

Terms and Guidelines for Utkarsh Bangla Photography and Videography Competition 2026

PBSSD, Department of Technical Education, Training and Skill Development is conducting a PAN India photography and videography competition to encourage photography and videography enthusiasts from across the country to submit their evocative entries aligned with the theme “Skilling Lives, Skilling Livelihoods”.

Best entries would be awarded with exciting prizes besides being featured on the social media channels of Utkarsh Bangla. Entries of the competition would be accepted on email as well as on social media; the participants are encouraged to follow the official handles of “Utkarsh Bangla” as a pre-requisite to send in their entries.

Eligibility

- ❖ The contest is open to only Indian citizens including professional and amateur creators, regardless of age and gender.
- ❖ Entrants under 18 years of age require the permission of a parent or guardian. By entering the contest, entrants under 18 years of age indicate that they have obtained the permission of a parent or guardian.
- ❖ Employees of Department of Technical Education, Training and Skill Development and their immediate families are ineligible.
- ❖ The competition will run for a period of 10 days from the date of announcement on the official social media handles of Utkarsh Bangla.

Period Deadline

- ❖ The competition will run for a span of 10 days, from 21st January 2026 to 31st January 2026 (the competition may be extended further based on the discretion of PBSSD)
- ❖ Entries received before midnight; 31st January 2026 would be considered as valid for the competition.
- ❖ No application will be considered after the stipulated deadline.

Competition results will be published on our official website and all official social media handles post evaluation by the esteemed judges.

Terms and Conditions

- ❖ Photo must be in its original state and cannot be altered in any way, including but not limited to removing, adding, reversing, or distorting subjects within the frame. The contest participants will be responsible for submitting the correct information about themselves and the photo(s) and confirm that they are the authors of the submitted photo(s) or video(s).
- ❖ Participant may upload any number of entries matching the theme of the contest.
- ❖ Participant's post type must be “PUBLIC” to be eligible for the contest.
- ❖ Participants must share the entries on their Social Media accounts/pages tagging “Utkarsh Bangla” mentioning their name, district, social media handles and caption (in less than 100 words), as well as submit via email (utkarshbangla.2026@gmail.com) with Google drive link (open accessible set to “Public”) of the high resolution photo/edited video entry. Participants must mention their full address and phone number in the body of the email.
- ❖ Participants must further, in their post (contest entry post on their public profile), mention the link of the competition announcement (on Utkarsh Bangla page) in the comments.
- ❖ Participant must **mandatorily LIKE and FOLLOW the official accounts of “Utkarsh Bangla”** in order to participate in the competition. The URLs of the official accounts have been enlisted below –
 - Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/UtkarshBanglaPBSSD/>
 - Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/utkarshbangla/>
 - Twitter (X) - <https://twitter.com/UtkarshBangla>
- ❖ Photography contest:
 - Entry Format:
 - ✓ The widest side of the uploaded photo must be *at least 2,000 pixels*
 - ✓ File size should be between 5 MB (min) -15 MB (max).
 - ✓ Entries can be submitted in both landscape (horizontal) and portrait (vertical).

- ✓ Both black and white and colored photographs are accepted.
- ❖ Videography contest:
 - Entry format across platforms:
 - ✓ 30 seconds – 1-minute-long video/reel
 - ✓ Any equipment can be used.
 - ✓ If any language other than English is used within the video, English language subtitles must be included (but no subtitles are necessary if English is used).
 - ✓ Professional editing is allowed in videography competition.
 - ✓ Entries should be submitted *only in 16:9 or 9:16 formats*.
 - ✓ *Entry must not be posted as “Trial Reel” on their profile.*
- ❖ Photo(s)/video(s) must address the theme of Utkarsh Bangla as stated above, photo(s)/video(s) must not contain any defamatory, offensive, or discriminatory content, must not infringe on any copyright or trademark and should be suitable for all audiences.
- ❖ Entries will not be accepted unless submitted via both email (utkarshbangla.2026@gmail.com) as well as on their social media pages/accounts tagging “Utkarsh Bangla” mentioning their name, district, social media handles and caption (in less than 100 words) alongside. Acceptable format for photographs includes JPEG while videos would be accepted in .MOV or .MP4 or .AVI.
- ❖ Entries not submitted through the proper channel, following the above-mentioned guidelines will not be considered eligible.
- ❖ Entries will be judged on the following criteria: creativity, originality, message delivery, technical quality, alignment with the theme “Skilling Lives, Skilling Livelihoods”.
- ❖ PBSSD reserves the right to request for RAW or Unprocessed JPEG files or selected RAW Clips of the entries submitted by the participants for verification.
- ❖ Entries will be judged by the competent authority; all decisions are final. PBSSD reserves the right to disqualify any entry that is deemed inappropriate or does not conform to stated contest rules.
- ❖ By entering the contest, entrants agree that photos submitted can be used by PBSSD for branding and promotion purposes of Utkarsh Bangla. Entrants retain ownership of the copyright to their work.
- ❖ Submissions will not be accepted once the deadline lapses.
- ❖ Prize must be collected by the winner on the stipulated date (to be announced soon) and is nontransferable.
- ❖ The winner will be contacted via the email address provided during entry. If no response is received after 3 [three] working days, a new winner will be selected and the previous winner will forfeit all rights to the prize.

Disclaimer

- ❖ Department of Technical Education, Training and Skill Development is not responsible for any technical difficulties or delays in submissions.
- ❖ Department of Technical Education, Training and Skill Development reserves the right to disqualify any entries that do not comply with the terms and conditions.
- ❖ Permission for Use: Granting the Government of West Bengal the right to use and display your photographs/videos without any alteration across various platforms as mentioned above.
- ❖ Attribution: Your work will be attributed to you as the creator, with appropriate credit given in all instances of use. The standard credit line will be “[Photographer/Videographer’s Name] / Participant, Utkarsh Bangla Photography and Videography Competition, Government of West Bengal.”

Governing Law

This competition is governed by the laws of West Bengal, India.

Contact

For any inquiries about the competition, please contact utkarshbangla.2026@gmail.com or via direct message on our official social media channels.