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NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY OF INDIA
REGIONAL OFFICE, RAIPUR (C.G.)

03.06.2026

Sub: Bids of Independent Engineer services during O&M phase for four laning of Chhattisgarh/ Orissa Border - Aurang section from Km 88+000 to Km 239+000 of NH-06 (new NH-53) in the state of Chhattisgarh executed on BOT (Toll) basis: **Final Technical Evaluation of Technical Bids - Reg.**

Ref:

- (i) Tender ID no. 2026_NHA1_267469_1
- (ii) RO-Raipur Office Order no. 12116 dated 19.05.2026

Meeting of Evaluation Committee reconstituted vide RO-Raipur Office Order dated 19.05.2026 for carrying out remaining tender evaluation process for the above subject work was held at RO-Raipur on 03.06.2024 and following members of Evaluation Committee were present except for Shri Priyank Roy, Dy. Manager (T.), RO-Raipur who was under training:

i	Shri Shamsher Singh, Project Direct, PIU-Abhanpur	:	Convener
ii	Shri Prakhar Agrawal, Manager (T.), PIU-Abhanpur	:	Secretary
iii	Shri Sanjay Katakwar, Asst. Manager (F&A), PIU-Abhanpur	:	Member
iv	Shri Pravin Kumar Sinha, Asst. Manager (F&A), RO-Raipur	:	Member

2. In response to the uploaded technical evaluation, following 05 (Five) consultancy firms have submitted their representation/objections till 27.05.2026 (Refer Annexure-1):

Applicant No.	Name of the Applicant	Status of the Applicant Sole/JV/ Association
2/8	M/s LEA Associates South Asia Pvt. Ltd.	Sole
4/8	M/s MSV International Inc. in Association with M/s MAV Associates LLP.	Association
6/8	M/s Artefact Projects Ltd. In JV with M/s KOBA PROJE VE DANISMANLIK ANONIM SIRKETI In association with M/s KCS Engineering Pvt. Ltd.	JV + Association
7/8	M/s Bloom Companies LLC	Sole
8/8	M/s Sterling Indo Tech Consultants Pvt. Ltd. In JV with M/s Yongma Engineering Co. Ltd. In association with M/s Sri Infra Consulting Engineers Pvt. Ltd.	JV + Association

3. **M/s LEA Associates South Asia Pvt. Ltd.**

The bidder vide letter dated 22.05.2026 has represented as under:

This has reference to the Technical Evaluation Report uploaded on the e-Tenders portal, dated 20.05.2026 on the subject project proposal.

We are pleased to submit herewith our comments and Response on the Technical Evaluation on the **Qualifications & Competence of the key Staff for the assignment** for your kind consideration.

Sl. No.	Description	Total Marks	Marks Claimed by bidder	NHA1 Evaluation	Revised LASA Evaluation	Observations / Remarks by the Consultant
1.	Team Leader	19	17.29	17.29	17.29	NHA1 evaluation is accepted.
2.	Highway Maintenance cum Resident Engineer	12	10.92	10.92	10.92	NHA1 evaluation is accepted.



3.	Bridge/ Structural Engineer	4	3.84	2.97	3.79	(1) NHAI has evaluated "12" marks out of "20" in item no. 2 (ii) whereas, the proposed Bridge/ Structural Engineer has 9 years 3 months (i.e. 01.01.2019 to till date i.e. 06.04.2026 and 01.06.2015 to 25.06.2017) of experience Similar Capacity in Construction/ Construction Supervision of Bridge/ Interchange/any other structures including rehabilitation. As per submitted Technical Proposal refer page no. 1288-1291 and Infracon Project Sl. No. 2,4,5,6 & 7, presented as Annexure-I. Hence, he is eligible to get "20" marks out of "20" as per our evaluation. (2) NHAI has evaluated "11.33" marks out of "20" in item no. 2 (iii) whereas, the proposed Bridge/ Structural Engineer has handled 3 nos. of 4/6 Laning Highway Project as Bridge Engineer/ Structural Engineer (18 marks) and 1 no. project handled in lower category (1*2/3 = 0.66 marks). As per submitted Technical Proposal refer page no. 1288-1291 and Infracon Project Sl. No. 2,4,5,6 & 7, presented as Annexure-I. Hence, he is eligible to get "18.66" marks out of "20" as per our evaluation. (3) NHAI has evaluated "0" marks out of "5" in item no. 3. whereas, the proposed Bridge/ Structural Engineer has been working with M/s LEA Associates South Asia Pvt. Ltd. Since 20.01.2021 to till date. As per submitted Technical Proposal refer page no. 1182, Employment Proof certificate, presented as Annexure-II Hence, he is eligible to get "5" marks out of "5" as per our evaluation. Accordingly, the proposed Bridge/ Structural Engineer is eligible to get "94.66" out of "100" i.e. weightage of "3.81" marks.
4.	Road Safety Expert	5	4.80	4.73	4.80	i) NHAI has evaluated "3.5" marks out of "5" in item no. 3. Whereas, the

						proposed Road Safety Expert has been working with M/s LEA Associates South Asia Pvt. Ltd. Since 01.04.2015 to till date. As per submitted Technical Proposal refer page no. 1182-1185, Employment Proof certificate, presented as Annexure-III Accordingly, he is eligible to get "5" marks out of "5" as per our evaluation.
	Total	40	36.85	35.91	36.80	Therefore, the total marks in this criteria, will be 36.80 marks instead of 35.91 marks.

Therefore, the total marks of our Technical Proposal as per our review and assessment would be as per the following table;

Sl. No.	Description	Total Marks	Claimed by the Bidder	Marks as per NHAI Evaluation	Revised Marks assessed by the Bidder
1	Relevant Experience for the Assignment	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00
2	Adequacy of the Proposed approach and Methodology	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
3	Experience in use of technology for road inspection	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
4	Qualifications and competence of the Key Staff for the assignment	40.00	36.85	35.91	36.80
Total Marks		100.00	96.85	95.91	96.80

We would like to request your kind consideration of our above submission for a favourable assessment.

Remarks/ View of the Committee:

A. W.r.t Evaluation of CV of Bridge/ Structural Engineer (Refer Sr. No. 3 (1), 3(2) & 3(3) of table in the Firm's Representation)

- a. **Project at Sr.No.2 of INFRACON Portal (01.06.2015-25.06.2017):**
Corresponding Appointment Letter on INFRACON Portal depicts the designation as Assistant Engineer, hence not considered.
- b. **Project at Sr.No.4 of INFRACON Portal (01.01.19-19.01.2021):**
Corresponding Appointment Letter on INFRACON Portal depicts the designation as Project Engineer, hence not considered.
- c. **Project at Sr.No.5 of INFRACON Portal (20.01.2021-30.11.2024):**
Corresponding Experience Certificate of LASA on INFRACON Portal depicts experience as Dy. Engineer (Bridge & Structural Engineering), hence considered in lower category.
- d. **Project at Sr.No.6 of INFRACON Portal: (01.12.2024-19.04.2026):**
Corresponding Experience Certificate of LASA on INFRACON Portal depicts experience as Dy. Engineer (Bridge & Structural Engineering), hence considered in lower category.
- e. **Project at Sr.No.7 of INFRACON Portal: (20.04.2026-Till Date):** Not considered as period of experience is beyond Bid Due Date i.e. 06.04.2026.

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Hence, total years of experience in lower category of similar capacity works out to be more than 5 but less than 6 years. As per marking scheme, the marks work out to be 18 marks (16 marks for 3 years & 2 marks for additional 2 years). But as the individual has worked in lower category of similar capacity, the evaluated marks are multiplied by the factor of 2/3, **resulting in total marks as 12.**

Similarly, total projects in lower category of similar capacity works out to be 02. As per marking scheme, the marks work out to be 17 marks (16 marks for 1 project & 1 mark for additional 1 project). But as the individual has worked in lower category of similar capacity, the evaluated marks are multiplied by the factor of 2/3, **resulting in total marks as 11.33.**

Regarding marks towards deployment with the firm, the deployment of permanent key professionals is to be supported by form 26 AS as per provisions of RFP. At page No. 1182, only self-certification is given by the Firm. **Hence, not considered.**

So, the marks awarded by the Committee w.r.t CV of Bridge/ Structural Engineer remains "74.33" out of "100" i.e. weightage of "2.97" marks & there is no change in the earlier recommendation of the Committee.

B. W.r.t Evaluation of CV of Road Safety Expert (Refer Sr. No. 4(i) of table in the Firm's Representation)

Regarding marks towards deployment with the firm, the deployment of permanent key professionals is to be supported by form 26 AS as per provisions of RFP. From page No. 1183-1185, form 26AS is enclosed for the Road Safety Expert depicting the employment with the firm for more than 2 but less than 3 years. Hence, 3.5 marks awarded (3 marks for 1 year & 0.5 marks for another 1 year).

So, the marks awarded by the Committee w.r.t CV of Road Safety Expert remains "94.5" out of "100" i.e. weightage of "4.73" marks & there is no change in the earlier recommendation of the Committee.

4. M/s MSV International Inc. in association with M/s Aicons Engineering Pvt. Ltd.

The bidder vide letter dated 25.05.2026 has represented as under:

"This is in reference to your letter dated 20.05.2026 cited above, vide which it has been informed to us that our company has not been found eligible to participate in the bidding in order to avoid conflict of interest situations as per provisions of article 1.5 (sec. 2 of RFP-Letter of Invitation to the Consultants)".

In this context the narration of the said article needs a close perusal.

The entire narration of article 1.5, has to be read in context of the initial part (highlighted in black colour) of the opening sentence, which is reproduced as under:

"We wish to remind you that in order to avoid conflict of interest situations, any firm associated with the Concessionaire of the Project Highway as its Design and/or Supervision Consultant during construction period and defect liability period of the project or previous Operation and Maintenance period and/or the Contractor(s) as Design Consultant and/or Construction Supervision Consultant is not eligible to participate in the bidding. The restriction herein shall not apply after a period of 5(five) years from the completion of their consultancy assignment."

So conflict of interest will be there if an agency has associated with the Concessionaire as:

1. Its (i.e. concessionaire's) Design Consultant-



2. Its (i.e. concessionaire's) Supervision Consultant during:

- a) Construction Period
- b) Defect Liability Period of the Project.
- c) Previous Operation and Maintenance Period

Our company has worked as the Independent Engineer, during the previous Operation and Maintenance stage of the said Concession.

As Independent Engineer for the project/concession, during its previous O&M phase, we were INDEPENDENT of both the Concessionaire and the NHAI.

We have neither worked as the Concessionaire's SUPERVISION CONSULTANT during the previous O&M period, nor have we worked as Concessionaire's Design Consultant, we have also never been associated with the Contractor as Design Consultant and Construction Supervision Consultant.

It may not be out of place here to mention that we have been regularly declared eligible for similar bids, under the same circumstances (having been the IE during the previous O&M phase), with exactly the same criteria ie 1.5 (b) viz a viz conflict of interest.

Some of these project are cited as under:

"List of projects attached in the Bidder's Representation"

It is therefore requested that your decision may please be reviewed. Since there is no 'Conflict of Interest' involved our bid be considered, for the subject cited assignment.

Remarks/ View of the Committee:

The bidder's representation merits rejection based on a strict interpretation of Article 1.5 of the RFP, which explicitly restricts firms associated with the project during the "previous Operation and Maintenance period." Also, the statutory arrangement where the Concessionaire bears 50% of the IE's remuneration establishes a financial nexus that falls within the purview of a potential conflict of interest. Furthermore, prolonged engagement with the same Concessionaire on the same project creates a "familiarity threat" that compromises the absolute impartiality and fresh oversight expected of the role. Further, there is a precedence in this matter wherein the present IE for the subject project i.e. M/s MSV International Inc. in association with M/s DN Consultant was appointed considering the earlier IE M/s LN Malviya Infra Projects Pvt. Ltd. Non-responsive based on the same Article.

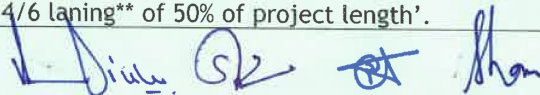
Therefore, to uphold the integrity of the bidding process and ensure unbiased project supervision, the conflict-of-interest clause must be strictly enforced, and hence the firm's representation should be dismissed.

In view of the above, the earlier recommendation of the Committee to consider M/s MSV International Inc. in association with M/s Aicons Engineering Pvt. Ltd as Non-Responsive in view of Article 1.5 of Section-1 of the RFP remains unchanged.

5. **M/s Artefact Projects Ltd. In JV with M/s Koba Proje Ve Danismanlik Anonim Sirketi In association with M/s KCS Engineering Pvt. Ltd.**

The bidder vide letter dated 27.05.2026 has represented as under:

This is in reference to project captioned in the subject above wherein technical result was declared by your good office on e-tender portal on dt. 20.05.2026 above. We have submitted the proposal in JV with Koba Proje Ve Danismanlik Anonim Sirketi in association with KCS Engineering Pvt. Ltd. and it has been observed that our bid proposal was evaluated and declared as 'Non-Responsive' with remarks stated as 'The JV Partner could not meet the minimum eligibility requirement as per CL. 12(A) of "At least one O&M project under DBFOT/OMT/O&M of 4/6 laning** of 50% of project length'.



In this regard, we represent as hereunder:

A. Eligibility for Cl. 12(A) of Section-1 of RFP

i. The said eligibility clause prescribes that the bidding firm should have experience of completed at least one O&M project having length equal to or more than 50% of project length for which RFP is invited i.e 75.2 kms.

ii. In compliance to these requirements, the JV partner M/s. KOBA Proje Ve Danismanlik Anonim Sirketi. have completed below mentioned O&M projects having length more than 75.20 kms, which is comfortably satisfying the eligibility requirements for JV partner as per RFP.

Thus, in lieu with the provisions at page no. 6, Cl. 12(A) of Section-1 of RFP, the above credentials submitted by the JV partner M/s. KOBA Proje Ve Danismanlik Anonim Sirketi are in complete compliance with the stipulated eligibility criteria. Accordingly, the referenced projects should be considered as qualifying assignments. Supporting documents for the same are attached herewith as Annexure No. 1.

In view of our above clarification submitted, it is to be concluded that our submissions are in total compliance with the requirements of RFP for Cl. 12 (A), therefore it is requested to your good office that our bid proposal be considered as 'Responsive' under the said eligibility clauses and further request that our bid proposal be taken up for further evaluation process.

Remarks/ View of the Committee:

As per provisions of RFP, the JV Partner shall satisfy Minimum Eligibility Provisions as per section-1, Clause 12 (A) i.e. **"At least one O&M project under BOT/OMT/ O & M of four/six laning** of 50% of project length."**

In the instant case, as per the projects mentioned in the representation, the JV Partner KOBA PROJE VE DANISMANLIK ANONIM SIRKETI is not fulfilling the minimum eligibility criteria as specified in Clause 12 (A) of the Section-1 of the RFP as the projects are not specific O & M projects. **Hence not considered.**

In view of the above, the earlier recommendation of the Committee to consider M/s Artefact Projects Ltd. In JV with M/s KOBA PROJE VE DANISMANLIK ANONIM SIRKETI In association with M/s KCS Engineering Pvt. Ltd as Non-Responsive in view of Clause 12 (A) of Section-1 of RFP remains unchanged.

6. **M/s Bloom Companies LLC**

The bidder vide letter dated 26.05.2026 has represented as under:

This is with reference to the observation made regarding consideration of our proposal for the project "IE Services during O&M Phase for Four Laning of Chhattisgarh/Orissa Border - Aurang Section from Km 88+000 to Km 239+000 of NH-06 (New NH-53) in the State of Chhattisgarh executed on BOT (Toll) Basis" [Tender ID: 2026_NHAI_267469_1] on the ground that the Company is presently under debarment.

In this regard, it is respectfully submitted that as per the explicit provisions of the RFP for above stated project, the eligibility with respect to debarment is required to be examined only with reference to the "date of application/bid submission".

Clause 17 of Section-1 of the RFP clearly stipulates as under:

"Consultants (sole firm or lead firm and any of the JV partners) who have been debarred by NHAI and the debarment is in force as on date of application, need not apply as their RFP proposal will not be entertained."

From the above provision, it is evident that the relevant date for determining eligibility is the date of application/bid submission only. Since our firm was not under debarment as on the bid submission date, our proposal was fully eligible and responsive under the provisions of the RFP.

Further, the RFP nowhere provides that any subsequent debarment arising after submission of the bid would automatically render an already submitted responsive proposal ineligible



for consideration.

It is also pertinent to mention that the RFP specifically provides that evaluation shall be carried out "in accordance with the provisions set out in the RFP". Therefore, the eligibility conditions are required to be applied strictly in terms of the RFP provisions and uniformly for all bidders.

In view of the above, we respectfully request the Authority to kindly consider our proposal in accordance with the explicit provisions of the RFP and proceed further with the evaluation process.

Further, it is also requested to kindly share the technical evaluation score/details of our proposal so that, in case of any shortfall in marks, we may submit an appropriate representation/presentation before the Authority.

Further, the bidder vide email dated 27.05.2026 has represented as under:

With reference to the above subject, we respectfully submit that we had already communicated our representation through email earlier regarding Request for Consideration of Proposal as per RFP Conditions (Tender ID: 2026_NHAI_267469_1). However, we once again wish to place the following facts for your kind consideration.

This is with reference to the subject tender wherein our proposal has been considered non responsive with reference to the NHAI Policy Circular dated 31.01.2022.

In this regard, we respectfully submit that as per Clause 17 of the RFP, the debarment condition is specifically linked with the "date of application / bid submission". The RFP does not contain any condition requiring the bidder to continue to remain non-debarred on the date of technical evaluation, financial opening or issuance of Letter of Award (LoA).

We submit that our firm was not debarred on the date of submission of bid and therefore fulfilled the eligibility conditions prescribed in the RFP at the relevant stage. Accordingly, our proposal was submitted in good faith relying upon the specific provisions and conditions expressly mentioned in the tender document.

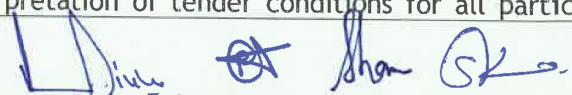
It is further submitted that the Policy Circular referred to by the Authority is of the year 2022, whereas the present RFP has been issued in the year 2026. Further, the contents/provisions of the said Policy Circular dated 31.01.2022 have not been specifically incorporated or mentioned anywhere in the RFP.

We respectfully submit that all participating bidders have submitted their proposals based upon the conditions expressly stated in the RFP. No clarification, amendment or addendum was issued incorporating the provisions of the said Policy Circular in relation to eligibility beyond the bid submission date.

It is also respectfully submitted that the debarment matter concerning our firm has already been challenged before the Hon'ble High Court and the matter is presently sub judice.

Further, it is respectfully submitted that the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in W.P.(C) 36/2023, while dealing with a matter where the debarment/non-performer eligibility was required to be considered as on the bid submission date as mentioned in the RFP/tender document, has observed that bids submitted prior to issuance of blacklisting/non-performer order are required to be considered on the basis of eligibility prevailing on the bid submission date and subsequent blacklisting should not adversely affect such bids.

Therefore, it is humbly requested that the eligibility of bidders may kindly be assessed strictly in accordance with the provisions specifically mentioned in the RFP so as to ensure uniform interpretation of tender conditions for all participating

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bidders.

In view of the above, we request your good office to kindly reconsider our proposal and allow the same for further evaluation as per the provisions of the RFP

Remarks/ View of the Committee:

The bidder's representation has been examined and following are the comments of the Committee:

Regarding the bidder's reliance solely on the printed text of the RFP, it is a settled administrative principle that any policy guidelines or circulars issued by the Authority prior to the issuance of the RFP inherently become applicable and form an integral part of the bidding conditions, irrespective of the fact whether they are explicitly mentioned in the RFP document or not. Therefore, the mandate of Policy Circular No. 16.14/2022 dated 31.01.2022 is fully binding on this procurement process.

As per NHAI Policy Circular No. 16.14/2022 (which modified Circular No. 16.11/2021), Amended Para 8.1 explicitly states that, "In bidding for a particular project, bids from only such firms should be considered for placement of contract, which are neither debarred on the date of opening of tender nor debarred on the date of issue of Letter of Acceptance (LOA)".

Since the firm is presently under active debarment and the LoA for the subject project has not yet been issued (likely to be issued soon), they are ineligible for the award of this contract. Furthermore, as the bid is disqualified on grounds of debarment, the question of sharing technical evaluation scores or entertaining further representations on technical marks does not arise.

In view of the above, the earlier recommendation of the Committee to consider M/s Bloom Companies LLC as Non-Responsive in view of NHAI Policy Circular No. 16.14/2022 dated 31.01.2022 remains unchanged.

7. M/s Sterling Indo Tech Consultants Pvt. Ltd. In JV with M/s Yongma Engineering Co. Ltd. In association with M/s Sri Infra Consulting Engineers Pvt. Ltd.

The bidder vide letter dated 26.05.2026 has represented as under:

This is in reference to the Technical Proposal submitted by us for the subject project and the technical evaluation undertaken by NHAI, the results of which were communicated vide your Letter dated 20.05.2026. Upon review of the technical evaluation and the marks awarded, we have observed that several relevant evaluation parameters pertaining to our Firm Credentials have not been duly considered or appropriately assessed. Accordingly, after a detailed examination of our bid submission with respect to the evaluation outcome, we hereby submit our comments and objections for your kind consideration, as detailed below.

1. Relevant Experience of the Firm

1. Relevant Experience of the Firm

Criteria 7: Experience as Independent Engineer / Supervision Consultant – O&M Projects under DBFOT/OMT/O&M

One O&M project of four/six laning of 50% project length in the last 7 years – 6 marks

Additional 0.5 mark per additional project, subject to a maximum of 2 marks

The Bidder Lead Partner have 1 **nos eligible O&M projects** satisfying the criteria tabulated below. Therefore, we are entitled to eligible for further evaluation. Under the category, we have submitted detailed credentials from **Page No. 658-661** of our proposal

Experience as Independent Engineer/Supervision Consultants one O&M project (Lead Partner) Sterling ITC

Sr. No.	Project Name	Type of Services	Length	Lane	Share	Length
1	Independent Engineer (IE) services during Operation and Maintenance (O & M) period for four laning of Pune – Solapur section of NH-65 from Km 40.000 to Km. 150.050 in the State of Maharashtra under NHDP Phase - III on DBFOT basis.	O&M	110.050 km	4 Lane	81%	89.1405



All relevant experience certificates and CA certificates with UDIN numbers are enclosed for ready reference.

In addition to above, we wish to seek your kind attention that the evaluation appears to have proceeded based on the following reproduced condition:

"The bidder cannot revise their share among Lead/JV Partner/Associate Partner, which was declared at the time of bidding/award of respective consultancy assignments. Further, maximum limit of share of associates shall be limited to their actual assignments w.r.t. provision of standard RFP subject to maximum of 25% of contract amount."

It is submitted that the above interpretation is not borne out by the express language of the RFP and results in a misapplication of a condition beyond its contractual scope. The restriction limiting an Associate's share to a maximum of 25% is a condition introduced only under the present (subject) RFP. No clause in the RFP provides for retrospective application of this cap to past consultancy assignments already awarded, executed, and completed under distinct and independent RFPs.

It is a settled principle of the Tender Evaluation that the eligibility and evaluation parameters must flow strictly from the governing RFP, and Conditions cannot be imported into past contracts unless expressly stipulated. The subject RFP does not contain any clause authorizing the Authority to retroactively superimpose the 25% associate cap onto concluded assignments governed by earlier RFPs. For your kind verification, we are enclosing copies of the respective RFPs of the claimed assignments. The Authority may kindly examine the relevant provisions therein.

Accordingly, applying for such a cap retrospectively amounts to adding a qualification not prescribed in the RFP, which is impermissible.

Further, the RFP unambiguously codifies the method for determining experience weightage, and the same is solely linked to the proportion of payment received, the clause of RFP is reproduced as follows:

Information to Consultants, Clause 14 (B): Eligibility Criteria for Partners in case of JV

Note: *"The weightage given for experience of a firm would depend on the role of the firm in the respective assignments. The firm's experience would get full credit if it was the sole firm in the respective assignment. Experience weightage for firms joining as Lead Partner/JV Partner/Associate shall be considered in the same proportion as payment has been received*** by the firm towards consultancy work in the project."*

******* *For weightage of experience in any past consultancy assignment, experience certificate from the client shall be accepted. In the absence of experience certificate, proportion of payment received towards consultancy work duly certified by a Chartered Accountant or Independent Auditor (with UDIN) shall be accepted.*

This clause is categorical and exhaustive in its prescription. There is no qualification, proviso, or limitation imposed on the proportion of payment that maybe considered for experience weightage in past assignments.

The same provision is reiterated in:

Section 3: Formats for Submission of Firm's Credentials,

Clause (ix) Experience * in Project Supervision/IE for Operation and Maintenance of Highway Projects, separately for PPP and non-PPP Projects during the last 7 years.**

Sub Clause c. The weightage given for experience of a firm would depend on the role of the firm in the respective assignments. The firm's experience would get full credit if it was the sole firm in the respective assignment. Experience weightage for firms as Lead partner/JV partner/Associate shall be considered in the same proportion as payment has been received by the firm towards consultancy work in the project.

The deliberate repetition of this provision establishes the unequivocal intent of the RFP:

Experience weightage = actual proportional role, evidenced by payment received.
No discretion, cap, or deeming limit is provided or permitted.

Any interpretation imposing a 25% ceiling despite a higher certified payment share directly defeats this clause and renders it otiose, which is impermissible in contract interpretation.

Thus, the RFP clearly establishes that experience weightage is to be determined strictly in proportion to the payment received, duly certified, and **does not prescribe any blanket cap of 25% for past assignments** where such restriction was not part of the governing RFP.

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All our submitted experience certificates and CA certificates contain valid UDIN numbers and are enclosed again for kind consideration. Copies of the governing RFPs for the past assignments are enclosed for verification and conclusively demonstrate the absence of any such restriction.

Hence in view of the above deliberation, reiteration, and documentary framework of the RFP, it has been concluded that:

The 25% cap on Associates' share is applicable only to the subject RFP, prospectively. Any past consultancy assignments must be evaluated strictly in proportion to certified payment received, as mandated by Clauses 14(B) and Section 3 (Clause ix). We therefore request that the evaluation be revisited and aligned strictly with the express RFP clauses, giving due and proportionate credit to the experience legitimately claimed by us.

We request you to consider all our above clarifications, and kindly re-evaluate the Bid and revise our Technical Marks accordingly.

Remarks/ View of the Committee:

The issues raised in the representation have been examined with reference to the provisions of the RFP, the documents submitted by the bidder, and the applicable evaluation methodology adopted.

At the outset, it is clarified that the technical evaluation has been carried out strictly in accordance with the provisions of the RFP and in a fair, transparent, and non-discriminatory manner applicable uniformly to all bidders.

The Bidder has contended that the experience weightage in respect of past consultancy assignments should be considered entirely based on the proportion of payment received by the firm and that no cap can be applied while evaluating the experience attributable to an Associate Partner.

In this regard, it is noted that Clause 12(B) of the Information to Consultants and the corresponding provisions under Section-3 of the RFP prescribe the manner in which experience weightage is to be assessed depending upon the role of the firm in the assignment. The said provision cannot be read in isolation and is required to be interpreted in conjunction with Clause 11(C)&(D) which provides capping of 25% specifically w.r.t Associate Partner.

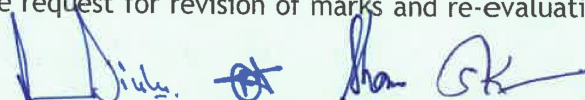
The purpose of granting experience weightage based on the role performed by a firm is to ensure that the experience credit assigned to a bidder reflects the actual scope of services, responsibilities undertaken, and substantive contribution made by the firm in execution of the assignment. Mere receipt of a certain proportion of payment cannot, by itself, be construed as conclusive evidence of proportionate technical responsibility or experience, particularly where the role of the firm was limited to that of an Associate.

Further, it is to highlight that Copies of the governing RFPs for the past assignments as claimed in the Bidder's representation have not been attached with the representation.

Therefore, the bidder's contention that the limitation applicable to Associate Partners cannot be considered while assessing past assignments is not accepted.

It is further clarified that the evaluation committee has adopted a uniform approach in assessment of all bidders and no bidder has been accorded any preferential or differential treatment. The marks awarded have been determined strictly on the basis of the evaluation criteria and the committee's assessment of the documentary evidence furnished.

In view of the foregoing, the Committee finds no grounds to modify the evaluation already carried out. Accordingly, the request for revision of marks and re-evaluation of the proposal is not acceded to.

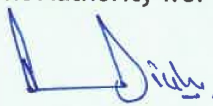


In view of the above, the earlier recommendation of the Committee to consider M/s Sterling Indo Tech Consultants Pvt. Ltd. In JV with M/s Yongma Engineering Co. Ltd. In association with M/s Sri Infra Consulting Engineers Pvt. Ltd. as Non-Responsive in view of Clause 12 (A) of Section-1 of RFP remains unchanged.

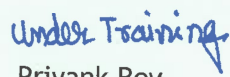
8. Based on the above and evaluation of objections/comments of Applicant Firms, the Evaluation Committee conclude technical scores of the bidders which are as under:

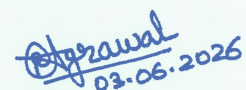
S. No.	Name of Firm	Total	Remarks/ Rank	Responsive /Non-Responsive
1/8	M/s LION Engineering Consultants Private Limited in Association with M/s Kainos Infra Consultant Private Limited	96.40	1	Responsive
2/8	M/s LEA Associates South Asia Pvt. Ltd.	95.91	2	Responsive
3/8	M/s L N Malviya Infra Projects Pvt. Ltd.	Non - Responsive as per Clause 1.5 of Section-1 of RFP		
4/8	M/s MSV International Inc. in Association with M/s MAV Associates LLP.	Non - Responsive as per Clause 1.5 of Section-1 of RFP		
5/8	M/s ARMENGE Engineering Private Limited in Association with M/s Shree Mahamai Infra Consultant Pvt. Ltd.	Non - Responsive as per Clause 12 (A) of Section-1 of RFP, PWD Haryana Debarment Memo No. W/311-13 dated 12.05.2026 & NHAI Policy Circular No. 16.14/2022 dated 31.01.2022.		
6/8	M/s Artefact Projects Ltd. In JV with M/s KOBAL PROJE VE DANISMANLIK ANONIM SIRKETI In association with M/s KCS Engineering Pvt. Ltd.	Non - Responsive as per Clause 12 (A) of Section-1 of RFP		
7/8	M/s Bloom Companies LLC	Non - Responsive in view of NHIDCL Debarment Notice no. NHIDCL/Ar.Pr./AE/ICBR-II/TH-DG/251470/262681 /5010 dated 15.05.2026 & NHAI Policy Circular No. 16.14/2022 dated 31.01.2022.		
8/8	M/s Sterling Indo Tech Consultants Pvt. Ltd. In JV with M/s Yongma Engineering Co. Ltd. In association with M/s Sri Infra Consulting Engineers Pvt. Ltd.	Non - Responsive as per Clause 12 (A) of Section-1 of RFP		

9. In view of the above, the committee hereby recommends for opening of financial bid of 02 responsive Applicant firms as mentioned in Para-8 above subsequent to approval of Competent Authority i.e. Regional Officer, Chhattisgarh.


Pravin Kumar Sinha
Asst. Manager (F&A)
RO-Raipur

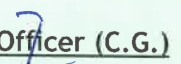

Sanjay Katakwar
Asst. Manager (F&A)
PIU-Abhanpur


Priyank Roy
Dy. Manager (T.)
RO-Raipur


Prakhar Agrawal
Manager (T.)
PIU-Abhanpur

Signature Not Verified

Shamsher Singh
Digitally signed by SANJIT SARKAR
Date: 2026.06.05 18:39:13 IST
Location: eProcurement System for Central PSUs


Regional Officer (C.G.)

05/06/2026