



Government of Bihar

Panchayati Raj Department

पंचायती राज विभाग, बिहार, पटना

4th Floor, New Secretariat, Vikas Bhawan, Patna - 800015 Tel: 0612-2202229

Email: - secy-panchayat-bih@nic.in, Website: [www. https://state.bihar.gov.in/biharprd](https://state.bihar.gov.in/biharprd)

कार्यवाही:-

निदेशानुसार पंचायती राज विभाग अंतर्गत क्रियान्वित हो रहे योजनाओं के सूक्ष्म अनुश्रवण तथा नीति निर्धारण में सहयोग देने हेतु राज्य स्तर पर विशेषज्ञों की आवश्यकता हेतु एक Project Management Unit (PMU) का गठन किया जाना है, दिनांक 10.06.2026 को निविदा संख्या :- PRD/S-11/RFP/03/2025-26 में eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर प्रकाशित किया गया था। उक्त के आलोक में दिनांक:- 10.06.2026 से 15.06.2026 तक Online के माध्यम से प्राप्त Firms की Queries का उत्तर निम्न प्रकार है :-

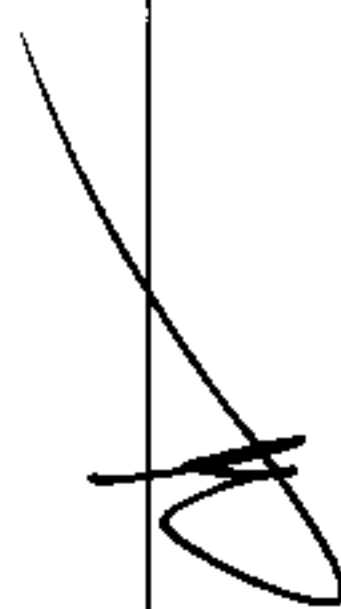
01. PRD/S-11/RFP/03/2025-26 में वर्णित turnover of firm के संबंध में यह संशोधन किया जाता है की " Average turn over of the the firm FY 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 का न्यूनतम Rs. 500 करोड़ होगी। Rs. 500 करोड़ या उससे अधिक turn over वाले firm का Technical Evaluation में भी अधिकतम अंक 10 के लिए मान्य होगा।
02. Annual turn over तथा उससे संबंधित प्रमाण-पत्र Statutory Auditor द्वारा ही मान्य होगा।
03. RFP Clause No. 3.1.2 तथा अन्य में वर्णित Transaction Advisory projects को Advisory projects समझा जाए।
04. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) की BG Commercial bank एवं Nationalised bank दोनों मान्य है।
05. RFP Clause No. 2.2.2(C) तथा अन्य में वर्णित Work Experience in Rural Area से संबंधित किये गये कार्य ही मान्य होगा।

दिनांक:- 10.06.2026 से 15.06.2026 तक Online के माध्यम से प्राप्त Firms की Queries का उत्तर निम्नवत है :-

Tender Reference No.: PRD/S-11/RFP/03/2025-26

Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
1	JPS ASSOCIATES	23	3.1.2	INR 500 Cr – INR 600 Cr – 5 marks >INR 600 Cr – INR 700 Cr – 8 marks More than INR 700 CR – 10 marks	With reference to the RFP for "Selection of a Technical Agency for setting up a Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) to support Panchayati Raj Department, Government of Bihar" (Tender Reference No. PRD/S-11/RFP/03/2025-26), we seek clarification regarding the requirement of an average annual turnover of INR 500 Crore during the last three financial years.	Please refer the above Point number-1 of this proceeding

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Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
					Considering that the scope of work primarily relates to PMU support, project monitoring, advisory services, capacity building, and project structuring, and that the consultancy assignment value is significantly lower than the prescribed turnover threshold, we would like to understand the basis on which the turnover requirement of INR 500 Crore has been determined. How does such a high turnover criterion relate to the successful execution of an assignment of this nature and scale? Further, how does the Department justify restricting participation to only a limited number of very large organizations when several experienced and technically competent consulting firms may possess the required expertise and relevant project experience but not the prescribed turnover? We also would like to know under what clause of the procurement guidelines of Government of India, you are authorised to prescribe this minimum turnover criteria in the RFP. Accountability of public servants is essential if Bihar as a state has to progress and arbitrary and ad-hoc prescriptions of this kind are not conducive for Ease of Doing Business by MSMEs. We would be grateful if the Department could kindly clarify the basis and rationale for prescribing such a high turnover requirement in relation to the scope and value of the assignment. We also request the Department to consider reviewing and rationalizing this criterion to encourage wider participation from qualified firms while maintaining the quality and competitiveness of the procurement process. 	

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Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
2	KPMG	25	3.1.2	Criterion No. 1 - Turnover of the firm "Average turnover of the firm in FY 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25. (Audited balance sheet / Turnover certificate) INR 500 Cr – INR 600 Cr – 5 marks > INR 600 Cr – INR 700 Cr – 8 marks More than INR 700 Cr – 10 marks"	Given that this assignment is for a specialised PMU in the Panchayat Raj / rural development sector, domain expertise and depth of experience are far more indicative of an agency's suitability than aggregate firm-wide turnover. In view of the above, we respectfully request the Authority to consider awarding full marks (10 marks) to firms whose average annual turnover falls in the INR 500–600 Crore range, recognising that any qualified firm meeting the minimum eligibility threshold of INR 500 Crore has demonstrated adequate financial capacity for this engagement.	Please refer the above Point number-1 of this proceeding
		25	3.1.2	Criterion No. 3 - Transaction Advisory Experience "Experience of undertaking Transaction Advisory projects in Rural Development/ agriculture/ horticulture/ Animal husbandry/ livestock development/ fisheries and related sectors."	We request the Authority to kindly consider experience in the areas of advisory support, programme design and implementation, scheme convergence and local planning in the domain of rural development/Agriculture etc. since transaction advisory would limit the scope of the work expected under a PMU of this nature. Accordingly, we suggest amendment of the clause to: Experience of undertaking projects in Rural Development/ agriculture/ horticulture/ Animal husbandry/ livestock development/ fisheries and related sectors, including advisory support, programme design and implementation, scheme convergence, local planning.	Please refer the above Point number-5 of this proceeding
		1		"Capacity building, training, and handholding support"	The Invitation of Bid (Page 1) lists 'Capacity building, training, and handholding support' as part of the indicative scope. However, the detailed TOR in Schedule 1 (Points 1–7) does not include a dedicated section on capacity building or training of PRI officials / Gram Panchayat members. Kindly clarify if capacity building support is part of the TOR	As Per RFP
		2		Last date & Time for submission of bid: 30/06/2026 at 11:30 PM	Given the scope of the assignment, we respectfully request the Authority to consider extending the last date of submission by at least 10–15 working days to allow adequate time to prepare a comprehensive and high-quality proposal.	As Per RFP

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Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
3	Pricewaterhouse Coopers Private Limited	11	2.2.2	Team member having educational qualification from NIRF ranked institutions is desirable.	We request relaxation of the clause stating that team members having educational qualification from NIRF ranked institutions is desirable. NIRF ranking is updated annually, and institutions are required to participate in the ranking process each year; therefore, absence from the ranking list in a particular year may not necessarily reflect the quality of education imparted by the institution. Many competent professionals have graduated from recognized institutions that may not be NIRF ranked in a given year. Broadening this criterion will ensure wider participation and fair competition without compromising quality.	As Per RFP
		9	2.2	The bidder should have a minimum average annual Turnover of INR 500.00 Crore from consultancy in the last 3 Financial Years(FY 22-23,23-24 24-25)	We seek clarification regarding the eligibility criteria on turnover/revenue, as the RFP refers to (i) average annual turnover of INR 500 Crore from consultancy, (ii) aggregate realization from sale/supply/distribution of goods and/or services rendered, and (iii) total revenues from professional fees certified by Statutory Auditors. Since these terms appear to have different meanings and may lead to varied interpretation, kindly clarify whether the eligibility requirement is to be assessed based on: Consultancy turnover only, or Total service revenue / professional fees, or Overall turnover excluding interest income. Kindly also confirm the exact documentary evidence required for compliance.	Please refer the above Point number-1 of this proceeding
		10 & 11	2.2.2 (A)	The aggregate value of the realization of amount made by the sale, supply or distribution of goods and/or account of services rendered by the entity during a Financial Year. For the avoidance of doubt, it is clarified that it shall not include interest earned from financial instruments.		As Per RFP
		11	2.2.3	The Applicant shall enclose with its Proposal, certificate(s) from its Statutory Auditors stating its total revenues from 2022-23, 2023-24 & 2024-25		As Per RFP
		12	2.2.6	An Applicant or its Associate should have, during the last three years, neither failed to perform on any agreement, as evidenced by the imposition of a penalty by an arbitral or judicial authority, or by a judicial pronouncement or arbitration award against the Applicant or its Associate, nor been expelled from any project or agreement, nor have had any agreement terminated for breach by such Applicant or its Associate	We request that this clause be relaxed/clarified to apply only to material breach or non-performance resulting in final, conclusive orders, and not to matters that are disputed, under appeal, stayed, or not material to overall contract performance. In large consultancy assignments, routine disputes, deductions, or proceedings may arise in the ordinary course of business and may not necessarily indicate poor performance or default. Restricting eligibility on the basis of any penalty, pronouncement, or termination, without regard to materiality or final adjudication status, may be unduly restrictive and could limit competition.	As Per RFP

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Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
		00		Last date of submission of bid-30-06-2026	The clarifications issued against pre-bid queries may require corresponding changes in the technical proposal, team composition, supporting documents, and compliance approach. In this regard, We kindly request an extension of 21 days from the date of issuance of responses to the pre-bid queries for submission of proposals.	As Per RFP
		10	2.2	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) is to be submitted through manual mode in the form of a Bank Guarantee (BG), duly issued by any nationalized bank. The original hard copy of the EMD, i.e., BG, shall be submitted to the office of the tendering authority before the bid submission deadline, in favour of the Secretary, Panchayati Raj Department, Government of Bihar, and payable at Patna.	We seek clarification regarding the acceptable issuing bank for submission of the EMD/Bid Security, as one clause provides that the Bank Guarantee should be issued by a nationalized bank, whereas another clause permits submission through any Commercial Bank (including e-Bank Guarantee)	Please refer the above Point number-4 of this proceeding
		19	2.20.1	The Applicant shall furnish, as part of its Proposal, a bid security of INR 10 Lakh. The bid security may be submitted in the form of a Bank Guarantee (including e-Bank Guarantee) from any Commercial Bank, in an acceptable form safeguarding the purchaser's interest, in favour of the Secretary, Panchayati Raj Department, Government of Bihar		As Per RFP
		10	2.2.2 C, Sr. no.1	Team Leader Qualification: Masters in Rural Management/MSW/MBA /PGDRM or equivalent with at least 10 years , of experience	We respectfully request that the eligibility criteria for the position of Team Leader be revised to include candidates who have completed the Post Graduate Diploma in Rural Development Management (PGDRM) from NIRDPR, Hyderabad. The PGDRM curriculum includes relevant components such as Panchayati Raj, rural development, and related governance subjects, which are aligned with the requirements of the assignment.. This modification will help ensure a wider range of participation from qualified professionals while maintaining the quality expected for the assignment.	As Per RFP



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Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
		10	2.2.2 C, Sr no.2	Local Self-Governance Expert Qualification: Masters in Rural Management/Sociology/MSW/MBA/PGDRM or equivalent with at least 6 years , of experience	We respectfully request that the eligibility criteria for the position of Local Self Governance be revised to include candidates who have completed the Post Graduate Diploma in Rural Development Management (PGDRDM) from NIRDPR, Hyderabad. The PGDRDM curriculum includes relevant components such as Panchayati Raj, rural development, and related governance subjects, which are aligned with the requirements of the assignment.. This modification will help ensure a wider range of participation from qualified professionals while maintaining the quality expected for the assignment.	As Per RFP
		10	2.2.2 C, Sr no.4	Finance Expert Qualification: CA/MBA with at least 6 years , of experience in handling Government Department's Accounting processes and compliances	We respectfully request that the eligibility criteria for the position of Finance Expert be revised to include candidates who have completed a PG Diploma in Financial Management, M.Com, PG Diploma in Banking and Finance, or any other relevant qualification in a related field from a recognized institution. This modification will help ensure a wider range of participation from qualified professionals while maintaining the quality expected for the assignment.	As Per RFP
		24	3.1.1 point no.2	PMU experience in Rural Development/Panchayati Raj/Agriculture/Animal Husbandary/fisheries sector in last three years	We respectfully request that the above criterion may kindly be broadened to include allied and relevant development sectors, and the experience period may also be extended suitably. Further, limiting the experience to the last three years may narrow the pool of eligible bidders. Extending the reference period to the last five years would help accommodate a broader range of qualified and experienced agencies. In view of the above, we request that the criterion may kindly be revised as follows: PMU experience in Rural Development/Panchayati Raj/Agriculture/Animal Husbandry/Fisheries/Social Development/Community Development/Livelihoods/Skill Development sector(s) in the last five years.	As Per RFP
		24	3.1.1 point no.3	Experience of undertaking Transaction Advisory Projects in Rural Development/Animal Husbandary/livestock development/fisheries and related sectors	We respectfully request that the above criterion may kindly be broadened to include allied and relevant development sectors, and the experience period may also be extended suitably. Experience of undertaking Transaction Advisory Projects in Rural Development/Skill development/Livelihoods/Agriculture/horticulture/Animal Husbandary/livestock development/fisheries and related sectors	As Per RFP

Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
		24	3.1.1 point no.5	Evaluation of CVs of proposed team 50% weightage on meeting educational qualification 50% weightage on relevance of experience	We respectfully submit that, for PMU and similar implementation-focused assignments, the practical relevance and depth of experience of the proposed team are often more indicative of successful delivery than academic qualifications alone. A higher weightage to relevant experience would therefore help ensure selection of personnel with stronger domain understanding, field exposure, and programme execution capability. Accordingly, we request that the evaluation criterion may kindly be revised as follows: Evaluation of CVs of proposed team: 30% weightage on educational qualification and 70% weightage on relevance of experience	As Per RFP
		32	B-Scope of work	The PMU will support GPs in preparing bankable projects, sourcing credit, and facilitating in Project Structuring, opting for feasible procurement model or public-private partnership (PPP) or Hybrid Annuity Model. Additionally, the PMU will also serve as advisory unit for enabling GPs in identifying, preparation, structuring, planning, designing, implementation (procurement) of the projects, ensuring that the projects are efficiently executed and provide long-term financial sustainability for the selected GPs. The primary objective of the Department through this initiative is to empower selected GPs to utilise and increase their resource by implementing bankable projects	• We would like to seek clarity on the exact scope of the PMU's responsibility in relation to preparing "bankable projects." Will the PMU be required to prepare detailed project reports, financial models, and lender-facing documentation, or will its role be limited to advisory support? • With respect to "sourcing credit," please confirm whether the PMU is expected only to identify potential financing institutions and support discussions, or whether it will also be responsible for securing financial closure. • With respect to procurement, our understanding is that the role of the PMU is advisory in nature. Kindly confirm whether our understanding is correct.	As Per RFP
			B-Scope of work, Point 1	Project Planning & Design	We understand that the PMU is required to prepare concept notes, implementation strategies/plans, annual project implementation plans, feasibility reports, block cost estimates, financial feasibility reports, and approval notes for the Department. With respect to this our understanding is that the role of the PMU is advisory in nature. Kindly confirm whether our understanding is correct.	As Per RFP

Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
		32	B-Scope of work, point 2	Procurement Support	- The scope requires the PMU to prepare EO/Tender/Bid/RFP documents and assist in hiring engineering consultants. With respect to this our understanding is that the role of the PMU is advisory in nature. Kindly confirm whether our understanding is correct. - The scope includes assistance in bid process management, including pre-bid meetings, preparation of replies to bidder queries, and issuance of corrigenda/addenda. In this regard, we understand that the PMU's role is advisory and support-oriented in nature, while all statutory approvals and final decisions shall remain with the Department. Kindly confirm whether our understanding is correct.	As Per RFP
		32	B-Scope of work, point 3	Contract and Stakeholder Management support	Since the PMU is required to prepare concept notes, feasibility reports, cost estimates, and procurement documents. As per our understanding these necessary base data, surveys, drawings, and field inputs will be provided by the Department / concerned agencies. Kindly confirm whether our understanding is correct.	As Per RFP
		33	B-Scope of work, point 4	Digital & MIS	- Kindly clarify whether the Department will provide access to the required project data, source systems, and existing MIS platforms for dashboard development, and whether integration with any existing departmental / state systems is envisaged under the scope of the PMU. - The scope provides that the PMU shall support the Department in hiring agencies for development of a dashboard for project monitoring through an IT vendor. Kindly clarify whether the PMU is expected only to assist in the selection and onboarding of the IT vendor, or whether it will also be responsible for defining technical specifications, functional requirements, and performance standards for the dashboard. - With respect to procurement support for digital initiatives, we understand that the PMU's role shall be limited to support in preparing procurement documentation, assisting in bid process management, while the final approvals and decisions shall remain with the Department. Kindly confirm whether our understanding is correct.	As Per RFP

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Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
		33	B-Scope of work, Point 5	Support on accessing financial resources/ Credit Facilitation and Financial partnerships	- The scope requires the PMU to assist Gram Panchayats in accessing financial resources from NABARD, commercial banks, and other funding agencies. Kindly clarify whether the PMU's role is limited to facilitation, advisory, and coordination support only. - The scope includes assisting GPs in accessing financial institutions and credit agencies for infrastructure and revenue generation projects. Kindly clarify whether the PMU is expected to undertake direct liaison with such institutions on behalf of the Department / GPs, or whether its role is limited to advisory support and preparation of relevant documentation. - Please clarify whether the PMU is expected to prepare lender-facing documentation, such as financial models, repayment plans, project viability assessments, credit proposals, and related documents required by banks / financial institutions.	As Per RFP
		33	B-Scope of work, Point 6	Post Transaction Monitoring and Scheme Reporting	- The scope includes reporting on financial disbursement and management. Kindly clarify whether the PMU is expected only to track and report financial disbursement status based on information provided by the Department / implementing agencies, or whether it is also expected to verify, validate, and monitor fund utilization at the field level. - With reference to "financial disbursement and management," kindly clarify whether the PMU's role is advisory / monitoring in nature only, and confirm that the PMU shall not have any fund handling, fund disbursement, or financial approval authority.	As Per RFP
		31-33	B – Scope of Work	PMU supports planning, bankable projects, PPP/HAM structuring	We would like to seek clarity on whether all Scope of Work activities are intended to be aligned with devolved functions of Panchayati Raj institutions and exercised within their statutory mandate, and whether project identification will originate from GPDP-based planning with convergence across GP-PS-ZP tiers including DPC integration.	As Per RFP
		33	Point 5 – Credit Facilitation	Assist GPs in accessing financial resources, credit, PPP, and financing models	Clause 5 introduces credit-based and market-linked financing mechanisms. We would like to seek clarity on the institutional and legal framework under which such financing will be undertaken, whether financial liabilities will rest with Gram Panchayats or be anchored at State/District level or any other and how such approaches will be aligned with GPDP-based planning.	As Per RFP
		33	Point 6 – Monitoring & Reporting	PMU shall establish KPIs and monitor project performance and outcomes	We would seek clarity on whether PMU performance will be evaluated based on delivery of advisory outputs or achievement of actual project outcomes, especially where implementation decisions are undertaken by PRIs or other agencies.	As Per RFP

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Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
		32-33	Project Structuring & Financial Models	PPP/HAM-based project structuring and financial partnerships	Kindly clarify the institutional framework for PPP/HAM implementation, including which authority (GP/Block/District/State) will undertake contractual obligations and bear financial responsibilities, and how associated risks will be managed.	As Per RFP
		32-33	Implementation & Sustainability	PMU to support project execution and long-term sustainability	We would like to seek clarity on project lifecycle ownership and responsibility across planning, execution, and O&M phases, particularly for projects involving external financing or PPP structures, and the role of PRIs vis-à-vis other implementing entities post completion.	As Per RFP
		7	1.9 Communication	All communications, including the submission of the Proposal, should be addressed to: Name and Designation: [Not specified] Phone: 0612-2202229 / 9473073792 Email: secv-panchayat-bih@nic.in and imis.biharpanchayatiraj@gmail.com	The RFP mentions the email address and phone numbers for communication; however, the name and designation of the contact person are not specified. Kindly confirm the appropriate contact person/name and designation to be addressed in the technical proposal cover letter.	As Per RFP

Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
4	Technology Potential Realization	2	4	Earnest Money Deposit – INR 10,00,000 (INR Ten Lakh Only)	INR 5,00,000 (INR Five Lakh Only)	As Per RFP
		9	1.7.1		INR 5,00,000 (INR Five Lakh Only)	As Per RFP
		11	2.2.1.2	The bidder should have a minimum average annual turnover of INR 500.00 Crore from consultancy in the last 3 financial years (FY 22-23, 23-24 and 24-25).	The bidder should have a minimum average annual turnover of INR 50 Crore from consultancy in the last 3 financial years (FY 22-23, 23-24 and 24-25).	Please refer the above Point number-1 of this proceeding
		11	2.2.1.5	The Bidder must have experience of at least two Consultancy of Strategy/Policy projects in Rural Development/Panchayati Raj/Animal Husbandry Sector with any Government Agencies/ Multilateral agencies with order value of more than INR 1 Cr during last five years.	The Bidder must have experience of at least two Consultancy projects in Strategy/ Policy/ Rural Development/ Panchayati Raj/ Agriculture/ Animal Husbandry/ fisheries/ livelihood/ forestry/ Education/ Industry/ Social Sector with any Government Agencies/ Multilateral agencies with order value of more than INR 1 Cr during last five years.	As Per RFP
		11	2.2.1	Bid Security of INR 10 Lakh	Bid Security of INR 5 Lakh	As Per RFP
		11	2.2.2 (A)	Average minimum turnover of INR 500.00 Cr during the three financial years i.e. 2022-23, 2023-24 & 2024-25.	Average minimum turnover of INR 50 Cr during the three financial years i.e. 2022-23, 2023-24 & 2024-25	As Per RFP
		12	2.2.2 (C.4)	CA/ MBA (Finance) with at least 6 years of experience in handling Government Department's Accounting processes and compliances	CA/ MBA (Finance) with at least 6 years of experience in handling MNCs / PSU/ Government Department's Accounting processes and compliances	As Per RFP
		25	3.1.2	Average Turnover of the Firm in FY 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 INR 500 Cr – INR 600 Cr – 5 Marks; >INR 600 Cr – INR 700 Cr – 8 Marks; More than INR 700 Cr – 10 Marks	Average Turnover of the Firm: INR 50 Cr – INR 75 Cr – 5 Marks; Above 75 Crore– 10 Marks	Please refer the above Point number-3 of this proceeding
		25	3.1.2	PMU experience in Rural Development/ Panchayati Raj/ agriculture/ animal husbandry/ fisheries sector in last three years (Work Order / LoA / Contract Agreement)	PMU experience in Strategy/ Policy/ Rural Development/ Panchayati Raj/ Agriculture/ Animal Husbandry/ fisheries/ livelihood/ forestry/ Education/ Industry/ Social Sector in last five years	As Per RFP

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Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
		25	3.1.2	Experience of undertaking Transaction Advisory projects in Rural Development/ Advisory projects in Rural Development/ agriculture/ horticulture/ Animal husbandry/ livestock development/ fisheries and related sectors. (Work Order / LoA / Contract Agreement/ similar should be furnished highlighting the engagement value)	Experience of undertaking Transaction Advisory projects in Strategy/ Policy/ Rural Development/ Panchayati Raj/ Agriculture/ Animal Husbandry/ fisheries/ horticulture/ livestock development/ livelihood/ forestry/ Education/ Industry/ Social Sector and related Sector (Work Order / LoA / Contract Agreement/ similar should be furnished highlighting the engagement value)	As Per RFP
		25	3.1.2	4 Marks per project Maximum three projects: 12 Marks	3 Marks per project Maximum three projects: 9 Marks	As Per RFP
5	BDO India Services Private Limited	9	2.2	The bidder should have a minimum average annual turnover of INR 500.00 Crore from consultancy in the last 3 financial year (FY 22- 23,23-24 & 24-25)Average annual turnover certificate signed by the Statutory Auditor for the year 2022-23, 2023-24 & 2024-25	We request the authority to kindly accept the Average Annual Turnover Certificate certified by a practicing Chartered Accountant (CA) as an alternative to the Statutory Auditor certificate, as CA-certified turnover certificates are issued based on audited financial statements and carry professional accountability under the Chartered Accountants Act. Such certificates are widely accepted in Government/PSU tenders and provide equivalent financial authenticity and validation.Hence request you to kindly modify the criteria such as:The bidder should have a minimum average annual turnover of INR 500.00 Crore from consultancy in the last 3 financial years (FY 22- 23,23-24 & 24-25)Average annual turnover certificate signed by the Statutory Auditor/ Chartered Accountant (CA) for the year 2022-23, 2023-24 & 2024-25	Please refer the above Point number-1 of this proceeding
		9	2.2	The bidder should have positive Net Worth as on bid submission date. Net Worth Certificate from the Statutory Auditor	Similar to the above criteria we request you to kindly modify the existing criteria such as: The bidder should have positive Net Worth as on bid submission date. Net Worth Certificate from the Statutory Auditor or Chartered Accountant (CA).	As per RFP
		23	CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION- 3	Experience of undertaking Transaction Advisory projects in Rural Development agriculture/ horticulture/ Animal husbandry/ livestock development fisheries and related sectors. work Order LoA/Contract Agreement Similar should furnished highlighting the engagement value marks per project maximum three projects	The given criteria is very specific and also does not align with the RFP's entire scope of work. Hence we request you to kindly modify the criteria as:Experience in monitoring and evaluation/ scheme implementation/transaction advisory/ data analytics/ capacity building/ institutional strengthening projects in Rural Development, agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, livestock development, fisheries, and related other sectors. Work Order LoA/Contract Agreement Similar should furnished highlighting the engagement value 4 marks per project maximum three projects	As per RFP
		67	Form-5	Certificate from the Statutory Auditor	We request you to kindly accept the Form-5 Financial Capacity of the Applicant issued by Chartered Accountant (CA) as well.	Please refer the above Point number-3 of this proceeding

Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
6	Protiviti India Member Pvt Ltd	2		Last date and time for submission of bid 30/06/2026 at 11:30 PM	Requesting you to extend the submission date by two weeks, as this will allow eligible participants adequate time to prepare a comprehensive technical proposal for your esteemed organization	As per RFP
9		2.2.1.4	The bidder must have Completed / Ongoing at least three projects in India in the capacity of Project Management Unit with Central/ State Govt. Agencies or Undertaking or its agencies with each order value of more than INR 1.00 crore during last five years.	The bidder must have Completed / Ongoing at least three projects in India in the capacity of Project Management Unit with Central/ State Govt. Agencies/ PSU/ Autonomous Body/ Public Listed Companies or Undertaking or its agencies with each order value of more than INR 1.00 crore during last five years.	As per RFP	
9		2.2.1.5	The Bidder must have experience of at least two Consultancy of Strategy/ Policy project in Rural Development Panchayati Raj/ Animal Husbandry Sector with any Government Agencies / Multilateral agencies with order value of more than INR 1 Cr during last five years	The Bidder must have experience of at least two Consultancy of Strategy/ Policy project/ IT Consultancy/digital transformation/e-governance scheme/Implementation in Rural Development Panchayati Raj/ Animal Husbandry/ Skill Development/ Infrastructure/ Banking sector with any Government Agencies / PSU/ Autonomous Body/ Public Listed Companies/ Multilateral agencies with order value of more than INR 1 Cr during last five years	As per RFP	
10		2.2.2.C.2	Finance Expert: CA/MBA (Finance) with at least 6 Years of experience in handling Government Department's Accounting processes and compliances	Finance Expert: CA/MBA (Finance) with at least 6 Years of experience in handling Government Department's / Large Private sector companies Accounting processes and compliances	As per RFP	
23		3.1.2.2	PMU Experience in Rural Development Panchayati Raj/agriculture/ animal husbandry/ fisheries sector in last three years	PMU/ IT Consultancy/digital F78transformation/e-governance scheme/Implementation Experience in Rural Development Panchayati Raj/agriculture/ animal husbandry/fisheries/Skill Development/ Infrastructure/ Banking in last three years	As Per RFP	
23		3.1.2.3	Experience of undertaking Transaction Advisory projects in Rural Development agriculture/ horticulture/ Animal husbandry/ livestock development/ fisheries and related sectors.	Experience of undertaking Transaction Advisory/ PMU/ IT Consultancy/digital transformation/e-governance scheme/Implementation / projects in Rural Development agriculture/ horticulture/ Animal husbandry/ livestock development/ fisheries/Skill Development/ Infrastructure/ Banking and related sectors.	Please refer the above Point number-5 of this proceeding	




Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
				Working Days	We assume that Consultants/ resources deployed will follow Govt of Bihar working hours and follow Working calendar issued by Govt of Bihar. And additionally two paid/ F82casual leaves per month shall be permitted, subject to prior approval by Dept/ Authority	As Per RFP
				Infrastructure	We assume that the Dept will provide adequate seating space/ basic infrastructure to all the respective deployed consultants/ resources deployed for this engagement, as required	As Per RFP
				Travel Cost	We assume that for all travel outside Bihar (if required during contract duration) for project related purposes - Dept will arrange suitable travels, accommodation as per standard or reimburse at actuals to bidder. Kindly confirm.	As Per RFP
				Work Location	We assume that all resources deployed for this RFP will be primarily stationed in Bihar for the entire duration of contract	As Per RFP
				Force Majeure	1) Bidder shall not be liable for forfeiture of its performance security, Liquidated damages or termination for default, if any to the extent that its delay in performance or other failure to perform its obligations under the contract is the result of an event of Force Majeure. 2) For purposes of this Clause, "Force Majeure" means an event explicitly beyond the reasonable control of the Contractor and not involving the contractor's fault or negligence and not foreseeable. Such events may be due to or as a result of or caused by act of God, wars, insurrections, riots, earth quake and fire, revolutions, civil commotion, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, trade embargos, declared general strikes in relevant industries, satellite failure, act of Govt. of India, events not foreseeable but does not include any fault or negligence or carelessness on the part of the parties, resulting in such a situation. In the event of any such intervening Force Majeure, either party shall notify the other in writing of such circumstances or the cause thereof immediately within five calendar days. 3) Unless otherwise directed by Tenderer in writing, the selected contractor shall continue to perform its obligations under the Contract as far as is reasonably practical, and shall seek all reasonable alternative means for performance not prevented by the Force Majeure event.4) In such a case the time for performance shall be extended by a period(s) not less than duration of such delay. If the duration of delay continues beyond a period of three months, Tenderer and the bidder shall hold consultations in an endeavour to find a solution to the problem. 5) Notwithstanding above, the decision of Tenderer shall be final and binding on the bidder regarding termination of contract or otherwise	As Per RFP

(Signature)

(Signature)

Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
7	Forvis Mazars	11	2.2.1	S. No. 2: The bidder should have a minimum average annual turnover of INR 500.00 Crore from consultancy in the last 3 financial years (FY 22-23, 23-24 & 24-25). Average annual turnover certificate signed by the Statutory Auditor for the year 2022-23, 2023-24 & 2024-25.	Requested Revised Clause: S. No. 2: The bidder should have a minimum average annual turnover of INR 50.00 Crore from consultancy in the last 3 financial years (FY 22-23, 23-24 & 24-25). Average annual turnover certificate signed by the Statutory Auditor for the year 2022-23, 2023-24 & 2024-25.	Please refer the above Point number-1 of this proceeding
		11	2.2.1	S. No. 5: The Bidder must have experience of at least two Consultancy of Strategy/ Policy projects in Rural Development/ Panchayati Raj/ Animal Husbandry Sector with any Government Agencies/ Multilateral Agencies with order value of more than INR 1 Cr during the last five years. Copies of Work Order/ LOI/ LOA/ Contract Agreement document/ Completion Certificate/ MOU.	Requested Revised Clause: S. No. 5: The Bidder must have experience of at least one Consultancy of Strategy/ Policy projects in Rural Development/ Panchayati Raj/ Animal Husbandry Sector with any Government Agencies/ Multilateral Agencies with order value of more than INR 1 Cr during the last five years. Copies of Work Order/ LOI/ LOA/ Contract Agreement document/ Completion Certificate/ MOU.	As per RFP
		11	2.2.1	S. No. 8: Bid Security of INR 10 lakh "Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) to be paid through manual mode (BG) duly issued by any nationalized bank. The original hard copy of EMD i.e. BG that should be submitted in the tendering authority office before the bid submission deadline in favour of Secretary, Panchayati Raj Department, Govt. of Bihar and payable at Patna." OR As per the guidelines of Ministry of Finance, MSME companies are exempted from submission of EMD amount. Our firm is a MSME firm and working with many Central and States government projects. We kindly request exemption from the EMD requirement in accordance with MSME provisions.	Requested Revised Clause: S. No. 8: Bid Security of INR 10 lakh "Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) to be paid through manual mode (BG) duly issued by any nationalized bank. The original hard copy of EMD i.e. BG that should be submitted in the tendering authority office before the bid submission deadline in favour of Secretary, Panchayati Raj Department, Govt. of Bihar and payable at Patna." OR As per the guidelines of Ministry of Finance, MSME companies are exempted from submission of EMD amount. Our firm is a MSME firm and working with many Central and States government projects. We kindly request exemption from the EMD requirement in accordance with MSME provisions.	As per RFP

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Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
		12	2.2.2	S. No. 3: Infrastructure Expert BE/ B Tech (Civil) with at least 10 years of experience	Requested Revised Clause: S. No. 3: Infrastructure Expert BE/ B Tech (Civil) with at least 7 years of experience	As per RFP
		12	2.2.2 (G)	IT Expert BE/ B Tech (Computer Science)/ MBA (IT) or equivalent with at least 6 years of experience	IT Expert BE/ B Tech (Computer Science)/ MBA (IT)/ MCA or equivalent with at least 6 years of experience	As per RFP
		25	3.1.2	Average turnover of the firm in FY 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 (Audited balance sheet/ Turnover certificate) INR 500 Cr – INR 600 Cr: 5 marks INR 600 Cr – INR 700 Cr: 8 marks More than INR 700 Cr: 10 marks	Average turnover of the firm in FY 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 (Audited balance sheet/ Turnover certificate) INR 50 Cr – INR 70 Cr : 5 marks INR 70 Cr – INR 90 Cr : 8 marks More than INR 90 Cr: 10 marks	Please refer the above Point number-2 of this proceeding
		25	3.1.2	PMU experience in Rural Development/ Panchayati Raj/ agriculture/ animal husbandry/ fisheries sector in the last three years (Work Order/ LoA/ Contract Agreement) 3 marks per project, maximum three projects	PMU experience in Rural Development/ Panchayati Raj/ agriculture/ animal husbandry/ fisheries sector in the last three years (Work Order/ LoA/ Contract Agreement) 4.5 marks per project, maximum two projects	As per RFP
		25	3.1.2	Experience of undertaking Transaction Advisory projects in Rural Development/ agriculture/ horticulture/ Animal husbandry/ livestock development/ fisheries and related sectors (Work Order/ similar should be furnished highlighting the engagement value) 4 marks per project, maximum three projects	Experience of undertaking Transaction Advisory projects in Rural Development/ agriculture/ horticulture/ Animal husbandry/ livestock development/ fisheries and related sectors (Work Order/ LoA/ Contract Agreement/ similar should be furnished highlighting the engagement value) 6 marks per project, maximum two projects	As per RFP

Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
8	IPE Global Limited	9	2.2.2 (A)	The bidder should have a minimum average annual turnover of INR 500.00 Crore from consultancy in the last 3 financial years (FY 22-23, FY 23-24, & 24-25).	The requirement for an average annual turnover of INR 500 Crore may inadvertently restrict the participation of several technically competent and specialized firms. To ensure wider competition and allow the Client to choose from a more diverse pool of qualified bidders, we request the minimum average annual turnover to be revised to INR 250 Crore for the last three financial years (FY 22-23, FY 23-24, & FY 24-25).	Please refer the above Point number-1 of this proceeding
		9	2.2	The Bidder must have experience of at least two Consultancy of Strategy/ Policy project in Rural Development/ Panchayati Raj/ Animal Husbandry Sector with any Government Agencies / Multilateral agencies with order value of more than INR 1 Cr during last five years.	We request the Client to modify the eligibility criteria to: 'The Bidder must have experience of at least two Consultancy of Strategy/ Policy project in Rural Development/ Panchayati Raj/ Urban Development/ ULB/ Tourism/ Animal Husbandry Sector with any Government Agencies / Multilateral agencies with order value of more than INR 1 Cr during last five years.' This will ensure the selection of a Consultant with the specialized fiscal expertise required to improve the financial health of Panchayats.	As per RFP
		10	Point (C)	1. Team Leader cum Rural Development Expert – Masters in Rural Management/ MSW/ MBA/ PGDRM or equivalent with at least 10 years of experience	Given that the primary objectives of this assignment focus on revenue enhancement, OSR mobilization, and fiscal reforms, we suggest that the Team Leader role be redesignated as Team Leader cum Finance Expert. To ensure the leadership has the requisite technical depth, we request the educational qualifications be revised to: Master's in finance/ economics/ public finance/ MBA (Finance)/ CA.	As per RFP
		23	3.1	1. Turnover of the firm INR 500 Cr - INR 600 Cr - 5 marks >INR 600 Cr - INR 700 Cr - 8 marks More than INR 700 Cr- 10 marks	In continuation to the query pertaining to RFP Page 9, Section 2.2 – Conditions of Eligibility of Applicants, Point 2 - we request to amend the turn over criteria as: INR 250 Cr - INR 300 Cr - 5 marks >INR 300 Cr - INR 350 Cr - 8 marks More than INR 350 Cr- 10 marks	Please refer the above Point number-1 of this proceeding
		23	3.1	2. PMU experience in Rural Development/ Panchayati Raj/ Agriculture/ Animal Husbandry/ Fisheries sector in last 3 years	Considering that GPs are at the niche stage of project implementations, we request the client to amend the following for relevant experience: PMU or similar experience in Rural Development/ Panchayati Raj/ Urban Development/ ULB/ Tourism/ Agriculture/ Animal Husbandry/ Fisheries sector in last 3 years	Please refer the above Point number-5 of this proceeding
		23	3.1	3. Experience of undertaking Transaction advisory projects in Rural Development/ agriculture/ horticulture/ animal husbandry/ livestock development/ fisheries and related sectors.	Considering GPs are at niche stage of project identification and planning and implementation, there is a grassroots governance and preparatory level work which will be required for panchayat as local govt to enable themselves for OSR enhancement. Transaction advisory is the last milestone, however, the entire process of OSR generation requires strengthening of the overall process of GP. Keeping this intent and aligning with the TOR, we suggest to amend as follows: Bidders must have three ongoing /completed assignments as MU/PMC/TSU/Transaction Advisory projects in Rural Development/ Urban Development/ ULB/ Tourism/agriculture/ horticulture/ animal husbandry/ livestock development/ fisheries and related sectors.	Please refer the above Point number-5 of this proceeding

Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
6	GT Bharat	9	2.2	The Bidder must have experience of at least two Consultancy of Strategy/ Policy project in Rural Development/Panchayati Raj/ Animal Husbandry Sector with any Government Agencies / Multilateral agencies with order value of more than INR 1 Cr during last five years.	We request clarification on whether both completed and ongoing projects will qualify in this criteria.	Yes
		10	2.2.2	Infrastructure Expert, Procurement Expert. IT Expert	We request clarification on whether the experience for these positions should be strictly in the government sector.	As per RFP
		17	2.16.6	Rates are to remain firm throughout the assignment period and until acceptance of the report / discharge of obligations.	Since the contract period is 24 months with possible extension by 12 months, please clarify whether any rate escalation/indexation will be permitted for the extension period, or after completion of 12 months / 24 months, particularly for manpower costs and statutory cost increases.	As per RFP
		21 and 46	2.27 and 3.9.3	Indemnity is unilateral in favor of the Authority. Clause 2.27 requires the consultant to indemnify the Authority up to 1x Agreement Value for direct loss/damage due to deficiency in services. Clause 3.9.3 also requires the consultant to hold the Authority harmless for claims arising from unauthorized use of consultancy documents or breach/failure in securing the Authority's rights. There is no reciprocal client indemnity.	Proposed clause: "The Client/Purchaser shall indemnify and hold harmless the Consultant/Bidder/Firm/Service Provider/Contractor/Agency for any losses incurred or damages suffered due to: (i) Third party claims; (ii) Any fraud, misrepresentation, or omission of facts by the Client/Purchaser or its personnel."	As per RFP
		21 and 45	2.27, 3.4.2-3.4.6	The consultant liability to be determined by Applicable Law. Hence, unlimited.	Proposed Clause: The aggregate liability of the Firm/Consultant/Bidder/Service Provider/Contractor/Agency whether in contract, tort, statute or otherwise shall be limited to the amount of the fees that the Firm/Consultant/Bidder/Service Provider/Contractor/Agency has received in connection with the Engagement	As per RFP
		23	3.1.2	2. PMU experience in rural development/Panchayati Raj/agriculture/animal husbandry/fisheries sector in last three years 4. The bidder should have experience of undertaking PMUs at the state/central level.	We request clarification on whether both completed and ongoing projects will qualify in these criteria.	Yes

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Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
		28 and 52	9.1-9.4 and 6.1	Disputes go through notice, amicable settlement, conciliation, then 3-member arbitration seated at Patna, Bihar, in English, under Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 and ICADR Rules unless otherwise agreed; courts at Bihar have exclusive jurisdiction.	Please confirm that arbitration under Clause 9.4 is the final and exclusive dispute resolution mechanism for contractual disputes, and that court jurisdiction in Bihar is only for interim relief, challenge/enforcement, and matters not arbitrable under law.	As Per RFP
		44	3.3	Confidentiality survives for two years after expiry/termination under Clause 3.3, while Clause 2.23 requires confidentiality during the selection process; proprietary and project information remains Authority property.	Please clarify whether the confidentiality obligation is intended to survive only for two years post termination, or indefinitely for confidential / government / personal / sensitive information. Kindly also confirm whether standard carve-outs apply, including disclosures to affiliates, professional advisors, insurers, auditors, and pursuant to law/regulatory process.	As Per RFP
		20,22 and 44-45	Confidentiality	The Agreement imposes confidentiality obligations on the consultant, sub-consultants and personnel for the term and two years after expiry/termination. It expressly permits disclosure where required by applicable law, judicial/administrative/arbitral process, or governmental instrumentalities, subject to prompt written notice and reasonable efforts for confidential treatment. This means compelled disclosure right exists. However, there is no express retention right allowing the consultant to retain copies for legal/professional regulatory purposes.	Proposed Clause: Retention rights clause: "The Firm/Consultant/Bidder/Service Provider/Contractor/Agency shall be permitted to retain copies of such Confidential Information as it is required to retain for legal or professional regulatory purposes..."	As Per RFP
		45	3.4.3	Liability clause excludes indirect/consequential loss, while Clause 2.27 provides an indemnity cap of one time Agreement value for direct loss/damage.	Please confirm whether the overall aggregate liability of the Consultant, including indemnity obligations, liquidated damages, and penalties, is capped at 100% of the Agreement value, except in cases of fraud/willful misconduct where expressly required under law. Please note that a clear aggregate liability cap is commercially important and helps avoid overlapping uncapped remedies.	As Per RFP
		46	3.7 (b)	Clause 3.7(b) states "entering into a subcontract is not allowed." Page 47	Kindly confirm whether the prohibition on subcontracting is absolute, or whether limited subcontracting / engagement of domain experts / empaneled specialists for non-core services may be permitted with prior written approval of the Authority.	As Per RFP

Sl. No.	Name of Agency / Bidder	Page No.	Clause No.	Existing RFP Provision	Query Raised by Agency	Department Response
		49-50	Clause 6.3, Clause 7.2, Clause 7.3	Monthly payments are contemplated; LD is 0.05% of total cost per week of delay, capped at 10% of total contract value; significant deficiencies may trigger other penal action including debarment as per policy.	Please confirm whether liquidated damages and any other penalties/withholdings are collectively capped at 10% of the contract value. Further, we request to reduce this cap to 5%.	As Per RFP
		57	Performance Bank Guarantee	6% of contract value	We would like to clarify the duration for which the PBG must be maintained	As Per RFP
		64	Form-2, Item 3	Disclosure sought regarding payment of LDs exceeding 5% of contract value / other penalties in the last 2 years.	Kindly confirm that past contractual LDs/penalties, if duly settled and not arising from fraud, misrepresentation, blacklisting, or subsisting adverse order, will not by themselves render the bidder ineligible.	As Per RFP

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23/06/2024
कसीम अहमद

संयुक्त सचिव-सह-विशेष कार्य पदाधिकारी,
पंचायती राज विभाग, पटना।