National Centre for Biological Sciences
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research

Minutes of Pre-bid meeting for procurement of SITC of ONE PETABYTE SAN STORAGE held on 19.10.2026 @15.00 hrs against GeM Bid: GEM/2026/B/8142278

Ref: NCB/L-261263/2026-27(J) **Date: 28.10.2026**

Name of the firms participated in the pre-bid meeting

1. M/s Team Computers Pvt Ltd
2. M/s Connectivity IT Solutions
3. M/s BDE
4. M/s Madras Networking Company
5. M/s Cito Infotech Pvt Ltd
6. M/s Crossgen Technologies Pvt Ltd
7. M/s Atrity Info Solutions Pvt Ltd
8. M/s SS Information Systems P Ltd
9. M/s Meganet Technologies Global Ltd
10. M/s Suganil Security Solutions Pvt Ltd

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 point with page no.	Query Raised	Clarification / Decision by NCBS	Remarks
1	Pg no-7, point 7	Can the Cache be reduced to 4TB SSD Read instead of 8TB SSD read	8TB SSD Read cache is retained considering performance	
2		Existing storage model number	Dell ME-5084	
3	Pg no-8, point 15	Can Each Pool capacity be changed to 1000TB instead of 2000TB for the clause "**Large Pool support : Storage system should support pool capacity of upto 2000 TB capacity in each Pool**"	Each Pool capacity can be 1000TB	This clause is amended to "**Large Pool support : Storage system should support pool capacity of minimum 1000 TB capacity in each Pool"** Corrigendum – I will be issued for the same
4	Pg no-9, point 12	Can USB 3.2 port be made USB 3.0	USB 3.1 / USB 3.2 onboard can be offered	Corrigendum – I will be issued for the same
5	Pg no-9, point 12	Can Display port be removed	Display port can be offered via PCI card	Corrigendum – I will be issued for the same
6	Pg no-8, point 21	Vendors requested whether equivalent Indian standards can be offered for the clause "**The offered storage system shall comply with recognized safety, electromagnetic compatibility (EMC), environmental, and energy efficiency standards, including UL/CSA 62368-1, IEC/EN 62368-1, FCC Class A (or equivalent), CE marking, RoHS, WEEE, and applicable regional EMC regulations. Documentary evidence from the OEM shall be provided with the bid**"	As replacement to this clause, Equivalent Indian standards including BIS can be offered	This clause is amended to "**The offered storage system shall comply with Indian standards for safety, energy efficiency, including BIS. Documentary evidence from the OEM shall be provided with the bid"** Corrigendum – I will be issued for the same
7	Pg no-8, point 22 Pg no-10, point 16	Can this clause be removed" The offered storage system shall be listed on the VMware Compatibility Guide (VCG) for block storage. Storage array shall have plug-in for VMware VCenter, Microsoft	The requirement for VMware Compatibility Guide (VCG) listing for block storage is retained to ensure documented compatibility with the institution's existing VMware	

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		System centre as well as vStorage APIs (VAAI) for array integration	environment and facilitate effective technical support, interoperability. Configurations not listed in the VCG may be subject to support limitations and additional troubleshooting requirements. VCG listing, vCenter integration and VAAI support facilitate reliable storage management, offloading of supported storage operations and lifecycle management through vSphere Lifecycle Manager (vLCM), including coordinated updates of ESXi, drivers and firmware, wherever supported. These capabilities are essential for ensuring interoperability, system stability and reliable operation of the proposed SAN storage solution within the existing infrastructure.	
8	Pg no-11 , point 4	Can this clause be removed" Both the SAN Storage and Server should be from single OEM"	The representation regarding the single-OEM requirement for the SAN storage system and server has been examined. The tender requirement is intended as a single unified storage solution to store critical research data, with the server directly connected to the SAN, making system interoperability, reliability and coordinated technical support essential. The single-OEM requirement is intended to facilitate validated compatibility across hardware, firmware and connectivity	

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			components, coordinated fault diagnosis and resolution, and effective lifecycle management. Particular consideration has been given to post-warranty support, including extended warranty availability, replacement components and resolution of interoperability issues, to minimise service disruptions and ensure continued availability of research data. **Considering the criticality of research data and the need for long-term operational continuity, the requirement is retained**, based on the technical assessment and approval of the committee	
9	Pg no-8, point 10	What is the existing replication mechanism, whether continuous replication or one time	Continuous / Active Replication shall be implemented with the solution being procured. Any software required for replication should be considered.	

Sd/-
Administrative Officer
(Purchase I/C)