

Minutes of the Pre-bid Meeting for the engagement of an agency to conduct the Economic Impact Analysis of IMD's services

India Meteorological Department (IMD) has invited bids vide Bid No. GEM/2026/B/7829384 dated 30/07/2026 for the Engagement of an agency to conduct the Economic Impact Analysis of IMD's services through GeM portal and IMD website.

The Pre-Bid meeting was held in hybrid mode on 11th August, 2026 at 11:00 hours IST in the DGM Conference Room, Mausam Bhawan, New Delhi. The committee comprising of following members addressed the queries raised by the firms during the pre-bid meeting:

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| 1. Dr. R.K. Giri, Sc-F | Chairman |
| 2. Dr. Sankar Nath, Sc-F | Member |
| 3. Dr. S.I. Laskar, Sc-F | Member |
| 4. Dr. Sheshakumar Goroshi, Sc-F | Member (co-opted) |
| 5. Shri S.K. Manik, Sc-D | Member |
| 6. Dr. Anoop Kumar Mishra, Sc-D | Member |
| 7. Ms. Kiran Jaswal, Met-B | Member Secretary |

Dr. Lata Vishnoi, Sc-D and Shri Amit Kumar, Sc-D also participated in the meeting. The representatives from the following firms attended the meeting and sought clarifications for their queries:

1. Forvis Mazars LLP, Gurugram
2. Indian Institute of Development Management, Bhopal
3. Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India LLP, Gurugram
4. Bureau of Research on Industry and Economic Fundamentals (BRIEF), New Delhi
5. Quality Council of India, New Delhi
6. Global Agri System Pvt. Ltd., Gurugram
7. Dun & Bradstreet, Mumbai

The detailed point-wise responses of IMD to all consolidated queries are provided in the table below:

S. No.	RFP/ Bid Reference	Bidder's Query	IMD's Reply
Forvis Mazars LLP			
1.	RFP Clause 8.2: Technical Evaluation Criteria Stage 1: Pre-qualification Criteria S. No. 5 Page no.: 15	We request IMD to reduce the required individual project value threshold from INR 0.8 Cr to INR 0.3 Cr and extend the experience evaluation window from the last 5 years to the last 10 years. This relaxation is requested because specialized macroeconomic modelling and public sector valuation studies often operate under streamlined budget allocations, meaning a lower financial baseline combined with a wider historical window will significantly	The clause may be read as: The agency should have successfully completed at least two projects of comparable scale and complexity in economic valuation studies, cost-benefit analysis.

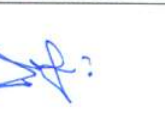
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S. No.	RFP/ Bid Reference	Bidder's Query	IMD's Reply
		enhance vendor participation, encourage healthy competition, and bring in highly qualified technical and academic institutions.	macroeconomic modelling, or impact assessments of public sector programmes in the last 5 years. Out of these, at least one engagement should involve a Central /State Government department, PSU, multilateral agency, or statutory body. Value of each project should be more than INR 0.5 cr. The experience claimed by bidders shall be supported by work orders/ contracts and satisfactory completion certificates, and the credentials shall be duly verified during evaluation.
2.	RFP Clause 8.2: Technical Evaluation Criteria Stage 1: Pre-qualification Criteria S. No. 3 Page no.: 15	We request IMD to evaluate the average annual turnover based on FY 2022-23, FY 2023-24, and FY 2024-25, or allow the submission of Provisional / CA-Certified Financial Statements for FY 2025-26; this modification is necessary as statutory auditing and finalization of financial accounts for FY 2025-26 may still be in progress for several organizations, and permitting provisional certificates or shifting the 3-year baseline will prevent eligible and capable firms.	Agreed. The clause may be read as: The agency should have an average turnover of at least Rs. 2 crores from advisory/ consultancy during last three financial years (2023-24, 2024-25, and 2025-26). Provisional financial statement for FY 2025-26 may be accepted in case of non-availability of final statement. Acceptance of provisional financial statements for FY









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			2025-26 shall be subject to their certification by the statutory/independent Chartered Accountant, wherever applicable, and the final audited financial statements shall be obtained from the successful bidder within a prescribed period.
3.	RFP Clause 8.2: Technical Evaluation Criteria Stage 2, Step 2: Technical Evaluation Framework S. No. 1.2 Page no.: 17	We request that the evaluation framework be simplified by keeping only the single filter of "Same/Similar projects" and removing the highly restrictive sub-condition requiring specific impact assessments; the current phrasing enforces a restrictive double filter that make difficult for experienced consulting firms possessing extensive capabilities in broader econometric, statistical, and policy evaluation fields, and streamlining it will allow a more comprehensive pool of experts to contribute effectively to the assignment.	As per RFP
4.	Last date of Bid Submission: 20-08-2026	We request a formal extension of the Bid Submission Due Date by at least two (2) weeks following the publication of the final pre-bid clarifications; this extension is vital to allow participating bidders adequate time to prepare a thoroughly compliant, high-quality proposal.	Bid Submission last date will be notified on GeM
Indian Institute of Development Management			
5.	RFP clause 4 (v) Page No. 8-12	Will IMD please provide the final stakeholder list and the definitive total sample size/service-wise sample allocation before bid submission? The RFP states that the final list of stakeholders will be provided at an appropriate time	Stakeholder list and sample size mentioned in RFP may be used for preparing bid.
6.	RFP clause 4 (v) Page No. 8-12	How to select them? Are 30 general-public respondents required in every district of India, in addition to institutional stakeholder respondents in every district?	As per RFP
7.	RFP clause 4	Does IMD intend mandatory coverage of 5	Yes, mandatorily 800

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S. No.	RFP/ Bid Reference	Bidder's Query	IMD's Reply
	(v) Page No. 8-12	villages × 10 farmers in each of 720 districts, i.e. approximately 36,000 farmer respondents, besides institutional respondents?	districts to be covered. However, in case of bifurcated districts, if any, survey to be conducted for both districts (The names of the bifurcated districts has to be mentioned)
8.	RFP clause 4 (v) Page No. 8-12	Where the RFP says "all districts", is this census-type geographic coverage mandatory, or may the selected agency develop a statistically representative stratified sample of districts under Section 5.4/5.5?	Geographic coverage is mandatory
9.	RFP clause 4 (v) Page No. 8-12	Is the 50:50 offline-online requirements to be maintained separately for each service, each stakeholder category and each State/UT, or only for the overall sample of each service?	The 50:50 offline-online requirement is to be maintained separately for each service, each stakeholder category and each State/UT
10.	RFP clause 4 (v) Page No. 8-12	Will IMD provide verified email/ mobile/ contact databases of institutional stakeholders for conducting the prescribed 50% online survey? If not, who will facilitate respondent access?	IMD will share the contact details available with it.
11.	RFP clause 4 (v) Page No. 8-12	Will IMD formally introduce the selected agency to WMO/ESCAP panel countries and overseas National Meteorological Services/ trainees, and provide contact details?	IMD will share the contact details at appropriate time
12.	RFP clause 4 (v) Page No. 8-12	Please confirm whether all 107 IMD-served airports must be covered and whether "20 stakeholders per airport" means 20 stakeholder organisations/categories or 20 respondents. The sample column separately says at least 5 respondents per airport.	The concerned clause may be read as "5 respondents per airport". Further, the No. of airports has increased to 115.
13.		Does IMD prescribe any specific economic valuation framework—Input–Output model, Social Accounting Matrix, CGE, cost-benefit analysis, avoided-loss approach or another methodology—or should the bidder propose the most appropriate service-specific models?	IMD does not prescribe any specific economic valuation framework and the bidder may propose the most appropriate and authentic service-specific models

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14.	RFP Clause 2 (b)	What counterfactual does IMD expect for "absence of IMD services"—historical pre-service periods, non-user/user comparisons, modelled scenarios, expert estimates, or a combination?	Non-user/ user comparisons may be utilized. Comparison with pre-service period may also be made in case of recently launched services
15.	RFP clause 2 (c), Page No. 7	Does IMD prescribe an official Government of India VSL value/methodology, or is the agency expected to derive/adopt an appropriate India-specific VSL from recognised literature?	The agency may derive/adopt an appropriate India-specific VSL from recognised literature. The methodology, assumption, reference year, adjustments/ indexation and sources used for arriving at the VSL shall be clearly stated and justified in the studies.
16.	RFP clause 2, Page No. 7	Should the study estimate economic benefits attributable exclusively to IMD, or IMD's contribution jointly with NDMA/SDMA, State Governments, media, evacuation machinery and end-user actions?	Estimation of economic benefits attributable exclusively to IMD as well as joint contribution, wherever applicable, to be done.
17.	RFP clause 2(d), page no. 7	Does "number of jobs created" refer to employment within the meteorological ecosystem, jobs enabled/sustained in user sectors, or both? Should employment saved/protected also be valued?	It refers to both
18.	RFP clause 4 (v) Page No. 8-12	Can the same respondent/institution be interviewed for more than one IMD service where legitimately relevant, or must entirely different respondents be selected for each service?	As per RFP
19.	RFP Clause 8.2: Technical Evaluation Criteria	The technical evaluation awards 10 marks for "Demonstration of survey of any sample size" through Video/PPT/Documentary. Does this mean demonstration of a previously completed survey, or a prototype/pilot survey	It means demonstration of a prototype/pilot survey specifically designed for this



S. No.	RFP/ Bid Reference	Bidder's Query	IMD's Reply
	Stage 2, Step 2: Technical Evaluation Framework S. No. 3.4 Page no.: 18	specifically designed for this assignment?	assignment
20.	RFP clause 2(j)	Is the selected agency expected merely to design/develop the online feedback system, or also host, maintain and support it after completion of the 12-month study? If hosting is required, for what period?	The selected agency is expected only to design/develop the online feedback system
21.	RFP clause 5 S.No. 5.1 Page No. 12	Are the six zones—Mumbai, Chennai, New Delhi, Kolkata, Nagpur and Guwahati—only for operational management of the study, or must sampling/results also be reported zone-wise?	To be reported state wise/ zone-wise as well as for the country as a whole.
22.	RFP clause 4 (v) Page No. 8-12	In view of the presently indeterminate final stakeholder list/sample size, will IMD provide a common definitive sample before financial bid submission or prescribe a standard sample assumption for all bidders?	Stakeholder list and sample size mentioned in RFP may be used for preparing bid.
Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India LLP			
23.	Scope of Work RFP clause 2(a), 2(b) Page No. 7	The RFP seeks estimation of direct, indirect, induced and intangible impacts across nine highly heterogeneous service domains. Please clarify if IMD expect a common valuation framework across all service categories, or will service-specific valuation approaches be acceptable where economic transmission mechanisms differ substantially (e.g., cyclone warnings versus positional astronomy services)?	Service-specific valuation approaches may be adopted
24.	Scope of Work RFP clause 2(b) Page No. 7	Since the assessment requires estimation of value generated in a hypothetical "absence of IMD services" scenario, could IMD clarify the level of methodological rigour expected for establishment of counterfactuals? For example, would benchmark comparisons, econometric approaches, simulation models, or internationally accepted benefit-transfer approaches be considered acceptable?	Non-user/ user comparisons may be utilized. Comparison with pre-service period may also be made in case of recently launched services
25.	Scope of Work RFP	For estimating avoided losses and Value of Statistical Life (VSL), will IMD accept	The agency may derive/adopt an

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	clause 2(c) Page No. 7	internationally recognised valuation benchmarks adjusted to the Indian context, or does it expect development of India-specific valuation estimates as part of the study, where such values are not available.	appropriate India-specific VSL from recognised literature. The methodology, assumption, reference year, adjustments/ indexation and sources used for arriving at the VSL shall be clearly stated and justified in the studies.
26.	Coverage & Scope RFP clauses 2 & 3 Page Nos. 7-8	Since many sectors simultaneously utilise multiple IMD services (such as aviation uses weather forecasting, climate products and warning systems together), is there a preferred way for attribution of economic benefits across overlapping services to avoid double counting of impacts?	Service specific Impact assessment to be carried out.
27.	Methodology RFP clause 5 Page No. 12	Will IMD share relevant historical administrative and service-performance data available with it, and facilitate access to relevant data held by other stakeholder departments/agencies, such as forecast accuracy, warning lead times, service utilisation and sector-specific outcome indicators, for the purpose of economic impact modelling?	IMD will share data available with it and facilitate access to relevant data held by other stakeholders to the extent possible
28.	Methodology RFP clause 5 Page No. 12	Will access be provided to internal impact studies, service usage analytics, stakeholder databases, website and API usage statistics, dissemination records, and outreach metrics to support estimation of service utilisation and benefit realisation pathways?	IMD will share the details available with it
29.	Scope of Work RFP clause 2(g) Page No. 7	Is IMD seeking causal assessment of awareness campaigns and capacity building programmes on behavioural outcomes, or a descriptive assessment of outreach effectiveness and stakeholder perceptions?	A descriptive assessment of outreach effectiveness and stakeholder perceptions is required to be carried out
30.	Scope of Work RFP clause 2(i) Page No. 7	For state-level findings, does IMD envisage development of state-wise economic impact accounts, or a modelling architecture capable of generating impact estimates at multiple geographic scales (district, state, regional and	To be reported state-wise/ zone-wise as well as for the country as a whole.









S. No.	RFP/ Bid Reference	Bidder's Query	IMD's Reply
		national)?	
31.	Scope of Work RFP clause 2(k) Page No. 7	If international benchmarking is undertaken, should the analysis focus on institutional practices, economic returns generated, forecast-system performance indicators, funding models, or a combination thereof?	Combination of various indicators may be used for international benchmarking
32.	Scope of Work RFP clause 2(j) Page No. 7	Clause 2(j) requires the selected agency to develop an online continuous user feedback mechanism. Kindly clarify whether the scope is limited to designing and demonstrating a prototype/dashboard for capturing and reporting user feedback, or whether the agency is expected to develop, host, maintain, and hand over a fully functional web/mobile application integrated with IMD's existing systems.	The selected agency is expected only to design/develop the online feedback system
33.	Scope of Work RFP clause 2 Page No. 7	Considering the extensive geographical coverage and scale of field activities envisaged under the RFP, kindly clarify whether the selected agency may engage field implementation partners/outourcing agencies for survey execution, while retaining overall responsibility for project management, quality assurance, data validation, analysis, and all project deliverables.	As per RFP clauses 6.2 and 7.2, page 12, 13 and subject to fulfilling the qualification criteria mentioned under clause 8.2.1. However, the selected agency will be solely responsible since inception to final execution of the project and subsequent implications, if any.
34.	Clause 5.8 – Deliverables & Timelines (Page 12)	The Inception Report is required to be submitted within 15 days of award of contract. Considering the scale, geographical spread, and methodological complexity of the study, would IMD consider extending the timeline for submission of the Inception Report to enable development and validation of a robust methodology, sampling framework, survey instruments, impact models, and stakeholder engagement plan?	As per RFP
35.	Clause 19 – Payment Schedule (Page 22)	Considering the substantial effort involved in nationwide field implementation across all districts, stakeholder consultations, survey management, data collection, quality assurance, and analysis, may IMD kindly consider revising the payment schedule to support smoother project	As per RFP

S. No.	RFP/ Bid Reference	Bidder's Query	IMD's Reply																																
		implementation. Please see our proposed schedule below. <table> <tr> <th>Milestone</th><th>Existing Payment Schedule (RFP)</th><th>Existing %</th><th>Proposed %</th></tr> <tr> <td>1</td><td>Approval of Inception Report</td><td>10%</td><td>20%</td></tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>Submission and Approval of Interim Report</td><td></td><td>20%</td></tr> <tr> <td>3</td><td>Completion of Field Surveys and Data Collection</td><td>30%</td><td>20%</td></tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>Executive Presentation and Vetting of Draft Report by IMD</td><td>30%</td><td>20%</td></tr> <tr> <td>5</td><td>Submission and Approval of Final Report</td><td>27%</td><td>17%</td></tr> <tr> <td>6</td><td>Successful Data Handover and minimum 90 days of Post-Study Support</td><td>3%</td><td>3%</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Total</td><td>100%</td><td>100%</td></tr> </table>	Milestone	Existing Payment Schedule (RFP)	Existing %	Proposed %	1	Approval of Inception Report	10%	20%	2	Submission and Approval of Interim Report		20%	3	Completion of Field Surveys and Data Collection	30%	20%	4	Executive Presentation and Vetting of Draft Report by IMD	30%	20%	5	Submission and Approval of Final Report	27%	17%	6	Successful Data Handover and minimum 90 days of Post-Study Support	3%	3%	Total		100%	100%	
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36.	Section 3 & 4 – Coverage of the Economic Impact Analysis and Mode of Survey (Pages 8–12)	Section 3 & 4 – Coverage of the Economic Impact Analysis and Mode of Survey (Pages 8–12) Based on our understanding of the stakeholder coverage and sampling requirements specified in the Coverage Matrix, we have arrived at the sample size given in Annexure-1. Kindly confirm, if the calculation is correct, or please indicate the total sample size expected by IMD in the clarifications.	As per RFP subject to change in No. of districts and airports.																																
37.	Section 4 – Mode of Survey (Page 8)	To ensure optimal respondent coverage, representativeness, and data quality across all stakeholder categories, kindly confirm whether the selected agency may adopt a flexible combination of online and offline survey modes based on the characteristics of each stakeholder group, rather than adhering to a fixed 50:50 ratio for every category, provided that both modes are adequately utilized within the overall study.	The 50:50 offline-online requirement is to be maintained separately for each service, each stakeholder category and each State/UT																																
38.	Section 4 – Mode of Survey (Page 8)	Our understanding is that "online mode" of survey will include telephonic interviews (for respondents such as farmers), web-based survey forms/questionnaires (for respondents such as scientists and officers), and virtual interviews. Kindly confirm the same.	Either physical or telephonic																																
39.	Scope of	The RFP requires qualitative assessment and	Sample size and methodology																																







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	work (page 7)	feedback from users and other stakeholders, as well as suitable interactions/discussions with relevant agencies/stakeholders. Kindly clarify whether IMD has prescribed any indicative number or coverage for the qualitative component (e.g., KIIs, FGDs or IDIs), or whether the agency may propose the appropriate qualitative sample and methodology.	mentioned in RFP (Clauses 4 & 5) may be used for qualitative assessment also.
40.	Section 3 & 4 – Coverage of the Economic Impact Analysis and Mode of Survey (Pages 8–12)	Our understanding is that stakeholder group/category may be treated as a single stakeholder for sampling purposes. For example, CGIAR be considered as one stakeholder, with respondents drawn from constituent institutions (such as ICRISAT, CIMMYT, and IRRI), rather than treating each constituent institution as a separate stakeholder. Kindly confirm the same.	Each constituent institution may be treated as a separate entity.
Dun & Bradstreet			
41.	RFP Clause 4(iii), Pg 8	Kindly confirm whether the selected agency may retain anonymized survey responses, methodologies, reference databases, analytical frameworks, codebooks, statistical models and learnings for internal audit, quality assurance, compliance, benchmarking and capability-building purposes, provided no IMD-specific findings or confidential information are disclosed.	Yes, prior permission to be obtained from IMD by mentioning the purpose. Also, the agency cannot use the survey data/ results for any commercial purpose and also cannot share it with any third party without prior approval from IMD.
42.	RFP Clause 4(v), Pg 8-12	Request clarification on whether the stipulated sample sizes are mandatory minimums or indicative targets. Will IMD consider statistically representative sampling methodologies where coverage of certain stakeholders is operationally infeasible?	The sample size stipulated in the RFP shall be treated as the minimum requirements and are to be adhered to. However, where the coverage of certain stakeholders is operationally infeasible, the agency may propose appropriate

S. No.	RFP/ Bid Reference	Bidder's Query	IMD's Reply
			methodology with proper justification for consideration and approval of IMD.
43.	RFP Clause 5.6, Pg 12	Kindly clarify whether IMD will facilitate access to the relevant datasets and nodal contacts. Delays in obtaining external data should be excluded from project timelines and penalties.	IMD will facilitate access to the relevant datasets and nodal contacts. The agency should adhere to the timeline as per the RFP document.
44.	RFP Clause 5.8, Pg 12	Given the nationwide scope covering all districts and multiple stakeholder categories, would IMD consider extending the timeline or permitting milestone adjustments if approvals, stakeholder access, or government clearances are delayed beyond the Agency's control?	As per RFP
45.	RFP Clause 6.2, Pg 12-13	Kindly clarify the extent to which specialist vendors may be engaged for field surveys, CATI/CAPI operations, data processing, translation, transcription, technology platforms and design support.	As per RFP clauses 6.2 and 7.2, page 12, 13
46.	RFP Clause 7.2, Pg 13	Will IMD permit the engagement of specialized survey partners, regional field agencies, technology providers and subject matter experts with prior notification rather than separate approval for each engagement?	As per RFP clauses 6.2 and 7.2, page 12, 13 and subject to fulfilling the qualification criteria mentioned under clause 8.2.1. However, the selected agency will be solely responsible since inception to final execution of the project and subsequent implications, if any.
47.	RFP Clause 7.3, Pg 13	Kindly clarify whether replacement due to resignation, illness, maternity leave, retirement or force majeure circumstances will be exempt from penalties, provided equivalent or superior resources are deployed.	As per RFP
48.	RFP Clause 7.6, Pg 14	Please clarify the maximum number of review cycles envisaged. Additional review iterations resulting in material changes to scope, methodology or deliverables should be treated as a scope change request.	The selected agency shall incorporate comments/ observations of IMD and undertake review

S. No.	RFP/ Bid Reference	Bidder's Query	IMD's Reply
			iteration as reasonably required for satisfactory completion and acceptance of the report within the agreed scope of work. No fixed/ maximum number of review cycles is prescribed.
49.	RFP Clause 7.7, Pg 14	Request clarification that pre-existing intellectual property, proprietary frameworks, analytical models, software tools, templates, methodologies and know-how of the agency shall remain the property of the agency, while IMD receives a perpetual licence for project use.	As per RFP
50.	RFP Clause 7.8, Pg 14	Kindly confirm that methodologies, proprietary scripts, source codes and reusable research assets developed independently by the agency need not be transferred.	As per RFP
		Further, will IMD permit inclusion of the engagement in the agency's credentials after project completion subject to confidentiality restrictions?	Agreed. The agency cannot use the survey data/ results for any commercial purpose and also cannot share it with any third party without prior approval from IMD.
51.	RFP Clause 7.11, Pg 14	Kindly clarify that no additional liability shall arise for increases in taxes, duties or statutory levies resulting from delays caused by IMD, government agencies, stakeholder accessibility issues or force majeure events.	The agency should adhere to the timeline as per the RFP document.
52	RFP Clause 8.2.1, Pg 18-19	Request clarification whether equivalent qualifications and relevant professional experience from non-Top-100 institutions will be accepted where expertise requirements are adequately met.	Degree (or equivalent) from any UGC/AICTE recognized University/ Institute will be acceptable subject to relevant academic credentials and demonstrated domain experience.
53	RFP Clause 9(v), Pg 20	Kindly clarify data privacy requirements, storage obligations and security measures	Live location is not to be shared









S. No.	RFP/ Bid Reference	Bidder's Query	IMD's Reply
		applicable to field staff location tracking. Can alternative audit mechanisms be accepted where required by local regulations or employee privacy policies?	throughout the day. It may be shared for one hour as and when the field staff visits a new district.
54	RFP Clause 19, Pg 22-23	Kindly clarify objective acceptance criteria, review timelines and deemed acceptance provisions if comments are not received within a specified period.	All reports submitted by the agency will be reviewed by IMD in a timely manner.
55	RFP Clause 21, Pg 23	Kindly clarify that forfeiture shall be proportionate to the actual loss suffered by IMD and shall not apply for minor breaches or non-material defaults.	As per RFP
56	RFP Clause 22(i), Pg 24	Request confirmation that total liquidated damages shall be capped at 5% to 10% of contract value and shall exclude delays attributable to IMD, government stakeholders, approvals or force majeure.	As per RFP
57	RFP Clause 22(ii), Pg 24	Kindly define objective criteria for determining "statistically insignificant" data and establish an independent validation mechanism before any penalty or blacklisting action is initiated.	Random crosscheck will be carried out by IMD within selected sample.
58	RFP Clause 22(iii), Pg 24	Please clarify whether the scope, value and payment schedule of the selected agency will remain protected if IMD subsequently reallocates or splits the assignment.	As per RFP
59	RFP Clause 22(iii), Pg 24	Kindly request inclusion of payment for all committed work-in-progress, non-cancellable obligations and approved resources mobilized prior to termination.	As per RFP.
60	RFP Clause 24, Pg 25	Kindly clarify whether the indemnity is limited to direct losses arising from the agency's proven breach and excludes indirect, consequential and punitive damages.	As per RFP
61	RFP Clause 26, Pg 25	Request that the sole arbitrator be appointed mutually by both parties or through an independent institution in accordance with the Arbitration and Conciliation Act to ensure neutrality.	As per RFP
62	Entire Contract	Kindly confirm that the aggregate liability of the agency under the contract shall be capped at the total contract value (or fees paid), excluding fraud, wilful misconduct and statutory liabilities.	Payment terms and conditions will be same as per RFP
63	Entire Contract	Kindly clarify that neither party shall be liable for indirect, consequential, incidental, punitive	The selected agency will be solely

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		or special damages, including loss of profits, opportunities or reputation.	responsible since inception to final execution of the project and subsequent implications, if any.
64	Entire Contract	Request confirmation that delays arising from non-availability of stakeholders, government departments or respondents shall result in extension of timelines without penalties.	The agency should adhere to the timeline as per the RFP document.
65	Entire Contract	Kindly provide required confidence level, margin of error, sampling assumptions and acceptance thresholds that will be used to evaluate survey quality.	Shall be communicated to the selected agency
Quality Council of India			
66	RFP Page 7 – Section 2.b	Kindly clarify whether IMD has any existing reports, studies, assessments, datasets, or established parameters that may be referred to for developing the hypothetical “without IMD services” scenario and assessing the economic value added attributable to IMD services.	Non-user/ user comparisons may be utilized. Comparison with pre-service period may also be made in case of recently launched services
67	RFP Page 7 – Section 2.h	Kindly clarify the expected number, mode (physical/ online/ hybrid), and tentative locations of presentations to be made to various stakeholders during the course of the assignment.	Presentations may be made through any convenient mode (physical/ online/ hybrid). Locations of presentations for physical/ hybrid meetings will be IMD HQ, New Delhi. There is no specified no. of presentations to be made.
68	RFP Page 8- Section 4. i	Kindly clarify whether the prescribed 50:50 offline and online survey ratio is to be maintained at the overall service level, state level, district level, or for each individual stakeholder category.	The 50:50 offline-online requirement is to be maintained separately for each service, each stakeholder category and each State/UT

S. No.	RFP/ Bid Reference	Bidder's Query	IMD's Reply
		Further, considering the geographical spread and accessibility of respondents, please clarify whether complete state-level coverage through online mode may be considered where appropriate.	As per RFP
69	RFP Page 8- Section 4. ii	Kindly confirm whether the classification of rural and urban areas for sampling and geographical coverage may be considered as per the latest applicable Census of India definitions/classifications.	Yes
70	RFP Page 8- Section 4 table	Kindly provide the number & list of all applicable districts, international/domestic airports, and other relevant geographical units to be covered under each of the nine services, to facilitate appropriate sampling, field planning and resource estimation.	Total districts to be covered: 800 Total airports to be covered: 115 Complete lists will be provided to the selected agency by IMD
71	RFP Page – 8, Section 4.v.1	Kindly provide a clear definition or classification of “Private Sector” for the purpose of stakeholder identification and sampling under the respective IMD services.	As per Govt. of India policy.
72	RFP Page – 8, Section 4.v.1	Considering the limited and uneven availability of identifiable media representatives at the district level, kindly consider defining media stakeholders	Entire print media and broadcast media
73	RFP Page 18-Section 8.2.1, Serial No.1	Kindly consider relaxing the requirement that the proposed expert must possess a qualification from a Top-100 NIRF Institute (considering NIRF ranking system is dynamic and also wasn't applicable for those who graduated before 2015), and allow equivalent qualifications from reputed and recognised institutions, subject to relevant academic credentials and demonstrated domain experience.	Degree (or equivalent) from any UGC/AICTE recognized University/ Institute will be acceptable subject to relevant academic credentials and demonstrated domain experience.
74	RFP Page 12, 13-Section 6.2.	Kindly clarify whether outsourcing/ engagement of external agencies or specialised service providers is permitted for specific components of the assignment, apart from survey data collection (considering the vast coverage of the assessment). If permitted, please specify the permissible scope and applicable conditions.	As per RFP clauses 6.2 and 7.2, page 12, 13 However, the selected agency will be solely responsible since inception to final execution of the project and



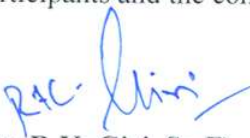





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S. No.	RFP/ Bid Reference	Bidder's Query	IMD's Reply
			subsequent implications, if any.
75	Bid End Date/ Time	Considering the scope and complexity of the assignment, we request authorities to provide minimum period of 15 days from the date of issuance of the pre-bid clarifications/ corrigendum for preparation & submission of the technical and financial proposals, to enable bidders to appropriately incorporate the clarifications and prepare a comprehensive proposal.	Bid Submission last date will be notified on GeM
Market Research Future (MRFR)			
76		As MRFR qualifies as a Small Enterprise under the applicable MSME classification, we respectfully seek your confirmation that this complete relaxation of the prior experience criterion, including the project value thresholds, is available to us upon submission of the relevant supporting documents.	Relaxation w.r.t. Experience criteria and bidder turnover are applicable for MSEs/ DPIIT registered Startups subject to their meeting the quality and technical specifications

The meeting ended thanking all the participants and the committee members.


(Dr. R.K. Giri, Sc-F)
Chairman


(Dr. Sankar Nath, Sc-F)
Member


(Dr. S.I. Laskar, Sc-F)
Member


(Dr. Sheshakumar Goroshi, Sc-F)
Member (co-opted)


(Shri S.K. Manik, Sc-D)
Member


(Dr. Anoop Kumar Mishra, Sc-D)
Member


(Ms. Kiran Jaswal, Met-B)
Member-Secretary

Annexure-1

Sample Size Calculations (Deloitte):

Category	Stakeholders	Sampling Logic	Total Sample Size
Weather Forecasting – Institutional	Public Sector (10), Private Sector (10), Media (10) per district	30 stakeholders × 740 districts	22,200
Weather Forecasting – General Public	General public	30 respondents × 740 districts	22,200
Cyclone Warning – Domestic Stakeholders	10 coastal States/UTs	10 stakeholders × 5 respondents	50
Cyclone Warning – International Stakeholders	10 countries	10 stakeholders × 5 respondents	50
Cyclone Warning – Fishermen/Public	Cyclone-prone districts	30 respondents per district	3,000
Climate Services – Institutional	15 stakeholders per State/UT	36 States/UTs × 15 × 5	2,700
Climate Services – General Public	General public	30 respondents × 740 districts	22,200
Aviation Meteorological Services	Airports served by IMD	110 airports × 5 respondents	550
Agromet Advisory – Institutional	15 stakeholders per district	5 × 740 districts	3700
Agromet Advisory – Farmers	5 villages/district, 10 farmers/village	740 × 5 × 10	37,000
Hydromet Services – Institutional	River basin / agency stakeholders	15 stakeholders × 5 respondents	75
Hydromet Services – General Public	General public	30 respondents × 740 districts	22,200
Environment & Air Quality – Institutional	Metro-city stakeholders	20 stakeholders × 5 respondents	100
Environment & Air Quality – General Public	Metro cities	30 respondents × number of metro cities	300
Meteorological Training Services	5 Indian + 10 International stakeholders	15 × 5 respondents	75
Positional Astronomy – Institutional	Major stakeholders	20 × 5 respondents	100
Positional Astronomy – General Public	General public	30 respondents × 740 districts	22,200
			1,58,700