NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR CREATING WiFi NETWORK IN PPP MODE

Date: 16-09-2013

Department of Information Technology, Government of Puducherry, invites Expressions of Interest for “Establishment and Maintenance, of Meshed WiFi network at three municipalities namely Pondicherry, Oulgaret and Karaikal” from a reputed vendor who have proven experience in similar field.

Objective

The Government of Puducherry invites Expression of Interest from technology providers to create WiFi network in Puducherry, Oulgaret and Karaikal municipalities. The potential benefit from this includes easier access to Internet Services thereby increasing the ease of communications on the move and availability of information on business and tourism in the three municipalities.

Situated on the Coromandel Coast, about 160 Km south of Chennai, lies the Union Territory of Puducherry. The Puducherry region is located between 11°46’ and 12°30’ of North latitude and between 79°36’ and 79°52’ of East longitude. It is bound on the east by the Bay of Bengal and on the other three sides by the South Arcot District of Tamil Nadu. The Union Territory of Puducherry covers an area of 480 Sq. Kms. and comprises of four coastal regions. About 150 Km south of Pondicherry, on the east coast, lies Karaikal, while Mahe is situated on the Malabar Coast of Kerala. While Yanam is situated in the adjoining East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh. The Union Territory houses a population of 1,244,464 as per the 2011 census.

Puducherry has a large population below the age of thirty owing to large pool of educational institutions and net-savvy population. DIT, Puducherry is determined to take the level of services to citizens at greater heights and intends to facilitate provision of ubiquitous internet connectivity which could propel quicker adoption of the e-Governance and e-business. Such connectivity would facilitate speedier and secure business transaction, knowledge and information dissemination, hassle-free interaction amongst citizens,
businesses and Government. The establishment of WiFi Network through Public Private Partnership would enhance broadband availability and connectivity.

**Scope of the work**
The Scope of Work for the Vendor/Vendor Partner includes design, implementation and operation, for the provision of 24X7 Internet Access using NGH technology / best available global standard technology for high speed wireless internet access to citizens and tourists using WiFi enabled devices namely Laptops, Smart Phones, Tablets etc. The Vendor/ vendor partner shall provide the detail information on service level standards for EOI, with respect to the following:-

1. Implementation, Integration and Commissioning.
2. Creation of Kiosks at various places for citizen to access internet (no of terminal, no. of kiosk).
4. Replacement and repair.
5. Technical training.
6. Documentation.

**Pre-Qualification Criterion**
**Companies meeting the following qualifying criterion are eligible to apply.**
1. The company must be registered in India and whose annual turnover should not be less than 100 Crores on an average, during the last three financial years (FY13, FY12, and FY11) * & **.
2. The company should have been making profits in the last three financial years * & **.
3. The company must be well established and should be providing same kind of service.
4. The Company should have at least one implementation/technical support office in Puducherry or Chennai or Bangalore.
5. Company should have at least 100 key persons on roll who have sufficient experience in the said service.
6. The companies can also participate with their consortium partner.
7. In case of consortium, companies should clearly mention the name and details of lead company and the role and responsibilities of all the partners.
8. The WiFi Vendor/Vendor Partner must be an authorized reseller of the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM), whose equipment is being offered and must produce a copy of the agreement entered into with the OEM.

9. The WiFi Vendor/Vendor Partner should provide letters of support from the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) stating that their products/solutions as proposed by the WiFi Vendor/Vendor Partner will be supported for at least next three years.

10. The WiFi Vendor/Vendor Partner will submit the letter of support from OEM in the name of Vendor/Vendor partner.

* The Clause 1 & 2 will not be applicable to Central Govt. Autonomous bodies / Societies constituted under the Central Govt. Departments / Societies which run on no profit basis.

** In case of consortium lead bidder must fulfill the pre-qualification criterion.

Special Conditions
1. The WiFi network should guarantee at least 5 Mbps speed at anytime anywhere to the end users in the three implemented municipalities.
2. The physical security of the equipment and relevant accessories will be the responsibility of the operator.
3. The Network must be supported by the Local Point of Presence for providing assistance to tourists and other end users.
4. In future these points of presence may evolve into Tourist help centers and provide additional value added services. Vendor/ Vendor Partner should specify the value added services that they are likely to provide over a period of time through these centers.
5. If required by the DIT, Government of Puducherry, the Vendor/ Vendor Partner should be able to demonstrate the proposed services during technical evaluation.
6. The WiFi Vendor/Vendor Partner must guarantee the creation and maintaining the Spare parts pool on site for all the offered equipment during the warranty period.
7. The WiFi Vendor/ Vendor Partner must guarantee that the offered equipment will be exclusively used only for this service.
8. The WiFi Vendor/ Vendor Partner must guarantee the complete equipment delivery, implementation, integration and commissioning not later than 3 Months from signing of MOU with Government of Puducherry.

9. The WiFi Vendor/ Vendor Partner must provide all documents in English Language.

10. The Vendor/ Vendor Partner must provide a soft copy in CD (Soft copy shall be without password Protection) and hard Copies one original and one spare copy of the complete document. In case of discrepancy between hard copy and soft Copy, hard copy shall prevail.

11. The Vendor will NOT use any restrictive technology that prevents other vendors to setup similar services in the area.

12. Govt. of Puducherry will not provide subsidy of any kind to the vendor for meeting the cost of setting up WiFi mesh network. However, if the vendor purposes to pay some reverse subsidy to the Government, the same should be indented.

13. The Government of Puducherry will bear following responsibilities for execution of Project:
   
   a) Will facilitate the conception and execution of the pilot WiFi program.
   
   b) May assist in addressing any regulatory issues related to such solutions and assist the vendor in getting approvals from Government Agencies.
   
   c) May assist in obtaining permission from municipalities/corporations, Power department and its Agencies, concerned Departments for installing WiFi equipment on lamp posts, traffic lights and other suitable places in the area.
   
   d) May assist in obtaining permission for utilization of electricity from public infrastructure.
   
   e) May assist in obtaining approval from required authorities to install Cyber Kiosks at select public places for providing broadband Internet to general public.
   
   f) Will form a Project Management Group having representatives from State Government Departments for smooth implementation of the WiFi Project.

14. Vendor can also mention in their EOI any support other than defined above, which they require from Government of Puducherry for this Project.

15. Any Vendor interested in establishing similar WiFi network in other than the defined municipalities, can propose the same.
Companies meeting the following criterion will be preferred

1. Companies that have successfully completed at least two similar projects of this magnitude and service levels in other geographies either in India or abroad.

2. Companies owning the Intellectual Property (IPR) Rights of the product/solution. In case of the consortium one of the partners could be owner(s) of the IPR.

EOI Document Should Cover

1. Office Address and Designated Person’s contact details.

2. Core business area of operations, number years in the business, ownership and organizational structure of the firm. Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association along with Commencement of Business Certificate should be attached.

3. Furnish organization’s core technical competencies and skill sets relevant to this project. Provide details about skilled manpower resource available. Emphasis should be given to availability of trained resources for Implementing and Supporting WiFi solution.

4. Give details about quality processes and standards followed and certifications obtained by the organization. Copies of relevant quality certificates should be enclosed.

5. Details about solution support facilities should be provided.

6. Name and short CVs of key staff proposed to be deployed and Client references for similar projects should be given. Separate statement indicating names, qualifications, experience and skills sets and details of projects handled should be given.

7. Approach paper for this project, detailing with:
   a. Prerequisite requirement of Hardware/Software for a common user to access/avail the service.
   b. Technology used for single-sign-on and extensible authentication, roaming usage, faster and secure access etc.
   c. Any required function(s) to be completed before using the service e.g. changes in IP address or so.
   d. Methodology for Designing, Building/Implementing, Supporting/Maintaining the Wi-Fi Zone/Kiosk.
   e. Document should have the details of proposed & scalable Bandwidth, at the said WiFi Zone/Kiosk, to be provided to the user
   f. Other application details which is to be used for managing the network
   g. Proposed work plan and time frame for the project execution
   h. Roles and responsibilities of each consortium partner if any.
   i. Possible Business Models.
8. Other Details
   a. If the date of submission happens to be holiday, it will stand extended to the next working day with no change in timings.
   b. The screening committee setup to evaluate EoIs, reserves the right to reject any or all EoI without assigning any reason whatsoever.

➢ Please note that this is not a Request for Proposal (RFP). EoIs received shall be screened by the Government for inviting parties for the presentation. Short listing of the vendors shall be done on the basis of presentation and the firm’s/company’s profile.

➢ Companies/Firms interested in participating in this EOI are requested to submit their Expressions of Interest in sealed envelope with required details on 31/10/2013 by 3 PM. The Applicant has the option of sending his response by registered post, courier or submitting the EOI in person so as to reach the designated address by the time and date as stipulated.

➢ The envelopes should be marked as “Expression of Interest for “Establishment and Maintenance, of Meshed WiFi network at three municipalities of Pondicherry, Oulgaret and Karaikal” and shall be addressed to the Client at the following address:-

   The Director (IT) cum Convenor (PeGS)
   Puducherry e-Governance Society [PeGS]
   Directorate of Information Technology
   505, Kamaraj Salai, Saram
   Puducherry- 605013

Also indicate the name and address of the Bidder to enable the bid to be returned unopened in case it is declared "late". There is no fee for participation in the EOI. The department reserves the right to accept or reject any or all responses without assigning any reasons therefore.

   Director (IT) cum Convenor (PeGS)