PRE-QUALIFICATION DOCUMENT No. 120102023-1

FOR

PROCUREMENT OF NETWORKING INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM AND QUEUE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (PACS) IN HOSPITALS OF SHC&ME, GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB



Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB)

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Contents

1	GENERAL	3			
2	PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT	3			
3	PROJECT BACKGROUND	5			
4	BRIEF SCOPE OF WORK	6			
5	INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANTS	7			
6	QUALIFICATION CRITERIA	9			
7	OTHER FACTORS	12			
Anne	ex-A	13			
Appl	Application Form A-1				
Appl	Application Form A-216				
Appl	Application Form A-3				
Appl	Application Form A-4				
Appl	Application Form A-5				
Anne	Annay R				

1 **GENERAL**

Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB) intends to invite Prequalification (PQ) proposals from interested Applicant(s) for the provision of NETWORKING INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM AND QUEUE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (PACS) IN HOSPITALS OF SHC&ME, GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB. All well-reputed, registered and established firms having requisite technical, financial and managerial capabilities are invited to participate in the PQ process for the above said project, through submission of their proposals.

2 PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is to have understanding of the available competencies, solutions, tools and best practices including implementation of NETWORKING INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM AND QUEUE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (PACS) IN HOSPITALS OF SHC&ME, GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB, as well as to prequalify eligible Applicant(s), capable of accomplishing the tasks outlined in this document. The Applicants are required to provide profiles of their firms comprising experience, personnel and financial strength along with proposed solutions including but not limited to the Applicant's methodology and technology for implementing the NETWORKING INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM AND QUEUE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (PACS) IN HOSPITALS OF SHC&ME, GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE PRE-QUALIFICATION

Definitions

In this document, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context:

- **I.** Applicant means the party which submits a proposal in response to this PQ Document.
- **II.** "Authorized Representative" means any representative appointed, from time to time, by the Applicant, Purchaser or Client.
- "Purchaser" means the Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB), or any other entity for the time being or from time to time duly appointed in writing by the Government to act as Purchaser for the purpose.
- IV. "Client" means PITB, Government of the Punjab.
- **V.** "Day" means calendar day.
- **VI.** "Employer" means Purchaser and/or Client.
- VII. "PQ Document" means the Pre-Qualification Document in consideration.
- VIII. "Joint Venture" means a legal entity formed under the laws of Pakistan to submit a proposal and participate in subsequent tendering processes in response to this PQ Document.
- **IX.** "Person" includes an individual, an association of persons, firm, company, corporation, institution and organization, etc.
- **X.** "Prescribed" means prescribed in the PQ Document.

Disclaimer

This PQ document for the provision of NETWORKING INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM AND QUEUE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (PACS) IN HOSPITALS OF SHC&ME, GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB ('the Project') contains brief information about the project and process for pre-qualification of Applicants for RFP stage. The purpose of the document is to provide the Applicants with information to assist the formulation of their PQ proposal and to pre-qualify interested Firms / Applicants / Contractors for the RFP Stage.

While all efforts have been made to ensure the accuracy of information contained in this PQ Document, this document may not contain all the information required by the Applicants. The Applicants should conduct their own independent assessment, investigations and analysis and may prepare their proposals in the light of relevant experience and international best practices. Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB) or any of its employees or advisors/contractors, shall incur no liability under any law, statute, rules or regulations as to the accuracy or completeness of the PQ Document.

PITB reserves the right to change any or all conditions / information set in this PQ Document by way of revision, deletion, update or annulment through issuance of appropriate advertisement as the Client may deem fit in accordance with the PPRA Rules 2014. Participation in the PQ process does not qualify any Applicant for the next stage of the procurement process.

PITB will not entertain or be liable for any claim for costs and expenses in relation to the preparation of the PQ proposal to be submitted in terms of this Document.

3 PROJECT BACKGROUND

Integrated applications have gained widespread recognition in the healthcare sector in the past few years, referred to as Hospital Management Information Systems (HMIS). The primary objective is to eliminate duplication of functions and processes, which has proved effective in achieving efficiency. The ultimate objective of designing and implementing an HMIS is to enhance the automation of processes, leading to improved patient care and better decision-making. This aligns with the government's vision of achieving national health goals. The HMIS solution aims to support the government in attaining its health-related objectives and targets.

The Hospital Management Information System (HMIS) is a software solution that automates and integrates various hospital departments, including both clinical and administrative functions, to enable cross-functional collaboration. It aims to address several inefficiencies that exist in manual paper-based systems. Facilities without this system experience inefficient medical service delivery, financial mismanagement, evidence-free practices, inaccurate reporting of disease data, clinical information, administrative functions, and various process inefficiencies. HMIS is a robust software solution that introduces effective process re-engineering and innovation to comprehensively address these shortcomings.

There needs to be a Program of modernizing the hospitals to deliver better health services. Operational business processes, facilities and ICT infrastructure need to be aligned to ensure that they support this evolving capacity, capability, efficiency and effectiveness approach. In short, there is a need to:

- Better manage of the hospitals' patient loads
- Effective and improved service delivery
- Make available, patients' medical history
- Provide systematic alerts against medicines nearing expiry
- Provide a system that may control pilferage
- Visualize real-time data for effective decision making

The overall objective of the Program is to modernize the infrastructure, systems and capabilities of the tertiary care hospitals. HIMS will be the basis of an integrated technical solution to provide an operational solution that delivers:

- Automation of the registration process of patients visiting the hospital.
- User-friendly interfaces of HMIS to enable comprehensive details to be entered on the spot at the Patient Registration instance, i.e. Emergency and OPD.
- Patient's medical information, as described above, available online to the attending doctors on their computers.
- Lab/Radiology facilitated by HMIS to check online lab requests and generate printouts for tests, and summary reports to facilitate record keeping.
- Pharmacy facilitated by issuance of prescription and/or other drug-store non-prescription items carried by the hospital pharmacy.
- Electronic Medical Record (EMR) which is a computerized medical record created in organizations such as hospitals. When paper records are stored in different locations, collating them to a single location for review by a health care provider is time consuming and complicated, whereas the process can be simplified with electronic records.
- Central Dashboard to provide policymakers with the evidence needed to decide on Strategic Future Policy and budgetary matters encouraging data-driven decision making, resulting in better outcomes.
- Digitized billing process by maintaining accounts records, with a view to allow rapid visualization of the bigger picture and balance of payments. HMIS is an interactive solution that allows doctors and administration to manage their tasks in an efficient manner.

The overall aim of the Hospital Management Information System is to improve Tertiary care hospitals' operational efficiency by deploying new hardware using up-to-date technology that will enable them to adopt more efficient working practices and new operating concepts. The efficiencies relate to how that role is carried out from both process and performance perspectives.

4 BRIEF SCOPE OF WORK

The scope mentioned below is high level scope of work. The detailed scope of work shall be shared with the shortlisted Applicants after the prequalification process at RFP stage.

The scope of work is limited to the following Tertiary Care Hospitals:

- 1) Lahore General Hospital, Lahore
- 2) Sheikh Zayed Hospital, Rahim Yar Khan
- 3) Bahawalpur Victoria Hospital, Bahawalpur
- 4) DHQ Hospital, DG Khan
- 5) Nishtar Hospital, Multan
- 6) Allied Hospital, Faisalabad
- 7) Mayo Hospital, Lahore
- 8) Services Hospital, Lahore
- 9) Punjab Institute of Cardiology
- 10) Holy Family Hospital, Rawalpindi
- 11) Children Hospital & University of Child Health Sciences, Lahore
- 12) Ch. Pervaiz Elahi Institute of Cardiology, Wazirabad

The key components of the scope of the work are provided below. The components may be edited, added or deleted at the RFP stage.

a) Networking Infrastructure including, Installation, configuration and warranty support of Active & Passive network

LOT DETAILS

Networking Infrastructure (Active & Passive) on Turn-key Basis

Sr. #	Item	Description
1	Active Networking	Comprehensive Active Networking solution including installation, configuration and warranty support of all types of Network switches, WLAN Controller and WLAN. Switches to be mounted in appropriate racks with uninterrupted power supply.
2	Passive Networking	The scope involves preparing sites appropriately designed to support installation of passive equipment including digging (hard & soft), ducting, cable tray management; Fiber, Ethernet and power cable laying, splicing, installation of I/Os, back boxes, power supply, data cabinets; installation of modular patch panel with rear cable management and shutter ports; end to end testing of complete network. Integration of power and data conduits into the infrastructure is essential for secure equipment installation. Rigorous site analysis and proper grounding systems must be implemented to guarantee both safety and optimal performance.

5 <u>INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANTS</u>

5.1 Submission of Proposal

Applications for Pre-Qualification (PQ) containing separate Pre-Qualification Proposals, one (01) original and one (01) copy should be submitted in separately sealed envelopes, to be delivered into the Tender Box, placed at reception of Punjab Information Technology Board, 13th Floor, Arfa Software Technology Park (ASTP), 346-B, Ferozepur Road, Lahore, Pakistan as per the schedule below:

Description	Pre-proposal Meeting Date, Time & Place	Proposal Submission Date & Time	Proposal Opening Date & Time
Networking Infrastructure (Active & Passive) on Turn-key Basis	11:00 AM on 26 October, 2023 at 13 th Floor Arfa Software Technology Park, 346-B, Ferozepur Road, Lahore	08 November, 2023 12:00 PM	08 November, 2023 12:30 PM

- (i) In case the last date of proposal submission falls in / within the official holidays / weekends of the Purchaser, the last date for submission of the proposals shall be the next working day.
- (ii) The proposals are to be prepared in English language. The Applicants must provide complete information along with supporting documents. Any lapses to provide essential information may result in disqualification of the Applicant.
- (iii) All documents submitted by the Applicants should preferably be delivered in one Packet/parcel for ease of handling and to avoid loss of documents. Any misleading statement(s) or information by any Applicant will result into disqualification at any stage.
- (iv) The Applicants can seek any clarification regarding the project, Pre-Qualification (PQ) Documents or Evaluation Criteria from the following:

PRIMARY CONTACT

Sajjad Ghani

Chief Information Officer

Punjab Information Technology Board, Government of Punjab 14th Floor Arfa Software Technology Park, 346-B, Ferozepur Road, Lahore.

Email: Sajjad@pitb.gov.pk

Office Phone: (+ 92) (42) (99000000) Ext: 1444

Ata ur Rahman Director (D&P)

Punjab Information Technology Board, Government of Punjab 13th Floor Arfa Software Technology Park, 346-B, Ferozepur Road, Lahore.

Email: ata.rahman@pitb.gov.pk

Office Phone: (+ 92) (42) (99000000) Ext: 1345

SECONDARY CONTACT

Kumail Rizvi

Joint Director (IT Operations)

Punjab Information Technology Board, Government of Punjab

14th Floor Arfa Software Technology Park, 346-B, Ferozepur Road, Lahore.

Email: kumail.rizvi@pitb.gov.pk

Office Phone: (+ 92) (42) (99000000) Ext: 1193

Naveed Ahmed

Joint Director (IT Infrastructure)

Punjab Information Technology Board, Government of Punjab 07th Floor Arfa Software Technology Park, 346-B, Ferozepur Road, Lahore.

Email: naveed.ahmed@pitb.gov.pk

Office Phone: (+ 92) (42) (99000000) Ext: 1148

- (v) Interested Applicants should note that during the period from the receipt of the proposal and till further notice from the Primary Contact, all queries should be communicated via the Primary Contact in writing or e-mail only. In the case of an urgent situation where the Primary Contact cannot be contacted, the interested Applicants may alternatively direct their enquiries through the Secondary Contact.
- (vi) Interested Applicants/ are also required to state in their proposals the name, title, fax number and e- mail address of their authorized representative through whom all communications shall be directed until the process has been completed or terminated.
- (vii) The Purchaser will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by Applicants in connection with the preparation or delivery of proposals.

6 QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

6.1 General

Pre-Qualification will be based on all the criteria given in succeeding sections regarding the Applicant's financial soundness, experience, personnel and technical solution as indicated by the Applicant's responses in the forms given in this document.

6.2 Evaluation Criteria

Networking Infrastructure (Active & Passive) on Turn-key Basis

6.2.1 Mandatory Requirements

6.2.1.1 The Applicant must comply with the following mandatory requirements and provide the required documentation in the PQ Proposal. Initially, the proposals will be evaluated on the following mandatory requirements to ascertain eligibility:

Sr. No.	Mandatory Requirement	Required Documentation
1	The Applicant must be registered under the laws of Pakistan for the last five (05) years. In case of JV, the Lead Partner must be registered under the laws of Pakistan for the last five (05) years.	(Certificate of Company/Firm Registration/Incorporation)
2	Valid Income Tax Registration with all relevant authorities	Proof of Registration
3	Valid General Sales Tax Registration with all relevant authorities	Proof of Registration
4	The Applicant is not blacklisted by any provincial or federal government department, agency, organization or autonomous body anywhere in Pakistan.	Affidavit on non-judicial Stamp Paper of Rs. 100/- or Official Letter-head
5	The Applicant or in case of JV, any of JV firm has experience of successful delivery of at least one successful project of Networking Infrastructure worth more than Rs. 50 million	Affidavit on non-judicial Stamp Paper of Rs. 100/- or Official Letter-head, along with the relevant project documents i.e., Copy of the Contract

6.2.1.2 Only eligible Applicants shall be considered for next stage (point-based evaluation) of Pre-Qualification process.

6.2.2 Evaluation Categories and Points

(i) Category-wise distribution of points shall be as under:

Sr. No.	Category	Points
1.	Experience	70
2.	Personnel Capabilities	15
3.	Financial Strength	15
	Total:	100

- (ii) Note: Technical qualification status shall be determined on the point scoring criteria. In order to qualify, the Applicant must obtain overall 70 points and at least 50% points in each category, as mentioned in the table above.
- (iii) Detailed Pre-Qualification criteria are given below:

6.2.2.1 Experience

(i) Points will be allocated on the basis of the following criteria:

Sr. No.	Description	Maximum Points	Remarks
	General Work Experience Implementation of Four (04) ICT projects (Systems, Solutions, Automation, Datacenter Infrastructure, Network Infrastructure, End-user IT Equipment etc.) in last five (05) years		
1	 Five (05) points for each project: Minimum worth of Rs. 50 million for each project. No points will be allocated for projects having the worth less than Rs. 50 million No more than Four (04) ICT projects should be submitted. 	20	
	Similar Work Experience		
	Similar experience of Design, Implementation (supply, installation, testing, commissioning, and training), and Support for Network Infrastructure Deployments.		Points will be allocated on the basis of
	Points will only be allocated to projects which include the following main components:		valid documentary
	(i) Active Network Equipment (05 Marks)	20	evidence
2	(ii) Passive Network Equipment (03 Marks)	30	
	(iii) Electrical and Civil Works (02 Marks)		
	 Ten (10) points for each project: Minimum worth of Rs. 100 million for each project No points will be allocated for projects having the worth less than Rs. 100 million No more than three (03) projects should be submitted. 		
3	ISO9001/ISO27001/ISO20000-1 Standard Certification or any Internationally Accredited Certification	05	
4	Proposed Methodology on Implementation of Scope of Work	15	
Sub-tota	l:	70	

6.2.2.2 Personnel Capabilities

- (i) The Applicant shall provide personnel with relevant experience to fill the key management and specialist positions mentioned below.
- (ii) The Applicant will provide Proof of Employment and CVs of key specialists for each relevant area/domain, as listed in table below, and points will be allocated on the basis of the following criteria:

Sr. No.	Domain Specialist With minimum five (05) years of experience	Points	Remarks
1	Project Management (Lead)	04	Proof of
2	Network Infrastructure & Communications	03	employment
3	Electrical and Civil Engineering	02	of the
4	Technical Support Staff for deployment of Active & Passive Networking and all related Equipment on site	06 • 26-50=3 points • 51-75=4 points • 76-100=5 points • Above 100= 6 points	indicated personnel and their CVs to be attached (For Serial Numbers 1-3 only) (For Serial No. 4. List of Resources required)
Sub-total	:	15	

6.2.2.3 Financial Strength

(i) Points will be allocated on the basis of the following criteria:

Sr. No.	Description	Maximum Points	Remarks
1	Current Assets as per the Latest Audited Balance Sheet	05	No points if Audited Balance-Sheet is not provided. • Assets ≥ Rs. 100 million but ≤ 150 million = 1 • Assets > Rs. 150 million but ≤ 200 million = 2 • Assets > Rs. 200 million but ≤ 250 million = 3 • Assets > Rs. 250 million but ≤ 300 million = 4 • Assets > Rs. 300 million = 5
2	Average Annual Turnover of Last Three (03) years, as per last three years' audited Income Statements	10	 No points if Audited Income Statements are not provided. Average Annual Turnover ≥ Rs. 500 million but ≤ 1000 million = 5 Average Annual Turnover > Rs. 1000 million = 10 No points for Average Annual Turnover less than Rs. 500 million
Sub-total:		15	

7 OTHER FACTORS

- (i) Only Applicants that have been prequalified under this procedure shall be invited to submit proposal at the RFP stage.
- (ii) An Applicant can apply for pre-qualification individually or through a joint venture (JV). For details refer to **Annex-B**.
- (iii) If an Applicant applies for pre-qualification through JV (Joint Venture), the composition of JV members shall remain same for the RFP stage. If the composition of JV members is changed after the pre-qualification stage by any Applicant, the proposal of that Applicant will be rejected.
- (iv) The Purchaser may reject all proposals at any time prior to the acceptance of a proposal. The Purchaser shall upon request, communicate to any Applicant, the grounds for its rejection of all proposals, but shall not be required to justify those grounds. The Purchaser shall incur no liability, solely, by virtue of its invoking sub-rule (1) of Rule-35 of Punjab Procurement Rules, 2014 towards the Applicants. However, Applicants shall be promptly informed about the rejection of the proposals, if any (As per Rule 35 of Punjab Procurement Rules, 2014).
- (v) The Applicant shall bear all costs / expenses associated with the preparation and submission of the Proposal(s) and the Employer shall in no case be responsible / liable for those costs / expenses.

Letter of Application

[Letterhead paper	of the Applicant	including full	postal address	s, telephone no.,	, fax no.,	telex no.
and e-mail addres	s]					

Date	:
To: .	
• • • • • • •	
[Nan	ne and address of the Employer]
Sir,	
1.	Being duly authorized to represent and act on behalf of(hereinafter
	"the Applicant"), and having reviewed and fully understood all the PQ information provided, the undersigned hereby applies to be pre-qualified for the provision of NETWORKING INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM AND QUEUE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (PACS) IN HOSPITALS OF SHC&ME, GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB:

- 2. Attached to this letter are copies of original documents defining:
 - (a) The Applicant's legal status;
 - (b) The principal place of business;
 - (c) The place of incorporation (for Applicants who are corporations); or The place of registration and the nationality of the owners (for Applicants who are partnerships or individually owned Applicants);
- 3. The Client and its authorized representatives are hereby authorized to conduct any inquiries or investigations to verify the statements, documents, and information submitted in connection with this proposal, and to seek clarification from our bankers and clients regarding any financial and technical aspects. This Letter of Application will also serve as authorization to any individual or authorized representative of any institution referred to in the supporting information, to provide such information deemed necessary and requested by the Employer or its authorized representative to verify statements and information provided in this proposal, or with regard to the resources, experience, and competence of the Applicant.
- 4. The Employer and its authorized representatives may contact the following persons for further information, if needed.

General and Managerial Inquiries			
Contact 1	Telephone 1		
Contact 2	Telephone 2		
Personnel Inquiries	•		
Contact 1	Telephone 1		
Contact 2	Telephone 2		
Technical Inquiries	Fechnical Inquiries		
Contact 1	Telephone 1		
Contact 2	Telephone 2		
Financial Inquiries	Financial Inquiries		
Contact 1	Telephone 1		

Contact 2	Telephone 2

- 5. This proposal is made with the full understanding that:
 - Proposals by pre-qualified Applicants will be subject to verification of all information submitted for pre-qualification.
- The undersigned declare that the statements made and the information provided in the 6. proposal are complete, true, and correct in every detail.

Stamp & Signature of the Applicant

Application Form A-1

General Information

All individual Applicants applying for pre-qualification individually or through JV are requested to complete the information in this form. Nationality information is also to be provided for foreign owners.

1	Name of Applicant	
2	Head Office Address	
3	Telephone	Contact Person: Name:
		Title:
4	Fax	Telex
5	Place of incorporation/Registration	Year of incorporation/registration

Application Form A-2

General Experience

|--|

All individual Applicants are requested to complete the information in this form.

Starting Month Year	Ending Month Year	Year	Contract Name, Name & Address of Employer Brief Description of Works Executed	• •

Application Form A-3

Similar Experience

Name of Applicant

On a separate page, using the format of Application Form A-4, each Applicant is required to list all contracts of a similar nature and complexity to the contract for which the Applicant wishes to qualify, undertaken during the last five (05) years, as required in qualification criteria of respective Lots. The information is to be summarized, using Application Form A-4, for each contract completed or under execution by the Applicant.

Contracts of Similar Nature and Complexity

Name of Applicant			

Use a separate sheet for each contract/project.

1	Name of Contract		
	Country		
2	Name of Employer		
3	Employer Address		
4	Nature of works and special features relevant to the contract for which the Applicant wishes to prequalify		
5	Contract Role (Tick One) (a) Sole Contractor (b) Sub- Contractor		
6	Value of the total contract (in specified currencies) at completion, or at date of award for current contract Currency		
7	Value in Pak/Rs		
8	Date of Award		
9	Date of Completion		
10	Contract Duration (Years and Months) as per signed contract		

Financial Strength

Name of Applicant		

Applicants should provide financial information to demonstrate that they meet the specified requirements. A copy of the audited reports/balance-sheets should be attached.

Bank	Name of bank	Name of bank		
	Address of bank	Address of bank		
	Telephone	Contact name and title		
	Fax	Telex		

All individual Applicants are requested to provide information related to annual turnover.

Annual Turnover					
Year	Turnover in Millions.				
1.					
2.					
3.					

Summarize actual assets and liabilities in Pak Rupees for the previous three (03) years, based upon known commitments, projected assets and liabilities in Pak Rupees.

Financial information in Pak Rs.	Detail of Last three year		
	1	2	3
1. Total assets			
2. Current assets			
3. Total liabilities			
4. Current liabilities			
5. Profits before taxes			
6. Profits after taxes			

Applicants owned by individuals, and partnerships, may submit their audit reports / balance sheets certified by a registered accountant.

Joint Venture/Consortium

Following are minimum qualification requirements of JV:

- 1. In the case of a joint venture, consortium, or association, all members shall be jointly and severally liable for the execution of the Contract in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Contract. The joint venture, consortium, or association shall nominate a Lead Member, who shall have the authority to conduct all business for and on behalf of any and all the members of the joint venture, consortium, or association during the Bidding process, and in case of award of contract, during the execution of contract.
- **2.** Any agreement that forms a joint venture, consortium or association shall be required to be submitted as part of the PQ Proposal and shall be attested.
- **3.** There must be at least one locally registered company (Partner) of good repute, with relevant experience and proven track record, in the joint venture.
- **4.** One partner of the participating Joint Venture shall be designated the Lead Partner. If awarded the contract, the Lead Partner would enter into legal agreement with the Client on behalf of the Joint Venture and would receive instructions and incur liabilities.
- **5.** The appointment of Lead Member in the joint venture, consortium, or association shall be confirmed by submission of a valid Power of Attorney to the Procuring Agency.
- **6.** All partners shall be jointly and severally liable for the execution of the Contract in accordance with the agreed terms and conditions. In case of award of Contract, the Contract Agreement shall be signed by the Lead Partner. All the partners shall be jointly and severally liable for the execution of the project in accordance with government rules and regulations.
- **7.** For qualification criteria, the Lead Partner or JV Partner credentials are valid for evaluation.