



ASSAM SKILL UNIVERSITY PROJECT

Guwahati Office: 3rd Floor, DECT Office Complex, Rehabari, Guwahati – 781008

No: ASDM/ASUP/82/E Audit/2023/84

Dated Guwahati the 25 April 2023

CORRIGENDUM - 01

Request for Proposal (RFP)

“Engagement of Chartered Accountant Firm for conducting External Audit for Assam Skill University Project (ASUP)”

As provided for in **Clause 16.2- “Clarification & Amendment of RFP” of Section 2 (A)** of the RFP, the following amendments have been made in the RFP under this Corrigendum-1, which shall be read and construed as an integral part of the RFP and shall take precedence in case of any conflict/ambiguities in the RFP and other provisions of the RFP. The changes against respective Clause/Subclause are shown in "As Revised" column, and have been highlighted with bold characters.

Section	Clause	Page No.	As per Original Provision in RFP	As revised
Section 2 Instructions to consultants (ITC) & Data Sheet	17.1 (b) of E. Data Sheet	Page 22 of 74	The minimum estimated cost for the assignment: Rs. 74,000.00 (excluding GST) for one year. (GST will be borne by Client at prescribed rate. The minimum cost is all inclusive lump sum price, including TA/DA, Boarding & Lodging and other out of pocket expenses, contingencies etc.)	The minimum consultancy fees for the assignment: Rs. 74,000.00 (excluding GST) for one year. (GST will be borne by Client at prescribed rate. The minimum consultancy fees is all inclusive lump sum price, including TA/DA, Boarding & Lodging and other out of pocket expenses, contingencies etc.) A firm whose financial quote is less than the minimum consultancy fees of Rs. 74,000.00, will be summarily rejected.

All other the terms and conditions of the RFP shall be same. Dates for proposal submission, closing, opening etc., will remain same.

Sd/-
(Ankur Jain, IPS)
Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Assam Skill University Project (ASUP)
DECT Complex, Rehabari, Guwahati-08

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP No.: ASDM/ASUP/82/E Audit/2023/75

**Selection of Consulting Services for:
Engagement of Chartered Accountant Firm for conducting
External Audit for ASUP**

**Chief Executive Officer, Assam Skill University Project
Guwahati, Assam**

Issued on: 08 April 2023

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Section 1. Letter of Invitation

Date: 08 April 2023
Title: *Assam Skill University Project (ASUP)*
RFP No: *ASDM/ASUP/82/EAudit/2023/75*
Location: *Guwahati, India*
Deadline for submission: *08 May 2023*

1. The Government of India has received a regular loan of \$112 million from the Asian Development Bank (ADB)'s ordinary capital resources to help finance the Assam Skill University Project. The project aims to strengthen the industry-aligned and flexible skills education and training system in Assam through the establishment of Assam Skill University (ASU).
2. The Chief Executive Officer, Assam Skill University Project (ASUP) invites proposals to provide the following consulting services (hereinafter called "Services"): Engagement of Chartered Accountant firm for conducting External Audit for ASUP. More details on the Services are provided in the Terms of Reference (Section 5).

A firm will be selected under *Least Cost Selection* procedures using a Bio data Technical Proposal (BTP)] format as described in this RFP.

3. The RFP includes the following documents:

Section 1 - Letter of Invitation
Section 2 - Instructions to Consultants & Data Sheet
Section 3 - Technical Proposal *BTP* - Standard Forms
Section 4 - Financial Proposal - Standard Forms
Section 5 - Terms of Reference
Section 6 - Standard Forms of Contract -*Lump Sum*

4. Details on the proposal's submission date, time and address are provided in Clauses 20.8 and 20.10 of the instructions to consultants (ITC).

Yours sincerely,

Chief Executive Officer (CEO),
Assam Skill University Project (ASUP),
Guwahati, Assam

Section 2

Instructions to Consultants (ITC) & Data Sheet

A. General Provisions

1. Definitions

- (a) “Affiliate(s)” means an individual or an entity that directly or indirectly controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with the Consultant.
- (b) “Applicable Law” means the laws and any other instruments having the force of law in India, or as they may be issued and in force from time to time.
- (c) “Client” means the procuring entity that signs the Contract for the Services with the selected Consultant.
- (d) “Consultant” means a legally established professional consulting firm or an entity that may provide or provides the Services to the Client under the Contract.
- (e) “Contract” means a legally binding written agreement signed between the Client and the Consultant and includes all the attached documents listed in its Clause1 (the General Conditions of Contract (GCC), the Special Conditions of Contract (SCC), and the Appendices).
- (f) “Data Sheet” means an integral part of the Instructions to Consultants (ITC) Section 2 that is used to reflect assignment conditions to supplement, but not to over-write, the provisions of the ITC.
- (g) “Day” means a calendar day.
- (h) “Experts” means, collectively, Key Experts, Non-Key Experts, or any other personnel of the Consultant, Sub-consultant or Joint Venture member(s).
- (i) “Government” means the Government of Assam.
- (j) “Joint Venture (JV)” means an association with or without a legal personality distinct from that of its members, of more than one Consultant where one member has the authority to conduct all business for and on behalf of any and all the members of the JV, and where the members of the JV are jointly and severally liable to the Client for the performance of the Contract.
- (k) “Key Expert(s)” means an individual professional whose skills, qualifications, knowledge and experience are critical to the performance of the Services under the Contract and whose CV is taken into account in the technical evaluation of the Consultant’s proposal.

- (l) “ITC” (this Section 2 of the RFP) means the Instructions to Consultants that provides the participating Consultants with all information needed to prepare their Proposals.
- (m) “LOI” (this Section 1 of the RFP) means the Letter of Invitation being sent by the Client to the Consultants.
- (n) “Non-Key Expert(s)” means an individual professional provided by the Consultant or its Sub-consultant and who is assigned to perform the Services or any part thereof under the Contract and whose CVs are not evaluated individually.
- (o) “Proposal” means the Technical Proposal and the Financial Proposal of the Consultant.
- (p) “RFP” means the Request for Proposals to be prepared by the Client for the selection of Consultants, based on the SRFP.
- (q) “SRFP” means the Standard Request for Proposals, which must be used by the Client as the basis for the preparation of the RFP.
- (r) “Services” means the work to be performed by the Consultant pursuant to the Contract.
- (s) “Sub-consultant” means an entity to whom the Consultant intends to subcontract any part of the Services while remaining responsible to the Client during the performance of the Contract.
- (t) “TORs” (this Section 5 of the RFP) means the Terms of Reference that explain the objectives, scope of work, activities, and tasks to be performed, respective responsibilities of the Client and the Consultant, and expected results and deliverables of the assignment.

2. Introduction

- 2.1 The Client (i.e., Procuring Entity) named in the **Data Sheet** intends to select a consultant in accordance with the method of selection specified in the **Data Sheet**.
- 2.2 The Consultants are invited to submit a Technical Proposal and a Financial Proposal, or a Technical Proposal only, as specified in the **Data Sheet**, for consulting services required for the assignment named in the **Data Sheet**. The Proposal will be the basis for selection and ultimately signing the Contract with the selected Consultant.
- 2.3 The Consultants should familiarize themselves with the local conditions and take them into account in preparing their Proposals, including attending a pre-proposal conference if one is specified in the **Data Sheet**. Attending any such

pre-proposal conference is optional and is at the Consultants' expense.

2.4 The Client will timely provide, at no cost to the Consultants, the inputs, relevant project data, and reports required for the preparation of the Consultant's Proposal as specified in the Data Sheet.

3. Conflict of Interest

3.1 Conflict of Interest for a Procuring Entity or its personnel and consultants is considered to be a situation in which a party has interests that could improperly influence that performance of its duties or responsibilities, contractual obligations, or compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

3.2 Govt. of Assam describes the situations in which a Procuring Entity or its personnel may be considered to be in Conflict of Interest include, but are not limited to the following-

3.2.1 Conflict of Interest occurs when the private interests of a Procuring Entity or its personnel, such as personal, non-official, extra- professional or other relationships or personal financial assets, interfere or appear to interfere with the proper performance of its professional functions or obligations as a procurement official;

3.2.2 Within the procurement environment, a Conflict of Interest may arise in connection with such private interests as personal investments and assets, political or other social activities and affiliations while in the service of the Procuring Entity, employment after retirement from service or of relatives or the receipt of a gift that may place the Procuring Entity or its personnel in a position of obligation;

3.2.3 Conflict of Interest also includes the use of assets of the Procuring Entity including human, financial and material assets, or the use of the office of the procuring entity or knowledge gained from official functions for private gain or to prejudice the position of someone the Procuring Entity or its personnel does not favour;

3.2.4 Conflict of Interest may also arise in situations where the Procuring Entity or any of its personnel is seen to benefit directly or indirectly or allow a third party, including family, friends or someone they favour, to benefit directly or indirectly from the decision or action of the Procurement Entity;

3.3 The situations in which consultants participating in a procurement process or their representatives may be considered to be in Conflict of Interest include, but are not limited to the following-

a) If they or their personnel or representatives or agents have any relationship or financial or business transactions or interests with any official of the Procuring Entity that are directly or indirectly involved in or related to the procurement process or execution of contract;

- b) If they receive or have received any direct or indirect subsidy from any other bidder;
- c) If they have the same legal representative for purposes of the bid;
- d) If they have a relationship with each other, directly or through common third parties that puts them in a position to have access to information about or influence on the bid of another;
- e) If they participate in more than one bid in the same bidding process;
- f) If they have controlling partners in common;

If a consultant or any of its affiliates participated as a consultant in the preparation of the design or technical specifications of the subject matter of procurement of the bidding process or were involved in such preparation in any way;

3.4 In the 'Technical Proposal Submission Form' to be submitted by the consultant, as per format given in Section 3: "Technical Proposal-Standard Forms", all Consultants shall provide a signed statement that the Consultant, (including all members of JV and Sub-Consultants, if any) is neither associated nor has been associated directly or indirectly with the consultant or any other entity that has prepared the design, specifications and other documents for the subject matter of procurement or is being proposed as Project Manager for the contract;

3.5 In case of a holding company having more than one independent unit or more than one unit having common business ownership or management, only one unit shall be allowed to submit proposal or quote to prevent any conflict of interest. Similar restrictions shall apply to closely related sister or subsidiary companies. Such consultants must proactively declare such sister or subsidiary company or common business or management units in similar lines of business.

4. Unfair Competitive Advantage

4.1 Fairness and transparency in the selection process require that the Consultants or their Affiliates competing for a specific assignment do not derive a competitive advantage from having provided consulting services related to the assignment in question. To that end, the Client shall indicate in the **Data Sheet** and make available to all the Consultants together with this RFP all information that would in that respect give such Consultant any unfair competitive advantage over competing Consultants.

5. Code of Integrity

5.1 The Client and all officers or employees of the Client, whether involved in the procurement process or otherwise, or Consultants and their representatives or service providers participating in a procurement process or other persons involved, directly or indirectly in any way in a procurement process shall maintain an unimpeachable standard of integrity.

5.2 Govt. of Assam prescribes to the Client and Consultants to uphold the Code of Integrity, which prohibits officers or employees of a Client or a person participating in a procurement process the following:

- (a) Any offer, solicitation or acceptance of any bribe, reward or gift or any material benefit, either directly or indirectly, in exchange for an unfair advantage in the procurement process or to otherwise influence the procurement process;
- (b) any omission, including a misrepresentation that misleads or attempts to mislead so as to obtain a financial or other benefit or avoid an obligation;
- (c) any collusion, bid rigging or anti-competitive behaviour to impair the transparency, fairness and progress of the procurement process;
- (d) improper use of information shared between the procuring entity and the bidders with an intent to gain unfair advantage in the procurement process or for personal gain;
- (e) any financial or business transactions between the bidder and any officer or employee of the procuring entity, who are directly or indirectly related to tender or execution process of contract;
- (f) any coercion including impairing or harming or threatening to do the same, directly or indirectly, to any party or to its property to influence the procurement process;
- (g) any obstruction of any investigation or audit of a procurement process;
- (h) making false declaration or providing false information for participation in–
 - (i) tender process or to secure a contract;
 - (ii) disclosure of Conflict of Interest;
 - (iii) disclosure by the Consultant of any previous transgressions with any entity (Government or Semi-government) in India, during the last three years.

5.3 In case of any breach of the Code of Integrity by a Consultant or a prospective Consultant, as the case may be, the Client after giving a reasonable opportunity of being heard, may take appropriate measures including–

- (a) exclusion of the Consultant from the procurement process;
- (b) calling off of pre-contract negotiations;
- (c) recovery of payments made by the Client along with interest thereon at bank rate;
- (d) cancellation of the relevant contract and recovery of compensation for loss incurred by the Client;
- (e) debarment of the consultant from participation in future procurements of any Procuring Entity for a period not exceeding three years.

6. Eligibility

- 6.1 Consultant shall be a natural person, private entity, or any combination of these having a formal intent and legal competency to enter into an agreement or contract and are registered under respective Act and Jurisdiction in India or any other country with which India has not banned trade relations.
- 6.2 Consultant should not have a Conflict of Interest as prescribed and specified in ITC Para 3, which materially affects fair competition;
- 6.3 In addition, any consultant participating in the procurement process shall-
- (a) have fulfilled his obligation to pay such of the tax payable to the Central Government or the State Government or any local authority;
 - (b) not be insolvent, in receivership, bankrupt or being wound up, not have its affairs administered by a court or a judicial officer, not have its business activities suspended and must not be the subject of legal proceedings for any of the foregoing reasons;
 - (c) not have, and their directors and officers do not have, been convicted of any criminal offence related to their professional conduct or the making of false statements or misrepresentations as to their qualifications to enter into a procurement contract within a period of three years preceding the commencement of the procurement process, or not have been otherwise disqualified pursuant to debarment proceedings;
 - (d) not be debarred by any Procuring Entity under the State Government, the Central Government, Autonomous body, Authority by whatever name called under them in India.
- 6.4 In the 'Technical Proposal Submission Form' to be submitted by the consultant, as per format given in Section 3: "Technical Proposal – Standard Forms", all consultants shall provide an Affidavit that the consultant fulfils the eligibility requirements given in ITC Para 6.

B. Preparation of Proposals

7. General Considerations

- 7.1 In preparing the Proposal, the Consultant is expected to examine the RFP in detail. Material deficiencies in providing the information requested in the RFP may result in rejection of the Proposal.

8. Cost of Preparation of Proposal

- 8.1 The Consultant shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of its Proposal, and the Client shall not be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the selection process. The Client is not

bound to accept any proposal and reserves the right to annul the selection process at any time prior to Contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the Consultant.

9. Language

9.1 The Proposal, as well as all correspondence and documents relating to the Proposal exchanged between the Consultant and the Client, shall be written in English language.

10. Documents Comprising of Proposal

10.1 The Proposal shall comprise the documents and forms **listed in the Data Sheet**.

11. Only One Proposal

11.1 The Consultant (including the individual members of any Joint Venture) shall submit only one Proposal, either in its own name or as part of a Joint Venture in another Proposal. If a Consultant, including any Joint Venture member, submits or participates in more than one proposal, all such proposals shall be disqualified and rejected. This does not, however, preclude a Sub-consultant, or the Consultant's staff from participating as Key Experts and Non-Key Experts in more than one Proposal when circumstances justify and if stated in the **Data Sheet**.

12. Proposal Validity

12.1 The **Data Sheet** indicates the period during which the Consultant's Proposal must remain valid after the Proposal submission deadline.

12.2 During this period, the Consultant shall maintain its original Proposal without any change, including the availability of the Key Experts, the proposed rates and the total price.

12.3 If it is established that any Key Expert nominated in the Consultant's Proposal was not available at the time of Proposal submission or was included in the Proposal without his/her confirmation, such Proposal shall be disqualified and rejected for further evaluation.

13. Extension of Validity Period

13.1 The Client will make its best effort to complete the negotiations within the proposal's validity period. However, should the need arise, the Client may request, in writing, all Consultants who submitted Proposals prior to the submission deadline to extend the Proposals' validity.

- 13.2 If the Consultant agrees to extend the validity of its Proposal, it shall be done without any change in the original Proposal and with the confirmation of the availability of the Key Experts.
- 13.3 The Consultant has the right to refuse to extend the validity of its Proposal in which case such Proposal will not be further evaluated.

14. Substitution of Key Experts at Validity Extension

- 14.1 If any of the Key Experts become unavailable for the extended validity period, the Consultant shall provide a written adequate justification and evidence satisfactory to the Client together with the substitution request. In such case, a replacement Key Expert shall have equal or better qualifications and experience than those of the originally proposed Key Expert. The technical evaluation score, however, will remain to be based on the evaluation of the CV of the original Key Expert.
- 14.2 If the Consultant fails to provide a replacement Key Expert with equal or better qualifications, or if the provided reasons for the replacement or justification are unacceptable to the Client, such Proposal will be rejected.

15 Sub-Contracting

- 15.1 The Consultant shall not sub contract the whole of the Services or as indicated in the **Data Sheet**

16. Clarification & Amendment of RFP

- 16.1 The Consultant may request a clarification of any part of the RFP during the period indicated in the **Data Sheet** before the Proposals' submission deadline. Any request for clarification must be sent in writing, or by standard electronic means, to the Client's address indicated in the **Data Sheet**. The Client will respond in writing, or by standard electronic means, and will send written copies of the response (including an explanation of the query but without identifying its source) to all shortlisted Consultants. Should the Client deem it necessary to amend the RFP as a result of a clarification, it shall do so following the procedure described below:
- 16.2 At any time before the proposal submission deadline, the Client may amend the RFP by issuing an amendment in writing or by standard electronic means. The amendment shall be sent to all shortlisted Consultants and will be binding on them. The shortlisted Consultants shall acknowledge receipt of all amendments in writing.
- 16.3 If the amendment is substantial, the Client may extend the proposal submission deadline to give the Consultants reasonable time to take an amendment into account in their Proposals.
- 16.4 The Consultant may submit a modified Proposal or a modification to any part of it at any time prior to the proposal submission deadline. No modifications to the Technical or Financial Proposal shall be accepted after the deadline.

17 Preparation of Proposal Specific Considerations

17.1 While preparing the Proposal, the Consultant must give particular attention to the following:

- a) If a shortlisted Consultant considers that it may enhance its expertise for the assignment by associating with other consultants in the form of a Joint Venture or as Sub-consultants, it may do so with either (a) non-shortlisted Consultant(s), or (b) shortlisted Consultants if permitted in the **Data Sheet**. **In all such cases, a shortlisted Consultant must obtain the written approval of the Client prior to the submission of the Proposal.** When associating with non- shortlisted firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy, the shortlisted Consultant shall be a lead member. If shortlisted Consultants associate with each other, any of them can be a lead member.
- b) The Client may indicate in the **Data Sheet** the estimated Key Experts' time input (expressed in person-month) or the Client's estimated total cost of the assignment, but not both. This estimate is indicative, and the Proposal shall be based on the Consultant's own estimates for the same.
- c) If stated in the **Data Sheet**, the Consultant shall include in its Proposal atleast the same time input (in the same unit as indicated in the **Data Sheet**) of Key Experts, failing which the Financial Proposal will be adjusted for the purpose of comparison of proposals and decision for award in accordance with the procedure in the **Data Sheet**.
- d) For assignments under the Fixed-Budget System (FBS) selection method, the estimated Key Experts' time input is not disclosed. Total available budget, with an indication whether it is inclusive or exclusive of taxes, is given in the **Data Sheet**, and the Financial Proposal shall not exceed this budget.

18 Technical Proposal Format and Content

- 18.1 The Technical Proposal shall not include any financial information. A Technical Proposal containing material financial information shall be declared non-responsive. Consultant shall not propose alternative Key Experts. Only one CV shall be submitted for each Key Expert position. Failure to comply with this requirement will make the Proposal non-responsive.
- 18.2 Depending on the nature of the assignment, the Consultant is required to submit a Full Technical Proposal (FTP), or a Simplified Technical Proposal (STP) or a

Biodata Technical Proposal (BTP) as indicated in the **Data Sheet** and using the Standard Forms provided in Section 3 of this RFP.

19 Financial Proposal

- 19.1 The Financial Proposal shall be prepared using the Standard Forms provided in Section 4 of this RFP. It shall list all costs associated with the assignment, including (a) remuneration for Key Experts and Non-Key Experts, (b) reimbursable expenses indicated in the **Data Sheet**.
- 19.2 For assignments with a duration exceeding 18 months, a price adjustment provision for foreign and/or local inflation for remuneration rates applies if so stated in the **Data Sheet**.
- 19.3 The Consultant and its Sub-consultants and Experts are responsible for meeting all tax liabilities arising out of the Contract unless stated otherwise in the Data Sheet. Information on taxes is provided in the **Data Sheet**.
- 19.4 The Consultant shall express the price for its Services in Indian Rupees only.

C. Proposal Submission, Opening & Evaluation

20. Submission, Sealing and Marking of Proposal

- 20.1 The Consultant shall submit a signed and complete Proposal comprising the documents and forms in accordance with ITC Para 10 (Documents Comprising Proposal). The submission can be done by mail or by hand. If specified in the **Data Sheet**, the Consultant has the option of submitting its Proposals electronically.
- 20.2 An authorized representative of the Consultant shall sign the original submission letters in the required format for both the Technical Proposal and, if applicable, the Financial Proposal and shall initial all pages of both. The authorization shall be in the form of a written power of attorney attached to the Technical Proposal.
- 20.3 A Proposal submitted by a Joint Venture shall be signed by all members so as to be legally binding on all members, or by an authorized representative who has a written power of attorney signed by each member's authorized representative.
- 20.4 Any modifications, revisions, interlineations, erasures, or overwriting shall be valid only if they are signed or initialed by the person signing the Proposal.
- 20.5 The signed Proposal shall be marked "Original", and its copies marked "Copy" as appropriate. The number of copies is indicated in the **Data Sheet**. All copies shall be made from the signed original. If there are discrepancies between the original and the copies, the original shall prevail.
- 20.6 The original and all the copies of the Technical Proposal shall be placed inside of a sealed envelope clearly marked "Technical Proposal", "[Name of the Assignment]"reference number, name and address of the Consultant, and with a

warning “Do Not Open until [insert the date and the time of the Technical Proposal submission deadline].”

20.7 Similarly, the original Financial Proposal (if required for the applicable selection method) shall be placed inside of a sealed envelope clearly marked “Financial Proposal” followed by the name of the assignment, reference number, name and address of the Consultant, and with a warning “Do Not Open with The Technical Proposal.”

20.8 The sealed envelopes containing the Technical and Financial Proposals shall be placed into one outer envelope and sealed. This outer envelope shall bear the submission address, RFP reference number, the name of the assignment, Consultant’s name and the address, and shall be clearly marked “Do Not Open Before [insert the time and date of the submission deadline indicated in the Data Sheet]”.

20.9 If the envelopes and packages with the Proposal are not sealed and marked as required, the Client will assume no responsibility for the misplacement, loss, or premature opening of the Proposal.

20.10 The Proposal or its modifications must be sent to the address indicated in the Data Sheet and received by the Client no later than the deadline indicated in the Data Sheet, or any extension to this deadline. Any Proposal or its modification received by the Client after the deadline shall be declared late and rejected, and promptly returned unopened.

21 Confidentiality

21.1 From the time the Proposals are opened to the time the Contract is awarded, the Consultant should not contact the Client on any matter related to its Technical and/or Financial Proposal. Information relating to the evaluation of Proposals and award recommendations shall not be disclosed to the Consultants who submitted the Proposals or to any other party not officially concerned with the process, until the publication of the Contract award information.

21.2 Any attempt by shortlisted Consultants or anyone on behalf of the Consultant to influence improperly the Client in the evaluation of the Proposals or Contract award decisions may result in the rejection of its Proposal and may be subject to the application of prevailing sanctions procedures of Govt. of Assam.

21.3 Notwithstanding the above provisions, from the time of the Proposals’ opening to the time of award of Contract, if a consultant wishes to contact the Client on any matter related to the selection process, it should do so only in writing.

22. Opening of Technical Proposal

22.1 The Client’s evaluation committee shall conduct the opening of the Technical Proposals in the presence of the Participating Consultants’ authorized

representatives who choose to attend. **The opening date, time and the address are stated in the Data Sheet.** The envelopes with the Financial Proposal shall remain sealed and shall be securely stored with the Client until they are opened in accordance with Para 26 of the ITC.

22.2 At the opening of the Technical Proposals the following shall be read out:

- (i) the name of the Consultant or, in case of a Joint Venture, the name of the Joint Venture, the name of the lead member and the names of all members;
- (ii) the presence or absence of a duly sealed envelope with the Financial Proposal;
- (iii) any modifications to the Proposal submitted prior to proposal submission deadline; and
- (iv) any other information deemed appropriate or as indicated in the **Data Sheet.**

23 Evaluation of Proposal

23.1 The evaluators of the Technical Proposals shall have no access to the Financial Proposals until the technical evaluation is concluded.

23.2 The Consultant is not permitted to alter or modify its Proposal in any way after the proposal submission deadline except as permitted under Para 14.1 of the ITC. While evaluating the Proposals, the Client will conduct the evaluation solely on the basis of the submitted Technical and Financial Proposals.

24 Evaluation of Technical Proposal

24.1 The Client's evaluation committee shall evaluate the Technical Proposals on the basis of their responsiveness to the Terms of Reference and the RFP, applying the evaluation criteria, sub- criteria, and point system specified in the Data Sheet. Each responsive Proposal will be given a technical score. A Proposal shall be rejected at this stage if it does not respond to important aspects of the RFP or if it fails to achieve the minimum technical score indicated in the Data Sheet.

25 Financial Proposal for QBS

25.1 Following the ranking of the Technical Proposals, when the selection is based on quality only (QBS), the top-ranked Consultant is invited to negotiate the Contract.

25.2 If Financial Proposals were invited together with the Technical Proposals, only the Financial Proposal of the technically top- ranked Consultant is opened by the Client's evaluation committee. All other Financial Proposals are returned unopened after the Contract negotiations are successfully concluded and the Contract is signed.

26 Public Opening of Financial Proposals (For QCBS, FBS & LCS Method)

- 26.1 After the technical evaluation is completed, the Client shall notify those Consultants whose Proposals were considered non-responsive to the RFP and TOR or did not meet the minimum qualifying technical score (and shall provide information relating to the Consultant's overall technical score, as well as scores obtained for each criterion and sub-criterion) that their Financial Proposals will be returned unopened after completing the selection process and Contract signing. The Client shall simultaneously notify in writing to those Consultants that have achieved the minimum overall technical score and inform them of the date, time and location for the opening of the Financial Proposals. The opening date should allow the Consultants sufficient time to make arrangements for attending the opening, generally not less than 3 working days. The Consultant's attendance at the opening of the Financial Proposals (in person, or online if such option is indicated in the **Data Sheet**) is optional and is at the Consultant's choice.
- 26.2 The Financial Proposals shall be opened by the Client's evaluation committee in the presence of the representatives of those Consultants whose proposals have passed the minimum technical score. At the opening, the names of the Consultants, and the overall technical scores, including the break-down by criterion, shall be read aloud. The Financial Proposals will then be inspected to confirm that they have remained sealed and unopened. These Financial Proposals shall be then opened, and the total prices read aloud and recorded. Copies of the record shall be sent to all Consultants who submitted Proposals.

27 Corrections of Errors

- 27.1 Activities and items described in the Technical Proposal but not priced in the Financial Proposal, shall be assumed to be included in the prices of other activities or items, and no corrections are made to the Financial Proposal.
- 27.2 The Consultant is deemed to have included all prices in the Financial Proposal, so neither arithmetical corrections nor price adjustments shall be made. **The total price, net of taxes understood as per ITC Para 28 below, specified in the Financial Proposal (Form FIN-1) shall be considered as the offered price.**

28 Taxes

- 28.1 The Client's evaluation of the Consultant's Financial Proposal shall exclude taxes and duties in accordance with the instructions in the **Data Sheet**.

29 Combined Quality & Cost Evaluation

- 29.1 Combined Quality & Cost Based Selection (QCBS):** In the case of QCBS, the total score is calculated by weighting the technical and financial scores and adding them as per the formula and instructions in the **Data Sheet**. The Consultant achieving the highest combined technical and financial score will be invited for negotiations.
- 29.2 Fixed Budget Selection (FBS):** In the case of FBS, those Proposals that exceed the budget indicated in ITC Para 2.17.1.d) of the Data Sheet shall be rejected. The Client will select the Consultant that submitted the highest-ranked Technical Proposal that does not exceed the budget indicated in the RFP and invite such Consultant to negotiate the Contract.
- 29.3 Least Cost Selection:** In the case of Least-Cost Selection (LCS), the Client will select the Consultant with the lowest evaluated total price among those consultants that achieved the minimum technical score and invite such Consultant to negotiate the Contract.

D. Negotiations & Award

30 Negotiations

- 30.1** The negotiations will be held at the date and address indicated in the **Data Sheet** with the Consultant's representative(s) who must have written power of attorney to negotiate and sign a Contract on behalf of the Consultant.
- 30.2** The Client shall prepare minutes of negotiations that are signed by the Client and the Consultant's authorized representative.
- 30.3 Availability of Key Experts:**
- a) The invited Consultant shall confirm the availability of all Key Experts included in the Proposal as a pre-requisite to the negotiations, or, if applicable, a replacement in accordance with Para 14 of the ITC. Failure to confirm the Key Experts' availability may result in the rejection of the Consultant's Proposal and the Client proceeding to negotiate the Contract with the next-ranked Consultant.
 - b) Notwithstanding the above, the substitution of Key Experts at the negotiations may be considered if due solely to circumstances outside the reasonable control of and not foreseeable by the Consultant, including but not limited to death or medical incapacity. In such case, the Consultant shall offer a substitute Key Expert within the period of time specified in the letter of invitation to negotiate the Contract, who shall have equivalent or better qualifications and experience than the original candidate.

30.4 Technical Negotiations:

- a) The negotiations include discussions of the Terms of Reference (TORs), the proposed methodology, the Client's inputs, the special conditions of the Contract, and finalizing the "Description of Services" part of the Contract. These discussions shall not substantially alter the original scope of services under the TOR or the terms of the contract, lest the quality of the final product, its price, or the relevance of the initial evaluation be affected.

30.5 Financial Negotiations:

- a) The negotiations include the clarification of the Consultant's tax liability and how it should be reflected in the Contract.
- b) If the selection method included cost as a factor in the evaluation, the total price stated in the Financial Proposal for a Lump-Sum contract shall not be negotiated.
- c) The unit rates negotiations shall not take place, except when the offered Key Experts and Non-Key Experts' remuneration rates are much higher than the typically charged rates by consultants in similar contracts. In such case, the Client may ask for clarifications and, if the fees are very high, ask to change the rates.
- d) The format for (i) providing information on remuneration rates in the case of Quality Based Selection; and (ii) clarifying remuneration rates' structure, is provided in Appendix A to the Financial Form FIN-3: Financial Negotiations – Breakdown of Remuneration Rates.

31 Conclusion of Negotiations

31.1 The negotiations are concluded with a review of the finalized draft Contract, which then shall be initialed by the Client and the Consultant's authorized representative.

31.2 If the negotiations fail, the Client shall inform the Consultant in writing of all pending issues and disagreements and provide a final opportunity to the Consultant to respond. If disagreement persists, the Client shall terminate the negotiations informing the Consultant of the reasons for doing so. The Client will invite the next-ranked Consultant to negotiate a Contract. Once the Client commences negotiations with the next-ranked Consultant, the Client shall not reopen the earlier negotiations

32 Award of Contract

32.1 After completing the negotiations, the Client shall prepare the negotiated draft Contract; sign the Contract.

32.2 The Consultant is expected to commence the assignment on the date and at the location specified in the Data Sheet.

E. DATA SHEET

A. General	
ITC Para Reference	
2.1	<p>Name of the Client: Assam Skill University Project (ASUP)</p> <p>Method of selection: Least-Cost Selection (LCS) (In case of two or more bidders submit equal financial bids, which are also Lowest (L1) bids, preference will be given to the party having higher technical score amongst the L1 bidders)</p>
2.2	<p>Financial Proposal to be submitted together with Technical Proposal: Yes</p> <p>The name of the assignment is: Engagement of Chartered Accountant firm for conducting external audit for ASUP</p>
2.3	<p>A pre-proposal conference will be held: No</p>
2.4	<p>The Client will provide the following inputs, project data, reports, etc. to facilitate the preparation of the Proposals: Please refer section 5, TOR</p>
B. Preparation of Proposals	
10.1	<p><u>Documents Comprising the Proposal</u></p> <p>The Proposal shall comprise the following:</p> <p><u>For BIODATA TECHNICAL PROPOSAL (BTP):</u></p> <p>1st Inner Envelope with the Technical Proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Power of Attorney/ Authorization letter to sign the Proposal (2) Proof of Legal Status and Eligibility (3) TECH-1 (4) TECH-5 (5) TECH-6 (6) Documents specified at clause 24.1 Evaluation Criteria <p>AND</p> <p>2nd Inner Envelope with the Financial Proposal (if applicable):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) FIN-1 (2) FIN-2 (3) FIN-3 (4) FIN-4

<p>11.1 & 17.1 (a)</p>	<p>Participation of Sub-consultants, Key Experts and Non-Key Experts in more than one Proposal is permissible: No Joint Venture- Not permitted Sub consultancy- Not permitted</p>
<p>12.1</p>	<p>Proposals must remain valid for 90 days after the proposal submission deadline (i.e., until: <i>06 August 2023</i>).</p>
<p>15.1</p>	<p>The consultant shall not subcontract any portion of the scope of services to any other agency.</p>
<p>16.1</p>	<p>Clarifications may be requested no later than 15 days prior to the submission deadline.</p> <p>The contact information for requesting clarifications is: Assam Skill University Project (ASUP), 3rd Floor, DECT Complex, Rehabari, Guwahati, PIN – 781008, Assam, India</p> <p>E-mail: asup.assam@gmail.com</p> <p>ASUP shall publish the response to all the queries raised, on the website.</p>
<p>17.1 (b)</p>	<p>The minimum estimated cost for the assignment: Rs. 74,000.00 (excluding GST) for one year. (GST will be borne by Client at prescribed rate. The minimum cost is all inclusive lump sum price, including TA/DA, Boarding & Lodging and other out of pocket expenses, contingencies etc.)</p>
<p>18.2</p>	<p>The format of the Technical Proposal to be submitted is: Biodata Technical Proposal (BTP)</p> <p>Submission of the Technical Proposal in a wrong format may lead to the Proposal being deemed non-responsive to the RFP requirements.</p>
<p>19.2</p>	<p>A price adjustment provision applies to remuneration rates: No</p>
<p>19.3</p>	<p>The information on the Consultant’s tax obligations can be found with the respective taxation authorities. Amounts payable by the Client to the Consultant under the contract to be subject to local taxation: Yes The Client will reimburse the Consultant for only GST if claimed separately. Information on the consultant’s tax obligation in the country may be found on Ministry of Finance, Government of India website. At source deductions, however, shall be made as applicable.</p>

C. Submission, Opening and Evaluation	
20.1	The Consultants shall not have the option of submitting their Proposals electronically.
20.5	The Consultant must submit: (a) Technical Proposal: one (1) original and 02 copies; and one soft copy in Pen Drive. (b) Financial Proposal: one (1) original (hard copy only).
20.8 and 20.10	The Proposals must be submitted no later than: Date: 08 May 2023 Time: 14.00 Hrs (IST) The Proposal submission address is: Project Management Unit (PMU), Assam Skill University Project (ASUP), 3 rd Floor, DECT Complex, Rehabari, Guwahati-781008
22.1	The opening shall take place at: Address: same as the Proposal submission address Date: 08 May 2023 Time: 14.15 Hrs (IST)

<p>24.1</p>	<p>Evaluation Criteria</p> <p>Part A:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Registered Legal Entity- Must be registered as a partnership firm or LLP with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) (Self-attested copy of the firm’s Constitution Certificate issued by ICAI as on 01.01.2023 to be attached and self attested copies of PAN & GSTIN to be attached) b. The firm should be empanelled with the C&AG but must have been peer reviewed by a peer reviewer, as per ICAI guidelines for ensuring quality of assurance services. (Confirmation letter of C&AG empanelment for FY 2022-23 and a copy of latest (which is valid) peer review certificate) c. The firm should have been in continuous operation/ practice for at least 15 years in India as on 01.01.2023 and preferably have a local presence in Guwahati, Assam (Self-attested copy of the firm’s Constitution Certificate issued by ICAI on date of formation & valid office proof address) d. Have at least three (3) or more CAs as partners with full time COP where at least 2 partners must be fellow chartered accountants (FCA) for last three (3) years as on 01.01.2023 (Self-attested copy of the firm’s Constitution Certificate issued by ICAI as on 01.01. 2023 to be attached) e. The firm must have carried out at least 10 assignments of Internal Audit / Statutory Audit of Central/ State Government organisations (other than PSUs, PSBs and Charitable Institutions including NGOs) in the last 5 years (FY 2016-17 to FY 2021-22) including full scope audit of at least 02 (two) Externally Aided Projects (EAP) (limited review EAP audit assignments are not acceptable) (Copies of appointment letter/ work order issued by the clients to be attached). In respect of EAP the respective Loan / Grant / Project ID along with the name of the funding agency should be mentioned.) f. The firm should have an average annual turnover of INR 25 lacs in last three financial years (Copies of audited financial statements for FY 2019-20 to FY 2021-22 to be attached) g. The firm or any of the CAs associated with it should not have been debarred (disciplinary proceedings pending or orders have been issued) or cautioned or blacklisted by the ICAI, World Bank, ADB, any Government Organisation or any Statutory Body or authority (Self-declaration of non-debarment to be attached) h. The firm must be independent from Skill Employment and Entrepreneurship Department (SEED, GoA), Assam Skill Development Mission (ASDM) Society & Assam Skill University (ASU) (Self-declaration of non-association with SEED (SEED, GoA), ASDM & ASU during the last five years (i.e., FY 2016-17 onwards) to be attached) <p>The firms those qualify Part A will be considered for evaluation as per below mentioned criteria, sub-criteria and point</p>
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Part B:

The firms those qualify **Part A** will be considered for evaluation as per belowmentioned criteria, sub-criteria and point system.

Criteria, sub-criteria, and point system for the evaluation of the Biodata Technical Proposal:

EVALUATION CRITERIA		Points
I	Personnel Schedule & Work Plan	20
II	Proposal Presentation	10
III	Personnel (Areas of Expertise)	
	Audit Manager/ Team Leader	40
	Audit Assistant 1	15
	Audit Assistant 2	15
	Total Points	100

The number of points to be assigned to each of the above positions shall be determined considering the following three sub-criteria and relevant percentage weights:

	Sub-Criteria & Percentage Weights for KeyExpert	Weightage
1	General Qualifications (academic and professional qualifications, evidence of continuous professional development number of years of general working experience) as specified for each key expert position in TOR.	15%
2	Project Related Experience (quality of project related experience based on relevant projects implemented) as specified for each key expert position in TOR.	70%
3	Experience with International Organizations (experience in working with international consulting firm or international organizations/international agencies) for each key expert in TOR.	15%

Total points for the three criteria:100

The minimum technical score (St) required to pass is: 75 (maximum 100 points)

26.1	An online option of the opening of the Financial Proposals is offered: No
28.1	For the purpose of the evaluation, the Client will exclude GST payable on consulting services.

	D. Negotiations and Award
30.1	Expected date and address for contract negotiations: Date: 26 May 2023 Address: Project Management Unit (PMU), Assam Skill University Project (ASUP), 3 rd Floor, DECT Complex, Rehabari, Guwahati-781008, Assam
32.2	Expected date for the commencement of the Services: Date: June 2023 at: Guwahati, Assam

Section 3. Technical Proposal – Standard Forms

[Notes to Consultant shown in brackets throughout Section 3 provide guidance to the Consultant to prepare the Technical Proposal; they should be deleted in the final proposal to be submitted.]

Checklist of Required Forms

Required for FTP, STP or BTP			FORM	DESCRIPTION	Page Limit		
FTP	STP	BTP					
√	√	√	TECH-1	Technical Proposal Submission Form.			
√	√	√	TECH-1 Attachment	Proof of legal status and eligibility			
“√” If applicable			TECH-1 Attachment	If the Proposal is submitted by a Joint Venture (JV), attach a letter of intent or a copy of an existing agreement.			
“√” If applicable			Power of Attorney	No pre-set format/form. In the case of a JV, several are required: a power of attorney for the authorized representative of each JV member, and a power of attorney for the representative of the lead member to represent all JV members			
FTP	STP	BTP			FTP	STP	BTP
√			TECH-2	Consultant’s Organization and Experience.			
√			TECH-2A	A. Consultant’s Organization	2	n/a	n/a
√			TECH-2B	B. Consultant’s Experience	20	n/a	n/a
√			TECH-3	Comments or Suggestions on the Terms of Reference and on Counterpart Staff and Facilities to be provided by the Client.	<i>For the FTP, the total number of pages for combined forms TECH-3 (FTP) and TECH-4 (FTP) should not exceed 52. A page is defined as one printed side of A4 or letter-sized paper. Font Size 10 is recommended, so text is readable without zooming.</i>		
√			TECH-3A	A. On the Terms of Reference	n/a	n/a	n/a
√			TECH-3B	B. On the Counterpart Staff and Facilities	2	n/a	n/a
√	√		TECH-4	Description of the Approach, Methodology, and Work Plan for Performing the Assignment	50	10	1
√	√	√	TECH-5	Work Schedule and Planning for Deliverables	n/a	n/a	n/a
√	√	√	TECH-6A	Team Composition, Key Experts Inputs,	n/a	n/a	n/a
√	√	√	TECH 6B	Attached Curriculum Vitae (CV)	5 per CV	5 per CV	5 per CV

FORM TECH-1
Technical Proposal Submission

{Location, Date}

To: *Chief Executive Officer, Assam Skill University Project (ASUP)*

Dear Sirs:

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the consulting services for *Engagement of Chartered Accountant firm for conduction external audit for ASUP* in accordance with your Request for Proposals dated **[Insert Date]** and our Proposal. We are hereby submitting our Proposal, which includes this Technical Proposal and a Financial Proposal sealed in a separate envelope.

We hereby declare that:

- (a) All the information and statements made in this Proposal are true and we accept that any misinterpretation or misrepresentation contained in this Proposal may lead to our disqualification by the Client.
- (b) Our Proposal shall be valid and remain binding upon us for the period of time specified in the Data Sheet, Clause 12.1
- (c) We have no Conflict of Interest in accordance with ITC 3.
- (d) We, along with any of our sub-consultants, sub-contractors, suppliers, or service providers for any part of our contract, are not debarred by Central Government, State Government, or any Public Undertakings, Autonomous Bodies, Authorities under them.
- (e) We undertake to observe the Code of Integrity as prescribed in ITC 5.
- (f) We undertake to negotiate a Contract on the basis of the proposed Key Experts. We accept that the substitution of Key Experts for reasons other than those stated in ITC Clause 30.3 may lead to the termination of Contract negotiations.
- (g) Our Proposal is binding upon us and subject to any modifications resulting from the Contract negotiations.
- (h) We undertake, if our Proposal is accepted and the Contract is signed, to initiate the Services related to the assignment no later than the date indicated in Clause 32.2 of the Data Sheet.
- (i) We understand that the Client is not bound to accept any Proposal that the Client receives.

We remain, Yours sincerely,

Authorized Signature **{In full and initials}**:

Name and Title of Signatory: _____

Name of Consultant (company's name): _____

In the capacity of: _____

Address: _____

Contact information (phone and e-mail): _____

FORM TECH-5
Work Schedule & Planning for Deliverables

N°	Deliverables ¹ (D-..)	Months											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	...	n	TOTAL
D-1	{e.g., Deliverable #1: Report A												
	1) data collection												
	2) drafting												
	3) inception report												
	4) incorporating comments												
	5).....												
	6) delivery of final report to Client}												
D-2	{e.g., Deliverable #2:..... }												
n													

- 1 List the deliverables with the breakdown for activities required to produce them and other benchmarks such as the Client's approvals. For phased assignments, indicate the activities, delivery of reports, and benchmarks separately for each phase.
- 2 Duration of activities shall be indicated in a form of a bar chart.
- 3 Include a legend, if necessary, to help read the chart.

FORM TECH-6A
TEAM COMPOSITION, ASSIGNMENT, AND KEY EXPERTS' INPUTS

N°	Name	Expert's input (in person/month) per each Deliverable (listed in TECH-5)										Total time-input(in erson Months)			
		Position		D-1		D-2		D-3	D-...			Home	Field	Total
KEY EXPERTS															
K-1	{e.g., Mr. Abbbb}	[Team Leader]	[Home]	[2 month]	[1.0]	[1.0]									
			[Field]	[0.5 m]	[2.5]	[0]									
K-2															
K-3															
n															
Subtotal															
NON-KEY EXPERTS															
N-1			[Home]												
			[Field]												
N-2															
n															
Subtotal															
Total															

- 1 For Key Experts, the input should be indicated individually for the same positions as required under the Data SheetITC24.1.
- 2 Months are counted from the start of the assignment/mobilization. One (1) month equals twenty-two (22) working (billable) days. One working (billable) day shall be not less than eight (8) working (billable)hours.
- 3 "Home" means work in the expert's office or residence. "Field" work means work carried out in the Client's city or office.

Form TECH-6B

[Note to Consultant: Each Curriculum Vitae (CV) should have a maximum of five pages]

CURRICULUM VITAE (CV) FOR KEY EXPERTS

1. **Proposed Position:** *[TOR Expertise]*
2. **Name of Firm:** *[Insert name of firm proposing the expert, if applicable]*
(Do not abbreviate or use symbols in any portion of the firm or individual name)
3. **Name of Expert:** *[Consultant Name]*
(Do not abbreviate or use symbols in any portion of the firm or individual name)
4. **Current Residential Address:**
Telephone No.:
Fax No.:
E-Mail Address:
5. **Date of Birth:**
Citizenship:
Type of government ID and ID Number.
(please attach a copy of the ID to this form)
6. **Education:** *[Indicate college or university and other specialized education of expert, giving names of institutions, degrees obtained, and dates of obtainment]*
7. **Membership in Professional Associations:**

- 8. Other Trainings:** *[Indicate significant training since degrees under 5 - Education were obtained]*
- 9. Languages:** *[For each language indicate proficiency: good, fair, or poor in speaking, reading, and writing]*
- 10. Employment Record** *[Starting with present position, list in reverse order every employment held by expert since graduation, providing for each employment (see format here below): dates of employment, name of employing organization, positions held.]*
- From *[Month/Year]*: _____
- To *[Month/Year]*: _____
- Employer: _____
- Positions held: _____

11. Detailed Tasks Assigned

[List all tasks to be performed under this assignment]

12. Work Undertaken that Best Illustrates Capability to Handle the Tasks Assigned

[Among the assignments in which the expert has been involved, indicate the following information for those assignments that best illustrate the expert's capability to handle the tasks listed in line 11.]

Name of assignment or project: _____

Month and Year: _____

Location: _____

Client: _____

Main project features: _____

Positions held: _____

Activities performed: _____

14. Certification:

I, the undersigned, certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this CV correctly describes myself, my qualifications, and my experience, and I am available, as and when necessary, to undertake the assignment in case of an award. I understand that any misstatement or misrepresentation described herein may lead to my disqualification or dismissal by the Client.

Date: _____

(Signature of expert)

Day/Month/Year

Full name of authorized representative & Signature (the same who signs the proposal)

Section 4. Financial Proposal - Standard Forms

{*Notes to Consultant* shown in brackets {} provide guidance to the Consultant to prepare the Financial Proposals; they should not appear on the Financial Proposals to be submitted.}

Financial Proposal Standard Forms shall be used for the preparation of the Financial Proposal according to the instructions provided in Section 2.

NOTE: The authorized representative of the Consultant who signs the Proposal is advised to initial all pages of the original Financial Proposal.

FIN-1 Financial Proposal Submission Form

FIN-2 Summary of Costs

FIN-3 Breakdown of Remuneration

FIN-4 Reimbursable expenses

**FORM FIN-1
FINANCIAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM**

{Location, Date}

To: [Name and address of Client]

Dear Sirs:

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the consulting services for [Insert title of assignment] in accordance with your Request for Proposal dated [Insert Date] and our Technical Proposal.

Our attached Financial Proposal is for the amount of Rupees {Indicate the amount} {Insert amount in words and figures}, [Insert "including" or "excluding"] of all indirect local taxes in accordance with Clause 2.28.1 in the Data Sheet. The estimated amount of local indirect taxes is Rupees {Insert amount in words and figures} which shall be confirmed or adjusted, if needed, during negotiations. {Please note that all amounts shall be the same as in Form FIN-2}.

Our Financial Proposal shall be binding upon us subject to the modifications resulting from Contract negotiations, up to expiration of the validity period of the Proposal, i.e., before the date indicated in Clause 12.1 of the Data Sheet.

We understand you are not bound to accept any Proposal you receive. We remain,
Yours sincerely,

Authorized Signature {In full and initials}: _____

Name and Title of Signatory: _____

In the capacity of:

Address:-----

Email:-----

FORM FIN-2
SSUMMARY OF COSTS

Item	Cost
	In Indian National Rupee (INR) (excl. GST)
Cost of the Financial Proposal	
Including:	
(1) Remuneration	
(2) Reimbursable	
<u>Total Cost of the Financial Proposal:</u> {Should match the amount in Form FIN-1}	

**FORM FIN-3
BREAKDOWN OF REMUNERATION**

When used for Lump Sum Contract assignment, information to be provided in this Form shall only be used to demonstrate the basis for the calculation of the Contract's ceiling amount; to calculate applicable taxes at contract negotiations; and, if needed, to establish payments to the Consultant for possible additional services requested by the Client. This Form shall not be used as a basis for payments under Lump Sum Contracts

No.	Name	Position (as in TECH-6)	Person-month/day Remuneration Rate	Time Input in Person per Month/day (TECH- 6)	Total
A	B	C	D	E	(D x E)
—	KeyExperts				
K-1			[Home]		
			[Field]		
K-2					
—	Non-KeyExperts				
N-1			[Home]		
N-2			[Field]		
	Total Costs				

FORM FIN-4
BREAKDOWN OF REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES

When used for Lump Sum contract assignment, information to be provided in this Form shall only be used to demonstrate the basis for calculation of the Contract ceiling amount, to calculate applicable taxes at contract negotiations and, if needed, to establish payments to the Consultant for possible additional services requested by the Client. This form shall not be used as a basis for payments under Lump Sum contracts.

N°	Type of Reimbursable Expenses	Unit	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total- as in FIN-2}
	{e.g., Per diem allowances**}	{Day}			
	{e.g., flights}	{Ticket}			
	{e.g., In/out airport transportation}	{Trip}			
	{e.g., Communication costs between Insert place and Insert place}				
	{ e.g., reproduction of reports}				
	{e.g., Office rent}				
				
	{Training of the Client's personnel – if required in TOR}				
Total Costs					

SECTION 5- TERMS OF REFERENCE

Terms of Reference (TOR) for Engagement of Chartered Accountant Firm for conducting Statutory Audit of ASUP

A. Project Background

1. The Government of India has received a regular loan of \$112 million from the Asian Development Bank (ADB)'s ordinary capital resources to help finance the Assam Skill University Project. The project aims to strengthen the industry-aligned and flexible skills education and training system in Assam through the establishment of Assam Skill University (ASU). The project will have following five outputs:

- (i) **Output 1:** University management and operating systems, business models, and faculty development and management systems developed.
- (ii) **Output 2:** Environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient university campus and facilities developed.
- (iii) **Output 3:** Industry-aligned and flexible skills education and training programs designed and delivered.
- (iv) **Output 4:** Capacity to manage and support entrepreneurship, applied research and development, and technology transfer developed.
- (v) **Output 5:** Access to professional development and quality skills education and training resources in Assam, other states, and neighboring countries improved.

2. The executing agency (EA) of the project is the Skill, Employment and Entrepreneurship Department (SEED) of the State Government of Assam (GoA). The implementing agency (IA) of the project is the Assam Skill Development Mission (ASDM) under SEED. ASDM has established a project management unit (PMU) which is responsible for day-to-day management of the project. The project implementation period is expected to be from February 2022 to June 2027. Below is the key milestones of the project:

ADB approval Date	Loan Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing (Tentative)
13 December 2021	17 December 2021	18 February 2022	31 December 2027

3. The financial management (FM) arrangements within the project are largely mainstreamed using the state government regular budgeting, funds flow and treasury accounting and financial rules. The project, through the PMU, is required to submit regular reports including quarterly progress reports (QPR) and annual audited project financial statements (APFS) to ADB.

4. Objective:

Article 14(xi) of the Agreement establishing the Asian Development Bank (The Charter) States that 'Proceeds of any loan made, guaranteed, or participated by the Bank are used only for the purposes for which the loan was granted and with due attention to consideration of economy and efficiency'. In addition, Article 14(xiv) of the Charter requires ADB to be guided by sound banking principles in its operations. To fulfill the requirements of Article 14 (xi) and (xiv) of the Charter,

ADB requires borrowers/project executing agencies to submit audited Project accounts (APA) and audited financial statements (AFS).

ADB requires the borrower and the project IA to have the required financial statements for each year audited by an independent auditor acceptable to ADB, and in accordance with standards of auditing that are acceptable to ADB. Statutory audit of such financial 'statements includes: (i) an assessment of the adequacy of accounting and internal control systems with respect to project expenditures and other financial transactions, and to ensure safe custody of project financed assets, (ii) a determination as to whether the borrower and project implementing entities have maintained adequate documentation on all relevant transactions, including statement of expenditures (SOE) (iii) confirmation that expenditures submitted to ADB are eligible for financing and identification of any ineligible expenditures, (iv) compliance with loan/grant covenants and ADB's requirements for project management and (v) compliance with the use of procedures for SOE.

The objective of the statutory audit of the Project Financial Statement (PFS) is to enable the auditor to express a professional opinion as to whether (i) the PFS present fairly, in all material respects, the sources and applications of project funds for the period under audit examination, (ii) the funds were utilized for the purposes for which they were provided, (iii) loan covenants have been complied with and (iv) expenditures shown in the PFS are eligible for financing under the relevant loan/grant agreement. In addition, where applicable, the auditor will express a professional opinion on the use of the procedures for SOE and whether adequate supporting documentation has been maintained to support claims made by project management for reimbursement of expenditures incurred under the SOE method of reimbursement.

The books of account that provide the basis for preparation of the PFS are established to reflect the financial transactions of the project and are maintained by the project Implementing agency.

5. Standards:

The audit will be carried out in accordance with the Auditing Standards promulgated by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. The auditor should accordingly consider materiality when planning and performing the audit to reduce audit risk to an acceptable level that is consistent with the objective of the audit. Although the responsibility for preventing irregularity, fraud, or the use of loan/grant proceeds for purposes other than as defined in the legal agreements remain with the borrower, the audit should be planned so as to have a reasonable assurance of detecting material misstatements in the PFS.

6. Scope:

I. In conducting the audit, special attention should be paid to the following:

- (a) All external funds have been used in accordance with the conditions of the relevant legal agreements and only for the purposes for which the financing was provided. Relevant legal agreements include the Loan/Grant Agreement, the Project Agreement, Project Administrative Manual, the Minutes of Negotiations etc.

- (b) Counterpart funds have been provided and used in accordance with the relevant legal agreements and only for the purposes for which they were provided;
- (c) Financial covenants of the loan agreement have been complied with;
- (d) All necessary supporting documents, records, and accounts have been kept in respect of all project transactions including expenditures reported via SOEs. Clear linkages should exist between the books of account and reports presented to the ADB; and
- (e) The project accounts have been prepared in accordance with consistently applied Generally Accepted Accounting Standards and present fairly, in all material aspects, the financial situation of the project at the year end and of resources and expenditures for the year ended on that date.
- (f) Procurement has been carried out by the Project in line with the agreed procedures.
- (g) Compliance with relevant legal and statutory requirements.

II. Project Financial Statements:

The contents of Project Financial Statements (PFS) are specific to the sector, the project design and the type of implementing entity. These formats therefore vary from one project to another. The formats of PFS are prepared in consultation with the implementing entity during the preparation of the project.

The Project Financial Statements shall include:

- A. For the audit of project accounts, the annual financial statement may consist of the Balance Sheet, Statement of Income and Expenditure, Statement of Receipts and Payments on project transactions. Other schedules of value or cumulative expenditures by category such as civil works, equipment, consultancy services, training and capacity building, administrative costs, expenditure by financier, statement of disbursement under SOE procedure, and a summarized reconciled bank statement are to be attached.
- B. Statement of Disbursement: The PFS include a reconciliation between expenditure reported as per the statement of sources and application of funds and expenditure claimed from ADB through SOE and documented claims.
- C. Other statements or schedules as may be applicable in particular circumstances and as specified in the relevant loan/grant agreements.
- D. Management Assertion: Management should sign the PFS and provide a written acknowledgement of its responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and an assertion that project funds have been expended in accordance with the intended purposes as reflected in the financial statements.

- E. Utilization Certificate: To be submitted to the Government in respect of funds released and utilized.

III. Audit Report

An audit report on the PFS should be prepared in accordance with the Auditing Standards promulgated by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. Those standards require an audit opinion to be rendered related to the financial statements taken as a whole, indicating "unambiguously whether it is unqualified or qualified and if the latter, whether it is qualified in certain respects or is adverse or a disclaimer of opinion". In addition, the audit opinion paragraph will specify whether, in the auditor's opinion, (a) loan proceeds have been used as covenanted in ADB Loan / Project Agreement (b) financial covenants of loans have been complied with (c) with respect to SOEs adequate supporting documentation has been maintained to support claims to ADB for reimbursement of expenditures incurred; and (d) except for ineligible expenditures as detailed in the audit observations, if any, appended to the audit report, expenditures are eligible for financing under the Loan/Grant Agreement.

The PFS and the audit report should be received by ADB not later than six (6) months after the close of the fiscal year to which they relate as specified in the loan/project agreement.

IV. Management Letter

In addition to the audit report on the PFS, the auditor may prepare a management letter containing recommendations for improvements in internal control and other matters coming to the attention of the auditor during the audit examination.

7. General

The auditor shall be given access to any information relevant for the purposes of conducting the audit. This would normally include all legal documents, correspondence, and any other information associated with the project and deemed necessary by the auditor. The information made available by the auditor should include, but not be limited to, copies of ADB's project appraisal document, the relevant legal agreements, a copy of these guidelines and a copy of ADB's financial management assessment of the project entity. It is highly desirable that the auditor become familiar with other ADB policy documents such as ADB guidelines on financial management and analysis of projects chapter 5 title reporting and auditing, PAI 5.07 on submission of audited project accounts and financial statements, OM section J7/BP on project accounting, financial reporting and auditing. The auditor should also be familiar with ADB's Loan Disbursement Handbook — July 2012 (or as amended from time to time).

- 8. A total of 2.45 person-months of national consulting services are required from the consulting firm (chartered accountant firm). The firm will be selected using the Least-Cost selection method and biodata technical proposal. An output-based, lumpsum contract will be used. The following expert positions are required.

Position	Person-Months (Intermittent over a three-year contract period)	Qualification required	Roles
Key Experts			
Audit Manager/ Team Leader (01 expert)	0.55	Chartered Accountant with Minimum 07 years of experience in government audits including in projects financed by multilateral development banks like World Bank, ADB, etc.	Leading the audit team in the field, planning and execution of the audits, discussions with the clients, report writing & finalization
Audit Assistant (02 expert)	1.9	B. Com/ CA intermediate with minimum 02 years of experience in government audits including in external audit and report writing.	Assisting the Audit Manager in carrying out the audit.

9. Reporting Requirements and Schedule of Deliverables

The consulting firm (chartered accountant firm) will submit the Annual Audit Report along with the audited financial statements and other relevant documents as specified in the scope of work by 31st July 202X of the immediately succeeding financial year.

10. The consulting firm's performance will be reviewed periodically by the Chief Executive Officer, ASDM/PMU. Quality reports that are duly substantiated and issued in a timely manner shall be viewed as a major indicator of the firm's performance.

11. Data, Services and Facilities to be Provided by the Client

The consulting firm will be given access to all project documents including the loan agreements, correspondence, financial records and financial manuals, relevant notices by PMU-ASDM, ASU, SEED and any other information associated with the project as deemed necessary by the firm.

No services other than those specifically mentioned in this TOR shall be extended to the firm.

SECTION 6

Conditions of Contract and Contract Forms

CONTRACT FOR CONSULTANT'S SERVICES

Lump-Sum

Name of Assignment

Engagement of Chartered Accountant Firm for conducting external audit for ASUP

Contract No. _____

between

Assam Skill University Project (ASUP)

and

[Name of the Consultant]

Dated: _____

I. Form of Contract

(Text in brackets [] is optional; all notes should be deleted in the final text)

This CONTRACT (hereinafter called the “Contract”) is made the *[number]* day of the month of *[month]*, *[year]*, between, on the one hand, *[name of Client]* (hereinafter called the “Client”) and, on the other hand, *[name of Consultant]* (hereinafter called the “Consultant”).

WHEREAS

- (a) The Client has requested the Consultant to provide certain consulting services as defined in this Contract (hereinafter called the “Services”);
- (b) the Consultant, having represented to the Client that it has the required professional skills, expertise and technical resources, has agreed to provide the Services on the terms and conditions set forth in this Contract;

NOW THEREFORE the parties hereto hereby agree as follows:

1. The following documents attached hereto shall be deemed to form an integral part of this Contract:
 - (a) The General Conditions of Contract;
 - (b) The Special Conditions of Contract;
 - (c) Appendices:
 - Appendix A: Terms of Reference
 - Appendix B: Key Experts
 - Appendix C: Breakdown of Contract Price

In the event of any inconsistency between the documents, the following order of precedence shall prevail: the Special Conditions of Contract; the General Conditions of Contract, including Attachment 1; Appendix A; Appendix B; Appendix C; Appendix D. Any reference to this Contract shall include, where the context permits, a reference to its Appendices.

2. The mutual rights and obligations of the Client and the Consultant shall be as set forth in the Contract, in particular:

- (a) the Consultant shall carry out the Services in accordance with the provisions of the Contract; and
- (b) the Client shall make payments to the Consultant in accordance with the provisions of the Contract.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Contract to be signed in their respective names as of the day and year first above written.

For and on behalf of *[Name of Client]*

[Authorized Representative of the Client – name, title and signature]

For and on behalf of *[Name of Consultant or Name of a Joint Venture]*

[Authorized Representative of the Consultant – name and signature]

II. General Conditions of Contract

A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Definitions

1.1. Unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms whenever used in this Contract have the following meanings:

- (a) “Client” means the Procuring Entity that signs the Contract for the Services with the Selected Consultant.
- (b) “Consultant” means a legally-established professional consulting firm or entity selected by the Client to provide the Services under the signed Contract.
- (c) “Contract” means the legally binding written agreement signed between the Client and the Consultant and which includes all the attached documents listed in its paragraph 1 of the Form of Contract (the General Conditions (GCC), the Special Conditions (SCC), and the Appendices).
- (d) “Day” means a working day unless indicated otherwise.
- (e) “Effective Date” means the date on which this Contract comes into force and effect pursuant to Clause GCC11.
- (f) “Experts” means, collectively, Key Experts, Non-Key Experts, or any other personnel of the Consultant, Sub-consultant or JV member(s) assigned by the Consultant to perform the Services or any part thereof under the Contract.
- (g) “GCC” means these General Conditions of Contract.
- (h) “Government” means the Government of Assam.
- (i) “Joint Venture (JV)” means an association with or without a legal personality distinct from that of its members, of more than one entity where one member has the authority to conduct all businesses for and on behalf of any and all the members of the JV, and where the members of the JV are jointly and severally liable to the Client for the performance of the Contract.
- (j) “Key Expert(s)” means an individual professional whose skills, qualifications, knowledge and experience are critical to the performance of the Services under the Contract and whose Curricula Vitae (CV) was taken

into account in the technical evaluation of the Consultant's proposal.

- (k) "Non-Key Expert(s)" means an individual professional provided by the Consultant or its Sub-consultant to perform the Services or any part thereof under the Contract.
- (l) "Party" means the Client or the Consultant, as the case may be, and "Parties" means both of them.
- (m) "SCC" means the Special Conditions of Contract by which the GCC may be amended or supplemented but not over-written.
- (n) "Services" means the work to be performed by the Consultant pursuant to this Contract, as described in Appendix A hereto.
- (o) "Sub-consultants" means an entity to whom /which the Consultant subcontracts any part of the Services while remaining solely liable for the execution of the Contract.
- (p) "Third Party" means any person or entity other than the Government, the Client, the Consultant or a Sub-consultant.

2. Relationship between the parties

- a. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as establishing a relationship of master and servant or of principal and agent as between the Client and the Consultant. The Consultant, subject to this Contract, has complete charge of the Experts and Sub-consultants, if any, performing the Services and shall be fully responsible for the Services performed by them or on their behalf hereunder.

3. Law Governing Contract

3.1. This Contract, its meaning and interpretation, and the relation between the Parties shall be governed by the Applicable Law in India

4. Language

4.1. This Contract has been executed in the English, which shall be the binding and controlling language for all matters relating to the meaning or interpretation of this Contract.

5. Headings

5.1. The headings shall not limit, alter or affect the meaning of this Contract.

6. Communications

6.1. Any communication required or permitted to be given or made pursuant to this Contract shall be in writing. Any such notice, request or consent shall be deemed to have been given or

made when delivered in person to an authorized representative of the Party to whom the communication is addressed, or when sent to such Party at the address specified in the **SCC**.

6.2. A Party may change its address for notice hereunder by giving the other Party any communication of such change to the address specified in the **SCC**.

7. Location

7.1. The Services shall be performed at such locations as are specified in **Appendix A**.

8. Authority of Member in Charge

8.1. In case the Consultant is a Joint Venture, the members hereby authorize the member specified in the **SCC** to act on their behalf in exercising all the Consultant's rights and obligations towards the Client under this Contract, including without limitation the receiving of instructions and payments from the Client.

9. Authorized Representatives

9.1. Any action required or permitted to be taken, and any document required or permitted to be executed under this Contract by the Client or the Consultant may be taken or executed by the officials specified in the **SCC**.

10. Code of Integrity

10.1. The Client and all officers or employees of the Client, whether involved in the procurement process or otherwise, or Consultants and their representatives or service providers participating in a procurement process or other persons involved, directly or indirectly in any way in a procurement process shall maintain an unimpeachable standard of integrity

10.2. Govt. of Assam prescribes to the Client and Consultants to uphold the Code of Integrity, which prohibits officers or employees of a Client or a person participating in a procurement process the following:

- (i) any offer, solicitation or acceptance of any bribe, reward or gift or any material benefit, either directly or indirectly, in exchange for an unfair advantage in the procurement process or to otherwise influence the procurement process;
- (ii) any omission, including a misrepresentation that misleads or attempts to mislead so as to obtain a

financial or other benefit or avoid an obligation;

- (iii) any collusion, bid rigging or anti-competitive behaviour to impair the transparency, fairness and progress of the procurement process;
 - (iv) improper use of information shared between the procuring entity and the bidders with an intent to gain unfair advantage in the procurement process or for personal gain;
 - (v) any financial or business transactions between the bidder and any officer or employee of the procuring entity, who are directly or indirectly related to tender or execution process of contract;
 - (vi) any coercion including impairing or harming or threatening to do the same, directly or indirectly, to any party or to its property to influence the procurement process;
 - (vii) any obstruction of any investigation or audit of a procurement process;
 - (viii) making false declaration or providing false information for participation in-
 - a) tender process or to secure a contract;
 - b) disclosure of Conflict of Interest;
 - c) discloser by the bidder of any previous transgressions with any entity in India or any other country during the last three years or of any debarment by any other Procuring Entity
 - d) during the last three years or of any debarment by any other Procuring Entity
- 10.3. In case of any breach of the Code of Integrity by a Consultant or a prospective Consultant, as the case may be, the Client after giving a reasonable opportunity of being heard, may take appropriate measures including–
- (i) exclusion of the Consultant from the procurement process;

- (ii) recovery of payments made by the Client along with interest thereon at bank rate;
- (iii) cancellation of the relevant contract and recovery of compensation for loss incurred by the Client;
- (iv) debarment of the consultant from participation in future procurements of the Govt. of Assam for a period not exceeding three years

B. COMMENCEMENT, COMPLETION, MODIFICATION AND TERMINATION OF CONTRACT

11. Effectiveness of Contract

11.1. This Contract shall come into force and effect on the date (the "Effective Date") of the Client's notice to the Consultant instructing the Consultant to begin carrying out the Services. This notice shall confirm that the effectiveness conditions, if any, listed in the SCC have been met.

12. Termination of Contract for Failure to Become Effective

12.1. If this Contract has not become effective within such time period after the date of Contract signature as specified in the SCC, either Party may, by not less than twenty-two (22) days written notice to the other Party, declare this Contract to be null and void, and in the event of such a declaration by either Party, neither Party shall have any claim against the other Party with respect hereto.

13. Commencement of Services

13.1. The Consultant shall confirm availability of Key Experts and begin carrying out the Services not later than the number of days after the Effective Date specified in the SCC.

14. Expiration of Contract

14.1. Unless terminated earlier pursuant to Clause GCC 19 hereof, this Contract shall expire at the end of such time period after the Effective Date as specified in the SCC.

15. Entire Agreement

15.1. This Contract contains all covenants, stipulations and provisions agreed by the Parties. No agent or representative of either Party has authority to make, and the Parties shall not be bound by or be liable for, any statement, representation, promise or agreement not set forth herein.

16. Modifications or Variations

16.1. Any modification or variation of the terms and conditions of this Contract, including any modification or variation of the scope of the Services, may only be made by written agreement between the Parties. However, each Party shall give due consideration to any proposals for modification or variation made by the other Party.

17. Force Majeure

a. Definition

17.1. For the purposes of this Contract, “Force Majeure” means an event which is beyond the reasonable control of a Party, is not foreseeable, is unavoidable, and makes a Party’s performance of its obligations hereunder impossible or so impractical as reasonably to be considered impossible under the circumstances, and subject to those requirements, includes, but is not limited to, war, riots, civil disorder, earthquake, fire, explosion, storm, flood or other adverse weather conditions, strikes, lockouts or other industrial action confiscation or any other action by Government agencies.

17.2. Force Majeure shall not include (i) any event which is caused by the negligence or intentional action of a Party or such Party’s Experts, Sub-consultants or agents or employees, nor (ii) any event which a diligent Party could reasonably have been expected to both take into account at the time of the conclusion of this Contract, and avoid or overcome in the carrying out of its obligations here under.

17.3. Force Majeure shall not include insufficiency of funds or failure to make any payment required here under.

b. No Breach of Contract

17.4 The failure of a Party to fulfill any of its obligations hereunder shall not be considered to be a breach of, or default under, this Contract insofar as such inability arises from an event of Force Majeure, provided that the Party affected by such an event has taken all reasonable precautions, due care and reasonable alternative measures, all with the objective of carrying out the terms and conditions of this Contract.

c. Measures to be Taken

17.5 A Party affected by an event of Force Majeure shall

continue to perform its obligations under the Contract as far as is reasonably practical, and shall take all reasonable measures to minimize the consequences of any event of Force Majeure.

17.6 A Party affected by an event of Force Majeure shall notify the other Party of such event as soon as possible, and in any case not later than fourteen (14) calendar days following the occurrence of such event, providing evidence of the nature and cause of such event, and shall similarly give written notice of the restoration of normal conditions as soon as possible.

17.7 Any period within which a Party shall, pursuant to this Contract, complete any action or task, shall be extended for a period equal to the time during which such Party was unable to perform such action as a result of Force Majeure.

17.8 During the period of their inability to perform the Services as a result of an event of Force Majeure, the Consultant, upon instructions by the Client, shall either:

- a. demobilize, in which case the Consultant shall be reimbursed for additional costs they reasonably and necessarily incurred, and, if required by the Client, in reactivating the Services; or
- b. continue with the Services to the extent reasonably possible, in which case the Consultant shall continue to be paid under the terms of this Contract and be reimbursed for additional costs reasonably and necessarily incurred.

17.9 In the case of disagreement between the Parties as to the existence or extent of Force Majeure, the matter shall be settled according to Clauses GCC 44 & 45.

18 Suspension

18.1. The Client may, by written notice of suspension to the Consultant, suspend all payments to the Consultant hereunder if the Consultant fails to perform any of its obligations under this Contract, including the carrying out of the Services, provided that such notice of suspension (i) shall specify the nature of the failure, and (ii) shall request the Consultant to remedy such failure within a period not exceeding thirty (30) calendar days after receipt by the Consultant of such notice of suspension.

19 Termination

19.1 This Contract may be terminated by either Party as per provisions set up below:

a. By the Client

19.1.1 The Client may terminate this Contract in case of the occurrence of any of the events specified in paragraphs (a) through (f) of this Clause. In such an occurrence, the Client shall give at least thirty (30) calendar days' written notice of termination to the Consultant in case of the events referred to in (a) through (d); at least sixty (60) calendar days' written notice in case of the event referred to in (e); and at least five (5) calendar days' written notice in case of the event referred to in (f):

(a) If the Consultant fails to remedy a failure in the performance of its obligations hereunder, as specified in a notice of suspension pursuant to Clause GCC18;

(b) If the Consultant becomes (or, if the Consultant consists of more than one entity, if any of its members becomes) insolvent or bankrupt or enter into any agreements with their creditors for relief of debt or take advantage of any law for the benefit of debtors or go into liquidation or receivership whether compulsory or voluntary;

(c) If the Consultant fails to comply with any final decision reached as a result of arbitration proceedings pursuant to Clause GCC45.1;

(d) If, as the result of Force Majeure, the Consultant is unable to perform a material portion of the Services for a period of not less than sixty (60) calendar days;

(e) If the Client, in its sole discretion and for any reason whatsoever, decides to terminate this Contract;

(f) If the Consultant fails to confirm availability of Key Experts as required in Clause GCC13.

19.1.2. Furthermore, if the Client determines that the Consultant has engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive or obstructive practices, in competing for or in executing the Contract, then the Client may, after giving fourteen (14) calendar days written notice to the Consultant, terminate the Consultant's employment under the Contract.

b. By the Consultant

19.1.3. The Consultant may terminate this Contract, by not less than thirty (30) calendar days' written notice to the Client, in case of the occurrence of any of the events specified in paragraphs (a) through (d) of this Clause.

(a) If the Client fails to pay any money due to the Consultant pursuant to this Contract and not subject to dispute pursuant to Clause GCC 45.1 within forty-five (45) calendar days after receiving written notice from the Consultant that such payment is overdue.

(b) If, as the result of Force Majeure, the Consultant is unable to perform a material portion of the Services for a period of not less than sixty (60) calendar days.

(c) If the Client fails to comply with any final decision reached as a result of arbitration pursuant to Clause GCC45.1.

(d) If the Client is in material breach of its obligations pursuant to this Contract and has not remedied the same within forty- five (45) days (or such longer period as the Consultant may have subsequently approved in writing) following the receipt by the Client of the Consultant's notice specifying such breach.

c. Cessation of Rights and Obligations

19.1.4 Upon termination of this Contract pursuant to Clauses GCC 12 or GCC 19 hereof, or upon expiration of this Contract pursuant to Clause GCC 14, all rights and obligations of the Parties hereunder shall cease, except (i) such rights and obligations as may have accrued on the date of termination or expiration, (ii) the obligation of confidentiality set forth in Clause GCC 22, (iii) the Consultant's obligation to permit inspection, copying and auditing of their accounts and records set forth in ClauseGCC25, and (iv)any right which a Party may have under the Applicable Law.

d. Cessation of Services

19.1.5 Upon termination of this Contract by notice of either Party to the other pursuant to Clauses GCC 19a or GCC 19b, the Consultant shall, immediately upon dispatch or receipt of such notice, take all necessary steps to bring the Services to a close in a prompt and orderly manner and shall make every reasonable effort to keep expenditures for this purpose to a minimum. With respect to documents prepared by the Consultant and equipment and materials furnished by the Client, the Consultant shall proceed as provided, respectively, by Clauses GCC 27 or GCC 28.

e. Payment upon Termination

19.1.6 Upon termination of this Contract, the Client shall make the following payments to the Consultant:

(a) payment for Services satisfactorily performed prior to the effective date of termination; and

(b) in the case of termination pursuant to paragraphs (d) and (e) of Clause GCC 19.1.1, reimbursement of any reasonable cost incidental to the prompt and orderly termination of this Contract, including the cost of the return travel of the Experts.

C. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CONSULTANT

20 General

a. Standard of Performance

20.1 The Consultant shall perform the Services and carry out the Services with all due diligence, efficiency and economy, in accordance with generally accepted professional standards and practices, and shall observe sound management practices, and employ appropriate technology and safe and effective equipment, machinery, materials and methods. The Consultant shall always act, in respect of any matter relating to this Contract or to the Services, as a faithful adviser to the Client, and shall at all times support and safeguard the Client's legitimate interests in any dealings with the third parties.

20.2 The Consultant shall employ and provide such qualified and experienced Experts and Sub-consultants as are required to carry out the Services.

20.3 The Consultant may subcontract part of the Services to an extent and with such Key Experts and Sub-consultants as may be approved in advance by the Client. Notwithstanding such approval, the Consultant shall retain full responsibility for the Services.

b. Law Applicable to Services

20.4 The Consultant shall perform the Services in accordance with the Contract and the Applicable Law and shall take all practicable steps to ensure that any of its Experts and Sub-consultants, comply with the Applicable Law.

20.5 Throughout the execution of the Contract, the Consultant shall comply with the import of goods and services prohibitions in the Client's country when as a matter of law or official regulations, the Govt. of India prohibits commercial relations with that country.

21 Conflict of Interests

21.1. The Consultant shall hold the Client's interests paramount, without any consideration for future work, and strictly avoid conflict with other assignments or their own corporate interests.

21.2 Conflict of interest for a Procuring Entity or its personnel and consultants is considered to be a situation in which a party has interests that could improperly influence that performance of its duties or responsibilities, contractual obligations, or compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

21.3 Govt. of Assam describes the situations in which a Procuring Entity or its personnel may be considered to be in Conflict of Interest include, but are not limited to the following—

- a) Conflict of Interest occurs when the private interests of a procuring entity or its personnel, such as personal, non- official, extra- professional or other relationships or personal financial assets, interfere or appear to interfere with the proper performance of its professional functions or obligations as a procurement official;
- b) within the procurement environment, a Conflict of Interest may arise in connection with such private interests as personal investments and assets, political or other social activities and affiliations while in the service of the Procuring Entity, employment after retirement from service or of relatives or the receipt of a gift that may place the Procuring Entity or its personnel in a position of obligation;
- c) Conflict of Interest also includes the use of assets of the Procuring Entity including human, financial and material assets, or the use of the office of the Procuring Entity or knowledge gained from official functions for private gain or to prejudice the position of someone the Procuring Entity or its personnel does not favour;
- d) Conflict of Interest may also arise in situations where the Procuring Entity or any of its personnel is seen to benefit directly or indirectly or allow a third party, including family, friends or someone they favour, to benefit directly or indirectly from the decision or action of the Procurement Entity;

21.4 The situations in which consultants participating in a procurement process or their representatives may be considered to be in Conflict of Interest include, but are not limited to the following—

- a) If they or their personnel or representatives or agents have any relationship or financial or business transactions or interests with any official of the Procuring Entity that are directly or indirectly involved in or related to the procurement process or execution of contract;
- b) If they receive or have received any direct or indirect subsidy from any other bidder;
- c) If they have the same legal representative for purposes of the bid;
- d) If they have a relationship with each other, directly or through common third parties that puts them in a position to have access to information about or influence on the bid of another;
- e) If they participate in more than one bid in the same bidding process;

- f) If they have controlling partners in common;
- g) If a consultant or any of its affiliates participated as a consultant in the preparation of the design or technical specifications of the subject matter of procurement of the bidding process or were involved in such preparation in any way;

21.5 The Consultant agrees that, during the term of this Contract and after its termination, the Consultant and any entity affiliated with the Consultant, as well as any Sub-consultants and any entity affiliated with such Sub-consultants, shall be disqualified from providing goods, works or non-consulting services resulting from or directly related to the Consultant's Services for the preparation or implementation of the project, unless otherwise indicated in the **SCC**.

22. Confidentiality

22.1 Except with the prior written consent of the Client, the Consultant and the Experts shall not at any time communicate to any person or entity any confidential information acquired in the course of the Services, nor shall the Consultant and the Experts make public the recommendations formulated in the course of, or as a result of, the Services.

23. Liability of the Consultant

23.1 Subject to additional provisions, if any, set forth in the **SCC**, the Consultant's liability under this Contract shall be provided by the Applicable Law.

24. Insurance to be Taken out by the Consultant

24.1 The Consultant (i) shall take out and maintain, and shall cause any Sub-consultants to take out and maintain, at its (or the Sub-consultants', as the case may be) own cost but on terms and conditions approved by the Client, insurance against the risks, and for the coverage specified in the **SCC**, and(ii) at the Client's request, shall provide evidence to the Client showing that such insurance has been taken out and maintained and that the current premiums therefore have been paid. The Consultant shall ensure that such insurance is in place prior to commencing the Services as stated in Clause GCC 13.

25. Accounting, Inspection and Auditing

25.1 The Consultant shall keep and shall make all reasonable efforts to cause its Sub-consultants to keep, accurate and systematic accounts and records in respect of the Services and in such form and detail as will clearly identify relevant time changes and costs.

25.2 The Consultant shall permit and shall cause its Sub-consultants to permit, the Client and/or persons appointed by the Client to inspect the Site and/or all accounts

and records relating to the performance of the Contract and the submission of the Proposal to provide the Services, and to have such accounts and records audited by auditors appointed by the Client if requested by the Client.

26. Reporting Obligations 26.1 The Consultant shall submit to the Client the reports and documents specified in **Appendix A**, in the form, in the numbers and within the time periods set forth in the said Appendix.

27. Proprietary Rights of the Client in Reports and Records

27.1 Unless otherwise indicated in the **SCC**, all reports and relevant data and information such as maps, diagrams, plans, databases, other documents and software, supporting records or material compiled or prepared by the Consultant for the Client in the course of the Services shall be confidential and become and remain the absolute property of the Client. The Consultant shall, not later than upon termination or expiration of this Contract, deliver all such documents to the Client, together with a detailed inventory thereof. The Consultant may retain a copy of such documents, data and/or software but shall not use the same for purposes unrelated to this Contract without prior written approval of the Client.

27.2 If license agreements are necessary or appropriate between the Consultant and third parties for purposes of development of the plans, drawings, specifications, designs, databases, other documents and software, the Consultant shall obtain the Client's prior written approval to such agreements, and the Client shall be entitled at its discretion to require recovering the expenses related to the development of the program(s) concerned. Other restrictions about the future use of these documents and software, if any, shall be specified in the **SCC**.

28. Equipment, Vehicles And Materials

28.1 Equipment, vehicles and materials made available to the Consultant by the Client, or purchased by the Consultant with funds provided by the Client, shall be the property of the Client and shall be marked accordingly. Upon termination or expiration of this Contract, the Consultant shall make available to the Client an inventory of such equipment, vehicles and materials and shall dispose of such equipment, vehicles and materials in accordance with the Client's instructions. While in possession of such equipment, vehicles and materials, the Consultant, unless otherwise instructed by the Client in writing, shall insure them at the expense of the Client in an amount equal to their full replacement value.

28.2 Any equipment or materials brought by the Consultant or its Experts for the use either for the project or personal use shall remain the property of the Consultant or the Experts concerned, as applicable.

D. CONSULTANT'S EXPERTS AND SUB-CONSULTANTS

29. Description of Key Experts

29.1 The title, agreed job description, minimum qualification and estimated period of engagement to carry out the Services of each of the Consultant's Key Experts are described in **Appendix B**.

30. Replacement of Key Experts

30.1 Except as the Client may otherwise agree in writing, no changes shall be made in the Key Experts.

30.2 Notwithstanding the above, the substitution of Key Experts during Contract execution may be considered only based on the Consultant's written request and due to circumstances outside the reasonable control of the Consultant, including but not limited to death or medical incapacity. In such case, the Consultant shall forthwith provide as a replacement, a person of equivalent or better qualifications and experience, and at the same rate of remuneration.

31. Removal of Experts or Sub-consultants

31.1 If the Client finds that any of the Experts or Sub-consultant has committed serious misconduct or has been charged with having committed a criminal action, or shall the Client determine that Consultant's Expert or Sub-consultant have acted in contravention to Code of Integrity provisions given in GCC 10, while performing the Services, the Consultant shall, at the Client's written request, provide are placement.

31.2 In the event that any of Key Experts, Non-Key Experts or Sub-consultants is found by the Client to be incompetent or incapable in discharging assigned duties, the Client, specifying the grounds therefore, may request the Consultant to provide are placement.

31.3 Any replacement of the removed Experts or Sub-consultants shall possess better qualifications and experience and shall be acceptable to the Client.

31.4 The Consultant shall bear all costs arising out of or incidental to any removal and/or replacement of such Experts.

E. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CLIENT

32. Assistance and Exemptions

32.1 Unless otherwise specified in the **SCC**, the Client shall use its best efforts to:

(a) Assist the Consultant with obtaining work permits and such other documents as shall be necessary to enable the Consultant to perform the Services.

- (b) Assist the Consultant with promptly obtaining, for the Experts and, if appropriate, their eligible dependents, all necessary entry and exit visas, residence permits, exchange permits and any other documents required for their stay in the Client's country while carrying out the Services under the Contract.
- (c) Facilitate prompt clearance through customs of any property required for the Services and of the personal effects of the Experts and their eligible dependents.
- (d) Issue to officials, agents and representatives of the Government all such instructions and information as may be necessary or appropriate for the prompt and effective implementation of the Services.
- (e) Assist the Consultant and the Experts and any Sub-consultants employed by the Consultant for the Services with obtaining exemption from any requirement to register or obtain any permit to practice their profession or to establish themselves either individually or as a corporate entity in the Client's country according to the applicable law in the Client's country.
- (f) Assist the Consultant, any Sub-consultants and the Experts of either of them with obtaining the privilege, pursuant to the applicable law in the Client's country, of bringing into the Client's country reasonable amounts of foreign currency for the purposes of the Services or for the personal use of the Experts and of withdrawing any such amounts as may be earned therein by the Experts in the execution of the Services.
- (g) Provide to the Consultant any such other assistance as may be specified in the SCC.

33. Access to Project Site

33.1 The Client warrants that the Consultant shall have, free of charge, unimpeded access to the project site in respect of which access is required for the performance of the Services. The Client will be responsible for any damage to the project site or any property thereon resulting from such access and will indemnify the Consultant and each of the experts in respect of liability for any such damage, unless such damage is caused by the willful default or negligence of the Consultant or any Sub-consultants or the Experts of either of them.

34. Change in the Applicable Law Related to Taxes and Duties

34.1 If, after the date of this Contract, there is any change in the applicable law in the Client's country with respect to taxes and duties which increases or decreases the cost incurred by the Consultant in performing the Services, then the remuneration and reimbursable expenses otherwise payable to the Consultant under this Contract shall be increased or decreased accordingly by agreement between the Parties hereto, and

corresponding adjustments shall be made to the Contract price amount specified in Clause GCC 38.1

35. Services, Facilities and Property of the Client

35.1 The Client shall make available to the Consultant and the Experts, for the purposes of the Services and free of any charge, the services, facilities and property described in the Terms of Reference (**Appendix A**) at the times and in the manner specified in said **Appendix A**.

36. Counterpart Personnel

36.1 The Client shall make available to the Consultant free of charge such professional and support counterpart personnel, to be nominated by the Client with the Consultant's advice, if specified in **Appendix A**.

37. Payment Obligation

37.1 In consideration of the Services performed by the Consultant under this Contract, the Client shall make such payments to the Consultant for the deliverables specified in **Appendix A** and in such manner as is provided by GCC F below.

F. PAYMENTS TO THECONSULTANT

38 Contract Price

38.1 The Contract price is fixed and is set forth in the **SCC**. The Contract price breakdown is provided in **Appendix C**.

38.2 Any change to the Contract price specified in Clause 38.1 can be made only if the Parties have agreed to the revised scope of Services pursuant to Clause GCC 16 and have amended in writing the Terms of Reference in **Appendix A**.

39. Taxes and Duties

39.1 The Consultant, Sub-consultants and Experts are responsible for meeting any and all tax liabilities arising out of the Contract.

40. Currency of Payment

40.1 Any payment under this Contract shall be made in Indian Rupees.

41. Mode of Billing and Payment

41.1 The total payments under this Contract shall not exceed the Contract price set forth in Clause GCC38.1.

41.2 The payments under this Contract shall be made in lump-sum installments against

deliverables specified in **Appendix A**. The payments will be made according to the payment schedule stated in the **SCC**.

- 41.2.1 *Advance payment:* Unless otherwise indicated in the **SCC**, an advance payment shall be made against an advance payment bank guarantee acceptable to the Client in an amount specified in the **SCC**. Such guarantee (i) is to remain effective until the advance payment has been fully set off, and (ii) is to be in the form set forth in **Appendix D**, or in such other form as the Client shall have approved in writing. The advance payments will be set off by the Client in equal portions against the lump-sum installments specified in the **SCC** until said advance payments have been fully setoff.
- 41.2.2 *The Lump-Sum Installment Payments.* The Client shall pay the Consultant within sixty (60) days after the receipt by the Client of the deliverable(s) and the cover invoice for the related lump-sum installment payment. The payment can be withheld if the Client does not approve the submitted deliverable(s) as satisfactory in which case the Client shall provide comments to the Consultant within the same sixty (60) days period. The Consultant shall thereupon promptly make any necessary corrections, and thereafter the foregoing process shall be repeated.
- 41.2.3 *The Final Payment* The final payment under this Clause shall be made only after the final report I have been submitted by the Consultant and approved as satisfactory by the Client. The Services shall then be deemed completed and finally accepted by the Client. The last lump-sum installment shall be deemed approved for payment by the Client within ninety (90) calendar days after receipt of the final report by the Client unless the Client, within such ninety (90) calendar day period, gives written notice to the Consultant specifying in detail deficiencies in the Services, the final report. The Consultant shall thereupon promptly make any necessary corrections, and thereafter the foregoing process shall be repeated.
- 41.2.4 All payments under this Contract shall be made to the account of the Consultant specified in the **SCC**.

G. FAIRNESS AND GOODFAITH

42. Good Faith

42.1 The Parties undertake to act in good faith with respect to each other's rights under this Contract and to adopt all reasonable measures to ensure the realization of the objectives of this Contract.

H. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

43. Amicable Settlement

43.1 The Parties shall seek to resolve any dispute amicably by mutual consultation.

43.2 If either Party objects to any action or inaction of the other Party, the objecting Party may file a written Notice of Dispute to the other Party providing in detail the basis of the dispute. The Party receiving the Notice of Dispute will consider it and respond in writing within fourteen (14) days after receipt. If that Party fails to respond within fourteen (14) days, or the dispute cannot be amicably settled within fourteen (14) days following the response of that Party, Clause GCC 44.1 shall apply.

44. Dispute Resolution

44.1 Any dispute between the Parties arising under or related to this Contract that cannot be settled amicably may be referred to by either Party to the adjudication/ arbitration in accordance with the provisions specified in the **SCC**.

III. Special Conditions of Contract

[Notes in brackets are for guidance purposes only and should be deleted in the final text of the signed contract]

Number of GCC Clause	Amendments of, and Supplements to, Clauses in the General Conditions of Contract
6.1 and 6.2	<p>The addresses are:</p> <p>Client : Assam Skill University Project (ASUP)</p> <p>Attention: _Mr.Ankur Jain, IPS, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) E-mail (where permitted): asup.assam@gmail.com</p> <p>Consultant:_____</p> <p>Attention: _____</p> <p>E-mail (where permitted):_____</p>
8.1	<p>The Lead Member on behalf of the JV is</p> <hr/> <p><i>Not Applicable</i></p>
9.1	<p>The Authorized Representatives are:</p> <p>For the Client: Mr. Ankur Jain, IPS, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) For the Consultant: <i>[name, title]</i>_____</p>
11.1	<p>The effectiveness conditions are the following:</p> <p>On submission of key expert's availability for the assignment.</p>

12.1	<p>Termination of Contract for Failure to Become Effective:</p> <p>The time period shall be 30 days</p>
13.1	<p>Commencement of Services:</p> <p>The number of days shall be 7 days from the effective date.</p> <p>Confirmation of Key Experts' availability to start the Assignment shall be submitted to the Client in writing as a written statement signed by each Key Expert.</p>
14.1	<p>Expiration of Contract:</p> <p>The consulting firm shall be engaged for external audit of 3 years beginning from FY 2022-23 (including retroactive financing period)</p>
21.5	<p>The Client reserves the right to determine on a case-by-case basis whether the Consultant should be disqualified from providing goods, works or non-consulting services due to a conflict of a nature described in Clause GCC21.4.g</p> <p>Yes</p>

23.1	<p>No additional provisions.</p>
24.1	<p>The insurance coverage against the risks shall be as follows:</p> <p><i>[Delete what is not applicable except (a)].</i></p> <p>(a) Professional ability insurance, with a minimum coverage of <u>[insert amount and currency which should be not less than the total ceiling amount of the Contract]</u>;</p> <p>(b) Third Party motor vehicle liability insurance in respect of motor vehicles operated in the Client's country by the Consultant or its Experts or Sub-consultants, with a</p>

	<p>minimum coverage of <i>[insert amount or state “in accordance with the applicable law in the Client’s country”]</i>;</p> <p>(c) Third Party liability insurance, with a minimum coverage of <i>[insert amount and currency or state “in accordance with the applicable law in the Client’s country”]</i>;</p> <p>(d) employer’s liability and workers’ compensation insurance in respect of the experts and Sub-consultants in accordance with the relevant provisions of the applicable law in the Client’s country, as well as, with respect to such Experts, any such life, health, accident, travel or other insurance as may be appropriate; and</p> <p>(e) insurance against loss of or damage to (i) equipment purchased in whole or in part with funds provided under this Contract, (ii) the Consultant’s property used in the performance of the Services, and (iii) any documents prepared by the Consultant in the performance of the Services.</p>
27.2	<p>The Consultant shall not use these <i>documents</i> for purposes unrelated to this Contract without the prior written approval of the Client.</p>

32.1 (a) through (e)	<i>Not Applicable</i>
32.1(f)	<i>Not Applicable</i>
38.1	<p>The Contract price is: _____ <i>[insert amount]</i> <i>[indicate: inclusive or exclusive]</i> of local indirect taxes.</p> <p>Any indirect local taxes chargeable in respect of this Contract for the Services provided by the Consultant shall <i>[insert as appropriate: “be paid” or “reimbursed”]</i> by the Client <i>[insert as appropriate: “for” or “to”]</i> the Consultant.</p> <p>The amount of such taxes is _____ <i>[insert the amount as finalized at the Contract’s negotiations on the basis of the estimates provided by the Consultant in Form FIN-2 of the Consultant’s Financial Proposal.</i></p>

<p>41.2</p>	<p>The payment schedule:</p> <p>The payment shall be made within 30 days of acceptance of the Annual Audit Report by the ADB.</p>
<p>41.2.1</p>	<p>The following provisions shall apply to the advance payment and the advance bank payment guarantee:</p> <p><i>No advance payment shall be made</i></p>
<p>41.2.4</p>	<p>The account is:</p> <p><i>[insert account].</i></p>
<p>44.1</p>	<p>Disputes shall be settled by arbitration in accordance with the following provisions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Selection of Arbitrators.</u> Each dispute submitted by a Party to arbitration shall be heard by a sole arbitrator or an arbitration panel composed of three (3) arbitrators, in accordance with the following provisions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Where the Parties agree that the dispute concerns a technical matter, they may agree to appoint a sole arbitrator or, failing agreement on the identity of such sole arbitrator within thirty(30) days after receipt by the other Party of the proposal of a name for such an appointment by the Party who initiated the proceedings, either Party may apply to <i>[name an appropriate professional body]</i> for a list of not fewer than five (5) nominees and, on receipt of such list, the Parties shall alternately strike names there from, and the last remaining nominee on the list shall be the sole arbitrator for the matter in dispute. If the last remaining nominee has not been determined in this manner within sixty (60) days of the date of the list, <i>[insert the name of the same professional body as above]</i> shall appoint, upon the request of either Party and from such list or otherwise, a sole arbitrator for the matter in dispute.

	<p>(b) Where the Parties do not agree that the dispute concerns a technical matter, the Client and the Consultant shall each appoint one (1) arbitrator, and these two arbitrators shall jointly appoint a third arbitrator, who shall chair the arbitration panel. If the arbitrators named by the Parties do not succeed in appointing a third arbitrator within thirty (30) days after the latter of the two (2) arbitrators named by the Parties has been appointed, the third arbitrator shall, at the request of either Party, be appointed by <i>[name an appropriate appointing authority]</i>.</p> <p>(c) If, in a dispute subject to paragraph (b) above, one Party fails to appoint its arbitrator within thirty (30) days after the other Party has appointed its arbitrator, the Party which has named an arbitrator may apply to the <i>[name the same appointing authority as in said paragraph(b)]</i> to appoint a sole arbitrator for the matter in dispute, and the arbitrator appointed pursuant to such application shall be the sole arbitrator for that dispute.</p>
	<p>2. <u>Rules of Procedure.</u> Except as otherwise stated herein, arbitration proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of procedure for arbitration of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 as in force on the date of this Contract.</p> <p>3. <u>Substitute Arbitrators.</u> If for any reason an arbitrator is unable to perform his/her function, a substitute shall be appointed in the same manner as the original arbitrator.</p> <p>4. <u>Qualifications of Arbitrators.</u> The sole arbitrator or the third arbitrator appointed pursuant to paragraphs 1(a) through 1(c) above shall be a nationally recognized legal or technical expert with extensive experience in relation to the matter in dispute.</p>
	<p>5. <u>Miscellaneous.</u> In any arbitration proceeding hereunder:</p> <p>(a) proceedings shall be held in Guwahati, <i>India</i></p> <p>(b) the <i>English</i> language shall be the official language for all purposes; and</p>

	<p>(c) the decision of the sole arbitrator or of a majority of the arbitrators (or of the third arbitrator if there is no such majority) shall be final and binding and shall be enforceable in any court of competent jurisdiction, and the Parties hereby waive any objections to or claims of immunity in respect of such enforcement.</p>
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IV. Appendices to Contract

APPENDIX A – TERMS OF REFERENCE

[This Appendix shall include the final Terms of Reference (TORs) worked out by the Client and the Consultant during the negotiations; dates for completion of various tasks; location of performance for different tasks; detailed reporting requirements and list of deliverables against which the payments to the Consultant will be made; Client's input, including counterpart personnel assigned by the Client to work on the Consultant's team; specific tasks or actions that require prior approval by the Client.]

Insert the text based on the Section 5 (Terms of Reference) of the ITC in the RFP and modified based on the Forms TECH-1 through TECH-5 of the Consultant's Proposal. Highlight the changes to Section 5 of the RFP]

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...

APPENDIX B - KEY EXPERTS

[Insert a table based on Form TECH-6 of the Consultant's Technical Proposal and finalized at the Contract's negotiations. Attach the CVs (updated and signed by the respective Key Experts) demonstrating the qualifications of Key Experts.]

.....

APPENDIX C – BREAKDOWN OF CONTRACT PRICE

[Insert the table with the unit rates to arrive at the breakdown of the lump-sum price. The table shall be based on [Form FIN-3 and FIN-4] of the Consultant's Proposal and reflect any changes agreed at the Contract negotiations, if any. The footnote shall list such changes made to [Form FIN-3 and FIN-4] at the negotiations or state that none has been made.]