

Minutes of the Pre-Bid conference meeting

A tender for Development and Implementation of Web based and SMS based Entitlement services was issued by GA Wing on 16th September 2020. As per the tender document a pre-bid conference was held on 23rd September 2020 at 11:30 am in the Committee Room of the old CAG building. Three interested bidders namely Aggarwal Automation, Access InfoTech and Veritos Info Solution Pvt. Ltd. attended the meeting. DG (GA-I), DG (GA-II), Director (GA) and Amit Kumar, AAO from GA wing took part in the meeting.

Bidders were having doubts on some of the points of tender document. These points were discussed in detail, consequent to which both the sides arrived at following decision points:-

- 1. Implementation Architecture for proposed services:** - A Decentralised architecture was discussed and agreed upon by both the parties, wherein an Intermediate Server (IM Server) will be used at every site. The data from production server will be synchronised with this Intermediate Server on real time basis. For this purpose old-VLC servers available at every site will be used as an IM servers. All of the field A&E offices have recently replaced their old VLC servers and these old servers are lying idle at all sites. It was orally confirmed from IS Wing that these old servers are in good condition having good specification. However, GA wing needs to collect data from all the field A&E offices knowing the exact specifications of these servers. Bidders desired minimum specifications of 16 GB RAM, 600+ GB Hard Drive and Dual core processors.
- 2. Recurring Cost for the Project:** - While bidding GA Wing requested all the bidders to give site wise recurring cost separately for implementation of the project. Recurring cost may have following elements:
 - a. Domain Name Services:** - A separate domain name will be acquired by all the AG (A&E) offices from NIC.
 - b. Named Server Services:** - Subscription needs to be taken from third party service providers.
 - c. SSL Services are required.**
 - d. Bulk SMS packages:** - We have approximate 50 lakh active pensioners and 35 lakh active GPF subscribers in the offices where we maintain entitlement

functions. Spread of these Pensioners/Subscribers differ from State to State. Bidders were requested to quote slab wise bulk SMS package rates separately.

e. Digital signatures for e-authority implementation: - Digital signatures will be procured by respective field offices. Alternatively server level date and time stamp authentication approach may be explored and may be quoted separately for all the sites.

3. Hardware, Software and Security aspects:-

a. Hardware requirements: - An Intermediate Server is required. This point is already discussed in foregoing paragraph.

b. Software requirements: - It was informed to bidders that all the field offices are in possession of Oracle and Linux licenses.

c. Security aspects:-

✓ *2048 bit SSL services* is required.

✓ *Software Firewall:* - Since we have decided to adopt the IM server approach, hardware firewall is not required. Software Firewall will serve the purpose.

✓ *Security Audit Certificate* from CERT-IN empaneled agencies for every site.

✓ *Standard password features*, Denial of Service features and DLT services will be required to avoid spam messages to the pensioners/subscribers. Bidders have been told to mention the cost of DLT registration separately for all the sites.

4. Dedicated Internet Lease line:- It has been confirmed from IS Wing that all the A&E offices are now part of IAAD Net, thus separate lease line mentioned in the tender document will not be required now. Bidders were told to not to quote for it while bidding and may use existing IAAD Net.

5. Static IP will be required for all the sites. Field A&E offices will procure these static IP from NIC for their respective locations.

6. Bidders were told to quote **Site-wise cost as well as cumulative cost** for implementation of this project. Hardware, Software and Security aspects needs to be quoted separately for each site.

7. There were some doubts raised by the bidders regarding **Eligibility Criteria** mentioned in the tender document which are as follows:

- a. Turnover requirement:** - Bidders who does not satisfy the turnover requirement criteria were told to give details of manpower they have (Both technical as well as non-technical), details of the government organisations where they were associated for last 10 years along with approximate project cost of the project implemented in those government organisations etc.
- b. Bank Guarantee Exemption:** - Bank Guarantee exemption to MSME firms was sought by the bidders, it will decided as per the rules. Bidders were informed that they are required to show their MSME certificates along with active unique ID's obtained from MSME registration.

Above points are submitted for perusal and approval. After approval, a corrigendum will be issued for the tender and will be uploaded on CAG's website.

SD/-

Director (GA)