Response (2) to Bidder Queries
Tender No. CMRL-P1-PMC-01-2025
"Selection of Project Management Company (PMC) for Chennai Metro Rail Phase 1 Network Capacity Enhancement Project"

Sl no	Part/ Section No	Clause No.	Original Bid Condition	Bidder's queries	CMRL Response
1	Section – 5: Terms of Reference (TOR) Page 107 of 381 And Item Wise BOQ		Table 1b: Detailed Qualification and experience of Non-Key Experts No. 7 Expert Position & Level: - Interface Engineer Pro-B B2 Item Wise BOQ: Interface Engineer, Pro – B, B1	While thoroughly reviewing the RFP documentation and attached BOQ our attention got into a discrepancy regarding the level of work assigned to the Interface Engineer. As per Table 1b, of section -5 TOR of the RFP document: the Interface Engineer is categorized under Pro-B at Level B2. However, upon examining the attached BOQ, it is noted that the same role is listed under Pro-B at Level B1. This inconsistency directly impacts the financial costing of the project, as the remuneration and scope of work differ significantly between Level B1 and Level B2. Accurate classification is essential for preparing a realistic and competitive financial proposal. We kindly request the authority to clarify the correct level of work applicable for the Interface Engineer position to ensure alignment in our bid submission.	Refer corrigendum 07 Sl. No 7.
2	Section – 5: Terms of Reference (TOR) Table 2: Scope of Work for experts Page 118 of 381		Position Code.: A17 Expert Position & Level: Interface Expert Level 3 DELETED	While reviewing the scope of work for project experts as outlined in the RFP, we observed that the position of Interface Expert appears to have been deleted, as indicated by the strikethrough and accompanying note. However, we also noted that the role of Interface Engineer is still listed in Table 1b as a Non-Key Expert under the project. Despite this, there is no separate scope of work provided for the Interface Engineer, and the previously defined scope for the Interface Expert has been omitted. This has led to ambiguity regarding the responsibilities and expectations associated with the Interface Engineer role. As this information is critical for accurate resource planning and financial costing, we kindly request the authority to provide a clear clarification on: Whether the Interface Engineer position is retained in the scope of work • The specific responsibilities and deliverables expected from this role . We Request the authority to please provide the clarification.	Refer corrigendum 07 Sl. No 8.
3	Section – 5: Terms of Reference (TOR) Table 1b: Detailed Qualification and experience of Non-Key Experts And Table 2: Scope of Work for experts		Expert Position & Level: Assistant – Finance Pro-B B1	Upon reviewing the RFP documentation, we observed that the position of Assistant Finance is listed under Table 1b as a Non-Key Expert. However, we could not find any corresponding scope of work defined for this role in Table 2 or elsewhere in the document. As this information is essential for accurate resource planning and financial estimation, we kindly request the authority to provide clarification regarding the specific scope of work and responsibilities associated with the Assistant Finance position. We appreciate your support and look forward to your response.	Refer corrigendum 07 Sl. No 9.
4	Section – 4 Financial Bid Page 72 of 381 And Section – 5A Detailed Design Consultant-Scope of Works Page 148 of 381		FORM FIN-2 SUMMARY OF COSTS Note: 3. Schedule-C: DDC Cost (Excluding GST) is limited to maximum of 2% of the Total sum of the Item Sl No. 1,2,5.1 to 5.3 of the table No. 52 (Project Cost Summary) of the Chapter 6.6 (Taxes & Duties) of the DPR attached as Annexure -1 Detailed Project Report - Assessment of Additional Rolling Stock requirement for Chennai Metro Rail Phase 1 Network Operationsto cater Future Passenger Demand July 15 2023 of TOR. If the amount quoted is more than 2%, the Total DDC Cost will be corrected as 2% and taken for evaluation and payment. Accordingly, the Total Amount quoted shall be revised. And 7. All designs and drawings produced in the scope of works shall be proof checked by suitable qualified person(s) who will act as lead design checker (LDC). The quoted fees are inclusive of the LDC fees. (Page 148 of 381)	As per Schedule C of Form FIN-2, Section 4, the maximum allowable DDC cost is capped at 2% of the sum of items Sl. No. 1, 2, 5.1 to 5.3 of Table No. 52 in Chapter 6.6 of the DPR (Annexure-1), which amounts to approximately INR 3.7 Crores. Upon reviewing the scope of work, we find that the project involves extensive responsibilities, including proof-checking of design and drawings by the Lead Design Consultant (LDC). As per our understanding, the cost associated with LDC services is to be borne by the consultant as no provision of LDC cost is given in financial BOQ file, which significantly increases the financial burden. We, therefore, earnestly request you to kindly consider either of the following: i.) Considering the comprehensive nature of the work and the associated costs, we believe that the current cap of 2% is insufficient for thesuccessful execution of the project. Therefore, we respectfully request the authority to revise the maximum DDC cost limit to 5% and modify the clause accordingly as underneath to reflect this adjustment. Schedule-C: DDC Cost (Excluding GST) is limited to maximum of 2% 5% ofthe Total sum of the Item Sl No. 1,2,5.1 to 5.3 of the table No. 52 (ProjectCost Summary) of the Chapter 6.6 (Taxes & Duties) of the DPR attached as Annexure -1 Detailed Project Report - Assessment of Additional Rolling Stock requirement for Chennai Metro Rail Phase 1 Network Operations to cater Future Passenger Demand July 15 2023 of TOR. If the amount quoted is more than 2% 5%, the Total DDC Cost will be corrected as 5% and taken for evaluation and payment. Accordingly, the Total Amount quoted shall be revised. OR ii.) We kindly request the authority to incorporate the cost of the Lead Design Consultant (LDC) for proof-checking as a separate item in the financial proposal by adding: Item No. 45: Cost of LDC for Proof Checking under Schedule C – DDC Cost. This will ensure clarity and proper cost allocation in the bid.	Tender conditions prevail.
5	Section – 5: Terms of Reference (TOR) Chapter 3. Scope of Consulting Services 4. Construction supervision Page 93 of 381		p. In case of fatality/major accident, it is the duty of GC to conduct preliminary and followed by detailed enquiry. Inform all stakeholders the reason of the incident and remedial steps to be taken hence forth.	While reviewing the tender documents, we observed a discrepancy regarding the nature of the consultancy services required for this project. The name of the work mentioned in the RFP clearly refers to this assignment as a Project Management Consultancy (PMC). However, Footnote 4 under Chapter 3 of Section 5 refers to the scope as that of a General Consultancy (GC). It is well understood that the scope of work under GC is significantly broader and more comprehensive than that of PMC. This inconsistency creates ambiguity in understanding the exact expectations from the consultant, which is critical for preparing a technically and financially sound bid. We therefore request the authority to kindly clarify the intended scope of work—whether the assignment is to be treated as PMC or GC—to ensure transparency and enable genuinely interested bidders like us to respond appropriately.	Tender conditions prevail. Refer Section-6, GCC & SCC Clause-1.1(w).
6	Section – 4 Financial Bid FORM FIN-4 BREAKDOWN OF REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES (SCHEDULE-B) Page 76 of 381		Table Sl. No.: - 1 Type of Reimbursable Expenses: Cab- Duty Travel to Site (Unit-Per day) Foot note 4: Duty Travel to Site shall be quoted as per day unit consist of 12 Hrs duty per day with 120 Kms in Local and outstation. Beyond the Kms range and hourrange shall not be accepted for claiming. Reimbursable expense will be paid as per actual amount within quoted ceiling limit.	We have observed that vehicle charges can vary significantly based on the segment (SUV, sedan, compact, etc.) and the number of vehicles considered. This variation can lead to inconsistencies in financial proposals, as some bidders may factor in higher-cost vehicles (e.g., SUVs like Innova or Scorpio, 2–3 in number), while others may opt for lowercostoptions (e.g., sedans or compact cars, 1–2 in number) to remain competitive. To ensure uniformity and fairness in costing across all bids, we kindly request the authority to: • Specify the desired vehicle segment (e.g., SUV, sedan, compact) • Indicate the required number of vehicles to be considered for the project This clarity will help all bidders align their financial proposals and maintain a level playing field. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to your clarification.	Tender conditions prevail. Refer Section-4, Financial Bid, FORM FIN-4 Note:4.
7	Section – 4 Financial Bid FORM FIN-4 BREAKDOWN OF REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES (SCHEDULE-B) Page 76 of 381 And Section – 2 Instructions to Consultants (ITC) Page 26 of 381		Table Sl. No.: - 2 Type of Reimbursable Expenses: Office Furnishing, office consumables (Stationaries), Drinking water. Section – 2: Office Space: CMRL shall allocate approximately 1000 Sq. Ft office space only to the Project Management Consultancy Services (PMCS) for setting up of his office/workplace. This space shall be provided to the PMCS on free of cost basis without any rental charges, with free electricity and free water supply. Any other facility needed including furnishing of the office, drinking water, etc. shall be arranged by the PMC and the same shall be included/Considered as included in the Reimbursable expenses under Form FIN-4.	It is understood from the tender documents that the authority will be providing a single office space of approximately 1000 sq.ft. However, it appears that all required amenities for smooth project operations are to be arranged by the consultant. To ensure accurate financial planning and avoid varied assumptions across bidders, we kindly request the authority to: • Confirm the number of office spaces to be furnished by the consultant. • Clarify the expected outcome in terms of manpower deployment at the project office, as this directly influences the scale and cost of furnishing and amenities. Clarification on these aspects will help all bidders prepare competitive and consistent financial proposals.	Tender conditions prevail.
8	Section – 4 Financial Bid FORM FIN-4 BREAKDOWN OF REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES (SCHEDULE-B) Page 76 of 381		Table Sl. No.: - 3 Type of Reimbursable Expenses: Accommodation for Experts	In most consultancy projects, consultants typically provide professional fees or salaries to experts, and accommodation charges are not paid separately unless specifically required. We kindly request the authority to clarify the following: • Whether accommodation charges are to be paid separately to experts residing in Chennai, or • If such charges are applicable only for official visits outside Chennai, or • Whether the provision is intended for temporary stays within the project area. This clarification will help ensure consistency in financial planning and avoid varied assumptions across bids.	Tender conditions prevail. Refer Section-4, Financial Bid, FORM FIN-4 Note:5.
9	Section – 4 Financial Bid FORM FIN-4 BREAKDOWN OF REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES (SCHEDULE-B) Page 76 of 381 And Section – 2 Instructions to Consult-		Table Sl. No.: - 5 Type of Reimbursable Expenses: Per Diem allowance for Experts Foot note 7: Per Diem allowance applicable for official visit outside Chennai (Domestic/International Travel). Ceiling limit for Per Diem allowance shall be provided in the Fin-4 Table -2 of Per Diem allowance for experts. for Per Diem allowance Experts below,Reimbursable expense will be paid as per actual amount within ceiling limit. Section – 2: 1) Per diem for Experts, the weighted average per diems (i.e., one per diem rate for all locations) need to be computed (per diems are calculated on the basis of 30 days per calendar month). The per diem comprises room costs and subsistence allowance for meals and other similar expenses.	As per standard practice, a Per Diem allowance typically given to international expert for their office visit to site which covers daily expenses such as lodging, meals, and incidental costs incurred during the visit. As per this we have a understanding that Per Diem allowance will be only applicable for the International Experts and it will not be applicable in\ case of Domestic experts. Kindly clarify.	Tender conditions prevail. Refer Section-4, Financial Bid, FORM FIN-4 Note:7.
10	Section – 4 Financial Bid FORM FIN-4 BREAKDOWN OF REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES (SCHEDULE-B) Page 76 of 381		Table Sl. No.: - 7 Type of Reimbursable Expenses: Computer- (Laptop-Desktop-Work Stations) and Annual maintenance of computers Foot note 8: Laptop/Desktop for experts shall be claimed as per the ceiling limit provided in the Fin-4 Table 4 of Laptop/Desktop for experts. Reimbursable expense will be paid as per actual amount within ceiling limit	While reviewing the RFP, we noticed that the document does not specify the number or technical specifications of laptops/desktops required for the project. As hardware costs vary significantly based on specifications, this lack of clarity may lead to inconsistent assumptions across bidders— some may consider high-end systems while others may opt for mid-rangeconfigurations—resulting in discrepancies in financial proposals. Additionally, our understanding is that laptops/desktops are required only for experts. We request the authority to kindly clarify the following: 1. Minimum specifications (e.g., processor, RAM, storage) required for laptops/desktops to be used in the project. 2. Minimum number of laptops/desktops to be provided and whether they are required only for key experts or for other project staff as well. 3. Post-project completion, please confirm whether the ownership of the laptops/desktops will remain with the consultant or be handed over to the authority. Clear guidance on these points will help ensure uniformity in costing and allow bidders to prepare competitive and technically sound proposals.	Tender conditions prevail.
11	Section – 4 Financial Bid FORM FIN-4 BREAKDOWN OF REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES (SCHEDULE-B) Page 76 of 381		Table Sl. No.: - 8 Type of Reimbursable Expenses: Printer, Scanner/Plotter & Projector	It is well understood that printers and related equipment are essential for day-to-day operations in the project office. However, the RFP lacks specific details regarding the type and quantity of such equipment, which may lead to varied assumptions and discrepancies in financial proposals. To ensure uniformity and enable accurate costing, we kindly request the authority to provide clarification on the following points: 1. Type of Printer Required: • Please specify whether Black & White or Colour printers are required. • Kindly confirm whether Inkjet or Laser printers are preferred. 2. Number of Printers: • Please indicate the minimum number of printers expected to be installed in the project office. Please provide clarification as these clarifications are essential for preparing a fair and competitive financial bid and will help ensure consistency across all participating firms.	Tender conditions prevail.

12	Data Sheet, Sl. No. 20, Pg. No. 18.		1. Past experience of the Consultant: 1.1. o. of years of experience as Consultant (single entity or JV member) in Similar Projects (Single or Multiple Projects) pertaining to Metro Rail in India or International. 1.2. No. of similar projects (ongoing or completed), where the fees received per project is above INR 35 crores for the period of last 10 years as on the last date of bid submission, in India or Internationally. 1.3. No. of Multilateral or Bi-lateral funded Projects (completed Project but not necessarily in similar works) in last 10 years as on the last date of bid submission, in India or Internationally. 2. Substantial completion of similar projects: 2.1. Substantially completed similar projects in terms of total route km commissioned (in revenue operation) in last 10 years as on the last date of bid submission, in India or Internationally.	The RFP is allowing prior experiences and technical qualifications in India (or) International, hence we request the Authority to kindly allow to use the group company credentials for meeting these requirements for a company registered in India. This is being accepted by various Metro Rail Authorities in India.	Tender conditions prevail.
13	Data Sheet, Additional Criteria / note, Pg. No. 23.		Additional criteria/notes: 1. Applicants may be a single entity or a Joint Venture (JV/Consortium) with not more than Three JV/Consortium partners and with minimum of 25% participation of each. Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected.	We request you to kindly modify the minimum share (%) for the JV member as 20%.	Tender conditions prevail.
14	Data Sheet ITC Reference 20 EQC Point 2 (2.1): Page 22 of RFP document		Substantially completed similar projects in terms of total route km commissioned (in revenue operation) in last 10 years as on the last date of bid submission, in India or Internationally. a) 35 marks for ≥ 50 route km b) 30 marks for ≥ 30, but < 50 route km c) 20 marks for ≥ 10, but <30 route km d) Zero marks for < 10route km For contracts under which the Bidder participated as a JV member, only the Bidder's share by percentage for total route KM completed/substantially completed shall be considered to meet this requirement.	We would like to bring to the notice of the client that commissioning of the Metro project is performed by the entire JV and the JV jointly and severely liable to the client, not by any individual member. Hence, we request the client to consider the route km commissioned by the entire JV and amend the clause as follows: Substantially completed Metro projects in terms of Total route KM commissioned (in revenue operation) in last 10 years as on the last date of bid submission, in India or Internationally: a) 35 Marks for ≥ 50 route Km b) 25 marks for >=30, but <50 route Km c) 20 marks for >=10, but <30 route Km d) Zero marks for <10 route Km Kindly Consider.	Tender conditions prevail.
15	1.2 Key Details are as follows: SL No. 11. Page No. 4 of RFP		Last Date and Time of submission of bid	As the Diwali festival falls on October 21, 2025, we respectfully request an extension of the bid submission deadline by Two Weeks from the current due date of October 22, 2025. This extension would allow us to prepare and submit a comprehensive proposal in light of the festive season and associated closures. Kindly Consider.	Refer corrigendum 06.
16	Section 5: TOR; Chapter 5; Table 1 & Table 1a; Pg. No. 20-22		For Key Experts in Level 2 As per Table 1: Experience required •13 years or more working experience • 8 years or more in Relevant Field As per Table 1a: Minimum Experience • Must have 13 years of Professional experience in relevant field in any agency • Must have 8 years of working experience in Metro / Railways / LRT project	We wish to bring to your notice that there is a mismatch in the relevant experience criteria for Key Experts in Level 2 as per Table 1 and Table 1a. We understand that the below criteria as per Table 1 is to be followed for the selection of Level 2 Experts • 13 years or more working experience • 8 years or more in Relevant Field Please confirm.	Refer corrigendum 07 Sl. No. 4.
17	Clause No. 2 & 3 of Additional criteria/notes, ITC Clause 20 of Data Sheet of the RFP [Page No 23]		With reference to the above clause, we understand that the RFP stipulates the following: Clause 2: Similar Project means providing General Consultancy or Project Management Consultancy services to Indian metro railway or International metro railway company. The scope of work must have included at least majority of the following key components: Review of detailed designs, Preparation of specifications, Preparation of bid documents and Tender assistance, checking designs, Project management and Supervision including Construction supervision, Safety, Environment management and Quality, Testing and Commissioning of the work. Clause 3: a) "In case of JV/Consortium, the members shall identify the Lead Member who shall have the highest share with not less than 40% and Lead member must have done at least one similar work of INR 35 Cr. or equivalent in any currency in last 10 years ending last date of bid submission. b) In case of JV/Consortium, other members shall have done at least one similar work in the last 10 years ending last date of bid submission."	1. We presume that the term "similar work" mentioned in Clause 3(b) above refers to the nature of the consultancy services — namely, Project Management Consultancy (PMC), Construction Supervision (CS), or General Consultancy (GC) — in any infrastructure sector and not necessarily limited to assignments executed for Indian Metro Railway or International Metro Railway companies, as referred to under the definition of "Similar Project." We request confirmation of our understanding. 2. Also, we wish to seek confirmation that the aforesaid eligibility requirement — namely, the completion of at least one similar assignment within the last ten (10) years — shall not be applicable to sub-consultants engaged for the purposes of this project. We respectfully request confirmation of our understanding.	Tender conditions prevail.