

Annexure A

1. Eligibility Criteria for Statutory Auditors (SAs)

- The minimum standards and eligibility norms as applicable for our Bank (as on date of application) for Audit firms to be appointed as SA shall be as under:

A-Basic Eligibility:-

Asset Size of Entity as on 31st March of Previous Year.	Minimum No. of Full-Time partners (FTPs) associated with the firm for a period of at least three (3) years Note 1	Out of total FTPs, Minimum No. of Fellow Chartered Accountant (FCA) Partners associated with the firm for a period of at least three (3) years	Minimum No. of Full Time Partners/ Paid CAs with CISA/ISA Qualification Note 2	Minimum No. of years of Audit Experience of the firm Note 3	Minimum No. of Professional staff Note 4
Above ₹1,000 crore and up to ₹ 15000 crore.	3	2	1	8	12

Note 1	Partners Experience	There should be at least one-year continuous association of partners with the firm as on the date of short-listing for considering them as full time partners.
Note 2	CISA/ISA Qualification	There should be at least one-year continuous association of paid CA with CISA/ ISA qualification with the firm as on the date of short-listing for considering them as paid CAs with CISA/ISA qualification.
Note 3	Audit Experience	The Audit experience shall mean experience of the Audit firm as Statutory Central Auditor/Branch Auditor of Commercial Banks (excluding RRBs)/ UCBs/ NBFCs/AIFIs. In case of merger and demerger of audit firms, merger effect will be given after 2 years of merger while demerger will be effected immediately for this purpose.
Note 4	Professional Staff	Professional staff includes audit and article clerks with knowledge of book-keeping and accountancy and who are engaged in on-site audits but excludes typists/stenos/computer operators/ secretaries/subordinate staff, etc. There should be at least one-year continuous association of professional staff with the firm as on the date of short-listing for considering them as professional staff for the purpose.

B- Additional Consideration:-

The Audit firms proposed to be appointed as Statutory Auditors should fulfil additional eligibility norms mentioned hereunder:

- The audit firm, proposed to be appointed as SAs for Entities, should be duly qualified for appointment as auditors of a company in terms of Section 141 of the Companies Act, 2013.
 - The audit firm should not be under debarment by any Government Agency, National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA), the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), RBI or Other Financial Regulators.
 - The Bank shall ensure that appointment of SAs is in line with the ICAI's Code of Ethics/any other such standards adopted and does not give rise to any conflict of interest.
 - If a partner of a Chartered Accountant firm is a director of the Bank, the said firm shall not be appointed as SA of the Bank.
 - The professional staff deployed by the SAs should have capability and experience in deploying Computer Assisted Audit Tools and Techniques (CAATTs) and Generalized Audit Software (GAS) in order to commensurate with degree/ complexity of computer environment of the Bank where the accounting and business data reside in order to achieve the Audit Objectives.
 - The SAs should have fair knowledge of functioning of Co-operative sector and should have working knowledge of the language of State (**Marathi**) where our Bank is located.
-