

Selection of Firms to provide Question Bank to assess students' Learning Outcomes under Samagra Shiksha

Response to pre-bid queries/ Corrigendum – 1

Please note the revised dates as recorded in the RfP Data Sheet:

- a. Last date and time of submission of Technical Proposal: **27/12/2021, 11.00 A.M**
- b. Time and date of opening of Pre-qualification Envelope: **27/12/2021, 03.30 P.M**
- c. Technical Approach Presentation & opening of Technical Bids : **28/12/2021, 09.30 A.M to 4.30 P.M, 29/12/2021, 09.30 A.M to 4.30 P.M**
- d. Detailed class/ subject wise concept list is available here- [Taxonomy](#)

Sl.	Pg. No	Heading	Existing Clause	Clarification/ Proposed Change	Response by Tamil Nadu State Mission of Education for All – Samagra Shiksha
1	Page 16	3.2.2.C	c. It is necessary that the bidder should submit proposals for all the Components listed.	Is it mandatory to submit for all three components and subjects? Can a bidder choose component(s) and subject(s) as per their expertise? Would request to have options for the bidder to opt for Component(s) & Subject(s).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bidders must bid for all three Components. ● The SS Office may choose to empanel one/ more bidders to provide questions and responses for the various components and subjects. Empanelment will be carried out if the bidders agree to meet the lowest cost quoted. Empanelment will be carried out separately for each Component if needed. Empanelment will be done only for those bidders who meet the Technical Criteria specified. ● In case of multiple empaneled bidders for the same

					<p>Component, the following process shall be adopted: <i>Within a Component, for a Subject, work shall be allocated based on the quality of the presentation and/ or the sample questions provided by the bidders for that Subject, within that Component.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SS Office shall be the final authority in the allocation of work to the empanelled bidders and such allocation shall be solely at the discretion of the SS Office, subject to the point mentioned above.
2	Page 13 ,	Point 9	9. The selected firm(s) should enter the questions in the Question Management tool/ specified format like Excel or word document provided by Samagra Shiksha.	<p>Instead of the existing tools with the Department can we also provide a comprehensive solution with Automatic Test Generator, Question Bank with Solution, Remedial Content for addressing the learning gaps, Assessment Platform and real-time dashboards with analytics basis the Topic, Concepts, Learning Gaps, and Learning Outcomes. We would recommend having Platform as a Service (PaaS) inclusive of all the features.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bidder can demonstrate such solutions at the time of the presentation. • However, the scope of this bid is limited to procurement of questions, their answers and the rationale for the options provided.
3	Page 15, 3.2.4 ,	Other Guidelines	2. The School Education Department will own the IP Rights of the Questions and Answers bank provided by the chosen Bidder as part of the project. The content provided cannot be replicated, sold or circulated to other public forums	<p>As a company, we hold an international patent for our assessment content and learning solutions which is Personalised and Adaptive and the rights for any patents cannot be transferred to other parties. In view of the same, we request to kindly revisit the requirement of transferring the IPR along with Content. As</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The questions and solutions provided will be owned by the department. • There should be no copyright infringement claim placed upon the department

			without prior permission of Samagra Shiksha. 3. Samagra Shiksha will reserve the right to translate the content to any other language as required by the Department.	a practice in the industry usage rights can be transferred to the department and Usage Data to the department at the end of the project period. Moreover, as a company, we would not be interested in transferring the IPR which has been built across years with millions of man-hour efforts from academic, behavioral, and data scientists.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The questions and solutions provided will be owned by the department and can be translated to any language as required. • The questions and solutions provided will be owned by the department for at least 3 years after the date of receipt of final payment by the bidders. After this period, the bidders shall be free to use the content.
4	Page No. 11	3.1	The State School Education Department will roll out the student assessments at scale in all government schools through the network of Hi-Tech computer labs.	We request the department to clarify the scope during the large-scale deployment. It is recommended to conduct the assessments through the Web/ Mobile App with features to schedule and conduct the assessments online in computer labs along with real-time analysis and reports for the stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The department has hi-tech labs in schools across TN. These labs will be used to administer the questions. • The scale of deployment will not have any bearing on the scope of work for this tender.
5	Form 5G:	Summary of Costs	Total number of Questions per Class (column 6)	The costing is computed in terms of the number of concepts, should be in terms of questions as per the annexure provided.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The costing will be on a “per-question” basis.
6	7	Submission, Receipt and Opening of Proposals (Sec 1.2.5.1)	The firm should submit their proposals for Components A, B, C as broadly specified here and detailed under Section 3. Provision of question bank with answers for Classes 6-12 by concepts specified in the taxonomy listed in Annexure 1. The questions provided must align with the SCERT, Tamil Nadu State syllabus.	Are firms allowed to submit proposals for 1 or 2 components out of all the three components, or is it expected that all participating firms submit proposals for all three components?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer response in Qn. 1.

			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Component A: Class 6-8 2. Component B: Class 9-10 3. Component C: Class 11-12 		
7	13	3.2.1 Scope of Work - Question and Answer Bank Content (Point #11)	The answers explanation can be provided in video format with Tamil and English audio wherever needed by the selected firm(s).	Are there any limits or conditions to be followed with respect to the minimum number of questions for which video solutions need to be provided out of the overall total number of questions?	<p>Bidders are strongly encouraged to share videos also as it will help children in the long term. It will also give the department a more comprehensive understanding of the bidder's capabilities in the given space.</p> <p>Please note that these videos do not bear any points in evaluation.</p>
8	12	3.2.1 Scope of Work - Question and Answer Bank Content (Point #5)	The Questions and Answer bank should be indigenously prepared by the Selected firm(s) and must not lead to infringement of copyrights of any other third party.	Clarification that once the questions are created and submitted to the Government of Tamilnadu, whether those questions can be used to assess students who are enrolled for various courses in our own firm?	Refer to response to Qn. 3.
9	17, 25	5.1.3 - Proposal Evaluation - Project Team, Form 5E - Curriculum Vitae of Professional Staff	<p>Qualification and Professional Experience of Key Personnel:</p> <p>Points will be awarded in respect to CV and profile furnished for the proposed key personnel to be deployed on the project with relevant experience across Academic and technology resource persons for each Component.</p> <p><u>Academic Resource Persons:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Education Qualifications - 10. 2. Education sector experience - 10. 3. Prior experience of working with Government of Tamil Nadu preferable Government school students - 10 points. 	With reference to the composition of our Academic Team, our firm has a high number of academic experts from different subjects who work with us both on Full Time Basis and few faculty members additionally on Part Time Basis. During the course of submission of proposal, For Form 5E and other relevant places of the tender, can we have both part time and full time members of staff forming a part of the Academic Team In the process of creation of questions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes. However, the project progress will need to be as per the agreed timelines and quality of work will be the responsibility of the bidder. If at any point it is seen that the quality or timelines are slipping, the SS Office reserves the right to require the bidder to deploy full time staff, change the staff to a higher quality and may also include a mandate of on-site deployment. Therefore, it is in the interest of the bidder to adhere to the highest standards of quality and to stick to timelines.

			<p>4. Involvement in similar projects - 5.</p> <p><u>Technology Team:</u> 1. Project Manager - 8. Database Developer - 7.</p>		
10	17, 25	<p>5.1.3 - Proposal Evaluation - Project Team, Form 5E - Curriculum Vitae of Professional Staff</p>	<p>Qualification and Professional Experience of Key Personnel: Points will be awarded in respect to CV and profile furnished for the proposed key personnel to be deployed on the project with relevant experience across Academic and technology resource persons for each Component.</p> <p><u>Academic Resource Persons:</u> 5. Education Qualifications - 10. 6. Education sector experience - 10. 7. Prior experience of working with Government of Tamil Nadu preferable Government school students - 10 points. 8. Involvement in similar projects - 5.</p> <p><u>Technology Team:</u> 2. Project Manager - 8. Database Developer - 7.</p>	<p>With reference to the submission of the CV of the Academic Team members, is there overlap allowed for same Academic Expert, example Science Subject, to be part of 2 different components like Secondary (Class 9-10) and Higher Secondary (Class 11-12).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bidders should note that this work will have a long-term impact on the quality of education/ assessment of children. Therefore, quality of work done is of the highest importance and shall be the constant requirement of the SS Office. The responses provided below are in this context. • Yes. The bidders can utilize overlapping Academic Experts. However, the responses as per Qn. 9 shall apply. • Further, in case it is seen that the quality of output provided or the adherence to timelines is seen to be slacking, the SS Office reserves the right to direct that the bidder provides separate, non-overlapping academic staff or similar or better qualifications and experience. • If it is seen that the bidder is sharing a set of questions that are not adequately thought through, or seem to be taken from some existing database,

					or trivial changes are made in the wording to make the questions seem unique, the SS Office reserves the right to direct the bidder to change these questions; and additionally impose penalties as specified for the ensuing delays.
11	26 - 36	Forms 5F, 5G, 5H	Column 4 - Number of Concepts. Column 6 - Total Number of Questions per Class. Column 7 - Costing Details (Rate per Question in Rs.).	With Respect to the Tabular column in Form 5F, 5G & 5H, column 6 heading reads as "Total Number of Questions Per Class" but the Value Mentioned in Column 6 is a summation of Column 4 which is Number of Concepts Per Class. Kindly clarify whether Column 6 Title should be read as Total Number of Questions per class or Total Number of Concepts Per Class. Accordingly kindly also clarify whether column 7 should be read as Rate per question or Rate per Concept. .?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modified. Please refer to Annexure 1 to this document.
12	-	Annexure 1		The tender document mentions the Availability of Annexure 1 which will list taxonomy and concept detail for all the components based on which the Content Development Process will take place. It is not available as part of the Main Tender Document. How can we avail of the same?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please refer to attached PDF file (Taxonomy).
13	5, 16	Pre Qualification Criteria (Sec 1.2.1.5) - Points #3 and Evaluation Criteria - Firm	#3: Bidders should have a minimum average income/revenue of at least Rs. 1.0 crore (audited) in the previous four financial years (FY 17-18, FY 18-19, FY 19-20, FY20-21). Sec 5.1.3.: Audited Balance Sheet indicating Annual Turnover	Criterion 3: that criterion 1 in the same section allows 3-year old firms to participate, can the revenue requirement of Rs. 1 crore minimum be restricted to the 3 years of FY 18-19, FY 19-20 and FY 20-21 ? Even for 6-7 year old firms like us, it usually takes 3-4 years for revenue to pick up to that level, and the last 3 years	<p>Pre-Qual, Criterion 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bidders should have a minimum average income/ revenue of at least Rs. 1 crore (audited) in any three of the past four financial years (FY 17-18, FY 18-19, FY 19-20,

		Level Qualification (Sec 5.1.3)	certified by Statutory Auditor to be attached. Average turnover in last four financial year, Rs.: 1. 1-5 crores – 2. 2. 5-10 crores – 3. 10 crores & above – 5.	being more than 1 crore would show enough consistency. Similarly in evaluation criteria (5.1.3), average of the last 3 years may be considered.	FY20-21). For FY 20-21, if audited statements are not available, provisional statements may be provided. Firm Level Qualifications: Point 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average turnover in any three of the last four financial years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 1 to <= 5 crores: 2 points b. 5 to <=10 crores: 3 points c. > 10 crores: 5 points
14	5	Pre Qualification Criteria (Sec 1.2.1.5) - Points #5	Over the last five years, the firm should have provided at least two assessment related projects of minimum size of Rs. 50 Lakhs for large scale education and skill development projects for government, government agencies or multilateral agencies.	Criterion 5: Foundations should also be included along with multilateral agencies since they often fund projects (that may be implied but would request for it to be explicit); For entities which do assessment through individual participation, it may be considered that a large-scale project with individual participation adding to Rs. 50 lakh will also be considered.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of Foundations is agreed to. Pre – Qual, Criterion 5 modified as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over the last five years (FY 17-18 to FY 21-22), the firm should have completed at least two assessment related projects of minimum size of Rs. 50 Lakhs (excluding GST) for large scale education and skill development projects for government, government agencies or multilateral agencies or foundations. • The clause on individual participation adding up to Rs. 50 lakh is not accepted.

				Alternatively, scale could be seen through the number of participants (e.g. 5000 teachers) since that plays an important role in assessment data analytics, more than revenue.	No change.
15	5	Pre Qualification Criteria (Sec 1.2.1.5) - Points #6	The Bidder should have done at least 5 projects out of which at least one being a Government project with subject-specific assessments for students in at least one grade for each Component detailed below within the last 3 years.	Criterion 6: This mentions "subject-specific assessments for students". However, assessments could be taken by a teacher or a student or a teacher for improving their learning with the student (the end beneficiary is the student, but it can take different routes); therefore we request for this to be "subject-specific assessments for students / teachers".	Modified to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Bidder should have done at least 5 projects out of which at least one being a Government project with subject-specific assessments for students/ teachers in at least one grade for each Component detailed below within the last 3 years.</i>
16	16	Evaluation Criteria (Sec 5.1.3)	Sec 5.1.3 (Firm Level Qualification #1): Audited Balance Sheet indicating Annual Turnover certified by Statutory Auditor to be attached. Average turnover in last four financial year, Rs.: 1. 1-5 crores - 2. 2. 5-10 crores – 3. 10 crores & above – 5.	As already mentioned, average revenue criterion (1) may be considered for 3 years rather than 4, since companies take time to grow and the last 3 years will show enough consistency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to response in Qn. 13.
17	17	Evaluation Criteria (Sec 5.1.3)	Sec 5.1.3. (Firm Level Qualification #2): Public Sector Experience: Over the last 5 years, the firm should have provided assessment related services to the government, government agencies or multilateral agencies in area of public sector in India, preferably Tamil Nadu State Governments or Government Agencies.	Public sector experience (criterion 2): Some of the deepest or most path-breaking public sector projects tend to be <u>small in revenue and sometimes even pro bono</u> in nature. So the department may consider removing the revenue point for this criterion and base it on the number of projects with actual involvement of State or Central government agencies.	The criterion is modified as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over the last 5 years (FY 16-17 to FY 20-21), the firm should have provided assessment related services to the government, government agencies or multilateral agencies or foundations.

			<p>Public Sector Projects Total number of projects with the size of INR 1 crore & above:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Less than 5 projects – 5 points. 2. 5-10 projects – 7 points. 3. More than 10 projects – 12 points. <p>A minimum 2 projects done with Tamil Nadu State Government - Bonus 3 points.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Total number of projects: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. < 5 projects: 5 points b. 5-10 projects: 7 points c. > 10 projects: 12 points d. If a minimum of two projects are done with Tamil Nadu State Government - Bonus 3 points.
18	17	Evaluation Criteria (Sec 5.1.3)	<p>Sec 5.1.3. (Firm Level Qualification #3): Education and Skills Experience: Over the last five (5) years, the firm should have provided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Assessment related services for large scale education and skill development projects for government, government agencies or multilateral agencies. <p>Projects in Education & Skills Total number of projects with the size of INR 1 crore & above</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Less than 3 projects – 10 points 2. 3-5 projects – 15 points 3. More than 5 projects – 20 points 	<p>Education and Skills experience (criterion 3): Given the scope of this particular project, projects in assessment will matter most in terms of experience (because the firm needs large scale data of question reliability and validity), rather than broader education and skills projects; for projects in assessment, the number of participants or data points decides the depth much more than the revenue number (the project itself may be smaller in revenue). Therefore, the criterion may be either INR 1 crore or addressing at least 5,000 participants through the assessments or questions created.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Not accepted.
19	26 - 36	Forms 5F, 5G, 5H	<p>Usage of “Per Question” as bidding criteria</p>	<p>For firms doing a lot of large scale assessment work, synergies come by leveraging existing capabilities and teams. So 'per question' may not be an ideal bidding parameter. Could a lumpsum project cost be considered indicating the number of questions to be assumed?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Not accepted. ● The rationale for 'per-question' basis is the ability to scale the programme. The pricing will be based on different structuring of

					the questions only. Hence the multiplication factor will be 5.
20	26 - 36	Forms 5F, 5G, 5H and Sec 3.2.1. - Scope of Work - Question and Answer Bank Content (Point #6)	Table 1 of Forms 5F, 5G, 5H (Concepts * Cost/ Questions). For each concept specified, the selected firm(s) is to provide a five differentiated structuring of the concept questions along with five questions per structuring along with answers and explanations.	a) The financial bid format has put in concepts X cost/ question as the bid parameter in table 1. Should it not be the number of questions which is the number of concepts X 5 X per question cost for table 1 of each form? b) Related point: SOW mentions for each concept, there needs to be 5 'structuring' and 5 questions per structuring, i..e 25 questions per concept. This is different from what is mentioned in the financial bid in which the number of questions required are 5 per concept. Please clarify.	Please refer to response to Qn. 19
21	26 - 36	Forms 5F, 5G, 5H	Table 2 of forms 5F, 5G, 5H (Personnel Cost) and Table 3 in Form 5H: Summary of Costs for Component C	Also each form has a Table 2 on personnel cost, but there is no table for the grand total of question cost and personnel cost. Such a table 3 is there in form for component 3. Is it a typo in the first two forms? Please clarify.	Please refer to Annexure 1.
22	14	3.2.2 - Technology Team	Project Managers: 1 (45 person-days equally divided among Three submission Phases). Database Developers: 1 (Full time person for 12 months).	1 full time developer and 45 days for project manager should be able to take care of all the 3 components; were these meant to be for 'each' component separately (will add to cost)?	As per Section 3.2.2.2, . For each Component, the selected firm should provide a Technology team as per roles and skillset specified in the table below. Hence the two team members specified apply individually to each Component
23	11, 18	Sec 3.2.1(Scope of Work - Question and Answer Bank	The Selected firm(s) should have two academic resource persons per subject. The resources would be required to be highly qualified academicians with prior education	Though we understand that at least 2 academic resource persons will be needed for each subject, we assume that sample resumes can be provided rather than resumes for ALL subjects, because that	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resumes will need to be provided for all personnel deployed.

		Content) and Sec 5.1.3. (Firm Level Qualification - #3: Education and Skill Experience)	<p>sector experience, especially working with the Government of Tamil Nadu and preferably Government School students.</p> <p>Points will be awarded in respect to CV and profile furnished for the proposed key personnel to be deployed on the project with relevant experience across Academic and technology resource persons for each Component.</p> <p><u>Academic Resource Persons:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Education Qualifications - 10. 2. Education sector experience - 10. 3. Prior experience of working with Government of Tamil Nadu preferable Government school students - 10 points. 4. Involvement in similar projects - 5. <p><u>Technology Team:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Project Manager - 8. Database Developer - 7. 	will make it a very large number of resumes. Request for confirmation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The same resume can be used across subjects only in exceptional circumstances and for this, the bidder will have to build a very strong case for such use of CV in the Technical Proposal. Justifications/ clarifications for the same may also be sought in the presentation.
24	13, 11	Sec 3.2.1. (Scope of Work, Point #13) and Sec 3.1. (Overview)	<p>Scope of Work Point #13: The question and answer bank must be provided as per the below schedule based on the taxonomy and concept delivery plan specified in Annexure 1:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Phase 1: Term 1 Chapters/ Concepts - 16th Day of T0 + 2 months. 2. Phase 2: Term 2 Chapters/ Concepts - 16th Day of T0 + 4 months. 	The timeline under 3.1 (Overview) for phase 1,2 and 3 is different from the timeline mentioned in 3.2.1.13 (Scope of Work). Look forward to clarification on which is the correct one.	The timelines indicated are correct and have been structured to accommodate for feedback and updation of Question and Answer bank provided.

			<p>3. Phase 3: Term 3 Chapters/ Concepts - 16th Day of T0 + 6 months</p> <p>Overview:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 1 - Term 1: T + 3 months (3 months). Phase 2 - Term 2: T + 5 months (2 months). Phase 3 - Term 3: T + 8 months (3 months). 		
25	11	Sec 3.1 (Overview)	-	How many labs and computers are presently functional in the state to roll this assessment at scale?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Details will be provided to the selected bidder.
26	12 - 13, 26, 29, 32	Sec 3.2 (Scope of Work) (Sec 3.2.1. - Question and Answer Bank Content - Points #7 - a, e) and Forms 5F, 5G, 5H.	<p>#7: The question structuring should be reflected with each question being classified as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Easy, Medium and Hard by concept. The table below indicates 12 different ways of structuring a particular concept. A Bidder may choose five among these combinations. An example illustration has been provided below for any given concept. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In point 7(a), does the state have any criteria for categorizing a question into Easy, Medium, and Difficult? In point 7(e), as per our understanding, a HOTS (High-Order-Thinking-Skills) question is application-based question testing the knowledge and skills by making him/ her apply a certain concept to answer it. As per Table 1, what is the state's understanding of a HOTS question? How is it independent of the other categories, such as a knowledge-based, application-based and skill-based question? In point 7(e), it is mentioned that the agency is supposed to provide total of 25 questions for each concept. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> No. The classification can be arrived at through a principled approach, established in discussion with the bidder. The bidders shall also present their point of view on the same in the presentation. Modified as follows: The classification will be in terms of Knowledge, Application and HOTS on one axis and Easy, Medium, and Hard on the other. This classification shall be open to discussion with the selected bidder. Please refer to response in Qn. No. 11 in this document.

			<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Table 1</th> <th>Knowledge</th> <th>Application</th> <th>Skills</th> <th>HOTS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Easy</td> <td></td> <td>2</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Medium</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hard</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Bidder having decided on the above structuring for a particular concept shall have to provide a total of 25 questions as indicated below:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Table 2</th> <th>Knowledge</th> <th>Application</th> <th>Skills</th> <th>HOTS</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Easy</td> <td></td> <td>10</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Medium</td> <td>5</td> <td></td> <td>5</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hard</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><small>*The Bidder has the liberty to decide upon the distribution in Table 1. However, this is constrained by Points 4(c) and 4(d) above.</small></p>	Table 1	Knowledge	Application	Skills	HOTS	Easy		2			Medium	1		1		Hard				1	Table 2	Knowledge	Application	Skills	HOTS	Easy		10			Medium	5		5		Hard				5	<p>However, Form 5F, 5G, 5H on Pg 26, 29 and 32 reflect the total number of questions to be created per concept differently. Thus, we wish to understand how many questions are required to be made per concept - x5 or x25? Consequently, what is the total number of questions to be created per component?</p>	
Table 1	Knowledge	Application	Skills	HOTS																																									
Easy		2																																											
Medium	1		1																																										
Hard				1																																									
Table 2	Knowledge	Application	Skills	HOTS																																									
Easy		10																																											
Medium	5		5																																										
Hard				5																																									
27	13	Sec 3.2. (Scope of Work - 3.2.1. - Question and Answer Bank Content - Point 10c)	#10(c): A question will be termed complete only when questions, answers, misconception options, explanations and the explanation for misconception options are mentioned in a comprehensive manner.	In point 10(c), it is stated “A question will be termed complete only when questions, answers, misconception options, explanations and the explanation for misconception options are mentioned in a comprehensive manner.” Are there specifications for crafting the explanations for the questions and misconception options to make them suitable to the LIS platform currently installed in the computer labs?	Bidders will be required to present their point of view on the said specifications as part of their presentation. A handout on the same shall also be required to be provided to the Authority during the presentation.																																								
28	13	Sec 3.2. (Scope of Work - 3.2.1. - Question and Answer Bank Content - Point 11)	The answers explanation can be provided in video format with Tamil and English audio wherever needed by the selected firm(s).	In point 11, it is stated “The answers explanation can be provided in video format with Tamil and English audio wherever needed by the selected firm(s).” Is there a criterion to decide which questions will need to be accompanied by explanations in video format?	Refer to response to Qn. 7.																																								
29	13	Sec 3.2. (Scope of Work - 3.2.1. - Question and Answer Bank	The question and answer bank must be provided as per the below schedule based on the taxonomy and concept delivery plan specified in Annexure 1:	In point 13, given the requirements of the scope of work, especially the efforts involved in translation and creation of new questions, we believe that the given deliverable schedule is slightly steep. Is	No change.																																								

		Content - Point 13)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Phase 1: Term 1 Chapters/ Concepts - 16th Day of T0 + 2 months. 2. Phase 2: Term 2 Chapters/ Concepts - 16th Day of T0 + 4 months. 3. Phase 3: Term 3 Chapters/ Concepts - 16th Day of T0 + 6 months 	there a possibility to negotiate the timelines post award of contract?	
30	13	Sec 3.2. (Scope of Work - 3.2.1. - Question and Answer Bank Content - Point 14)	<p>All the questions supplied by the service provider will be reviewed by a State Technical Evaluation Committee and feedback will be given for further improvements if required and needed. Based on the feedback provided, Questions need to be reworked and supplied accordingly.</p>	<p>Is there presently an understanding on who will form a part of the State Technical Evaluation committee?</p> <p>How many rounds of review and feedback, are we planning to hold for the questions?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The State Technical Evaluation Committee is an internal committee of the Government. It shall independently assess the quality and correctness of the questions and answers provided by the bidders. • We will provide feedback only twice and content provided must be updated. If the updated submission is still not accepted, then it will be considered as discarded and no payment will be made for the question. • The bidder shall also provide, during the presentation, their approach to ensuring the quality of their questions; including internal maker/ checker setup etc.

31	15	Sec 3.2.4 (Other Guidelines)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interested firms must submit the proposals for all Components A, B, and C individually. 2. The School Education Department will own the IP Rights of the Questions and Answers bank provided by the chosen Bidder as part of the project. The content provided cannot be replicated, sold or circulated to other public forums without prior permission of Samagra Shiksha. 3. Samagra Shiksha will reserve the right to translate the content to any other language as required by the Department. 	Is there a possibility to provide agency with the student performance data for each question for research purposes?	No change.
				Related to Point #2: Firm is bringing existing Intellectual Property including its bank of "good questions" that test conceptual understanding of a child as part of the scope of work. Creation of high-quality questions is a task requiring many years of intensive work by a large number of academicians, researchers and educators. Thus, we request you if there is a possibility to jointly own the IP rights to them, including answers, explanations, misconception options explanation, videos, etc.	Refer to response to Qn. 3.
32	11, 14, 27, 30, 35	Sec 3.2.1 and Sec 3.2.2 (Organisation and Staffing and Technology	The Selected firm(s) should have two academic resource persons per subject. The resources would be required to be highly qualified academicians with prior education sector experience, especially working with the Government of Tamil Nadu	With respect to the requirement of two academic resource persons per subject, does the state have any criteria/ matrix for scoring the curriculum vitae?	Please refer to Annexure 2 to this Response to Pre – Bid queries.
				Is the Technology Team (Project Manager and Database Developer) supposed to be stationed out of Chennai?	Yes. On site.

		Team), Forms 5F, 5G, 5H.	and preferably Government School students. Points will be awarded in respect to CV and profile furnished for the proposed key personnel to be deployed on the project with relevant experience across Academic and technology resource persons for each Component. Ref to above: 5.1.3. Firm Level Qualification #3: Education and Skill Experience). Forms 5F, 5G, 5H - Table 2 of each form.	As per Form 5F, 5G, 5H on Pg 26, 29 and 32, there is a requirement of an Associate Project Manager and a Database Developer for each competent. Are these resources in addition to the academic resource persons and the Technology team specified in the earlier sections?	There are only two Technology Resources required on the project for each Component, and they shall be "Project Manager" and "Database Administrator".
33	26, 29, 32	Form 5F, 5G, 5H: Summary of Costs for Components	Column 6 - Total Number of Questions per Class. Form 5H: Summary of Costs for Component C.	In the Tables detailed in these forms, Column 6 header reads "Total number of Questions per Class." Does this refer to "Total number of concepts per class" since the total number mentioned in this column matches the sum of concepts and not the sum of questions currently. The total number of concepts for Component C, that is, Grade 11 and Grade 12, does not match the number of concepts detailed in the excel of Annexure 1. Can the state please clarify the number of concepts for these Grades?	Please refer to Annexure 1 for updated Forms 5F, 5G and 5H. Taxonomy file has been shared for reference.
34	13	7	The Bidder has the liberty to decide upon the distribution in Table 1. However, this is constrained by Points 4(c) and 4(d) above.	-	The Bidder has the liberty to decide upon the distribution in Table 1. However, this is constrained by Points 7(c) and 7(d) above.
35		3.2.4: Other Guidelines	Nil.		Addendum to be added in Section 3.2.4.

					(4) The bidders shall ensure that in preparing the questions and the answers, there shall be no instances of Copyright Infringement or complaints of plagiarism received by the Authority. In case such complaints are received and found to be true, the total costs incurred by the Authority in resolving such disputes shall be deducted from the payment of the bidder (or) shall be recovered from the bidder through due legal process.
36		1.2.7 Performance Guarantee			The Performance Guarantee shall be released only 1 year after the successful completion of the project to ensure that in case of errors in questions/ answers, corrections to the same can be made.
37		Extension of Timelines			Please note the revised dates as recorded in the RfP Data Sheet: (a) Last date and time of submission of Technical Proposal: 27/12/2021, 11.00 A.M (b) Time and date of opening of Pre-qualification Envelope: 27/12/2021, 03.30 P.M (c) Technical Approach Presentation & opening of Technical Bids : 28/12/2021, 09.30 A.M to 4.30 P.M

					29/12/2021, 09.30 A.M to 4.30 P.M
38		Annexure 1 as per Tender: Taxonomy			Detailed class/ subject wise concept list is available here- Taxonomy

Annexure 1: Modified Form 5F

Form 5F: Summary of Costs for Component A

To,
State Project Director,
Samagra Shiksha Office DPI Campus,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600006.

Component Sl. No.	Classes	Subject	No. of Concepts	No. of Question Structuring	Total number of Questions Structuring per Class	Cost (in Rs. Per Question Structuring)	Total cost (Rs.)
[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5] = [4] X 5 Qns	[6] = Sum of Col. [5]	[7]	[8] = [7] X [6]
A1	6	Mathematics	28	140	3870		
		Social Science	463	2315			
		Science	126	630			
		Tamil	134	670			
		English	23	115			
A2	7	Mathematics	26	130	4145		
		Social Science	507	2535			
		Science	122	610			
		Tamil	151	755			
		English	23	115			
A3	8	Mathematics	58	290	2795		
		Social Science	156	780			
		Science	190	950			
		Tamil	132	660			
		English	23	115			

Total of Qns	10,810	Total of Cost	
AVERAGE (#1) = [Total of Qns]/ [Total of Cost] in Rs.			

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the services for [name of assignment] in accordance with your Request for Proposal dated [date]. Our attached Financial Proposal is for the sum of [amount(s) in words and figures] for undertaking the assignment as per the Terms & Conditions enclosed.

Our Financial Proposal shall be binding upon us subject to the modifications resulting from arithmetic correction, if any, up to the expiration of the validity period of the Proposal, i.e. [date].

We undertake that, in competing for (and, if the award is made to us, in executing) the above contract, we will strictly observe the laws against fraud and corruption in force in India namely — Prevention of Corruption Act 1988.

We understand you are not bound to accept any Proposal you receive.

Yours sincerely,
 Authorized Signature [In full and initials]:
 Name and Title of Signatory:
 Name of Firm and Address:

Form 5G: Summary of Costs for Component B

To,
State Project Director,
Samagra Shiksha Office DPI Campus,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600006.

Component Sl. No.	Class	Subject	No. of Concepts	No. of Question Structuring	Total number of Questions Structuring per Class	Cost (in Rs. Per Question Structuring)	Total cost (Rs.)
[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5] = [4] X 5 Qns	[6] = Sum of Col. [5]	[7]	[8] = [7] X [6]
A.1	6	Mathematics	58	290	6270		
		Social Science	769	3845			
		Science	305	1525			
		Tamil	101	505			
		English	21	105			
A.2	7	Mathematics	56	280	3610		
		Social Science	207	1035			
		Science	279	1395			
		Tamil	159	795			
		English	21	105			
TOTAL of Qns					9,880	Total of Cost →	
AVERAGE (#2) = [Total of Qns]/ [Total of Cost] in Rs.							

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the services for [name of assignment] in accordance with your Request for Proposal dated [date]. Our attached Financial Proposal is for the sum of [amount(s) in words and figures] for undertaking the assignment as per the Terms & Conditions enclosed.

Our Financial Proposal shall be binding upon us subject to the modifications resulting from arithmetic correction, if any, up to the expiration of the validity period of the Proposal, i.e. [date].

We undertake that, in competing for (and, if the award is made to us, in executing) the above contract, we will strictly observe the laws against fraud and corruption in force in India namely — Prevention of Corruption Act 1988.

We understand you are not bound to accept any Proposal you receive.

Yours sincerely,

Authorized Signature [In full and initials]:

Name and Title of Signatory:

Name of Firm and Address:

Form 5H: Summary of Costs for Component C

To,
 State Project Director,
 Samagra Shiksha Office DPI Campus,
 Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600006.

Component. SI No.	Class	Subject	No. of Concepts	No. of Question Structuring	Total number of Questions Structuring per Class	Cost (in Rs. Per Question Structuring)	Total cost (Rs.)
[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5] = [4] X 5 Qns	[6] = Sum of Col. [5]	[7]	[8] = [7] X [6]
C.1	11	Tamil	240	1200	29,830		
		English	403	2015			
		Accountancy	204	1020			
		Biology	217	1085			
		Bio-chemistry	418	2090			
		Botany	171	855			
		Business math & statistics	348	1740			
		Chemistry	189	945			
		Commerce	433	2165			
		Computer Application	153	765			
		Computer Science	488	2440			
		Ethics & Indian Culture	556	2780			
		Economics	128	640			
		Geography	169	845			
		History	220	1100			
		Home Science	299	1495			
		Mathematics	211	1055			
Microbiology	354	1770					
Physics	146	730					
Political Science	126	630					

		Statistics	219	1095		
		Zoology	274	1370		
C.2	12	Tamil	535	2675	33,605	
		English	141	705		
		Accountancy	264	1320		
		Biology	237	1185		
		Bio-chemistry	159	795		
		Botany	295	1475		
		Business math & statistics	104	520		
		Chemistry	332	1660		
		Commerce	237	1185		
		Computer Applications	144	720		
		Computer Science	307	1535		
		Ethics & Indian Culture	866	4330		
		Economics	1116	5580		
		Geography	89	445		
		History	110	550		
		Home Science	169	845		
		Mathematics	292	1460		
		Microbiology	331	1655		
		Physics	404	2020		
		Political Science	271	1355		
Statistics	61	305				
Zoology	257	1285				
TOTAL of Qns				63,435	Total of Cost →	
AVERAGE (#3) = [Total of Qns]/ [Total of Cost] in Rs.						

Consolidated Average Cost per Question (Rs.)

Sl.	Total Cost	Average Cost/ Question (Rs.)
[1]	Average (#1) from form 5F	
[2]	Average (#2) from form 5G	
[3]	Average (#3) from form 5H	
[4]	TOTAL (Rs.)	
[5]	GRAND AVERAGE (Rs./ Question) = [4] / 3	
[6]	GRAND AVERAGE in Words	Rupees

The figure in [5] and [6] in this table shall be the cost that is used to compare the bids across bidders.

Non-Evaluated Cost

Sl.	Name of Position	No. of Days	Total Cost (Rs.)
1	Project Manager	45	
2	Database Administrator	365	

Note: The above costs of Project Manager and Database Administrator are non-evaluated costs. These costs are subject to negotiation if they are found to be unreasonable. In case of failure of negotiation, the Authority reserves the right to award the work to the next higher techno-commercially selected bidder.

We, the undersigned, offer to provide the services for [name of assignment] in accordance with your Request for Proposal dated [date]. Our attached Financial Proposal is for the sum of [amount(s) in words and figures] for undertaking the assignment as per the Terms & Conditions enclosed.

Our Financial Proposal shall be binding upon us subject to the modifications resulting from arithmetic correction, if any, up to the expiration of the validity period of the Proposal, i.e. [date].

We undertake that, in competing for (and, if the award is made to us, in executing) the above contract, we will strictly observe the laws against fraud and corruption in force in India namely — Prevention of Corruption Act 1988.

We understand you are not bound to accept any Proposal you receive.

Yours sincerely,

Authorized Signature [In full and initials]:

Name and Title of Signatory:

Name of Firm and Address

Annexure 2: Evaluation of Presentation and Academic Resource Profiles and Technical Profiles

Section 5.1.2, Sl. 2 (Technical Presentation)

Sl.	Scoring for Presentation (15 points)	Total (15 points)
1	<p>Overall approach to this engagement: The bidder will be assessed on their:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) quality of thought b) quality of outputs and c) general overall approach. 	2 points
2	<p>Presentation to include 10 questions (up to 2 can be discussed in detail; the remaining 8 are to be provided as a handout) in which, for each question, the bidder will provide the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The thinking that went into the creation of the question. b) The reasons for each of the three options provided. c) The quality of documentation provided. <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bidder should note that all 10 questions should be in the “Application” area and not in the Knowledge or Comprehension area. Questions not in the “Application” area will not be marked. • Not more than one question can be from one subject in one component. • All CVs that are included shall need to be present during the presentation (physically/ remotely) and the individual concerned will be required to present the given question, the choices and explanation. In case the experience during the presentation is not found to be adequate, and if the said bidder is awarded the project, the Office of SS reserves the right to require a replacement of the academic resource. 	0.5 points per question X 10 questions = 5 points.
3	<p>Framework for classifying questions as easy, medium and hard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Robustness of framework. b) Ease of implementation at scale. 	2 points
4	<p>Framework for breaking up questions into Knowledge, Comprehension and Application (or any more appropriate framework).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Robustness of framework. b) Ease of implementation at scale. 	2 points

5	Mechanism for internal quality control for questions, options and explanation provided.	2 points
6	Demo of any in-house technology solution that the bidder may have / uses	1 point
7	No. of technically sound, and high-quality videos the bidder is intending to provide to the department.	1 point

Section 5.1.3, Project Team: 50 Points

SI.	Name of Profile	Scoring Criteria
1	Project Manager (8 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Should have a Bachelor's degree. ● Relevant experience: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3 to 4 years: 1 points ○ > 4 to 6 years: 2 points ○ >6 to 8 years: 3 points ○ > 8 years: 4 point ● Should have led at least 2 similar projects in preparation of question banks with the private/ public sector [1 points X 2 projects = 2 points]. ● Demonstrated understanding of the Education sector – in the public sector space [2 points].
2	Database Administrator (7 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Diploma / Bachelor's degree in Computer Science / IT / Other engineering fields/BCA/ MCA. ● At least 3 years' experience in database administration of similar scale and complexity [4 points]. ● Should have led at least 2 similar projects in preparation of question banks with the private/ public sector [0.5 points X 2 projects = 1 point]. ● Demonstrated understanding of the Education sector – in the public sector space [2 points].
3	Each Academic Resource Person [35 points across all experts included]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>The total marks of 35 shall be given for all the CVs included. So, if one bidder has included 15 CVs (for example), then each CV will be scored out of 35 points and averaged out for a given component. For ease of computation, only the % for scoring each parameter is provided below.</i> ● Educational qualification of the expert - 10 points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Preferable, Master's degree, PhD ● Years' of experience in teaching the given subject - 5 points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 4 to 6 years: 2 ○ > 6 to 10 years: 3

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">o > 10 years: 5• Education sector experience - 5 points• Prior experience of working with Government of Tamil Nadu preferable Government school students - 10 points• Involvement in similar projects - 5 <p>The scores given during the evaluation of the CVs will be subject to change during the presentation, when it shall be expected that all CVs submitted shall be required to present their work in the presentation. For this, the presentation panel can randomly require any of the profiles submitted to present their work.</p>
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Form 5B: General Information

Sl.	Particulars	Documents to be Provided
1.	Details of the Firm	
	Name	
	Address (Please provide local office registration details (if any))	
	Telephone	
	Email	
	Website	
2.	Details of Authorized person (Please attach the power of attorney or board resolution authorising the person to sign on the documents)	
	Name	
	Address	
	Telephone / Email	
3.	Registration Details	
	Date of Incorporation of Firm	Copy of Incorporation Certificate of the firm to be provided
	TAN and GST number	Copy of TAN & GST
4.	Company Profile and Strength	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Company background and history • No. of full-time employees (documents showing the number of employees on the payroll as of 31st August 2021)
5	<p>Bidder should have prior working experience with government educational state apex bodies formalized by Memorandum of Understanding/ Agreement with such government departments in the past 5 years.</p> <p><i>Bidder to provide details of the state, body engaged with, year of</i></p>	

	<i>commencement and end, and attach copy of MoU/ Agreement.</i>	
6	<p>Annual Turnover of last four years</p> <p>((Bidders should provide audited balance sheets and P&L statements for any three of the past four financial years (FY 17-18, FY 18-19, FY 19-20, FY20-21). For FY 20-21, if audited statements are not available, provisional statements may be provided.))</p>	
7	<p>The Bidder should not have been blacklisted by Central/ State Government/ Departments/ PSUs in India as on bid submission date. [Provide self declaration]</p>	
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over the last five years (FY 17-18 to FY 21-22), the firm should have completed at least two assessment related projects of minimum size of Rs. 50 Lakhs (excluding GST) for large scale education and skill development projects for government, government agencies or multilateral agencies or foundations <p><i>Enter the serial numbers and names of the projects from Form 5C, in the space provided alongside.</i></p>	
9	<p>The Bidder should have done at least 5 projects out of which at least one being a Government project with subject-specific assessments for students/ teachers in at least one grade for each Component detailed below within the last 3 years (FY 18-19, FY 19-20, FY 20-21).</p> <p><i>Enter the serial numbers and names of the projects from Form</i></p>	

	<i>5C, in the space provided alongside.</i>	
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