

F. No.3/18/10-Cy.

Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Economic Affairs
Directorate of Currency

North Block, New Delhi

Dated: December 14 , 2010

GLOBAL REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION

A Global Request for Information (RFI) was issued by this Directorate on September 10, 2010 inviting RFI from firms who wish to offer security features and / or associated technology for incorporation in the future series of Indian Bank Notes. On the basis of information and documents etc so received, it has been decided to consider following category of security features and/or associated technologies for incorporation in all or any denomination(s) of Indian bank notes:

Materials:

- i. Security thread – Having variation in colour, motion or image on viewing at angles; having fluorescence, magnetic properties and micro-text, machine readable.
- ii. Foil/Stripe – Having variation in colour, motion or image on viewing at angles; having fluorescence, magnetic properties and micro-text, machine readable.
- iii. Colour Shift Ink – With variation in colour with distinct contrast on viewing from different angles; for Intaglio printing suitable for banknotes.
- iv. Fibre – Invisible, multi colour (three or more), different shapes, IR/UV Fluorescence, Magnetic, Machine readable, Micro Printing or images.
- v. Taggants – Paper based or Ink based, Machine readable, Invisible

Software/ processes:

- vi. Advanced Water Mark
- vii. Note Authentication/Verification System – Software based
- viii. Design Features – For incorporation through Offset/Intaglio printing and/or software based

Machinery:

- ix. Micro Perforation

2.1 Accordingly, the Requests for Qualification (RFQ) are hereby invited from the manufactures of features and/or technologies in above mentioned categories for incorporation in the next series of bank notes. The estimated annual production of bank notes is about 18 (eighteen) billion pieces of which the lower denomination (Rs.10, 20 and Rs.50) account for 50% approximately and higher denomination (Rs.100, 500 and Rs1000) accounts for the rest.

2.2 The firm may offer a security feature either for lower denomination or for higher denomination or for both. However, GOI reserves the right to choose a security feature only for lower denomination bank notes or higher denomination bank notes or for both.

3 Eligibility Criteria:

A- General:

- I. The firm should be a manufacturer of the security feature or associated technology, whether already in use in bank notes of any country or a brand new development.
- II. The firm should be a registered company.

B- Capacity, Experience & Past Performance:

1. For all categories -

The firm should have manufactured and supplied the same or similar security feature and / or associated technology for any security document, directly or indirectly.

2. Specific to material -

The firm should have annual capacity to manufacture and supply security features for at least 2 billion bank note pieces of the offered feature or for 4 billion bank note pieces in case of similar features (if the offer is a new development).

3. Specific to software/processes -

The firm must own the source code and related algorithm.

4. Specific to Machinery -

The firm must have the capacity to supply machinery for production of at least two billion bank notes within one year of the placement of order.

C- Financial Standing:

The firm should not have suffered any financial loss for more than one year during last three financial years (as applicable to the country where the firm is situated) and the net worth of the firm should not have eroded by more than 30% during that period.

4. The bidding firms shall submit documents in support of eligibility criteria duly certified as follows:

- i. All financial data by certified accountants e.g. Chartered Accountants (CA) in India and Certified Public Accountant/Chartered Accountant in other countries.
- ii. All supply performance and capacity related data by the Chief Executive Officer of the Bidding firm.

5. In addition to the information/documents required for eligibility, the applicant firms shall be required to submit a declaration that the firm has not been blacklisted/ debarred by any Government Agency anywhere in the world.

6. Requests are liable to be rejected at any stage in the interest of “National Security”.
7. Further, the Government of India reserves the right to decide against incorporation of any security feature/ category of security features at any stage without assigning any reason.
8. Firms, who have not responded to the RFI dated September 10, 2010 and are responding only against this RFQ, shall also be required to submit the information, called for through the aforesaid RFI but not covered above. The text of the RFI is available on the website of this Ministry <http://www.finmin.nic.in>.
9. The last date for submission of Request for Qualification in the attached format is January 17, 2011 by 1300 hours (IST). Requests not adhering to the prescribed format are liable to be summarily rejected.
10. Requests received after the due date and time shall be returned unopened. The responsibility to submit requests before the due date and time rests with the applicant firms and the Government of India will not entertain any explanation/reasoning for late submission.
11. The applicants will be invited to make their detailed technical presentation before the designated Committee in the last week of January, 2011. Therefore, they are advised to plan their arrangements for the same including visa & travel arrangements in advance accordingly. Exact date and time of presentation shall be communicated to each applicant after closing date for receipt of applications.
12. Sealed envelopes containing the information in the required format should be superscribed as “ **REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION for Security Features for Indian Bank Notes due on January 15, 2011**” and sent to the following address:

Under Secretary

Directorate of Currency, Department of Economic Affairs

Ministry of Finance, North Block, New Delhi 110 001

Telephone:+9111-23095087, Fax- +9111-23092665

e-mail: sushil.kumar@nic.in.

Website: <http://www.finmin.nic.in>

[FORMAT FOR REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION](#)