

**Sub: Pre-bid Queries for RFP to conduct Impact Assessment study on Hallmarking of Gold Jewellery and Gold Arte-facts in selected districts.**

S. No	Page No.	Query raised by	RFP Statement	Query/Comments/Suggestion	Response from DoCA
1.	2	GRES-India	Schedule of Evaluation Study:  Date of Pre-bid meeting: 05/02/2024	To kindly share the pre-bid meeting link scheduled on 5th Feb.2024. To confirm whether EMD is exempted to MSME units subject to provide certificate as per Government of India norms	The link was already uploaded on GeM portal and the meeting concluded as per schedule. The EMD has been revised to Rs. 1, 25,000/- as per the corrigendum (No. V-22/1/2023-BIS) dated 24.01.2024. EMD may be exempted for the MSME as per extant government guidelines. But a certificate of MSME is required to be furnished with the Technical bid document.
2.	15	Indian Institute of Development Management	Pre-qualification evaluation criteria S. No (1): The applicant should be a legal entity i.e. Central or State government academic institution or organization engaged in research, policy making etc. and private sector institutions empanelled for research with NITI Aayog and should have been operating in India for the past 5 years.	Our organization is a non-government organization & has conducted decades of similar studies for Union & State Governments. We are empanelled with a few GoI Ministries too but we are not registered with NITI Aayog. Kindly exempt us from the clause of being empanelled with NITI Aayog. However, we are empanelled with NITI Aayog as NGO.	Only Organizations empanelled with NITI Aayog is required to apply for the bid.
3.	5	BRIEF (Bureau of Research on Industry & Economic Fundamentals Pvt. Ltd. New Delhi)	Bid notification and Datasheet EMD: Rs. 2, 50,000/- (Rupees Two lakh Fifty Thousand Only)	Bid must be accompanied with Earnest Money Deposit (i.e. EMD) for an amount of INR 2,50, 000/- is to be submitted in the electronic format online along with the bid document in the form of an Account Payee Bank Demand Draft, Fixed Deposit Receipt, Banker's cheque, or Bank Guarantee drawn from any Commercial bank in favor of the Pay and Accounts Officer, Department of Consumer Affairs, New Delhi payable at New Delhi. strictly as per the format given in Annexure-D Format for EMD as Bank guarantee (as the case may be) of the bid document: <b>Are agencies registered under the</b>	The EMD has been revised to Rs. 1, 25,000/- as per the corrigendum (No. V-22/1/2023-BIS) dated 24.01.2024. EMD may be exempted for the MSME as per extant government guidelines. But a certificate of MSME is required to be furnished with the Technical bid document.

				<b>MSME exempted from the EMD criteria?</b>	
	15		Pre-qualification evaluation criteria S. No (5): The average annual turnover of the Agency from consultancy assignments during the last three Financial years, ending on 31st March, 2023, shall not be less than Rs. 2.5 Crore.	As per Gem tender, Tender ID - GEM/2024/B/4507690 document required for the Minimum Average Annual Turnover of the bidder (For 3 Years) is 100 Lakh (s)	Corrigendum (No. V-22/1/2023-BIS) dated 24.01.2024 has been issued in this regards which clearly mentions the annual turnover shall not be less than Rs. 1 crore.
4.	10	Centre for Good Governance	Time Schedule and Deliverables Preliminary report of the study should be submitted within one month of the work order and final report in third month of the study	The Time Schedule section in page 10 mentions about submission of preliminary report within one month of issue of work order while the Deliverables section in page 11, mentions submission of inception report initially followed by preliminary report after the completion of physical survey across the 20 districts (Total sample locations). While the final report needs to be submitted in third month. The timelines for submission of preliminary report after the completion of survey across twenty districts in a month is too short. It may be noted that a time of two months is allowed for submission of final report after the submission of preliminary report. We seek clarity about the timelines with a request to consider the submission of preliminary report at the end of second month.	The submission of the preliminary report may be submitted after the 2 months of the study. The final report may be presented and sent immediately after 3 months but not later than total 100 days' time.
	15		Pre-qualification evaluation criteria S. No (6): The applicant should have completed at least 2 number of projects/studies of similar nature and scale within India in the last 5 years.	In page 15, the no. of years required is mentioned as 5 years and in page no. 40, Form 5E, Point 11 as 3 years. Please clarify if it is 3 years or 5 years.	Form 5E point 11 stands amended and it may be read as 5 years.

	40		Form 5E, Point 11 Experience in conducting at least 2 similar evaluation studies on schemes/programs during the past 3 (three) years that are relevant for demonstrating its expertise in the area of the proposed study		
5.		CRISIL Limited		To kindly share the pre-bid meeting link scheduled on 5th Feb.2024	The link was already uploaded on GeM portal and the meeting concluded as per schedule.
	15		The applicant should have completed at least 2 number of projects/studies of similar nature and scale within India in the last 5 years. They should have a minimum experience of having conducted field studies in at least 2 states and 5 districts in India of a similar nature	Please define 'similar nature projects' for pre-qualification as well as technical evaluation	The similar nature studies means academic, survey, research based studies across Pan India of any government projects, schemes or beneficiary projects completed by the agency by receiving the project from any Central government, state government, PSU organizations or NITI Aayog.
	40,15		The applicant should have completed at least 2 number of projects/studies of similar nature and scale within India in the last 5 years. Experience in conducting at least 2 similar evaluation studies on schemes/programs during the past 3 (three) years that are relevant for demonstrating its expertise in the area of the proposed study. They should have a minimum experience of having conducted field studies in at least 2 states and 5 districts in India of a similar nature.	Pre-qualification criteria mentions similar project in past 5 years, whereas Form5E mentions past three years. Please clarify.	Form 5E point 11 stands amended and it may be read as 5 years.
	17		Technical Evaluation: Experience in conducting similar studies in recent past (Max. 20 Marks)	Kindly enlist few related sectors including government sectors. Do sectors such as fuel retail, healthcare classifies as related sectors?	Organization which has done academic, survey, research based studies across Pan India of any government projects, schemes or beneficiary projects completed by the agency by receiving the

			Past Experience in conducting similar studies in related sectors including Govt. sectors (Max. 10 Marks)		project from any Central government, state government, PSU organizations or NITI Aayog.
	10		Role of BIS: The organization/institute will be in touch with BIS for any clarification/assistance etc. with respect to the study visit.	Will the POC from BIS shared with us by Department of consumer affairs or do we need to establish our own connect?	BIS can be contacted for clarifications through DoCA.
	11		Deliverables: Month 1: Phase II	Request to provide time to conduct physical survey and let the Phase II deliverable by scheduled for Month2 instead of Month 1 now. The preliminary report along with initial findings can be shared in Phase I / Month 1	The preliminary report may be submitted after 2 months of the study. The final report may be presented and sent immediately after 3 months but not later than total 100 days' time.
6.		DRS India		To confirm whether MSME organization are exempted from paying EMD. To kindly share the pre-bid meeting link scheduled on 5th Feb.2024	The EMD has been revised to Rs. 1, 25,000/- as per the corrigendum (No. V-22/1/2023-BIS) dated 24.01.2024. EMD may be exempted for the MSME as per extant government guidelines. But a certificate of MSME is required to be furnished with the Technical bid document. The link was already uploaded on GeM portal and the meeting concluded as per schedule.
7.	8	TRIOs Development Support(P) Ltd	As per RFP- reference page 8, we have to carry out a field survey across 20 districts in which 15 districts shall be under purview where this Hallmarking has been successfully implemented. At present total mandatory districts are 343.	Could you kindly provide the list of all those mandatory districts?	The list of 343 mandatory districts is provided in the link mentioned in Annexure G (Pg. 68 of RFP).
8.	12	AMS	Methodology and Work Plan	Clarification on total sample size in each districts.	The minimum sample size for the physical survey in each district shall be 200. The sample size in each district shall include at least 2 AHC, 5 registered Jewelers under BIS, 3 Artisans and 190 consumers. The sample size is indicative in nature. Bidders may workout plans for the best results of the study.

	12		Methodology and Work Plan	The survey will be in form of electronic or physical process?	The applicant shall conduct a physical survey in 20 districts (15 covered + 5 uncovered) to carry out the impact assessment study of hallmarking.
	11		Deliverables	The final report shall be based on zone-wise report or state-wise report?	Both zone-wise and state-wise report to be presented.
	11		Deliverables	Do we need to conduct both qualitative or quantities survey?	Yes, the report need to have both Qualitative and Quantitative data analysis for quality study work.
	11		Deliverables	Do we need to carry specific impact assessment study for each category of jewellery, artefacts and coins	No need to mention research study on each category.
9.	15	BDO India LLP	Pre-qualification evaluation criteria S. No (1): The applicant should be a legal entity i.e. Central or State government academic institution or organization engaged in research, policy making etc. and private sector institutions empanelled for research with NITI Aayog and should have been operating in India for the past 5 years.	We would like to iterate that though we are not currently empaneled with NITI AYOG of India, we have conducted similar large-scale studies with several Central Ministries as well as the funding agencies. Our team has expertise in the jewelry sector and has helped several clients in the past on a range of studies. Kindly exempt us from the clause of being empanelled with NITI Aayog.	Only Organizations empanelled with NITI Aayog is required to apply for the bid.
10.	10	AFC India Limited	Time Schedule The DoCA intends to complete the study in 3 months. The Preliminary Report of the study should be submitted within 1 month of the work order, and the final report in the third month of the study.	We understand that for Phase I activities first month is given and then Month 2 is for Phase II activities and Month 3 is for Phase III activities.  May kindly confirm if our understanding is correct.  Further, we also request to kindly reconsider the timeline and provide time for 4 months	The preliminary report may be submitted after 2 months of the study. The final report may be presented and sent immediately after 3 months but not later than total 100 days' time.
	12		Methodology and Work Plan The applicant shall conduct a physical survey in 20 districts (15 covered + 5 uncovered) to carry out the impact assessment study of	May kindly suggest the names of states and districts in which the physical survey needs to be undertaken.  This will help us to understand the geography and accordingly we can plan the accurate budget for the	The list of 343 mandatory districts is provided in the link mentioned in Annexure G (Pg. 68 of RFP). Bidders can select the 15 covered districts as per the list provided in RFP. The rest 5 uncovered districts can be selected by bidders such that it

		hallmarking. The questionnaire for the survey shall be prepared as per the approval of the Ministry.	study.	covers complete 5 zones.
12		<p>Methodology and Work Plan</p> <p>4. Mobilization and Assessment of the targeted 20 districts. In each district, the stakeholders to be surveyed are registered jewelers with BIS, AHCs, Artisans, and consumers.</p> <p>5. The sample size for the physical survey in each district shall be 200. The sample size in each district shall include at least 2 AHC, 5 registered jewellers under BIS, 3 Artisans and 190 consumers.</p>	<p>We understand that from scope of work that the study means to be conducted in 20 districts spread across 5 zones each the coverage in each district is 200 participants in different stakeholders.</p> <p>The budget mentioned on GeM advertisement for this activity appears to be on the lower side. Covering 20 districts across India and 8000 sample in a given budget would not be feasible.</p> <p>May kindly suggest if this budget is fixed or open to calculations.</p>	<p>The budget mentioned in the GeM Portal is an indicative figure. The final estimation can be done as per the scale of the impact assessment study carried out by the bidders.</p>
15		<p>Pre-qualification evaluation criteria: The applicant should have completed at least 2 number of projects/studies of <b>similar nature</b> and scale within India in the last <b>5 years</b>. They should have a minimum experience of having conducted field studies in at least 2 states and 5 districts in India of a similar nature.</p> <p>&amp; Form 5E; Technical Bid format Page No 40 Point 11: Experience in conducting at least 2 similar evaluation studies on schemes/programs during the past 3 (three) years that are relevant for demonstrating its expertise in the area of the proposed study.</p>	<p>Please clarify, whether similar nature of assignment means impact assessment, evaluation studies, feedback surveys conducted on Pan India basis?</p> <p>In form 5E, the experience of similar nature is asked for 3 years whereas in Pre-qualification experience is asked for 5 years.</p> <p>Please clarify. Kindly consider the experience for last 5 years.</p>	<p>Form 5E point 11 stands amended and it may be read as 5 years.</p>

16		<p>Technical Evaluation criteria (Total 100 Marks)  Past Experience in conducting similar studies in related sectors including Govt. sectors (Max. 10 Marks)  The applicant should have completed at least 2 number of projects/studies of similar nature and scale within India in the last 5 years.</p>	<p>Please clarify what does related sector means?</p>	<p>Organization which has done academic, survey, research based studies across Pan India of any government projects, schemes or beneficiary projects completed by the agency by receiving the project from any Central government, state government, PSU organizations or NITI Aayog.</p>
17		<p>Earnest Money Deposit (EMD):  Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of Rs. 2, 50,000/- (Rupees Two lakh Fifty Thousand Only) is to be submitted in the electronic format online along with the bid document in the form of an Account Payee Bank Demand Draft, Fixed Deposit Receipt, Banker's cheque, or Bank Guarantee drawn from any Commercial bank in favor of the Pay and Accounts Officer, Department of Consumer Affairs, New Delhi payable at Delhi/New Delhi.</p>	<p>This is to bring to your notice that “As per the Public Procurement Policy for MSEs Order, 2012 notified under section 11 of MSMED Act, 2006 (<a href="https://msme.gov.in/public-procurement-policy-micro-and-small-enterprises-mses-order-2012">https://msme.gov.in/public-procurement-policy-micro-and-small-enterprises-mses-order-2012</a>), registered MSEs are exempted from submitting the Tender Cost and EMD (refer Exemption of MSMEs to submit Bidder Fee and EMD at <a href="https://msme.gov.in/sites/default/files/Sch-vol1-151214.pdf-sri.pdf">https://msme.gov.in/sites/default/files/Sch-vol1-151214.pdf-sri.pdf</a> )”.</p> <p>In this regard, we request you to kindly allow the exemption of EMD for MSMEs?</p>	<p>The EMD has been revised to Rs. 1, 25,000/- as per the corrigendum (No. V-22/1/2023-BIS) dated 24.01.2024. EMD may be exempted for the MSME as per extant government guidelines. But a certificate of MSME is required to be furnished with the Technical bid document.</p>
5		<p>EMD amount mentioned in the GEM portal and inside the RFP</p>	<p>EMD amount mentioned in the GEM portal is Rs. 1,25,000 whereas EMD amount mentioned in RFP on page number 5 under Bid notification and data sheet is Rs. 2,50,000.  Please clarify which amount of EMD is correct?</p>	<p>The EMD has been revised to Rs. 1, 25,000/- as per the corrigendum (No. V-22/1/2023-BIS) dated 24.01.2024.</p>