F. No.- Q-29/2/2019-R&D
भारत सरकार
Government of India
खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय
Ministry of Food Processing Industries
पंचशील भवन, अगस्त क्रांति मार्ग
Panchsheel Bhawan, August Kranti Marg
New Delhi/नई दिल्ली-110049

Dated: 23rd July, 2025

CORRIGENDUM

Subject:- Clarification to the queries/suggestions raised during pre-bid meeting held on 11.07.2025 on Request for Proposal (RFP) for Engagement of an agency for conducting Impact Evaluation Study in respect of Scheme of Research & Development in Processed Food Sector (component of Scheme of Human Resources and Institutions) for continuance in the 16th Finance Commission -regarding

Reference is invited to the pre-bid meeting held on 11.07.2025 on RFP for Engagement of an agency for conducting Impact Evaluation Study in respect of Scheme of Research & Development in Processed Food Sector (component of Scheme of Human Resources and Institutions).

2. The queries raised during pre-bid meeting have been examined by the Ministry in consonance with the RFP and clarification against the same is enclosed.

3. This is issued with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Encl: as above.

(Vivek Kumar Singh)
Deputy Secretary
E-mail: rnd-mofpi@gov.in

Point-wise reply to the queries raised by prospective bidders through email in continuation of pre-bid meeting dated 11.07.2025

Sr No.	Page No.	Clause No.in RFP Document	Text in RFP document	Query/Clarification required by proposed bidders	Response of the Ministry
1.	**Page 3**	Clause 2.	2.The study will be done in respect of 80 R&D projects sanctioned by the Ministry	We request to kindly let us know if information regarding these 80 projects, such as implementing agencies, state location, related sector of the project, completion status, would be made available to the agency in the tender document. This would also help us to take this information into consideration while making the proposal and estimating the effort.	Yes, relevant information regarding R&D projects is available on MoFPI website. Further detailed information will be shared with the selected agency after award of contract.
2.	Page 4	Clause 3.1 (Methodology)	3.1. Sample size and sample collection process.	We understand the study must cover projects based on certain minimum sample size and the representation of key projects classification strata has to be ensured in the sample. Kindly let us know if our understanding in this regard is correct and suggest you to provide expected sample size coverage.	The study is expected to cover a representative sample of the 80 sanctioned R&D projects. These projects are related to as below states:- A&N- 1 Assam-3 Delhi-2 Gujarat-2 Haryana-15 J&K-2 Karnataka-14 Kerala-5 Maharastra-4 Odisha-2 Puducherry-1 Punjab-2 Rajasthan-2 TamilNadu-14 Telangana-3 U.P-5

					Uttrakhand-1 W.B-2
3.	Page 4	Clause 3 (3.2)	3.2. (a) Baseline data on Key Performance Index (KPI8): Baseline data on select KPIs (15 to 25 central to measure the effectiveness of the scheme in terms of its meeting the scheme objective to be collected	We request the authorities to: a) Please provide more clarity about KP18 as per Clause 3.2 (a) Please provide the details of select KPIs to measure the effectiveness of the scheme as referred in Clause 3.2 (a).	Clause 3.2(a) of the RFP refers to the requirement for evaluating the effectiveness of the R&D Scheme using specific Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). These KPIs are intended to assess the outcomes, relevance, and impact of the R&D projects supported under the scheme. While a comprehensive set of KPIs will be finalized in consultation with the selected agency during the inception phase, the following indicative KPIs may be considered for evaluation: • Number and type of technologies/processes developed • Status of technology transferred or commercialization • Improvement in quality, safety, or shelf life of food products • Number of patents/publications resulting from the projects • Engagement of industry or academic institutions These indicators are suggestive and meant to guide bidders in framing their methodology and

					approach. The final KPIs will be jointly discussed and agreed upon with the selected agency post-award.
4.	Page 6	Clause 7.	7.Dedicated Personnel Team Leader – Doctorate in the field of (a) Statistics (b) Economics (c) Management (d) Post harvest Management	We humbly request the client to make the educational qualification requirement for the Team Leader to Postgraduate/Master's degree instead of Doctorate. As we understand, the evaluation study is regarding the R&D in Food Processing and related sectors (agriculture, horticulture and allied). Authorities are requested to include Doctorate in the field of Agriculture / Horticulture, Food Technology/ Engineering in the minimum qualification criteria along with Doctorate in the field of (a) statistics, (b) Economics, (c) Management, (d) Post- harvest Management.	As per RFP.
5.	Page 6 & 7	Clause 7	Dedicated Personnel, 2. Team Member 1 2. Team Member 2,3	Educational Qualification: For Team member 1- We would request you to also allow Professionals with Doctorate / master's degree in management For Team members 2 & 3- We would request you to allow the consultants to provide profile which fall in either of (a) category or (b) category for both team members.	May be amended as under:- Clause 7. Team Member 1- Doctorate /Professional Degree /Master's degree in Statistics/ Applied Statistics/ Economics/Management. Experience of in conducting surveys/ studies in the processing of agro-products, food processing, agriculture or allied fields. **Team Member 2 -** Doctorate /Master's degree/ BE/B.tech in the

					field of agro business/ food processing/ post-harvesting management/ food technologies/Chemical/ mechanical/Instrumentation. **Team Member 3 –** MBA in Finance or CA. Experience of in conducting surveys/ studies in the processing of agro-products, food processing, agriculture or allied fields.
6.	Page 12	Clause 14. (B1)	14.Evaluation of Technical Bid B1 Have completed 10 or more such studies	We request your clarification if studies "currently under progress" would also be considered. Also projects where completion is pending for final review, request you to accept such projects as experience and consider mail from issuing authority as proof of principal completion.	For the purpose of evaluation: • Only completed studies will be considered under this criterion. • However, studies that are substantially completed and pending only for final review or formal closure may be considered, provided sufficient evidence of principal completion is submitted. • In such cases, a communication/email from the issuing authority clearly indicating that the majority of the work has been completed and is under final review will be accepted as supporting documentation,

					subject to the satisfaction of the Evaluation Committee. **Ongoing studies that have not reached a stage of substantial completion will not be counted under this criterion.**
7.	Page 12	Clause 14. (D1) & (D2)	14.Evaluation of Technical Bid D1 Team Leader Experience of in conducting surveys/studies in the processing of agro-products, food processing, agriculture or allied fields. Maximum Marks – 15 i. Have completed 5 or more such studies. Maximum marks – 20 ii. Have completed 3-4 such studies; Maximum marks – 15 iii. Have completed 1-2 such studies; Maximum marks - 10 D2 Team Member 1	While the score given against Team Leader is 15, the score in case of completion of 5 or more such studies is given to be 20, which is greater than the total marks given for the role. We request your clarification regarding this marking scheme in case of both Team Leader (D1) and Team Member 1 (D2) It is requested from the authorities to kindly review the maximum marks allotted to each of the three sub-criteria under the scoring for following (D) Key Personnel: D1: Team leader D2: Team Member 1 For D1 Team Leader – • The maximum marks allocated in D1.i is 20, while in D1 it is 15. We seek clarification on the highest marks possible for the Team Leader. • We suggest that the marks assigned to the Team Leader carry higher weightage than those for Team Member 1, given the mandatory Doctorate qualification requirement for the Team Leader.	It was typographical error. Please consider this by below:- D1 Team Leader Experience of in conducting surveys/studies in the processing of agro-products, food processing, agriculture or allied fields. Maximum Marks – 15 i. Have completed 5 or more such studies. Maximum marks – 15 ii.Have completed 3-4 such studies; Maximum marks – 10 iii.Have completed 1-2 such studies; Maximum marks – 05 D2 Team Member 1 Experience of in conducting surveys/studies in the processing of agro-products, food processing, agriculture or allied fields. Maximum Marks – 15 i. Have completed 4 or more such assignments (on average basis);

			Experience of in conducting surveys/studies in the processing of agro-products, food processing, agriculture or allied fields. Maximum Marks – 15 i. Have completed 4 or more such assignments (on average basis); Maximum marks – 20 ii. Have completed 3-4 such assignments (on average basis); Maximum marks – 15 iii. Have completed 1-2 such assignments (on average basis); Maximum marks - 10	For D2 Team Leader – • We would request you to also allow Professionals with Doctorate / Masters degree in Management • The maximum marks allocated in D2.i is 20, while in D2 it is 15. We seek clarification on the highest marks possible for the Team Member 1.	Maximum marks – 15 ii. Have completed 3-4 such assignments (on average basis); Maximum marks – 10 iii.Have completed 1-2 such assignments (on average basis); Maximum marks - 05
8.	Page 5	Clause 5.	5. Time-frame Pt. 4. And 5.	In view of primary data collection, we understand the ministry will help the agency to connect with the relevant scheme beneficiaries to expediate data collection and meet the project timelines. If possible, we request to extend the project timeline to for 2nd	As per RFP

				draft submission to 65 days and final report submission 85 days from award of work.	
9.	Page 12	Clause 14 (B)	B) Number of studies relating to surveys/studies in the processing of agro-products, food processing, agriculture or allied fields	As the study is regarding research and development component under PMKSY, the authorities are requested to include studies relating to Research & Development and Impact Assessment in project experience along with processing of agro-products, food processing, agriculture or allied fields.	As per RFP
10.	Page 7	Clause 8 (d)	The eligible technical bids shall then be evaluated as per evaluation criteria defined in para 14 of RFP. Only agency obtaining a total score of 80 (on a scale of maximum of 100) or more based on criteria for evaluation given in para 14 would be declared technically qualified. Every technical bid shall be awarded an absolute technical score of 'T' marks out of 100 marks.	We understand that 80 marks as minimum score for technical evaluation is a bit on the higher side, in this regard, the authorities are requested to provide some relaxation and consider 70 marks as the total score for technical qualification which is in line with general norms and followed by the highest evaluation office of the country - DMEO1, NITI Aayog for technical evaluation of bids.	As per RFP.
11.	Page 5	Clause 5	Work Description:	Considering the broad scope of the evaluation study, we	As per RFP.

			5. Submission of final report for acceptance by the Ministry: 60 days	request the authorities to extend the total duration of the study and corresponding deliverables to at least 90 days from the date of the award of contract.	
12			Joint Venture/ Consortium	We would like to confirm whether participation through a Joint Venture or Consortium is permitted under this bid. If currently not allowed, we kindly request that the provision for Joint enture/Consortium participation be considered.	As per RFP.