

**INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTERST FOR SELECTION OF
PRIVATE PARTIES FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF
PLANT TISSUE CULTURE LABORATORY AT KHANAPARA,
GUWAHATI-781022**

EoI DOCUMENT



**Government of Assam
Directorate of Horticulture & Food Processing
Assam, Khanapara, Guwahati-22**

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (E.O.I)

Directorate of Horticulture & F.P., Assam, Khanapara, Guwahati-22, has established a Plant Tissue Culture Laboratory with a production capacity of 1.5 million per year and proposes to invite Expression of Interest (EOI) from the competent entrepreneur to undertake Operation and Maintenance of the unit on as is basis under PPP model.

Pre –qualification Criteria

1. Entrepreneur must be technically qualified and experienced in the development/ O&M of Plant Tissue Culture Laboratory or any other similar assignment.
2. Preference will be given to candidates from Assam and having adequate experience in running a Plant Tissue Culture Lab in North-east.

For overview of the existing infrastructure, scope, pre-qualification criteria, bidding terms and conditions and suggested response formats, please visit our website www.rkvyassam.in

Interested bidders who meet the pre-qualification criteria may furnish their Expression of Interest with all necessary documents in sealed cover along with the covering letter duly signed by an authorize signatory on or before 31st December, 2014 by 14:00 hours at the following address:

Directorate of Horticulture &
F.P.
Assam, Khanapara,Guwahati

Introduction

The state of Assam is blessed with the unique agro climatic conditions that are favourable for growing different varieties of horticultural crops such as fruits, vegetables, flowers, and spices, medicinal and aromatic plants. However the state is facing acute shortage of supply of quality planting materials. Adequate and timely supply of quality planting material can take the scenario of horticulture of Assam into a new height.

Development of Plant Tissue Culture lab to a large extent is one of the major remedy to the shortage of quality planting materials. Round the year supply of quality disease free planting material can make the farming enable of producing the crop round the year for getting remunerative prices. Round the year production of horticultural produce will also encourage the setting up of processing unit where horticultural produces are the primary raw materials.

In this backdrop, Directorate of Horticulture & F.P., Government of Assam has established a Plant Tissue Culture Laboratory at Khanapara, Guwahati-22.

Current Proposal

The current proposal is to roll out one Tissue Culture project at Khanapara, Guwahati, for operation and maintenance to the private partner on PPP model. Most of the project components have already been developed by “Directorate of Horticulture and Food Processing. However, some additional facilities referred under section “Additional Infrastructure” is envisaged for smooth operation and maintenance of the Tissue Culture Laboratory. This additional infrastructure has to be developed by private partner using their own resources.

Technical Specifications

The Tissue Culture Laboratory is designed as a Single storied building. The laboratory building is designed to maintain Class 100000 sterility standards. The laboratory has

adequate space and equipment for Media Preparation, Media Store, Inoculation, Growth rooms, bottle wash rooms, storage rooms and office room. The laboratory is equipped with all necessary equipments for production of 1.5 million plants per annum. The laboratory has adequate space for expansion. The laboratory has proper arrangement for air circulation. All the rooms are fitted with air conditioners of adequate capacity. The laboratory is fitted electrical fittings required to run the machines and equipments with necessary electric connections and adequate loads.

Additional Infrastructures

- Green House for hardening
- Access control
- A toilet block with drinking water facilities
- Surveillance system
- ERP system software

EOI Issuing Authority

This Expression of Interest (EOI) is issued by Directorate of Horticulture and Food Processing, Assam intended to short-list potential bidder. Directorate's decision with regard to the short-listing of bidders through the EoI shall be final and the Director reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason.

Item	Description
Title of the Project	Selection of Private Partner for Operation and Management of Plant Tissue Culture Laboratory at Khanapara, Guwahati-22
Department	Department of Agriculture, Directorate of Horticulture and Food Processing, Govt. of Assam.
Contact person	Director of Horticulture & F.P.
Contact details	Email. directorhortiassam @gmail.com Telefax: 0361 2335303
Website	www.rkvyassam.in

Tentative Calendar of Events

The following table enlists important milestones and timelines for completion of bidding activities:

S No	Milestones	Date and time (dd-mm-yyyy; hh:mm)
1	Release of Expression of Interest	17-12-2014
2.	Pre Bid Meeting	22-12-2014
3.	Last date for submission of written questions by bidders	25-12-2014
4.	Last date of Submission of EOI	31-12-2014
5.	Opening of EOI	31-12-2014
6.	Declaration of Short listed Firms	To be informed later on.

Availability of EOI Documents

EOI can be collected from the Directorate of Horticulture and F.P, Khanapara, Guwahati-22 on any working day w.e.f 18-12-2014 to 22-12-2014 by paying non refundable DD of Rs 500/- only in favour of Director of Horticulture & F.P., Assam or downloaded from the website. www.rkvyassam.in. In case of downloaded documents, application fee of Rs 500/- as above will have to be submitted along with the EoI documents. The bidders are expected to examine all instructions, forms, terms, project requirements and other details in the EOI documents. Failure to furnish complete information as mentioned in the EOI documents or submission of a proposal not substantially responsive to the EoI documents in every respect will be at bidders' risk and may result in rejection of the proposal.

Pre bid Meeting

Directorate of Horticulture and F.P will host a bidders' Conference in Guwahati at the address given under section "EOI Issuing Authority". The conference is tentatively scheduled as per the schedule given in the section "Tentative Calendar of Events". The interested entrepreneurs may attend the bidders' conference at their own cost. The purpose of the conference is to provide bidders with any clarifications regarding the EOI. It will also provide

each bidder with an opportunity to seek clarifications regarding the aspect of the EOI and the project. The venue for the bid conference will be at the address given in section “EOI Issuing Authority”.

Instruction to bidders

1. This EOI is not an offer and is issued with no commitment. Directorate of Horticulture and F.P reserves the right to withdraw the EoI and change or vary any part thereof at any stage. Directorate of Horticulture and F.P also reserves the right to disqualify any bidder should it be necessary at any stage.
2. Directorate of Horticulture and F.P reserves the right to withdraw this EOI if Directorate of Horticulture and F.P determines that such action is in the best interest of the Government of Assam.
3. Short-listed bidders along with other bidders, if required would be issued formal tender/ Request for Proposal inviting their technical and commercial bids at a later time.
4. Timing and sequence of events resulting from the EOI shall ultimately be determined by Directorate of Horticulture and F.P.
5. No oral conversations or agreements with any official, agent or employee of Directorate of Horticulture and F.P shall affect or modify any terms of this EOI and any alleged oral agreements and arrangements made by a bidder with any department, agency, official or employee of Directorate of Horticulture and F.P shall be superseded by the definitive agreement that results from this EOI process. Oral communications by Directorate of Horticulture and F.P to bidders shall not be considered binding on Directorate of Horticulture and F.P, nor shall any written materials provided by any person other than Directorate of Horticulture and F.P.
6. Neither the bidder nor any of the bidder’s representative shall have any claims whatsoever against Directorate of Horticulture and F.P or any of their officials, agents or employees arising out of, or relating to the EOI or these procedures (other than those arising under definitive service agreements with the bidder in accordance with the terms thereof).

7. Applicants who are found to canvass, influence or attempt to influence in any manner the qualification or selection process, including without limitations, by offering bribes or other illegal gratification, shall be disqualified from the process at any stage.
8. Each applicant shall submit only one Pre-qualification requirements proposal.
9. For the bids received before the last date and time of bid submission, the proposals and accompanying documentation of the Pre-qualification proposal will become the property of Directorate of Horticulture and F.P and will not be returned after opening of pre-qualification proposals. Directorate of Horticulture and F.P is not restricted in its rights to use or disclose any or all of the information contained in the proposals and can do so without compensation to the bidders Directorate of Horticulture and F.P shall not be bound by any language in the proposal indicating the confidentiality of the proposal or any other restriction on its use or disclosure.
10. By submitting a proposal, each bidder shall be deemed to acknowledge that it has carefully read all sections of this EOI, including all forms, schedules and annexure hereto, and has fully informed itself as to all existing conditions and limitations.

Evaluation of Pre Qualification Proposal

The bidders' Pre Qualification Proposal in the bid document will be evaluated as per the requirements specified in the EOI and adopting the pre-qualification criteria spelt out in this EOI. The bidders are required to submit all required documentation in support of pre-qualification criteria specified as required for evaluation.

The Pre-qualification Proposal should be submitted in the sealed envelope with the following details. Bidders are requested to submit their responses for Pre-qualification Requirements in three (3) parts clearly labelled according to the following categories.

1. Part I – Covering Letter

Covering letter from the bidder as per the format provided in Annexure – Form I

2. Part II – Details of the Organization/Entrepreneur

This part must include a general background of the respondent organization/entrepreneur (limited to 400 words) along with other details of the organization as per the format provided in the EOI (Annexure Form II). Enclose the mandatory supporting documents listed in format.

3. Part III – Relevant Project Experience

Respondents must provide details (Nature/ scope of the project, project value) of the project experience as per the format provided in the EOI (Annexure Form III).The projects mentioned here should match with the projects quoted by the respondents in order to satisfy the qualification requirements. Enclose the mandatory supporting documents listed in format.

Form I: COVERING LETTER

(Company letterhead)

[Date]

To,

The Director of Horticulture and F.P
Assam, Khanapara, Guwahati-22

Dear Sir

Sub :- Expression of Interest Notice for Selection of Private Partner for O & M of Plant Tissue Culture Laboratory at Khanapara, Guwahati

Having examined the Expression of Interest (EOI), the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, We/I, the undersigned, intend to submit a Pre-qualification requirements proposal in response to the Expression of Interest Notice for Selection of Private Partner for O & M of Plant Tissue Culture Laboratory at Khanapara, Guwahati.

We/I attach hereto the responses required by the EoI, which constitutes our proposal, Primary and secondary contacts for our company are:

	Primary Contact	Secondary contact
Name		
Title		
Company/Firm		
Address		
Phone no (s)		
Email		

We confirm that the information contained in this response or any part thereof, including its exhibits and other documents and instruments delivered to Directorate of Horticulture and FP is true, accurate, verifiable and complete. This response includes all information necessary to ensure that the statements therein do not in whole or in part misled the Directorate in short listing the process.

We fully understand and agree to comply that on verification, if any of the information provided here is found to be misleading the short listing process, we are liable to be dismissed from the selection process or termination of the contract during the project. If selected to do so, for providing O&M of Plant Tissue Culture Laboratory at Khanapara, Guwahati, we agree for unconditional acceptance of all the terms and conditions set out in the EOI document.

It is hereby confirmed the I/We are entitled to act on behalf of our Company/ Corporation/Firm/organisation and empowered to sign this document as well as such other documents, which may be required in this connection.

Dated this Day of 2014

(Signature) (In the capacity of)

(Name)

Duly authorized to sign the Tender Response for and on behalf of:

(Name and Address of Company)

Seal/Stamp of Bidder

FORM II: GENERAL DETAILS OF THE ORGANIZATION

Details of the Organization

Name of the Organization
Nature of the legal status in India
Legal status reference details
Nature of business in India
Date of Incorporation
Date of commencement of business
Address of the Headquarter
Address of the Registered Office
Other relevant information

FORM III: Relevant Project Experience

General Information
Name of the project
Current status
Project Details
Description of the Project
Geographical scope
Outcomes of the Project
Number of sites
Other Details
Total cost of the project
Other relevant information
Project Capability Demonstration
Complete details of the scope of the project shall be provided to indicate the relevance to the pre-qualification criterion (which is part of minimum qualification criteria)