F. No. C-13016/17/2024-COLD CHAIN
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 the 14th September, 2024

Subject: FAQs in relation to the queries raised by the prospective entrepreneurs during Pre-bid meeting on 21.08.2024 and received through emails on Operational scheme guidelines dated 06.08.2024 in relation to Cold Chain scheme-setting up of irradiation Units-reg.

Reference Pre-bid meeting held on 21.08.2024 under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (PMKSY), MoFPI on the Operational scheme guidelines dated 06.08.2024 in relation to Cold Chain scheme-setting up of irradiation Units.

2. The queries raised by the prospective entrepreneurs during Pre-bid meeting held on 21.08.2024 and received through emails have been examined by this Ministry in consonance with on Operational scheme guidelines dated 06.08.2024 pertaining to Cold Chain scheme-setting up of irradiation Units and clarifications against the same are provided in the form of FAQs (copy enclosed). Please take note that the FAQs will form part of the Operational Scheme Guidelines dated 06.08.2024.
3. Further, the timeline for submission of proposals against the EoI dated 7th August 2024 has been extended. The new deadline for submitting the application is **17:00 hrs. on 21st October, 2024.**
4. This is issued with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Encl: as above.

14/09/2024

(Subhash Chandra Kumar)
Under Secretary (Cold Chain)
011-26406612

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) in relation to the queries raised by the prospective entrepreneurs during Pre-Bid meeting on 21.08.2024 and received through emails on Operational scheme guidelines dated 06.08.2024 of Cold Chain scheme-Setting up of irradiation Units

S. No.	Queries raised by the prospective entrepreneurs during Pre-Bid meeting on 21.08.2024 and received through emails	Clarifications given by the Ministry
1.	Are the proposals for the "use of electron beam radiation as a source for food irradiation" considered under EoI dated 07.08.2024?	Radiation sources specified in para 6 of the Atomic Energy (Radiation Processing of Food and Allied Products) Rules, 2012 are allowed. An MoU/agreement between the applicant and the designated agency of the Department of Atomic Energy for the supply of the source of irradiation will be required to be submitted as per para 9(n) of the guidelines dated 06.08.2024.
2.	Are the proposals for the "use of UV radiation as a source for food irradiation" considered under EoI dated 07.08.2024?	Not considered. UV radiation is not specified under the Atomic Energy (Radiation Processing of Food and Allied Products) Rules, 2012.
3.	The requirement of land with area of 1.5 acre and 3.5 acre in case of standalone irradiation and integrated irradiation projects may be reduced as the area appears to be larger than actually required.	The minimum land requirement for a food irradiation facility is revised at 1 acre (One acre) for both standalone and integrated irradiation units.
4.	The prerequisite of an MoU between applicant and the designated agency of Department of Atomic Energy (wherein land ownership is required to be mentioned) for supply of source by later may be relaxed as the process of registering the land for the irradiation project will take more time.	As per para 9(n) & Annexure-1 of the guidelines dated 06.08.2024.
5.	North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (NEDFi) may be included as an agency to appraise the irradiation projects as done earlier in all sub-schemes of PMKSY.	Yes, the detailed appraisal note by NEDFi of projects in the North Eastern Region will be accepted.
6.	Is there any minimum and maximum eligible capacity for standalone irradiation cold chain unit to apply for grants-in-aid under the EoI dated 07.08.2024?	There is no restriction on the capacity of the irradiation plant. The capacity of an irradiation plant

		depends on its techno-economic viability.
7.	Whether start-ups can apply under the EoI dated 07.08.2024?	Start-ups may apply if they meet the eligibility conditions outlined in Para 7 of the guidelines dated 06.08.2024.
8.	Whether interest subvention can be availed by the applicant, if his application is approved under EoI dated 07.08.2024?	Project Implementing Agency may dovetail assistance available under various other schemes of other central/state governments which would improve the viability of the project. However, it shall be ensured that there is no duplication of assistance for the same component/activity of the project.
9.	In the case of a standalone irradiation facility, the reefer van may be exempted.	Reefer transport criteria are applied only to proposals for food irradiation units integrated with cold storage. Proposals for setting up a standalone food irradiation unit will receive 10 marks under Sr. no. 7 of evaluation criteria.
10.	Whether any proposal for setting up of irradiation facility for medical/pharmaceutical purposes will be considered under the present EoI?	No, EoI dated 07.08.2024 is for inviting proposals for setting up of multiproduct food irradiation units under the Cold Chain scheme.
11.	Minimum period of lease deed admissible for land to set up irradiation project under the scheme.	As per Annexure 1 of the guidelines dated 06.08.2024, the period of lease should not be less than fifteen years.
12.	Whether irradiation unit can be set up in the premises of an already existing cold chain plant supported by MoFPI?	A standalone multiproduct food irradiation unit can be integrated in the premises of an already existing cold chain plant. Para 7(h) of the guidelines dated 06.08.2024 is amended as follows. 7(h) Expansion/upgradation of existing **irradiation** facility is not eligible under this scheme. However, applicant needs to fulfil other eligibility conditions of para 7 of the guidelines dated 06.08.2024.
13.	Total Project cost only is to be given or is the component-wise break-up with applicable taxes required?	Detailed component-wise break-up of Total costs with applicable taxes on each component is mandatory. Failure to provide this information

		will result in rejection of the proposal.
14.	As per para 7(i) & 7(j), entities or promoter(s) of entities who have availed financial assistance for food irradiation unit earlier under this scheme of the Ministry or availed financial assistance under another scheme of the Ministry will be eligible for grant-in-aid as on date of application only after two years from the date of commercial operation of the previous project. How will the period of two years be calculated?	The period between the start of commercial operations i.e. date of issue of Consent To Operate (CTO) of the previous project and the closing date of EoI, under which an application is being made by the entity, should be more than two years.
15.	Whether in-principle appraisal of project by a bank is admissible?	No, In-principle project appraisal note will not be accepted. Only detailed appraisal note from a Scheduled Commercial Bank will be considered.
16.	Whether entities or promoter(s) of entities who have availed incentive or any other benefits under the PLI scheme will be eligible for applying under EoI dated 07.08.2024?	Yes, the coverage under the PLI scheme will not affect eligibility under any other scheme and vice-versa. However, the applicant needs to fulfil the eligibility conditions of para 7 of the guidelines dated 06.08.2024.

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