

Common Points: 1

Section II: Eligibility Criteria

1.(a) Capability, equipment and manufacturing facilities:

- (i) The bidder ('sole bidder' or 'lead member, in case of consortium/JV') must have an annual capacity to manufacture and supply at least "1.027 Million sheets of 'ICAO compliant Electronic Contactless Inlays' in 2 ups".

Explanation:

The **Capability, equipment and manufacturing facilities** shall be assessed as per actual requirement of tendered item i.e. ICAO Compliant Electronic Contactless Inlays (in 2 ups).

Common Points: 2

Section II: Eligibility Criteria

1.(b) Capability, equipment and manufacturing facilities:

- (ii) The bidder ('sole bidder' or 'anyone member, in case of consortium/JV') shall have prior experience in manufacturing/developing **products having Common Criteria - certified elements** i.e. chip and/or OS. The bidder shall submit copies of relevant Common Criteria Certificate as documentary evidence.

Explanation:

A. For Non-MSE & Non-Startups:

The Bidder shall submit following as documentary evidences:

- i. Relevant PO / Tax- Invoice Copy of the particular product.
- ii. BOM/ Specification of the particular product consist of Common Criteria - certified elements i.e. chip and/or OS.
- iii. Following Relevant Common Criteria Certificate of Common Criteria - certified elements i.e. chip and/or OS used in the particular product. (any one)
 - a. Integrated Chip: Includes Chip along with its Bootloader, in the name of Chip Manufacturer
 - b. Operating System, in the name of OS Manufacturer/ Developer.
 - c. Composite Product (Integrated Chip + OS), in the name of Chip Manufacturer.

B. For MSE & Startups:

Bidder shall submit the undertaking for the use of products having Common Criteria - certified elements i.e. chip and/or OS of those firm, which having prior experience in manufacturing/developing of such products against this tender.

[The following section contains numerous handwritten signatures and initials in blue and green ink, likely representing approvals or verifications.]

Section II: Eligibility Criteria: If the bid submission date of PQBs is extended beyond 30.09.2026.

Bid submission date is planned to be extended up to 29.09.2026.

Provision for Medium enterprises:

Explanations:

In case a bidder as a consortium/JV, participate in both Global and Domestic Development PQB Tenders, no member of consortium/JV can be part of multiple consortium/JV against both Global and Domestic Development PQB Tenders.

Common Points: 6

Section II: Eligibility Criteria:

9. Following declaration/ undertakings shall be submitted along with the offer/ bid document duly sealed and signed by the authorized signatory of bidders as well as Principal Manufacturer (if any).
- a. The bidder shall confirm that the offered Composite product (chip plus OS) as well as individual components shall be evaluated by Common Criteria licensed laboratories with a minimum assurance level of EAL5+. The protection profiles to be complied with are:
- i. BSI-CC-PP-0068-V2-2011 & BSI-CC-PP-0056-V2-2012 or latest for individual OS components as well as for composite product having integrated Chip and OS, for Electronic Machine-Readable Travel Document with PACE, AA & CA.
 - ii. BSI-CC-PP-0084-2014 or latest for integrated chip.

The Certificate should be issued by any of the internationally recognized certificate authorizing schemes that are members of Common Criteria.

Explanation:

It means the bidder has to submit Declaration/ undertakings to provide following CC Certification with a minimum assurance level of EAL5+, as per required PPs:

- i. Integrated Chip: Includes Chip along with its Bootloader, in the name of Chip Manufacturer
- ii. Operating System, in the name of OS Manufacturer/ Developer.
- iii. Composite Product (Integrated Chip + OS), in the name of Chip Manufacturer.

Common Points: 7

Annexure II, Page 23

"In addition to the above, you are also requested to submit a Certificate that this product is exclusive and design / parameter/ specification for ICAO Compliant Electronic Contactless Inlays (in 2 ups) along with its operating system for Indian e-Passport Booklets will be exclusive for India."

Explanation:

It is further clarified that the OS shall be native and make in India only.

Section II: Eligibility Criteria:

9.f The bidder shall confirm that they will provide Proprietary/Custodian/Escrow right to ISP & MEA of audited & running compiled source code of OS.

Explanation:

Since, the OS shall be native, make in India and exclusive for India, therefore Indian Government must have Proprietary/Custodian/Escrow right of audited & running compiled source code of OS at least.

MEA being a Government of India Ministry and custodian of Indian e-Passport and ISP, a Government of India owned entity as well as an exclusive manufacturer of Indian e-Passport, are eligible to have Proprietary/Custodian/Escrow right of audited & running compiled source code of OS.

Common Points: 8

Following points shall be deleted:

Section II: Eligibility Criteria:

7. (a) Names of organization(s)/ firm(s) with addresses and telephone numbers, fax numbers, email addresses to which they have manufactured and supplied such 'ICAO compliant Electronic Contactless Inlays' indicating the details and quantities supplied annually during the last five years.

7.(d) Manufacturers/manufacturers under license or their authorized dealers who are exclusively appointed by the principal manufacturer to represent them in the country shall be eligible to apply or to take part in the bid. One manufacturer can authorize only one agent. There can be only one bid from:

(i) The principal manufacturer directly or through one Indian agent on his behalf or

(ii) The foreign principal or any of its branch/ division or

(iii) Indian/ Foreign Agent on behalf of only one Principal.

In such cases order will be placed on Principal manufacturer.

7.(g) In case the tenderer is an Indian agent quoting on behalf of foreign manufacturer, the Indian agent should be already enlisted under the compulsory Enlistment Scheme of Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India, operated through Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (DGS &D). Documentary evidence regarding same to be submitted along with tender.

NOTE: If an agent is participating on behalf of a Manufacturer with the support of Manufacturer Authorization Certificate, the above said eligibility criteria should be complied by Manufacturer only and not by the Agent. Also, Order shall be placed on the successful Principal Manufacturer only.

7.(h) The bidder needs to fill up the section III of tender form regarding the local content of as per Public Procurement (Preference to make in India) order 2017 No. P-45021/2/2017-PP(BE-II) of DPIIT, dated 19.07.2024 (or any further amendment thereof).

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1. Make in India Status: Having read and understood the Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India PPP_MII) Order, 2017 (as amended and revised till date) and related notifications from the relevant Nodal Ministry/ Department, and solemnly declare the following:

☐ Class-I Local Supplier/
☐ Class-II Local Supplier/
☐ Non-Local Supplier.

7. Checklist for submission of all the documents as per PQB requirement:

Common Points: 9

Note - 8

(v) The members of the Consortium shall enter into an agreement for submitting a bid which should be duly notarized. The agreement shall convey the intent to form a Consortium which meets the requirements of this tender, clearly mentioning the roles and responsibilities of each member. The composition or constitution of the Consortium shall not be altered without the prior consent of the Purchaser.

(v) The members of the Consortium meeting the requirements of this tender shall enter into an agreement for submitting a bid which should be duly notarized, clearly mentioning the roles and responsibilities of each member. The composition or constitution of the Consortium shall not be altered without the prior consent of the Purchaser.

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Common Points: 10

Section I: NIT,

Point no. 1, Note* This tender is for development of vendors for "ICAO Compliant Electronic Contactless Inlays (in 2 ups) along with its operating system for Indian e-Passport Booklets". The existing supplier firms can also participate in this tender.

Read as :

This tender is for development of domestic entities for "ICAO Compliant Electronic Contactless Inlays (in 2 ups) along with its operating system for Indian e-Passport Booklets". The existing domestic supplier can also participate in this tender.

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Subject: Queries of Prospective Bidders and reply thereof, w.r.t. The Domestic PQB Tender No. 16/2026-27 Dated: 06.08.2026 floated by India Security Press – Nashik (a unit of SPMCL) for 'Pre-Qualification Bid (PQB) tender for Procurement of 7.7 million sheets of ICAO Compliant Electronic Contactless Inlays (in 2 ups) along with its operating system for Indian e-Passport Booklets' through Development Tender.

1.1 Center for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) – Noida (vide e-mail dt. 24-Aug-26 9:06 PM)

Sl. No.	Tender Section & Clause No.	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
1)	Section 9 (Page 9 of Global PQB and Page 8-9 of Domestic PQB respectively)	9. Following declaration/ undertakings shall be submitted along with the offer/ bid document duly sealed and signed by the authorized signatory of bidders as well as Principal Manufacturer (if any): a. The bidder shall confirm that the offered Composite product (chip plus OS) as well as individual components shall be evaluated by Common Criteria licensed laboratories with a minimum assurance level of EAL5+. The protection profiles to be complied with are: i. BSI-CC-PP-0068-V2-2011 & BSI-CC-PP-0056-V2-2012 or latest for individual OS components as well as for composite product having integrated Chip and OS, for Electronic Machine-Readable Travel Document with PACE, AA & CA. ii. BSI-CC-PP-0084-2014 or latest for integrated chip. The Certificate should be issued by any of the	In light to the above Section, as per our understanding, since the OS works only on the underlying platform i.e integrated chip and OS cannot be separately tested / certified on already certified chip (BSI-CC-PP-0084-2014), hence the Composite product (chip plus OS) evaluation for BSI-CC-PP-0068-V2-2011 & BSI-CC-PP-0056-V2-2012 by Common Criteria licensed laboratories will inherently cover individual OS components as well and hence no separate certification for OS is required. It is requested to please confirm if our understanding is correct and guide if any deviation. This clarification is extremely important in order to take certification. For this act, we'll be grateful to you.	As per Section II: Eligibility Criteria, Point no. 9.a, Page 9, it is clearly mentioned that: "The bidder shall confirm that the offered Composite product (chip plus OS) as well as individual components shall be evaluated by Common Criteria licensed laboratories with a minimum assurance level of EAL5+. The protection profiles to be complied with are: i. BSI-CC-PP-0068-V2-2011 & BSI-CC-PP-0056-V2-2012 or latest for individual OS components as well as for composite product having integrated Chip and OS, for Electronic Machine-Readable Travel Document with PACE, AA & CA. ii. BSI-CC-PP-0084-2014 or latest for integrated

Sr. No.	Tender Section & Clause No. & Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
		internationally recognized certificate authorizing schemes that are members of Common Criteria		chip. <i>The Certificate should be issued by any of the internationally recognized certificate authorizing schemes that are members of Common Criteria."</i> It means the bidder has to submit Declaration/ undertakings to provide following CC Certification with a minimum assurance level of EAL5+, as per required PPs: - integrated Chip: Includes Chip along with its Bootloader, in the name of Chip Manufacturer - Operating System, in the name of OS Manufacturer/ Developer. - Composite Product (Integrated Chip + OS), in the name of Chip Manufacturer.

1.2 Center for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) – Noida (vide e-mail dt. 31-Aug-26 2:10 PM)

Sr. No.	Tender Section & Clause No. & Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
2)	Section 9 (Pg. 9 of Global PQB and Pg. 8-9 of Domestic	Individual OS Component Certification	Query-1: As per our understanding, since the OS works only on the underlying platform i.e. integrated chip and OS cannot be separately tested / certified on	Kindly refer Broad and common Point no. 6.

Sr. No.	Tender Section & Clause No. & Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
	PQB)		already certified chip (BSI-CC-PP-0084-2014), hence the Composite product (chip plus OS) evaluation for BSI-CC-PP-0068-V2-2011 & BSI-CC-PP-0056-V2-2012 by Common Criteria licensed laboratories will inherently cover individual OS components as well and hence no separate certification for OS is required. Please confirm if our understanding is correct. Query-2: In case, Individual OS certification is required, please confirm if the OS certification taken on OEM1 chip and composite certification on another OEM2 chip will suffice and clarify if any deviation. This clarification is extremely important in order to take certification as both certification will inherently take its own time.	
3)	Sec. 9.a: PQB doc,, Sec 9.c: PQB doc, Sec. 10.a	Indigenous OS for Inlay Vendor	As stated in the PQB, ISP is looking for Product / service by the Bidder to India should be exclusive and this product / service should not be supplied by the bidders to other countries. Further, considering current geo-political situation, cyber warfare, and cyber security aspect, it is a extremely important that Government should take stock of prevailing situation and hence Government owned OS should inherently control chip and related ePassport Applications. It is paramount that ISP Nashik / MEA should take hold of the situation and mandate use of OS from CDAC under Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat initiatives. Also, we are well aware that as of now chip comes	Kindly refer Broad and common Point no. 7.

Sr. No.	Tender Section & Clause No. & Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
			from outside India because it is not available in India. However, we have Indigenous OS. CDAC, an autonomous body of MeitY, Govt, has been working in this domain since more than a decade. We have already developed Smart Card OS on multiple chip sets from multiple OEMs. In this respect, letter issued from our Ministry (MeitY) to MEA is attached for kind reference. With this background and considering current Geo Political issues around work – a. Does ISP/MEA has plan to reduce the vulnerability related to OS by mandating the Indigenous OS and too from any Government body in order to mitigate / minimize this risk. b. How will MEA ensure that the OS is not supplied to other countries with minor customization or vise versa like introducing MEA specific Command set with prescribed standards in OS so that MEA may verify subsequently.	

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Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
4)	Section IX – Pre-bid / Pre-contract Integrity Pact	The tender document includes a format under Section IX for the Prebid meeting; however, no schedule or date for conducting the pre-bid meeting has been specified in the Notice Inviting Tender (NIT).	We would request a Prebid meeting to be organised to provide the required clarifications for a project of national importance and considering the fact that tender requirements have significantly changed from the tender which was published earlier. Accordingly, would request to notify the date, time, venue, and mode (physical/online) of the Pre-bid Meeting to enable seek clarifications.	Pre-bid meeting scheduled on 03.09.2026 at 11.00 AM (IST) at CRDC Nashik.
5)	Section I – NIT (Quantity: 7.7 Million Sheets in 2-ups)	The tender specifies procurement of 7.7 million sheets (in 2-ups) but does not indicate the required delivery schedule or supply period.	Kindly clarify the expected delivery timeline for supply of 7.7 million sheets (in 2-ups), including whether the supplies are to be completed in a single lot or in phased deliveries along with the indicative delivery schedule.	At PQB stage, delivery timelines as well as schedule cannot explained, it shall be provided in detailed in Techno-commercial bid. However, the tendered quantity i.e. 7.7 Million Sheets in 2 ups is assessed on the basis of probable indent and supplies of e-Passport in approximate three financial years. Accordingly, deliveries shall be planned over the said requirement period in staggered manner.
6)	Page 3 – Preference to Make in India	The tender provides purchase preference under the Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India) Order, 2017. However, there is no explicit provision regarding purchase preference for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs).	Kindly clarify whether the benefits and purchase preference available to eligible MSEs under the Public Procurement Policy for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) Order, 2012 (as amended), are applicable to this tender or in subsequent stages of this requirement. If applicable, request the Department to suitably incorporate the relevant provisions in the tender document.	This is PQB and such details shall be elaborated in Techno-Commercial tender, if required.
7)	Page 6 – Note 7(ii), Section II	The tender states that if a bidder participates in both the Global PQB	We understand from the above clause that, in case the same bidder (either as a sole bidder or	As per tender condition, the offered price shall be same, for same bidder, for both the tenders i.e. Global and

Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
		Tender and the Domestic Development PQB Tender and is subsequently awarded both contracts, the bidder shall supply material at the lower of the two quoted prices.	through the same Consortium/JV composition) is awarded both the Global PQB Tender and the Domestic Development PQB Tender, the lower of the two quoted prices shall prevail. However, where the composition of the bidder/Consortium/JV is different under the two tenders, the price fall clause would not be applicable. We request the Authority to kindly confirm whether our understanding is correct.	domestic Development. This shall be as per the fall clause condition of the Procurement Manual.
8)	Page 8 – Clause 7(d), Section II	The tender permits manufacturers under license or their authorized dealers/agents, including foreign principal manufacturers represented through Indian agents, to participate, with the order being placed on the Principal Manufacturer.	Since this is a Domestic Development Tender intended to promote domestic bidders and indigenous manufacturing capabilities, we respectfully request the Purchaser to reconsider this provision and restrict participation to eligible Indian manufacturers and/or Indian Consortiums/JVs. As presently worded, the clause appears to permit placement of the order directly with a foreign Principal Manufacturer, which may dilute the objective of domestic development, local value addition, and the broader Make-in-India intent of the procurement.	This is Domestic Development PQB tender, therefore necessary amendment shall be issued.
9)	Order Allocation / Split-up of Quantity	Unlike previous ISP tenders, the present tender does not specify whether the procurement quantity will be split among multiple qualified bidders or awarded to a single bidder.	Kindly clarify the proposed order allocation methodology, specifically whether the total quantity will be awarded to a single bidder or distributed among multiple qualified bidders, and if so, the basis of such allocation.	Shall be elaborated in Techno-commercial bid, if required.
10)	Page 9 - Clause 9 (f)	The bidder shall confirm that they will provide Proprietary/Custodian/Escrow right to ISP & MEA of audited & running complied source code of OS	We respectfully submit that the requirement to provide Proprietary/Custodian/Escrow rights to ISP & MEA for the audited and running OS source code may not be feasible, as the secure OS is	Please refer Broad and common point no. 7.

Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
			generally the proprietary IP of the chip/OS manufacturer and the inlay manufacturer may not have the legal rights to disclose or place such source code in escrow. Such disclosure may also be restricted by OEM IP/confidentiality obligations and security certification requirements. We therefore request that the clause be deleted or suitably amended to permit compliance through OEM authorization, valid Common Criteria/other applicable certifications, security audit documentation and appropriate escrow arrangements, wherever legally permissible, without requiring transfer or disclosure of proprietary OS source code.	

3. Prime Electronics Nxt – (vide e-mail dt. 25-Aug-26 8:07 PM)

Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
11)	Section II: Eligibility Criteria Point 1.a (iii) Page No:5	(iii) The bidder ('sole bidder' or 'anyone member, in case of consortium/JV') shall have prior experience in manufacturing/developing products having Common Criteria - certified elements i.e. chip	Since the bidder is required to have prior experience in manufacturing/developing products incorporating Common Criteria-certified elements, such as chips and/or operating systems, kindly clarify whether the relevant Common Criteria Certificate is required to be in the name of the	Please refer Broad and common point no. 2.

Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
		and/or OS. The bidder shall submit copies of relevant Common Criteria Certificate as documentary evidence	bidder or OEM. Further, kindly confirm which Common Criteria Certificates and/or supporting documents would be considered acceptable as documentary evidence.	
12)	"Section Eligibility Criteria Point 7.9 Page No:8"	"(g) In case the tenderer is an Indian agent quoting on behalf of foreign manufacturer, the Indian agent should be already enlisted under the compulsory Enlistment Scheme of Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India, operated through Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (DGS &D). Documentary evidence regarding same to be submitted along with tender. NOTE: If an agent is participating on behalf of a Manufacturer with the support of Manufacturer Authorization Certificate, the above said eligibility criteria should be complied by Manufacturer only and not by the Agent.. Also, Order shall be placed on the successful Principal Manufacturer only.	"We request your esteemed Department to kindly clarify, in a scenario where an Indian agent (company) participates on behalf of a Principle Manufacturer based on a Manufacturer Authorization Certificate, and the same Manufacturer is also a consortium member along with the said Indian company, in whose name the purchase/order will be placed in the event of award, when the Indian company bidding as a lead bidder. Kindly clarify whether the order will be placed in the name of the Indian company or OEM or Both the companies." Since The Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (DGS&D) was the central purchase and quality assurance organization of the Government of India, but it was formally closed down in October 2017. Hence we	Please refer Broad and common point no. 8.

Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
		"	kindly request your esteemed department to remove the clause	

4. Veridos GmbH – Germany (vide e-mail dt. 31-Aug-26 11:59 AM)

Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
13)			Is there any PreQ bid-meeting planned for the Domestic PQB Tender No. 15/2026-27 and on which date?	Pre-bid meeting scheduled on 03.09.2026 at 11.00 AM (IST) at CRDC Nashik.
14)			Request for clarification: Interantional companies participating in Domestic Tender We can't find any statement in the Domestic PQB which is limiting the consortium members to Indian companies only. Does the consortium for the Domestic tender also allow Global, international companies or do the consortium members need to be Indian companies only? (Section II Eligibility Criteria, b, Note 8)	Please refer Broad and common point no. 10.
15)		Request for clarification: Participation in	Please clarify. We understand that this statements should be read as "An organization, whether as sole	Please refer Broad and common point no. 5.

Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
		not more than one bid (page 7, iii)	bidder or as a member of a Consortium, cannot participate in more than one bid for this Domestic Tender". A sole bidder or consortium member bidding for the Domestic tender is still allowed to bid for the Global Tender at the same time. Please confirm our understanding or advise otherwise.	
16)		Request for Clarification: Consortium Agreement Preamble - Registration of Partners (Annexure IV):	- Please confirm whether it is an error that all three partners are shown as registered in India in the Preamble (Points 1, 2, & 3) of the draft consortium agreement. Ideally, only one partner needs to be an Indian company if a global company is considering a consortium partnership for the Make in India initiative. As such it is unclear, why all consortium partners need to be registered in India. - Clarification / guidance is requested regarding the registration requirements for consortium partners. In case it is an error in the form, please also promptly provide a corrected form.	Necessary Corrigendum shall be issued.

Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
17)		Request for Clarification: Consortium Agreement Global Tender	Please confirm that according to Section II, Eligibility Criteria, Note 8) 2. it is tender compliant to submit with the Pre-qualification bid and Security Clearance a notary agreement that the companies' intent to establish a consortium in case they will be qualified and /or awarded and that the companies are not requested to submit a signed consortium agreement within the PQB	Notarized Consortium Agreement established on Indian Non-judicial Stamp Paper of appropriate value, required to be submitted along with the bid. Necessary amendment will be issued.
18)			Please confirm that in the Tender No 17/2026-27 awarded bidder are not requested to be incorporated or registered in India as provided for in the heading of Annex 4 Consortium Agreement and if this is correct, kindly inform if the bidders are allowed to modify the heading or if IPS will provide the draft with another title	Necessary amendment will be issued.
19)		Format for Capacity Verification / Annex III. A5	Bidder Firm shall provide at-least 125 Inlays for performance trials on e-Passport Manufacturing System at ISP, Nashik by manufacturing of e-Passport Booklets. Can the bidder be present during the test in the passport lines, as minor adjustments might be needed?	No. However, the outcome of 'Performance Trial' will be intimated to the bidder.

5. Infineon Technologies India Pvt. Ltd. – Bengaluru (vide e-mail dt. 31-Aug-26 2:08 PM)

Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
20)	Sec II, Consortium P7	2] Consortium / Joint Ventures:(i) A Consortium shall have maximum 3 members including lead member. Any member including Chip Manufacturer as well as OS manufacturer/developer cannot be a part of Multiple Consortium. The consortium members should be related to the relevant technology i.e. manufacturing and supply of 'Electronic Contactless Inlays / Electronic Contactless Smart Cards' as defined in para 1. (a), Note (ii).	Last time, it was discussed that chip / OS suppliers need not take the consortium and will be allowed to supply to any bidder. Does understanding continue to be the same? Kindly confirm.	A Consortium shall have maximum 3 members including lead member. Any member including Chip Manufacturer as well as OS manufacturer/developer cannot be a part of Multiple Consortium.
21)	Sec II cl.9.b, Page 9	The bidder shall confirm that all assessment evidence, testing data, and associated laboratory reports to the Indian Common Criteria Certification Scheme (IC3S) for review, against the Common Criteria certification for acceptance in India, shall be submitted at the time of supply of pre-production.	Could you please kindly share an indicative timeline for supply of production and production readiness?	Delivery schedule shall be elaborated in Techno-Commercial tender.
22)	Sec II cl.1(a)/(b), P5; Sec IV cl.1.4, P13	Regarding: Chip operating system preferences for Make in India & Native OS	As understood from the last PQB conference, the Operating Sys was expected to be to a native OS and must be developed India. Could you kindly confirm whether this understanding still valid, since it is not explicitly stated in the published PQB document	Please refer Broad and Common Point No. 7.
23)	P6, Note 7	Note-7: Applicability of other/ common provisions: i. In case a bidder participates	Can a bidder participate independently in both the Domestic Dev. PQB Tender and the Global	Please refer Broad and Common Point No. 5.

Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
		in both the 'Global PQB Tender (PQB Tender No.17 dated 06.08.2026)' and 'Domestic Development PQB Tender (PQB Tender No.16 dated 06.08.2026)' and subsequently contracts are awarded to that bidder against both the tenders, fall clause shall be applicable (i.e. the bidder has to supply the material at the lowest offered price out of the two tenders). A declaration accepting the above needs to be submitted along with the bid.	PQB Tender? Kindly confirm.	

6. IRIS CORPORATION BHD – Malaysia (vide e-mail dt. 31-Aug-26 1:47 PM)

Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
24)	NIT Note below Schedule No. 1	Development Tender for vendor development	For a Consortium bid, how will the Development Tender terms apply, and who will be recognized as the developed vendor?	As per tender condition.
25)			What is the eligibility of consortium members for future procurement opportunities arising from this Development Tender?	Not applicable for this PQB.
26)	Section II, Clause 1 (a) (i)	Minimum annual capacity of 1.027 million sheets of ICAO Compliant Electronic Contactless Inlays (2- ups).	Can bidders with lower current capacity but proven technical capability and expansion plan still participate, or is the 1.027 million sheets capacity a mandatory qualification requirement?	As per tender condition.
27)	Section II, Clause 1(b)(i)	The average annual financial turnover of the bidder firm (sole bidder or any one	For a Consortium bid, are audited financial statements required from all Consortium	As per tender condition.

Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
		member in case of consortium/JV during the last three years should be at least INR 24,10,67,710/-.	members, or only from the Consortium member meeting the turnover qualification criteria? Or from the lead member?	
28)	Section II, note 2 & Note 8(2)(x)	MSE/Startup exemption for Consortium.	In a Consortium claiming MSE/Startup exemption, must the Indian Consortium partner have its own inlay manufacturing facility and capacity, or can the capacity and capability requirements be met collectively by the Consortium?	As per tender condition.
29)	Section II, Note 3 (i)	The foreign manufacturer holding Intellectual Property Rights shall meet all eligibility criteria specified in the tender.	For a Consortium/JV comprising a foreign technology provider and an Indian partner, please confirm whether the foreign technology provider must independently satisfy all applicable eligibility criteria under the PQB.	Please refer Broad and Common point no. 10.
30)	Section II, Note 3 (ii)	Bidder shall submit Technology Collaboration / ToT Agreement for indigenous manufacture with a clear phased increase in local content.	How Consortium (foreign partner + an Indian partner can progressively increase and show Indian local content under the ToT model. What are the mandatory contents of the Technology Collaboration / ToT Agreement and the evidence required to demonstrate indigenous manufacture and phased increase in local content.	Please refer Broad and Common point no. 10.
31)	Section II, Note 3 (iii)	Bidder and foreign manufacturer shall furnish a legally enforceable undertaking jointly executed by both parties.	Is an existing inlay manufacturing facility in India required at the PQB stage, or can it be established subsequently under a ToT arrangement? For a Consortium/JV, please confirm whether the legally enforceable undertaking is required to be executed by the foreign technology provider and	Please refer Broad and Common point no. 10.

Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
32)	Section II, Note 4 / Clause 7(f)	Authorized Manufacturer Representative Authorization requirements.	the Lead Member only, or by all Consortium/JV members. For a Consortium/JV bid, please confirm whether a Manufacturer Authorization Letter is required from the foreign technology provider/Principal Manufacturer, or whether the Consortium Agreement is sufficient.	Please refer Broad and Common point no. 8 & 10.
33)	Section II, Note 6	Non-MSE & Non-Startups may participate as a Sole Bidder or Consortium.	For a Consortium bid, can the financial eligibility requirement be met by a single Consortium member, or must all Consortium members meet the requirement?	As per tender condition and please refer Broad and Common point no. 10.
34)	Section II, Note 8(2)(i)	Consortium members shall not participate in more than one consortium and shall be associated with the relevant technology.	Can ISO 15374 certification, project references, and customer acceptance certificates be used to proof experience in Electronic Contactless Inlays?	Not applicable.
35)	Section II, Note 8(2)(i)	Certain criteria may be required to be fulfilled exclusively by the Lead Member.	Which eligibility and qualification criteria are required to be fulfilled exclusively by the Lead Member of the Consortium?	As per tender condition.
36)	Section II, Note 8(2)(iv) & (viii)	In case of a Consortium, the Lead Member will be in charge and should be supported by a Consortium Agreement.	Who can be designated as the Lead Member in a Consortium? Must the Lead Member be the Inlay Manufacturer, or can any Consortium member assume this role?	As per tender condition.
37)		Lead Member will be in charge, and the Contract will be signed with the Lead Member on behalf of the Consortium.	Please confirm whether all commercial transactions, invoicing, and payments will be made exclusively through the Lead Member, or whether consortium members may directly participate in contract execution and invoicing.	As per tender condition (Section II, point no. -Note 8, 2). (viii)
38)	Section II, Note 8(2)(v)	Consortium Agreement shall be duly notarized.	For a Consortium comprising foreign and Indian entities, what are the notarization requirements for the Consortium Agreement?	Please refer Broad and Common point no. 10.
39)	Section II, Note	All Consortium members shall be jointly	Does the term authorization in the bid refer to	As per tender condition.

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Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
	8(2)(vii)	and severally liable, and a statement to this effect shall be included in the authorization in the bid. A sample Consortium Agreement format is enclosed as Annexure IV.	the Consortium Agreement (Annexure IV) or the Manufacturer Authorization Letter (MAL)?	
40)	Annexure IV	Sample Consortium Agreement Format.	Can the Agreement format be modified, provided all mandatory tender requirements are maintained?	As per tender condition.
41)	Section II, Note 8(2)(ix)	Consortium members shall not supply raw materials, chips, OS, finished products, etc. to any other bidder or Consortium participating in this PQB.	Should the undertaking under Note 8(2)(ix) be included in the Consortium Agreement or submitted separately by each Consortium member?	Undertaking shall be submitted separately each consortium/JV members.
42)	Section II, Clause 2	Details of ownership, directors, shareholders, and Ultimate Beneficial Owners (UBOs) to be provided.	For a Consortium bid, are the ownership and UBO details required from all Consortium members or only the Lead Member?	All the consortium/JV members.
43)	Section II, Clause 7(c)	The authorized signatory shall be competent and legally authorized to submit the tender and/or enter into a legally binding contract	For a Consortium bid, should the authorized signatory be authorized by all Consortium members or only by the Lead Member?	All the consortium/JV members.
44)	Section II, Clause 7(g)	Indian agent quoting on behalf of a foreign manufacturer must be registered under DGS&D. Order shall be placed on the successful Principal Manufacturer only.	Does Clause 7(g) apply to a Consortium/JV comprising a foreign manufacturer and an Indian partner, or only to an Agent-Principal Manufacturer arrangement?	Please refer Broad and Common point no. 8.
45)	Section III	Tender Form shall be duly completed, signed and stamped.	For a Consortium bid, should the Tender Form be signed by the Lead Member only or by all Consortium members?	As per tender condition.
46)	Section IV, Clause 4	Eligibility and purchase preference for Class-I Local Supplier, Class-II Local Supplier and Non-Local Supplier.	For a Consortium/JV, will local content and Make in India status be assessed at the Consortium level or based on the Lead Member only.	As per tender condition.
47)	Section IV, Item 8	The bidder should possess adequate	Is a self-declaration sufficient to demonstrate	As per audit report and ISO as well as other relevant

Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
	(Page 16)	material security arrangements and a written security plan for storage and accounting of security features	compliance with the security plan requirement, or are supporting documents required?	certificates.
48)	Section V	Application for pre-qualification shall be duly filled, signed and stamped.	For a Consortium bid, should Section V be submitted by all Consortium members or only by the Lead Member?	All the consortium/JV members.
49)	NIT Note below Schedule No. 1	Closing tender and time of receipt tender	We request a 4-week extension of the PQB submission deadline and hope this request can be considered.	Please refer Broad and Common point no. 3.

7. KL Hi-Tech Secure Print Limited – (vide e-mail dt. 31-Aug-26 4:00 PM)

Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
50)	Section: II Pg. No.: 5 Point No.: 1 (a) (iii)	The bidder shall have prior experience in manufacturing/ developing products having Common Criteria - certified elements i.e. chip and/or OS. The bidder shall submit copies of relevant Common Criteria Certificate as documentary evidence.	As per our understanding Development Tender does not need any prior experience in manufacturing/ developing products having Common Criteria-certified elements. Kindly clarify.	Please refer Broad and Common point no. 2.
51)	Section: II Pg. No.: 5 Point No.: 1 (a) Note (iii)	The developed inlays (Samples with minimum 125 Pcs. in 2 ups) shall be In case not found suitable, one additional chance of providing samples (Samples with minimum 125 Pcs. in 2 ups) shall be considered for lab testing & machine trial.	In case one additional opportunity is provided for submitting samples, will the CVT Team revisit the bidder's production facility?	Yes.

Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
52)	Section: II Pg. No.: 5 Point No.: 1 (a) Note (iii)	During the capacity and capability assessment, the machine capability shall be calculated as per demonstrated finished output quantity per hour.	For how many hours does the production line need to be in operation to derive the calculations?	Demonstrated finished output quantity per hour during capacity verification process.
53)	Section: II Pg. No.: 7 Point No.: 1 (b) (ii) Note-8.2] (ix)	All members of consortium shall provide an undertaking that "any member including chip manufacturer as we all as OS manufacturer/ developer....."	Kindly elaborate the meaning for our better understanding.	As per tender condition as well as Broad and Common Points no 5.
54)	Section: II Pg. No.: 7 Point No.: 4	All the capacity/ capability related data must be certified by the authorized signatory of the bidding firm?	Authorized signatory of the bidding firm: Please clarify whether it refers to the Chairman/MD, any Director, or a Board-nominated employee of the firm.	As per tender condition.
55)	Section: II Pg. No.: 8 Point No.: 7 (a)	Names of organization(s)/ firm(s) supplied annually during the last five years.	As per our understanding, the Development Tender does not require any prior experience; only capability and capacity are sought. As such, this point may not be applicable to the Development Tender. Kindly clarify.	Necessary corrigendum shall be issued.
56)	Section: II Pg. No.: 8 Point No.: 7(C)	The bidder shall indicate/ certify that authorised signatory..... legally binding contract.	As per our understanding, this is a Self-Declaration/SelfCertification. Kindly clarify whether any supporting document is required to be submitted to substantiate this Self-Declaration/SelfCertification.	As per tender condition.
57)	Section: II Pg. No.: 9 Point No.: 9 (a)	The bidder shall confirm that the offered Composite product with a minimum assurance level of EAL5+.	Point No. 9 on Page No. 4 (Section I: Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)) states that "Only those bidders found eligible in the PQB and Security cleared by GOI will be issued tender documents and detailed specifications". As per our understanding, the Chip & OS information is essential for obtaining Common Criteria Certification with a minimum assurance	At PQB stage, only declaration/ undertaking is required to be submitted. The Certificate for actual local content shall be required to submit at Techno-Commercial Bid stage. Please refer Broad and Common point no. 2.

Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
			level of EAL5+ from the Common Criteria Licensed Laboratories. Since this is a Development Tender, we understand that confirmation regarding the offered Composite Product may not be applicable at this stage.	
58)	Section: II Pg. No.: 9 Point No.: 9 (a) (ii)	The Certificate should be issued by members of Common Criteria.	Point No. 9 on Page No. 4 (Section I: Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)) states that "Only those bidders found eligible in the PQB and Security cleared by GOI will be issued tender documents and detailed specifications". Kindly clarify. As per our understanding, the Chip & OS information is essential for obtaining Common Criteria Certification with a minimum assurance level of EAL5+ from the Common Criteria Licensed Laboratories. Since this is a Development Tender, we understand that confirmation regarding the offered Composite Product may not be applicable at this stage. Kindly clarify.	At PQB stage, only declaration/ undertaking is required to be submitted. The Certificate for actual local content shall be required to submit at Techno-Commercial Bid stage. Please refer Broad and Common point no. 2.
59)	Section: II Pg. No.: 9 Point No.: 9 Note	The bids are liable for rejection for Non-submission of above declaration.	Being a Development Tender, and in the absence of Chip and OS details, it is not practically possible for a new entrant to prepare the Inlays, undergo laboratory testing and obtain	As per tender condition.

Sr. No.	Tender Section / Clause No. / Pg. No., if any	Tender Clause / Topic	Query of the firm	Reply
			certification, and submit the same along with the bid.	
60)	Section: IV Pg. No.: 14 Point No.: 5	Verification of local content and violations: a. The 'Class-I local supplier' / 'Class-II local supplier' at the time of tender, bidding or solicitation shall be required to at which the local value addition is made.	Kindly Clarify. Point No. 9 on Page No. 4 (Section I: Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)) states that "Only those bidders found eligible in the PQB and Security cleared by GOI will be issued tender documents and detailed specifications". Being a Development Tender, and in the absence of the details of Substrate, Adhesive, Copper Wire, Chip, OS, etc., it is not practically possible for a new entrant to arrive at the local content.	At PQB stage, only declaration/ undertaking is required to be submitted. The Certificate for actual local content shall be required to submit at Techno-Commercial Bid stage.
			Hence, we request you to waive this Clause from this Development Tender.	Please refer Broad and Common point no. 8.
61)	Section: V Pg. No.: 18 Point No.: 7	Checklist for submission of all the documents as per PQB requirement: 9. Declaration regarding Local Content as per Clause 7 (h) of Section II	Point No. 9 on Page No. 4 (Section I: Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)) states that "Only those bidders found eligible in the PQB and Security cleared by GOI will be issued tender documents and detailed specifications". Being a Development Tender, and in the absence of the details of Substrate, Adhesive, Copper Wire, Chip, OS, etc., it is not practically possible for a new entrant to arrive at the local content.	Please refer Broad and Common point no. 8.
62)	Section: Annexure-III	Brief Details of Manufacturing Process	Hence, we request you to waive this Clause from this Development Tender. Kindly elaborate the meaning for our better	The bidder needs to provide Brief details of the