

**International Competitive Bidding under Single Stage Bidding
Process for**

Name of the Project:

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

BID DOCUMENT

VOLUME -I

INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

<<Date of Issue of RFP>>



Deputy Secretary

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[Name and Address of the Authority]

Notice Inviting Bid

Bid/ Package no *****

Dated *****

RFP for *****on Hybrid Annuity Mode

The Government of India had entrusted to the Authority the development, maintenance and management of National Highway No. **including the section from km **** to km **** (approx. **** km). The Authority had resolved to augment the existing road from km ** to km ** (approximately *** km) on the *** section of National Highway No. ** (hereinafter called the “NH **”) in the State of by [Two-Laning thereof] (the “Project”) on design, build, operate and transfer (the “DBOT Annuity” or “Hybrid Annuity”) basis, and has decided to carry out the bidding process for selection of [a private entity] as the Bidder to whom the Project may be awarded. Brief particulars of the Project are as follows:

Name of the Highway	Length (in Km)	Estimated Project Cost (In Rs. Cr.) ¹

The complete BID document can be viewed / downloaded from e-procurement portal of [NHA] <http://nhai.eproc.in> from *****to ***** (up to ***** Hrs. IST). Bid must be submitted online only at [<https://nhai.eproc.in>] during the validity of registration with the [NHA] e-Tendering Portal] being managed by *****, i.e. [<https://nhai.eproc.in>] on or before ***** (upto ***** hours IST). Technical submissions of the Bids received online shall be opened on ***** (at ***** hours IST).

Bid submitted through any other mode shall not be entertained. However, Bid Security, proof of online payment of cost of bid document, Power of Attorney and joint bidding agreement etc. as specified in Clause 2.11.2 of the RFP shall be submitted physically by the Bidder on or before ***** (at ***** hours IST). Please note that the Authority reserves the right to accept or reject all or any of the BIDs without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Thanking you,
Yours faithfully,

[Name and Address of the Authority]

¹ This amount would be calculated as per the directions issued by MoRTH / NHA] for calculation of Estimated Project Cost

DISCLAIMER

The information contained in this Request for Proposal document (the "RFP") or subsequently provided to Bidder(s), whether verbally or in documentary or any other form by or on behalf of the Authority or any of its employees or advisors, is provided to Bidder(s) on the terms and conditions set out in this RFP and such other terms and conditions subject to which such information is provided.

This RFP is not an Agreement and is neither an offer nor invitation by the Authority to the prospective Bidders or any other person. The purpose of this RFP is to provide interested parties with information that may be useful to them in making their financial offers (BIDs) pursuant to this RFP. This RFP includes statements, which reflect various assumptions and assessments arrived at by the Authority in relation to the Project. Such assumptions, assessments and statements do not purport to contain all the information that each Bidder may require. This RFP may not be appropriate for all persons, and it is not possible for the Authority, its employees or advisors to consider the investment objectives, financial situation and particular needs of each party who reads or uses this RFP. The assumptions, assessments, statements and information contained in the Bidding Documents, especially the [Feasibility Report], may not be complete, accurate, adequate or correct. Each Bidder should, therefore, conduct its own investigations and analysis and should check the accuracy, adequacy, correctness, reliability and completeness of the assumptions, assessments, statements and information contained in this RFP and obtain independent advice from appropriate sources.

Information provided in this RFP to the Bidder(s) is on a wide range of matters, some of which may depend upon interpretation of law. The information given is not intended to be an exhaustive account of statutory requirements and should not be regarded as a complete or authoritative statement of law. The Authority accepts no responsibility for the accuracy or otherwise for any interpretation or opinion on law expressed herein.

The Authority, its employees and advisors make no representation or warranty and shall have no liability to any person, including any Applicant or Bidder under any law, statute, rules or regulations or tort, principles of restitution or unjust enrichment or otherwise for any loss, damages, cost or expense which may arise from or be incurred or suffered on account of anything contained in this RFP or otherwise, including the accuracy, adequacy, correctness, completeness or reliability of the RFP and any assessment, assumption, statement or information contained therein or deemed to form part of this RFP or arising in any way for participation in this BID Stage.

The Authority also accepts no liability of any nature whether resulting from negligence or otherwise howsoever caused arising from reliance of any Bidder upon the statements contained in this RFP. The Authority may in its absolute discretion, but without being under any obligation to do so, update, amend or supplement the information, assessment or assumptions contained in this RFP.

The issue of this RFP does not imply that the Authority is bound to select a Bidder or to appoint the Selected Bidder or Concessionaire, as the case may be, for the Project and the Authority reserves the right to reject all or any of the Bidders or BIDs without assigning any reason whatsoever.

The Bidder shall bear all its costs associated with or relating to the preparation and submission of its BID including but not limited to preparation, copying, postage, delivery fees, expenses associated with any demonstrations or presentations which may be required by the Authority or any other costs incurred in connection with or relating to its BID. All such costs and expenses will remain with the Bidder and the Authority shall not be liable in any manner whatsoever for the same or for any other costs or other expenses incurred by a Bidder in preparation or submission of the BID, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the Bidding Process.

GLOSSARY

Associate	As defined in Clause 2.1.18
Authority	As defined in Clause 1.1.1
Bank Guarantee	As defined in Clause 2.20.1
BID(s)	As defined in the Disclaimer
Bidders	As defined in Clause 1.2.2
Bidding Documents	As defined in Clause 1.1.7
BID Due Date	As defined in Clause 1.1.7
Bidding Process	As defined in Clause 1.2.1
BID Security	As defined in Clause 1.2.4
BID Price	As defined in Clause 1.2.6
Concession	As defined in Clause 1.1.5
Concession Agreement	As defined in Clause 1.1.2
Concessionaire	As defined in Clause 1.1.2
Conflict of Interest	As defined in Clause 2.2.1
Consortium	As defined in Clause 2.2.1(a)
Demand Draft	As defined in Clause 2.20.2
Estimated Project Cost	As defined in Clause 1.1.4
Feasibility Report	As defined in Clause 1.2.3
Government	Government of India
Lowest Bidder	As defined in Clause 1.2.6
LOA	As defined in Clause 3.8.4
Project	As defined in Clause 1.1.1
Re. or Rs. or INR	Indian Rupee
RFP or Request for Proposals	As defined in the Disclaimer
Selected Bidder	As defined in Clause 3.8.1

The words and expressions beginning with capital letters and defined in this document shall, unless repugnant to the context, have the meaning ascribed thereto herein.



[NAME OF THE AUTHORITY]

SECTION 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

- 1.1.1 The [National Highways Authority of India](the “**Authority**”) is engaged in the development of National Highways and as part of this endeavour, the Authority has decided to undertake development and operation / maintenance of the “*****” Project (the “**Project**”) through Public Private Partnership (the “**PPP**”) on Design, Build, Operate and Transfer (“**DBOT Annuity or Hybrid Annuity**”) basis, and has decided to carry out the bidding process for selection of a private entity as the Bidder to whom the Project may be awarded. A brief description of the Project may be seen in the Information Memorandum of the Project at the Authority’s website [www.nhai.org/ <https://nhai.eproc.in>]. Brief particulars of the Project are as follows:

Project Name	Length (in Km)	Estimated Project Cost (In Rs. Cr.)

- 1.1.2 The Selected Bidder, who is either a company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 or its substitute thereof or undertakes to incorporate as such prior to execution of the concession agreement (the “**Concessionaire**”), shall be responsible for designing, engineering, financing, procurement, construction, operation and maintenance of the Project under and in accordance with the provisions of long-term concession agreement (the “**Concession Agreement**”) to be entered into between the Concessionaire and the Authority in the form provided by the Authority as part of the Bidding Documents pursuant thereto.
- 1.1.3 The scope of work will broadly include [rehabilitation, upgradation and widening of the existing carriageway to four-lane standards with construction of new pavement, rehabilitation of existing pavement, construction and/ or rehabilitation of major and minor bridges, culverts, road intersections, interchanges, drains, etc. including those prescribed in the Concession Agreement and its Schedules] and the operation and maintenance thereof.

- 1.1.4 The estimated cost of the Project (the “**Estimated Project Cost**”) has been specified in the clause 0 above. The assessment of actual costs, however, will have to be made by the Bidders.
- 1.1.5 The Concession Agreement sets forth the detailed terms and conditions for grant of the concession to the Concessionaire, including the scope of the Concessionaire’s services and obligations (the “**Concession**”).
- 1.1.6 The statements and explanations contained in this RFP are intended to provide a better understanding to the Bidders about the subject matter of this RFP and should not be construed or interpreted as limiting in any way or manner the scope of services and obligations of the Concessionaire set forth in the Concession Agreement or the Authority’s rights to amend, alter, change, supplement or clarify the scope of work, the Concession to be awarded pursuant to this RFP or the terms thereof or herein contained. Consequently, any omissions, conflicts or contradictions in the Bidding Documents including this RFP are to be noted, interpreted and applied appropriately to give effect to this intent, and no claims on that account shall be entertained by the Authority.
- 1.1.7 The Authority shall receive Bids pursuant to and in accordance with the terms set forth in this RFP and other documents to be provided by the Authority pursuant to this RFP (collectively the “Bidding Documents”), and all Bids shall be prepared and submitted in accordance with such terms on or before the Bid due date specified in Clause 1.3 for submission of Bids (the “Bid Due Date”).

1.2. Brief description of Bidding Process

- 1.2.1 The Authority has adopted a single stage two envelop process (referred to as the “Bidding Process”) for selection of the Bidder for award of the Project. Under this process, the Bid shall be invited under two envelopes. Prior to or along with the Bid, the Bidder shall pay to the Authority a sum of [Rs 50,000 (Rupees fifty thousand)]² as the cost of the RFP process. Eligibility and qualification of the Bidder will be first examined based on the details submitted under first envelop (Technical Bid) with respect to eligibility and qualifications criteria prescribed in this RFP. (The “Bidder”, which expression shall, unless repugnant to the context, include the members of the Consortium). The Financial Bid under the second envelop shall be opened of only those Bidders whose Technical Bids are responsive to eligibility and qualifications requirements as per this RFP.

² The cost of RFP may be determined at the rate of Rs. 10,000 for every Rs. 100 crore or part thereof comprising the Estimated Project Cost. Thus the cost of an RFP document for a project of Rs. 500 crore shall be Rs. 50, 000.

[GOI has issued guidelines (see Annexure VI of Appendix-1A of RFP) for qualification of bidders seeking to acquire stakes in any public sector enterprise through the process of disinvestment. These guidelines shall apply mutatis mutandis to this Bidding Process. The Authority shall be entitled to disqualify any Bidder in accordance with the aforesaid guidelines at any stage of the Bidding Process. Bidders must satisfy themselves that they are qualified to bid, and should give an undertaking to this effect in the form at Appendix-1A]

- 1.2.2 Interested bidders (the “**Bidders**”) are being called upon to submit their Bid in accordance with the terms specified in this Bidding Document. The Bid shall be valid for a period of 120 days from the date specified in Clause 1.3 for submission of Bids (the “**Bid Due Date**”).
- 1.2.3 The complete Bidding Documents including the draft agreement for the Project is enclosed for the Bidders. The Feasibility Report / Detailed Project Report prepared by the Authority/ consultants of the Authority (the “Feasibility Report/Detailed Project Report”) is also enclosed for guidance purposes only. Subject to the provisions of Clause 2.1.3, the aforesaid documents and any addenda issued subsequent to this RFP Document, will be deemed to form part of the Bidding Documents.
- 1.2.4 A Bidder is required to deposit, along with its Bid, a Bid Security³ of Rs. *****Crores (Rupees *****) (the “**Bid Security**”), refundable not later than 90 (ninety) days from the Bid Due Date, except in the case of the Selected Bidder whose Bid Security shall be retained till it has provided a Performance Security under the Agreement. The Bidders will have an option to provide Bid Security in the form of a demand draft or a bank guarantee acceptable to the Authority, and in such event, the validity period of the bank guarantee shall not be less than 120 (one hundred and twenty) days from the Bid Due Date with a claim period of 60 (sixty) days, and may be extended as may be mutually agreed between the Authority and the Bidder from time to time and that the validity of the demand draft shall not be less than 60 (sixty) days from the Bid Due Date. Upon submission of demand draft, the same shall be encashed by the Authority. The Bid shall be summarily rejected if it is not accompanied by the Bid Security.
- 1.2.5 During the Bid Stage, Bidders are advised to examine the Project in greater detail, and to carry out, at their cost, such studies as may be required for submitting their respective Bids for award of the contract including implementation of the Project.

³ The Bid Security shall generally be 1% of the Estimated Project Cost. However, the Authority may, if deemed necessary, prescribe a higher Bid Security not exceeding 2% of the Estimated Project Cost. In case of a project having an Estimated Project Cost of Rs. 2,000 cr. or above, the Authority may reduce the Bid Security, but not less than 0.5% in any case

- 1.2.6 Bids would be evaluated on the basis of the lowest assessed Bid Price (the “**Bid Price**”). The Bid Price shall be summation of (a) Net Present Value (NPV) of Bid Project Cost during the Concession Period and (b) NPV of O&M cost (the “**O&M Cost**”) during the O&M Period, required by a Bidder for implementing the Project and shall be paid as per the provisions of Article 23 of the Concession Agreement. The Concession Period is pre-determined, as indicated in the Concession Agreement. The assessed Bid Price shall constitute the sole criteria for evaluation of Bids. Subject to Clause 2.16, the Project will be awarded to the Bidder quoting the lowest assessed Bid Price.

The discount rate for calculation of NPV shall be [Bank Rate⁴ +3%] and Bank Rate shall be the applicable Bank Rate on the date of submission of the Bid.

In this RFP, the term “Lowest Bidder” shall mean the Bidder who’s assessed Bid Price is the lowest.

- 1.2.7 Generally, the Lowest Bidder shall be the Selected Bidder. The remaining Bidders shall be kept in reserve and may, in accordance with the process specified in Clause 3 of this RFP, be invited to match the Bid submitted by the Lowest Bidder in case such Lowest Bidder withdraws or is not selected for any reason. In the event that none of the other Bidders match the Bid of the Lowest Bidder, the Authority may, in its discretion, either invite fresh Bids from the remaining Bidders or annul the Bidding Process.
- 1.2.8 In the event, the Bid Project Cost of the Lowest Bidder is lower by more than 10% with respect to the Estimated Project Cost, the Concessionaire shall submit an Additional Performance Security (the “**Additional Performance Security**” as per the provision of the Concession Agreement. The Additional Performance Security shall be determined @ 10% of the difference in the Estimated Project Cost and the Bid Project Cost.
- 1.2.9 The Concessionaire shall not be entitled to levy and charge a user fee from users of the Project.
- 1.2.10 Other details of the process to be followed under this bidding process and the terms thereof are spelt out in this RFP.

⁴ Bank Rate shall mean the rate of interest specified by the Reserve Bank of India from time to time in pursuance of section 49 of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 or any replacement of such Bank Rate for the time being in effect

- 1.2.11 Any queries or request for additional information concerning this RFP shall be submitted by e-mail to the officer designated in Clause 2.11.4 below with identification/ title: "Queries/Request for Additional Information:

RFP for*****on Hybrid Annuity Mode

1.3. Schedule of Bidding Process

The Authority shall endeavour to adhere to the following schedule:

Sl.No.	Event Description	Date
1.	Invitation of RFP (NIT)	****
2.	Last date for receiving queries	****
3.	Pre-Bid meeting at venue mentioned at Clause 2.11.4	****
4.	Authority response to queries latest by	****
5.	Bid Due Date	****
6.	Physical Submission of Bid Security/POA etc	[till 11.00 Hrs IST on Bid Due Date]
7.	Opening of Technical Bids at venue provided in Clause 2.11.4	[at 11.30 Hrs. on Bid Due Date]
8.	Declaration eligible / qualified Bidders	[within 20 days from Bid Due Date]
9.	Opening of Financial Bid	[within 30 days from Bid Due Date]
10.	Letter of Award (LOA)	Within 60 days of Bid Due Date
11.	Validity of Bid	120 days from Bid Due Date
12.	Signing of Agreement	Within 45 days of award of LOA

SECTION-2 INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

A. GENERAL

2.1 General terms of Bidding

- 2.1.1 No Bidder shall submit more than one Bid for the Project. A Bidder bidding individually or as a member of a Consortium shall not be entitled to submit another BID either individually or as a member of any Consortium, as the case may be.
- 2.1.2 An international Bidder bidding individually or as a member of a Consortium shall ensure that Power of Attorney is legalised/apostille by appropriate authority notarised in the jurisdiction where the Power of Attorney is being issued and requirement of Indian Stamp Act is duly fulfilled.
- 2.1.3 The Feasibility Report / Detailed Project Report of the Project is being provided only as a preliminary reference document by way of assistance to the Bidders who are expected to carry out their own surveys, investigations and other detailed examination of the Project before submitting their Bids. Nothing contained in the Feasibility Report/Detailed Project Report shall be binding on the Authority nor confer any right on the Bidders, and the Authority shall have no liability whatsoever in relation to or arising out of any or all contents of the Feasibility Report/Detailed Project Report.
- 2.1.4 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this RFP, the detailed terms specified in the draft concession agreement shall have overriding effect; provided, however, that any conditions or obligations imposed on the Bidder hereunder shall continue to have effect in addition to its obligations under the Concession Agreement.
- 2.1.5 The Bid shall be furnished in the format exactly as per Appendix-I i.e. Technical Bid as per Appendix IA and Financial Bid as per Appendix IB. Bid amount shall be indicated clearly in both figures and words, in Indian Rupees, in prescribed format of Financial Bid and shall be signed by the Bidder's authorised signatory. In the event of any difference between figures and words, the amount indicated in words shall be taken into account.

- 2.1.6 The Bidder shall deposit a Bid Security⁵ of Rs.***Crores(Rupees*****) in accordance with the provisions of this RFP. The Bidder has the option to provide the Bid Security either as a Demand Draft or in the form of a Bank Guarantee acceptable to the Authority, as per format at Appendix-II. The Bidders shall also submit proof of online payment of Rs.**** (Rupees) towards cost of bid document.
- 2.1.7 The validity period of the Bank Guarantee or Demand Draft, as the case may be, shall not be less than 120 (one hundred and twenty) days from the Bid Due Date with a claim period of 60 (Sixty) days, and may be extended as may be mutually agreed between the Authority and the Bidder. The Bid shall be summarily rejected if it is not accompanied by the Bid Security. The Bid Security shall be refundable no later than 90(ninety) days from the Bid Due Date except in the case of the Selected Bidder whose Bid Security shall be retained till it has provided a Performance Security under the Agreement.
- 2.1.8 The Bidder should submit a Power of Attorney as per the format at Appendix-III, authorising the signatory of the Bid to commit the Bidder.
- 2.1.9 In case the Bidder is a Consortium, the Members thereof should furnish a Power of Attorney in favour of any Member, which Member shall thereafter be identified as the Lead Member, in the format at Appendix – IV⁶. In case the Bidder is a Consortium, Joint Bidding Agreement in the format at Appendix V shall be submitted by the Bidder.
- 2.1.10 Any condition or qualification or any other stipulation contained in the Bid shall render the Bid liable to rejection as a non-responsive Bid.
- 2.1.11 The Bid and all communications in relation to or concerning the Bidding Documents and the Bid shall be in English language.
- 2.1.12 The Bidding documents including this RFP and all attached documents, provided by the Authority are and shall remain or become the property of the Authority and are transmitted to the Bidders solely for the purpose of preparation and the submission of a Bid in accordance herewith. Bidders are to treat all information as strictly confidential and shall not use it for any purpose

⁵The Bid Security shall generally be 1% of the Estimated Project Cost. However, the Authority may, if deemed necessary, prescribe a higher Bid Security not exceeding 2% of the Estimated Project Cost. In case of a project having an Estimated Project Cost of Rs. 2,000 cr. or above, the Authority may reduce the Bid Security, but not less than 0.5% in any case

⁶In case of a Consortium, the Members should submit a Power of Attorney in favour of the any Member as per the format as Appendix-IV. Such Member shall thereafter be identified as the Lead Member. The Lead Member should submit a power of Attorney as per the format in Appendix-III, authorising the signatory of the Application. Members of the Consortium of need not submit Power of Attorney as per the format at Appendix-III, authorising the signatory of the Application.

other than for preparation and submission of their Bid. The provisions of this Clause 2.1.12 shall also apply mutatis mutandis to Bids and all other documents submitted by the Bidders, and the Authority will not return to the Bidders any Bid, document or any information provided along therewith.

2.1.13 This RFP is not transferable.

2.1.14 Any award of Project pursuant to this RFP shall be subject to the terms of Bidding Documents.

2.1.15 Where the Bidder is a single entity, it shall be required to form an appropriate Special Purpose Vehicle, incorporated under the Indian Companies Act 2013 (the "SPV"), to execute the Concession Agreement and implement the Project. In case the Bidder is a Consortium, it shall, in addition to forming an SPV, comply with the following additional requirements:

- (a) Number of members in a Consortium shall not exceed 6 (six). However, none of the members in a Consortium should be under any sort of ineligibility under the Bid documents but information sought in the Bid may be restricted to 4 (four) members in the order of their equity contribution;
- (b) subject to the provisions of clause (a) above, the Bid should contain the information required for each member of the Consortium;
- (c) members of the Consortium shall nominate one member as the lead member (the "Lead Member"), who shall have an equity share holding of at least 26% (twenty six per cent) of the paid up and subscribed equity of the SPV. The nomination(s) shall be supported by a Power of Attorney, as per the format at Appendix-III, signed by all the other members of the Consortium;
- (d) the Bid should include a brief description of the roles and responsibilities of individual members, particularly with reference to financial, technical and O&M obligations;
- (e) an individual Bidder cannot at the same time be member of a Consortium applying RFP. Further, a member of a particular Bidder Consortium cannot be member of any other Bidder Consortium applying for RFP;

- (h) except as provided under this RFP and the Bidding Documents, there shall not be any amendment to the Jt. Bidding Agreement without the prior written consent of the Authority.

2.1.16 Any entity which has been barred by the Central/ State Government, or any entity controlled by it, from participating in any project (BOT or otherwise), and the bar subsists as on the date of Bid, would not be eligible to submit a Bid, either individually or as member of a Consortium.

2.1.17 A Bidder including any Consortium Member or Associate should, in the last 3 (three) years, have neither failed to perform on any contract, as evidenced by imposition of a penalty by an arbitral or judicial authority or a judicial pronouncement or arbitration award against the Bidder, Consortium Member or Associate, as the case may be, nor has been expelled from any project or contract by any public entity nor have had any contract terminated any public entity for breach by such Bidder, Consortium Member or Associate.

Authority would place sole reliance on the certification provided by the Bidder in this regard in its letter comprising the Technical Bid.

2.1.18 In computing the Technical Capacity and Net Worth of the Bidder/ Consortium Members under Clauses 2.2.2, 2.2.4 and 3.4, the Technical Capacity and Net Worth of their respective Associates would also be eligible hereunder.

For purposes of this RFP, Associate means, in relation to the Bidder/ Consortium Member, a person who controls, is controlled by, or is under the common control with such Bidder/ Consortium Member (the “Associate”). As used in this definition, the expression “control” means, with respect to a person which is a company or corporation, the ownership, directly or indirectly, of more than 50% (fifty per cent) of the voting shares of such person, and with respect to a person which is not a company or corporation, the power to direct the management and policies of such person by operation of law.

It is clarified that a certificate from a qualified external auditor who audits the book of accounts of the Bidder or the Consortium Member shall be provided to demonstrate that a person is an Associate of the Bidder or the Consortium as the case may be.

2.1.19 The following conditions shall be adhered to while submitting a Bid:

- (a) Bidders should attach clearly marked and referenced continuation sheets in the event that the space provided in the prescribed forms in the Annexes is

insufficient. Alternatively, Bidders may format the prescribed forms making due provision for incorporation of the requested information;

- (b) information supplied by a Bidder (or other constituent Member if the Bidder is a Consortium) must apply to the Bidder, Member or Associate named in the Bid and not, unless specifically requested, to other associated companies or firms;
- (c) in responding to the RFP submissions, Bidders should demonstrate their capabilities in accordance with Clause 3.1 below; and
- (d) in case the Bidder is a Consortium, each Member should substantially satisfy the RFP requirements to the extent specified herein.

2.1.20 While Qualification is open to persons from any country, the following provisions shall apply:

- (a) Where, on the date of the Bid, not less than 25% (twenty five percent) of the aggregate issued, subscribed and paid up equity share capital in a Bidder or its Member is held by persons resident outside India or where an Bidder or its Member is controlled by persons resident outside India; or
- (b) if at any subsequent stage after the date of the Bid, there is an acquisition of not less than 25% (twenty five percent) of the aggregate issued, subscribed and paid up equity share capital or control, by persons resident outside India, in or of the Bidder or its Member;

then the Eligibility of such Bidder shall be subject to approval of the Authority from national security and public interest perspective. The decision of the Authority in this behalf shall be final and conclusive and binding on the Bidder.

The holding or acquisition of equity or control, as above, shall include direct or indirect holding/ acquisition, including by transfer, of the direct or indirect legal or beneficial ownership or control, by persons acting for themselves or in concert and in determining such holding or acquisition, the Authority shall be guided by the principles, precedents and definitions contained in the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Substantial Acquisition of Shares and Takeovers) Regulations, 2011, or any substitute thereof, as in force on the date of such acquisition.


Deputy Secretary

The Bidder shall promptly inform the Authority of any change in the shareholding, as above, and failure to do so shall render the Bidder liable for disqualification from the Bidding Process.

2.1.21 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, in the event that the Bid Due Date falls within three months of the closing of the latest financial year of a Bidder, it shall ignore such financial year for the purposes of its Application and furnish all its information and certification with reference to the 5 (five) years or 1 (one) year, as the case may be, preceding its latest financial year. For the avoidance of doubt, financial year shall, for the purposes of an Application hereunder, mean the accounting year followed by the Applicant in the course of its normal business.

2.1.22 During the period from the date of the Concession Agreement until the Appointed Date (the "**Development Period**"), the Concessionaire shall maintain the existing Project road, in such a manner so as to ensure that the road is in pothole free condition and also to ensure that the quality of service and safety are maintained and in the event of any material deterioration or damage other than normal wear and tear, the Concessionaire shall undertake repair thereof. The Concessionaire shall make necessary provisions for inclusion of costs related to maintenance during the Development Period in its Bid.

2.2 Eligibility and qualification requirements of Bidder

2.2.1 For determining the eligibility of Bidder the following shall apply:

- (a) The Bidder may be a single entity or a group of entities (the "**Consortium**"), coming together to implement the Project. However, no Bidder applying individually or as a member of a Consortium, as the case may be, can be member of another Bidder. The term Bidder used herein would apply to both a single entity and a Consortium.
- (b) Bidder may be a natural person, private entity, or any combination of them with a formal intent to enter into a Joint Bidding Agreement or under an existing agreement to form a Consortium. A Consortium shall be eligible for consideration subject to the conditions set out in Clause 2.1.15.
- (c) A Bidder shall not have a conflict of interest (the "**Conflict of Interest**") that affects the Bidding Process. Any Bidder found to have a Conflict of Interest shall be disqualified. In the event of disqualification, the Authority shall be entitled to forfeit and appropriate 5% of the value of the Bid Security or equivalent amount from the Performance Security, as the case

may be, as mutually agreed genuine pre-estimated loss and damage likely to be suffered and incurred by the Authority and not by way of penalty for, *inter alia*, the time, cost and effort of the Authority, including consideration of such Bidder's proposal (the "**Damages**"), without prejudice to any other right or remedy that may be available to the Authority under the Bidding Documents and/or the Concession Agreement or otherwise. Without limiting the generality of the above, a Bidder shall be deemed to have a Conflict of Interest affecting the Bidding Process, if:

- (i) The Bidder, its Member or Associate (or any constituent thereof) and any other Bidder, its Member or any Associate thereof (or any constituent thereof) have common controlling shareholders or other ownership interest; provided that this disqualification shall not apply in cases where the director in direct shareholding of a Bidder, its Member or an Associate thereof (or any shareholder thereof having a shareholding of not more than 25%(twenty five percent) of the paid up and subscribed capital; of such Bidder, Member or Associate, as the case may be) in the other Bidder, its Member or Associate, is not more than 25% (Twenty five percent) of the subscribed and paid up equity share capital thereof; provided further that this disqualification shall not apply to any ownership by a bank, insurance company, pension fund or a public financial institution referred to in section 4A of the Companies Act, 1956/2013. For the purposes of this Clause 2.2.1(c), indirect shareholding held through one or more intermediate persons shall be computed as follows: (aa) where any intermediary is controlled by a person through management control or otherwise, the entire shareholding held by such controlled intermediary in any other person (the "**Subject Person**") shall be taken into account for computing the shareholding of such controlling person in the Subject Person; and (bb) subject always to sub-clause (aa) above, where a person does not exercise control over an intermediary, which has shareholding in the Subject Person, the computation of indirect shareholding of such person in the Subject Person shall be undertaken on a proportionate basis; provided, however, that no such shareholding shall be reckoned under this sub-clause (bb) if the shareholding of such person in the intermediary is less than 26% of the subscribed and paid up equity shareholding of such intermediary; or
- (ii) a constituent of such Bidder is also a constituent of another Bidder; or

- (iii) such Bidder, its Member or any Associate thereof receives or has received any direct or indirect subsidy, grant, concessional loan or subordinated debt from any other Bidder, its Member or Associate, or has provided any such subsidy, grant, concessional loan or subordinated debt to any other Bidder, its Member or any Associate thereof; or
- (iv) such Bidder has the same legal representative for purposes of this Bid as any other Bidder; or
- (v) such Bidder, or any Associate thereof, has a relationship with another Bidder, or any Associate thereof, directly or through common third party/ parties, that puts either or both of them in a position to have access to each other's' information about, or to influence the Bid of either or each other; or
- (vi) such Bidder or any Associate thereof has participated as a consultant to the Authority in the preparation of any documents, design or technical specifications of the Project.
- (vii) Such Bidder or any Associate thereof has appointed any official of the Authority, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Technical Advisors of Authority for the Project, Legal Advisors of Authority for the Project, Financial Advisors of Authority for the Project, dealing with the Project, within a period of 1 years from the date of award of the Project to that Bidder.

Explanation:

In case a Bidder is a Consortium, then the term Bidder as used in this Clause 2.1.12, shall include each Member of such Consortium.

For purposes of this RFP, Associate means, in relation to the Bidder/Consortium Member, a person who controls, is controlled by, or is under the common control with such Bidder/Consortium Member (the "Associate"). As used in this definition, the expression "control" means, with respect to a person which is a company or corporation, the ownership, directly or indirectly, of more than 50% (fifty percent) of the voting shares of such person, and with respect to a person which is not a company or corporation, the power to direct the management and policies of such person by operation of law.

- (d) A Bidder shall be liable for disqualification and forfeiture of Bid Security if any legal, financial or technical adviser of the Authority in relation to the Project is engaged by the Bidder, its Members or any Associate thereof, as the case may be, in any manner for matters related to or incidental to such Project during the Bidding Process or subsequent to the (i) issue of the LOA or (ii) execution of the Concession Agreement. In the event any such adviser is engaged by the Selected Bidder or Concessionaire, as the case may be, after issue of the LOA or execution of the Concession Agreement for matters related or incidental to the Project, then notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein or in the LOA or the Concession Agreement and without prejudice to any other right or remedy of the Authority, including the forfeiture and appropriation of the Bid Security or Performance Security, as the case may be, which the Authority may have thereunder or otherwise, the LOA or the Concession Agreement, as the case may be, shall be liable to be terminated without the Authority being liable in any manner whatsoever to the Selected Bidder or Concessionaire for the same. For the avoidance of doubt, this disqualification shall not apply where such adviser was engaged by the Bidder, its Member or Associate in the past but its assignment expired or was terminated 6 (six) months prior to the date of issue of RFP for the Project. Nor will this disqualification apply where such adviser is engaged after a period of 3 (three) years from the date of commercial operation of the Project.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in sub-clause (c) (i) of Clause 2.2.1, an Bidder may, within 10 (ten) days after the Application Due Date remove from its Consortium any Member who suffers from a Conflict of Interest, and such removal shall be deemed to cure the Conflict of Interest arising in respect thereof. However his financial bid shall not be opened.

Provided further, in case the Authority seeks information / clarification from a Bidders related to occurrence / non-occurrence of Conflict of Interest and the Bidders fails to provide such information within a reasonable time, the Authority shall disqualify the Bidders. Encash its Bid Security as per provision of Clause 2.20.7 (a) and further debar it from participation in any future procurement process for a minimum period of 1 year.

- 2.2.2 To be eligible for this RFP a Bidder shall fulfil the following conditions of eligibility:

- (A) **Technical Capacity:** For demonstrating technical capacity and experience (the “**Technical Capacity**”), the Bidder shall, over the past 5 (five) financial years preceding the Bid Due Date, have:

- (i) paid for, or received payments for, construction of Eligible Project(s); and/or
- (ii) paid for development of Eligible Project(s) in Category 1 and/or Category 2 specified in Clause 3.4.1; and/or
- (iii) collected and appropriated revenues from Eligible Project(s) in Category 1 and/or Category 2 specified in Clause 3.4.1, such that the sum total of the above, as further adjusted in accordance with clause 3.4.6, is more than Rs. ****Crore (Rupees. ***** only)(the “**Threshold Technical Capability**”⁶).

Provided that at least one fourth of the Threshold Technical Capability shall be from the Eligible Projects in Category 1 and/ or Category 3 specified in Clause 3.4.1.

- (B) **Financial Capacity:** The Bidder shall have a minimum Net Worth (the “**Financial Capacity**”⁷) of Rs. ***** Crore (Rupees ***** only) at the close of the preceding financial year⁸.

In case of a Consortium, the combined technical capability and net worth of those Members, who have and shall continue to have an equity share of at least 26% (twenty six per cent) each in the SPV, should satisfy the above conditions of eligibility; provided that each such Member shall, for a period of 2 (two) years from the date of commercial operation of the Project, hold equity share capital not less than: (i) 26% (twenty six per cent) of the subscribed and paid up equity of the SPV; and (ii) 5% (five per cent) of the Total Project Cost specified in the Concession Agreement⁹.

Provided further that each member of the Consortium shall have a minimum Net Worth of 12.5% of Estimated Project Cost in the immediately preceding financial year^{8c}.

⁶ The Threshold Technical Capacity shall be [100%] of the Estimated Project Cost.

⁷ The Threshold Financial Capacity shall be [25%] of the Estimated Project Cost.

⁸ In case a Bidder has issued any fresh Equity Capital during the current financial year, the same shall be permitted to be added to the Bidder's Net Worth subject to the Statutory Auditor of the Bidder certifying to this effect.

⁹ The Authority may, in its discretion, impose further obligations in the Concession Agreement, but such obligations should provide sufficient mobility for partial divestment of equity without compromising the interests of the Project.

2.2.3 **O&M Experience:** The Bidder shall engage an experienced O&M contractor or hire qualified and trained personnel for operation and maintenance of the Project in conformity with the provisions of the concession agreement.

2.2.4 The Bidders shall enclose with its bid, to be submitted as per the format at Appendix-IA, complete with its Annexes, the following:

- (i) Certificate(s) from its statutory auditors⁸⁵ or the concerned client(s) stating the payments made/ received or works commissioned, as the case may be, during the past 5 years in respect of the projects specified in paragraph 2.2.2 (A) above. In case a particular job/ contract has been jointly executed by the Bidder (as part of a Consortium), it should further support its claim for the share in work done for that particular job/ contract by producing a certificate from its statutory auditor or the client; and
- (ii) Certificate(s) from its statutory auditors specifying the net worth of the Bidder, as at the close of the preceding financial year, and also specifying that the methodology adopted for calculating such net worth conforms to the provisions of this Clause 2.2.4 (ii). For the purposes of this RFP, net worth (the “**Net Worth**”) shall mean the aggregate value of the paid-up share capital and all reserves created out of the profits and securities premium account, after deducting the aggregate value of the accumulated losses, deferred expenditure and miscellaneous expenditure not written off, as per the audited balance sheet, but does not include reserves created out of revaluation of assets, write back of depreciation and amalgamation.

2.3 Proprietary data

All documents and other information supplied by the Authority or submitted by a Bidder to the Authority shall remain or become the property of the Authority. Bidders are to treat all information as strictly confidential and shall not use it for any purpose other than for preparation and submission of their Bid. The Authority will not return any Bid or any information provided along therewith.

2.4 Cost of Bidding

The Bidders shall be responsible for all of the costs associated with the

⁸⁵ In case duly certified audited annual financial statements containing explicitly the requisite details are provided, a separate certification by statutory auditors would not be necessary in respect of Clause 2.2.4 (i). In jurisdictions that do not have statutory auditors, the firm of auditors which audits the annual accounts of the Bidder may provide the certificates required under this RFP.

preparation of their Bids and their participation in the Bidding Process. The Authority will not be responsible or in any way liable for such costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the Bidding Process.

2.5 Site visit and verification of information

2.5.1 Bidders are encouraged to submit their respective Bids after visiting the Project site and ascertaining for themselves the site conditions, location, surroundings, climate, availability of power, water & other utilities for construction, access to site, handling and storage of materials, weather data, applicable laws and regulations, and any other matter considered relevant by them. Bidders are advised to visit the site and familiarise themselves with the Project within the stipulated time of submission of the Bid. No extension of time is likely to be considered for submission of Bids.

2.5.2 It shall be deemed that by submitting a Bid, the Bidder has:

- (a) made a complete and careful examination of the Bidding Documents;
- (b) received all relevant information requested from the Authority;
- (c) accepted the risk of inadequacy, error or mistake in the information provided in the Bidding Documents or furnished by or on behalf of the Authority relating to any of the matters referred to in Clause 2.5.1 above;
- (d) satisfied itself about all matters, things and information including matters referred to in Clause 2.5.1 hereinabove necessary and required for submitting an informed Bid, execution of the Project in accordance with the Bidding Documents and performance of all of its obligations thereunder;
- (e) acknowledged and agreed that inadequacy, lack of completeness or incorrectness of information provided in the Bidding Documents or ignorance of any of the matters referred to in Clause 2.5.1 hereinabove shall not be a basis for any claim for compensation, damages, extension of time for performance of its obligations, loss of profits etc. from the Authority, or a ground for termination of the Concession Agreement by the Concessionaire;
- (f) acknowledged that it does not have a Conflict of Interest;
- (g) agreed to be bound by the undertakings provided by it under and in terms hereof; and
- (h) has made necessary provisions for inclusion of costs related to maintenance during the Development Period in its Bid as per Clause 21.1.22.

2.5.3 The Authority shall not be liable for any omission, mistake or error in respect of any of the above or on account of any matter or thing arising out of or concerning

or relating to RFP, including any error or mistake therein or in any information or data given by the Authority.

2.6 Verification and Disqualification

2.6.1 The Authority reserves the right to verify all statements, information and documents submitted by the Bidder in response to the RFP and the Bidder shall, when so required by the Authority, make available all such information, evidence and documents as may be necessary for such verification. Any such verification, or lack of such verification, by the Authority shall not relieve the Bidder of its obligations or liabilities hereunder nor will it affect any rights of the Authority thereunder.

2.6.2 The Authority reserves the right to reject any Bid and appropriate the Bid Security if:

- (a) at any time, a material misrepresentation is made or uncovered, or
- (b) the Bidder does not provide, within the time specified by the Authority, the supplemental information sought by the Authority for evaluation of the Bid.

Such misrepresentation/ improper response shall lead to the disqualification of the Bidder. If the Bidder is a Consortium, then the entire Consortium and each Member of the Consortium may be disqualified/rejected. If such disqualification/rejection occurs after the Bids have been opened and the lowest Bidder gets disqualified/rejected, then the Authority reserves the right to annul the Bidding Process and invites fresh Bids.

2.6.3 In case it is found during the evaluation or at any time before signing of the Concession Agreement or after its execution and during the period of subsistence thereof, including the concession thereby granted by the Authority, that one or more of the eligibility and /or qualification requirements have not been met by the Bidder, or the Bidder has made material misrepresentation or has given any materially incorrect or false information, the Bidder shall be disqualified forthwith if not yet appointed as the Concessionaire either by issue of the LOA or entering into of the Concession Agreement, and if the Selected Bidder has already been issued the LOA or the SPV has entered into the Concession Agreement, as the case may be, the same shall, notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained therein or in this RFP, be liable to be terminated, by a communication in writing by the Authority to the Selected Bidder or the Concessionaire, as the case may be, without the Authority being liable in any manner whatsoever to the Selected Bidder or the Concessionaire. In such an event, the Authority shall be entitled to forfeit and appropriate the Bid Security or



Performance Security, as the case may be, as Damages, without prejudice to any other right or remedy that may be available to the Authority under this RFP, the Bidding Documents, the Concession Agreement or otherwise.



B. DOCUMENTS

2.7 Contents of the RFP

- 2.7.1 This RFP comprises the Disclaimer set forth hereinabove, the contents as listed below, and will additionally include any Addenda issued in accordance with Clause 2.9.

Invitation for BIDs

- Section 1. Introduction
- Section 2. Instructions to Bidders
- Section 3. Evaluation of Bids
- Section 4. Fraud and Corrupt Practices
- Section 5. Pre-Bid Conference
- Section 6. Miscellaneous

Appendices

- IA Letter comprising the Technical Bid including Annexure I to VI
- IB Letter comprising the Financial Bid
- II. Bank Guarantee for Bid Security
- III. Power of Attorney for signing of Bid
- IV. Power of Attorney for Lead Member of Consortium
- V. Joint Bidding Agreement for Consortium
- VI. Integrity Pact

- 2.7.2 The draft Agreement and the Feasibility / Detailed Project Report provided by the Authority as part of the BID Documents shall be deemed to be part of this RFP.

2.8 Clarifications

- 2.8.1 Bidders requiring any clarification on the RFP may notify the Authority in writing or by fax and e-mail in accordance with Clause 1.2.11. They should send in their queries before the date mentioned in the Schedule of Bidding Process specified in Clause 1.3. The Authority shall endeavour to respond to the queries within the period specified therein, but no later than 15 (fifteen) days prior to the Bid Due Date. The responses will be sent by fax or e-mail. The Authority will forward all the queries and its responses thereto, to all Bidders without identifying the source of queries.
- 2.8.2 The Authority shall endeavour to respond to the questions raised or clarifications sought by the Bidders. However, the Authority reserves the right not to respond to any question or provide any clarification, in its sole discretion, and nothing in this

Clause shall be taken or read as compelling or requiring the Authority to respond to any question or to provide any clarification.

- 2.8.3 The Authority may also on its own motion, if deemed necessary, issue interpretations and clarifications to all Bidders. All clarifications and interpretations issued by the Authority shall be deemed to be part of the Bidding Documents. Verbal clarifications and information given by Authority or its employees or representatives shall not in any way or manner be binding on the Authority.

2.9 Amendment of RFP

- 2.9.1 At any time prior to the Bid Due Date, the Authority may, for any reason, whether at its own initiative or in response to clarifications requested by a Bidder, modify the RFP by the issuance of Addenda.
- 2.9.2 Any Addendum issued hereunder will be in writing and shall be send to all the Bidders.
- 2.9.3 In order to afford the Bidders a reasonable time for taking an Addendum into account, or for any other reason, the Authority may, at its own discretion, extend the Bid Due Date⁵.

⁵While extending the Bid Due Date on account of an addendum, the Authority shall have due regard for the time required by Bidders to address the amendments specified therein. In the case of significant amendments, at least 15 (fifteen) days shall be provided between the date of amendment and the Bid Due Date, and in the case of minor amendments, at least 7 (seven) days shall be provided.

C. PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF BIDS

2.10 Format and Signing of Bid

- 2.10.1 The Bidder shall provide all the information sought under this RFP. The Authority will evaluate only those Bids that are received online in the required formats and complete in all respects and Bid Security, proof of online payment of cost of bid document, POA and Joint Bidding Agreement etc. as specified in Clause 2.11.2 of the RFP are received in hard copies.
- 2.10.2 The Bid shall be typed and signed in indelible blue ink by the authorised signatory of the Bidder. All the alterations, omissions, additions or any other amendments made to the Bid shall be initialled by the person(s) signing the Bid.

2.11 Documents comprising Technical and Financial Bid

- 2.11.1 The Bidder shall submit the Technical Bid & Financial Bid online through e-procurement portal[<https://nhai.eproc.in>]comprising of the following documents along with supporting documents as appropriate:

Technical Bid

- (a) Appendix-IA (Letter comprising the Technical Bid) including Annexure I to V and supporting certificates / documents. However, those Bidders, whose RFAQ eligibility limit assessed by Ministry/NHAI is not less than the estimated cost of the Project, are not required to submit Annexure II to IV of Appendix-IA;
- (b) Power of Attorney for signing the BID as per the format at Appendix-III;
- (c) if applicable, Power of Attorney for Lead Member of Consortium as per the format at Appendix-IV;
- (d) if applicable, Joint Bidding Agreement for Consortium as per the format at Appendix-V
- (e) copy of Memorandum and Articles of Association, if the Applicant is a body corporate, and if a partnership then a copy of its partnership deed;
- (f) Copies of Applicant's duly audited balance sheet and profit and loss statement for preceding 5 years[¶].
- (g) if applicable, Certificate/Copy of RFAQ eligibility limit assessed by [MoRT&H/NHAI]

[¶] The Bidders who have been pre-Qualified by MoRT&H /NHAI at RFAQ stage and submitted their Certificate/Copy of RFAQ eligibility limit assessed by MoRT&H /NHAI, need not submit these details.

- (h) Integrity Pact as per format given in Appendix VI shall be submitted by the Bidder with the RFP Bid duly signed by Authorised signatory & shall be part of the Concession Agreement;
- (i) BID Security of Rs***** Crores (Rupees ***** only) in the form of Bank Guarantee in the format at Appendix-II from a Scheduled Bank.
- (j) Copy of Proof of payment of Rs. ***** towards cost of Bid document.
- (k) Proof of payment of tender processing fee of [Rs. 1295/- (Rupees one thousand two hundred and ninety five only)];
- (l) An undertaking from the person having PoA referred to in Sub. Clause-(b) above that they agree and abide by the Bid documents uploaded by NHAI and amendments uploaded, if any.

Financial Bid

- (m) Appendix-IB (Letter comprising the Financial Bid)¹

2.11.2 The Bidder shall submit the following documents physically:

- (a) Original Power of Attorney for signing the Bid as per format at Appendix-III;
- (b) if applicable, Original Power of Attorney for Lead Member of Consortium as per the format at Appendix-IV;
- (c) if applicable, Original Joint Bidding Agreement for Consortium as per the format at Appendix-V
- (d) if applicable, Certificate/Copy of RFAQ eligibility limit assessed by MoRT&H/NHAI
- (e) Bid Security of Rs***** Crores (Rupees ***** only) in the form of Original Demand Draft or Original Bank Guarantee in the format at Appendix-II from a Scheduled Bank.
- (f) Copy of Proof of Payment of online payment of Cost of Tender Document of Rs. ***.
- (g) Integrity pact on plain paper shall be submitted by the Bidder with the RFP Bid duly signed by Authorized signatory & shall be part of the Concession Agreement;
- (h) Proof of payment of tender processing fee of [Rs. 1295/- (Rupees one thousand two hundred and ninety five only)];
- (i) An undertaking from the person having PoA referred to in Sub. Clause-(a) above that they agree and abide by the Bid documents uploaded by NHAI and amendments uploaded, if any.
- (j) Original Statement of Legal Capacity as per format at Annexure V to Appendix I.

¹ Appendix – IB shall be uploaded in a separate folder along with the financial quotation.

2.11.3 The documents listed at clause 2.11.2 shall be placed in an envelope, which shall be sealed. The envelope shall clearly bear the identification "**BID for the *****on BOT (Hybrid Annuity) Mode Project**" and shall clearly indicate the name and address of the Bidder. In addition, the Bid Due Date should be indicated on the right hand top corner of the envelope.

2.11.4 The envelope shall be addressed to one of the following officer and shall be submitted at the respective address:

ATTN. OF: *****

DESIGNATION *****

ADDRESS: *****

FAX NO: *****

E-MAIL ADDRESS *****

2.11.5 If the envelopes is not sealed and marked as instructed above, the Authority assumes no responsibility for the misplacement or premature opening of the contents of the Bid submitted and consequent losses, if any, suffered by the Bidder.

2.11.6 Bids submitted by fax, telex, telegram or e-mail shall not be entertained and shall be summarily rejected.

2.12 Bid Due Date

Technical & Financial Bid comprising of the documents listed at clause 2.11.1 of the RFP shall be submitted online through e-procurement portal [<https://nhai.eproc.in>] on or before *****hrs IST on ***** Documents listed at clause 2.11.2 of the RFP shall be physically submitted on or before *****hours IST on *****at the address provided in Clause 2.11.4 in the manner and form as detailed in this RFP. A receipt thereof should be obtained from the person specified at Clause 2.11.4.

2.13 Late Bids

E-procurement portal [<https://nhai.eproc.in>] shall not allow submission of any Bid after the prescribed date and time at Clause 2.12. Physical receipt of documents listed at Clause 2.11.2 of the RFP after the prescribed date and time at Clause 2.12 shall not be considered and the bid shall be summarily rejected.


Deputy Secretary

2.14 Procedure for e-tendering

2.14.1 Accessing/ Purchasing of Bid documents

- 2.14.1.1 It is mandatory for all the Bidders to have class-III Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) (in the name of Authorized Signatory / Firm or Organization / Owner of the Firm or organisation) from any of the licensed Certifying Agency (Bidders can see the list of licensed CAs from the link www.cca.gov.in) to participate in e-tendering of the Authority.

DSC should be in the name of the authorized signatory as authorized in Appendix III of this RFP. It should be in corporate capacity (that is in Bidder capacity / in case of Consortium in the Lead Member capacity, as applicable). The Bidder shall submit document in support of the class III DSC.

The Authorized Signatory holding Power of Attorney shall only be the Digital Signatory. In case Authorized Signatory holding Power of Attorney and Digital Signatory are not the same, the BID shall be considered non –responsive.

- 2.14.1.2 To participate in the bidding, it is mandatory for the Bidders to get registered their firm / Consortium with e-procurement portal of the Authority [<https://nhai.eproc.in>] to have user ID & password which has to be obtained by submitting an annual registration charges of Rs. INR 2247/- (Rupees two thousand two hundred forty seven only)(Inclusive of all taxes) to the e-tendering service provider i.e. M/s C1 India Pvt. Ltd. through their e-payment gateway. Validity of online registration is one year. Following may kindly be noted:

- a) Registration with e-procurement portal of the Authority should be valid at least up to the date of submission of Bid.
- b) Bids can be submitted only during the validity of registration.

- 2.14.1.3 If the firm / Consortium is already registered with e-tendering service provider of the Authority, and validity of registration is not expired the firm / Consortium is not required a fresh registration.

- 2.14.1.4 The complete Bid document can be viewed / downloaded by the Bidder from e-procurement portal of the Authority [<https://nhai.eproc.in>] from *****to ***** (upto ***Hrs. IST).

2.14.1.5 To participate in e- bidding, Bidders have to pay [Rs 1,295/- (Rupees one thousand two hundred ninety five only)] non-refundable for e-procurement service to e-tendering service provider i.e. M/s C1 India Pvt. Ltd. against tender processing fee through online payment only..

2.14.2 Preparation & Submission of Bids:

2.14.2.1 The Bidder may submit his Bid online following the instruction appearing on the screen. A buyer manual containing the detailed guidelines for e-procurement is also available on e-procurement portal of the Authority.

2.14.2.2 The documents listed at clause 2.11.1 shall be prepared and scanned in different files (in PDF or JPEG format such that file size is not more than 5 MB) and uploaded during the on-line submission of BID.

2.14.2.3 Bid must be submitted online only through e-procurement portal of the Authority [<https://nhai.eproc.in>] using the digital signature of authorised representative of the Bidder on or before ***** (upto *** hours IST).

2.14.3 Modifications/ Substitution/ withdrawal of Bids

2.14.3.1 The Bidder may modify, substitute or withdraw its e- Bid after submission prior to the Bid Due Date. No Bid can be modified, substituted or withdrawn by the Bidder on or after the Bid Due Date & Time.

2.14.3.2 For modification of e-Bid, Bidder has to detach its old Bid from e-procurement portal and upload / resubmit digitally signed modified Bid. For withdrawal of Bid, a Bidder has to click on withdrawal icon at e-procurement portal and can withdraw its e-Bid. Before withdrawal of a Bid, it may specifically be noted that after withdrawal of a Bid for any reason, Bidder cannot re-submit e-Bid again.

2.15 Online Opening of Bids.

2.15.1 Opening of Bids will be done through online process.

2.15.2 The Authority shall on-line open Technical Bids on ***** at ***** hours IST, in the presence of the authorized representatives of the Bidders, who choose to attend. Technical Bid of only those Bidders shall be online opened whose documents listed at clause 2.11.2 of the RFP have been physically received. The MoRT&H/ NHAI will subsequently examine and evaluate the Bids in accordance with the provisions of Section 3 of RFP.


Deputy Secretary

2.16 Rejection of Bids

- 2.16.1 Notwithstanding anything contained in this RFP, the Authority reserves the right to reject any Bid and to annul the Bidding Process and reject all Bids at any time without any liability or any obligation for such acceptance, rejection or annulment, and without assigning any reasons thereof. In the event that the Authority rejects or annuls all the Bids, it may, in its discretion, invite all eligible Bidders to submit fresh Bids hereunder.
- 2.16.2 The Authority reserves the right not to proceed with the Bidding Process at any time, without notice or liability, and to reject any Bid without assigning any reasons.

2.17 Validity of Bids

The Bids shall be valid for a period of not less than 120 (one hundred and twenty) days from the Bid Due Date. The validity of Bids may be extended by mutual consent of the respective Bidders and the Authority.

2.18 Confidentiality

Information relating to the examination, clarification, evaluation and recommendation for the Bidders shall not be disclosed to any person who is not officially concerned with the process or is not a retained professional advisor advising the Authority in relation to, or matters arising out of, or concerning the Bidding Process. The Authority will treat all information, submitted as part of the Bid, in confidence and will require all those who have access to such material to treat the same in confidence. The Authority may not divulge any such information unless it is directed to do so by any statutory entity that has the power under law to require its disclosure or is to enforce or assert any right or privilege of the statutory entity and/ or the Authority or as may be required by law or in connection with any legal process.

2.19 Correspondence with the Bidder

Save and except as provided in this RFP, the Authority shall not entertain any correspondence with any Bidder in relation to acceptance or rejection of any Bid.

D. BID SECURITY

2.20 Bid Security

- 2.20.1 The Bidder shall furnish as part of its Bid, a Bid Security referred to in Clauses 2.1.6 and 2.1.7 hereinabove in the form of a bank guarantee issued by nationalised bank, or a Scheduled Bank in India having a net worth of at least Rs. 1,000 crore (Rs. one thousand crore), in favour of the Authority in the format at Appendix-II (the “**Bank Guarantee**”) and having a validity period of not less than 120 (one hundred twenty) days from the Bid Due Date and a claim period of 60 (sixty) days, and may be extended as may be mutually agreed between the Authority and the Bidder from time to time. In case the Bank Guarantee is issued by a foreign bank outside India, confirmation of the same by any nationalised bank in India is required. For the avoidance of doubt, Scheduled Bank shall mean a bank as defined under Section 2(e) of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.
- 2.20.2 Bid Security can also be in the form of a demand draft issued by a Scheduled Bank in India, drawn in favour of the Authority and payable at Delhi (the “**Demand Draft**”). The Authority shall not be liable to pay any interest on the Bid Security deposit so made and the same shall be interest free.
- 2.20.3 Any Bid not accompanied by the Bid Security shall be summarily rejected by the Authority as non-responsive.
- 2.20.4 Save and except as provided in Clauses 1.2.4 above, the Bid Security of unsuccessful Bidders will be returned by the Authority, without any interest, as promptly as possible on acceptance of the Bid of the Selected Bidder or when the Bidding process is cancelled by the Authority, and in any case within 90 (ninety) days from the Bid Due Date. Where Bid Security has been paid by Demand Draft, the refund thereof shall be in the form of an account payee demand draft in favour of the unsuccessful Bidder(s). Bidders may by specific instructions in writing to the Authority give the name and address of the person in whose favour the said demand draft shall be drawn by the Authority for refund, failing which it shall be drawn in the name of the Bidder and shall be mailed to the address given on the Bid.
- 2.20.5 The Selected Bidder’s Bid Security will be returned, without any interest, upon the Concessionaire signing the Concession Agreement and furnishing the Performance Security in accordance with the provisions thereof. The Authority may, at the Selected Bidder’s option, adjust the amount of Bid Security in the amount of Performance Security to be provided by him in accordance with the provisions of the Concession Agreement.

2.20.6 The Authority shall be entitled to forfeit and appropriate the Bid Security as Damages inter alia in any of the events specified in Clause 2.20.7 herein below. The Bidder, by submitting its Bid pursuant to this RFP, shall be deemed to have acknowledged and confirmed that the Authority will suffer loss and damage on account of withdrawal of its Bid or for any other default by the Bidder during the period of Bid validity as specified in this RFP. No relaxation of any kind on Bid Security shall be given to any Bidder.

2.20.7 The Bid Security shall be forfeited as Damages without prejudice to any other right or remedy that may be available to the Authority under the Bidding Documents and/or under the Concession Agreement, or otherwise, under the following conditions:

a) If a Bidder submits a non-responsive Bid;

Subject however that in the event of encashment of Bid Security occurring due to operation of para 2.20.7 (a), the Damage so claimed by the Authority shall be restricted to 5% of the value of the Bid Security.

b) If a Bidder engages in a corrupt practice, fraudulent practice, coercive practice, undesirable practice or restrictive practice as specified in Clause 4 of this RFP;

c) If a Bidder withdraws its Bid during the period of Bid validity as specified in this RFP and as extended by mutual consent of the respective Bidder(s) and the Authority;

d) In the case of Selected Bidder, if it fails within the specified time limit –

- i) to sign and return the duplicate copy of LOA;
- ii) to sign the Concession Agreement; or
- iii) to furnish the Performance Security within the period prescribed therefor in the Concession Agreement; or

In case the Selected Bidder, having signed the Concession Agreement, commits any breach thereof prior to furnishing the Performance Security.

SECTION-3
EVALUATION OF TECHNICAL BIDS AND OPENING
& EVALUATION OF FINANCIAL BIDS

3.1 Opening and Evaluation of Technical Bids

- 3.1.1 The Authority shall open the Technical Bids received physically & online at **** hours IST on *****, at the place specified in Clause 2.11.4 and in the presence of the Bidders who choose to attend.
- 3.1.2 The Authority will subsequently examine and evaluate the Bids in accordance with the provisions set out in this Section 3.
- 3.1.3 To facilitate evaluation of Bids, the Authority may, at its sole discretion, seek clarifications in writing from any Bidder regarding its Bid.

3.2 Tests of responsiveness

- 3.2.1 As a first step towards evaluation of Technical Bids, the Authority shall determine whether each Technical Bid is responsive to the requirements of this RFP. A Technical Bid shall be considered responsive only if:
- (a) Technical Bid is received online as per the format at Appendix-IA including Annexure I to V; However, those Bidders, whose RFAQ eligibility limit assessed by Ministry/NHAI is not less than the estimated cost of the Project, are not required to submit Annexure II to IV of Appendix-IA;
 - (b) Documents listed at clause 2.11.2 are received physically;
 - (c) Technical Bid is accompanied by the Bid Security as specified in Clause 2.1.6 and 2.1.7;
 - (d) Technical Bid is accompanied by the Power of Attorney as specified in Clauses 2.1.8;
 - (e) Technical Bid is accompanied by Power of Attorney for Lead Member of Consortium and the Joint Bidding Agreement as specified in Clause 2.1.9, if so required;
 - (f) Technical Bid contain all the information (complete in all respects);
 - (g) Technical Bid does not contain any condition or qualification;
 - (h) Integrity Pact as per format given in Appendix VI has been submitted by the Bidder with the RFP Bid duly signed by Authorised signatory;
 - (i) Technical Bid contains proof of online payment of Rs. *****/-towards cost of Bid document
 - (j) it is not non-responsive in terms hereof.


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3.2.2 The Authority reserves the right to reject any Technical Bid which is non-responsive and no request for alteration, modification, substitution or withdrawal shall be entertained by the Authority in respect of such Bid.

3.3 Evaluation parameters

3.3.1 Only those Bidders who meet the eligibility criteria specified in Clause 2.2.2 above shall qualify for evaluation under this Section 3. Bids of firms/ consortia who do not meet these criteria shall be rejected.

3.3.2 A Bidder's competence and capability is proposed to be established by the following parameters:

- (a) Technical Capacity; and
- (b) Financial Capacity

3.4 Technical Capacity for purposes of evaluation

3.4.1 Subject to the provisions of Clause 2.2, the following categories of experience would qualify as Technical Capacity and eligible experience (the "**Eligible Experience**") in relation to eligible projects as stipulated in Clauses 3.4.3 and 3.4.4 (the "**Eligible Projects**");

- Category 1: Project experience on Eligible Projects in highways sector that qualify under Clause 3.4.3
- Category 2: Project experience on Eligible Projects in core sector that qualify under Clause 3.4.3
- Category 3: Construction experience on Eligible Projects in highways sector that qualify under Clause 3.4.4
- Category 4: Construction experience on Eligible Projects in core sector that qualify under Clause 3.4.4

For the purpose of this RFP:

- (a) highways sector would be deemed to include highways, expressways, bridges, tunnels and airfields; and
- (b) core sector would be deemed to include power, telecom, ports, airports, railways, metro rail, industrial parks/ estates, logistic parks, pipelines, irrigation, water supply, sewerage and real estate development.^s

^s Real estate development shall not include residential flats unless they form part of a real estate complex or township which has been built by the Applicant.

3.4.2 Eligible Experience in respect of each category shall be measured only for Eligible Projects.

3.4.3 For a project to qualify as an Eligible Project under Categories 1 and 2:

- (a) It should have been undertaken as a PPP project on BOT, BOLT, BOO, BOOT or other similar basis for providing its output or services to a public sector entity or for providing non-discriminatory access to users in pursuance of its charter, concession or contract, as the case may be. For the avoidance of doubt, a project which constitutes a natural monopoly such as an airport or port should normally be included in this category even if it is not based on a long-term agreement with a public entity;
- (b) the entity claiming experience should have held, in the company owning the Eligible Project, a minimum of 26% (twenty six per cent) equity during the entire year for which Eligible Experience is being claimed;
- (c) the capital cost of the project should be more than Rs. *****Crore (Rupees ***** only⁹); and
- (d) the entity claiming experience shall, during the last 5 (five) financial years preceding the Application Due Date, have (i) paid for development of the project (excluding the cost of land), and/ or (ii) collected and appropriated the revenues from users availing of non-discriminatory access to or use of fixed project assets, such as revenues from highways, airports, ports and railway infrastructure, but shall not include revenues from sale or provision of goods or services such as electricity, gas, petroleum products telecommunications or fare/freight revenues and other incomes of the company owning the Project.

3.4.4 For a project to qualify as an Eligible Project under Categories 3 and 4, the Applicant should have paid for execution of its construction works or received payments from its client(s) for construction works executed, fully or partially, during the 5 (five) financial years immediately preceding the Bid Due Date, and only the payments (gross) actually made or received, as the case may be, during such 5 (five) financial years shall qualify for purposes of computing the Experience Score. However, payments/receipts of less than Rs. ****Crore¹⁰ (Rupees ***** only); shall not be reckoned as payments/receipts for Eligible Projects. For the avoidance of doubt, construction works shall not include supply of goods or equipment except when such goods or equipment form part of a turn-key construction contract/ EPC contract for the project. Further, the cost of land shall not be included hereunder.

⁹ The minimum size of the Eligible Project shall be 10% of the Estimated Project Cost.

¹⁰ The minimum size of the Eligible Project shall be 10% of the Estimated Project cost.


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- 3.4.5 The Bidders shall quote experience in respect of a particular Eligible Project under any one category only, even though the Bidder (either individually or along with a member of the Consortium) may have played multiple roles in the cited project. Double counting for a particular Eligible Project shall not be permitted in any form.
- 3.4.6 A Bidder's experience shall be measured and stated in terms of a score (the "**Experience Score**"). The Experience Score for an Eligible Project in a given category would be the eligible payments and/or receipts specified in Clause 2.2.2 (A), divided by one crore and then multiplied by the applicable factor in Table 3.4.6 below. In case the Bidder has experience across different categories, the score for each category would be computed as above and then aggregated to arrive at its Experience Score.

Table 3.4.6: Factors for Experience across categories

	Factor
Category 1	1.45
Category 2	1.0
Category 3	1.0
Category 4	0.70

- 3.4.7 The Experience Score determined in accordance with Clause 3.4.6 in respect of an Eligible Project situated in a developed country which is a member of OECD shall be further multiplied by a factor of 0.5 (zero point five) and the product thereof shall be the Experience Score for such Eligible Project.
- 3.4.8 Experience for any activity relating to an Eligible Project shall not be claimed by two or more Members of the Consortium. In other words, no double counting by a Consortium in respect of the same experience shall be permitted in any manner whatsoever.
- 3.4.9 (a) The Experience Score of the Bidder shall be computed as a weighted average of the Experience Score of a member and its proposed equity stake (%) in the Consortium,
- (b) Similarly, the Financial Score of the Bidder shall be computed as a weighted average of the Financial Score of a member and its proposed equity stake (%) in the Consortium

Provided that the financial strength or the experience score taken into assessment will be only of those who contribute a minimum 26% share to the Consortium.

Illustration:

For illustration and avoidance of any doubts, the following method is placed in clarification:

If Company A (Net-Worth: Rs 1000 crores) & Company B (Net-Worth: Rs 500 crores) in a Consortium with shareholding of A as 60% and B as 40% then the Weighted Financial Score of the Consortium shall be:

For Weighted Financial Score

$$1000 \times 60\% + 500 \times 40\% = 800 \text{ Crores}$$

For Weighted Experience Score

If Company A has been assessed to have an Experience Score of 1000 and Company B has been assessed to have an Experience Score of 500, in a Consortium with shareholding of A as 60% and B as 40%, then the Weighted Experience Score of the Consortium shall be

$$1000 \times 60\% + 500 \times 40\% = 800$$

3.5 Details of Experience

- 3.5.1 The Bidders should furnish the details of Eligible Experience for the last 5 (five) financial years immediately preceding the Bid Due Date.
- 3.5.2 The Bidders must provide the necessary information relating to Technical Capacity as per format at Annex-II of Appendix-IA.
- 3.5.3 The Bidders should furnish the required Project-specific information and evidence in support of its claim of Technical Capacity, as per format at Annex-IV of Appendix-I.
- 3.5.4 The Bidders who have been Pre-qualified at RFAQ stage should enclose the letter of Pre-qualification issued by the Authority and need not furnish the information sought in Clause 3.5.1, 3.5.2 and 3.5.3 above.


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3.6 Financial information for purposes of evaluation

- 3.6.1 The Bids must be accompanied by the Audited Annual Reports of the Applicant (of each Member in case of a Consortium) for the last 5 (five) financial years, preceding the year in which the Bid is made.
- 3.6.2 In case the annual accounts for the latest financial year are not audited and therefore the Bidder cannot make the same available, the Bidder shall give an undertaking to this effect and the statutory auditor shall certify the same. In such a case, the Bidder shall provide the Audited Annual Reports for 5 (five) years preceding the year for which the Audited Annual Report is not being provided.
- 3.6.3 The Bidder must establish the minimum Net Worth specified in Clause 2.2.2 (B), and provide details as per format at Annex-III of Appendix-IA.
- 3.6.4 In case of foreign companies, a certificate from a qualified external auditor who audits the book of accounts of the Bidder or the Consortium Member in the formats provided in the country where the project has been executed shall be accepted, provided it contains all the information as required in the prescribed format of the RFP.
- 3.6.5 The Bidders who have been Pre-qualified at RFAQ stage should enclose the letter of Pre-qualification issued by the Authority and need not furnish the information sought in Clause 3.6.1, 3.6.2 and 3.6.3 and 3.6.4 above.
- (i) In the event that a Bidder claims credit for an Eligible Project, and such claim is determined by the Authority as incorrect or erroneous, the Authority may reject / correct such claim for the purpose of qualification requirements.
 - (ii) The Authority will get the BID security verified from the issuing authority and after due verification, the Authority will evaluate the Technical BIDs for their compliance to the eligibility and qualification requirements pursuant to clause 2.2.1 & 2.2.2 of this RFP.
 - (iii) After evaluation of Technical Bids, the Authority will publish a list of Technically responsive Bidders whose financial bids shall be opened. The Authority shall notify other Bidders that they have not been technically responsive. The Authority will not entertain any query or clarification from Applicants who fail to qualify.



3.7 Opening and Evaluation of Financial Bids

The Authority shall inform the venue and time of online opening of the Financial Bids to the Technically responsive Bidders through e-procurement portal of MoRT&H /NHA and e-mail. The Authority shall online open the Financial Bids on date and time to be informed in this clause in the presence of the authorised representatives of the Bidders who may choose to attend. The Authority shall publically announce the assessed Bid Price for each of the technically responsive Bidder. The Authority shall prepare a record of opening of Financial Bids.

3.8 Selection of Bidder

- 3.8.1 Subject to the provisions of Clause 2.16.1, the Bidder whose Bid is adjudged as responsive in terms of Clause 3.2 and who's assessed Bid Price is the lowest, shall be declared as the selected Bidder (the "**Selected Bidder**").
- 3.8.2 In the event that, the assessed Bid Price of two or more Bidders is the same (the "**Tie Bids**"), the Authority shall identify the Selected Bidder by draw of lots, which shall be conducted, with prior notice, in the presence of the Tie Bidders who choose to attend
- 3.8.3 In the event that the Lowest Bidder is not selected for any reason, the Authority shall annul the Bidding Process and invite fresh Bids. In the event that the Authority rejects or annuls all the Bids, it may, in its discretion, invite all eligible Bidders to submit fresh Bids hereunder.
- 3.8.4 After selection, a Letter of Award (the "**LOA**") shall be issued, in duplicate, by the Authority to the Selected Bidder and the Selected Bidder shall, within 7(seven)days of the receipt of the LOA, sign and return the duplicate copy of the LOA in acknowledgement thereof. In the event the duplicate copy of the LOA duly signed by the Selected Bidder is not received by the stipulated date, the Authority may, unless it consents to extension of time for submission thereof, appropriate the Bid Security of such Bidder as Damages on account of failure of the Selected Bidder to acknowledge the LOA.
- 3.8.5 After acknowledgement of the LOA as aforesaid by the Selected Bidder, it shall cause the Bidder to execute the Agreement within the period prescribed in Clause 1.3. The Selected Bidder shall not be entitled to seek any deviation, modification or amendment in the Agreement.



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3.9 Contacts during Bid Evaluation

Bids shall be deemed to be under consideration immediately after they are opened and until such time the Authority makes official intimation of award/ rejection to the Bidders. While the Bids are under consideration, Bidders and/ or their representatives or other interested parties are advised to refrain, save and except as required under the Bidding Documents, from contacting by any means, the Authority and/ or their employees/ representatives on matters related to the Bids under consideration.

3.10 Correspondence with Bidder

Save and except as provided in this RFP, the Authority shall not entertain any correspondence with any Bidder in relation to the acceptance or rejection of any Bid.

- 3.11 Any information contained in the Bid shall not in any way be construed as binding on the Authority, its agents, successors or assigns, but shall be binding against the Bidder if the Project is subsequently awarded to it on the basis of such information.
- 3.12 The Authority reserves the right not to proceed with the Bidding Process at any time without notice or liability and to reject any or all Bid(s) without assigning any reasons.


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SECTION-4

4. FRAUD AND CORRUPT PRACTICES

- 4.1 The Bidders and their respective officers, employees, agents and advisers shall observe the highest standard of ethics during the Bidding Process and subsequent to the issue of the LOA and during the subsistence of the Agreement. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, or in the LOA or the Agreement, the Authority may reject a Bid, withdraw the LOA, or terminate the Agreement, as the case may be, without being liable in any manner whatsoever to the Bidder, if it determines that the Bidder, directly or indirectly or through an agent, engaged in corrupt practice, fraudulent practice, coercive practice, undesirable practice or restrictive practice in the Bidding Process. In such an event, the Authority shall be entitled to forfeit and appropriate the Bid Security or Performance Security, as the case may be, as Damages, without prejudice to any other right or remedy that may be available to the Authority under the Bidding Documents and/ or the Agreement, or otherwise.
- 4.2 Without prejudice to the rights of the Authority under Clause 4.1 hereinabove and the rights and remedies which the Authority may have under the LOA or the Agreement, or otherwise if a Bidder or Contractor, as the case may be, is found by the Authority to have directly or indirectly or through an agent, engaged or indulged in any corrupt practice, fraudulent practice, coercive practice, undesirable practice or restrictive practice during the Bidding Process, or after the issue of the LOA or the execution of the Agreement, such Bidder, at the sole and absolute discretion of the Authority, shall not be eligible to participate in any tender or RFP issued by the Authority during a period of 2 (two) years from the date such Bidder, or Contractor, as the case may be, is found by the Authority to have directly or indirectly or through an agent, engaged or indulged in any corrupt practice, fraudulent practice, coercive practice, undesirable practice or restrictive practices, as the case may be.
- 4.3 For the purposes of this Section 4, the following terms shall have the meaning hereinafter respectively assigned to them:
- (k) "corrupt practice" means (i) the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting, directly or indirectly, of anything of value to influence the actions of any person connected with the Bidding Process (for avoidance of doubt, offering of employment to or employing or engaging in any manner whatsoever, directly or indirectly, any official of the Authority who is or has been associated in any manner, directly or indirectly, with the Bidding Process or the LOA or has dealt with matters concerning the Agreement or


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arising therefrom, before or after the \ execution thereof, at any time prior to the expiry of one year from the date such official resigns or retires from or otherwise ceases to be in the service of the Authority, shall be deemed to constitute influencing the actions of a person connected with the Bidding Process); or (ii) save and except as permitted under the Clause 2.2.1(d) of this RFP, engaging in any manner whatsoever, whether during the Bidding Process or after the issue of the LOA or after the execution of the Agreement, as the case may be, any person in respect of any matter relating to the Project or the LOA or the Contract Agreement, who at any time has been or is a legal, financial or technical adviser of the Authority in relation to any matter concerning the Project;

- (l) “fraudulent practice” means a misrepresentation or omission of facts or suppression of facts or disclosure of incomplete facts;
- (c) “coercive practice” means impairing or harming, or threatening to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any person or property to influence any person’s participation or action in the Bidding Process;
- (d) “undesirable practice” means (i) establishing contact with any person connected with or employed or engaged by the Authority with the objective of canvassing, lobbying or in any manner influencing or attempting to influence the Bidding Process; or (ii) having a Conflict of Interest; and
- (e) “restrictive practice” means forming a cartel or arriving at any understanding or arrangement among Bidders with the objective of restricting or manipulating a full and fair competition in the Bidding Process.

- 4.4 Bidder shall comply with the provisions of office Memorandum No. 13030/09/2008-vig dated 28.01.2013 issued by NHAI i.e. Model Agreement for Integrity Pact (IP),(format given in Appendix VI) shall be submitted by the Bidder along with the Bid duly signed by the Authorised signatory of the Bidder and shall be deemed to be a part of the Concession Agreement.

SECTION-5

5. PRE-BID CONFERENCE

- 5.1 Pre-Bid conference of the Bidders shall be convened at the designated date, time and place. A maximum of two representatives of prospective Bidders shall be allowed to participate on production of authority letter from the Bidder.
- 5.2 During the course of Pre-Bid conference(s), the Bidders will be free to seek clarifications and make suggestions for consideration of the Authority. The Authority shall endeavour to provide clarifications and such further information as it may, in its sole discretion, consider appropriate for facilitating a fair, transparent and competitive Bidding Process.


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SECTION-6

6. MISCELLANEOUS

- 6.1 The Bidding Process shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of India and the Courts at [New Delhi] shall have exclusive jurisdiction over all disputes arising under, pursuant to and/ or in connection with the Bidding Process.
- 6.2 The Authority, in its sole discretion and without incurring any obligation or liability, reserves the right, at any time, to;
- (a) suspend and/ or cancel the Bidding Process and/ or amend and/ or supplement the Bidding Process or modify the dates or other terms and conditions relating thereto;
 - (b) consult with any Bidder in order to receive clarification or further information;
 - (c) retain any information and/ or evidence submitted to the Authority by, on behalf of, and/ or in relation to any Bidder; and/ or
 - (d) independently verify, disqualify, reject and/ or accept any and all submissions or other information and/ or evidence submitted by or on behalf of any Bidder.
- 6.3 It shall be deemed that by submitting the Bid, the Bidder agrees and releases the Authority, its employees, agents and advisers, irrevocably, unconditionally, fully and finally from any and all liability for claims, losses, damages, costs, expenses or liabilities in any way related to or arising from the exercise of any rights and/ or performance of any obligations hereunder, pursuant hereto and/ or in connection with the Bidding Process and waives, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable laws, any and all rights and/ or claims it may have in this respect, whether actual or contingent, whether present or in future.