

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

Ref No. AI Solutions/2023/SCI

Dated: 19.06.2023

NOTICE

In reference to the **Request for Proposal (RFP) bearing Ref No. AI Solutions/2023/SCI dated: 23.05.2023**, the Registry convened a pre-bid meeting on 12.06.2023 as per the scheduled timeline, which was attended by the representatives of the prospective bidders. The Registry has received requests seeking clarifications of the bidding document through email with the cut-off date - 12.06.2023 and time - 11:59 P.M.

As per clause 5, Part 1- Bidding Procedures, p.11 of the RFP read with the timeline, p.6 of the RFP, the response (**responses**) to the clarifications received sought is (**are**) as under:

S.N o.	Query of the Bidder	Response by the Registry
1	Exemption from submission of EMD	Yes, only if the required admissible documents are submitted in accordance with the General Financial Rules, 2017 (GFR, 2017, for short), as issued by the Government of India.
2	EMD submission mode	Demand draft is preferred
3	Exemption from submission of performance security	Not allowed
4	Performance security submission	Demand draft or bank guarantee is preferred; the instrument must be drawn in the name of "Registrar (Admn.), Supreme Court of India, New Delhi"
5	Per cent of performance security to be submitted	5%, in accordance with the revised Practice and Procedure, 2008 of the Supreme Court of India.
6	Relaxation in turnover	Not allowed
7	Financial bid proforma	The fields on the Financial Bid proforma have been revised - <i>See Addendum below.</i>
8	Calling of manpower costs	The fields on the Financial Bid Proforma have been revised - <i>See Addendum below</i>
9	Number of courtrooms	17 Courts and 02 Registrar Courts
10	Permission to extend the time beyond 60 days to develop and deliver the software	Implementation, development, delivery and installation of the solution/deliverables shall have to be completed within the stipulated timeline, as the use of this technology in the courtrooms has a direct impact with the dispensation and administration of justice.

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11	Details requested for an elaborate list of hardware for which price may be quoted	Such details are dependent on the solution being proposed by the respective bidder; although it is made clear that the solution proposed in the bid <i>proformae</i> must be end-to-end and must factor all the financial implications. The Registry shall not recognize any hidden costs at any stage whatsoever beyond what has been quoted in the Financial Bid by the bidder; electricity, internet facility and server space shall be provided by the Registry
12	Configuration details of existing computer systems	Windows 10.0 or above, Ubuntu 22.04 LTS or above, MacOS 13.0 or above
13	Whether the need to translate transcript proceedings into languages of the Eight Schedule is a current or future requirement?	The Registry is keen on pursuing this task as early as possible.
14	Existing server configuration at the Registry	Server(s) configuration are scalable and same shall be provisioned according to the requirement of the proposed solution
15	Training requirements	Initial 2-week orientation to at least 4 technical officials shall be necessary
16	Whether to identify all the speakers from live feed (Audio/video) and transcribe the same?	Yes
17	Who will provide document storage?	The Registry will provide this provision
18	Audio-video recording of 05 cases will be provided to the bidder. Are they two different files?	Singular files of 05 cases shall be provided
19	Is the vendor expected to source courtroom hardware (monitors, LED boards, etc.) to show live transcription in the courts?	The Registry shall provide the necessary hardware
20	Does SCI require the vendor to deploy on-site support personnel for the entire duration of the contract?	Yes
21	How many network operator/audio specialist/other on-site support personnel would be required at any given point in time?	Depends on the solution being proposed by the respective bidders
22	Is a workflow system needed for maker-checker type approval of transcripts generated by the solution?	Depends on the solution being proposed by the respective bidders
23	Implementation timeline specified in the RFP is in calendar days or working days?	The published schedule is clear in this respect
24	What is the expected monthly volume of cases to be transcribed by the solution / Number of speakers / Number of courtroom sessions?	The monthly volume cannot be ascertained or predicted as the same depends upon case-to-case basis. It is clarified that the word 'case' here means, each matter (legal case) listed before the Court for hearing.

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25	Is it acceptable if the vendor sources part of the solution from enterprise grade speech-to-text solutions offered by major cloud providers such as Amazon and Microsoft?	Collaborations and third-party consumptions are not allowed as the Registry would refrain from entering into a multi-party contract; it is, however, clarified that this is not a hindrance to the bidder in entering into contractual capacities with multi parties on their own end so long as the bidder can ensure avoidance of disruption in service being provided to the Registry on account of the bidder's private contracts
26	Is transcription of past cases also in scope? If yes then please share the approximate number of past cases to be transcribed.	No
27	Output format - web portal or movie/subtitle output is required?	Movie/subtitle
28	In order to train the transcription model, will SCI provide high-quality audio recordings with corresponding transcriptions. This should cover a wide range of accents, speaking styles and audio length to ensure robustness.	See, Point No. 17 above
29	Who will own intellectual property?	Service provider. However, it is clarified that all intellectual property rights of audio-video recording provided by the Registry shall solely vest in the Supreme Court of India and under no manner the sharing of the live feed shall be deemed to be dilution of the intellectual property rights.
30	ITB document refers to Part 1, Section V "Elegible Countries". However, the actual Section V of ITB contains "Scope of Work". Please provide the list of Eligible Countries.	All countries, which are permissible by the Union Government (GoI).
31	Which documents will be considered as documentary evidence?	Documentary evidence shall mean any matter expressed or described upon any substance by means of letters, figures or marks, or by more than one of those means, intended to be used, or which may be used, for the purpose of recording that matter and shall include electronic records. Documentary evidence shall be necessary to corroborate any claim made and/or asserted by the bidder.
32	How much percentage of implementation similarity is allowed?	The basic task of <i>verbatim</i> transcription must have been executed
33	Terms of payment	See Part 2 Section VI of the bidding document
34	ISO 9001, ISO 27001 & ISO 20000:1 - Whether certification is from any certification body of ISO ?	Although the duly-authorized national standardized body awarding these certifications is Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), however, for the purposes of attracting competition, the call for ISO certifications stands relaxed in this RFP

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35	Will there be noise-cancellation microphones in the courtrooms, or should the system be designed to handle significant background noise?	Yes
36	Besides text, HTML, and PDF formats, are there any other document formats that the system should be capable of parsing?	These named formats are acceptable and other popular TXT formats, as per industry standards
37	Whether work order will suffice as a proof against this criteria	Mere work order is not an authoritative document. A certificate preferably to the effect of satisfactory completion of such work, because it speaks of experiential claim of the bidder, must be enclosed with the bid document in support. Work-in-Progress certificates issued by the client alone may be considered in cases where the solution being deployed and/or the company is reasonably nascent. Accordingly, evaluation criteria for technical proposal has been revised below.
38	The project value range for large value orders	At least Rs. 50.00 lakhs
39	Meeting functional requirements of Supreme Court of India (features like labelling, bookmarking, summarisation, etc.)	These are essential functionalities; absence of these functionalities would attract penalty during proof of concept. Accordingly, evaluation criteria for technical proposal has been revised below.
40	Bidder should have their own development, maintenance and support infrastructure facilities in India including but not limited to adequate technical manpower and support centres	The bidder has complete autonomy in proposing a solution in response to this RFP. That is to mean, that the Registry shall not assume any liability whatsoever in the deployment, execution and maintenance (including manpower services) of the bidder's proposed solution, the cost for which must be factored on the bid <i>proformae</i>
41	Invitation for presentation to only those bidders who are found suitable for the project	Sec. 2.C.2. is clear about Proof of Concept being submitted compulsorily with the technical proposal; as far as the provision for making a presentation is concerned, the invitation to present the proof of concept shall be based on the worth of the Technical Bid during the stage of evaluation of Technical Bids so received. It is, however, made clear that a bidder can be adjudged disqualified after witnessing the proof of concept, making the bidder fall out of this competitive process summarily. Accordingly, evaluation criteria for technical proposal has been revised below.
42	Video format	Commonly used formats such as MPEG-1/2, DivX® (1/2/3/4/5/6), MPEG-4 ASP, XviD, 3ivX D4, H.261, H.263 / H.263i, H.264 / MPEG-4 AVC, Cinepak, Theora, Dirac / VC-2, MJPEG (A/B), WMV 1/2, WMV 3 / WMV-9 / VC-1, Sorenson 1/3, DV, On2 VP3/VP5/VP6, Indeo Video v3 (IV32), Real Video (1/2/3/4) are permissible

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43	The AI tool to be developed and deployed must have an advance level of natural language processing, to understand legal terms, documents, petitions, judgments, etc. and to automatically classify them in the relevant specialization	Yes, the proposed solution must be an end-to-end solution capable of offering this facility
44	To integrate the timestamp transcription with the video recording	Yes, the proposed solution must be an end-to-end solution capable of offering this facility
45	Concerning negotiation with L-1 bidder	The Supreme Court purchase procedure is clear in permitting the Registry to enter in negotiations with only the lowest bidder
46	Whether any existing dictionaries / knowledge bases are to be integrated in the NLP?	The Registry, at present, is not using such a database, but expects the proposed solution to be capable of integration in future
47	Acceptable performance metrics	
	error rate	<5% at best
	latency requirement for real-time transcription	<100 ms
	length and level of detail in text summarization	Directly dependant on case to case basis
	whether data w.r.t. different accents, speaking styles, etc., for training will be provided by the Registry	No
48	Hosting of servers for providing solution	On-prem solution / cloud
49	The source code and proprietorship of the AI solution shall vest with SCI / Data sharing permissions	The source code and proprietorship of the solution shall remain vested with the vendor; however, the Registry may enter into a Non Disclosure Agreement (NDA) to safeguard its contractual rights with the vendor and protect the information disclosed for discharge of the contract
50	Such AI tool shall undergo VAPT and other security audits from CERT-IN empanelled agency	The Registry reserves the right to have a security audit conducted at any stage of conception, deployment or maintenance through any agency deemed suitable for the purpose
51	Is there is any scope from Edge Analytics Standpoint?	Currently, not required
52	Prevention of use of restrictive technology	The bidder must ensure avoidance of deployment of any restrictive technologies as may hinder rollout/execution of other technologies, solutions, projects, etc.
53	Whether proofreading / quality check shall be performed by a Registry official?	The bidder is expected to deliver an end-to-end solution practicable throughout the currency of the project and without the need for intervention by / dependence on the Registry
54	Waiving off the minimum CMMi level III Certification or above in software processes	Permission granted
55	Waiving off the ISO 20000:1 Certification	Permission granted
56	Change in published schedule	No changes in the published schedule is being admitted

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		No changes in the published schedule is being allowed
57	Section - II Bid Data Sheet (BDS) C. Preparation of Bids: Clarification on "Facility Management" services that need to be provided as part of post-implementation support	Repetitive tasks including preventive maintenance with minimal human intervention
58	Bidder should be a company incorporated under Indian Companies Act, 1956 and/or Companies Act 2013, or a Govt. / Semi Govt. Concern or Govt. Society.	Any legal entity duly incorporated under law, be it a registered firm, is eligible to participate. Accordingly, evaluation criteria for technical proposal has been revised below.
59	Whether only AI tools developed through open source software is proposed for transcribing and other services	Yes
60	Preventive maintenance to be carried out by the bidder and its frequency	Yes. Quarterly basis
61	Request for payment schedule	Already mentioned in Part 2 Section VI
62	Period for which confidentiality must be maintained	Subject to the non-disclosure agreement entered between the parties
63	The bidder proposes addition of following clause: The bidder may terminate this Agreement, or any particular Services, immediately upon written notice to client if bidder reasonably determine that bidder can no longer professional obligations. provide the services in accordance with applicable law or professional obligations	This condition cannot be provided for because this service has a direct impact on the dispensation and administration of justice.

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar (AM)

[See – following page]

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As per clause 6 of the RFP, the following **Addendum** amending the bidding document is issued as under:

PRICE BID (BOQ)

(Sign and stamp each page)

SECTION - A

Note :

1. As per Article 124 of the Constitution of India, 1950, the Supreme Court of India consists of The Chief Justice of India and 33 (thirty-three) Judges.
2. As per Article 145(3) of the Constitution of India, 1950, the minimum number of Judges who are to sit for the purpose of deciding any case involving a substantial question of law as to the interpretation of the Constitution or for the purpose of hearing any reference under Article 143 shall be five.]

S.No.	Description	(a) Price	(b) GST (%) with Amt. in INR	(c) Net Price (a)+(b)=(c)
1.	AI Tool and Solution Development prices – Lump sum cost of development of AI solution and tool (including installation and commissioning)			
2.	Manpower cost on yearly basis – Support on annual basis for training, handholding of manpower of SCI, provisioning of transcribers, reviewers, technical support, etc.			
	Year 01			
	Year 02			
	Year 03			
	Year 04			
	Total of 04 Years			
3.	Maintenance and Upgradation – Support for bug fixing, preventive maintenance, upgradation of solution, tools, software, etc. (Annual rates are to be quoted)			

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	Year 01			
	Year 02			
	Year 03			
	Year 04			
	Total of 04 Years			
	Total Bid price			
<u>Evaluation Criteria for Technical Proposal</u>				
S.No.	Criteria			Score
A.	Organisation			5%
	Any legal entity duly incorporated under law, be it a registered firm, is eligible to participate (See Point No. 58 of Notice dated 19.06.2023)			5%
B.	Experience			15%
	Specific experience in the field of AI-assisted transcription (See Point No. 37 of Notice dated 19.06.2023)			15%
C.	Proof of Concept			15%
	The invitation to present the proof of concept shall be based on the worth of the Technical Bid during the stage of evaluation of Technical Bids so received. It is, however, made clear that a bidder can be adjudged disqualified after witnessing the proof of concept , making the bidder fall out of this competitive process summarily (See Point No. 41 of Notice dated 19.06.2023)			15%
D.	Approach and methodology proposed including work plan			45%

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	(i) Technical approach and methodology	10%
	(ii) Work Plan	5%
	(iii) Organisation and staffing	5%
	(iv) Security and privacy features	10%
	(v) Seamless integration of transcription with video recordings, audio only recordings, etc.	15%
E.	System requirements	20%
	Meeting functional requirements of Supreme Court of India (features like labelling, bookmarking, summarisation, etc.) (See Point No. 39 of Notice dated 19.06.2023)	20%
	Total Weightage	100%

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar (AM)
