National Centre for Biological Sciences
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research

Minutes of Pre-bid meeting for procurement of SITC of NETWORK SWITCHES held on 16.10.2026 @15.00 hrs against CPP tender notice ref no: 2026_DAE_929841_1

Ref: NCB/L-261085/2026-27(J) **Date: 27.10.2026**

Name of the firms participated in the pre-bid meeting

1. M/s. Blackbox Limited
2. M/s Team Computers Pvt Ltd
3. M/s Pritech Automation Private Limited
4. M/s Connectivity IT Solutions
5. M/s Frontier Business System
6. M/s Binary Systems Pvt Ltd
7. M/s Mould Training and Networks
8. M/s Enview Technologies LLP
9. M/s Convergent Wireless Communication Private Limited
10. M/s Madras Networking Company
11. M/s Value Point System Pvt Ltd
12. M/s Targus Technologies Pvt Ltd
13. M/s Intellic Systems
14. M/s Jyeshtha Solutions Private Limited
15. M/s Cito Infotech Pvt Ltd
16. M/s Techhat Pvt Ltd
17. M/s Volta Power
18. M/s Quantum Networks
19. M/s NexiBox Technologies

The pre-bid meeting was conducted to address the queries regarding the tender for the procurement of SITC of Network Switches. The following points were discussed in the pre-bid meeting and clarified:

Sl. No.	Specifications Ref	Query Raised	Clarification by NCBS	Remarks
1	Point no.2 Page no. 2	Reduction of Bid Validity	The bid validity was specified as **180 days**, keeping in view the complete procedural timelines and requirements. This duration was fixed after considering the scope of evaluation, approvals, and compliance processes. However, in the interest of suppliers and to encourage wider participation, it is proposed that the bid validity to be **reduced to 120 days from the date of bid opening**.	Corrigendum – I will be issued for the bid validity.
2		What is the delivery period?	The tender document does not prescribe a fixed timeline. As per the tender conditions, suppliers are expected to **declare their delivery schedule** while submitting bids, which will be considered during evaluation.	
3		Is there any specific Price format?	There is no specific price-bid format. The prices may please be submitted in the CPP Portal as per the BoQ of tender document.	
4		Is SFP28 Mandatory?	Since we asked switches uplink as 25G to connect from Core switch to Access switch we require SFP28 – 25G	
5	S. No III- Feature Set 24 Port PoE+ Point 1.1 Page no.13	Point 1.1 Since the installation must be done on the existing racks kindly confirm the inner frame dimensions or the maximum switch depth that is acceptable and that can fit the rack.	Point 1.1 To facilitate proper cable routing, dressing, and labelling of power, management, LAN, and stacking cables, the offered switch is proposed to have a depth of 13 inches or less. It shall be suitable for installation in the existing 500 mm × 500 mm Netrack rack enclosure, ensuring that both the front and rear doors can be closed completely with all cables connected and neatly dressed.	The same will be applicable to the ref. points for IV- Feature Set 48 Port Non-PoE, V- Feature Set 24 Port-Non-PoE and Corrigendum-I will be issued for the same
6	S. No III- Feature Set 24 Port PoE+ Point 2.2	Point 2.2 Inbuilt power supplies are more reliable. The switches and power supplies units are also covered under hardware warrant. Kindly consider Dual	Point 2.2 The switch shall preferably be equipped with two redundant, hot-swappable, field-replaceable internal power supply modules from Day-1, supporting independent power feeds from separate power	The same will be applicable to the ref. points for S. No IV- Feature Set 48 Port Non-PoE, V- Feature Set 24 Port-Non-PoE

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	Page no. 14	in-built or one in-built and one field replaceable power supply as an option	sources/PDU feeds. Failure or removal of either power supply shall not interrupt normal switch operation, subject to the capacity of the remaining power supply. However, alternative power supply configurations may be considered, provided they meet the redundancy, reliability, and uninterrupted operation requirements.	and Corrigendum-I will be issued for the same
7	S. No III-Feature Set 24 Port PoE+ Point 2.3 Page no. 14	Point 2.3 Inbuilt fans are more reliable. The switches and fans are also covered under hardware warrant. Kindly consider inbuilt redundant fans as an option	Point 2.3 The switch shall preferably be equipped with a fully redundant, hot-swappable and field-replaceable cooling system, with redundant internal fan modules from Day-1. The cooling system shall support automatic variable-speed fan control based on system temperature and operating conditions and provide Front-to-Back (Port-to-Power) airflow suitable for installation in standard network/server racks. Alternative inbuilt fan configurations may be considered, provided they ensure adequate cooling, redundancy, and continued normal switch operation in the event of a single fan failure.	The same will be applicable to the ref. points for S. No IV-Feature Set 48 Port Non-PoE, V-Feature Set 24 Port-Non-PoE and Corrigendum-I will be issued for the same
8	S. No III-Feature Set 24 Port PoE+ Point 2.4 Page no.14	Point 2.4 With a modular operating system and ASIC architecture optimised RAM and flash is important for maintain latency without compromising performance. Kindly consider 1GB RAM and 1GB flash as the minimum requirement that is acceptable for participation	Point 2.4 The switch shall preferably be equipped with a minimum of 4 GB RAM and 8 GB Flash storage. However, switches with a minimum of 1 GB RAM and 1 GB Flash storage may also be considered, provided the offered switch meets all specified functional, performance, scalability, and network management requirements without compromising operational stability.	The same will be applicable to the ref. points for S. No IV-Feature Set 48 Port Non-PoE, V-Feature Set 24 Port-Non-PoE and Corrigendum-I will be issued for the same
9	S. No II-Feature Set - Core Switch, Point 4.2 Page no.12	Point 4.2 Since IPv4, IPv6 and Multicast requirement has been mentioned kindly clarify the number of IPv4 routes and Multicast entries to be supported. Kindly consider 20K as IPv4 routes as a	Point 4.2 The proposed capacity of 200K IPv4 routes and 100K multicast entries can be considered, subject to the switch meeting all other specified technical requirements.	The same will be applicable to the ref. points for S. No III-Feature Set 24 Port PoE+, IV-Feature Set 48 Port Non-PoE, V-Feature Set 24 Port-Non-PoE and Corrigendum-I will be

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		minimum requirement for wider vendor participation.		issued for the same
10		Every switch you have asked for 24 Port Non-PoE and 48 port Non-PoE switch uplink as 1/10/25G Is it possible to have uplink ports lesser than 25G	Please submit the bid as per tender document	
11		As per MII policy, who is eligible for purchase preference either Class-I or Class-II Local supplier	As per MII Policy, Class-I Local supplier is only eligible for Purchase Preference	
12	S. No II. Feature Set - Core Switch Point 7.1 Page no: 13	Point 7.1 The OEM has to migrate the existing services with minimum downtime. Integrate with the NMS. 1. Asset list of existing devices. 2. What is the exiting NMS. And whether it is NMS or EMS 3. The OEM doesn't do installation at the site they do it through bidder	1Extreme, HP,cisco,Digisol, 2. Extreme NMS 3. If the Bidder is an Authorized partner then Yes	
13	S. No I. Mandatory Parameters Point 1.2 Page no: 9	Point 1.2 The OEM and Partner/Bidder shall each have successfully executed at least five (5) similar projects 1.whether same OEM or different OEM	It should be from the same OEM	
14		Is Installation at NCBS Campus	Yes	
15		EMD exempted for MSE Suppliers (or) MSME suppliers?	EMD exempted to MSE suppliers	
16		Is the experience towards PSU/State institutions/Private firms considered?	If Partner/Bidder has experience in the premier Indian institutions/organisations including PSU's/State govt institutions/Private sector firms will be considered. However, the bidder shall submit Purchase Orders/Work Orders along with Certificates of Satisfactory	Corrigendum-I to be issued.

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			Completion issued by the respective client organization as documentary evidence.	
17		Out of 5 model switches only 4 models I have MII but 5th model doesn't have MII is it acceptable	Please refer the Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India) order 2017 of Government of India, Dept of DPIIT" (OM No. P-45021/2/2017-PP (BE-II)-Part(4)Vol.II dated 19.07.2024, for calculation of Local content percent..	
18		4 products have MTCT certificate and 5th product doesn't have MTCT certificate but overall im qualified as MII		
19	S. No I. Mandatory Parameters Point 1.2 & 1.3 Page no: 9	Point 1.2 & 1.3 At least 5 similar projects across India and one work at least 80% which one to be considered?	Both of them should be considered	
20	S. No II. Feature Set - Core Switch Point 2.4 Page no. 11	Why minimum16GB RAM and 64GB Flash Storage for Core Switch	Please submit the bid as per tender document	
21		Is the existing NMS and ASSETS has to be configured by us	New Equipment supplied and deployed needs to configured in NMS	
22	S. No II. Feature Set - Core Switch, Point 1.3 Page no. 10	The switches shall support software defined end-end network fabric that provides visualised networks, all necessary license shall be included from day 1.	Vendor to supply a complete, licensed solution that can create and manage multiple logically isolated networks across the switching infrastructure, rather than supplying switches that require additional licences or products to enable the promised fabric functionality.	

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23	S. No I. Mandatory Parameters Point 1.7 Page no. 9	The OEM/Manufacturer/ should be in Indian Market since last 10 Years. The OEM/bidder shall submit relevant documentary evidence demonstrating the OEM's experience and presence in India.	Please submit the bid as per tender document	
24		If the OEM is there in the market for 10 years but not the bidder	Acceptable, subjected to fulfilling all the other eligibility compliance requirements	
25		Is there any preference in terms of makes acceptable to NCBS	The tender is open tender, any makes or brands which are meeting our requirements are acceptable	
26		EMD Amount Rs. 662000 or Rs. 6,60,000 ?	EMD amount is Rs. 6,62,000	Corrigendum-I to be issued
27		The existing NMS supports SNMP3 and other OEMs	The existing NMS supports SNMPv3	
28		Is the benefits such as EMD and purchase preference applicable to MSEs?	The benefits available to MSEs as contained in Public Procurement Policy for MSEs Order 2012, as amended from time to time issued by MSME.	
29		The estimated cost of Rs. 3,31,00,000 is inclusive of GST?	The estimated cost is inclusive of all taxes	
30		Higher than 25g SFP28 is it acceptable	Yes	
31		IPv6 logo certification didn’t asked why ?	Please submit the bid as per tender document. Certification can be submitted by the vendor as supporting documentation, if available.	
32	S. No II. Feature Set - Core Switch Point 2.5 Page no.11	Section II- Feature Set - Core Switch Point 2.5 As for the industrial standard Minimum 131K MAC address should be required so request to change 131K	Point 2.5 Please submit the bid as per tender document	

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33	S. No II. Feature Set - Core Switch Point 4.1 Page no. 11	Point 4.1 Request you to change 802.1aq protocol as we support 802.1Q Integrated directly into IEEE Std. Also to avoid L2 looping in network we support STP, RSTP, MSTP as industry best practice. So request you to change 802.1aq/802.1Q/STP.RSTP,MSTP/ IEEE 802.1ah/ IEEE 802.1ba	Point 4.1 Please submit the bid as per tender document	
34	S. No II. Feature Set - Core Switch Point 4.2 Page no. 12	Point 4.2 Request to change RIPng/OSPFv3 (Performance remains same)	Point 4.2 The switch shall preferably support RIPng for IPv6 dynamic routing. Equivalent IPv6 routing protocols may also be considered, provided they meet the required routing functionality, performance, scalability, and interoperability requirements of the proposed network architecture.	Corrigendum-I will be issued for the same
35	S. No II. Feature Set - Core Switch Point 4.2 Page no. 12	Point 4.2 It is predominantly used by Telecoms and Service Providers to route core IP/MPLS networks. However, we do support OSPF to calculate the shortest path. Hence request to change this point IS-IS/OSPF	Point 4.2 The switch shall preferably support IS-IS (Intermediate System to Intermediate System) for dynamic routing. Alternatively, other equivalent routing protocols may be considered, provided they meet the specified requirements for routing functionality, scalability, convergence, and performance of the proposed network architecture.	Corrigendum-I will be issued for the same
36	S. No II. Feature Set - Core Switch Point 4.2 Page no. 12	Point 4.2 Request to remove BFD This protocol majorly used in ISP Router hence request to remove	Point 4.2 Please submit the bid as per tender document	

Sl. No.	Specifications Ref	Query Raised	Clarification by NCBS	Remarks
37	S. No II. Feature Set - Core Switch, Point 6.1 Page no. 13	Point 6.1 Request to Change CISPR 32 Switch / EN 55032 or CISPR22 or Equivalent Standards for EMC (Electro Magnetic Compatibility) requirements	Point 6.1 Please submit the bid as per tender document	
38	S. No II- Feature Set 24 Port PoE+ Point 2.1 Page no. 10	Point 2.1 Request to change 16 ports of 802.3bt (PoE++) ports	Point 2.1 Please submit the bid as per tender document	
39	S. No II- Feature Set 24 Port PoE+ Point 2.1 Page no. 10	Point 2.1 Request to change to 1440 watts considering the POE budget of the switch	Point 2.1 Can be considered to 1440 watts	Corrigendum-I will be issued for the same
40	**III- Feature Set 24 Port PoE+, Point 4.3** **IV- Feature Set 48 Port Non-PoE, Point 2.4,** **V- Feature Set 24 Port-Non-PoE, Point 4.1**	**Request to Change IEEE 802.1AE MACsec/SFP with MAC sec support on uplink port**	Point 4.3 Please submit the bid as per tender document	

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41		Since you wants to use Extreme NMS (ExtremeCloud / NetSight / XMC), and the switches which we wants to propose will fully support open standards (SNMP v1/v2c/v3, sFlow, IPFIX, Syslog, REST APIs, OpenConfig/NETCONF), allowing integration with Extreme NMS. However, deep proprietary device-tree integration and native futures will require managing via the switch OEM NMS or standard MIB/CLI/SNMP integration.	Please submit the bid as per tender document	
42		Most of the latest Switches traditionally use MLAG (Multi-chassis Link Aggregation) for active-active high availability and tierless clustering rather than traditional stack-cable switch stacking (100Gbps proprietary stacking cables). MLAG provides superior redundancy and throughput compared to traditional switch stacking, but represents an architectural deviation from traditional stacking requirements.3. Operating Temperature Requirement	Please submit the bid as per tender document	
43		All modern managed enterprise switches (Cisco, Aruba, Juniper, Huawei, Dell ...etc) support configuring VLAN IDs from 1 to 4094. But the Simultaneously Active Limit of the mid-range or access switches are recognize all 4,094 IDs in software/database, but enforce a hardware or software limit on	Please submit the bid as per tender document	

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		active/concurrent VLANs are commonly capped at 256, 1,000, or 1,024 active VLANs at any given time. Request to consider common OEM Specification 4k Valn for All the switches.		
44	S. No II. Feature Set - Core Switch Point 1.4 Page no. 10	We kindly request you to revise the operating temperature requirement from 50°C to 40°C, as the current 50°C requirement significantly limits the number of eligible OEMs and available switch models. Revising the requirement to 40°C will allow broader OEM participation while ensuring suitable performance and reliability for the intended operating environment.	Please submit the bid as per tender document	

Sd/-
Administrative Officer
(Purchase I/C)