

Bid Corrigendum

GEM/2026/B/7410316-C8

Following terms and conditions supersede all existing "Buyer added Bid Specific Terms and conditions" given in the bid document or any previous corrigendum. Prospective bidders are advised to bid as per following Terms and Conditions:

Buyer Added Bid Specific Additional Terms and Conditions

1. OPTION CLAUSE: The buyer can increase or decrease the contract quantity or contract duration up to 25 percent at the time of issue of the contract. However, once the contract is issued, contract quantity or contract duration can only be increased up to 25 percent. Bidders are bound to accept the revised quantity or duration
2. File Attachment [Click here to view the file.](#)
3. Buyer uploaded ATC document [Click here to view the file.](#)
4. Buyer Added text based ATC clauses

For further queries, kindly contact the following email ID:

purchase-chennai@cdac.in

Disclaimer

The Additional Terms and Conditions (ATC) have been incorporated by the Buyer after approval of their Competent Authority. The Buyer, is solely responsible for the impact of these clauses on the bidding process, its outcome, and consequences thereof including any restriction arising in the bidding process due to these ATCs and including the modification of technical specifications and / or terms and conditions governing the bid. All representations / grievances pertaining to the ATC clauses shall be raised with the buyer organization directly and not with GeM. If any of the clause(s) is/are incorporated by the Buyer regarding the following, the bid & resultant contract shall be treated as null & void. Further, GeM reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to cancel the bid forthwith, without issuance of any prior notice or intimation :-

1. Publishing Custom / BOQ bids for items for which regular GeM categories are available (unless such Custom / BOQ item is bunched with the major regular product Category Item).
2. Mandating procurement of / from specific Brand / Make / Model / Manufacturer / Dealer except in case of Single Bid / Proprietary Article Certificate (PAC) Buying.
3. Inclusion of disqualification criteria related to suspension of seller / service provider, where such suspension period has already expired.
4. Mandating submission of documents in physical form as a pre-requisite to qualify bidders.
5. Publishing bids on GeM for procurement of works.
6. Procurement of Goods by creating a Service bid on GeM & vice-versa.
7. Seeking sample with bid or approval of samples during bid evaluation process. However, trial / sample, as the case may be, shall be permitted in cases where trial / sample are allowed as per approved and published procurement policy of the Buyers' controlling Ministry / Department / State / Public Sector Enterprises Headquarters. If there is any violation of trial / sample clause with regard to approved policy of the Buyers' Ministry / Department / State / Public Sector Enterprises Headquarters, then this is to be determined and redressed by the concerned Buyer Organisation only.

8. Seeking experience from specific organization / department / institute only or from foreign / export experience.
9. Creating bid for items from incorrect categories.
10. Reference of conditions published on any external site or reference to external documents/clauses.
11. Asking for any Tender fee / Bid Participation fee, as the case may be.
12. Buyer added ATC Clauses which are in contravention of clauses defined in bid detail section, including specifications, EMD Detail, ePBG Detail and MII and MSE Purchase Preference sections of the bid, unless otherwise allowed by the applicable GeM GTC.
13. Any ATC clause in contravention with GeM GTC Clause 4 (xiii) (h) will be invalid. In case of multiple L1 bidders against a service bid, the buyer shall place the Contract by selection of a bidder amongst the L-1 bidders through a Random Algorithm executed by GeM system.
14. In a category based bid, adding additional items, through buyer added, additional scope of work/ additional terms and conditions/or any other document. If buyer needs more items along with the main item, the same must be added through bunching category based items or by bunching custom catalogues or bunching a BoQ with the main category based item, the same must not be done through ATC or Scope of Work.

Further, if any seller has any objection/grievance against these additional clauses or otherwise on any aspect of this bid, they can raise their representation against the same by using the Representation window provided in the bid details field in Seller dashboard after logging in as a seller. Buyer is duty bound to reply to all such representations and would not be allowed to open bids if he fails to reply to such representations.

*This document shall overwrite all previous versions of Bid Specific Additional Terms and Conditions.

[This Bid is also governed by the General Terms and Conditions](#)

Annexure-I
GEM/2026/B/7410316
C-DAC(C)/SSM/RFP/OS-INDUSTRIES/01

1. HCLTech Query		
S.No	Clarification Requested from Bidder	CDAC Reply
1	Do alternative software components refers to the open source software ecosystem (OS: Linux, Compiler: llvm, Libraries: libomp, openMPI etc, job scheduler: slrum)? If yes, has C-DAC identified any preferred open-source license models (e.g., GPL, MIT, Apache) that are suitable for the proposed multi-variant OS ecosystem? If so, kindly specify.	The RFP does not mandate specific licenses. Use of open-source components (Linux, LLVM, MPI, etc.) is permitted. Preferred licenses and audit requirements will be finalized during the standards & specification phase of DPR preparation.
2	Are all the kernel variant Monolithic architecture based ?	The RFP does not mandate monolithic kernels. Evaluation of kernel models (monolithic, modular, hybrid, microkernel variants) is part of the scope of work.
3	Any analysis of Microkernel or Capability based Kernel needed ?	Yes. The RFP explicitly calls for evaluation of alternatives and design recommendations. Microkernel/capability-based architectures may be evaluated where relevant.
4	Is the Kernel derived from Linux kernel (like LTSI) ?	Not predetermined. Linux LTS/LTSI is a valid reference, but the RFP allows indigenous components, new kernel subsystems, and hybrid approaches. This decision is part of DPR technical recommendations.
5	Is 32Bit or 64Bit support expected ?	Not pre-specified. Expected: 64-bit focus for all major variants; 32-bit support only where required (embedded/legacy). Final recommendation must come from domain experts.
6	Any analysis needed for porting of existing OS distribution	Yes, if relevant to justify feasibility, cost, and strategic value. The RFP encourages studying existing IPs and ecosystems.

7	Kindly clarify the programming languages and their respective standards that are expected to be supported within the HPC ecosystem (e.g., Fortran, C, C++). Specifically, are there preferred versions such as -Fortran 2003/2008/2018 -C++11/14/17?	The RFP does not define language-version requirements. Typical HPC standards (e.g., modern Fortran, C/C++) may be included based on domain expertise.
8	Is compiler modification for language specifications in scope? (like fortran compiler modifications to support parallel specification - DO CONCURRENT construct, Coarray (Fortran 2008))	Compiler/runtime/toolchain enhancement is in scope where required for indigenous features. This includes Fortran parallelism or similar additions where justified.
9	Is the objective a single common security architecture or a reference architecture adapted per OS?	A common baseline security architecture is desired, with variant adaptations as needed. Detailed definition is part of the DPR deliverables.
10	How heterogeneous is the target hardware landscape? Is there a baseline OS that should anchor security decisions?	The OS must support x86, ARM, RISC-V and other indigenous SoCs. No single baseline OS is prescribed for security decisions.
11	Is Secure Boot required for all platforms or only select classes?	Secure Boot / Measured Boot is expected across all platforms, with variant-specific tailoring.
12	Are there any preferred approach for identity—centralized, federated, decentralized, or PKI-based?	Not fixed. Centralized, federated, or PKI-based models may be evaluated. Recommendation is expected from the domain partner.
13	Is key storage OS-native, hardware-backed, or external (HSM/KMS)?	Hardware-backed storage (TPM/secure elements) is preferred where available, but the RFP keeps software/hybrid solutions open.
14	Any specific compliance frameworks considered mandatory?	No mandatory list is provided. Compliance frameworks (ISO 27001, etc.) must be recommended by domain experts.
15	The Scope of work document mentions about multi-variant OS which is not limited to desktop, servers, embedded systems, mobile devices and HPC systems. Could we have this OS extended for Network Switches and Routers as it is not specifically listed.	The RFP lists minimum platforms. Network OS variants can be proposed if justified in the Technical Notes and Feasibility Report.

16	TCP and UDP are standard transport layer protocols, while QUIC is an emerging one. Could you please confirm whether QUIC is also required as part of the first version of OS.	Not mandatory for initial version. May be proposed based on domain analysis and relevance.
17	Which system layers are expected to be in PQC scope: Boot and firmware OS kernel and services Communications and networking?	PQC applies to: boot/firmware, kernel/services, communication stacks. Scope prioritization is part of domain recommendations.
18	Should PQC be treated as a cross-cutting capability across all five OS variants, or selectively applied?	PQC is expected to be a cross-cutting capability, tailored per variant.
19	Is there an expectation to align with NIST / national quantum roadmaps?	Yes. Alignment with national & global standards is expected.
20	Can open-source/third-party solutions be used, or must the algorithm be implemented from scratch?	Both are acceptable. Use of open standards/algorithms is encouraged; indigenous implementations may be proposed where strategically beneficial.
21	What are the specific requirements/benchmarks related to Boot performance, Kernel latency, CPU utilization, file system, process and memory management, storage, Inter-process communication, network, hardware acceleration?	The RFP intentionally does not prescribe numeric benchmarks. Domain experts must propose measurable KPIs, reference metrics, test frameworks, and interoperability and AI workload handling expectations.
22	What are the specific requirements/benchmarks related to supported CPU cores, supported RAM, dynamic scaling of CPU/RAM, Multi-tenancy, clustering, concurrency, driver support?	The RFP intentionally does not prescribe numeric benchmarks. Domain experts must propose measurable KPIs, reference metrics, test frameworks, and interoperability and AI workload handling expectations.
23	What are the specific requirements/benchmarks related to overall/high availability, time to recover, fault isolation, state management, monitoring?	The RFP intentionally does not prescribe numeric benchmarks. Domain experts must propose measurable KPIs, reference metrics, test frameworks, and interoperability and AI workload handling expectations.

24	<p>What are the Logging and Auditing requirements?</p> <p>What are the Interoperability requirements with other operating systems?</p> <p>What are the requirements for handling Neural processing, AI workloads?</p>	<p>The RFP intentionally does not prescribe numeric benchmarks. Domain experts must propose measurable KPIs, reference metrics, test frameworks, and interoperability and AI workload handling expectations.</p>
25	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is native support needed for both Type1 and Type2 virtualization? 2. What are the guest OS compatibility requirements? 3. What are the Interoperability requirements with other hypervisors? 4. Details about VM migration requirements (run a VM from another hypervisor, export a VM that can be run in another hypervisor) 5. Details about Security and isolation requirements for VMs and hosts (sandboxing) 6. What are the HA and Reliability requirements? 7. Details about Networking requirements (such as multi-NIC, VLAN support) and SDN requirements 8. Details about Storage requirements (file, block, distributed storage) and SDS requirements 9. What is the desired OS footprint for the containers? 10. What are the Interoperability requirements with other container platforms? 11. Details about Workload Migration requirements (run a workload from another container, export a workload that can be run in another container) 12. Details about Container security and isolation related requirements 	<p>All virtualization/container topics listed may be analysed. RFP does not freeze Type1/Type2 decisions, compatibility lists, hypervisor interoperability, or cloud-hosting requirements. Experts must include these in architecture & standards recommendations.</p>

26	<p>1. What are the Usage measurement and governance requirements for VMs and containers?</p> <p>2. What are the automation and orchestration requirements?</p> <p>3. Details about the type of API interfaces, and plugins for automation that need to be developed?</p> <p>4. Details about the desired interoperability with existing orchestration and observability frameworks?</p>	<p>All virtualization/container topics listed may be analysed. RFP does not freeze Type1/Type2 decisions, compatibility lists, hypervisor interoperability, or cloud-hosting requirements. Experts must include these in architecture & standards recommendations.</p>
27	<p>1. Apart from the standard on-prem DC, does the server need to support Hybrid Cloud model?</p> <p>2. Is there a requirement to deploy the server as a host on Cloud infrastructure?</p> <p>3. What are the key services that need to be part of the OS in a Minimal attack Surface build?</p>	<p>All virtualization/container topics listed may be analysed. RFP does not freeze Type1/Type2 decisions, compatibility lists, hypervisor interoperability, or cloud-hosting requirements. Experts must include these in architecture & standards recommendations.</p>
28	<p>Should the HPC OS architecture assume CPU-only clusters, or CPU + accelerator (GPU/NPU/Custom) heterogeneous systems?</p>	<p>Heterogeneous systems are in scope. Custom accelerators may be considered. POSIX compliance is generally expected but not mandated.</p>
29	<p>Is there a requirement to support custom or in-house hardware accelerators, that would necessitate corresponding changes across layers such as the compiler, runtime, and operating system?</p>	<p>Heterogeneous systems are in scope. Custom accelerators may be considered. POSIX compliance is generally expected but not mandated.</p>
30	<p>Our understanding is that the underlying kernel is expected to be POSIX-compliant, as higher software layers are typically built on top of this standard. Kindly confirm if this assumption is correct.</p>	<p>Heterogeneous systems are in scope. Custom accelerators may be considered. POSIX compliance is generally expected but not mandated.</p>
31	<p>Need Clarification on Contract Validity and Work Execution Period. Is the period is 3 Months or 1 Year</p>	<p>Contract validity: 1 year. Work execution period: 3 months. (As defined in Section VI)</p>
<p>2. Vayavya Labs</p>		

1	Primary Market Segment: Is the deployment of the "Indigenous Multi-variant OS" primarily intended for Government, Defense, and Critical Infrastructure, or is there a strategic intent to enter the mass consumer/retail market to compete with established global platforms?	The OS is intended for sovereign, strategic, national-critical use cases first, with future expansion to wider ecosystems subject to DPR recommendations.
2	From Scratch' Decision Framework: The RFP identifies the need for components developed "from scratch" where alternatives are "strategically undesirable". What specific risk metrics (e.g., auditability, backdoor concerns, or licensing) will govern these decisions?	Risk metrics will be derived from: security relevance, auditability, national sovereignty, absence of acceptable alternatives. The DPR must recommend this framework.
3	Upstream Alignment: For subsystems derived from open-source projects, what is the long term Upstream Strategy? Will India maintain a permanent "National Fork," or is the goal to merge indigenous security enhancements back into global repositories?	Not predefined. Experts are to propose upstream-tracking strategy or controlled national forking, based on risk, sustainability, and maintainability.
4	Hardware Startup Acceleration: How will the OS ecosystem reduce the time-to-market for Indian silicon startups? Will it provide a pre-validated "Hardware Compatibility" path to bypass lengthy driver development cycles?	Yes. Reducing silicon time-to-market is in scope. Experts may propose HAL standards, driver-tooling pipelines, and pre-validation frameworks.
5	Inter-Partner Technical Governance: As the selected partner must collaborate with other stakeholders (Academia/Startups), how will C-DAC resolve technical architectural conflicts between different L1 domain experts?	C-DAC will act as the final integrator and arbitrator in case of divergences.
6	Phased Deployment Roadmap: Can C-DAC elaborate on the "Phased deployment models"? Does the first phase prioritize Embedded/ICS or Desktop/Server infrastructure?	No phase is pre-selected. Partners are expected to recommend the most viable deployment sequence.

7	Competitive Differentiation: Beyond "Digital Sovereignty", what is the technical "North Star" that will make this OS more attractive to Indian OEMs than existing free open-source distributions?	To be derived collaboratively. Possible anchors include: sovereignty, verifiability, security posture, configurability, ecosystem openness.
8	Export Strategy: Is the architecture being designed to support international standards to allow for the export of the OS to other nations seeking digital sovereignty?	Yes. International standard compatibility is encouraged.
9	Maintenance and Sustainability: How does C-DAC plan to fund and manage Long-Term Support (LTS) and security patching for the ecosystem once the initial development phases are complete?	LTS and maintenance models must be proposed as part of the DPR roadmap.
10	Licensing and IP Co-existence: While deliverables under this contract become C-DAC property, what framework allows private industry to develop and own proprietary IP that sits on top of this sovereign baseline?	All IP generated during the DPR under this RFP, after onboarding, shall be the exclusive property of C-DAC. Pre-existing IP of the bidder may be retained by the bidder, but must be clearly declared and suitably licensed to C-DAC, if used. To ensure a level playing field and avoid vendor lock-in, no proprietary IP shall be included in the DPR deliverables. The DPR will define a common, open, and sovereign baseline to enable wider participation in subsequent development RFPs. Accordingly, incorporation of proprietary components that may restrict future competition is not permitted.
11	Universal HAL Specification: Does C-DAC envision a unified Hardware Abstraction Layer (HAL) that remains consistent across all five variants (Desktop, Server, Mobile, Embedded, and HPC) to ensure driver portability?	A common HAL philosophy may be proposed if feasible; final design depends on DPR recommendations.

12	Driver Automation: Given the requirement for a "Signed Driver Ecosystem", will C-DAC facilitate the use of automated driver generation tools to standardize peripheral onboarding?	May be proposed. No restrictions in the RFP.
13	Indigenous ISA Optimizations: To what extent should the system software be optimized for custom instructions/extensions in indigenous processors like Shakti or VEGA?	All require expert recommendation. The RFP does not mandate levels or priorities.
14	Hardware Compatibility Testing (HCT): Will C-DAC provide an automated Certification Suite that hardware vendors must pass to be included in the "Sovereign Baseline"?	All require expert recommendation. The RFP does not mandate levels or priorities.
15	Heterogeneous Compute Support: How should the system software handle offloading kernel-level tasks to indigenous hardware accelerators or specialized NPU/AI engines?	All require expert recommendation. The RFP does not mandate levels or priorities.
16	Legacy Peripheral Support: What is the priority level for maintaining driver support for legacy enterprise hardware versus focusing strictly on modern, indigenous silicon?	All require expert recommendation. The RFP does not mandate levels or priorities.
17	Virtualization Pass-through: For the "Server Operating System Group," will the HAL be required to support standardized virtio or pass-through mechanisms for indigenous hardware virtualization?	All these topics are within scope for analysis and require recommendations. No mandated design exists yet.
18	Firmware Update Pipeline: Will the "Firmware Update Pipeline" be centralized under a national registry, or will individual hardware vendors maintain their own signed update servers?	All these topics are within scope for analysis and require recommendations. No mandated design exists yet.

19	Indigenous Root of Trust (RoT): For "Secure & Measured Boot", is the mandate to interface with global TPM standards or to develop a driver stack for an indigenous Hardware Security Module (HSM)?	All these topics are within scope for analysis and require recommendations. No mandated design exists yet.
20	Sovereign TEE Framework: Regarding "Trusted Execution Environment (TEE) Integration", is the objective to utilize existing frameworks like OP-TEE or to architect a sovereign TEE for indigenous SoCs?	Typically TEE has two components: Hardware and Firmware/ Software. Focus is on firmware / software ecosystem. However both approaches i.e integration of existing frameworks and development of new frameworks may be supported.
21	PQC Hardware Offloading: Will the OS's cryptographic subsystem be required to support hardware-level acceleration for the proposed Post-Quantum Cryptography (PQC) algorithms?	All these topics are within scope for analysis and require recommendations. No mandated design exists yet.
22	SBOM Enforcement: How will the "SBOM Framework" be enforced at the binary driver level to ensure no "blobs" or unauthorized code exist in the hardware-software interface?	All these topics are within scope for analysis and require recommendations. No mandated design exists yet.
23	Anti-Rootkit Hardware Features: Should the system software recommendations include the utilization of specific hardware features (e.g., Pointer Authentication or Memory Tagging) to mitigate rootkits?	All these topics are within scope for analysis and require recommendations. No mandated design exists yet.
24	Secure OTA Chain of Custody: For Mobile and Embedded variants, what are the requirements for the secure chain of custody during "Secure OTA Updates with Rollback"?	Depending on the deployment use case, option should be provided to completely disable Rollback of OTA (for security reasons), however in specific deployment cases Rollback to older version may be facilitated.
25	Deterministic Latency Metrics: For the "Low-Latency Real-Time OS Variant", what are the specific microsecond thresholds required for interrupt latency and context-switch jitter?	RFP does not prescribe RTOS latency thresholds or safety certification levels. Build-system choice is open.

26	Functional Safety Standards: Will the Embedded OS deliverables be required to align with specific functional safety certifications such as ISO 26262 (Automotive) or IEC 61508 (Industrial)?	Yes, This is a possibility if the sector (Industrial/ Aviation/ Automotive etc) requires such standards to be incorporated. The DPR being developed will ensure that such implementations are brought in with a focused group to enhance the safety profile of the system targeting specific critical sectors like industry, aviation, automotive etc
27	Build System Approach: Does the "Sovereign Modular Embedded Distro" imply a Yocto/Buildroot-style build system optimized for indigenous hardware, or a fixed binary distribution?	It may be Yocto/Buildroot styled or any other popular setup according to the specific type of kernel finalized after evolving the DPR.
28	Industrial Protocol Support: Should the system software include indigenous implementations of industrial stacks (e.g., Modbus, CAN Bus, EtherCAT) or strictly the kernel-level driver support?	Industrial protocol scope depends on expert recommendations. Scope prioritization must be justified in Feasibility & Inception Reports.
29	Resilience in Disconnected Environments: What are the specific criteria for "Resilience and autonomy in disconnected environments" for embedded devices?	At the OS level, resilience for OS components of specific embedded sectors may be more important. Connectivity related resilience could be treated as stack specific requirements or application specific requirements. It is an interesting thought and may be considered, depending on the sector where it will be applied
30	Infotainment vs. ICS Hardening: Between "Infotainment Stacks" and "ICS-Hardened OS", which domain takes priority in the initial Feasibility and Inception reports?	No specific priority is prescribed. Bidders are expected to assess and recommend prioritization based on use-case criticality, security requirements, and feasibility within the initial Feasibility and Inception reports.
31	What does "dynamically modified scope during review" mean in practice? What is the change control mechanism for scope modifications?	Refers to: refinement during reviews, correction of assumptions, re-scoping based on technical feasibility. Changes will be controlled via formal review notes.

32	What is the baseline or reference architecture (if any) that C-DAC has already conceptualized? Or is this a greenfield initiative?	No fixed baseline is imposed. This is a greenfield architecture exercise, benefiting from prior C-DAC experience.
33	Are there existing C-DAC OS initiatives (e.g., BOSS Linux, PARAM) that this project builds upon or replaces?	Existing C-DAC work may inform design, but this initiative is independent.
34	For Embedded OS, what safety certification levels are expected (e.g., IEC 61508 SIL levels, ISO 26262 ASIL)?	To begin with ASIL-B may be targeted which can be systematically increased to ASIL-D based on the specific sector. Similar approach can be adopted for other standards
35	What is the target indigenous SoC for hardware/firmware work? Are specific RISC-V implementations (e.g., Shakti, VEGA) being considered?	Safety levels depend on use-case scopes proposed. Indigenous RISC-V (Shakti/VEGA) and others are in scope. Interoperability with national systems is desirable but not pre-specified.
36	What is the expected interoperability with existing government systems (e.g., DigiLocker, Aadhaar, UMANG)?	Safety levels depend on use-case scopes proposed. Indigenous RISC-V (Shakti/VEGA) and others are in scope. Interoperability with national systems is desirable but not pre-specified.
37	Is there provision for price escalation if scope increases under the "dynamic modification" clause?	No price escalation mechanism is provided in the RFP. Quoted prices remain firm for the contractual work.
3. AMI		
1	Please confirm that BIOS/firmware interaction with the OS is expected to be through industry standard interfaces such as UEFI, ACPI, SMBIOS.	Yes. Industry-standard firmware interfaces are expected.

2	The BIOS does not contain OS specific logic, SDK dependencies, or application level assumptions. Instead, it exposes hardware and platform behavior through standard firmware specifications that OS can consume. Can CDAC confirm the same	Correct. Firmware should not contain OS-specific logic beyond standards-compliant interfaces.
3	BIOS expected to support multiple OS variants (Desktop, Server, Embedded, HPC, etc.) using a common firmware build, please confirm	Yes, a common standards-based BIOS/firmware build is expected unless variant-specific hardware requires customization.
4	Are there any specific ACPI requirements, custom tables, or extensions expected beyond standard ACPI specifications? If yes, will these be explicitly provided or documented by C DAC?	No custom ACPI specifications are pre-defined. Requirements, if any, will emerge during DPR-stage hardware studies.
5	Can C DAC confirm that BIOS validation will focus on boot flow, hardware enumeration, power management, security, and standards compliance, and not any application or SDK level enablement?	Correct. Validation focuses on: boot flows, enumeration, power/thermal management, security features, and standards compliance.
6	Which OS families are considered in scope reference OSes for BIOS validation and compatibility testing during initial phase?	Not pre-defined. Typical references may include Linux LTS and other open-standard OSes. The DPR recommendations will finalize this.

ANNEXURE – II

Gem Bid Tender No:C-DAC(C)/SSM/RFP/OS-INDUTRIES/01

S.No	Topic	Pg.No	Point Number	Existing clause	Amendment Clause
1	Section -II Scope of Work	13	Refer pt. Number 1.9	Preparation & Submission of Inception Report, Feasibility Report & Detailed Project Report (DPR).	Preparation & Submission of Inception Report, Feasibility Report & structured inputs required for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR).
2	Section -II Scope of Work	18	Refer pt. Number 5.10	Inception & Feasibility Report, Standards & Specifications; & DPR.	Inception & Feasibility Report, Standards & Specifications ; &structured inputs required for DPR preparation.
3	Section -II Scope of Work	19	Refer pt. Number 7	New Clause No.7 is added	<p>7. Participation in Subsequent Procurement Processes and Safeguards Against Information Asymmetry</p> <p>7.1 It is hereby clarified that participation in this engagement for providing structured inputs for the preparation of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) under the Indigenous Multi-variant Operating System Ecosystem initiative implemented by C-DAC (“Initiative”), whether as an empanelled academic institution, industry partner, or startup, shall not, by itself, result in disqualification from participation in any subsequent Request for Proposal(s) (RFP), tender(s), or procurement process(es) arising out of or based on the finalized DPR, including but not limited to, development, implementation, integration, testing, deployment, or maintenance of the indigenous multi-variant operating system ecosystem.</p> <p>7.2 Notwithstanding the foregoing, participation in this engagement and eligibility for</p>

					<p>subsequent procurement processes shall be subject to the following safeguards, designed to ensure a level playing field, prevent information asymmetry, and maintain transparency and fairness in accordance with the extant rules:</p> <p>(a) Technology Neutrality and Non-Promotion of Proprietary Solutions: All inputs, recommendations, technical notes, architecture designs, standards, specifications, and other deliverables submitted by the Applicant/Bidder under this engagement shall be generic, technology-neutral, non-discriminatory, and in the broader interest of the Initiative implemented by CDAC. The Applicant/Bidder shall not, directly or indirectly, promote, advocate, or recommend any proprietary, vendor-specific, or commercially licensed technology, platform, framework, tool, or solution in which the Applicant/Bidder (or its affiliates, subsidiaries, associates, group entities, or key personnel) holds a financial, commercial, licensing, or other material interest, where such promotion could provide the Applicant/Bidder or any related entity an undue competitive advantage in any subsequent procurement process.</p> <p>(b) Prohibition on Influencing Technical Direction for Self-Interest: The Applicant/Bidder shall not, through its inputs or participation in workshops, consultations, reviews, or deliberations, seek to shape, steer, or influence, whether directly or indirectly, the architecture, design, technology choices, standards, specifications, or any other aspect of the DPR for the purpose of conferring upon itself (or its affiliates, subsidiaries, associates, group entities, or key personnel) a preferential</p>
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					<p>position, competitive advantage, or head start in any subsequent procurement process.</p> <p>(c) Independent Finalization of DPR: The Applicant/Bidder acknowledges and agrees that the final Detailed Project Report (DPR), including all technical specifications, architecture designs, standards, cost estimates, implementation roadmaps, and related outputs, shall be independently reviewed, evaluated, and finalized by the Expert Committee constituted by C-DAC. No participant in this engagement shall have any right, claim, or entitlement regarding the content, conclusions, or recommendations of the finalized DPR.</p> <p>(d) Uniform Disclosure to All Prospective Bidders: C-DAC undertakes that all relevant technical information, specifications, constraints, architecture details, and other material forming part of or derived from the finalized DPR shall be uniformly and simultaneously disclosed to all prospective bidders during the subsequent procurement process limited to development activity, thereby ensuring a level playing field. No DPR participant shall be entitled to receive, retain, or utilize any information advantage arising from its participation in the DPR preparation process.</p> <p>(e) Restriction on Use of Confidential or Non-Public Information: The Applicant/Bidder shall not, directly or indirectly, use, exploit, or leverage any confidential, non-public, or pre-decisional information obtained or accessed during the course of this engagement (including but not limited to, internal deliberations, draft outputs, preliminary findings, architecture discussions, evaluation</p>
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				<p>criteria discussions, or cost-related inputs) for the purpose of gaining a competitive advantage in any subsequent procurement process. Any such use, exploitation or action shall constitute a material breach of this engagement and shall attract the consequences specified herein, including but not limited to, disqualification, termination, forfeiture of security deposit, blacklisting, and recovery of damages.</p> <p>(f) Continuing Disclosure Obligation: The Applicant/Bidder shall, on a continuing basis, during the term of this engagement and for a period of two (2) years following the completion or termination of this engagement, promptly disclose in writing to C-DAC any circumstance, relationship, arrangement, interest, or development that constitutes or may reasonably be perceived to constitute a conflict of interest in relation to any subsequent procurement process arising out of the DPR. Such disclosure shall include, without limitation, any financial interest, equity holding, licensing arrangement, partnership, joint venture, subcontracting arrangement, or advisory relationship with any entity that is likely to participate in such subsequent procurement process.</p> <p>(g) Undertaking/Declaration: Each Applicant/Bidder shall, at the time of submission of its application/bid under this engagement, submit a duly signed and stamped Undertaking/Declaration in the format specified at Annexure-5A of this document, confirming acceptance of and compliance with all the safeguards set out in this Clause. Failure to submit the</p>
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					<p>Undertaking/Declaration in the prescribed format shall render the application/bid liable for rejection.</p> <p>(h) Consequences of Breach: Any breach or violation of the obligations set out in sub-clauses (a) through (g) above shall constitute a material breach of the terms of this engagement and shall entitle C-DAC, without prejudice to any other rights or remedies available under law or contract, to: (i) terminate the engagement forthwith without any notice or compensation; (ii) forfeit the security deposit/performance security furnished by the Applicant/Bidder; (iii) debar/blacklist the Applicant/Bidder from participating in any subsequent procurement process arising out of the DPR for a period of up to three (3) years; (iv) recover from the Applicant/Bidder all losses, damages, costs, and expenses (including legal fees) incurred by C-DAC as a consequence of such breach; and (v) report the matter to the relevant authorities, including the Central Vigilance Commission, for appropriate action.</p>
4	Section -II Scope of Work	21	Refer note	The selected Industry partner shall be required to collaborate with other stakeholders, including Academia and Startup identified by C-DAC, for the preparation of a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the proposed indigenous multi-variant operating system ecosystem initiative.	The selected Industry partner shall be required to collaborate with other stakeholders, including Academia and Startup identified by C-DAC, for providing structured inputs for the preparation of a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the proposed indigenous multi-variant operating system ecosystem initiative.
5	Section -V MILESTONE- WISE PAYMENT TERMS	29	MileStone 3 in the Table	Submission of Draft DPR.	Submission of Draft Technical inputs report.

6	Section -V MILESTONE- WISE PAYMENT TERMS	29	MileStone 4 in the Table	Submission of the final DPR, incorporating the governance models	Submission of the final Technical inputs report, incorporating the governance models:
7	Section-VII General terms	35	10. Conflict of Interest (Additional points have been included alongside the existing ones.)	<p>10. Conflict of Interest The bidder shall disclose promptly in writing any actual or potential conflict of interest that may arise during the tender process or execution of the contract. A conflict of interest may occur when the bidder’s interests could improperly influence the performance of its obligations under the contract. The bidder shall ensure that its personnel engaged in the project do not have any financial, professional, or other interests that may conflict with the interests of C-DAC. If at any stage it is found that a conflict of interest exists or can potentially exist or has been concealed, C-DAC reserves the right to reject the bid or terminate the contract, as deemed appropriate.</p>	<p>10. Conflict of Interest The bidder shall disclose promptly in writing any actual or potential conflict of interest that may arise during the tender process or execution of the contract. A conflict of interest may occur when the bidder’s interests could improperly influence the performance of its obligations under the contract. The bidder shall ensure that its personnel engaged in the project do not have any financial, professional, or other interests that may conflict with the interests of C-DAC. If at any stage it is found that a conflict of interest exists or can potentially exist or has been concealed, C-DAC reserves the right to reject the bid or terminate the contract, as deemed appropriate. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, a “conflict of interest” in the context of this engagement shall be deemed to include, but shall not be limited to, the following situations: (i) The Applicant/Bidder or its affiliates, subsidiaries, associates, group entities, or key personnel hold a direct or indirect financial, commercial, or material interest in any technology, platform, product, or solution that is recommended, advocated, or included in the structured inputs submitted by the Applicant/Bidder for the preparation of DPR; (ii) The Applicant/Bidder or its affiliates, subsidiaries, associates, group entities, or key</p>

					<p>personnel have a pre-existing or contemporaneous contractual, advisory, consultancy, licensing, or other commercial relationship with any other participant in this engagement, which may compromise the objectivity, independence, or impartiality of the inputs provided for the preparation of DPR;</p> <p>(iii) Any key personnel of the Applicant/Bidder simultaneously serve as employees, consultants, advisors, or board members of any entity that is a potential participant in the subsequent Development RFP(s); or</p> <p>(iv) Any other circumstance that may reasonably be perceived as creating an actual, potential, or apparent conflict of interest.</p> <p>The Applicant/Bidder further acknowledges that, given the consultative and advisory nature of this engagement and the fact that the DPR prepared, pursuant to the structured inputs received hereunder, shall form the basis for subsequent procurement processes of significant national importance, the obligations of fairness, impartiality, transparency, and avoidance of conflict of interest imposed under this engagement are of a heightened and fiduciary nature, and shall be construed and enforced accordingly.</p>
8	ANNEXURE – 5A (New Addition)	52	ANNEXURE -5A	ANNEXURE-5A is newly added.	Refer ANNEXURE-5A in updated RFP



प्रगत संगणन विकास केंद्र (सी-डैक)

Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC)

(इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय (MeitY), भारत सरकार की एक वैज्ञानिक संस्था)
(A Scientific Society of the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India)

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Chennai- 600113, Tamil Nadu (India)

**Request for Proposal
for
Engagement of Industry for Indigenous Multi-variant Operating
System Ecosystem**

RFP No: C-DAC(C)/SSM/RFP/OS-INDUSTRIES/01

Dated: 2nd April 2026

Disclaimer:

This **Request for Proposal (RFP)** is issued by the **Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC)** for the purpose of inviting proposals from eligible bidders for engagement as industry domain experts for the proposed Indigenous Multi-variant Operating System Ecosystem initiative.

This RFP document is intended solely to provide interested parties with information to assist them in the preparation and submission of their proposals. While due care has been taken in the preparation of this document, the information contained herein is provided **on an “as is” basis without any warranty, express or implied**, and is subject to change without notice.

C-DAC does not make any representation or warranty regarding the accuracy, completeness, or reliability of the information contained in this RFP. Interested bidders are advised to conduct their own independent assessment, investigation, and analysis of the information contained in this document and to obtain independent advice where considered necessary.

The issuance of this RFP does not constitute a commitment or obligation on the part of C-DAC to select any bidder or to award any contract. C-DAC reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to:

- Amend, modify, or cancel the RFP process at any stage;
- Reject any or all proposals without assigning any reason;
- Accept or reject any proposal in part or in full;
- Seek additional information or clarification from bidders;
- Empanel one or more bidders based on the evaluation process.

Submission of a proposal pursuant to this RFP shall be deemed to constitute **acceptance of all the terms and conditions contained in this RFP document and any other term(s) / document(s) associated with this RFP document, issued or published from time to time**. All costs incurred by bidders in connection with the preparation and submission of proposals, participation in meetings, presentations, or negotiations shall be borne entirely by the bidders and C-DAC shall not be liable for any such costs, regardless of the outcome of the selection process.

The information contained in this RFP shall be treated as confidential and shall not be disclosed or reproduced without the prior written consent of C-DAC, except to the extent required for preparation of the proposal.

1. Background

The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), an autonomous scientific society under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India, is undertaking an initiative to conceptualize, design, and architect an indigenous multi-variant operating system ecosystem capable of supporting diverse computing environments.

The proposed ecosystem is envisaged to support a wide spectrum of computing platforms including, but not limited to:

- Desktop Computing Systems
- Server and Data Centre Infrastructure
- Mobile Computing Platforms
- Embedded and Edge Computing Devices
- High Performance Computing (HPC) Systems

The initiative aims to establish a secure, scalable, resilient, and sovereign operating system ecosystem aligned with national priorities such as AtmaNirbhar Bharat, Digital Sovereignty, and secure national digital infrastructure.

In order to support the preparation of a Detailed Project Report (DPR) and development of a comprehensive technology roadmap, C-DAC intends to engage qualified industry and organizations possessing deep technical expertise in operating system technologies and related domains.

Accordingly, C-DAC invites proposals from eligible industry partners through this Request for Proposal (RFP) for providing domain expertise, technical inputs, architecture recommendations, standards framework, and ecosystem development strategies required for conceptualizing the proposed indigenous multi-variant operating system ecosystem.

2. Objective of the RFP

The objective of this Request for Proposal (RFP) is to identify, evaluate, and empanel qualified industry partners possessing proven expertise in various operating system technologies and related domains to support the conceptualization towards development of an indigenous multi-variant operating system ecosystem.

The empanelled industry partners shall provide technical expertise, domain knowledge, and strategic inputs to C-DAC for the preparation of a Feasibility Report, Inception Report, OS standards and Specifications, Detailed Project Report (DPR) and formulation of a comprehensive technology roadmap for the proposed ecosystem.

The selected industry partners will contribute structured technical inputs in areas including, but not limited to:

- Architecture design and system frameworks
- Technology roadmap and long-term sustainability planning
- Development of standards, technical specifications, and interoperability frameworks
- Security architecture and cyber resilience frameworks
- Ecosystem development including developer, vendor, and solution partner enablement
- Implementation strategy including phased deployment models
- Identification of domains for the generation / creation of new IPs.
- Explore / Study the existing IPs in the various domains of OS.

The engagement under this RFP is primarily intended to support technical analysis, architecture planning, ecosystem development, and structured inputs required for DPR preparation.

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ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Activity	Date	Time
Date of Release of RFP Document	2 nd April 2026	18 00 Hrs
Last Date of Sending Queries through email	8 th April 2026	1700 Hrs
Date of Pre-submission Meeting	8 th April 2026	14 00 Hrs
Pre-Submission Meeting Link	https://meet.google.com/wzq-kjck-rrg	
Last Date of Submission of Proposals	16 th April 2026	17 00 Hrs
Date of Opening of Proposals	As per GeM bidding Process	
Date of Presentation	Will be intimated	Will be intimated

SECTION-I: ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. The prospective bidders must meet the minimum eligibility criteria given below. Prospective bidder claiming exemption as per Govt. norms are required to submit relevant exemption certificates / references.
2. Submission of minimum supporting documents is mandatory for eligibility evaluation.
3. Documents may be self-authorized, institutional, or organizational in nature.
4. Evidence is required only for assessment of domain maturity and does not imply transfer of IP.
5. **Consortium Bid participation is not allowed under this subject RFP.**

S No	Description	Supporting Documents Required
1	<p>Registered Company in India</p> <p>The Bidder(s) interested in participating in the Selection Process must be a duly registered legal entity in India, under any one of the following categories with minimum Five (05) years (3 years for MSMEs) of existence as on 31 Dec 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Limited Liability Partnership (“LLP”) registered in India under the LLP Act, 2008.• An Indian Company (“Company”) registered under the Companies Act, 1956/ 2013 or any previous Companies’ Act.	<p>Registration documents of the Bidder as a company/firm or any legal entity along with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Incorporation Certificate of the firm• PAN Copy• GST Copy• MSME/Udyam Certificate (if applicable)

S No	Description	Supporting Documents Required
2	Operational Presence in Information Technology domain - Active operations in India for 5 years Minimum 5 years (3 years for MSMEs) as on bid publishing date.	<p>Certificate of Incorporation; PAN/GST; Udyam certificate (if applicable); audited financials (3 years)</p> <p>MOA of the Company / LLP Agreement for the LLP</p> <p>A signed and stamped declaration from the Company/LLP confirming that it has been engaged in the Information Technology domain for the past five years (three years for MSME), along with a detailed description of the products and services offered by it.</p>
3	Blacklisting Status - The bidder must not be blacklisted / terminated / debarred by any state or central government or their agencies and should not have been found guilty of any criminal offence by any court of law, in the last three (3) years	An undertaking (self-certificate) should be provided on agency's letter head that is duly signed by authorized signatory.
4	Proven expertise in at least one OS domain (Kernel, Security, Middleware, Hardware & Firmware, Network & Storage, Ecosystem, AI & Emerging Tech, Quantum, Desktop OS, Server OS, Mobile OS, Embedded OS, HPC OS)	<p>Minimum 5 years as on bid publishing date (3 years for MSMEs)</p> <p>- Documented project portfolio</p>
5	Availability of senior architects and domain engineers	3+ senior experts (10+ yrs), 5+ engineers
6	Experience in secure coding, cybersecurity practices, regulatory compliance	Documented compliance framework including ISO 9001-2015/ ISO

S No	Description	Supporting Documents Required
		27001-2015 Or above/ CMMI. Documented compliance framework (secure coding, cybersecurity practices) of the bidding firm.
7	Financial Stability - Positive net worth during the last three financial years-2022-23, 2023-24 & 2024-25.	Certificate by statutory auditor to be submitted
8	Turnover - The bidder must have a minimum average annual turnover of Rs. 80 Lacs during last three (03) Financial years-2022-23, 2023-24 & 2024-25. The turnover details of each year during last three years shall be submitted by the bidder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certified copy of Audited Financial Statements for the financial years 2022-23, 2023-24, and 2024-25 AND • Certificate by statutory auditor to be submitted for the average annual turnover.
9	Litigation Status - No major pending litigation affecting operational capability	Self-declaration affidavit; board resolution;
10	<p>Only Domestic companies are allowed to participate in this subject RFP.</p> <p>Domestic Company(ies): Domestic Company(ies) shall mean companies owned and controlled by resident Indian citizens, as defined under the Consolidated FDI Policy issued by the Government of India 2017, as amended from time to time.</p> <p>A company shall be considered as “owned” by resident Indian citizens if more than 50% of its capital is beneficially owned by resident Indian citizens and/or by Indian</p>	Supporting documents such as CA/CS Certified shareholding pattern confirming the holding/partnership percentage and residency & citizenship status of the respective shareholder/partner etc, along with the attested citizenship proof of the shareholders (e.g. Passport / Voter ID).

S No	Description	Supporting Documents Required
	<p>companies which are ultimately owned and controlled by resident Indian citizens.</p> <p>A company shall be considered as “controlled” by resident Indian citizens if resident Indian citizens have the power to appoint a majority of its directors or to control its management or policy decisions.</p>	
11	<p>Annexures 1 to 10- All annexures to be submitted along with technical bid cover.</p>	<p>ANNEXURE-1 BID COVER LETTER</p> <p>ANNEXURE-2 TENDER ACCEPTANCE LETTER & UNDERTAKING FOR NON-BLACKLISTING FIRM</p> <p>ANNEXURE-3 BID SECURITY DECLARATION (TO BE GIVEN ON COMPANY LETTERHEAD)</p> <p>ANNEXURE-4 MAKE IN INDIA DECLARATION</p> <p>ANNEXURE-5 CONFLICT OF INTEREST</p> <p>ANNEXURE-6 CERTIFICATE / UNDERTAKING FROM BIDDER WRT BENEFICIAL OWNER / BIDDER FROM LAND BORDER SHARING COUNTRIES TO INDIA</p> <p>ANNEXURE-7 AUTHORIZATION LETTER</p> <p>ANNEXURE-8 INTEGRITY PACT</p> <p>ANNEXURE-9 DATA DELETION UNDERTAKING</p> <p>ANNEXURE-10 NDA FORMAT</p>

SECTION-II: SCOPE OF WORK

The following represents a broad scope of work, but not limited to, in order to enable bidders to understand the baseline requirements. The scope may be refined, modified, or updated dynamically during the review process. Bidders shall propose new IP, novel security primitives, or indigenous OS subsystems, not found in existing upstream projects.

1. Strategic Objectives of the Engagement:

The engagement shall contribute to the following strategic objectives which forms an integral part of the scope of work of the common domain and device specific groups for all the OS Architectures (viz. x86, ARM, AMD64, RISC V etc. but not limited to), elaborated in subsequent paras:

1. Identification of existing components that may require indigenous development from scratch where suitable alternatives are unavailable or strategically undesirable.
2. Identification and conceptualization of new components or subsystems required to support the envisioned operating system ecosystem.
3. Recommendations for generation of intellectual property (IP) including patents, copyrights, trademarks, and other protectable assets.
4. Explore / Study the existing IPs in the various domains of OS.
5. Preparation of standards and technical specifications for all components envisaged under the proposed indigenous OS ecosystem.
6. Estimation of manpower requirements, cost implications, implementation timelines, and infrastructure requirements, to serve as structured inputs to the DPR.
7. Development of a technology roadmap supporting long-term sustainability and ecosystem growth.
8. HLD & LLD of the proposed indigenous OS ecosystem to serve as structured inputs to the DPR.
9. Preparation & Submission of Inception Report, Feasibility Report & structured inputs required for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR)

2. General Responsibilities

Resources onboarded under this engagement shall be responsible for:

1. Analysing existing global and indigenous technology landscapes relevant to their domain
2. Identifying gaps, risks, dependencies, and constraints
3. Recommending architecture, design principles, and technology stacks
4. Defining standards, interfaces, and interoperability requirements
5. Estimating effort, timelines, resource requirements, and cost inputs
6. Supporting formulation of implementation phases and milestones
7. Contributing to security, compliance, and resilience considerations
8. Providing inputs for Make-in-India, AtmaNirbhar, and ecosystem enablement
9. Participating in workshops, reviews, and consultations as required
10. Preparing structured technical inputs for inclusion in the DPR

3. **Common Domain Group.** All contributions under the common domain shall be developed using a modular, API-driven architecture, ensuring portability and seamless integration across all five OS variants (viz. Desktop, Servers, HPC, Mobile & Embedded). The bidder shall ensure adherence to common interfaces, shared libraries, and standardized frameworks to enable reuse, scalability, and maintainability across variants.

3.1. Kernel

1. Evaluate kernel architectures suitable for multi-device environments
2. Define requirements for modularity, scalability, performance, and reliability
3. Recommend real-time, deterministic, and security-hardened kernel features
4. Assess long-term maintainability and upstream strategy
5. Hardened LTS Kernel Baseline, Reproducible Build Framework, LSM Stacking & Policy Framework, Real-Time Kernel Variant, Virtualization Integration, Container Runtime Hooks, eBPF Observability, AI-Assisted Live Patching, etc.

3.2. Middleware / Toolchain

1. Define middleware layers for application, service, and device abstraction
2. Recommend compiler toolchains, build systems, and debugging frameworks
3. Assess cross-platform portability and developer productivity aspect

4. Hardware Abstraction Layer (HAL), Atomic Update & Rollback, Centralized Policy Engine, App Sandbox Model, Multilingual Framework, Accessibility Layer, Middleware Abstraction APIs, etc.

3.3 Security

1. Define end-to-end security architecture including boot, runtime, and update mechanisms
2. Recommend identity, access control, cryptographic services, and trust frameworks
3. Address compliance with national security and cyber resilience requirements
4. Secure Boot & Measured Boot, TPM, Supply Chain Security, SBOM Framework, AI-Based IDS/IPS, Anti-Rootkit Protection, Compliance Automation, VA/PT Framework, etc.

3.4 Hardware / Firmware

1. Assess hardware abstraction, firmware interfaces, and secure boot mechanisms
2. Define requirements for heterogeneous hardware platforms
3. Recommend strategies for vendor neutrality and hardware compatibility
4. Signed Driver Ecosystem, Firmware Update Pipeline, Indigenous SoC Porting, AI Plug-and-Play Peripheral System, Hardware Compatibility Testing, etc.

3.5 Network & Storage

1. Define network stack requirements for performance, resilience, and scalability
2. Assess storage architectures including local, distributed, and secure storage
3. Address fault tolerance, redundancy, and disaster recovery considerations
4. Secure Networking Stack, SDN Integration, Enterprise Storage Stack, HPC Networking & I/O, PXE Bootable Secure OS, Scalability Testing, etc.

3.6.Ecosystem

1. Define strategies for developer, vendor, and solution partner ecosystem creation
2. Recommend policies for onboarding, certification, and compliance
3. Assess sustainability, governance, and lifecycle management models
4. Indigenous Office Suite, Secure Browser, App Store & Registry, Developer SDK, LTS Governance Model, etc.

3.7. AI & Emerging Technologies

1. Identify integration points for AI/ML acceleration and inference frameworks
2. Assess relevance of edge AI, autonomous management, and observability
3. Recommend future-proofing strategies for emerging technologies
4. AI Telemetry Pipeline, AI Self-Healing Framework, Federated Learning, AI-Based Performance Optimization, Voice Assistant Integration, etc.

3.8. Post-Quantum Cryptography & Quantum-Related Considerations

1. Assess cryptographic agility and post-quantum readiness
2. Identify transition strategies and hybrid cryptographic models
3. Recommend roadmap alignment with global quantum developments
4. Post-Quantum Cryptography (PQC), Hybrid Key Management, Quantum-Safe Boot Study, National Quantum Mission Alignment, etc.

4. Device-Specific Groups

4.1 Desktop Operating System Group

1. Define requirements for stability, usability, and enterprise readiness
2. Desktop Environment & UI/UX Framework
3. Recommend UI/UX frameworks ensuring accessibility, consistency, and performance
4. Address customization and theming requirements
5. Application Store & Build Pipelines
6. Define secure application distribution, signing, and update mechanisms
7. Recommend CI/CD pipelines for desktop application ecosystems
8. Accessibility Compliance, Sovereign Office Stack Integration, Format Compatibility Validation, Hardened Browser Development, Enterprise Policy Enforcement, Secure Exam Mode Integration, Offline AI Writing & Coding Assistant, Offline Translation Engine, Centralized Configuration & Enrollment, Update Orchestration, Legacy App Compatibility, System Restore & Snapshot Rollback, etc.

4.2. Server Operating System Group

1. Define scalability, availability, and performance requirements
2. Virtualization / Container Technologies
3. Assess hypervisors, container runtimes, and isolation mechanisms
4. Automation & Orchestration
5. Recommend orchestration, configuration management, and observability frameworks
6. Address data-centre and cloud-native operational models
7. Minimal Attack-Surface Server Build, Service Minimization & Audit, CSI/CNI Plugin Development & Validation, Cluster Deployment Validation, Failover Services & Heartbeat Monitoring, CI/CD Pipeline with Security Gates, Automated Patch & Deployment Pipeline, Distributed Storage Validation, Sovereign MAC/MLS Kernel Module, MLS-Aware Network Stack, MLS Policy Management Console, etc.

4.3. Embedded Operating System Group

1. Define lightweight, secure, and modular OS requirements
2. Real-Time & Deterministic Components
3. Assess real-time scheduling, latency guarantees, and predictability
4. Ubiquitous Intelligent Network Stack
5. Define networking for constrained, distributed, and intelligent devices
6. Address resilience and autonomy in disconnected environments
7. Sovereign Modular Embedded Distro, Low-Latency Real-Time OS Variant, Safety-Critical Monitoring: Watchdogs & Fail-Safe States, Infotainment Stack & CAN Bus Integration, ICS-Hardened OS for Industrial Control Systems, Secure OTA Update with Rollback, Trusted Execution Environment Integration, etc.

4.4. Mobile Operating System Group

1. Define performance, power efficiency, and security requirements
2. Application Sandboxing with Privacy Controls
3. Recommend application isolation, permission models, and privacy enforcement
4. System-Level Mobile Management Agent
5. Define device management, policy enforcement, and remote-control mechanisms

6. Sovereign Baseline Build, Proprietary Blob Reduction, Secure Boot Chain with Device Attestation, Per-App Strict Isolation & Runtime Permission Monitoring, Sovereign App Distribution Platform, Device Enrollment, Remote Wipe & Policy Enforcement, Data Transparency UI & Compliance, Secure Biometric API Framework, OEM Customization Toolkit & Reference Device, etc.

4.5. High Performance Computing (HPC) Operating System Group

1. Define requirements for large-scale compute environments
2. Assess kernel optimizations for low-latency and predictable execution
3. Recommend scheduling and memory management strategies for HPC workloads
4. NUMA Topology-Aware Scheduler Tuning, High-Performance Networking & Storage Protocol Integration, Large-Scale Parallel I/O Integration & Validation, HPC Container Orchestration, Dedicated SOC for HPC Telemetry & Cluster Security, Benchmark Certification, Multi-Node Cluster Scaling & Failover Validation, etc.

5. Deliverables

The domain experts shall contribute the following deliverables for inclusion in the DPR:

1. Domain-wise technical notes and detailed recommendations.
2. Architecture diagrams, reference designs, and design considerations.
3. Technology evaluation and comparative analysis of alternative approaches.
4. Identification of components requiring indigenous development and new subsystem creation.
5. Draft standards, specifications, and interoperability frameworks.
6. Risk assessment and mitigation strategies.
7. Implementation roadmap including phases, milestones, and governance models.
8. Estimated manpower requirements, cost inputs, and implementation timelines.
9. Recommendations for IP generation and technology ownership models.
10. Inception & Feasibility Report, Standards & Specifications; & structured inputs required for DPR preparation.

6. Engagement Modality

11. Engagement shall be advisory, consultative, and contributory in nature
12. Inputs may be provided through documents, presentations, and workshops
13. All outputs shall remain the intellectual property of the sponsoring organization.
14. Confidentiality and conflict-of-interest obligations shall apply.

7. Participation in Subsequent Procurement Processes and Safeguards Against Information Asymmetry

7.1 It is hereby clarified that participation in this engagement for providing structured inputs for the preparation of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) under the Indigenous Multi-variant Operating System Ecosystem initiative implemented by CDAC (“Initiative”), whether as an empanelled academic institution, industry partner, or startup, shall not, by itself, result in disqualification from participation in any subsequent Request for Proposal(s) (RFP), tender(s), or procurement process(es) arising out of or based on the finalized DPR, including but not limited to, development, implementation, integration, testing, deployment, or maintenance of the indigenous multi-variant operating system ecosystem.

7.2 Notwithstanding the foregoing, participation in this engagement and eligibility for subsequent procurement processes shall be subject to the following safeguards, designed to ensure a level playing field, prevent information asymmetry, and maintain transparency and fairness in accordance with the extant rules:

- (a) **Technology Neutrality and Non-Promotion of Proprietary Solutions:** All inputs, recommendations, technical notes, architecture designs, standards, specifications, and other deliverables submitted by the Applicant/Bidder under this engagement shall be generic, technology-neutral, non-discriminatory, and in the broader interest of the Initiative implemented by CDAC. The Applicant/Bidder shall not, directly or indirectly, promote, advocate, or recommend any proprietary, vendor-specific, or commercially licensed technology, platform, framework, tool, or solution in which the Applicant/Bidder (or its affiliates, subsidiaries, associates, group entities, or key personnel) holds a financial, commercial, licensing, or other material interest, where such promotion could provide the

Applicant/Bidder or any related entity an undue competitive advantage in any subsequent procurement process.

(b) Prohibition on Influencing Technical Direction for Self-Interest: The Applicant/Bidder shall not, through its inputs or participation in workshops, consultations, reviews, or deliberations, seek to shape, steer, or influence, whether directly or indirectly, the architecture, design, technology choices, standards, specifications, or any other aspect of the DPR for the purpose of conferring upon itself (or its affiliates, subsidiaries, associates, group entities, or key personnel) a preferential position, competitive advantage, or head start in any subsequent procurement process.

(c) Independent Finalization of DPR: The Applicant/Bidder acknowledges and agrees that the final Detailed Project Report (DPR), including all technical specifications, architecture designs, standards, cost estimates, implementation roadmaps, and related outputs, shall be independently reviewed, evaluated, and finalized by the Expert Committee constituted by CDAC. No participant in this engagement shall have any right, claim, or entitlement regarding the content, conclusions, or recommendations of the finalized DPR.

(d) Uniform Disclosure to All Prospective Bidders: C-DAC undertakes that all relevant technical information, specifications, constraints, architecture details, and other material forming part of or derived from the finalized DPR shall be uniformly and simultaneously disclosed to all prospective bidders during the subsequent procurement process limited to development activity, thereby ensuring a level playing field. No DPR participant shall be entitled to receive, retain, or utilize any information advantage arising from its participation in the DPR preparation process.

(e) Restriction on Use of Confidential or Non-Public Information: The Applicant/Bidder shall not, directly or indirectly, use, exploit, or leverage any confidential, non-public, or pre-decisional information obtained or accessed during the course of this engagement (including but not limited to, internal deliberations, draft outputs, preliminary findings, architecture discussions, evaluation criteria discussions, or cost-related inputs) for the purpose of gaining a competitive advantage in any subsequent procurement process. Any such use, exploitation or action shall constitute a material breach of this engagement and shall attract the consequences specified herein, including but not limited to, disqualification, termination, forfeiture of security deposit, blacklisting, and recovery of damages.

(f) Continuing Disclosure Obligation: The Applicant/Bidder shall, on a continuing basis, during the term of this engagement and for a period of two (2) years following the completion or termination of this engagement, promptly disclose in writing to C-DAC any circumstance, relationship, arrangement, interest, or development that constitutes or may reasonably be perceived to constitute a conflict of interest in relation to any subsequent procurement process arising out of the DPR. Such disclosure shall include, without limitation, any financial interest, equity holding, licensing arrangement, partnership, joint venture, subcontracting arrangement, or advisory relationship with any entity that is likely to participate in such subsequent procurement process.

(g) Undertaking/Declaration: Each Applicant/Bidder shall, at the time of submission of its application/bid under this engagement, submit a duly signed and stamped Undertaking/Declaration in the format specified at **Annexure-5A** of this document, confirming acceptance of and compliance with all the safeguards set out in this Clause. Failure to submit the Undertaking/Declaration in the prescribed format shall render the application/bid liable for rejection.

Consequences of Breach: Any breach or violation of the obligations set out in sub-clauses (a) through (g) above shall constitute a material breach of the terms of this engagement and shall entitle C-DAC, without prejudice to any other rights or remedies available under law or contract, to: (i) terminate the engagement forthwith without any notice or compensation; (ii) forfeit the security deposit/performance security furnished by the Applicant/Bidder; (iii) debar/blacklist the Applicant/Bidder from participating in any subsequent procurement process arising out of the DPR for a period of up to three (3) years; (iv) recover from the Applicant/Bidder all losses, damages, costs, and expenses (including legal fees) incurred by C-DAC as a consequence of such breach; and (v) report the matter to the relevant authorities, including the Central Vigilance Commission, for appropriate action

Note: The selected industry partner shall be required to collaborate with other stakeholders, including Academia and Startups, identified by C-DAC, for providing structured inputs for the preparation of a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the proposed indigenous multi-variant operating system ecosystem initiative.

SECTION-III: EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

1. Technical Evaluation

- 1.1. Subsequent to submission of proposals, the Evaluation Committee of C-DAC shall ask the bidder to give a detailed technical presentation those who are getting qualified in the eligibility criteria.
- 1.2. The proposals will be examined based on eligibility criteria stipulated in Section-I to shortlist the eligible bidders.
- 1.3. The technical proposals of only the shortlisted eligible bidders shall be evaluated based on overall credentials, capability, experience, expertise and resources available with them.
- 1.4. The evaluation will be done broadly on the parameters with marks as defined below.
- 1.5. The minimum qualifying marks for the evaluation parameters stipulated in the table below shall be 75%.
- 1.6. The bidders getting less than the aforementioned marks will be disqualified.
- 1.7. C-DAC reserves the sole right for eligibility criteria and technical evaluation. The bidders whose technical proposal is found to meet both the requirements as specified above will only qualify for further processing.
- 1.8. C-DAC reserves the right to verify any references / documents given.
- 1.9. The report of the duly constituted evaluation committee will be submitted to the Competent Authority who reserves the right to reject any proposal document without assigning any reason.

2.Evaluation Criteria

S No	Description	Supporting Documents	Max Marks
Common Evaluation Criteria			
1	Presentation	Research Depth in Relevant OS Domain	
	Understanding of the Domain & Problem Statement	Demonstration of clear understanding of the relevant Operating System domain, current technological landscape, challenges, and opportunities.	5
	Technical Approach & Proposed Methodology	Clarity, feasibility, and robustness of the proposed technical approach, methodologies, tools, and frameworks to address the domain requirements.	10
	Innovation, Originality & Indigenous Capability	Novel ideas, research orientation, indigenous technological capabilities, and potential for creating differentiated solutions or IP.	10
	Team Competence & Execution Capability	Expertise of the proposed team members, experience in similar domains, and capability to execute the proposed work effectively.	10
	Vision, Scalability & Ecosystem Contribution	Long-term vision, ability to scale solutions, contribution to the larger OS ecosystem, and alignment with national technology objectives.	10
2	Domain-Specific Expertise (Kernel/ Security/OS etc.)	Project portfolio, Technical write-ups	10
Total			55
Domain(s) Specific Evaluation Criteria			
S No	Common Domain Group	Minimum Supporting Documents (Any One Category)	Max Marks
1	Kernel	Kernel architecture, scheduling, memory management, determinism Minimum 2 – Patents/ Technical publications / whitepapers (or) 1 - Prototype / PoC /	45

		Kernel module (or) Documented Industry / System deployment experience	
2	Middleware / Toolchain	Compilers, runtimes, build systems, developer tooling Minimum 2 - Patents/ Whitepapers / Technical notes (or) CI/CD pipeline / Toolchain documentation (or) Open-source contribution evidence	45
3	Security	Secure boot, crypto, access control, system hardening Minimum 2 - Patents/ Security architecture / Crypto design documents (or) 1- Security PoC / Implementation report OR Standards / compliance mapping document	45
4	Hardware / Firmware	Firmware, BSPs, Hardware abstraction Minimum 1 - Firmware / BSP design document and 1- Integration / Validation report	45
5	Network & Storage	Network stack, Storage architecture, Performance optimization Reports Minimum 2 - Architecture / Performance reports (or) 1 validated PoC / Benchmark report	45
6	EcoSystem	Governance, Onboarding, Certification models Minimum 1- Ecosystem strategy / Policy document and 1-Case study or Reference framework	45
7	AI & Emerging Tech	AI integration, Autonomy, Observability Minimum 2 - Patents/ Research papers / Whitepapers (or) 1- Experimental prototype / Framework Integration Note	45
8	PQC & Other Quantum Related Issues	Crypto agility, PQC transition strategy Minimum 1 - Patents/ Standards alignment / Whitepaper and 1-Experimental / Simulation report	45

	Device Specific Group	Minimum Supporting Documents	
9	Desktop OS Desktop Env & UI/UX Framework AppStore Build Pipelines	Minimum 1 - Architecture document (and) 1- Deployment / integration reference Minimum 2 - UI/UX framework / Design documents (or)1 working prototype Minimum 1- CI/CD pipeline document (and) 1 -Security / Signing workflow note	45
10	Server OS Virtualization / Container Technology Automation & Orchestration	Minimum 1- System architecture document (and) 1 - Operational / deployment case Minimum 1 -Virtualization / container PoC (or) Benchmark / Evaluation report Minimum 1- Orchestration design document (and) 1 - Automation workflow / Script reference	45
11	Embedded OS Real Time & Deterministic Components Ubiquitous Intelligent Network Stack	Minimum 1- Embedded OS build / BSP document (and) 1 - Validation Report Minimum 1 - Latency / Determinism analysis report Minimum 1 - Protocol / Architecture design document (and) 1 - Simulation / PoC report	45
12	Mobile OS App Sandboxing with Privacy Controls System Level Mobile Management Agent	Minimum 1 - OS architecture / Porting document Minimum 1 - Security / Permission model document (and) Minimum 1 - Implementation or PoC note Minimum 1- Device management architecture document (and) Minimum 1- Deployment or Prototype reference	45
13	HPC OS Deterministic Kernel NUMA – Aware Scheduling	Minimum 1- HPC OS design document (and) Minimum 1 -Performance Evaluation report Minimum 1- Kernel Optimization / Determinism study Minimum 1- Scheduler design document and Minimum 1 - Memory / Performance benchmark report	45

Note: Out of the total 100 marks, 55 marks are allocated to the “Common Evaluation Criteria” applicable to all bidders who qualify in the Eligibility Criteria stage of the RFP. The remaining 45 marks are allocated to the “Domain(s) Specific Evaluation Criteria,” applicable to bidders for their respective domain areas for which they have submitted bids.

SECTION-IV: BILL OF QUANTITIES (BOQ) & FINANCIAL QUOTATION

GUIDELINES

The **Bill of Quantities (BoQ)** is provided to enable prospective bidders to submit their **financial quotations for participation under this RFP**. The financial proposals shall be evaluated on a **Line-Item Wise basis**, and the **Lowest Quoted Bidder (L1)** for each individual line item shall be considered for selection, subject to meeting the technical qualification criteria specified in this RFP.

Bidders are requested to carefully read and comply with the following guidelines while submitting their financial quotes.

1. Structure of the BoQ

The BoQ is structured across the following categories of engagement:

1.1 Categories of Engagement

- Common Domain Group
- Device-Specific Group

1.2 Domain Selection

Bidders shall submit quotations only for the domain(s) and category(ies) for which they are applying and possess the relevant technical expertise and eligibility as specified in this RFP. The bidders are allowed to apply for all the line items (13) based on their domain expertise.

2. Basis of Quotation

2.1 Financial quotes shall be provided for each individual line item in the BoQ.

2.2 The quoted price shall be inclusive of GST (₹) and any other applicable taxes, duties, levies, and charges.

2.3 The price quoted by the bidder shall be firm and final and shall remain valid for the period specified in this RFP.

3. Domain-wise Quotation

3.1 Each domain or sub-domain listed in the BoQ shall be quoted independently.

3.2 Bidders may leave entries blank for domains or sub-domains for which they are not submitting proposals.

3.3 Bundled or consolidated quotes across multiple domains shall not be submitted, unless explicitly permitted in the BoQ format, as the financial evaluation will be conducted strictly on a **line-item wise basis**.

4. Selection Methodology

4.1 Financial evaluation shall be carried out on a line-item wise basis.

4.2 The bidder quoting the lowest price (L1) for each respective line item shall be considered for selection for that domain, subject to meeting the eligibility and technical qualification requirements specified in this RFP.

4.3 Selection of L1 bidder for a particular domain does not create any automatic entitlement for award of work, and engagement shall be subject to approval of the Competent Authority of C-DAC.

4.4 C-DAC reserves the right to accept or reject any financial bid, wholly or partially, without assigning any reason, and its decision in this regard shall be final and binding.

5. Bid Validity

The bid submitted by the bidder shall remain **valid for a period of ninety (90) days** from the **last date of submission of bids**.

During the bid validity period, the bidder shall **not withdraw or modify the bid** submitted. In case the bidder withdraws the bid during the validity period, appropriate action may be taken as per applicable rules.

6. BoQ Format (Indicative)

The actual BoQ need to be filled as per the GeM bidding process.

Serial No	Categories of Empanelment	Cost including GST (₹)
Common Domain Group		
1	Kernel	
2	Middleware / Toolchain	
3	Security	
4	Hardware / Firmware	
5	Network & Storage	
6	EcoSystem	
7	AI & Emerging Tech	
8	PQC & Other Quantum Related Issues	
Device Specific Group		
9	Desktop OS	
10	Server OS	
11	Embedded OS	
12	Mobile OS	
13	HPC OS	

SECTION V: MILESTONE-WISE PAYMENT TERMS

Payments under this contract shall be released milestone-wise upon successful submission and acceptance of the deliverables by C-DAC. The successful bidder shall submit the deliverables as per the scope of work, and the payment shall be processed after due verification and acceptance by C-DAC. The milestone-wise payment schedule shall be as follows:

Milestone	Deliverables	Timelines	Payment (%)
Milestone 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Submission of domain-wise technical notes, initial technical assessment, and detailed recommendations relevant to the assigned domain. ● Submission of Inception Report & Feasibility Report. ● Minimal 20 meetings (online) 	D+30 Days	20%
Milestone 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Submission of architecture diagrams, reference designs, and design considerations. ● Submission of the OS Standards & Specifications Document ● Minimal 15 meetings (online) 	D+60 Days	30%
Milestone 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Submission of Draft Technical Inputs Report ● Minimal 15 meetings (online) 	D+75 Days	25%
Milestone 4	<p>Submission of the final Technical Inputs Report incorporating the governance models:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Programme roadmap with defined phases and milestones ● Cost estimates and funding mechanisms ● Auditing, verification, and validation processes ● Collaboration and ecosystem development strategy ● Implementation approach across Desktop, Servers, HPC, Embedded, and Mobile platforms ● Minimal 10 meetings (online) 	D+90 Days	25%

Note:

- 1. 'D' denotes the Date of Award of Contract.**
- 2. Payment shall be made upon submission of a valid GST invoice and after acceptance of the deliverables by C-DAC duly certified by the designated expert committee in accordance with the applicable GeM payment procedures and Government of India guidelines.**

SECTION VI: AWARD OF CONTRACT AND WORK EXECUTION PERIOD

1. Award of Contract

- 1.1 The contract shall be awarded to the bidder who is technically qualified and has quoted the lowest price (L1) for the respective line item/domain in the financial BoQ, subject to fulfillment of all eligibility and technical qualification criteria specified in this RFP.
- 1.2 The selection of bidders shall be carried out on a **line-item wise basis**, and different bidders may be awarded contracts for different domains depending upon their **L1 position for the respective line items**.
- 1.3 The award of contract shall be placed through the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) Portal in accordance with the procurement guidelines of the Government of India.
- 1.4 The GeM Contract / Purchase Order generated through the GeM Portal shall constitute a legally binding contract between C-DAC and the successful bidder.
- 1.5 No separate agreement shall be required to be executed between C-DAC and the successful bidder. The terms and conditions of this RFP together with the applicable GeM General Terms and Conditions (GTC) shall govern the contract.
- 1.6 Upon issuance of the GeM Contract / Purchase Order, the successful bidder shall be deemed to have accepted all the terms and conditions of this RFP and the GeM contract.
- 1.7 All matters relating to contract execution, performance, termination, or cancellation shall be governed by the applicable provisions of the GeM General Terms and Conditions (GTC) and Government of India procurement guidelines.

2. Security Deposit / Performance Security

- 2.1 The successful bidder shall be required to submit a **Performance Security / Security Deposit equivalent to Five Percent (5%) of the total contract value** within **ten (10) days** from the date of issuance of the **GeM Contract / Purchase Order**.
- 2.2 The Performance Security shall be submitted in any of the following forms:
 - **Bank Guarantee** issued by a Nationalized / Scheduled Commercial Bank in favour of C-DAC, or
 - **Online payment / Demand Draft / Banker's Cheque**, as acceptable to C-DAC.
- 2.3 The Performance Security shall remain **valid for the entire contract period plus an additional sixty (60) days** beyond the completion of contractual obligations.

2.4 The Performance Security is intended to **secure the due performance of the contract by the successful bidder** in accordance with the terms and conditions specified in this RFP and the GeM Contract.

2.5 In the event of **breach of contract, non-performance, or failure to comply with contractual obligations**, C-DAC shall have the right to **forfeit the Performance Security**, either wholly or partially, without prejudice to any other remedies available under the contract.

2.6 The Performance Security shall be **released without interest** after satisfactory completion of all contractual obligations and after adjustment of any dues payable to C-DAC, if any.

3. Contract Validity

3.1 The **contract awarded under this RFP shall remain valid for a period of One (01) year** from the date of issuance of the **GeM Contract / Purchase Order**, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract.

3.2 During the validity period of the contract, the successful bidder shall perform all obligations and deliverables as specified in the **Scope of Work and other provisions of this RFP**.

3.3 The **rates quoted and accepted under the contract shall remain firm and fixed for the entire contract period**, and no escalation in prices shall be permitted during the validity of the contract.

3.4 Any extension of the contract, if required, shall be subject to **mutual agreement between both parties and approval of the Competent Authority of C-DAC**, and shall be governed by the applicable provisions of the **GeM General Terms and Conditions (GTC)**.

4. Work Execution Period

4.1 The **work under the contract shall be completed within a period of three (03) months** from the **date of award of contract / issuance of the GeM Contract or Purchase Order**.

4.2 The successful bidder shall commence the work immediately upon issuance of the **GeM Contract / Purchase Order** and shall ensure timely completion of all deliverables as specified in the **Scope of Work**.

4.3 Any delay in execution of the work beyond the stipulated period shall be subject to the **applicable provisions of the GeM General Terms and Conditions (GTC)**, including imposition of penalties or other contractual remedies, as applicable.

4.4 In exceptional circumstances, if required, the **work execution period may be extended by C-DAC**, subject to submission of valid justification by the bidder and approval of the **Competent Authority**.

SECTION VII: GENERAL TERMS

1. Acceptance of Terms

Submission of a bid in response to this RFP shall be deemed to constitute acceptance of all the terms and conditions contained in this RFP document, including any other term(s) / document(s) associated with this RFP document, by the bidder.

2. Compliance with GeM Terms

The procurement and execution of the contract under this RFP shall be governed by the applicable provisions of the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) General Terms and Conditions (GTC), in addition to the terms and conditions specified in this RFP.

3. Confidentiality Clause

All information contained in this tender document and any information made available to the bidders during the tender process shall be treated as confidential and shall be used solely for the purpose of preparing and submitting the bid.

Bidders shall not disclose, publish, reproduce, or distribute any information related to this tender to any third party without the prior written consent of C-DAC, except to the extent necessary for preparation of the bid.

The bidder shall ensure that its employees, representatives, and associates who are involved in the preparation of the bid maintain strict confidentiality of all such information at all times.

Any breach of confidentiality by the bidder may result in rejection of the bid, cancellation of the contract, and/or other appropriate action as deemed fit by C-DAC.

The bidder shall also be liable for any breach of confidentiality by its employees, agents, or subcontractors and shall indemnify C-DAC against any loss or damage arising from such breach.

In the event that the bidder is required to disclose any confidential information pursuant to a legal, regulatory, or judicial requirement, the bidder shall prior to such disclosure notify C-DAC (except where legally restricted) in writing and limit such disclosure strictly to the extent required.

The obligations of confidentiality under this clause shall survive the completion of the tender process, submission of the bid, and termination or expiry of any resulting contract for a period of

3 (three) years or as required under applicable laws, whichever is higher. Notwithstanding the foregoing, obligations relating to information of national importance, or any information that provides substantial or strategic benefit to C-DAC shall survive indefinitely.

4. Subcontracting Clause

The successful bidder shall not subcontract, assign, or transfer the whole or any part of the work under the contract to any third party without the prior written approval of C-DAC. In case subcontracting is permitted by C-DAC, the successful bidder shall remain fully responsible and accountable for the performance of the contract and compliance with all contractual obligations.

5. Compliance with Laws

The successful bidder shall comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, and statutory requirements of the Government of India and the State Government in force during the execution of the contract. The bidder shall be responsible for obtaining any necessary approvals, permits, or licenses required for the performance of the contract. Failure to comply with applicable laws may result in appropriate action as per the terms of the contract.

6. Indemnity

The successful bidder shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless C-DAC, its officers, employees, and representatives from and against any and all claims, damages, losses, liabilities, costs, and expenses arising out of or resulting from breach of contract, negligence, infringement of intellectual property rights, or violation of applicable laws by the bidder during the execution of the contract.

The bidder shall remain fully responsible for any such claims or liabilities and shall ensure that C-DAC is not held liable for any loss, damage, or legal proceedings arising from the bidder's actions or omissions.

The indemnity obligations of the bidder shall be absolute, unconditional, and irrevocable, and shall apply regardless of whether such claims arise in contract, tort, or otherwise.

This indemnity shall include all third-party claims, including those from government authorities, regulators, or any other entity, arising out of or in connection with the bidder's performance or non-performance under the contract/ bid process.

C-DAC shall have the right to participate in and/or control the defence of any claim, at the cost of the bidder, and the bidder shall not settle any claim without prior written approval of C-DAC.

7. Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA)

The successful bidder shall maintain strict confidentiality of all information, documents, data, specifications, and materials shared by C-DAC during the course of the tender process and execution of the contract. Such information shall be used solely for the purpose of fulfilling the obligations under the contract and shall not be disclosed, reproduced, or transmitted to any third party without the prior written consent of C-DAC.

The bidder shall ensure that its employees, agents, and representatives involved in the execution of the work also comply with the confidentiality obligations under this clause.

This confidentiality obligation shall remain valid during the contract period and for a period of three (3) years after completion or termination of the contract, unless otherwise required by law.

In case of any breach of this clause, C-DAC reserves the right to take appropriate action as per the terms of the contract and applicable laws.

The bidders need to sign the NDA format (Annexure-10) as a part of bid document.

8. Limitation of Liability

Except in cases of **fraud, willful misconduct, breach of confidentiality, or infringement of intellectual property rights**, the total liability of the successful bidder arising out of or in connection with the performance of the contract shall not exceed the **total contract value**.

In no event shall C-DAC be liable to the bidder for any **indirect, incidental, special, or consequential damages**, including but not limited to loss of profits, loss of business, or loss of data, arising out of or in connection with the contract.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary under this document, C-DAC shall have no liability whatsoever to the bidder except in cases of proven wilful misconduct by a court of competent jurisdiction.

This limitation of liability shall apply notwithstanding any failure of the essential purpose of any limited remedy provided under the contract.

9. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

All deliverables, reports, documents, technical inputs, designs, specifications, data, and other materials developed by the successful bidder under this contract shall become the **sole property of C-DAC**. Contributions of individual members/ organizations will be acknowledged in the DPR and other materials created under this initiative.

The bidder shall not claim any ownership, rights, or interest over such intellectual property created during the course of execution of the work under the contract. The bidder shall also not use, reproduce, or disclose such materials for any purpose without the prior written permission of C-DAC.

In case the bidder uses any **pre-existing intellectual property or proprietary tools**, the bidder shall ensure that such use does not infringe upon the rights of any third party and that C-DAC is granted a perpetual, irrevocable, non-exclusive, royalty-free, worldwide license to use, modify, and integrate such intellectual property solely for the purpose of utilizing the deliverables produced under the contract.

The bidder shall obtain all necessary licenses, permissions, and consents for any third-party intellectual property used and shall indemnify C-DAC against any claims arising from infringement of such third-party rights.

10. **Conflict of Interest**

The bidder shall disclose promptly in writing any actual or potential **conflict of interest** that may arise during the tender process or execution of the contract. A conflict of interest may occur when the bidder's interests could improperly influence the performance of its obligations under the contract.

The bidder shall ensure that its personnel engaged in the project do not have any financial, professional, or other interests that may conflict with the interests of C-DAC.

If at any stage it is found that a conflict of interest exists or can potentially exist or has been concealed, **C-DAC reserves the right to reject the bid or terminate the contract**, as deemed appropriate.

Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, a "conflict of interest" in the context of this engagement shall be deemed to include, but shall not be limited to, the following situations:

- (i) The Applicant/Bidder or its affiliates, subsidiaries, associates, group entities, or key personnel hold a direct or indirect financial, commercial, or material interest in any technology, platform, product, or solution that is recommended, advocated, or included in the structured inputs submitted by the Applicant/Bidder for the preparation of DPR.
- (ii) The Applicant/Bidder or its affiliates, subsidiaries, associates, group entities, or key personnel have a pre-existing or contemporaneous contractual, advisory, consultancy, licensing, or other commercial relationship with any other participant in this engagement,

which may compromise the objectivity, independence, or impartiality of the inputs provided for the preparation of DPR.

(iii) Any key personnel of the Applicant/Bidder simultaneously serve as employees, consultants, advisors, or board members of any entity that is a potential participant in the subsequent Development RFP(s); or

(iv) Any other circumstance that may reasonably be perceived as creating an actual, potential, or apparent conflict of interest.

The Applicant/Bidder further acknowledges that, given the consultative and advisory nature of this engagement and the fact that the DPR prepared, pursuant to the structured inputs received hereunder, shall form the basis for subsequent procurement processes of significant national importance, the obligations of fairness, impartiality, transparency, and avoidance of conflict of interest imposed under this engagement are of a heightened and fiduciary nature, and shall be construed and enforced accordingly

11. Termination

C-DAC reserves the right to terminate the contract, in whole or in part, at any time during the contract period if the successful bidder fails to perform its obligations, commits a breach of any terms and conditions of the contract, or fails to comply with applicable laws and regulations.

In such cases, C-DAC may terminate the contract by giving **fifteen (15) days' prior written notice** to the bidder, in accordance with the applicable provisions of the GeM General Terms and Conditions (GTC).

Further, C-DAC reserves the right to terminate the contract **for its convenience**, without assigning any reason, by giving **fifteen (15) days' prior written notice** to the bidder.

Notwithstanding the above, C-DAC shall have the right to **terminate the contract immediately**, without any notice, in the event of serious misconduct, fraud, misrepresentation, breach of confidentiality, or any act prejudicial to the interests of C-DAC or Government of India.

Further, Notwithstanding anything to the contrary under this RFP and the contract, C-DAC shall have the right to terminate the contract, in whole or in part, at any time, if such termination is considered necessary in the interest of national security, sovereignty and integrity of India, public order, or any matter affecting national interest, as determined by C-DAC or any competent

governmental authority. Such termination may be effected by written notice to the bidder. However, in cases requiring immediate action, C-DAC may terminate the Contract forthwith without prior notice.

12. Force Majeure

Neither party shall be held responsible for non-fulfilment of their respective obligations due to the exigency of one or more of the force majeure events such as but not limited to Acts of God, war, floods, earthquakes, strikes, lockouts, epidemics, pandemics, riots, civil commotion etc., provided on the occurrence and cessation of any such events. The affected party thereby shall give notice in writing to the other party within one week of such occurrence or cessation. If the force majeure conditions continue beyond six months, the parties may then mutually decide about the future course of action.

Force Majeure shall not include:

- Any event which is caused by the negligence or intentional action of a Party or by or of such party's agents or employees, nor any event which a diligent Party could reasonably have been expected both to consider at the time of signing the contract and avoid or overcome with utmost persistent effort in carrying out of its obligations hereunder.
- Insufficiency of funds or human resources or inability to make any payment required for the execution of services under the contract.

13. Dispute Resolution, Governing Law and Jurisdiction

The contract arising out of this tender shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the **laws of India**.

Any dispute arising out of or in connection with this tender or any contract awarded pursuant thereto shall, as far as possible, be resolved amicably through mutual discussions within fifteen (15) days. Failing such resolution, the dispute shall be referred to the International Arbitration and Conciliation Centre (IIAC), New Delhi. The seat and venue of arbitration shall be New Delhi, and the proceedings shall be conducted in English. The arbitral award shall be final and binding on the parties.

Subject to the above-mentioned dispute resolution mechanism, any disputes arising out of or in connection with this tender or the resulting contract shall be subject to the **exclusive jurisdiction of the courts at New Delhi, India**.

14. Severability

If any provision of this tender or the resulting contract is held to be **invalid, illegal, or unenforceable** by a court of competent jurisdiction, such provision shall be **severed from the contract** and the remaining provisions shall continue to remain **valid and enforceable** to the fullest extent permitted by law.

15. Assignment

The successful bidder shall **not assign, transfer, or delegate** any of its rights or obligations under the contract, either wholly or in part, to any third party without the **prior written consent of C-DAC**. Any such assignment without approval shall be considered **null and void** and may result in termination of the contract at the discretion of C-DAC.

16. Ethics

The bidder shall observe the **highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct** during the tender process and throughout the execution of the contract. The bidder shall not engage in any form of **fraud, corruption, collusion, coercion, or unethical practices** in connection with the tender or the resulting contract.

Any attempt by the bidder to **influence the tender evaluation process, obtain confidential information, or offer inducements** to officials of C-DAC may result in **rejection of the bid, cancellation of the contract, and appropriate action as per applicable rules and regulations**.

17. Taxes and Duties

The prices quoted by the bidder shall be **inclusive of all applicable taxes and duties**, including Goods and Services Tax (GST), as applicable under the prevailing laws of India. The bidder shall be solely responsible for payment of all taxes, duties, levies, and statutory obligations arising out of the execution of the contract.

C-DAC shall not be liable to pay any amount beyond the **quoted price in the financial bid**, except as may be required under applicable statutory provisions. The bidder shall comply with all applicable tax laws and shall provide valid tax invoices in accordance with the **GST regulations**.

18. Delay and Liquidated Damages

If the successful bidder fails to complete the work within the stipulated **work execution period**, a **Liquidated Damages (LD)** penalty shall be imposed at the rate of **0.5% of the contract value per week or part thereof**, subject to a **maximum of 5% of the total contract value**.

The amount of Liquidated Damages shall be **deducted from the payments due to the bidder or from the Performance Security**, as applicable.

In the event that the delay exceeds the limit corresponding to the **maximum Liquidated Damages of 5%**, C-DAC reserves the right to **terminate the contract and take appropriate action including recovery of damages** in accordance with the applicable provisions of the contract and the **GeM General Terms and Conditions (GTC)**.

19. **Right to Reject Bids**

C-DAC reserves the right to **accept or reject any bid, wholly or partially, and to annul the tender process at any stage without assigning any reason**. C-DAC also reserves the right to **cancel the tender or reject all bids** if it is found necessary in the interest of the organization, and such decision shall be **final and binding on all bidders**.

20. **Integrity Pact / Non-Collusion**

The bidder shall ensure that the bid submitted is **genuine and not the result of any collusive arrangement, agreement, or understanding with other bidders**. The bidder shall not directly or indirectly influence the tender process through any unlawful or unethical means.

Any attempt to **collude with other bidders, influence the evaluation process, or provide misleading information** may result in **rejection of the bid, cancellation of the contract, and appropriate action as per applicable rules and regulations**.

21. **Corrupt or Fraudulent Practices**

C-DAC requires the bidders to observe the highest standard of ethics during the empanelment process and during the execution of any assignment pursuant to such empanelment. For the purpose of this clause:

- a) “Corrupt practice” means the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting, directly or indirectly, of anything of value to influence the actions of any official of C-DAC in the empanelment or the execution process;
- b) “Fraudulent practice” means any act or omission, including misrepresentation or suppression of facts, intended to influence the empanelment process or execution of an assignment to the detriment of C-DAC.
- c) C-DAC shall reject an application or terminate empanelment and/or any subsequent work order, if it determines that the Applicant has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices.
- d) In such cases, C-DAC may, without prejudice to any other rights or remedies available

under law, disqualify the Applicant from the participation in future procurements for a specified period, forfeit any security, and initiate appropriate legal action.

22. Language

The Proposal should be filled by the bidders in English language only. If any supporting documents submitted are in any language other than English, translation of the same in English language is to be duly attested by the Bidders. For purposes of interpretation of the documents, the English translation shall govern. All correspondence and documents relating to the Proposal exchanged by the bidder and C-DAC Chennai shall also be written in the English language.

23. Clarification of Bids

During the evaluation of bids, C-DAC may, at its discretion, seek **clarifications from the bidders** regarding their submitted proposals. The request for clarification and the response shall be **in writing**.

However, no clarification shall be permitted that **changes the substance of the bid or alters the quoted price** submitted by the bidder.

24. Compliance and Audit

The bidder shall adhere to all applicable **laws of the land and the rules, regulations, and guidelines prescribed by various regulatory, statutory, and Government authorities** relevant to the execution of the contract and the services to be provided.

C-DAC Chennai reserves the right to **conduct an audit or ongoing audit of the services provided by the bidder** to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the contract.

C-DAC Chennai also reserves the right to **verify and obtain information from organizations to which the bidder has previously provided similar services**, for the purpose of assessing the bidder's performance and credentials.

25. Blacklisting / Debarring

C-DAC Chennai reserves the right to **cancel the selection letter / contract and debar the firm** from participating in future tenders of C-DAC if it is found that the firm has **submitted false or misleading information**, delivered **unsatisfactory services**, become **insolvent**, or engaged in any **unethical or improper conduct**.

Such action may be taken by C-DAC Chennai after giving the firm a **prior written notice of seven (07) days** to respond or provide clarification. Based on the response received, C-DAC Chennai

may take appropriate action including **cancellation of the contract and blacklisting/debarring of the firm**, as deemed fit.

BID COVER LETTER

To
The Centre Head
Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC)
TIDEL Park, 8th Floor, “D” Block (North & South)
No. 4, Rajiv Gandhi Salai, Taramani
Chennai – 600 113

Subject: Engagement of Industry Domain Experts for Multi-Platform Operating System Ecosystem

GeM Bid No.: _____

Dear Sir,

With reference to the GeM Bid No. _____ dated _____, we, the undersigned, having examined the bid document, the receipt of which is hereby duly acknowledged, offer to provide the services as specified in the RFP.

We hereby submit our proposal in response to the above-mentioned bid. We confirm that the information furnished in this proposal and in all supporting documents is true, correct, complete, and verifiable. We further confirm that this proposal contains all necessary information to ensure that the statements made herein are not misleading in any respect.

We understand and agree that, if at any stage, any information provided by us is found to be false or misleading, C-DAC shall have the right to reject our bid or terminate the contract, if awarded.

We hereby convey our unconditional acceptance of all the terms and conditions specified in the RFP document and agree to abide by the same.

We further confirm that, in the event of award of contract, we shall submit the required Performance Security / Security Deposit as specified in the RFP.

We acknowledge that C-DAC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids without assigning any reason, and we agree that such decision shall be final and binding.

We hereby declare that we are authorized to act on behalf of our organization and are duly empowered to sign this bid and related documents.

The following persons shall be the authorized representatives for all future correspondence with C-DAC:

Primary Contact	Secondary Contact
Name:	Name:
Designation:	Designation:
Address:	Address:
Mobile No.:	Mobile No.:
Email:	Email:

Sincerely Yours,

(Signature)

Authorized Signatory

Name: _____

Designation: _____

Company Name: _____

Seal/Stamp of Company

Tender Acceptance Letter & Undertaking For Non-Blacklisting Firm

(To be given on Company Letterhead)

To

Date:

The Centre Head

Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC),

Tidel Park, 8th Floor, "D" Block (North & South),

No. 4, Rajiv Gandhi Salai, Taramani,

Chennai – 600 113. Tel : 044 – 22542226/27

Subject: Engagement of Industry Domain Experts for Multi-Platform Operating System Ecosystem.

GEM Bid No.:

Dear Sir,

1. I / We hereby certify that I / We have read the entire terms and conditions of the tender documents (including all documents like annexure(s), schedules(s), etc.), which form part of the contract agreement and I / We shall abide hereby by the terms / conditions/ clauses contained therein.
2. The corrigendum(s) issued from time to time by your department / organization too has also been taken into consideration, while submitting this acceptance letter.
3. I / We hereby unconditionally accept the tender conditions of above mentioned tender document(s) / corrigendum(s) in its totality / entirety.
4. I / We do hereby declare that our Firm / Company has not been blacklisted / debarred by any Govt. Department/Public sector undertaking.
5. I / We certify that all information furnished by our Firm is true & correct and in the event that the information is found to be incorrect/untrue or found violated, then your department/ organization shall without giving any notice or reason therefore or summarily reject the bid or

terminate the contract, without prejudice to any other rights or remedy including the forfeiture of the full earnest money deposit absolutely.

Yours Faithfully,

Authorized Signatory (Signature of the Service Provider, with Official Seal)

Bid Security Declaration (To be given on Company Letterhead)

To

The Centre Head

Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC),

Tidel Park, 8th Floor, “D” Block (North & South),

No. 4, Rajiv Gandhi Salai, Taramani,

Chennai – 600 113. Tel : 044 – 22542226/27

Subject: Engagement of Industry Domain Experts for Multi-Platform Operating System Ecosystem

GEM Bid No.:

Undertaking as per GFR 2017, Rule 170 (iii)

Dear Sir,

We, the undersigned, offer to carry out the _____ <Tender Name>”, in response to your Bid No.: _____ <GeM Bid No>. We are hereby submitting our proposal for the same, which includes technical bid and the financial bid through GeM portal. As a part of eligibility requirement stipulated in said bid document, we hereby submit a declaration in lieu of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD), as given below:

1. Our bid shall remain valid for 90 days from the last date of submission and that we will not withdraw or modify our bid during the validity period.
2. In case, we are declared as successful L1 - bidder and an order is placed on us, we will submit the acceptance in writing within Seven (07) days of placement of Contract order on us.
3. In case, we are declared as a successful L1 - bidder and an order is placed on us, we undertake to submit a security deposit of 5% of order value, as per terms stipulated in the bid.
4. In case of failure on our part to comply with any of the above said requirements, we are aware that we shall be declared as un-eligible for said bid/ or debarred from any future bidding process of C-DAC and other government institutes for a period of minimum One (1) year.

5. The undersigned is authorized to sign this undertaking.

Yours Sincerely,

Authorised Signatory Name and Title of Signatory Email:

MAKE IN INDIA DECLARATION

Declaration / Certificate to be provided by the cost auditor/ statutory auditor of the bidder/company (Please submit the certificate as per format given below)

To
The Centre Head,
CDAC,
Chennai.

Subject: Engagement of Industry Domain Experts for Multi-Platform Operating System Ecosystem

GEM Bid No.:

We hereby certify that the **goods / software / services offered by us under this bid** comply with the provisions of the **Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India) Order, 2017 [Order No. P-45021/2/2017-PP (BE-II)]**, including **Order (Part-4) Vol. II dated 19th July 2024**, and **any subsequent amendments thereto issued from time to time**.

We further certify that **we are not from a country sharing a land border with India**, as defined under **Order (Public Procurement No. 4) dated 23.02.2023**, issued by the Procurement Policy Division, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, and that the **services offered by us under this bid comply with the provisions of the said order and any subsequent amendments thereto issued from time to time**.

We undertake to provide **necessary supporting documents / declarations**, as may be required by C-DAC, to establish compliance with the above provisions.

Note: C-DAC reserves the right to **accept, reject, or cancel any bid or bidder**, at its sole discretion, based on the verification of the declarations submitted with respect to **Make in India (MII)**

compliance and Land Border restrictions, in accordance with applicable Government of India guidelines.

For (Name of bidder)

Authorized Signatory

Name & Designation:

Mobile No:

ANNEXURE-5

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

(To be given on Company Letter head duly signed and stamped)

To
The Centre Head,
Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC),
Tidel Park, 8th Floor, “D” Block (North & South),
No. 4, Rajiv Gandhi Salai, Taramani,
Chennai – 600 113. Tel : 044 – 22542226/27

Subject: Engagement of Industry Domain Experts for Multi-Platform Operating System Ecosystem. GEM Bid No.:

Dear Sir,

This is to certify that _____ **(Name of the Bidder / Firm)** is **not owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by any employee of C-DAC.**

We hereby undertake that there is **no actual or potential conflict of interest** on the part of the bidder, including its personnel or any proposed subcontractor, arising from any **prior, existing, or proposed engagements, contracts, or affiliations with C-DAC** that may affect the performance of obligations under this RFP.

We further confirm that there are **no circumstances or factors**, including but not limited to **availability of resources, timelines, financial commitments, or other obligations**, that would adversely impact our ability to **successfully execute the scope of work** as specified in the RFP.

We undertake to **promptly disclose any situation of conflict of interest** that may arise during the course of the tender process or execution of the contract.

We further agree to **indemnify and hold harmless C-DAC, its officers, employees, and representatives** against any and all claims, losses, damages, costs, expenses, and legal fees (on a reasonable and reimbursable basis) arising out of or in connection with any **breach of this declaration or existence of a conflict of interest.**

Sincerely,

Name

Designation Signature

Date

<Name and Address of Company> Seal/Stamp of the Company

**UNDERTAKING/DECLARATION REGARDING PARTICIPATION IN
SUBSEQUENT PROCUREMENT PROCESSES AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST
SAFEGUARDS**

(To be given on Company Letterhead, duly signed and stamped)

To

The Centre Head,

Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC),

Tidel Park, 8th Floor, “D” Block (North & South),

No. 4, Rajiv Gandhi Salai, Taramani,

Chennai – 600 113.

**Subject: Undertaking/Declaration Regarding Participation in Subsequent Procurement
Processes – RFP / GEM Bid No.:**

Dear Sir,

In connection with our participation in the above-referenced engagement for providing structured inputs for the preparation of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) under this RFP related to the Indigenous Multi-variant Operating System Ecosystem initiative implemented by CDAC (“Initiative”), we, _____ (Name of Bidder/Firm), hereby declare and undertake as follows:

1. We acknowledge that our participation in this RFP may afford us early visibility of the problem space, architecture direction, priorities, constraints, and technology considerations. We further acknowledge that this may give rise to a perceived or potential conflict of interest in relation to any subsequent procurement process(es) arising out of the finalized DPR.
2. We undertake that all inputs, recommendations, technical notes, architecture designs, standards, specifications, and other deliverables submitted by us under this engagement shall be generic, technology-neutral, non-discriminatory, and in the broader interest of the of the Initiative

- implemented by CDAC under this RFP. We shall not, directly or indirectly, promote, advocate, or recommend any proprietary, vendor-specific, or commercially licensed technology, platform, framework, tool, or solution in which we (or our affiliates, subsidiaries, associates, group entities, or key personnel) hold a financial, commercial, licensing, or other material interest.
3. We shall not, through our inputs or participation in workshops, consultations, reviews, or deliberations, seek to shape, steer, or influence the architecture, design, technology choices, standards, specifications, or any other aspect of the DPR for the purpose of conferring upon ourselves (or our affiliates, subsidiaries, associates, group entities, or key personnel) a preferential position or competitive advantage in any subsequent procurement process.
 4. We acknowledge that the final DPR shall be independently reviewed, evaluated, and finalized by the Expert Committee constituted by C-DAC, and we shall have no right, claim, or entitlement regarding the content, conclusions, or recommendations of the finalized DPR.
 5. We shall not, directly or indirectly, use, exploit, or leverage any confidential, non-public, or pre-decisional information obtained or accessed during the course of this engagement for the purpose of gaining a competitive advantage in any subsequent procurement process.
 6. We shall, on a continuing basis, during the term of this engagement and for a period of two (2) years following the completion or termination of this engagement, promptly disclose in writing to C-DAC any circumstance, relationship, arrangement, interest, or development that constitutes or may reasonably be perceived to constitute a conflict of interest in relation to any subsequent procurement process arising out of the DPR.
 7. We understand and accept that any breach of the foregoing undertakings shall constitute a material breach entitling C-DAC to: (i) terminate the engagement forthwith; (ii) forfeit our security deposit/performance security; (iii) debar/blacklist us from participating in any subsequent procurement process arising out of the DPR for up to three (3) years; (iv) recover all losses, damages, costs, and expenses incurred; and (v) report the matter to the Central Vigilance Commission and other relevant authorities.
 8. We confirm that no officer, employee, or representative of C-DAC has any direct or indirect financial or personal interest in our Company.
 9. We agree to indemnify and hold harmless C-DAC, its officers, employees, and representatives against any and all claims, losses, damages, costs, expenses, and legal fees arising out of or in connection with any breach of this undertaking/declaration.

This undertaking/declaration is given voluntarily and with full understanding of its legal consequences. It shall be binding upon us and our successors, assigns, and legal representatives.

Sincerely,

Name: _____

Designation: _____

Authorized Signatory

Date: _____

Seal/Stamp of the Company

**Certificate / Undertaking From Bidder wrt Beneficial Owner / Bidder
From Land Border Sharing Countries To INDIA
(On Company's Letterhead)**

To
The Centre Head, CDAC, Chennai.

Subject: Engagement of Industry Domain Experts for Multi-Platform Operating System
Ecosystem. GEM Bid No.:

We have read and understood the provisions of **Order (Public Procurement No. 4) dated 23.02.2023**, issued by the Procurement Policy Division, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, regarding restrictions on procurement from a bidder of a country which shares a land border with India, and **any subsequent amendments thereto issued from time to time**.

In compliance with the above, we hereby certify that:

(a) We are not from a country sharing a land border with India, and therefore, the requirement of registration with the competent authority as specified in the said Order is **not applicable to us**.

OR

(b) We are from a country sharing a land border with India and are duly registered with the competent authority as specified in the said Order.

Details of such registration are as under:

- **Registration Number:** _____
- **Date of Registration:** _____
- **Issuing Authority:** _____

(Strike out whichever is not applicable)

We further undertake that the above information is **true and correct**, and in case any information is found to be **false or non-compliant**, C-DAC shall have the right to **reject our bid or terminate the contract**, without prejudice to any other action as per applicable rules.

For (Name of Bidder)

Authorized Signatory (Name & Signature)

(Company's Seal)

Authorization Letter

(To be given on Company Letter head duly signed and stamped)

To

Date:

The Centre Head

Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC),

Tidel Park, 8th Floor, “D” Block (North & South),

No. 4, Rajiv Gandhi Salai, Taramani, Chennai – 600 113.

Subject: Engagement of Industry Domain Experts for Multi-Platform Operating System
Ecosystem. GEM Bid No.:

Dear Sir,

We, M/s _____ (Name of the Bidder / Firm), having
our registered office at _____
(address of the bidder), hereby submit our proposal in response to the above-mentioned RFP.

We hereby authorize **Mr./Ms.** _____ (**Name & Designation**) to **sign, submit, and act on behalf of the company** in all matters related to this bid, including submission of proposal, providing clarifications, and execution of documents, if required.
The specimen signature of the authorized signatory is given below:

Specimen Signature: _____

We hereby confirm that all acts carried out by the above authorized representative shall be **binding on the company**.

The undersigned is duly authorized to issue this authorization on behalf of the company.

For M/s _____

(Name of the prospective Industry Domain Expert).

Signature and company seal

Name Designation

Email

INTEGRITY PACT

This Integrity Pact (“the Pact”) is made and executed on this Day of _____Two
Thousand Twenty _____at _____.

By and Between

Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), an autonomous scientific Society under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India, registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860 and the Bombay Public Trusts Act 1950, having its registered Office at Savitribai Phule Pune University Campus, Pune 411 007, hereinafter referred to as "C-DAC/Principal", which expression shall unless repugnant to the context or meaning thereof be deemed to mean and include its administrators, successors or assignees, as the case may be. and

...hereinafter referred to as “The Bidder(s)/Contractor(s)”,

which expression shall unless repugnant to the context or meaning thereof be deemed to mean and include its administrators, successors or assignees, as the case may be.

(The Principal and the Bidder (s)/Contractor(s) are collectively referred to as “the Parties”.

Preamble

The Principal intends to award, under laid down organizational procedures, contract/s for -----

--

----- (“the Contract”). The Principal values full compliance with all relevant laws and regulations, and the principles of economic use of resources, and of fairness and transparency in its relations with its Bidder/s and Contractor/s. The Principal intends to avoid all forms of corruption by following a system that is fair, transparent and free from any influence/prejudiced dealings prior to, during and subsequent to the currency of the contract to be entered into. The Principal also intends that Bidder/s and Contractor/s should abstain from bribing or indulging in any corrupt practices in

order to secure the contract by providing assurance to them that their competitors will also abstain from bribing and other corrupt practices and the Bidder/s and Contractor/s shall commit to prevent corruption, in any form, by its officials by following transparent procedures.

In order to achieve these goals, the Principal, by way of this Integrity Pact (“the Pact”) will appoint Independent External Monitor (“IEM”) who will monitor the tender process and the execution of the Contract for compliance with the principles mentioned above.

The parties hereto hereby agree to enter into this Pact and agree as mentioned below.

Section 1 Commitments of the Principal

The Principal commits itself to take all measures necessary to prevent corruption and to observe the following:-

No employee of the Principal, personally or through relatives or any other person, will in connection with the tender, or for the execution of the Contract, demand, promise or accept for himself/herself or any third person, any material or immaterial benefit or any other advantage from the bidder/s or contractor/s which he/she is not legally entitled to.

The Principal will, during the tender process treat all Bidder/s and Contractor/s with equity and reason. The Principal will in particular, before and during the tender process, provide to all bidder/s and contractor/s the same information and will not provide to any bidder/s or contractor/s additional/confidential information through which the bidder/s and contractor/s could obtain an advantage in relation to the tender process or the contract execution.

The Principal will exclude from the process all known prejudiced persons.

If the Principal obtains information on the conduct of any of its employees, which is a criminal offence under the relevant Anti-Corruption Laws of India, or if there be a substantive suspicion and the same is prima facie found to be correct in this regard, the Principal will inform its Vigilance Office

and in addition can initiate disciplinary actions In such a case while such enquiry is being conducted by the Principal, the proceedings under the contract shall not be stalled.

Contractor is the original manufacturer / integrator / authorised government sponsored export entity and has not engaged any individual or firm or company whether Indian or foreign to intercede, facilitate or in any way to recommend to the Principal or any of its functionaries, whether officially or unofficially to the award of the contract to the Bidder / Contractor, nor has any amount been paid, promised or intended to be paid to any such individual, firm or company in respect of any such intercession, facilitation or recommendation.

The Bidder / Contractor will, when presenting his bid, disclose any and all payments he has made, is committed to make or intends to make to agents, brokers or any other intermediaries in connection with the award of the contract and the details of the services agreed upon for such payments.

The bidder(s)/ contractor (s) of foreign origin shall disclose the name and address of agents and representatives in India related to this tender. Similarly, the bidder(s)/ contractor(s) of Indian nationality shall furnish the name and address of their foreign principals or associates, if any, related to this tender.

The Bidder / Contractor shall not accept any advantage in exchange for any corrupt practice, unfair means and illegal activities.

If the Bidder / Contractor or any employee of the Bidder / Contractor or any person acting on behalf of the Bidder / Contractor, either directly or indirectly, is a relative of any of the officers of the Principal, or alternatively, if any relative of an officer of the Principal has financial interest / stake in the Bidder's

Section 2 Commitments of the Bidder/ contractor

The Bidder / Contractor commits to take all measures necessary to prevent corrupt practices, unfair means and illegal activities. He commits himself to observe the following during his participation in the tender process and during the contract execution:

The Bidder / Contractor undertakes that he/she has not given, offered or promised to give directly or indirectly any bribe, gift, consideration, reward, favour any material or immaterial benefit or other advantage, commission, fees, brokerage or inducement to any official of the Principal, for which benefit etc. he/she is not legally entitled to, in order to obtain in exchange any advantage of any kind whatsoever during the tender process or during the execution of the contract.

The Bidder / Contractor will not, directly or through any other person or firm, offer, promise or give to any of the Principal's employees involved in the tender process or the execution of the contract or to any third person any bribe, gift, consideration, reward, favour, any material or immaterial benefit or other advantage, commission, fees, brokerage or inducement to any official of the Principal, for which benefit etc. he/she is not legally entitled to, in order to obtain in exchange any advantage of any kind whatsoever during the tender process or during the execution of the contract

The Bidder / Contractor will not enter into any agreement or understanding with other Bidders in connection with the bid, including but not limited to prices, specifications, certifications, subsidiary contracts, submission or non-submission of bids or any other actions to restrict competitiveness or to introduce cartelisation in the bidding process.

The Bidder / Contractor will not commit any offence under the relevant provisions of Anti-Corruption Laws of India/Indian Penal Code, 1860, Information and Technology Act, 2000, Competition law or any other relevant laws, enactments, rules and regulations. Further the Bidder / Contractor will not use improperly, for purposes of competition or personal gain, or pass on to others, any information or document provided by the Principal as part of the business relationship, regarding plans, technical proposals and business details, including information contained or transmitted electronically. The Bidder / Contractor also undertakes to exercise due and adequate care of any such

information so divulged.

The Bidder / Contractor further confirms and declares to the Principal that the Bidder / Contractor's firm, proprietorship, company, etc. the same shall be disclosed by the Bidder / Contractor at the time of filing of tender/EoI. The term 'relative' for this purpose would be as defined in Section 6 of the Companies Act, 2013.

The Bidder / Contractor shall not lend to or borrow any money from or enter into any monetary dealings or transactions, directly or indirectly, with any employee of the Principal.

The bidder / contractor shall disclose the circumstances, arrangements, undertakings or relationships that constitute, or may reasonably be considered to constitute, an actual or potential conflict of interest with its obligations specified in the tender process or under any Agreement which may be negotiated or executed with Principal. Bidder / Contractor and its employees, agents, advisors and any other person associated with the bidder / contractor must not place themselves in a position which may, or does, give rise to conflict of interest (or a potential conflict of interest between the interests of Principal or any other interests during this tender process or through operation of the Agreement.

The bidder(s)/ contractor (s) who have signed the Pact shall not approach the Courts while the matters/disputes/issues, related to tender process or the Contract are presented before the IEM and awaiting the final decision.

The Bidder / Contractor will not instigate third persons to commit above mentioned acts / omissions / offences outlined above or be an accessory to such offences.

Section 3 Disqualification from tender process and exclusion from future contracts

If the Bidder, before the Contract is awarded, has committed a transgression through a violation of Section 2 or in any other form such as to put his reliability or credibility as Bidder into question:

the Principal is entitled to disqualify the Bidder from the tender process or to terminate the Contract,

if

already signed, for such reason.

the Principal is entitled to exclude the Bidder / Contractor from participating in future contracts/tenders. The imposition and duration of the exclusion will be determined by the Principal based on the severity of the transgression. The severity will be determined by the circumstances of the case, in particular the number of transgressions, the position of the transgressors within the company hierarchy of the Bidder / Contractor and the amount of the damage. The exclusion will be imposed for a minimum of six (6) months and maximum of three (3) years.

An act/omission would be treated as a transgression after due consideration of the available evidence

by

the Principal.

The Bidder / Contractor accepts and undertakes to respect and uphold the Principal's absolute right to resort to and impose such disqualification/exclusion and further accepts and undertakes not to challenge or question such exclusion on any ground, including the lack of any hearing before the decision of disqualification/exclusion is taken. This undertaking is given freely and after obtaining independent legal advice.

If the Bidder / Contractor can prove that he has restored the damage caused by him and has installed a suitable corruption prevention system, the Principal may revoke the aforesaid disqualification/exclusion prematurely.

Section 4 Compensation for Damages

Without prejudice to any rights that may be available to the Principal under any law or the contract or its laid down policies and procedures, the Principal shall have the following rights in case of breach of this Pact by the Bidder/Contractor:

To forfeit the Earnest Money/Bid Security if the Bidder is disqualified from the tender process prior to the award in terms of Section 3;

To forfeit/invoke the Security Deposit/ Performance Bank Guarantee if the Principal has either terminated
or is entitled to terminate the Contract of the Bidder in terms of Section 3.

To immediately call of the pre contract negotiations without assigning any reason or giving any compensation to the Bidder / Contractor.

To immediately cancel the contract, if already signed, without giving any compensation to the bidder / contractor. The Bidder / Contractor shall be liable to pay the compensation for any loss or damage to the Principal resulting from such cancellation / rescission and the Principal shall be entitled to deduct the amount so payable from the amount due to the Bidder / Contractor.

To recover all sums already paid by the Principal, with interest at % @ p.a. if any outstanding payment is due to the Bidder / Contractor from the Principal in connection with any other contract, such outstanding payment could also be set off to recover the aforesaid sum and interest.

To recover all sums paid in violation of this Pact by the Bidder / Contractor to any middleman or agent or
broker with a view to securing the contract.

Section 5 Previous transgression

The Bidder declares that he has not committed any transgressions in the last three (3) years against any Company in any country conforming to the anti-corruption approach or with any other Public Sector Enterprise in India that could invite/justify his exclusion from this tender process.

Any concealment of information or misrepresentation of facts, in regard to the aforesaid, can lead to his disqualification from the tender process or termination of the Contract, if already awarded, or invite any other appropriate action(s) as deemed fit.

Section 6 Equal treatment of all Bidders / Contractors / Subcontractors

The Principal will enter into Pacts on identical terms with all bidders and contractors.

The Bidder(s) / Contractor(s) assures to procure from all their subcontractors an undertaking for the adoption of this Pact. The Bidder (s) / Contractor(s) shall alone be responsible for any violation (s) of the provisions laid down in the Pact by any/all of their sub-contractor (s) or sub-vendor (s).

The Principal will be entitled to disqualify from the tender process all bidders who do not sign this Pact or violate its provisions.

Section 7 Independent External Monitor / Monitors

The Principal appoints competent and credible Independent External Monitor (IEM) as nominated and approved by the Central Vigilance Commission. The task of the IEM is to review independently and objectively, whether and to what extent the Parties comply with the obligations under this Pact. The IEM would be required to sign 'Non- Disclosure Agreements' along with a declaration of 'Absence of Conflict of Interest'. In case of any conflict of interest arises at a later date, the IEM shall inform Chairperson of the Board of the Principal and recuse himself/herself from that case.

The IEM is not subject to instructions by the representatives of the parties and performs his functions neutrally and independently. He reports to the Chairperson of the Board of the Principal. The IEM would be provided access to all documents/records pertaining to the contract for which a complaint or issue is raised before them, as and when warranted. However, the documents/records/information having National Security implications and those documents which have been classified as Secret/Top Secret are not to be disclosed.

The Bidder / Contractor accepts that the IEM has the right to access, without restriction, all Project documentation available with the Principal including the documents/ records/ information provided by the Bidder/Contractor. The Bidder/Contractor will also grant the IEM, upon their request and demonstration of a valid interest, unrestricted and unconditional access to his project documentation. The same is applicable to Subcontractors. The IEM is under contractual obligation to treat the documents/ records/ information of the Bidder/Contractor/ Subcontractor with confidentiality.

The Principal will provide to the IEM sufficient information about all meetings among the parties related to the Project provided that such meetings could have an impact on the contractual relations between the Principal and the Bidder/Contractor. The Parties will offer to the IEM the option to participate in such meetings.

As soon as the IEM notices, or suspects, a violation of this Pact, he will inform the Management of the Principal and request the Management to discontinue or rectify the violation, or take any other relevant action. The IEM can in this regard submit nonbinding recommendations. Beyond this, the IEM has no right to demand from the Parties that they act in a specific manner, refrain from action or tolerate action. However, the IEM shall give an opportunity to the Bidder / Contractor to present his case before making its recommendations to the Principal.

The IEM is expected to tender their recommendation on all the complaints within 30 days of their receipt, to the Chairperson of the Board of the Principal. Further, should the occasion arise, the IEM may submit proposals for correcting problematic situations.

If the IEM has reported to the Chairperson of the Board of the Principal a substantiated suspicion of an offence under relevant Anti-Corruption Laws of India/Indian Penal Code, 1860, or any other relevant laws and the Chairperson has not, within reasonable time, taken visible action to proceed against such offence or reported it to the Vigilance Office, the IEM may transmit this information directly to the Central Vigilance Commissioner, Government of India.

The word 'IEM' would include both singular and plural.

Section 8 Pact Duration

This Pact comes into force when both parties have signed it. It expires for the Bidder / Contractor 12 months after the last payment under the respective contract, and for all other Bidders / Contractors 6 months after the contract has been awarded.

If any claim is made / lodged during the aforesaid duration, the same shall continue to be valid despite the lapse of this pact as specified above, till it is discharged / determined by Chairperson of the Board of the Principal.

Section 9 Other provisions

This Pact is subject to Indian Laws. Place of performance and jurisdiction is the Registered Office of the Principal, i.e. Pune. The Arbitration clause provided in the main tender document / contract shall be applicable to any issue / dispute arising under this Pact.

If the Contractor is a partnership or, this Pact must be signed by all partners.

In case of any allegation of violation of any provisions of this Pact or payment of commission etc. the Principal or its agencies shall be entitled to examine all the documents including the Books of Accounts of the Bidder / Contractor and Bidder / Contractor shall provide necessary information and documents and shall extend all possible help for the purpose of such examination.

If one or several provisions of this Pact are held to be invalid/unenforceable, the remainder of this Pact shall remain valid as though the invalid or unenforceable parts had not been included herein. In this case, the parties will strive to come to an agreement to their original intentions.

Issues like warranty/ guarantee etc. shall be outside the purview of IEM.

In this context, details of IEM (Independent External Monitor) is provided below:

Shri M Peter Johnson - email: johnson.mp@nic.in

Shri Vijay Kumar Singh - email: vijaysinghsls10@gmail.com

-
For the Principal

-
For the Bidder / Contractor

Place -----

Witness 1 : -----

Date -----

Witness 2 : -----

Data Deletion Undertaking

[On the Letterhead of the Selected Industry Domain Expert]

Date:

To

The Centre Head,
C-DAC, Chennai

Subject: Undertaking for Secure Deletion of Data

Gem Bid Ref:

We, M/s _____ (Name of the Bidder / Firm), the selected Industry Domain Expert, hereby undertake and certify that:

1. All **data, metadata, system logs, backups, and any other information** related to C-DAC's **Multi-Platform Operating System Ecosystem project**, stored on our infrastructure or under our control, have been **securely and permanently deleted** in accordance with **NIST SP 800-88 Rev.1 / ISO/IEC 27040 / or equivalent standards approved by C-DAC**.
2. The data deletion process has been **verified and validated internally** to ensure **complete irreversibility and non-recoverability** by any means.
3. We confirm that **no copies of C-DAC's data exist** in any form within our systems, including but not limited to:
 - o primary systems
 - o backup repositories
 - o disaster recovery sites
 - o cloud environments
 - o third-party systems or subcontractors
4. We further undertake that we shall **not retain, reuse, disclose, or reconstruct** any such data in any manner whatsoever.

5. We acknowledge that this undertaking is **legally binding**, and any breach of this declaration shall result in **appropriate action as per the contract terms**, including but not limited to **termination, forfeiture of Performance Security, and legal proceedings**, as applicable.

Authorized Signatory:

Name: _____

Designation: _____

Company Seal & Stamp: _____

NDA Format

This Non-Disclosure Agreement (“Agreement”) is made effective from this day of [month year] (“Effective Date”), by and between [agency name] having office at [address of agency] (hereinafter referred to as “Agency” / “Recipient” / “Receiving Party”) and Centre for Development of Advanced Computing, Chennai, a constituent unit of C-DAC, a Scientific Society under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India, registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950, having its registered office at Savitribai Phule Pune University Campus, Ganesh Khind, Pune-411007 and place of business at Tidel Park, 8th Floor, 'D' Block(North & South), No.4 Rajiv Gandhi Salai, Taramani, Chennai- 600113, Tamil Nadu (India) (hereinafter referred to as “Client”/ “Disclosing Party”)

(Client and Agency shall be individually referred to hereinafter as a “Party” and collectively as the “Parties”)

WHEREAS, the Client has appointed [agency name] for rendering < consultancy> services during the period commencing from <ddmmyy> to <ddmmyy>

WHEREAS, the Parties hereto are willing to execute this Agreement in order to protect certain information to be disclosed by Disclosing Party to the Receiving Party for the aforesaid purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the recitals set forth above and the covenants set forth herein, the Parties agree that:

1. It is hereby agreed that the discretion exercised by C-DAC at the time of disclosure shall be deemed sufficient and appropriate for the protection of Confidential Information disclosed under the tender/contract. C-DAC shall have the sole right to determine the nature, scope, and extent of Confidential Information to be disclosed. Such disclosure shall be made only on a need-to-know basis to authorized representatives of the bidder, and the bidder shall ensure that such representatives maintain strict confidentiality of the information at all times.
2. Recipient agrees to protect Confidential Information received from the Disclosing Party with at least the same degree of care as it normally exercises to protect its own

proprietary information of a similar nature and in no event less than a reasonable standard of care. Recipient agrees to promptly inform the Disclosing Party of any unauthorized disclosure or suspected breach of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information, and take immediate remedial actions at its own cost.

3. **“Confidential Information”** means any and all information, whether disclosed in written, oral, electronic, visual or any other form, by or on behalf of the Disclosing Party to the Receiving Party, including but not limited to business, commercial, financial, technical or legal information, trade secrets, know-how, data, reports, analyses, projections, customer or supplier information, and any copies or derivatives thereof, which is designated as confidential or which, by its nature or the circumstances of disclosure, ought reasonably to be understood to be confidential.
4. In the case of Confidential Information that is disclosed only orally, Disclosing Party may, within 30 (thirty) days after such disclosure, deliver to the Receiving Party a brief written description of such Confidential Information; identifying the place and date of such oral disclosure and the names of the representatives of the Receiving Party to whom such disclosure was made. It is expected that such information may bear a legend or label of “Confidential” or other similar designation manifesting intent that the information is confidential (“Confidential Information”). Any failure to mark or designate such information as “Confidential” shall not affect its confidential nature if it is reasonably understood to be confidential.
5. The restrictions set forth in this Agreement on of Confidential Information shall not apply to any information which:
 - a. is independently developed by the Recipient without use of or reference to the Confidential Information; or
 - b. is rightfully received free of restriction from another source having the right to so furnish such information; or
 - c. has become generally available to the public without breach of this Agreement; or
 - d. at the time of disclosure to the Recipient was rightfully known to such party or its affiliated companies free of restriction as evidenced by documentation in its possessions; or
 - e. the non-Disclosing Party agrees in writing to be free of such restrictions; or

- f. is required to be furnished to any authority, department, office or body by a decree, order or authorization of law, provided that the Recipient shall, to the extent legally permissible, promptly notify C-DAC prior to such disclosure and limit disclosure strictly to the extent required.
6. The Recipient shall use Confidential Information solely for the purpose of this Agreement and shall not disclose such Confidential Information to any third party, without the Disclosing Party's prior written consent, other than to Agency subcontractors and to its employees on a need-to-know basis, who are bound by confidentiality obligations no less stringent than those contained herein.
7. All information shall remain the property of the Disclosing Party and shall be returned or securely destroyed, as instructed by the Disclosing Party, upon written request or upon the Recipient's determination that it no longer has a need for such information or upon completion/termination of the engagement between Parties for the subject matter, whichever is earlier, except that both parties may retain copies of the Confidential Information, to the extent required to comply with applicable legal and regulatory requirements, subject to continued confidentiality obligations.
8. The Parties agree that during the existence of the term of this Agreement, Agency shall not solicit directly or indirectly the employees of the C-DAC or any associated entity of C-DAC.
9. The term of this Agreement shall commence from the EffectiveDate of this Agreement, and shall remain co-terminus with the term of the contract. Any surviving obligation either under this Agreement or tender document or contract, shall survive the termination of this Agreement.
10. The authorized representatives from Agency side shall be –
 - a. <XXXXXX>
11. The Recipient shall indemnify and hold harmless the Disclosing Party, its officers, employees, and representatives from and against any claims, losses, damages, liabilities, and expenses (including legal costs) arising out of or in connection with any breach of this Agreement, including unauthorized use or disclosure of Confidential Information, violation of applicable laws, or infringement of intellectual property rights by the Recipient.

Such indemnity shall include third-party claims and shall not be limited by any limitation of liability provisions. The obligations under this clause shall survive termination or expiry of this Agreement.

12. Any dispute arising out of or in connection with this Agreement shall be resolved amicably within thirty (30) days. Failing such resolution, the dispute shall be referred to arbitration in accordance with the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, and conducted under the rules of the International Arbitration and Conciliation Centre (IIAC), New Delhi. The seat and venue of arbitration shall be New Delhi, and the proceedings shall be conducted in English. The arbitral award shall be final and binding on the Parties.

Subject to the above, courts at New Delhi shall have exclusive jurisdiction with respect to any dispute under this Agreement.

13. This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding between the Parties hereto as to the information and merges all prior discussions between them relating thereto. No amendment or modification of this Agreement shall be valid or binding on the Parties unless made in writing and signed on behalf of each of the Parties by their respective authorized officers or representatives.

14. The Parties agree that the laws of India, other than its conflict of laws provisions, shall apply in any dispute arising out of this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Agreement to be executed as of the date set forth above.

For and on behalf of

Sig.:

Name:

Title:

Place:

Witness: Signature:

Name: Title

For and on behalf of

Sig.:

Name:

Title:

Place
