

Clarification to Comments received i.r.o Pre-Bid Meeting pertaining to GeM Bid No. GEM/2023/B/4151141 dated 28.11.2023 - "Selection of Laboratories for Testing of Products/Material - Food & Agri Products"					
<i>(Received from Prospective Bidders)</i>					
Sl.No	Clause No (GeM / RFP)	Standard Requirement	Suggested Change / Suggestion / Query	Justification / Remarks (If Any)	FSSAI Comments/ Clarification
1	Clause No. 13.1.1 Pre-qualification Criteria for Technical Bid Evaluation	In the Bid documents it is detailed that the bidder have owned at least three laboratories with ISO/IEC 17025:2017 accredited laboratories.	Our laboratory is having ISO/IEC 17025:2017 accredited laboratories at two locations having the excellent capacity to analyse the samples equivalent to 03 locations.	The laboratory locations are installed with total 05 LCMSMS, 02 GCMSMS, 02 ICPMS one located in north and another in southern part of India. The lab can handle the sampling and analysis of different states. Additionally, the laboratory is having sampling location covering all states on Pan India basis. The laboratory is having dedicated manpower of 50 person in for testing of food samples in both locations along with FSSAI approved Food analyst.	Bidder should have at least three ISO/IEC 17025:2017 accredited laboratories.
2	Clase No. 4(i) Categorization of Fruits and Vegetables	Each Fruit / Vegetable to be collected specified in the list	If any fruit / vegetable categorized in the list is not available at specific location then can we sample the same product from different city / district or any other product listed in the table can be sampled from same location?	--	FSSAI Surveillance team will coordinate with selected agency and decision will be communicated to agency depending on the sample size of particular product and situation of particular location.
3	Clase No. 4(i) Categorization of Fruits and Vegetables	Okra / tomatoes are categorized under Other Vegetables	The vegetables categorized under Other Vegetables such as Okra / tomatoes sometimes referred under fruiting vegetables also. The specification for heavy metals are different for other vegetable and fruiting vegetables in Annexure B of Bid document. In such case the opinion like safe / unsafe will impact. Can we get the specification for each product separately for correct report generation?	--	" <b>other vegetable</b> " in the categorization of fruits and vegetable should not be confused with " <b>other</b> " vegetables given in the list of parameter at Annexure B. Further FSSAI Surveillance team will provide necessary guidance regarding MRL, safe/unsafe categories during report generation.
4	Annexure-B (Horizontal Parameters)	All 233 pesticides to be performed	All 233 pesticide residues to be analysed or as per the list given in Annexure B against each product will apply?	--	All 233 pesticides residues.
5	Annexure-B (Horizontal Parameters)	Methyl mercury not listed in Annexure B	Methyl Mercury is not mentioned in the residue parameters under heavy metals. Do we have to report methyl mercury also?	--	NO

6	SOW of Tender [Clause 13.1.1 (a) ]	Bidder must have owned at least 3 laboratories having accreditation in analysis as per ISO/IEC 17025: 2017	Bidder must have the NABL accredited and FSSAI recognized Laboratory having all the parameters covered under NABL scope for fruits and vegetable Category	<p><b>Justification of why we should take up the Project:</b></p> <p><b>1. Team Strength-</b> 418</p> <p><b>2. Total Number of Parameters covered under NABL Scope:</b> more than 35000</p> <p><b>3. Total Number of Parameters covered under NABL Scope for fruits and vegetable Category:</b> Approx 1500</p> <p><b>3. Accreditations &amp; Recognitions:</b></p> <p>i) ISO 17025: 2017</p> <p>ii) FSSAI Authorized Laboratory</p> <p>iii) APEDA</p> <p>iv) EIC</p> <p>v) Tea Board</p> <p>vi) IOPEPC</p> <p>vii) BIS</p> <p>Vii) MOEF &amp;CC/ CPCB</p> <p><b>4. Calibration Laboratory With ISO 17025</b> Certificate for the Calibration of instruments</p> <p><b>5. Multiple Parameters covered under NABL Scope</b> having Sophisticated instruments:</p> <p>GC-MS/MS - 04</p> <p>LC-MS/MS - 04</p> <p>GC - 07</p> <p>GC-MS - 01</p> <p>HPLC - 07,</p> <p>AAS-01,</p> <p>ICPMS- 01</p> <p><b>6. Tie- up with the courier facility</b> with the Temperature control facility being available which enables the sample to reach the laboratory with 12 to 18 hours from any where in India</p>	Bidder should have at least three ISO/IEC 17025:2017 accredited laboratories.
7	Caluse No. 4 (ii)	Collection of samples from different cities across India	Can we apply for the specific cities or district for the collection of the sample	--	NO
8	clause No. 4 (iii)	the bidder shall draw the sample along with the FSO	how we shall get the contact details of FSO located at each location	For coordination with FSO.	FSSAI Surveillance team will coordinate with selected agency and will provide FSO details
9	13.1.1(a)	· Should have an Average Annual financial turnover, during each of the last three years i.e. 2019-20. 2020-21 and 2021-22 should not be less than Rs. 10 Crore	· Should have an Average Annual financial turnover for the last three years i.e. 2019-20. 2020-21 and 2021-22 should not be less than Rs. 10 Crore	If we are mentioning average turnover, it should be average for all 3 years. Example: if agency has 9 cr., 10cr., 11 cr. of turnover for 2019-20. 2020-21 and 2021-22, then its 3 years average turnover will be 10cr.	Yes

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10	13.1.1(a)	Bidder must have owned at least 3 Laboratories having accreditation in analysis as per ISO/IEC 17025:2017.	Bidder must have owned Laboratory having accreditation in analysis as per ISO/IEC 17025:2017. With integrated assessment.	By asking for 3 owned laboratory, department is cutting down the competition for the equipped eligible laboratory who have less than 3 entities. It is already mentioned that the selected agency can outsource testing of samples to eligible ISO/IEC 17025:2017 laboratory, therefore the clause of having 3 laboratories doesn't make any valid point for eligibility criteria.	Bidder should have at least three ISO/IEC 17025:2017 accredited laboratories.
11	13.1.1 Stage 1 : Pre-Qualification Criteria for the Technical Bid Evaluation:	Bidder must have owned at least 3 Laboratories having accreditation in analysis as per ISO/IEC 17025:2017'	we request to enquire whether at least 02 Laboratories having accreditation in analysis as per ISO 17025 can also apply and qualify in the Pre-Qualification criteria for the Technical bid evaluation. We wish to express our interest as Eurofins Analytical Services India Private Limited, currently having 02 Laboratories in Gurgaon and Bangalore in India, are interested to participate in the tender if this qualification criteria can be relaxed.	--	Bidder should have at least three ISO/IEC 17025:2017 accredited laboratories.