



**Notification Pertaining to Request for Proposal (RFP)
For
Dark Fiber Connectivity Between
RBI Kharghar and RBI Belapur**

Indian Financial Technology & Allied Services

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

IFTAS, a wholly owned subsidiary of Reserve Bank of India (RBI). IFTAS, was formed in 2015 as a Section-8, not-for-profit organization, was entrusted with the responsibility of pioneering the use of technology in banking and offering cutting-edge services to financial sector in India. Major technology initiatives from IFTAS include setting up of the Next generation INFINET (INFINET 2.0) network, managing the nationwide communication backbone for the Central Payment System, managing SFMS Central Payment System (Structured Financial Messaging System) and a host of Cloud solutions from IBCC (Indian Banking Community Cloud).

1.2 Objective

This Request for Proposal (RFP) solicits proposals from qualified vendors (third-party principles or resellers are not eligible) to provide Dark Fiber services (Leased or IRU) or Lit Fiber services to meet the growing bandwidth requirements from RBI Kharghar, Navi Mumbai (PDC) and RBI Belapur, Navi Mumbai (ODC).

A brief synopsis of the requirement is given below:

- Minimum of two new terrestrial Dark Fibers connectivity of 12 cores each on different paths, between the said locations.
- At least one new Dark Fiber path of 12 cores is required to be deployed on alternate physical path/s compared to the existing Fiber/s owned by RBI.
- Both IP and non-IP connectivity to be provided on these new Dark Fibers.
- End-to-End Configuration, Management, Maintenance and Monitoring of the above mentioned new Dark Fiber solutions including all hardware and monitoring solution provided by bidder.
- Enabling few cores on the RBI's existing fiber onto IP connectivity.

2 Cost of RFP

The Bidder shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of its bid and IFTAS will, in no case, be held responsible or liable for these costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bidding process.

The Bidders meeting Eligibility criteria mentioned in the section 7, can procure RFP document from IFTAS, along with non-refundable amount of Rs. 20,000 (inclusive of GST) payable in the form of NEFT favoring "INDIAN FINANCIAL TECHNOLOGY AND ALLIED SERVICES"

Details of the bank account of IFTAS for remittance of bid cost are given below:

Account Name: Indian Financial Technology and Allied Services

Name of Bank: AXIS BANK LTD

Account no: 918020008175957

Address (Branch and City): Shop no-3 & 4, Paradise E wing, Raheja Vihar, Chandivali, Powai, Mumbai- 400072

IFSC Code: UTIB0003105

RFP document containing detailed specifications and requirements with terms and conditions can be obtained by eligible Bidders till the stipulated last date, on payment of RFP cost in the form of NEFT along with authorization letter on the company letter-head mentioning the following:

1. Correct and complete Name of Bidder (Organization)
2. Address of Bidder
3. State Code
4. GSTIN Number
5. Amount
6. NEFT UTR No.
7. Contact Official
8. Phone (Cell) Number of the contact official
9. Email id of the contact official

IFTAS will issue a Tax Invoice of Rs 20,000 (inclusive of GST) to the bidder after the receipt of the said amount and the required information as above.

3 Due Diligence

The Bidders are expected to examine all instructions, terms and specifications stated in this RFP. The Bid shall be deemed to have been submitted after careful study and examination of this RFP document. The Bid should be precise, complete and in the prescribed format as per the requirement of this RFP document. Failure to furnish all information or submission of a bid not responsive to this RFP will be at the Bidders' risk and may result in rejection of the bid. Also, the decision of IFTAS on rejection of bid shall be final and binding on the bidder and grounds of rejection of Bid should not be questioned after the final declaration of the successful Bidder.

The Bidders are requested to carefully examine the RFP documents and the terms and conditions specified and if there appears to be any ambiguity, contradictions, inconsistency, gap and/or discrepancy in the RFP document, Bidder should seek necessary clarifications by e-mail as mentioned in Section-5. Any query received after the last date for submission of pre-bid queries as given in Section-5 will not be considered.

4 Ownership of this RFP

The content of this RFP is a copy right material of IFTAS. No part or material of this RFP document should be published in paper or electronic media without prior written permission from IFTAS.

5 BID Schedule and Address

No	Particulars	Date
1	Reference Number	IFT/DarkFiber/201019 - 3.0
2	Date of commencement of sale of bidding documents	15-November-2021 (Applicable for new Bidders)
3	Last date and time for sale of bidding documents	18-November-2021 (Applicable for new Bidders)
4	Last date and time for receiving Bidder's Pre-Bid clarifications in writing.	25-November-2021
5	Date and Time for Pre-Bid Meeting	26-November-2021 at 1600 Hrs via Webex
6	Posting of clarifications	30-November-2021
7	Last date of Submission of Technical bids	21-December-2021 on or before 1700 Hrs
8	Last date of Submission of Commercial bids	21-December-2021 on or before 1700 Hrs
9	Opening of Technical bids	21-December-2021
10	Technical Presentation	To be communicated later
11	Opening of Commercial bids	To be communicated later
12	Name & Address of communication	Head - Procurement, Indian Financial Technology and Allied Services (IFTAS), 10th Floor, C-wing Times Square, Andheri-Kurla Rd, Andheri East, Mumbai - 400059
13	Bid Related to be mailed to	RFP@iftas.in
14	Bid Cost*	INR 20,000 (Inclusive of GST)

*Note: Bidders who already participated/procured previous RFP of Dark Fiber are exempted from the Bid cost.

6 Scope of work

Detailed Scope of work is classified into two sections:

1. Requirement on New Dark Fibers connectivity:

- a. Supply, install, configure, manage, maintain, and monitor a solution with a minimum of two new terrestrial Dark Fibers of 12 cores each on alternate physical paths ensuring no common

- or shared path/route. The Dark Fibers supplied by the bidder shall be dedicatedly laid for IFTAS/RBI. Supply of cores from Bidders' existing Dark Fiber shall not be permitted.
- b. At least one of the new 12 cores Dark Fiber path should be on a different route in comparison to the existing RBI Dark Fiber paths.
 - c. To provide IP and Non-IP (Optical) connectivity on the above mentioned new Dark Fibers.

2. Requirement on Existing RBI Fibers:

- a. Enable a few cores on the existing two fiber paths of RBI with IP connectivity by supplying, installing, configuring, managing, maintaining, and monitoring necessary equipments/devices which are required for such IP connectivity extension.

Detailed scope of work and the technical specifications/ requirements are mentioned in the RFP document. RFP will be shared post sharing Signed NDA with IFTAS along with payment of Bid Cost.

7 Eligibility Criteria

Those bidders, who satisfy all the eligibility criteria as mentioned herein below, may only respond. Documents in support of all eligibility criteria are required to be submitted along with the Technical Bid. Offers received from the bidders who do not fulfill any of the following eligibility criteria are liable to be rejected.

S No	Eligibility Criteria	Documentation Required/Compliance/Non-Compliance
1.	Bidder must have registration under companies Act, 1956 / 2013, also registered with the Goods & Service Tax authorities, and must have completed 3 years of existence as on Bid calling date.	Attested copy of the Certificate of Incorporation/Registration of the Bidder/RoC.
2.	The Bidder should have a minimum annual turnover of at least Rs. 10 Crores in each of the last three financial years.	Audited financial statements of the bidding entity indicating the annual net worth and turnover or Statutory Auditor Certificate.
3.	Bidder should have Cat A ISP /relevant NLD license	Relevant certificates to be submitted
4.	The Bidder should have at-least 3 years' experience in laying, monitoring, and managing own/customer Fiber infrastructure.	Self-declaration.

***** End of Document*****