OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER : BALANGIR (KL) DIVISION

Near RTO Chowk, Balangir- 767001, Phone & Fax No. 06652-232416,
E-Mail- dfoklbalangir@gmail.com

Letter No. 2209(3) **/ 1KL/ 2026, Date** 12/10/**/2026**

To

1. Shivani Kumari, Bid Executive, Tatwa Technologies Ltd. (Mail ID- shivani.kumari@tatwa.info)

2. Manali Mishra, PwC, 3rd Floor, E/43, iHub, Infocity Avenue, Chandrasekharpur, Patia, Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751024, India (Mail ID- manali.m.mishra@pwc.com)

3. Pritam Pattnaik, Deputy General Manager (DGM), E Square System & Technologies Pvt. Ltd.), Bhubaneswar, Odisha, (Mail ID – pritam.pattnaik@estpl.in)

Sub : **Communication of replies to pre-bid queries regarding the RFP (FE-KL-01-2026/27) for development and implementation of the Web Portal & Mobile Application – Reg.**

Sir/Madam

With reference to the RFP cited above, pre-bid queries were received from prospective bidders, and a virtual pre-bid meeting was subsequently conducted virtually on 08.10.2026 at 4.30 PM under the chairmanship of the Chief Conservator of Forests, Sambalpur (KL) Circle.

The queries have been examined by the committee, and the approved replies are enclosed herewith as **Annexure-I** for information and necessary compliance while preparing and submitting bids. All prospective bidders are requested to carefully examine the enclosed clarifications and submit their bids in accordance with the RFP, read together with the clarifications and any corrigendum issued by the Department, wherever applicable. The terms and conditions of the original RFP shall remain unchanged except to the extent expressly modified through an approved corrigendum or amendment issued by the competent authority. This communication is being issued to ensure uniform dissemination of pre-bid clarifications to all prospective bidders.

Encl : As above

12/10/2026

Divisional Forest Officer
Balangir (K.L.) Division

Memo No 2210 **/Dated.** 12/10/26

Copy along with its enclosure submitted to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (KL), Odisha, Bhubaneswar for favor of kind information and necessary action with a request to publish the clarifications to pre-bid queries in the official website of PCCF(KL), Odisha, Bhubaneswar (https://kenduleaves.odisha.gov.in).

Divisional Forest Officer,
Balangir (K.L) Division

Memo No 2211 **/Dated.** 12/10/26

Copy forwarded to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Balangir (KL) Circle/Sambalpur (KL) Circle/Cuttack (KL) Circle for favor of kind information and necessary action.

Divisional Forest Officer,
Balangir (K.L) Division

Memo No 2212 **/Dated.** 12/10/26

Copy along with the enclosures forwarded to the District e-governance Manager, OSWAN Balangir for information and necessary action. He is requested to upload the clarifications to pre-bid queries in district website (www.balangir.odisha.gov.in) for wide publicity.

Divisional Forest Officer,
Balangir (K.L) Division

Memo No 2213 **/Dated.** 12/10/26

Copy along with its enclosure forwarded to all Divisional Forest Officers (T & NT), Odisha for information and wide circulation.

Divisional Forest Officer,
Balangir (K.L) Division

Memo No 2214 **/Dated.** 12/10/26

Copy along with its enclosure forwarded to all Range Officers under Balangir K.L. Division for information and necessary action. They are instructed to display the above clarifications to pre-bid queries in their Office Notice Board.

Divisional Forest Officer,
Balangir (K.L) Division

Annexure-I

Queries Put up by ESquare Technologies

Sr. No.	Page No. of RFP	Section No. of RFP	Content of RFP	Points of Clarification	Reply to the Queries by the Technical Committee
1	21	8. Eligibility Criteria (Pt. no. 4)	Have completed at least one project involving weather or climate data, agricultural or forestry advisory services, geographic information systems.	As per the stated eligibility requirement, we understand that the Bidder is required to have successfully completed at least one project involving weather or climate data or agricultural or forestry advisory services or Geographic Information System (GIS)-based services. We kindly request to consider modify the clause as follows: "Have completed/on-going at least one project involving weather or climate data or agricultural or forestry advisory services or Geographic Information Systems (GIS) or mobile applications or location-based services." The proposed modification will broaden participation by recognizing mobile and location-based services, which involve relevant capabilities such as GIS/GPS integration, spatial data processing, real-time data and field-level information management. Allowing ongoing projects will further enable technically capable bidders with relevant experience to participate, thereby promoting wider participation, fair competition and availability of qualified bidders without compromising technical competency.	not accepted as framed, with a clarification that as published in the RFP, the criterion stays at completed projects. Generic mobile app projects are not added as per published RFP. The criterion tests domain experience in weather and climate data, agricultural or forestry advisory, or GIS. A location-based service counts if it involves GIS, meaning spatial data processing and mapping or as otherwise deemed appropriate by the tender committee, and the bidder shows this in the project summary (Form C).
2	21	9. Evaluation Methodology (Pt. no. 1)	Relevant experience — web and mobile systems, GIS, offline-capable field applications, and AI or LLM deployment. Produce certificates or work orders; 5 marks for each qualifying work order	We kindly request to consider modify the clause as follows: "Relevant experience in web and mobile systems/GIS/location-based services/offline-capable field applications/AI/LLM deployment. Produce certificates or work orders; 5 marks for each qualifying work order." The proposed modification recognizes equivalent and closely relevant technology experience, particularly location-based solutions, while avoiding	Work orders demonstrating experience in any of the listed domains (web and mobile systems, GIS, offline-capable field applications, AI/LLM deployment) will be considered, at 5 marks each, subject to certificates or work orders. A work order showing experience in any one or more of these domains will be treated as a qualifying work order, at 5 marks each. It must be supported by a work order or completion certificate. A work order spanning more than one domain will be counted once, under a single domain nominated by the bidder.

Sr. No.	Page No. of RFP	Section No. of RFP	Content of RFP	Points of Clarification	Reply to the Queries by the Technical Committee
				an overly restrictive interpretation of individual technologies. This will promote wider participation and fair competition without compromising the required technical capability.	The overall cap for this criterion stays at 35 marks. Form C (project summary) must be submitted for each project cited. The listed domains stay as published. Location-based services are not a separate domain. Work involving GPS, mapping or spatial data is counted under GIS, and the bidder has to show that in the work order.
3	21	9. Evaluation Methodology (Pt. no. 2)	Government Projects in the relevant field (Each Completed project Carrying 5 marks each)	As per the stated evaluation criteria, we understood/assumed that Government projects in the relevant field includes e-governance applications for both web & mobile application having locations/weather services. Please provide clarifications if our understanding is correct.	partly correct. “Relevant field” has the same meaning as in the relevance column of Form C: weather, agriculture, forestry, mapping, rural data collection, or delegated administration across a hierarchy. An e-governance web or mobile application counts if it has a weather, location or mapping service, or one of those other elements. A general e-governance application without any of them does not. Each project must be completed, for a Government or PSU client, and supported by a work order and completion certificate.
4	19	6. Financial Bid Format and Payment Schedule	6.2 Payment schedule	We kindly request to consider modify the clause as follows: 1. M1: Team in Place, Guarantee Furnished & Plan Approved – 10% 2. M2: Design, Development, Deployment & Go-Live of Master Web Portal and Android/iOS Application across the State (all 149 Ranges live & accepted) – 50% 3. M3: User Training, Handover of all Deliverables & Successful Operation from April to June – 10% 4. M4: Annual Support/AMC – Year 2 – 10% 6. M5: Annual Support/AMC – Year 3 – 10% 7. M6: Annual Support/AMC – Year 4 – 10% The proposed milestone-based payment structure aligns payments with measurable deliverables, successful deployment and acceptance, while ensuring adequate cash flow during the intensive development and rollout phase. This will support timely resource deployment and implementation	not accepted. Section 6.2 of the published RFP stands.

Sr. No.	Page No. of RFP	Section No. of RFP	Content of RFP	Points of Clarification	Reply to the Queries by the Technical Committee
				without compromising the Authority's payment safeguards.	
5	5	3. Scope of Work	Additional Clarification	Information on total users and concurrent users is essential for estimating resource requirements and computing the financial cost of the project. Without these details, bidders cannot prepare realistic technical and commercial proposals. Kindly request you to provide information regarding Total no. of Users and Concurrent Users.	All of this is in Section 4, plus the figures in Section 1 of the published RFP: Peak concurrent use is 5,000, able to grow to 10,000 without rebuilding. Registered accounts are 25,000. Organisation: 3 Circles, 19 Divisions, 42 Sub-Divisions and 149 Ranges. There are about 7,300 Phadis and about 17,000 seasonal staff, including 7,274 Munshis. The roughly 8.6 lakh pluckers are not application users. They get advisories only through their Phadi staff.
6	15	4. Technical Requirements and Standards	Hosting- Inside India, in the Odisha State Data Centre or a Government cloud empanelled by MeitY, as we direct. All data, all backups and all model inference stay in India. Separate live, test and disaster recovery environments, with the recovery site in a different seismic zone.	We request to kindly clarify whether the associated cloud/hosting infrastructure and recurring charges, including Live, Test & DR environments, storage, backup, bandwidth, security, monitoring and related cloud services, shall be borne by the Authority or are to be included in the Bidder's financial proposal.	Hosting is to be included in the Bidder's financial proposal. The cost of the live, test and DR environments, including storage, backup, bandwidth, security, monitoring and related cloud services, is covered by Lines A and B up to Go-Live (including the warranty year) and by Lines D, E and F thereafter, as per Section 6.1. Quotation for hosting including GPU for AI are to be quoted separately in the financial bid. However, the department reserves the right to select the hosting provider such as the Odisha State Data Centre, OCAC or a MeitY-empanelled Government cloud or any other cloud within India.
7	13	3.9 Component I — Data Migration and Master Data	Load and verify the full list of Circles, Divisions, Sub-Divisions, Ranges, Sections and Phadis, with the map location of each Phadi and each office, and the seasonal staff register.	Please confirm Department will supply Circle-to-Phadi lists, boundary shapefiles, Phadi coordinates and staff register in digital form within 1 week of LoI, and state volume (years/pages) of past registers to be digitised.	The Department will supply, in digital form and in the formats in which it holds them: (a) the list of Circles, Divisions, Sub-Divisions, Ranges, Sections and Phadis; (b) the latitude and longitude of the Phadis, as available with the Department; (c) the boundary data held by the Department; and (d) the seasonal staff register. The Agency shall load and verify all of this data (Section 3.9). Where a Phadi coordinate or boundary is missing, or is found to be wrong on verification, the Agency shall capture or correct it through the Android/iOS application, with the correction approved by a Delegated Administrator before it changes the master record (Section 3.3). The Agency remains

Sr. No.	Page No. of RFP	Section No. of RFP	Content of RFP	Points of Clarification	Reply to the Queries by the Technical Committee
					responsible for the acceptance target that at least 9 in 10 Phadis have a verified map location (Section 5.2, criterion 4)
8	17	5.2 Acceptance criteria	14 consecutive operating days inside a 15-day pilot; ≥95% message delivery daily; zero Agency intervention	Request 21-day pilot window (14 days counted consecutively), 95% delivery measured on valid, active numbers (excluding telecom/WhatsApp outages and DND), and exclusion of days affected by IMD/third-party failures or force majeure.	21-day window: not accepted. The pilot is fixed at 15 days (Section 3.10). Pilot live is no later than 01.01.2027 (M4), the evaluation is due well before 30.01.2027 (M5), and statewide Go-Live is by 15.02.2027 (M6) 95% delivery measured on valid, active numbers: partly accepted. The Department enrols the numbers, and the system must flag anomalies (Section 3.2). Proposed wording: delivery is measured against registered recipients with valid, active mobile numbers, using the gateway or operator delivery reports. A number found invalid is corrected through the portal. Excluding DND: not accepted. The Agency registers templates under the correct DLT category (Section 3.7), and delivery is counted on at least one channel among SMS, WhatsApp and voice. Excluding IMD or third-party failures: not accepted. Section 7 states that failure of a weather data source is not force majeure, because automatic switchover is required. The RFP also treats IMD as always on. Force majeure: the Section 7 clause applies as written. The event must be genuinely beyond the Agency's control and notified within seven days. A day affected by an accepted event can be dealt with under that clause, not by an automatic exclusion

Query raised by Tatwa Technologies

Sr. No.	Clause	Page No	Queries	Reply to Queries by the Technical Committee
1	9. Evaluation Methodology	21	It is requested to kindly clarify that Relevant experience — web and mobile systems, GIS, offline-capable field applications, and AI or LLM deployment. Produce certificates or work orders; 5 marks for each qualifying work order kindly clarify whether the mentioned areas are to be considered as web and mobile systems/ GIS/ offline-capable field applications/ and AI or LLM deployment Since these are distinct technical domains and may not be implemented together in one project, we request that individual work orders demonstrating experience in any of the specified areas may kindly be considered for 5 marks each, subject to submission of relevant certificates/work orders.	Work orders demonstrating experience in any of the listed domains (web and mobile systems, GIS, offline-capable field applications, AI/LLM deployment) will be considered, at 5 marks each, subject to certificates or work orders. A work order showing experience in any one or more of these domains will be treated as a qualifying work order, at 5 marks each. It must be supported by a work order or completion certificate. A work order spanning more than one domain will be counted once, under a single domain nominated by the bidder. The overall cap for this criterion stays at 35 marks. Form C (project summary) must be submitted for each project cited.
2		2	What is the approximate budget allocated for this assignment?	The Department has not published an estimated cost for this assignment. Bidders are required to assess the effort and cost from the functional specifications in Section 3 and quote a total firm price in the format at Section 6.1 / Form F. Bids will be evaluated under QCBS as per Section 9.
3		2	The RFP mentions February 2027 as the target Go-Live date. Could you please confirm the expected project start date? We understand that the Go-Live date will be dependent on the contract signing date and subsequent project commencement. Kindly confirm.	The start date is "T", the date the Letter of Intent (LoI) is issued (Section 3.10). It is not the contract signing date. The Authority does not fix a calendar date for the LoI in the RFP. Bidders must state the LoI date they assume and show month by month how the pilot and rollout fit (Section 3.10). The milestone dates do not move with the LoI date: M1 is T+1 week, M2 is T+4 weeks and M3 is T+8 weeks. M4 (pilot live in Balangir) is no later than 01.01.2027. M5 (pilot complete) is well before 30.01.2027. M6 (statewide Go-Live) is no later than 15.02.2027. Bid validity is 180 days from the opening of the technical part.
4	4	15	We understand that the deployment servers/environments required for the Web Application, including Staging and Production, will be provided and managed by the Client. Kindly confirm whether this is correct.	Quotation for hosting including GPU for AI are to be quoted separately in the financial bid. However, the department reserves the right to select the hosting provider such as the Odisha State Data Centre, OCAC or a MeitY-empanelled Government cloud or any other cloud within India. Hosting is to be included in the Bidder's financial proposal. The cost of the live, test and DR environments, including storage, backup, bandwidth, security, monitoring and related cloud services, is covered by Lines A and B up to Go-Live (including the warranty year) and by Lines D, E and F thereafter, as per Section 6.1.

<table>
<tr><th>Sr. No.</th><th>Clause</th><th>Page No</th><th>Queries</th><th>Reply to Queries by the Technical Committee</th></tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Clause 3.4, Clause 4 and Clause 6.1</td>
<td>11 & 18</td>
<td>Clause 3.4 (Page 11) and Clause 6.1 (Page 18) specifically clarify that subscription-based enterprise weather forecast services delivered through APIs are switched on by the Master Administrator as required and that the Department will pay such subscription costs directly when the service is used. The RFP further states that enterprise weather subscriptions are not included in any financial bid line.

However, Clause 6.1 also states that Annual Support/AMC Lines D, E and F include “messaging charges”, while Clause 4 requires every paid component to be declared in the bid along with its renewal cost.

In this context, kindly clarify whether:

1.All subscription/usage/renewal charges for paid third-party APIs and services, other than enterprise weather forecast subscriptions, are to be borne by the Department directly and are therefore excluded from the bidder's quoted contract value; or

2.WhatsApp Enterprise API, SMS gateway/telecom/DLT charges and other paid third-party service charges are deemed to be included within the bidder's quoted Capital Cost/AMC, particularly under Lines D, E and F.

Specifically, kindly confirm the financial responsibility for:

A. Enterprise weather forecast API subscriptions;
B. WhatsApp Enterprise API subscription/conversation/message charges;
C. SMS gateway, telecom and DLT-related registration/message charges; and
D. Any other paid third-party API, platform, licence or subscription required for operation of the solution.</td>
<td>Option 2 is correct, with one exception (item A below).

<table>
<tr><th>Item</th><th>Who pays</th><th>RFP basis</th></tr>
<tr><td>A. Enterprise weather API subscriptions</td><td>Agency shall assist the Department in acquiring and paying the requisite fees for the subscription as desired by the department, directly, when the Master Administrator switches a paid source on. Not in any bid line. The bidder builds and proves the integration and states each provider’s annual cost for budgeting only. This is not counted in bid comparison.</td><td>3.4, 6.1</td></tr>
<tr><td>B. WhatsApp Enterprise API charges</td><td>Included in the bidder’s price. Lines D, E and F cover “messaging charges”. Year 1 is covered under the capital cost.</td><td>3.7, 6.1</td></tr>
<tr><td>C. SMS gateway, telecom and DLT registration and message charges</td><td>Included in the bidder’s price. The bidder registers the routes through an Indian carrier with approved DLT headers and templates.</td><td>3.7, 6.1</td></tr>
<tr><td>D. Any other paid third-party API, platform, licence or subscription</td><td>Included in the bidder’s price. Every paid component must be declared, with renewal cost for the contract period plus five years. Third-party items are licensed in the Government’s name for the contract period plus five years.</td><td>4 (Software choices), 7 (Ownership)</td></tr>
</table>

The only exclusions from the bid price are the enterprise weather subscriptions and the AI inference hardware.
Prices are firm for the whole contract. A line left blank is treated as included at no cost (6.1).
Capacity figures for estimating message volumes are 25,000 registered accounts and a 7-day SMS forecast during March to June.</td>
</tr>
</table>

Sr. No.	Clause	Page No	Queries	Reply to Queries by the Technical Committee
6	4	15	The RFP mentions an “Android/iOS Application” in the scope and specifies that the application shall support Android 9 and iOS 14 and above under the Technical Requirements. Kindly clarify whether the scope requires development of both Android and iOS applications, or only one platform (Android or iOS).	Both platforms are in scope. The application must run on Android 9 and above and iOS 14 and above, on a handset with 2 GB of memory and under 60 MB installed. In addition, a browser-based version of the field application must work on iOS 14 and above (Section 4, Devices).
7			Whether a consortium/JV arrangement is permitted for participating in this tender?	consortium or JV bids are not permitted, and bids must come from a single entity.
8		19	With reference to Section 6.2 – Payment Schedule, the current payment structure provides 50% payment upon development/Go-Live and the remaining 50% during the Maintenance period. Since the majority of the development effort and associated costs will be incurred during the implementation phase , consider revising the payment schedule to 70% upon completion/Go-Live of the development phase and 30% during the Maintenance period. This revised structure would better align the payment milestones with the project implementation efforts and associated development costs	Section 6.2 stays as published, and the Authority does not accept the request

SL No	Page No	Clause No / Section	Clause	Query / Suggestion	Reply by Authority (based on published RFP)
1	2	Key facts / contract period	Statewide Go-Live is due before 15 February 2027, followed by 12 months warranty and 36 months paid O&M.	We understand that implementation may involve pilot activation and Circle-level operationalization prior to statewide rollout. Since the commencement of the warranty and O&M periods is linked to the Statewide Go-Live milestone, kindly clarify the event that shall be considered as the contractual Statewide Go-Live date for initiation of the 12-month warranty and 36-month O&M periods, particularly where pilot and Circle-level activations occur on different dates.	The contractual Statewide Go-Live date is the date on which Milestone M6 (Section 5.1) is achieved and accepted by the Authority, i.e. all 3 Circles, 19 Divisions, 42 Sub-Divisions and 149 Ranges live and accepted. The 12-month warranty and 36-month paid O&M run from that date (Key Facts, page 2). The Balangir pilot (M4/M5) and any Circle-level or Range-level activation before M6 do not start the warranty or O&M periods.
2	2, 20	7 / performance security	Performance guarantee is 5% of contract value valid through the term plus six months.	We understand that a Performance Security equivalent to 5% of the contract value is required throughout the contract period and an additional six months. Kindly confirm whether the Performance Security shall be calculated on the contract value inclusive or exclusive of applicable taxes and optional subscriptions. Further, kindly clarify the conditions and timeline for its reduction or release, including any obligations extending beyond the contract term.	The Performance Guarantee is 5% of contract value, furnished as a bank guarantee at M1 (T+1 week) and valid for the contract period plus six months (Key Facts, page 2). Contract value means the Grand Total (Line G) of the accepted financial bid. The RFP provides no step-down; the guarantee is released on expiry of its validity if no claim is pending.
3	3	Dates / query response	Queries close 07.10.2026; replies by 12.10.2026; bids due 22.10.2026.	We understand that responses to pre-bid queries will be issued prior to bid submission. Kindly consider providing a reasonable period between publication of clarifications/corrigenda and the bid submission deadline to enable appropriate incorporation of changes. Further, kindly confirm whether the bid submission date will be extended in the event of material modifications to the scope or requirements	Replies to pre-bid queries and any corrigenda will be published on the websites as mentioned in the RFP notice (www.balangir.odisha.gov.in, https://kenduleaves.odisha.gov.in) by 12.10.2026 (Section 3, item 6). Bids are due on 22.10.2026 at 17:00 hrs. Whether the submission date is extended after a material change in scope or requirements will be decided by the Authority and notified through the same channels (Section 10.2). The reply to prebid queries will be sent to all bidders who raised queries.
4	4–5, 25	1.2 / 2(1) / Annexure 1	An existing scoring SOP is specified in Annexure 1, but Objective 2(1) also asks the agency to design weather parameters and prepare an SOP.	We understand that Annexure 1 provides an existing SOP framework, while the assignment also refers to preparation of weather parameters and SOP design. Kindly clarify whether Annexure 1 shall serve as the approved baseline for implementation and acceptance, or whether the selected Agency is expected to revise the SOP. If revisions are envisaged, kindly specify the approval authority, review process, and approval stage	Annexure 1 is a model baseline for implementation and acceptance. It is taken from the Department's existing SOP, is to be built as set out with every value configurable (Annexure 1, introduction), and is the reference for the hand-check of scores in Section 5.2(2). The Agency is expected to improvise the SOP: Objective 2(1) is met by configuring the parameters as in Annexure 1 and documenting them in the manuals and administrator handbook. Any later change arises only from the pilot evaluation (Stage 3) or accuracy analysis (Section 3.8), as a recommendation for approval by the Master Administrator under the two-person rule (Section 3.1).
5	4, 13, 15	1 / 3.10 Stage 1 / 4 Devices	The footprint is 3 Circles, 19 Divisions, 42 Sub-Divisions, 149 Ranges and about 7,300 Phadis, while field survey, onboarding and statewide rollout run in parallel.	We understand that statewide onboarding, user enrolment, and rollout activities are planned across multiple administrative levels and Phadi locations. Please provide Division-wise information on users, staff, Phadis, device availability, and connectivity assumptions, wherever available. In case such information is not presently available, kindly confirm the standard assumptions bidders may adopt for effort estimation until completion of the Stage 1 survey.	Please refer to Sections 1, 4 of the RFP. The Department will give Division-wise lists as held.
6	4–5, 12	1.1 / 3.8	The goal is reducing leaf loss and wage disruption, but no baseline or attributable outcome metric is specified.	We understand that the solution aims to improve operational efficiency and reduce weather-related losses. Please clarify and confirm whether historical production, weather, quality, leaf-loss and plucker-day datasets will be made available for establishing baselines and measuring outcomes. Additionally, kindly distinguish operational acceptance criteria from longer-term performance outcomes influenced by external factors	Please refer to Sections 3.8, 3.9, 5.2 of the RFP. The Department will share historical data it holds in digital form.
7	5	1.2 / KL Sentinel	A working demonstration is cited as already built.	We understand that a KL Sentinel demonstration has already been developed and referenced in the RFP. Kindly clarify whether the demonstration is being provided exclusively for	The KL Sentinel demonstration is cited for reference only (Section 1.2). The RFP does not provide its source code, datasets or reuse rights to bidders, and none may be assumed. Independently developed solutions that meet Section

SL No	Page No	Clause No / Section	Clause	Query / Suggestion	Reply by Authority (based on published RFP)
				reference purposes or whether the associated source code, documentation, datasets, and reuse rights will be made available to the selected Agency. Kindly also confirm that independently developed compliant solutions shall be acceptable.	3 are acceptable; Form D asks the bidder to state, for each component, whether it already does it, will configure it, build it or use a third party.
8	5, 11, 26	2(6) / 3.5 / Annexure 1(D)	Objective 2(6) requires seven-day SMS forecasts during March to June, while routine scoring/registers and the offline advice are three-day.	Please clarify and confirm whether the seven-day forecast is expected to include fully scored advisories and activity-specific recommendations for all seven days, or whether days 4-7 may be provided as forecast outlook information. Kindly also specify the expected issuance schedule, update frequency, and treatment of forecast uncertainty.	Fully scored, activity-specific advisories (plucking, drying, storage) are required for the three-day horizon (Section 3.5; Annexure 1(D)). The seven-day SMS (Objective 2, item 6; March to June) gives the forecast outlook for the coming seven days: days 4 to 7 may be provided as outlook information without a binding Go/No-Go instruction and shall be marked as outlook. Issuance follows the daily cycle in Annexure 1(D), with times configurable by the Master Administrator (Section 3.1); updates are daily, with immediate warnings outside the cycle (Section 3.5). Uncertainty is shown through disagreement between sources (Section 3.5) and the low-confidence flag (Section 3.12(b)).
9	6–7	3.1 / two-person rule	The Master Administrator is the only category creator and delegator, while sensitive changes need a second approver.	We understand that certain administrative functions require maker- checker approval while category management remains under the Master Administrator. Kindly clarify the approval workflow applicable to creation, modification, retirement and delegation of user categories, including provisions for alternate approvers and urgent operational situations.	Please refer to Sections 3.1 (two-person rule) and 3.2 of the RFP.
10	6–7	3.1 / audit log	An uneditable log is required for the contract period plus seven years.	We understand that audit logs are required to remain available throughout the contract period and for seven years thereafter. Kindly clarify the hosting, retention, archival, access, retrieval and handover responsibilities applicable during the post-contract retention period, including ownership of associated infrastructure costs.	Please refer to Section 3.1 (audit log) and Section 7 (Ownership of the data) of the RFP.
11	6, 11	3.1 / 3.4 / 3.5	Administrator can configure source priority and weights, but divergent readings are averaged.	We request the client to define the respective roles of source priority, source weights and the requirement to average available readings and also provide the intended rules for stale/missing feeds, data timestamp alignment and conflicting warnings.	Please refer to Sections 3.1, 3.4, 3.5 of the RFP. Staleness and timestamp rules are fixed at the design stage.
12	6–7	3.1 / emergency override	Changes to safety overrides require two-person approval, and emergency override use triggers an alert.	Please confirm and clarify whether a manual emergency safety override is permitted and, if so, its authorized role, geographic scope, duration, precedence and retrospective approval where normal maker–checker approval cannot be obtained immediately.	Section 3.1 provides for an emergency override: its use warns the Master Administrator by e-mail and on screen and is recorded in the audit log, and changes to safety overrides otherwise need two-person approval. The authorised role, geographic scope, duration, precedence and retrospective approval will be defined in the requirements specification (M2) for the Authority's approval, on the principle that the override is available only to the Master Administrator (or the nominated alternate), is time-limited and is subject to later approval by the second person.
13	6–7	3.1 / configuration history	Bands, source weights, templates and Division-level thresholds can all change during operations.	We understand that operational parameters such as thresholds, weights, bands and templates may evolve during the contract period. Kindly clarify the process governing effective dates, rollback procedures, approvals, and version management, including confirmation that historical decisions can be reproduced using the corresponding configuration and data versions applicable at the time of issuance.	Please refer to Sections 3.1, 3.3, 3.5, 3.8 and Annexure 1 of the RFP.
14	7–9	3.2 / access control	User categories are configurable, with hierarchical jurisdiction, temporary grants and overriding blocks.	We request the client to provide a baseline role-permission matrix and illustrative cases for overlapping grants/blocks, additional jurisdictions, transfers and offline revocation, so that bidders can implement and test the intended effective-access rules.	Please refer to Section 3.2 of the RFP. The detailed permission matrix is fixed at the design stage.

SL No	Page No	Clause No / Section	Clause	Query / Suggestion	Reply by Authority (based on published RFP)
15	8–9	3.2 / user enrolment	Mobile number is the unique login identity; seasonal staff may share handsets.	We understand that mobile numbers are proposed as the primary user identity, while certain field users may operate through shared devices. Kindly clarify the enrolment, authentication, account recovery and verification procedures applicable to shared devices, SIM replacement, lost devices and users without personal mobile numbers. Kindly also specify requirements relating to offline authentication, MFA and failed- login handling.	Please refer to Sections 3.2 and 3.6; Section 4 (Security) of the RFP.
16	8–9	3.2 / delegated access	An administrator can bulk reassign users and jurisdictions, while permissions cannot exceed the delegator's own authority.	We request the client to kindly define approval and expiry requirements for bulk jurisdiction changes and temporary additional access. Please confirm whether an explicit block always prevails, including in an emergency, and how the effective-access preview is verified.	Please refer to Sections 3.1 and 3.2 of the RFP.
17	9	3.2 / registered users	The portal exports personal details and logs every viewing of a user list.	Kindly define which user-list views and exports must be audit-logged and what masking, export authorisation and retention controls apply to personal details in the registered-users screen.	Please refer to Sections 3.1, 3.2, 3.8; Section 7 (Personal information) of the RFP.
18	9–10	3.3 / map source data	The agency must capture missing boundaries and approximately 7,300 Phadi locations.	We request the client to kindly share the inventory and quality status of existing boundaries, office/Phadi coordinates and source licences and also please specify the approximate volume requiring new capture, and the Department role responsible for approving disputed locations or boundaries.	The Department will provide, in digital form and in the formats it holds, the Circle-to-Phadi lists, boundary data, the latitude and longitude of Phadis, and the staff register, as available (Sections 3.3, 3.9). The RFP does not publish an inventory or quality status of this data; the Agency verifies it (Section 3.9). About 7,300 Phadis are in scope and at least 9 in 10 must have a verified location (Section 5.2(4)); the volume needing new capture will be known only after verification. A missing or wrong location is captured through the app by the Munshi and approved by a Delegated Administrator before the master record changes (Section 3.3). Disputed locations or boundaries are referred by the Delegated Administrator to the Master Administrator for decision. Base data comes from Bhuvan or Survey of India, with an open-source fallback (Sections 3.3, 4).
19	10	3.3 / operational layers	Layers include Phadi Command Area, actual forecast, live imagery and production/ pluckers.	Kindly provide definitions, available source data and expected refresh rates for Phadi Command Areas, "Actual Forecast," live weather imagery and production/plucker layers. Please confirm whether integrations with existing departmental systems are in scope and whether interfaces will be provided.	Please refer to Section 3.3 of the RFP. Definitions and refresh rates are fixed at design; no integration beyond Section 3.9.
20	10–11	3.4 / IMD integration	IMD forecasts, nowcasts and warnings are mandatory and always on.	We understand that integration with IMD services is a mandatory requirement under the assignment. Kindly confirm whether the Department will facilitate the necessary permissions, credentials, technical specifications and representative test environments required for integration within the project timeline. Additionally, kindly clarify the treatment of milestone acceptance and implementation timelines in the event of delays arising from dependencies outside the Agency's control. Please clarify and confirm.	The IMD integration follows standard RESTful API connectors or file-push structures of IMD/NCMRWF or its regional centres (Section 3.4) and is the Agency's responsibility. The Department will issue the letters and authorisations the Agency reasonably needs to obtain IMD access, credentials, specifications and test environments. Under Section 5.3, delay deductions apply only to delay caused by the Agency; where delay arises from dependencies outside the Agency's control, the Authority will consider the Agency's written request with evidence, but the fixed dates in Section 5.1 (M4 by 01.01.2027; M6 by 15.02.2027) remain tied to the crop calendar. A weather data source failure is not force majeure (Section 7).
21	10	3.4 / six connectors	M3 requires six connectors: IMD (1), open-source models (minimum 3) and enterprise sources built and proven though inactive (minimum 2).	Kindly clarify whether three model products delivered through one Open- Meteo API count as three open-model integrations. For the two enterprise connectors required to be proven while inactive and unsubscribed, please define eligible API/functionality, required test evidence, who supplies credentials and who bears any temporary test-access charges.	Please refer to Section 3.4 of the RFP. Test-access charges for proving connectors are in the Agency's price.

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22	10	3.3 / basemap and layers	Government base maps and open geospatial standards are required, but specific services and scale are not defined.	Kindly prescribe the required coordinate system, minimum acceptable map/location accuracy and open service/file standards, and clarify permissible offline basemap use and fallback if a Government map service is unavailable.	Please refer to Section 3.3 (Data, standards and sources); Section 4 (Geospatial standards) of the RFP.
23	10–11	3.3 / Phadi coordinates	A Munshi can submit a phone GPS correction for delegated administrator approval.	Kindly define the evidence and positional tolerance for verifying a Phadi coordinate under Section 5.2(4), and the approval process when handset GPS is imprecise or the submitted point conflicts with jurisdiction records.	Please refer to Section 3.3; 5.2(4) of the RFP. Tolerance and evidence are fixed at design.
24	10–11	3.3–3.4 / spatial matching	Forecast and warning layers must serve local decisions for thousands of Phadis, while source data may have different grid sizes and warning polygons.	Kindly specify the method and acceptable resolution for mapping model- grid forecasts and IMD warning polygons to a Phadi, including the treatment of sites near grid or warning boundaries. This would make local advice and map acceptance testable.	The RFP does not prescribe the method. The Agency shall propose in the design (M2) how model-grid forecasts and IMD warning polygons are mapped to each Phadi (for example point-in-polygon for warnings and nearest-grid or interpolation for forecasts), stating each source's resolution, for approval by the Authority. Consistent with Section 3.4 (any IMD warning overrides the score) and Section 3.5 (lower score where sources differ), a Phadi on or near a warning or grid boundary is treated conservatively.
25	10–17	3.3–3.12 / 5.1 M3– M6 / 5.2	The implementation plan requires all nine components by M3 (T+8 weeks), a Balangir pilot by 1 January 2027 and statewide go-live by 15 February 2027.	Given the compressed M3-to-M6 schedule, would the Authority issue a prioritized release matrix with feature, geography, date and acceptance evidence at each gate? We suggest keeping IMD warnings, deterministic scoring and safety overrides, role controls, approved Odia dissemination/fallback, essential offline use, audit logs and core registers non-deferrable before operational go-live; any expressly approved non- safety thematic layers, historical backfill, optional voice and advanced AI should have dated post-go-live gates by corrigendum. Please confirm the exact scope rather than implying a unilateral bidder deferral.	Please refer to Sections 3, 5.1 and 5.2 of the RFP.
26	11	3.4 / open-source feeds	The specification assumes free sources have no API key, license fee or usage limit.	Kindly confirm whether an equivalent approved open forecast source may replace a listed source if its API terms, capacity or availability change during the contract, and how any resulting third-party charges would be treated.	Free sources must have no licence fee, no API key and no usage limit, and the Agency may propose other free public sources; the Master Administrator selects sources through the portal (Section 3.4). If a listed source's terms, capacity or availability change, the Agency replaces it with an equivalent free source, approved by the Master Administrator, at no cost to the Department. Please refer to Section 3.4 (Tier 2); Section 7 (Force majeure) of the RFP.
27	11, 25	3.5 / Annexure 1(A)– (B)	Annexure 1 gives continuous parameter bands and says to round only the final score to two decimals; colour cut-offs occur at 2.00, 3.00 and 4.00.	Kindly issue worked examples for parameter boundaries and final-score rounding, including a total that rounds to a colour threshold. Please confirm whether classification uses the unrounded score or the score rounded to two decimals.	Please refer to Annexure 1(A), (B) of the RFP. Colour is assigned on the total rounded to two decimals.
28	11, 26	3.5 / Annexure 1(C)	Source-score divergence >1.5 takes the lower score and marks the day yellow.	Kindly specify the order of precedence when source divergence requires the lower score and a yellow flag, but the lower score or another safety rule requires a more restrictive action. Please include expected score, colour and job-specific instruction in a worked example.	The more restrictive outcome applies. When two sources differ by more than 1.5 points, the lower score is taken and the day is marked yellow for the Section In-Charge to decide (Section 3.5; Annexure 1(C)). Yellow is therefore the least restrictive colour the day can show in that case; if the lower score falls in ORANGE or RED, that colour stands. Safety overrides and the job-specific rules continue to apply.
29	11, 26	3.5 / Annexure 1(C)	Drying needs six unbroken suitable hours; afternoon rain bars a new batch.	Kindly define the local hours used to assess the six-hour drying window and the probability/time horizon meant by “rain likely in the afternoon.” Please provide expected decisions for incomplete hourly forecasts.	Please refer to Annexure 1(C); 3.5 of the RFP. Drying hours and the 'rain likely' threshold are configurable defaults fixed at design.
30	11–12	3.6 / offline and stale advice	Offline forms and cached advice must work and show age when data is stale.	Kindly specify the maximum safe age of cached advice, the field instruction when that age is exceeded and the resolution/audit rules for offline entries that conflict after synchronisation.	Please refer to Section 3.6 of the RFP. Maximum age of cached advice is configurable.

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31	11	3.4 / source failure	IMD is always on and cannot be turned off; other sources have selectable priority, weight and automatic switchover.	Kindly confirm the required user-facing state and operating rule if the mandatory IMD feed or warning service becomes unavailable while other forecast models remain available, including any time limit for using the last valid IMD warning.	IMD cannot be switched off (Section 3.4). If the IMD feed or warning service is unavailable while other sources work, the app and portal show the last valid IMD warning with its time, marked as 'IMD feed unavailable', the Master Administrator is alerted and the system-health page shows the fault (Section 3.1), and advice continues from the other sources. A last valid IMD warning stays in force until its own validity ends as stated in the IMD bulletin.
32	11, 25	3.5 / Annexure 1(A)	Rain chance, humidity and pressure are scored together from potentially different observation/forecast products.	Kindly define the observation/forecast period and statistic for each of the six SOP inputs (for example, hourly value, daily maximum or daily probability), as well as the required unit and time-zone normalisation before averaging sources.	Please refer to Annexure 1; 3.5 of the RFP. The statistic and period for each input are fixed at design.
33	11, 26	3.5 / Annexure 1(C)	The rule says never advise plucking if one source has >40% rain probability, regardless of the averaged score.	Kindly provide a worked example where rain risk from one source prevents plucking but other activities remain permissible. Please specify whether the day colour changes or the prohibition is conveyed solely through the activity-specific instruction.	Advice is given separately for plucking, drying and storage (Section 3.5; Annexure 1(C)). The rule that one source above 40% chance of rain bars plucking applies to the plucking advice: the instruction becomes 'Do not pluck' with the reason shown. The total and colour are still calculated from the six readings (Annexure 1(B)); the colour is not changed by this rule, and the message carries both so staff are not misled. Example: total 4.12 (GREEN) but one source shows 45% rain: Plucking NO; Drying assessed on the drying conditions; Storage assessed on the storage conditions.
34	11, 26	3.5 / Annexure 1(C)–(D)	Immediate severe-weather warnings are triggered by IMD bulletins, low pressure or sustained wind, outside the normal cycle.	Kindly specify the maximum elapsed time from receipt of a severe- weather trigger to issue of a field alert, along with alert expiry/all-clear, duplicate suppression, affected-area targeting and escalation for recipients without data service.	Please refer to Sections 3.4 and 3.5 of the RFP.
35	12, 15	3.6 / 4 Devices	Android 9/iOS 14, 2 GB RAM, <60 MB installed; browser-based field version on iOS.	Kindly state the mandatory feature parity between the native Android/iOS applications and the iOS browser-based field version, particularly for offline work, GPS, notifications and shared devices. Please identify the reference devices and method for verifying the installed-size limit.	Please refer to Sections 3.6, 4 of the RFP. The Agency states which functions the browser version supports.
36	12	3.6 / shared handset	Munshi and Phadi Sathi can swap quickly without logging in each time.	Kindly define a secure quick-switch procedure on shared handsets that attributes each entry and override to the correct individual, including offline authentication, session expiry and lost-device handling.	Please refer to Section 3.6 (shared handset); Section 4 (Security) of the RFP.
37	12	3.7 / WhatsApp and SMS	WhatsApp groups, picture cards, Odia SMS, delivery tracking and DLT are required.	Kindly confirm which party will obtain and own WhatsApp Business access, telecom/DLT registration, approved Odia templates and recipient permissions. Please specify whether set-up and Year 1 transaction charges are to be included in the capital quote.	Please refer to Sections 3.7, 6.1 of the RFP. Registrations stand in the Government's name.
38	12, 17	3.7 / 5.2(3)	At least 95% of registered recipients must receive a message daily on one channel.	Kindly define “received” for the 95% daily messaging test, the denominator of eligible recipients, acceptable delivery evidence by channel and treatment of recipients unreachable because of telecom outages or inactive numbers.	'Received' means delivered on at least one channel (SMS, WhatsApp or voice), shown by the gateway or operator delivery report (delivered status for SMS and WhatsApp; answered for voice). The denominator is the registered recipients with Active status and a valid mobile number in the area (Sections 3.2, 5.2(3)). Numbers verified as invalid or switched off, shown by delivery reports and flagged in the portal's anomaly list (Section 3.2), are excluded from the denominator and corrected by the administrator. Telecom or platform outages are dealt with under the force majeure clause (Section 7).
39	12	3.7 / voice channel	Voice broadcast and toll-free Odia line are described as preferable.	Kindly confirm whether voice broadcast and the Odia toll-free service are mandatory or optional. If mandatory, please provide the intended usage volumes, service hours and acceptance criteria so bidders can price them consistently.	Please refer to Section 3.7 of the RFP.

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40	12, 26–27	3.8 / Annexure 1(E)	Digital registers must print exactly like the supplied A3 formats, with source rows and observations.	Kindly provide approved, editable A3 register templates and completed samples. Please clarify how a variable number of active source rows, field observations and amendments must be represented while preserving the required paper layout.	Please refer to Annexure 1(E); 3.8 of the RFP. The Department supplies editable templates at Stage 1.
41	12, 27	3.8 / accuracy register	The weekly register asks “Forecast right?” as Y/N.	Kindly clarify the authoritative source of ground-truth data and the methodology to be adopted for measuring forecast accuracy across locations, forecast horizons and activities. Additionally, kindly specify the treatment of missing observations, conflicting reports and unverified field submissions within accuracy reporting and model-improvement processes.	Please refer to Annexure 1(E); Sections 3.8 and 3.12 of the RFP.
42	12, 15	3.6 / 4 Devices	The app is to operate offline, while portal configuration changes take effect on next connection without reinstallation and the Master Administrator may force an update where a release matters for safety.	As per the RFP, configuration updates may be enforced centrally while field operations continue in offline mode. Kindly clarify the maximum validity period of cached permissions and configurations, and the expected system behavior where critical revocations, safety-rule changes or mandatory updates cannot be synchronized immediately.	Please refer to Sections 3.6, 4 of the RFP. Maximum offline validity of permissions is configurable.
43	12	3.7 / Odia dissemination	Odia SMS, WhatsApp picture cards and optional voice carry operational instructions.	Kindly confirm the authority responsible for approving Odia-language advisories, alerts and communication templates. Additionally, kindly specify any SMS length restrictions, approved terminology standards and alternative dissemination mechanisms for users unable to access text- based communications.	Please refer to Sections 3.1, 3.7 of the RFP. The Department shares Odia terminology at Stage 1.
44	12	3.7 / messaging groups	WhatsApp advice goes to Section/Range groups and individuals; administrators control recipients.	Kindly clarify the responsibility for creation, maintenance and periodic updating of WhatsApp groups and distribution lists, particularly for seasonal users. Additionally, kindly confirm the communication mechanism for non-smartphone users and the methodology for measuring multi-channel message delivery without duplication.	Please refer to Sections 3.7, 3.2, 5.2(3) of the RFP. The Department's administrators maintain WhatsApp group membership.
45	12, 26–27	3.8 / authorisation flow	The daily register has prepared/authorised fields, while Section In-Charge confirms or overrules the advisory.	Kindly clarify the end-to-end workflow for preparation, review, approval and publication of daily advisories. Additionally, kindly specify substitute approvers, escalation mechanisms, publication cut-off times and controls governing retrospective modifications.	Please refer to Annexure 1(D); Sections 3.1, 3.2, 3.7, 3.8 of the RFP.
46	12, 27	3.8 / reporting	Loss reports and accuracy reports can be exported and automatically emailed.	We request the client to provide the report formats, scheduled recipients and access controls for emailed accuracy and loss reports, including treatment of personal details and the approved email infrastructure.	Please refer to Section 3.8 of the RFP. E-mail is through an India-hosted service.
47	12–14	3.6 / 3.11 / 3.12(b)	The field application is switchable between Odia and English; training materials are bilingual; AI explanations must be in English/Odia.	Please clarify and confirm the required language coverage for the Master and Delegated portals, operational/AI dashboards, printable registers, exported reports and administrative notifications, and whether an approved Odia glossary or style guide will be supplied.	Please refer to Sections 3.6, 3.7, 3.10-3.12 of the RFP. Portals and reports are in English; the Department supplies an Odia glossary.
48	12	3.8 / loss recording and reports	Any user may record a dated Phadi loss with approximate quantity, photo and the advisory in force; reports should distinguish avoidable from unavoidable losses.	Kindly define the approval or verification workflow and criteria for classifying a reported loss as avoidable or unavoidable, including inconsistent field reports, weather evidence and attribution where staff overrule an advisory.	A loss is recorded against a Phadi and date with its kind, approximate kerries or bundles, a photograph and the advisory in force, so that avoidable and unavoidable losses can later be told apart (Section 3.8). Reports are verified by the Section In-Charge or Range Officer and reviewed weekly by the DFO (Annexure 1(E)). The classification criteria will be proposed in design (M2) for approval: a loss is 'avoidable' where it occurred contrary to the advisory in force or where the advisory was overruled, and 'unavoidable' where the advisory was followed or no adverse weather was forecast. Inconsistent reports are flagged for the Range Officer; weather evidence is the observed and source data held in the system.

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49	13, 27	3.9 / Annexure 1(E)	The agency loads historical registers, staff lists and geospatial master data.	We request the client to provide the estimated volume, format, quality and timelines associated with historical data migration, including registers, staff records and geospatial datasets. Additionally, kindly clarify the migration acceptance criteria and treatment of incomplete, illegible or uncertain records.	Please refer to Sections 3.9, 5.2(4) of the RFP. The Department supplies the data as held.
50	13, 16	3.10 / 5.1 M2–M6	M3 is T+8 weeks; M4 pilot by 01.01.2027; M6 statewide by 15.02.2027.	Kindly indicate the assumed LoI date and the time allowed for Department review, master data, hosting, IMD access, security audit, telecom registration and mobile-store approvals. We suggest a jointly owned M1/M2 critical-path register with named owners, handover dates and escalation. Please confirm the extension-of-time decision process where authority-controlled prerequisites affect the fixed launch date.	Please refer to Sections 3.10, 5.1, 5.3 of the RFP. Bidders state their assumed LoI date, and Department responsibilities (as you edited).
51	13, 17	3.10 / 5.2	The 15-day Balangir pilot must contain 14 consecutive operating days of acceptance, including field confirmations and message delivery.	Kindly clarify the definition of an "operating day" for pilot acceptance purposes. Additionally, please confirm whether any failed acceptance criterion requires restarting the complete validation period or only retesting of the affected requirement. Further, kindly distinguish tests requiring live seasonal operations from those that may be demonstrated through agreed scenarios.	Please refer to Section 5.2; Section 3.10, Stage 3 of the RFP.
52	13, 16–17	3.10 / 5.1 M3–M6	M3 requires all nine components, UAT and audit by T+8 weeks, before the 15-day pilot and statewide launch.	Kindly define the functionality and evidence needed at M3 as distinct from M6/M8. Please confirm the Department arrangements for timely UAT participation, independent audit and approval within the T+8-week period.	Please refer to Section 5.1 (M3, M6, M8); Section 3.10, Stage 2 of the RFP.
53	13, 16–17	3.10 Stage 4 / 5.1 M6 / 5.2	Stage 4 requires parallel rollout across all Circles rather than one at a time, and Section 5.2 bars acceptance of any Circle until all criteria pass.	Would the Authority permit parallel deployment workstreams with controlled Range/Division activation waves and separate readiness sign- offs, while retaining the agreed statewide completion deadline? Please clarify whether “parallel” prohibits staged activation or only sequential implementation of entire Circles.	Please refer to Section 3.10, Stage 4; Section 5.2 of the RFP.
54	13, 16–17	3.10 / 5.1 M4–M7 / 5.2	Pilot exit, statewide activation, verified Phadi locations and 95% user training are all prerequisites or near-term milestones.	Please publish objective entry/exit gates for each release and geography: master-data sign-off, critical security clearance, source-feed tests, 14-day pilot evidence, location verification, training/login coverage, delivery evidence and rollback readiness. Kindly distinguish prerequisites for activation from later enhancement acceptance.	Please refer to Sections 5.1 and 5.2 of the RFP.
55	13, 16–17	3.10 / 5.1 M5–M6 / 5.2	Accepted pilot recalibration may take up to 30 days while the statewide deadline follows shortly thereafter.	Would the Authority distinguish safety-critical pilot defects from improvements that can be released under change control? We suggest requiring critical defects to be closed before rollout, and giving approved non-critical adjustments a dated release and regression-test gate rather than silently extending M5 or weakening M6. Please clarify and confirm.	Please refer to Section 3.10, Stage 3; Section 5.1 (M5, M6); Section 5.2(10) of the RFP.
56	13, 16–19	3.10 / 5.1–5.3 / 6.2	M3 and M6 acceptance, delay deductions and payment triggers currently assume a single complete scope despite the requested phasing.	If a phased schedule is accepted, kindly amend the RFP by corrigendum to map each release to deliverables, geography, acceptance test, due date, payment share, warranty start and delay remedy. Please specify how partial geography acceptance is certified without double-counting the same feature at later milestones.	Please refer to Sections 5.1, 5.2 and 6.2 of the RFP.
57	13, 16–17	3.10 / 5.1 M6–M8	The full crop season follows the proposed pre-season statewide launch and offers the first opportunity	We request the client to kindly confirm whether a structured post-go-live stabilization and seasonal validation phase is envisaged following statewide deployment. Additionally, kindly clarify how	Please refer to Section 5.1 (M6-M8); Section 6.2 of the RFP.

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			to test real plucking, drying, loss and model-feedback outcomes.	seasonal performance validation will be distinguished from functional and operational acceptance criteria.	
58	13, 16–17	3.11 / 5.1 M4, M7	Four training tiers and separate administrator training are prescribed; M4 calls for all Balangir users trained, and M7 requires at least 95% of identified users with attendance records.	We request the client to define the approved user denominator and evidence for each training tier, including seasonal replacements and plucker representatives. Please clarify how M4's all-user pilot requirement and M7's statewide 95% threshold are reconciled.	Please refer to Sections 3.11, 5.1, 5.2(4) of the RFP. Identified users are those enrolled from Department lists.
59	13, 18	3.10 Stage 5 / 6.1 AMC scope	Operation lasts 48 months from Go-Live, includes a helpdesk in Odia, Hindi and English, and the paid AMC covers support and operations.	We request the client to define helpdesk service hours in and out of season, incident severity and response/resolution targets, on-site escalation coverage and the boundary between warranty defects, routine AMC work and chargeable change requests.	Please refer to Stage 5; Sections 4, 6.1, 7 of the RFP. Service hours are proposed by the bidder.
60	14–15	3.12 / 4 Inference	The LLM runs locally on department-provided Government hardware.	Kindly state when the Department-provided inference infrastructure will be available, its approved environment and the process for agreeing model hardware requirements. Please clarify the effect on M3/M4 acceptance if the infrastructure is not ready.	Please refer to Sections 3.12 and 4 (Inference infrastructure) of the RFP.
61	14–15	3.12 / AI scope	LLM reconciles sources and explains outcomes but must not alter the deterministic SOP score.	We request the client to kindly distinguish deterministic ingestion, blending, score and safety overrides from statistical calibration and the LLM's checked explanation. Which functions specifically require the locally hosted LLM, which AI outputs may influence live advice, and who approves them? We suggest that LLM-generated numbers must not directly change the authoritative Annexure 1 score. Please clarify and confirm.	Please refer to Section 3.12(a)-(h); Section 3.8 of the RFP.
62	14–15	3.12 / continuous learning	Per-user observations and archived actual weather drive location-level model improvement.	We request the client to kindly define the baseline, minimum labelled-data requirements and evaluation method for the stated seasonal improvement in accuracy, including safeguards against sparse, inconsistent or unreliable user feedback.	Please refer to Section 3.12 (feedback loop (c), (d), (f)); Section 5.1, M8 of the RFP.
63	14–15	3.12(b)–(c) / 3.4	The LLM is asked to reconcile active sources but may not change the SOP score; source selection and averaging are otherwise governed by Sections 3.4–3.5.	Please clarify and confirm whether "reconciled view" means a display of the deterministic blended readings or a separately learned forecast. We suggest defining its inputs and outputs and prohibiting LLM-generated numeric inputs from directly changing the live SOP calculation.	Please refer to Section 3.12(b), (c) of the RFP.
64	14–15	3.12(b), (f) / feedback loop (c)	The AI must flag low confidence and recommend source weights or SOP recalibration by location.	We request the client to define confidence and the evidence required for location-level recommendations, including minimum observations, validation period and comparison to a baseline. We suggest requiring documented back-tests and Master Administrator approval before any recommended setting affects live advice.	Please refer to Sections 3.8 and 3.12 (feedback loop (c)) of the RFP.
65	14–15	3.12(d) / feedback loop (a)–(d)	"Continuous learning" from every user coexists with daily one-tap feedback and location/user reliability weighting.	Please clarify whether learning means periodic, approved retraining rather than automatic live weight changes. We suggest specifying retraining cadence, independent holdout evaluation, versioning, rollback and protection against correlated or fabricated feedback.	Please refer to Sections 3.12(d), 3.1 and 3.8 of the RFP.
66	14–15	3.12(e) / feedback loop (a)–(c)	The feedback description combines one-tap reporting with dropdown menus and photo upload, while staff actions and observed weather are both collected.	We request the client to specify the mandatory and optional fields and dropdown values for the daily feedback form, including whether a photo is optional, accepted formats, size/count limits and offline capture/sync. We suggest separating observed weather from staff actions and losses, retaining	Please refer to Section 3.12(a), (e) of the RFP. Dropdown values are fixed at design.

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				timestamp/location/missing-data flags and validation status before feedback becomes model-training ground truth.	
67	14–15, 20	3.12 / 7 Personal information	Per-user feedback, location, photographs and reliability profiles form part of the AI training data.	We request the client to define the lawful collection and access arrangements, photo retention, face/metadata handling and whether user- level reliability scores may be displayed or used operationally. We suggest role-restricted, minimised data and a documented retention/deletion schedule consistent with the Department's policy.	Please refer to Section 4 (Security); Section 7 (Personal information; Ownership of the data) of the RFP.
68	14–16, 20	3.12(a), (h) / 4 Inference / 7 AI ownership	Named LLM examples have different model licences; trained weights and pipelines must be handed over for Government use and retraining.	We request the client to clarify the acceptable base-model licence and permitted Government modification/redistribution, the handover artefacts and third-party dependencies. We suggest approving the selected model and license at design sign-off rather than naming models as if their rights and hardware demands were interchangeable.	Please refer to Sections 3.12(a), (h) and 4; Section 7 (Ownership of the AI model) of the RFP.
69	14–17	3.12(g) / 5.1 M4 / 5.2	An AI dashboard is required, but M4 specifies shadow mode and launch acceptance contains no AI-specific test.	We request the client to define role-wise AI dashboard measures, jurisdiction filters, shadow-mode outputs required at M4, and the milestone at which any AI output may affect live operations. Please specify the evidence and thresholds for English/Odia explanation quality, safety errors and AI-quality acceptance after sufficient seasonal observations, without making unmeasurable first-season improvement a pre-season safety-system gate.	Please refer to Section 3.12(g); Section 5.1 (M4); Section 5.2 of the RFP.
70	14–16	3.12 / 4 Architecture and Availability	The AI layer is separately deployable, but live advisories and alerts are subject to time-sensitive service requirements.	Kindly clarify the behavior if the LLM or its Government-provided hardware is unavailable or slow. We suggest requiring deterministic scoring, overrides and dissemination to continue without AI, with an explicit "explanation unavailable" state, audit event and separate AI-service metric.	Please refer to Section 4 (Architecture); Section 3.12(c) of the RFP.
71	14–15, 17	3.12 feedback loop (a)–(b) / 5.2(9)	Every application user receives a non-blocking end-of-day Odia prompt; the 14-day acceptance test requires prompts to reach every active user.	Kindly define "active user" and what constitutes evidence that a prompt reached a user on a shared or offline handset. Please state the operating- day cut-off, retry/sync rule and treatment of temporarily unreachable devices in the 14-day test.	Please refer to Sections 3.12(a), 5.2(9) of the RFP. An active user is a user with Active status (Section 3.2).
72	14	3.9 / master data	The master data must support Process, Phal and Grower Leaf modes at Division and Phadi levels.	Kindly provide the distinct workflows, data fields, reports and acceptance scenarios for Process, Phal and Grower Leaf operations, including which Divisions and Phadis use each mode and whether one unit may use more than one mode.	Please refer to Section 3.9 of the RFP. The Department supplies the list of units and their modes.
73	15–16	4 / hosting and DR	Live, test and DR must be in India; DR in a different seismic zone; AI infrastructure is department-provided.	Kindly identify the party responsible for selecting, provisioning and paying for the primary, test and geographically separate DR environments in the warranty year and subsequent AMC years, including connectivity and backup infrastructure.	Hosting is to be included in the Bidder's financial proposal. The cost of the live, test and DR environments, including storage, backup, bandwidth, security, monitoring and related cloud services, is covered by Lines A and B up to Go-Live (including the warranty year) and by Lines D, E and F thereafter, as per Section 6.1. Quotation for hosting including GPU for AI are to be quoted separately in the financial bid. However, the department reserves the right to select the hosting provider such as the Odisha State Data Centre, OCAC or a MeitY-empanelled Government cloud or any other cloud within India.
74	15–16	4 / capacity	The platform must support 5,000 concurrent users, grow to 10,000 and hold 25,000 accounts.	Kindly provide representative workload profiles and response-time targets for 5,000 concurrent users, peak warning broadcasts, mapping and offline backlog sync. Please clarify whether 10,000 concurrent users require deployed capacity at Go-Live or a proven scale-up design.	Please refer to Section 4 (Capacity) of the RFP. Workload profiles are proposed by the bidder.

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75	15–16	4 / Devices and Security	The app must work on low-memory Android/iOS devices; a pre-launch and annual CERT-In audit is required.	Kindly specify any mandatory mobile-security controls, including encryption of offline forms and cached advice, rooted/jailbroken-device handling, device binding, certificate pinning and lost-device revocation, so that their impact on supported handsets and offline access can be tested.	Please refer to Section 4 (Devices; Security) of the RFP.
76	15	3.12 feedback loop (e)	A user can view personal feedback history and compare it with the forecast.	Kindly define the history look-back period and whether a user may correct or dispute a mistaken submission. If correction is allowed, please specify how the original entry and any effect on training data remain auditable.	Please refer to Section 3.12(e) of the RFP. Look-back period and corrections are fixed at design.
77	15	3.12 feedback loop (d)	The system builds a reliability profile for each location and user and gives greater weight to feedback that has proved dependable.	Kindly define whether reliability scores are visible to the individual, supervisors or analysts, and the review process before a person's observations are down-weighted. Please identify the minimum evidence and safeguards for sparse-response locations.	Please refer to Section 3.12 (feedback loop (d)-(f)); Section 3.2 of the RFP.
78	15–16	4 / Architecture and Documentation	The portal, GIS, ingestion, scoring, dissemination, registers and AI layers must be independently deployable; interface specifications are documentation deliverables.	Kindly confirm which module interfaces must be exposed as documented APIs for Department reuse and future replacement, and the required authentication, versioning and compatibility rules for those interfaces.	Please refer to Section 4 (Architecture; Documentation); Section 3.3 of the RFP.
79	16	4 / availability	99.9% in season, 99.5% off-season; restore within 4 hours and RPO <=15 minutes.	Kindly define uptime measurement, permitted maintenance windows, incident classes and exclusions for external feed/telecom outages. Please specify how the four-hour restoration and 15-minute data-loss objectives will be demonstrated.	Please refer to Section 4 (Availability); Section 5.1 (M3); Section 3.10, Stage 5 of the RFP.
80	16	4 / security	CERT-In audit before launch and annually; breach notice within two hours.	Kindly specify the scope and acceptance process for the pre-launch and annual security audits, the permitted remediation period and the respective responsibilities for incident notification and confirmed-breach reporting.	Please refer to Section 4 (Security); Section 7 (Personal information) of the RFP.
81	16, 20	4 Source code / 7 Ownership	Custom work belongs to Government, while pre-existing IP is licensed permanently and third-party licences extend five years.	Kindly distinguish project-created IP from pre-existing tools and third-party components in the handover requirements. Please clarify the permitted license for reusable bidder IP and responsibility for third-party licence renewals after contract expiry.	Please refer to Section 4 (Software choices; Source code; Intellectual Property); Section 7 (Ownership) of the RFP.
82	16, 19	5.1 / 6.2	M1–M9 delivery milestones conflict with a separate payment table labelled M1–M6.	Kindly reconcile the M1–M9 deliverables in Section 5.1 with the different M1–M6 labels in Section 6.2. A revised schedule mapping each payment to a deliverable, acceptance certificate and any partial Circle acceptance would assist uniform pricing.	Section 6.2 stands as published. Please refer to Sections 5.1 and 6.2.
83	16, 20	4 / IP and application distribution	Signing keys and store listings belong to the Government, and no unofficial installation is required.	Kindly confirm when Government-owned developer accounts, signing credentials and store listings for both mobile platforms will be available, and how app-store review delays or rejections outside the agency's control affect milestone dates.	Please refer to Sections 4, 7 of the RFP. The Department creates the store accounts.
84	16	4 / Source code and Documentation	The source repository is under Department control from the first week, a buildable release is deposited at each milestone, and complete artefacts are handed over at Go-Live and after updates.	Kindly specify the repository/access arrangements, required build-and- deploy evidence at each milestone, treatment of third-party secrets and signing keys, and the acceptance test that establishes independent reproducibility of a deposited release.	Please refer to Section 4 (Source code; Documentation) of the RFP.
85	16	4 / Availability and backups	Daily backups are retained for 90 days and test-restored quarterly, with	We request the client to clarify the backup encryption and key ownership, separation from the primary site, retention for model artefacts and photos, and the evidence required from quarterly	Please refer to Section 4 (Availability; Hosting); Section 7 (Ownership of the data) of the RFP.

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			a four-hour restoration target and at most 15 minutes of data loss.	restore tests to demonstrate the stated restoration and data-loss targets.	
86	17	5.2 / acceptance	No launch is accepted unless every listed test passes, including every Range confirming for 14 days.	We request the client to specify how acceptance will distinguish solution defects from unavailable Department personnel, incomplete inputs or third-party connectivity. Please provide a cure/retest procedure and time limit for issuing acceptance decisions.	The Section 5.2 criteria are the test for launch. Failures caused by the Department (for example officers not confirming advisories, or incomplete inputs) or by an event accepted as force majeure under Section 7 outside the Agency's control are recorded in the daily pilot report (Stage 3) and verified by the Authority; they are not treated as solution defects for the criteria that depend on them, and the Authority decides how the day counts. The RFP sets no separate cure period; defects are corrected as in Section 7 and criteria retested within the pilot window. The Authority will issue acceptance decisions within 5 days of submission of the pilot evaluation.
87	18, 33	6.1 / Form F	Section 6.1 says quote inclusive of taxes; Form F asks for amounts excluding taxes plus a separate tax line.	Section 6.1 calls for tax-inclusive prices, while Form F requests amounts excluding tax and a separate tax line. Kindly issue a corrected, single financial-bid format showing the required basis of A–F, the tax line and the grand total used for evaluation.	As Section 9.2 states, the price used for evaluation is the Grand Total of Lines A to F inclusive of all applicable statutory taxes. In Form F the bidder enters Lines A to F excluding taxes with tax details separately as mentioned before G. Total Row. This is how 'inclusive of all taxes' in Section 6.1 and Form F are read together. The price quoted in the column for the item A to F shall be excluding taxes figure only.
88	18–19	6.1 / 6.2	Capital cost is A+B+C and AMC is D+E+F, but 6.2 pays all six phases as percentages of capital cost.	Section 6.2 describes percentages of capital cost but allocates payments to Years 2–4 AMC. We request the client to replace it with a schedule that separately totals 100% of A+B+C and 100% of D+E+F, with invoice triggers and payment dates for each.	Section 6.2 stands as published
89	18	6.1 / AMC scope	Each AMC year covers hosting, support, helpdesk, messaging charges, geospatial hosting, model retraining, the annual security re-audit, pre-season refresher training and 250 person-days of change effort.	We request the client to specify the annual messaging-volume and hosting assumptions included in AMC and the change-control mechanism, role mix and carry-forward rules for 250 person-days per year and how should approved material volume increases be priced.	Please refer to Sections 4 (Capacity) and 6.1 (what the lines include) of the RFP.
90	18, 23, 30	6.1 / 10.1 / Form C	The technical proposal must disclose estimated enterprise weather subscription costs, while envelope 2 prohibits price or financial figures; Form C expressly requests historical project values.	Form C requires historical contract values and Section 6.1 seeks indicative enterprise subscription costs, while Envelope 2 prohibits price figures. Kindly confirm that historic Form C values are permitted and specify where the indicative subscription costs should be placed without disclosing the current bid price.	Historic project values requested in Form C are permitted in the Technical Bid; what is prohibited is any price or financial figure of the present tender (Form C note; Section 10.1, Envelope 2). The indicative annual subscription cost of enterprise weather providers (Section 6.1) is to be given in a separate annexure at the end of the technical proposal headed 'Third-party subscription costs: for budgeting only, not part of the bid price', and must not state or imply the Agency's own bid price.
91	18	6.1 / taxes and firm price	The quoted price is firm despite future changes in tax rates, wages, inflation or exchange rates.	Section 6.1 says the firm quote cannot increase for changes in tax rates. Kindly confirm that bidders must include this risk in the fixed price, or amend the clause to permit statutory tax changes to be settled at the applicable rate without altering the evaluated base price.	Please refer to Section 6.1 of the RFP.
92	19	6.2 / payment schedule	The 6.2 schedule pays 30% before 15 February 2027 for statewide Go-Live and 10% on 1 July 2027 for training, handover of materials and successful operation from April to June, with the remaining 50% tied to AMC Years 2 to 4.	Kindly state the invoice and payment due dates, the time allowed for milestone certification and whether annual AMC is invoiced in advance, quarterly or only after the crop year. Please clarify the treatment of undisputed overdue amounts. Please confirm and clarify.	Section 6.2 stands as published.
93	20	7 / termination for convenience	Only accepted work and verified demobilisation are payable on 30-day termination.	We request the client to clarify the compensation for approved work in progress and unavoidable, documented third-party	Please refer to Section 7 of the RFP. The settlement and release of security will be decided by the committee at later stage.

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				commitments if the contract is terminated for convenience, together with the timeline for settlement and release of security.	
94	21–22	8 / 9.1	Eligibility cites average turnover over four years with income-tax returns; experience marks say 5 per work order up to 35.	Kindly confirm the four completed financial years used for turnover and the acceptable evidence (including audited accounts, if permitted). For experience marks, we have to state the scoring per work order and the eligibility of ongoing assignments. Please confirm if our understanding is correct.	Please refer to Sections 8, 9.1 of the RFP.
95	21–22	8 / 9.1	Eligibility permits a completed weather/climate, agricultural/forestry advisory OR GIS project; scoring also values mobile, GIS, offline and AI experience.	Kindly clarify which experience qualifies for minimum eligibility versus technical marks, including minimum role/project size and whether consortium or subcontractor credentials and staff may count. We request the client to publish the same basis for all bidders.	Please refer to Sections 8, 9.1 of the RFP. No consortium; subcontractor credentials are not counted.
96	23–24	10.1 / 10.2	Offline three-cover submission; corrigenda are published on official channels.	We request the client to identify the authoritative website/channel for corrigenda and the method for acknowledging a physical bid on receipt. If a corrigendum changes prescribed forms after dispatch, please clarify whether replacement pages or a revised bid are required.	The authoritative channels are the websites in the RFP notice: www.odishaforest.in, www.balangir.odisha.gov.in and https://kenduleaves.odisha.gov.in (Sections 3 and 10.2). The office of the DFO, Balangir KL Division, will give a receipt for bids delivered by hand; for post or courier, timely delivery is the bidder's responsibility (Section 10.1). If a corrigendum changes a prescribed form after dispatch, the corrigendum will say whether replacement pages must be submitted; where it does, the bidder delivers them before the deadline in a sealed envelope marked with the tender number and 'Replacement pages'.
97	23, 28–33	10 / Forms A–F	Form A says “bid fee and document fee,” whereas key facts and 10.1 require tender fee and EMD; Form F is the separate financial cover.	Form A refers to both a “bid fee” and “document fee,” whereas the RFP calls for a tender-document fee and EMD. Kindly issue a corrected Form A, or confirm that signing the supplied form as printed will not be treated as non-compliance. Please clarify and confirm.	Form A item (c) is to be read as the tender document fee (Rs 10,000) and the bid security/EMD (Rs 50,000) required by the Key Facts and Section 10.1.
98	Page 2	Key Facts about this Tender	Tender Document Fee of ₹10,000 and EMD of ₹50,000 are required to be submitted through separate Demand Drafts drawn in favour of the Divisional Forest Officer, Balangir KL Division	As per the RFP, the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) is required to be submitted through a Demand Draft. Kindly confirm whether bidders may alternatively furnish the EMD in the form of a Bank Guarantee issued by a scheduled commercial bank, subject to compliance with the prescribed value and validity requirements. This would align with prevailing procurement practices and facilitate bidder participation	Please refer to Key Facts; Section 10.1 of the RFP.
99	Page 3	Submission Date	As per the RFP, the submission deadline is 22- 10 -2026	We kindly request the client to consider extending the proposal submission deadline by 10 working days, up to 06 October 2026, to enable the submission of a comprehensive and high-quality proposal	The submission deadline is 22.10.2026 at 17:00 hrs (Section 3, item 7). Any extension will be decided by the Authority and notified through the websites in the RFP notice (Section 10.2).

Above Query raised by PWC