Private E-Sevai Center
CSC Center
STAR RAINBOW SERVICES
VADAPALANI
8144337349

HELLO MADRAS
hellomadrasdaily@gmail.com
HELLO MIRROR MADRAS
RNI No.TNBIL/2021/81709
Daily Morning Newspaper
The Truth

RS Polyclinic

Fairfax COO says IDBI has potential to be finest universal Indian bank with global reach

CHENNAI – 14 Nov, 2026 Fairfax Financial Holdings' Rs 52,878-crore acquisition of IDBI Bank, clinched with an offer that beat the government's independent valuation benchmark, is set to pave the way for the Canadian investor to transform the lender into a diversified financial services powerhouse spanning banking, insurance, investment banking and wealth management, sources said.

Fairfax, led by billionaire investor Prem Watsa, offered Rs 81 per share of a 60.72 per cent controlling stake against the government's benchmark valuation of Rs 75.99, in a global competitive bidding process, people with knowledge of the matter said.

The offer price represented a 56 per cent premium to IDBI Bank's regulatory book value of Rs 51.85 per share as of March 31, 2026, excluding revaluation reserves and deferred tax assets. It was also about 15 per cent higher than the bank's closing price of Rs 70.38 on May 18, the last trading day before final offers were invited, they said.

IDBI Bank shares on the stock market have, since the announcement of the bid, traded lower than the offer price as it moved towards the bank's fundamental value as uncertainty surrounding the disinvestment eased, they added.

The disinvestment, people said, followed a global, transparent and competitive bidding process conducted by the government through its transaction adviser. All prospective bidders underwent a fit-and-proper assessment by the Reserve Bank of India, followed by detailed due diligence for those who qualified.

The policy framework for IDBI Bank's disinvestment was outlined in the Union Budgets for 2016-17 and 2021-22, with the formal sale process commencing in October 2022. The move followed a prolonged period of financial stress at the lender, which remained under the RBI's Prompt Corrective Action framework from May 2017 to March 2021 and required repeated capital infusions from the government and LIC.