

Reply to Pre- Bid Queries for Tender Number: RailTel/Tender/OT/CO/NTP/2022-23/LIMS/006 Dtd, 23/03/2023						
For work of "Supply, Istallation, Testing, Commissioningand Integration of Servers and other networking equipments"						
Reply to Queries raised by the following organisations are given as under:						
1. M/s AMD 2. M/s Arista Networks 3. M/s Praruh Pvt. Ltd. 4. M/s Sara Infoway ITES India Pvt. Ltd. 5. M/s Softel Solution Pvt. Ltd. 6.M/s Tagrus Technologies Pvt. Ltd. 7. M/s TeleIndia Networks Pvt. Ltd.						
S.No.	Clause No. & Chapter	Page No	Sub clause No./Point No.	Content of RFP requiring Clarification	Points of clarification required	Response to Queries
AMD						
1	1.2 Specification s of Servers (Item no. 2 of SOR-A)	14		Processor: Intel® Xeon®-Platinum Processors – 4 Nos Intel Xeon-Platinum 8260 (2.4GHz/24-core/48 Thread, 36 MB cache, Turbo HT, 165W) or higher in terms of all parameters	Request for Change Processor: Intel® Xeon®-Platinum Processors – 4 Nos Intel Xeon- Platinum 8260 (2.4GHz/24-core/48 Thread, 36 MB cache, Turbo HT, 165W) or higher in terms of all parameters Or 2 No of Intel Xeon Platinum or AMD EPYC (2.4 GHz/48- Core/96 Thread, 36 MB Cache) or Higher in terms of all parameters. Asked specs are favoring to single OEM. Also as of now due to higher cores available with enough memory capacity, two socket servers are industry standard servers Although AMD EPYC can provide all together 96 Cores with Single processor and with two processor also. This will help RailTel to reduce power consumption for the server as well as the carbon footprint in the data Centre. We request you to allow two sockets also to meet the necessary cores, frequency for the processors.	No changes as per RFP
Arista Networks						
S.No.	Clause No. & Chapter	Page No	Sub clause No./Point No.	Content of RFP requiring Clarification	Points of clarification required	Response to Queries
1	1.3 Specification s of Ethernet Access Switch (Item no. 3 of SOR- A)	15	6	VLAN support for • 802.1Q tag-based VLANs and trunking • Protocol-based VLAN • Management VLAN	VLAN support for • 802.1Q tag-based VLANs and trunking • Protocol-based / dynamic VLAN • Management VLAN 802.1x based dynamic vlan is common industry practice and should be considered. Requesting to modify clause for wider participation.	Please refer Corrigendum-I
2	1.4 Specification of Aggregation Switch (Item no. 4 of SOR- A)	16	2. ii.	IPv6 RIB/FIB: 2M/500K	IPv6 RIB/FIB: 2M/ 433K Requesting to relax the clause for qualification of wider products.	Please refer Corrigendum-I
3	1.4 Specification of Aggregation Switch (Item no. 4 of SOR- A)	16	2. vi.	Firewall Filters: >4K	Firewall/ACL filters: >4K Firewall term is not generally used for packet filtering use cases with router. Requesting to use Access control list (ACL) to avoid ambiguity.	Please refer Corrigendum-I
4	1.4 Specification of Aggregation Switch (Item no. 4 of SOR- A)	16	3. i.	Device should support Minimum 256K mac address	Device should support Minimum 224K mac address Requesting to relax the clause for qualification of wider products.	Please refer Corrigendum-I
5	1.4 Specification of Aggregation Switch (Item no. 4 of SOR- A)	16	3. vii.	Device should support L2TP	Device should support L2TP/ VXLAN+EVPN VXLAN+EVPN are latest generation of protocols now becoming more common for layer-2 service on top of L3 network. Please allow VXAN+EVPN as an option for wider participation. Also MPLS based layer-2 services (L2VPN, VPLS) are already asked in other clause.	Please refer Corrigendum-I

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6	1.4 Specification of Aggregation Switch (Item no. 4 of SOR-A)	17	3. xiii	Specifications for ISP Monitoring solution for RAILTEL ISP Gateways	Kindly remove this ambiguous clause or please clarify the clause requirement	Please refer Corrigendum-I
7	1.4 Specification of Aggregation Switch (Item no. 4 of SOR-A)	17	4. xiii	Device should support CFM & LFM	Device should support CFM / LFM requesting to remove LFM or make it optional for wider participation.	Please refer Corrigendum-I
8	4.A.3. Long Term Maintenance Support	21	4.A.3.1	Bidder/OEM shall provide maintenance support after successful completion of the warranty obligations for a minimum period of 5 years for item no. 1, 2, 3 & 4 of SOR-A.	The product will be required to have a minimum life of 9 yrs. from today if 5 year of maintenance support is asked. 9 years <= 1 year (bid submission + PO release + implementation) + 3 Yr. warranty + 5 year maintenance. 9 years is a very long period for a product life cycle. Products are generally refreshed in 6 to 7 yrs. due to technology obsolescence. Therefore requesting to reduce the upfront maintenance support to 3 Yrs., which may later be extended further as per mutual understanding.	No changes as per RFP
9	4.A.4 Delivery, Installation, Testing, Commissioning & Integration period	22	4.A.4	The materials as per SOR-A are required to be delivered, installed, tested, commissioned & Integrated within 120 days from the issue of LOA/Purchase Order.	Considering the chip shortage across industry for various hardware components, requesting to change the period to 9 Months.	Please refer Corrigendum-I
Praruh Pvt. Ltd.						
S.No.	Clause No. & Chapter	Page No	Sub clause No./Point No.	Content of RFP requiring Clarification	Points of clarification required	Response to Queries
1	CHAPTER 4A	21	4.A.4	The materials as per SOR-A are required to be delivered, installed, tested, commissioned & Integrated within 120 days from the issue of LOA/Purchase Order.	Considering the current Covid, Logistic's & chip shortage across industry for various hardware components, facing delay in delivery of hardware equipments so requesting to change the period to 180 days.	Please refer Corrigendum-I
2	CHAPTER 4A	23	4.A.5.4	Accounting unit/bill passing unit for the supplies under SOR is Respective Regional Office. Bills to be submitted to the NOC Incharges of Regions for passing for payment. The bidder will submit certifying receipt of material & services issued from consignee/regions, for passing for payment.	Accounting unit/bill passing unit for the supplies under SOR should be submitted to the central office location provided to avoid discrepancy of the documents.	No changes as per RFP
3	CHAPTER 4A	48	4.A.44.	On Installation, testing, commissioning & integration of the equipments, Provisional Acceptance Certificate (PAC) will be issued by CNOC. Part PACs may also be issued sitewise, if required as per the site condition. If Part PACs are issued, PAC shall be issued after the completion of whole work at all the sites. Part PAC/PAC will not be held back for want of minor deficiencies not affecting the functioning of the overall system. Deficiencies, if any, pointed at the time of issuance of PAC, will be rectified by the contractor within one month.	Site wise PAC will impact on warranty start and end date variation. We suggest PAC will be issued form single location only so warranty will be start from same date for all five locations.	No changes as per RFP

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4	CHAPTER 4A	49	4.A.45.FINAL ACCEPTANCE	The final acceptance of the works completed shall take effect from the date of successful completion of 12 months after issue of PAC in any case that the contractor has complied fully with his obligations in respect of each item under the contract. The Final Acceptance Certificate of respective region shall be signed by nominated representative of CNOC. Notwithstanding the issue of Final Acceptance Certificate the contractor and the purchaser shall remain liable for fulfillment of any obligation incurred under the provision of the contract prior to the issue of Final Acceptance Certificate which remains unperformed at the time such certificate is issued and for determining the nature and extent of such obligation the contract shall be deemed to remain in force between the parties hereto.	The Final Acceptance Certificate of respective region shall be impact on warranty start and end date variation. We suggest FAC will be issued form single location only so warranty will be start from same date for all five locations.	No Change as per RFP
5	1.3 Specifications of Ethernet Access Switch (Item no. 3 of SOR-A)	15	6	VLAN support for • 802.1Q tag-based VLANs and trunking • Protocol-based VLAN • Management VLAN	VLAN support for • 802.1Q tag-based VLANs and trunking • Protocol-based / dynamic VLAN • Management VLAN 802.1x based dynamic vlan is common industry practice and should be considered. Requesting to modify clause for wider participation.	Please refer Corrigendum-I
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10	1.4 Specification of Aggregation Switch (Item no. 4 of SOR-A)	17	3. xiii	Specifications for ISP Monitoring solution for RAILTEL ISP Gateways	Kindly remove this ambiguous clause or please clarify the clause requirement	Please refer Corrigendum-I

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11	1.4 Specification of Aggregation Switch (Item no. 4 of SOR-A)	17	4. xiii	Device should support CFM & LFM	Device should support CFM / LFM requesting to remove LFM or make it optional for wider participation.	Please refer Corrigendum-I
12	4.A.3. Long Term Maintenance Support	21	4.A.3.1	Bidder/OEM shall provide maintenance support after successful completion of the warranty obligations for a minimum period of 5 years for item no. 1, 2, 3 & 4 of SOR-A.	The product will be required to have a minimum life of 9 yrs. from today if 5 year of maintenance support is asked. 9 years <= 1 year (bid submission + PO release + implementation) + 3 Yr. warranty + 5 year maintenance. 9 years is a very long period for a product life cycle. Products are generally refreshed in 6 to 7 yrs. due to technology obsolescence. Therefore requesting to reduce the upfront maintenance support to 3 Yrs., which may later be extended further as per mutual understanding.	No changes as per RFP
13	4.A.4 Delivery, Installation, Testing, Commissioning & Integration period	22	4.A.4	The materials as per SOR-A are required to be delivered, installed, tested, commissioned & Integrated within 120 days from the issue of LOA/Purchase Order.	Considering the chip shortage across industry for various hardware components, requesting to change the period to 9 Months.	Please refer Corrigendum-I
14	2. Memory	14	1.2	512 GB, DDR4-2933 (32x16 GB) , expandable to 1TB	"Kindly change it to ""512 GB, DDR4-2933 (16 x 32GB OR 8 x 64GB DIMM), expandable to 1.5TB without replacing the existing modules"" Suggesting higher expandability of memory without replacing the existing modules	Please refer Corrigendum-I
15	4. Hard Disk Controller	14	1.2	SAS RAID Controller (RAID 5/6) up to 12 Gbps with 2 GB Cache	Kindly change it to "RAID Controller (RAID 5/6) up to 12 Gbps with 8 GB Cache" Better cache on the RAID controller will enable better management of internal drives	Please refer Corrigendum-I
16	6. Graphics	14	1.2	Integrated SVGA graphics interface	Kindly change it to "Integrated VGA graphics interface" The servers have only VGA card/port available to connect to an external monitor. Since these servers will be deployed in Data centre, they will generally be remotely managed. Hence request for change to qualify	Please refer Corrigendum-I
17	7. Network Interface	14	1.2	(b)1x100 Gigabit (Mellanox Connect-X5 100 GbE with Mellanox SFP QSFP28)	"Kindly change it to ""2x100 Gigabit (Mellanox Connect-X5 100 GbE with Mellanox/ Compatible SFP QSFP28)"" Please note that Mellanox transceivers have very high delivery times. Hence request if compatible Transceivers can be used which will have lesser delivery times.	No changes as per RFP
18	8. PCI slots	15	1.2	8x PCIe Gen 3.0 (x16) I/O expansion slots (at least 4 Nos. PCIe x8 or above and at least 4 Nos. of PCIe x16 full length, Full Height)	"Kindly change it to ""Up to 6 x Gen3 slots, (4x16 slots OR 2x16 + 4x8 slots)"" The server specifications match to that of a dense server having only 2U rack space. Also since the reqt of PCI slots is limited, hence requesting for the change to	Please refer Corrigendum-I
19	6	15	Additional	-	2U Rack Mountable with sliding rails and accessories This will ensure a minimum rack space being allocated for the server	No changes as per RFP
20	7	15	Additional	-	Security Features Like --- Cryptographically signed firmware Silicon Root of Trust; Secure Boot ; System Lockdown; System Erase These features will help enhance the overall security of the server	No changes as per RFP

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21	8	15	Additional	-	"OS Support --- Citrix XenServer 7.6 or higher Microsoft Windows Server 2019 with Hyper-V or latest Oracle Linux 7.5 or higher Red Hat Enterprise Linux 8.0 or higher SuSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 or higher Canonical Ubuntu LTS 18.04 or higher VMWare ESXi 6.7 U2 or higher VMWare ESXi 6.5 U3 or higher" These features are to ensure maximum supportability	No changes as per RFP
Sara Infoway ITES India Pvt. Ltd.						
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1	Chapter 3	14	1	512 GB, DDR4-2933 (32x16 GB) , expandable to 1TB	512 GB, DDR4-2933 (16x32 GB) , expandable to 1TB With 32x16GB desired scalability can not be achieved without replacement of memory modules with bigger capacity. In this scenario old memory modules will be of no use. Hence for investment protection we are requesting this change. Request to kindly allow bidders to quote 16x32GB DDR4 memory modules sufficing to RFP requirements.	Please refer Corrigendum-I
2	Chapter 3	14	5	DVD ROM	Internal DVD ROM We understand DVD ROM is required internal to the server as external DVD drives are more prone to failure and would also not be covered under server warranty. Request to update this point for a better solution.	DVD ROM can be external or internal
3	Chapter 3	14	6	Integrated SVGA graphics interface	Integrated VGA graphics interface SVGA is not a standard display port offered by all major server vendors, kindly generalise this point. Request to relax this point for wider participation.	Please refer Corrigendum-I
4	Chapter 3	15	8	8x PCIe Gen 3.0 (x16) I/O expansion slots (at least 4 Nos. PCIe x8 or above and at least 4 Nos. of PCIe x16 full length, Full Height)	8x PCIe Gen 3.0 I/O expansion slots (at least 3 Nos. PCIe x8 or above and at least 3 Nos. of PCIe x16 full length, Full Height) Different server vendors have different architecture. Request to relax this point for wider participation.	Please refer Corrigendum-I
5	Chapter 4	22	4.A.5.1	Payment Terms	75% Payment against supply Please confirm 75% of the payment will be made with 75% GST or 100% GST. If 75% of GST only paid, request to kindly process the 100% GST payment as we need to pay 100% GST upfront to Govt.	No change as per RFP, it will be in accordance with the base payable amount.
6	Chapter 4	23	4.A.5.3	Payment Terms	FAC and PAC timelines Please confirm the timelines PAC and FAC after installation	PAC will be as per the schedule of completion of work i.e., Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Integration. FAC will be after 12 months from the issuance of PAC.
7	Chapter 4	23	4.A.6	Performance Bank Guarantee (Security Deposit)	PBG should be submitted within 30 days of issue of LOA/PO PBG will be submitted from the start date of warranty , please confirm can we submit the PBG after installation of the hardware before payment.	No changes as per RFP
Softel Solution Pvt. Ltd.						
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1	Chapter 4	47	4.A.41.1	" Only Class-I & Class-II local suppliers are eligible to participate in this tender. Purchase preference will be given to Class-I local supplier meeting the criteria of minimum 50% Local Content (LC) or as notified in the Notification no. 18-10/2017-IP dated 29.08.2018 issued by Department of Telecommunication (DOT) and....."	The Servers asked for are 4processor X 24 cores . High end configuration like 4 Processors based servers available do not have Make in India Compliance . Similarly high end load balancers and switches would not have Make in India Compliance as desired by you on the requested specification . As such we request you to kindly waive this conditionality ie." Only Class -I & Class II local Suppliers are eligible..." for procurement in this tender .	No changes as per RFP