

File No.- DDG(SplProj)/USOF/DoT/DCC-BH/2020
Comp No. (102206)

Government of India
Ministry of Communication
Digital Bharat Nidhi
Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi

Date: 26.09.2025

To
All Empanelled Agencies

Subject: Addendum to RFQ No. DDG(SplProj)/USOF/DoT/DCC-BH/2020 dated 15.09.2025 regarding.

Madam/ Sir,

RFQ was issued to empaneled agencies on 15.09.2025 for Third Party Audit of "Pilot project regarding extending BharatNet connectivity up to villages in the State of Bihar executed by M/s CSC-SPV". In response to this RFQ queries have been raised by the empaneled agencies which have been evaluated and the response to the queries is attached as (Annexure-I).

2. This shall form addendum to RFQ No. DDG(SplProj)/USOF/DoT/DCC-BH/2020 dated 15.09.2025.

3. In view of the issue of this Addendum, last date to submit the bids has been extended from **29.09.2025 (1500 hours) to 13.10.2025 (1500 hours)**.

(N. K. Oza)

Director (SP-I), DBN

Bidders queries & DBN reply i.r.o. RFQ no. DDG(SplProj)/USOF/DoT/DCC-BH/2020 Dated: 15.09.2025

Sl No.	Page Reference in the RFQ Document	Clause No. in the RFQ	Clarification Sought	Reply of DBN
1	Page No. 2	Key Dates - Due Date, Time & Place For submission of proposal - 29.09.2025 (15:00 Hrs)	We request for providing an extension of the bid submission deadline by a minimum of three (3) weeks from the date of the corrigendum or query response. As basis of the corrigendum,, we need sufficient time to completed.	Extension of 2 weeks beyond scheduled submission date of 29.09.2025
2	Page No: 5	Section- II General Instructions to Bidders	<p>(i) As per the learnings from the last audit of LMC BharatNet Phase-I, the process involved an excessive amount of paperwork, making it cumbersome and time-consuming. This time, we request USOF to consider implementing a digital, paperless audit through an application. Such an approach will not only ensure a seamless and more efficient audit process but will also enhance transparency, reduce manual errors, enable real-time tracking, and provide easy accessibility to records, ultimately improving overall audit quality.</p> <p>(ii) Request you to kindly clarify about scope of revisit or multiple physical visit at visit and reimbursement for these additional effort.</p>	<p>(i) Bidder has to submit documents as per existing provisions under the RFQ.</p> <p>(ii) Payment is restricted to the no. of GPs visited and scope of work defined under clause 2.2.</p>
3	Page No. 10	Section 2.2 (Scope of Work)	<p>(i) Please confirm whether the average cost per GP (Column 4) should include verification of all installed Wi-Fi APs and up to five FTTH connections in that GP.</p> <p>(ii) Kindly clarify whether the agency is required to verify all FTTH connections in the sampled GPs or strictly up to five FTTH connections only.</p> <p>(iii) There is no clarity on which GPs are to be visited physically. We understand that the selected agency need to identify the 1347 GPs/villages for Physical verification or the location for physical verification will be finalized after mutual discussion with selected agency and DBN.</p> <p>We kindly request you to provide clarity on the same.</p>	<p>(i) Yes, as per clause 2.2 (Physical Verification).</p> <p>(ii) Please refer clause 2.2 (Physical Verification)</p> <p>(iii) Please refer clause 2.4 (Page no. 11)</p>

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4	Page No. 11	Section 2.3 (Electronic verification) & 2.4	<p>(i) Will remote access credentials to NMS/NOC be provided for the entire verification period, and is the agency expected to bear any technical/infrastructure cost for such access?</p> <p>(ii) We request the authority to kindly clarify the specific location from where the electronic verification of 100% of Wi-Fi Access Points and FTTH connections is to be conducted by the Third-Party Auditor (TPA).</p> <p>(iii) Additionally, we seek clarification regarding the integration of the CSC platform with the NMS system, specifically whether this integration will be available and accessible for verification by the TPA.</p> <p>(iv) Furthermore, we request information on the current availability status of the NMS/NOC system through which the TPA is expected to carry out the electronic verification activities.</p> <p>(v) We understood that, the electronics verification will be done through NMS/required Tool provided by BBNL/appointed agency. Pl confirm if this understanding is correct.</p> <p>(vi) As TPA has to carry out Electronics Verification as per the check list/scope defined in RFQ and Payment will be released only after submission of the reports as per given format. Please clarify, if any issue/gap found in NMS viz. Non availability of desired reports from NMS/ NMS configuration issue/Device not configured in NMS/ features not available in NMS etc. and TPA could not able to complete verification in parts/full. Hope this will be excluded from TPA scope as "Exception" and no payment will be withhold by Client.</p>	<p>(i) It is clearly mentioned in clause 2.3 (Electronic verification)</p> <p>(ii)As per clause 2.3 (Electronic verification)</p> <p>(iii) Please refer clause 2.3 (Electronic verification)</p> <p>(iv) Please refer clause 2.3 (Electronic verification)</p> <p>(v) Please refer clause 2.3 (Electronic verification)</p> <p>(vi) Please refer clause 5.3 (Payment Schedule) 'Payment shall be released for actual quantity of GP/village/nodes verified by TPA'</p>
5	Page No. 11	Section 2.4 (Scope of Work)	For verification of data usage and service duration, will the required logs/reports be provided by CSC-SPV/BBNL/BSNL, or is the agency expected to extract raw logs?	The Agency is expected to provide reports based on the information to be provided by CSC or to be extracted from server logs maintained by CSC.
6	Page No. 11	Section 2.6 (Timelines)	<p>(i) Will work orders be issued in batches, or one consolidated order covering all 1347 GPs and ~56,000 connections?</p> <p>(ii) Considering to cover 1300+ site visit, it seems that the timeline of 3 months is very challenging. Also, there is election in next month may impact the transportation at remote villages. In light of its time consuming and vast span of the project. May We request you to kindly modify the clause as 2.6 Timelines- "The timelines for physical and electronic verification of the work will be provided in the work order (separate work order for physical verification as well as for electronic verification) depending on the number of GPs to be visited and</p>	<p>(i) There will be separate workorder one for Physical verification and other for electronic Verification.</p> <p>(ii) No change in timelines for completion of the work.</p>

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			Wi-Fi APs/FTTH connections to be verified. The entire verification work is required to be completed within 180 days from the date of issue of work order. Only in exceptional circumstances the timeline would be extended beyond given time line for a maximum period of 30 days	
7	Page No. 11	Section 2.6 (Timelines)	If issued in batches, will the 90-day timeline be counted separately for each batch or from the date of the first work order?	90-day timeline shall be counted from the date of issue of workorder.
8	Page No. 11 & 12	Section 2.7 & 5.1	In case of delays due to non-provisioning of NMS access/field support by CSC-SPV/DBN, please clarify whether penalties will still be applied to the agency.	Please refer Clause 6 (Page 12-13) of RFQ document
9	Page No. 11 & 12	Section-III Clause No. 2 - Scope of Work Sub-Clause No. 2.9	(i) We request the authority to Please confirm on the methodology for the verification of technical specification of Wi-Fi Access Points. (ii) Also, please confirm on the methodology for the verification of technical specification of Fiber and its sampling size. (iii) Further, please confirm on the technical specification for Security of the System & technical specifications for Intrusion Detection and Prevention for the System and its availability and deployment.	(i) Please refer clause 2.9. (ii) Please refer clause 2.9. (iii) As per Annexure- VI
10	Page No. 12	Section 5.1 (Payment Schedule)	(i) Please confirm whether part payments will be released for completed batches, or only after completion of the entire work order. (ii) We request the authority to make payment on milestone based i.e., payment shall be released on completion of every 200 Gram Panchayats in case of physical verification and on completion of every 2,000 nodes in case of electronics verification. This will help and support in maintaining cash flows (iii) Payment schedule is not properly defined. Request you to kindly clarify about payment. We understood that, Monthly payment will be released basis on the no. deliverables as mentioned in RFQ submitted during said months.	(i) Please refer Clause 5 (Page 12) of RFQ document. (ii) No change in payment schedule. (iii) Please refer Clause 5 (Page 12) of RFQ document.
11	Page No. 12	Section 5.4 (Payment Schedule)	Please clarify the expected timeline for payment release after submission of invoice and reports (e.g., within 30/45 days).	Payment shall be released on receipt of bills along with required documents/ reports.
12	Page No: 13	Section-III Clause No. 8 - Resource Deployment	(i) We request the authority to kindly clarify the specific location from which the senior official of the TPA is to be deployed for day-to-day coordination with DBN, especially in the context where the TPA does not have an existing office in the locations of Bihar State. This clarification will help in planning and mobilizing appropriate resources in alignment with the work order requirements.	(i) Please refer clause 8.2

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			(ii) We understand that the selected agency need to deploy one senior official at New Delhi and one senior level personnel in Bihar for day to day co-ordination of project activities. However, the agency need to assess its own actual requirement of the resource for physical and electronic verification of Wi-Fi Aps and FTTH at respective GPs/villages. We kindly request confirmation of our understanding.	(ii) Please refer clause 8.2
13	Page No. 13	SECTION-III Scope of Work & Financial	We understand that the physical verification of Wi-Fi APs/FTTH of at 1347 GPs/Village is highly critical and completing the prescribed format for each Wi Fi AP and FTTH connection is a time consuming activity. Additionally the electronic verification of 56086 number of Wi-Fi APs/FTTH connection is also included in the audit services. In light of its time consuming and vast span of the project. We request you to kindly modify the clause as 6.1 TPA is expected to complete verification within the time frame specified in the work order. Any delay would amount to deficiency in service. Hence, LD of 0.1% of the work order cost for offered sites per week or part thereof shall be imposed. And the total penalties shall be capped at a maximum of 10% of total cost of award of work to TPA.	No change in RFQ provision.
14	Page No. 17	Format for the Bidders for submitting Financial Quotations for LMC verification [Physical and Electronic]	(i) We understand that the agency need to quote the Unit cost for Physical verification (for 1 WiFi AP and up to 5 FTTH connections) at each GP under "(4)". We kindly request your confirmation of this understanding. (ii) The total count for physical verification is around 1347 GPs/Villages and electronic verification of maximum of 56,086 Wi-Fi APs/FTTH connections (26,945 APs and 29,141 FTTH connections) is already specified in the financial format. then what the agency need to put under the column "(3)" Kindly clarify what the agency is required to quote under the column "(3)".	(i) Yes, the agency need to quote the Unit cost for Physical verification (for 1 WiFi AP and up to 5 FTTH connections) at each GP under "(4)". (ii) Agencies are required to put the numbers (1347) under column 3.
15	Page No: 24	Section-VII Annexure-I B. Ap Status Note: M/s CSC SPV will provide complete inventory details as at table A above (S.no 1 to 10) to DBN.	(i) We request the authority to please specify the timeline within which CSC-SPV will provide the inventory details of Wi-Fi APs and FTTH connections, as required for both physical and electronic verifications. (ii) As per the scope and listed Annexures, various Annexure/ Reports/ Certificate to be signed/issued by TPA onsite engineer/TPA agency. We cannot issue any certificate. Instead, we may submit the report to DBN with any gap observed/remarks post completion of the survey. We request you to kindly modify the clause as per the observation. (iii) As per the scope, in each report/Certificate, it is mandated to take customer sign on the same by TPA. This would be challenging for TPA to get Government officials sign on Site visit report.	(i) Details shall be provided along with the work order. (ii) TPA agency has to give report as defined in the RFQ. (iii) TPA may seek signature of the user/official on the forms wherever mentioned. In case of refusal by the user/official to put signature, the same may be recorded on the form by TPA.

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