

KERALA STATE PLANNING BOARD
Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala

CORRIGENDUM / ADDENDUM NOTICE

Ref No: SPB-PCD/33/2026-PCD/Corrigendum-II

Date: 28 October 2026

In continuation to the Notification dated 03 October 2026 and the subsequent Corrigendum dated 12 October 2026 for the "*Empanelment of Nationally Reputed Consulting Firms, Think Tanks, Research Institutions, and other Professional Organisations for Professional, Research and Technical Support for Preparation of Kerala's 15th Five-Year Plan (2027–32) and Other Assignments*," the last date of submission of Expressions of Interest (EOI) is **02 November 2026, by 5:00 PM IST**. All other core criteria, sectoral structures, and submission guidelines remain intact as originally published.

II. Responses to Queries & Requests for Clarification

- **Indian Subsidiaries of Foreign Entities:** A clarification was sought on whether Indian subsidiaries can leverage the financial and technical credentials of their parent international firms.
Any legal entity registered in India is eligible to apply.
- **Zero-Value / Pro-Bono Research MoUs:** Research organizations asked if the framework allows entering a zero-value Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to scope projects before signing commercial service contracts.
This panel strictly mandates the submission of uniform commercial professional rates. (The rates can be zero).
- **Limitation of Liability:** Bidders requested the insertion of a standard clause to cap a consultant's aggregate liability to the fee paid under a specific work order.
This will be decided on a case to case basis.
- **Cross-Mapping Expert Profiles:** Clarity was requested on whether the CV of a single professional can be submitted across multiple sectors.
The same expert CV can be mapped to a maximum of two (2) related sectors/thematic areas, provided the expert's educational profile and past experience directly align with both sectors.

- **Minimum CV Count per Sector:** Bidders asked if the requirement of 3 expert CVs applies in total per sector, or if 3 CVs must be submitted for each individual experience category within a sector.

The provision requires a minimum of three (3) CVs in total per sector to evaluate baseline technical capacity, not three CVs under every distinct experience level.

- **On-Ground Deployment vs. Remote Support:** Only On-Ground deployment is expected and remote support is not expected. In case remote support is required separate rates will be finalised.

- **Allocation Methodology for Specific Assignments:** Bidders requested details on the secondary assignment allocation framework and evaluation weights.

Individual assignments will follow a limited tendering process within the empaneled sector panel. KSPB will deploy Quality and Cost-Based Selection (QCBS) (e.g., 80:20 or 70:30 weights) for strategic or complex projects and Least-Cost Selection (LCS) for standard assignments. The exact method will be detailed in individual secondary project invites.

- **Scope of Debarment Declaration:** A clarification was sought on whether the debarment declaration applies only to the State of Kerala or nationally.

The declaration must explicitly confirm that the firm is not blacklisted or debarred by the Government of India, any State Government, or any Central/State Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) across India.

- **Volume Cap on Empanelment:** Bidders asked if there is an upper limit on the number of firms to be empaneled per sector.

There is no upper volume cap on the total number of empaneled organizations per sector. All applicants meeting the minimum threshold criteria will be selected.