does not become time barred.

Circular No. 67/41/2018-DOR

**F.No.S.31011/11/2018-ST-I-DoR**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Finance**  
**Department of Revenue**

New Delhi, Dated the 28th September, 2018

To,

1. Secretaries of the Central Ministries as pe list enclosed.
2. Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs with legislature/ UTs without Legislature.
3. All Finance Secretaries/ CCTs of the States/ UTs with Legislature/UTs without Legislature.
4. Chairman CBIC /All Principal Chief Commissioners/ Chief Commissioners/ Principal Commissioners/ Commissioners of Central Tax (through Member, GST, CBIC)
5. Pr.Chief Controller of Accounts, CBIC.

Madam/Sir,

**Subject: Modification to the Guidelines for Deductions and Deposits of TDS by the DDO under GST as clarified in Circular No. 65/39/2018-DOR dated 14.09.2018 - reg**

Circular No. 65/39/2018-DOR dated 14/09/2018, vide which Guidelines for Deductions and Deposits of TDS by the DDO under GST had been issued by the Department of Revenue.

2. On the recommendation of the Controller General of Accounts, the Department of Revenue, hereby issues the following modifications to the said Circular:-

Para 9 (iv) should read as: To enable the DDOs to account for the TDS bunched together (in terms of Option II), following sub-head related to the GST-TDS below the Head 8658.00.101-PAO Suspense has been opened.

S. No.	Major Head	Sub Head Description	Major Head Serial Code (8-digit reduced accounting code)	SCCD Code
1.	8658-00-101	08-GST TDS	86580344	367

3. Difficulty, if any, in implementation of this circular may please be brought to the notice of Department of Revenue.

(Ritvik Pandey)  
 Joint Secretary to the Government of India

## LABOUR / COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

Press Information Bureau  
Ministry of Labour  
Government of India

20-September-2018

### Ministry Of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Officials to Visit Aspirational Districts

In a bid to understand and address the challenges faced by the district administrations in implementing skill programs and help develop capacities, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Shri Dharmendra Pradhan has approved a plan for visits of the senior officers of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurships to the 'Aspirational Districts' between October 2, 2018 and January 26, 2019.

Government of India has launched the Aspirational Districts Program to effectively transform the identified districts through convergence of Central and State schemes; collaborations among officers and creating competition among districts. This program lays emphasis on district to bring about overall improvement in the living standard of the citizens and ensuring 'Sabka Sath Sabka Vikas.' One of the key focus areas of this program is skill development.

The visit of officers of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurships will begin with a meeting with Districts Collector / CEO-Zila Parishad and other State level officers implementing the programs. The team will also have interactions with Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendras, training providers, ITIs, Polytechnics and JSS administrations. The team would also have conversation with students and industry present in these districts. This will enable a stock taking of the available skill ecosystem vis-à-vis the available data and provide good understanding of challenges to be addressed at the district level to make youth employable. A detailed reporting format has been prepared which would be utilized by the visiting team.

### Issue of Visa Recommendation Letter

Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) has been successfully offering the following services to its Members / Non - Members at a very nominal fee for more than three decades. Since BCIC has excellent working relationships with all the High Commission/Trade Offices, it is needless to mention that our recommendation has its

MEMBERS	Rs.240 per Letter	Please send in your request to the mail ID <a href="mailto:visaletters@bcic.org.in">visaletters@bcic.org.in</a>
NON - MEMBERS	Rs.360 per Letter (Introduction Letter of any BCIC member is mandatory)	

Contact : Mr. Prithvi  
Secretary



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