

Annexure-I

INTEGRITY PACT

Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF) has issued

NIT No. _____ **dated** _____

inviting bids for _____

(Detailed requirement/Nature of Job to be mentioned along with period, in case of Annual Rate Contracts).

The BIDDER M/s. _____ is willing to participate in the said Tender and understands that this Integrity Pact has to be executed between the parties as a prequalification for the Bidder to participate in the bidding process.

Bidder understands that Signing of the Integrity pact does not in any way guarantee awarding of the contract to the bidder signing the Integrity pact.

Both RCF and Bidder understand that Integrity Pact is deemed to be a part of the Contract (to be executed later with the successful Bidder).

NOW, THEREFORE,

To avoid all forms of corruption by following a system that is fair, transparent and free from any influence/prejudiced dealings prior to, during and subsequent to the currency of the contract to be entered into with a view to :-

Enabling RCF to undertake the Project/Work at a competitive price in conformity with the defined specifications by avoiding the high costs and the distortionary impact of corruption on public procurement, and

Enabling BIDDER to abstain from bribing or indulging in any corrupt practices in order to secure the contract by providing assurance to them that their competitors will also abstain from bribing and other corrupt practices and RCF will commit to prevent corruption, in any form, by its officials by following transparent procedures.

In order to achieve these goals, RCF has appointed Independent External Monitors (IEMs), on the recommendations of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), who will monitor the tender process and the execution of the contract for compliance with the principles mentioned above.

NOW, THEREFORE IN CONSIDERATION OF THE MUTUAL COVENANTS CONTAINED HEREIN, THE PARTIES AGREE AS UNDER:

1. Commitments of RCF:

- 1.1 RCF undertakes that no official of RCF, connected directly or indirectly with the Project/Work, will demand, take a promise for or accept, directly or through intermediaries, any bribe, consideration, gift, reward, favour or any material or immaterial benefit or any other advantage from the BIDDER, either for themselves

*This tender is digitally signed by RCF
hence no sign and stamp required*

Sign and stamp of the Bidder & company seal Or

Digitally signed by the Bidder

Date:

or for any other person, organization or third party related to the contract, which he/she is not legally entitled to, in exchange for an advantage in the bidding process, bid evaluation, contracting or implementation process related to the contract.

1.2 RCF will, during the pre-contract stage, treat all BIDDERS alike, and will provide to all BIDDERS the same information and will not provide any such information to any particular BIDDER which could afford an advantage to that particular Bidder in comparison to other BIDDERS.

1.3 RCF will report to the Independent Monitor of any attempted or completed breaches of the above commitments as well as any substantial suspicion of such a breach by the Bidders. In such an eventuality, RCF will also report to appropriate Government Office wherever necessary and simultaneously initiate appropriate action.

2. Preceding misconduct:

2.1 In case any preceding misconduct on the part of any official(s) is reported by the BIDDER to the Independent Monitor with full and verifiable facts and the same is prima facie found to be correct by the Independent Monitor, necessary disciplinary proceedings, or any other action as deemed fit, including criminal proceedings may be initiated by RCF and such a person shall be debarred from further dealings related to contract process. In such a case while an enquiry is being conducted by RCF the proceedings under the contract would not be stalled.

3. Commitments of BIDDER:

3.1 The BIDDER commits itself to take all measures necessary to prevent corrupt practices, unfair means and illegal activities during any stage of its bid or during any pre-contract or post-contract stage in order to secure the contract or in furtherance to secure it and in particular commit itself to the following:

3.2 The BIDDER will not offer, directly or through intermediaries, any bribe, gift, consideration, reward, favour, any material or immaterial benefit or other advantage, commission, fees, brokerage or inducement to any official of the RCF, connected directly or indirectly with the bidding process, or to any person, organization or third party related to the contract, which he/she is not legally entitled to, in exchange for any advantage in the bidding, evaluation, contracting and implementation of the contract.

3.3 The BIDDER further undertakes that it has not given, offered or promised to give, directly or indirectly any bribe, gift, consideration, reward, favour, any material or immaterial benefit or other advantage, commission, fees, brokerage or inducement to any official of RCF, which he/she is not legally entitled to, or otherwise in procuring the Contract or forbearing to do or having done any act in relation to the obtaining or execution of the contract or any other contract with RCF for showing or forbearing to show favour or disfavour to any person in relation to the contract or any other contract with RCF.

- 3.4 Bidders(s)/Contractor(s) of foreign origin shall disclose the name(s) and address(es) of the Agents/representatives in India, if any. Similarly, the Bidder(s)/Contractor(s) of Indian Nationality shall furnish the name(s) and address(es) of foreign principals, associates, agents and distributors, advisors, representatives and sub-contractors.
- 3.5 “In case of Joint Venture, all the partners of the joint venture should sign the Integrity Pact. In case of sub-contracting, the principal contractor shall be solely responsible for the adherence to the provision of IP by the sub-contractor(s).”
- 3.6 BIDDER shall disclose the payments to be made by them to agents/ brokers or any other intermediary, in connection with this bid/ contract.
- 3.7 The BIDDER further confirms and declares to RCF that he has not engaged any individual or firm or company, whether Indian or foreign, to intercede, facilitate or in any way to recommend to RCF or any of its functionaries, whether officially or unofficially to the award of the contract to the BIDDER, nor has any amount been paid, promised or intended to be paid to any such individual, firm or Company in respect of any such intercession, facilitation or recommendation.
- 3.8 The BIDDER, either while presenting the bid or during pre-contract negotiations or before signing the contract, shall disclose complete details of any payments made, is committed to or intends to make to any officials of RCF or their family members, agents, brokers or any other intermediaries in connection with the contract and the details of services agreed upon for such payments.
- 3.9 The BIDDER will not collude with other parties, interested in the contract, to impair the transparency, fairness and progress of the bidding process, bid evaluation, contracting and implementation of the contract. Bidder further undertakes, not to enter into any undisclosed agreement or understanding with other bidders with respect to prices, specifications, certifications, subsidiary contracts etc., in connection with this bid/ contract.
- Representation of Clean Record: Bidders declare and affirm that they have not been/ are involved in any act of fraud, corruption, bribery, collusion, or any other unethical or illegal activity related to public or private contracts, either domestically or internationally, in the past three years reckoned from date of bid submission and/or up to the date of entering into this Integrity Pact and/ or during the subsistence of the Integrity Pact.
- Continued Reporting: Bidders further agree to promptly report any suspected or known instances of fraud, corruption, bribery, collusion, or any other unethical or illegal activities related to any contract with any organization or entity.
- 3.10 The BIDDER shall not use improperly, for purposes of completion or personal gain, or pass on to others, any information provided by RCF as part of the business relationship, such as plans, technical proposals and business details including information contained in any electronic data carrier. The BIDDER also undertakes to exercise due and adequate care to ensure that no information is divulged to others.
- 3.11 The BIDDER will not accept any advantage in exchange for any corrupt practice, unfair means and illegal activities.

- 3.12 The BIDDER commits to refrain from giving any complaint in connection with the Project, directly or through any other manner, without supporting it with full and verifiable facts.
- 3.13 The BIDDER shall not instigate or cause to instigate any third party to commit any of the actions afore-stated.
- 3.14 If the BIDDER or any employee of the BIDDER or any person acting on behalf of the BIDDER, either directly or indirectly, is a relative of any of the employees of RCF, or, if any relative of an employee of RCF has financial interest/stake in the BIDDER, the same shall be disclosed by the BIDDER at the time of filing the tender. The term 'relative' for this purpose would be as defined in Companies Act, 1956 or any modifications thereof.
- 3.15 The BIDDER shall not lend to or borrow any money from or enter into any monetary dealings or transactions, directly or indirectly, with any employee of RCF.
- 3.16 The BIDDER have not and will not sell the same material/ equipment at prices lower than the offered prices for refereed tender (as part of Fall Clause, applicable to Proprietary/PAC buying and Rate Contracts only, as per Manual of Procurement of Goods, issued by CVC dt. 01/07/2022). The BIDDER undertakes/commits to refund/ reimburse the excess amount to BUYER, if it comes to notice that it has supplied the material/equipment at a lower price to any other Governments, public sector or private organisations.
- 3.17 Commitment to Ethical Practices: Bidders commit to maintaining the highest ethical standards throughout the course of this contract. Any breach of this commitment shall be subject to applicable legal actions, as well as reputational damage.

4. Transgression Clause:

- 4.1 Transgression will mean instances of fraud, corruption, bribery, collusion, or any other unethical or illegal activities that a bidder or its personnel have been involved in.

Transgression for the purpose of the Integrity Pact shall mean and include any transgression that has occurred at any time within the past 3 (three) years reckoned from the submission of the bid.

It will also include transgression(s) for which cognizance was taken even before the said period of three years, but are pending conclusion.

4.2 Disclosure of Transgressions:

The Bidder hereby undertakes to provide complete and accurate information regarding past transgressions that may have occurred. The bidder further undertakes to provide complete and accurate information that may occur during the period of duration of contract.

5. Sanctions for violations:

5.1 Any breach of the aforesaid provisions by the BIDDER or any one employed by it or acting on its behalf (whether with or without the knowledge of the BIDDER or any one employed by it or acting on its behalf (whether with or without the knowledge of the BIDDER) shall entitle RCF to take all or any one of the following actions, wherever required.

- i. To immediately call off the pre contract negotiations without assigning any reason or giving any compensation to the BIDDER. However, the proceedings with the other BIDDER(s) would continue.
- ii. If the RCF has disqualified the bidder(s) from the tender process prior to the award of contract, RCF is entitled to demand and recover the damages equivalent to the Earnest Money Deposit/ Bid Security.
If the RCF has terminated the contract or if the RCF is entitled to terminate the contract, the principal shall be entitled to demand and recover from the contractor liquidated damages of the contract value or the amount equivalent to Performance Bank Guarantee or as mentioned in the NIT
The Earnest Money Deposit (in pre-contract stage) and /or Security Deposit/Performance Bond (after the contract is signed) shall stand forfeited either fully or partially, as decided by RCF, without assigning any reason therefor.
- iii. To immediately cancel the contract, if already signed, without giving any compensation to the BIDDER.
- iv. To recover all sums already paid by RCF, together with interest thereon at 2% higher than the prevailing Lending Rate of State Bank of India or at 2% higher than LIBOR as may be applicable based on whether the bidder is an Indian party or a foreign party. If any outstanding payment is due to the BIDDER from RCF in connection with any other contract for any other Project/Work/ Supply, such outstanding payment could also be utilized to recover the aforesaid sum and interest.
- v. To encash the advance bank guarantee and performance bond/ warranty bond, if furnished by the BIDDER, in order to recover the payments, already made by RCF, along with interest.
- vi. To terminate all or any other Contracts with the BIDDER. The BIDDER shall be liable to pay compensation for any loss or damage to RCF resulting from such termination and RCF shall be entitled to deduct the amount so payable from the money(s) due to the BIDDER.
- vii. To debar/blacklist the BIDDER from participating in future bidding processes of RCF for a minimum period of five years, which may be further extended at the discretion of RCF.
- viii. To recover all sums paid, in violation of this Pact by BIDDER to any middleman or agent or broker, with a view to securing the contract.

- ix. In case where irrevocable Letters of Credit have been opened in respect of any contract signed by RCF with the BIDDER, the same shall not be operated.
- x. Forfeiture of Performance Bond in case of a decision by RCF to forfeit the same without assigning any reason for imposing sanction for violation of this Pact.
- xi. Consequences of Non-Disclosure: In the event that Bidders fail to disclose any relevant past instances of fraud, corruption, bribery, collusion, or any other unethical or illegal activities within the stipulated timeframe, it shall be considered a material breach of this Integrity Pact. RCF reserves the right to invoke disqualification of the bidders and exclusion from future business dealings and take such actions, as per the existing provisions of GFR, 2017, Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and other Financials Rules/Guidelines etc. as may be applicable to RCF against the Bidders, as deemed appropriate.

5.2 RCF will be entitled to take all or any of the actions mentioned at para 5.1 (i) to (xi) of this Pact also on the Commission by the BIDDER or any one employed by it or acting on its behalf (Whether with or without the knowledge of the BIDDER) of an offence as defined in Chapter XII of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 or Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, provisions of GFR, 2017 or any other statute enacted for prevention of corruption.

5.3 The decision of RCF to the effect that a breach of the provisions of this Pact has been committed by the BIDDER shall be final and conclusive on the BIDDER. However, the Bidder can approach the Independent Monitor appointed for the purposes of this Pact, if they want to represent against the decision of RCF.

6. Independent Monitor:

6.1 RCF has appointed following persons as Independent Monitor for this Pact in consultation with the Central Vigilance Commission:

1. Shri B Siddhartha Kumar
H. No. 3-7- 44, Plot No. 44,
Padma Nilayam, Street No.- 15,
A. G's Colony, Nalanda Nagar,
Attapur, Hyderabad – 500048
Email: bsiddharthak_66@rediffmail.com
2. Shri Lt. Gen Raman Dhawan,
Flat No. IE-402, AWHO Township,
Gurjinder Vihar, Pocket-5,
Sector-Chi 1, Greater Noida,
Dist. Gautam Budh Nagar,
Uttar Pradesh – 201315.

Email: romidhawan4@yahoo.com

3. Shri M. Akhaya,
Quarter No. A-14, VIP Colony,
Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar,
Odisha – 751015.
Email: akhaya61@gmail.com; m_akhaya@yahoo.co.in

(Note: IEMs should be contacted only for Integrity Pact related issues. For any other grievances/complaints/clarifications related to the tender, concerned RCF officials as mentioned on the cover page of this NIT should be contacted.)

- 6.2 The task of the Monitor shall be to review independently and objectively, whether and to what extent the parties comply with the obligations under this Pact.
- 6.3 The Monitor shall not be subject to instructions by the representatives of the parties and perform his functions neutrally and independently.
- 6.4 Both the parties accept that the Monitor has the right to access all the documents relating to the project/ procurement, including minutes of meetings. A summary of procurement/contract awarded, which are covered under the IP shall be shared by RCF with the IEMs on quarterly basis. However, the documents / records/ information having National Security implications and those documents which have been classified as Secret / Top Secret are not to be disclosed.

In the event of any dispute between the RCF and the contractor relating to those contracts where integrity pact is applicable, dispute will be first referred to the panel of IEMs with both parties consenting, and the IEMs will try to resolve the dispute in a time bound manner. In case, the dispute remains unsolved even after mediation by the panel of IEMs, RCF may take further action as per the terms and conditions of the contract. The expenses incurred for holding meeting of IEMs for dispute resolution will be shared equally by the RCF and the Contractor/Bidder.

Bidder signing Integrity Pact shall not approach the Court while representing the matters to IEM and bidder will await their decision in the matter.

- 6.5 As soon as the Monitor notices, or has reason to believe a violation of this Pact, he will so inform the Authority designated by RCF.
- 6.6 Notwithstanding any Confidentiality Agreement/ clause agreed between RCF and Bidder, the BIDDER accepts that the Monitor has the right to access, without restriction, to all Project documentation of RCF including that provided by the BIDDER. The BIDDER will also grant the Monitor, upon his request and demonstration of a valid interest, unrestricted and unconditional access to this project documentation. The same is applicable to Subcontractors. The Monitor shall be under contractual obligation to treat the information and documents of the BIDDER/ Subcontractor (s) with confidentiality.

6.7 RCF will provide to the Monitor sufficient information about all meetings among the parties related to the supply provided such meetings could have an impact on the contractual relations between the parties. The parties will offer to the Monitor the option to participate in such meetings.

6.8 The Monitor(s) will submit a written report/recommendations to the designated Authority of RCF within 30 days from the date of reference or intimation of a Complaint to him by RCF/ BIDDER and should the occasion arise, submit recommendations for correcting problematic situations. In case of very serious issue having a specific, verifiable Vigilance angle, IEM(s) may report it directly to the CVC to be followed by a report on it within 30 days.

7. Facilitation of Investigation:

7.1 In case of any allegation of violation of any provisions of these terms or payment of commission, etc. RCF shall be entitled to examine all the project documents of the BIDDER and the BIDDER shall provide necessary information and documents in English and shall extend all possible help for the purpose of such examination.

8. Law and Place of Jurisdiction:

This Pact is subject to Indian Law. The place of performance and jurisdiction at Mumbai.

9. Other Legal Actions:

The Actions stipulated in this Integrity Pact are without prejudice to any other legal action that may follow in accordance with the provisions of the extant law in force relating to any civil or criminal proceedings.

10. Validity:

10.1 The validity of this Integrity Pact shall be from date of signing of this Pact and extend up to two years from the date of last payment under the contract. In case BIDDER is not awarded Contract/Purchase Order, this Integrity Pact shall expire after twelve months from the date of issue of the NIT.

10.2 Should one or several provisions of this Pact turn out to be invalid, the remainder of this Pact shall remain valid. In this case, the parties will strive to come to an agreement to their original intentions.

Note: If any prospective Bidder has any objection to sign the Integrity Pact, RCFL will refer the matter to the IEMs for their opinion and advice.