Memo No.Ind/2026/__72795_____

OFFICE OF THE
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF PRISONS
PUNJAB, LAHORE

Dated, Lahore the__27.10.2026____

To

All intending participants

Subject: - **CLARIFICATIONS REGARDING TENDER TITLES "PROCUREMENT OF MATTRESSES" FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2026-2027**

Please refer to the tender titles "Procurement of Mattresses", published in newspapers Daily "Jang" and "The Express Tribune" on 13.10.2026, duly uploaded on Punjab E-Procurement System as well as website of PPRA Punjab & Punjab Prisons and pre-bid meeting held on 19.10.2026.

2. The following clarification (to the effect of necessary amendments in the Tender Notice and Bidding Documents where it is mentioned specifically) are hereby issued in respect to queries received from intending bidders / participants:-

Sr. No.	Query	Clarification
i.	Please confirm by addendum that, for companies, the FY 2024-25 (Tax Year 2025) return, duly filed with FBR, along with the active taxpayer certificate, will be accepted for the 10 marks, and that no bidder will be disadvantaged on the account. **Provision:** BDS clause 13 (Page 30 of 64, item 2(ii) – Tax Return" "Tax Return Statement for FY 2025-2026, duly submitted to FBR" (10 marks) **Issue:** For companies, the FY 2025-26 return is not due until December 2026, after the bid deadline of 30 October 2026. It cannot be filed or submitted with the bid. **Request:** Please confirm by addendum that, for companies, the FY 2024-25 (Tax Year 2025) return, duly filed with FBR, alongwith the active taxpayer certificate, will be accepted for the 10 marks, and that no bidder will be disadvantage on the account. This point be recorded in the pre-bid minutes and communicated to all bidders.	Agreed. Now, the text given at Sr. No. (ii) Tax Return, of Sr. No. 2. Financial Position, under head Sr. D. Preparation and Submission of Bids of Section-IV: Bid Data Sheet, in respect of the BDS Clause Number 13 and ITB Number 2.1.4 shall be read as follow: • Active Tax Payer status for Financial Year 2026-27 = 10 marks (Tax Return Statement for **FY 2025-26 or** FY 2024-2025, duly submitted to FBR shall be provided along with current active Tax payer certificate) • Non-Active Tax Payer= No marks All of the remaining provisions shall continue to remain in effect as originally stated in the bidding documents.

Sr. No.	Query	Clarification
ii.	Eligibility conditions in the subject tender restricting participating exclusively to mattress manufacturers based in Pakistan. They seek a review of condition in accordance with the Punjab Procurement Rules 2014, as amended upto 30 April 2025 and the applicable Punjab PPRA Standard Bidding Documents for the purpose.	Not agreed
iii.	**Relevant Experience and Capability** Extensive experience in supplying beds, mattresses and furniture to public sector departments and institutions, involving contracts and supplies worth millions of rupees. Experience encompasses institutional procurement requirements, supply chain management, delivery schedules, quality compliance, inspection procedures and fulfillment of contractual obligations. The ability to execute a supply contract successfully is not necessarily dependent upon ownership or operation of a manufacturing facility. Experienced suppliers may fulfill the same requirements through reliable sourcing arrangements, manufacturer coordination, quality assurance procedures and logistical capacity. Accordingly, eligibility should be assessed against objective and relevant requirements demonstrating the bidder's ability to perform the contract, subject to the procuring agency's lawful technical and qualification requirements.	Not agreed
iv.	**Rule 4 – Principles of Procurement** Rule 4 of the Punjab Procurement Rules 2014 requires procurement to be conducted fairly and transparently, with due regard to value for money, efficiency and economy. An eligibility restriction that excludes otherwise capable bidders without a sufficient procurement related justification may limit competition and reduce opportunities for competitive price discovery. Therefore, necessity of the manufacturer only condition be assessed against the actual requirements of the procurement and the public interest.	Not agreed
v.	**Rule 10 (1) Widest Possible Competition** Rule 10(1) provides that a procuring agency shall determine specifications in a manner that allows the widest possible competition and does not favour a single contractor or place others at a disadvantage. The manufacturer only requirement warrants review to determine whether it creates an avoidable barrier to participation by experienced suppliers capable of meeting the prescribed technical specifications, delivery schedule, quality requirement and contractual obligations. Where the procurement objectives can be achieved through objective technical standards, sample testing, inspection, manufacturer documentation, warranty obligations and enforceable performance conditions, the procuring agency consider whether those measures would adequately protect its interests without unnecessarily restricting competition.	Not agreed

Sr. No.	Query	Clarification
vi.	Legitimate technical or operational circumstances may justify particular eligibility requirements. Grievance is that the necessity and proportionality of the present restriction should be demonstrated and appropriately reflected in the tender documents. **Rule 31 and Rule 32 – Evaluation Criteria -** Rule 31 address the requirement for clear and unambiguous evaluation criteria, while Rule 32 requires evaluation in accordance with the criteria and conditions specified in the prescribed bidding documents. The eligibility criteria be objectively connected to the procurement requirements and that relevant evidence of experience, supply capability, technical compliance, quality assurance and delivery performance be considered to the extent permitted by the applicable bidding framework.	Not agreed
vii.	**Section 2.1.3 of the Punjab PPRA Standard Bidding Documents** Section 2.1.3, titled "Eligible Bidders," of the Punjab PPRA Standard Bidding Documents for Procurement of Goods, July 2023, contemplates participation by eligible suppliers, including firms, companies, sole proprietors, general order suppliers and subject to applicable provisions and licensing or regulatory requirements, prospective suppliers, manufacturers and authorized agents, dealers, or distributers. Procuring agency must establish appropriate eligibility requirements for the specific procurement.	Not agreed
viii.	**Relief Sought** In view of the foregoing, respectfully requested the competent authority to: 1. Review the manufacturer only eligibility condition and assess whether it is necessary and proportionate to the requirements of the subject procurement.	Not agreed
ix.	1. Where legally and technically permissible, amend the eligibility conditions to allow qualified suppliers, general order suppliers and authorized distributors to participate under equivalent technical, financial, quality, delivery and contractual requirements. 2. Consider relevant experience in supplying beds, mattresses, and furniture to public sector institutions as evidence of capability, subject to the applicable qualification criteria. 3. Ensure that the tender requirements do not unnecessarily restrict completion where the same procurement objectives can be achieved through objective and verifiable qualification standard. 4. Issue an appropriate corrigendum and if necessary, extend the bid submission deadline to provide prospective eligible bidders a fair opportunity to participate. 5. Communicate a reasoned written decision on this clarification before the bid submission deadline.	Not agreed
x.	**Request for lawful and Transparent Determination** 1. In the interest of fair completion, transparency, efficiency	Not agreed

Sr. No.	Query	Clarification
	and value for public money, do not seek any relaxation of the prescribed product specifications, quality standards, sample testing requirements, inspection procedures, delivery obligations or contractual safeguards. 2. Seek a fair opportunity to compete on the basis of relevant experience and demonstrated capacity to fulfil the contract, subject to the applicable procurement framework. 3. The representation be considered in accordance with Rule 67 of the Punjab Procurement Rules 2014 as applicable and that an appropriate written decision be communicated within the prescribed timeframe.	

3. Any provision not specifically amended above will continue to be in effect as originally stated in the bidding documents.

A.I.G (Industry)
for Inspector General of Prisons
Punjab, Lahore

Endst.No.Ind/2026/**72796-803** /Dated, Lahore the **27.10.2026**

Copy of above is forwarded for information to:-

1. All the members of the Procurement Committee.
2. PA to Inspector General of Prisons, Punjab, Lahore.
3. The Assistant Director (IT), Inspectorate of Prisons, Punjab, Lahore. He is also directed to paste the same on the Punjab Prisons website immediately.

A.I.G (Industry)
for Inspector General of Prisons
Punjab, Lahore