

RFP for Providing access to database containing patent literature along with a search platform for searching the said database
Reply to Queries

Page	Section/subsection	statement in RFP	Queries	IPO Reply
Queries from Clarivate				
Pg 9	9. 1 Scope of Work	The access shall be Internet Protocol (IP) enabled as well as through login and password when requested.	Please clarify how many examiners will be using IP based access and how many need to be issued login password,	Please refer para 9 (3) of the RFP
Pg 9	9. 1 Scope of Work	The access shall be Internet Protocol (IP) enabled	1. What type of IP addresses at Indian Patent Office? Static or Shared 2. Who are the addresses registered to? 3. Where are they sourced, ISP, etc? 4. How are the IP addresses authenticated for security on the network? 5. Is there a third-party vendor managing any proxy services for the IP authentication? 6. Are IP Addresses V4 or V6	The details would be made available to the successful bidder upon request.
Pg 10	10 b) Eligibility Criteria	The Applicant should be able to provide data which must at least contain the PL data listed in the PCT minimum documentation under Rule 34.1 of Regulations under the PCT for majority of countries.	Can you please clarify situation where earliest year data may be missing, will that still be acceptable	Please refer to PCT minimum documentation document https://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/standards/en/pdf/04-01-01.pdf
Pg 23 &24	Technical Bid (Annexure II)	Integrated Non Patent Literature coverage	While this is a tender for Patent Literature and patent office may have access to other NPL sources we can see some additional points have been assigned for providing NPL as well, can you help us understand what explicit content set is being considered for this criteria as requirement met since this is primarily requirement for Patent Database and not NPL data	Please refer to Annexure II, page 23. The clause does not require any clarification.
Pg 23 &24	Technical Bid (Annexure II)	For Points 4 to 26	Basis what evaluation parameters will participant be scored – if response is yes, will all participant get full marks? Under what circumstances score will be between 0 and max marks for that Criteria? Is there any criteria that participants should be aware about	Please refer to Annexure II, page 23. The clause does not require any clarification.
Queries from Questel Group				

	Eligibility Criteria, Clause C	Foreign bidders will not be able to participate unless they have a representative in India. Such foreign bidders should disclose the name and address of agents and representatives in India.	1. In the above case, who will be the applicant - Foreign Bidder or Representative?	The clause does not require any clarification. Foreign bidder having representative in India may participate.
			2. In case a foreign bidder (applicant) is participating through Representative (Indian Subsidiary), who needs to submit past 3 years revenue? Foreign Bidder (Applicant) or Representative.	The clause does not require any clarification.
			3. What kind of documents need to be submitted to show company ABC is a representative?	Any relevant legal document may be submitted.
Queries from Siddhast				
	RFP Clause 10, sub clause (g) Annexure 1, Point 10	clause 10 (g) The bidder or any constituent partner in case of partnership firm/ Consortium should not have been debarred/ black listed for competing in any organization at any time. Annexure 1, point (10) Is the bidder or any constituent partner in case of partnership firm/ Consortium, currently engaged in a dispute / dispute settlement mechanism / arbitration / mediation with any of its client?	Eligibility condition of not entertaining the bidder who has opt for an arbitration is unfair, unreasonable which will deprive the genuine contractor who has capacity and experience for the said RFP. Arbitration is a natural phenomena where the dispute may arise through the default of any party of the contract. This condition will only benefit the handful of bidders as against the other bidders who can give better services but are eliminated on the ground of this unreasonable condition. Arbitration is not a remedy provided by the legislation. Humbly request you to strike down this unreasonable, arbitrary condition.	The Eligibility criteria forming part of the RFP requires no clarification. The safeguard proposed are to ensure participation of vendor with good performance record, ability to complete the work in time, with no history of litigation, or financial failure due to bankruptcy, or on account of debarment by any government agency. (reference : Manual of procurement of works 2019, DoE, Ministry of Finance, clause h) Disqualification, page 29)
	RFP Clause 33		The condition of appointment of sole arbitrator by CGPDTM is violation of provision of arbitration and conciliation act 1996. Humbly request your office to please reconsider the same by making provision for appointment of independent arbitrator.	The contractual details would be finalized with mutual consultation with the successful bidders per the provision of arbitration and conciliation act 1996.
	RFP Annexure 2, Point 1,	Coverage of documentation other than PCT minimum documentation	Quality and usability of patent data can not be determined and compared only by just by the number of records (numeric value) Eg. bidder A having 2 crores of documents and only 10 lacs full texted and bidder B having 1.1 crore of documents and 1 crore of full texted documents still bidder A will score more marks in technical bid compared to bidder B.	Please refer to Annexure II, page 23. The clause does not require any clarification.

	RFP Annexure 2, Point2.	Coverage of documentation other than PCT minimum documentation	Similarly coverage of how many countries will not determine the quality or usability of the patent data. As for example bidder A having coverage from 40 countries but number of full texted documents are comparably less than with bidder B as explained in row 3 above. The bidder A will score more number in technical bid than bidder B.	Please refer to Annexure II, page 23. The clause does not require any clarification.
	RFP annexure 2, Point 3.	Translation available for how many countries.	Quality and usability of patent data can not be determined and compared only by just a number of countries.	Please refer to Annexure II, page 23. The clause does not require any clarification.
	RFP annexure 2, Point 6,	Integrated non patent literature coverage	coverage/scope of non patent literature not defined.	Please refer to Annexure II, page 23. The clause does not require any clarification.
	RFP annexure 2, Point 12,	Full document images	coverage/scope/file format of full documents images are not defined.	Please refer to Annexure II, page 23. The clause does not require any clarification.
	RFP annexure 2, Point 13	Drawing	coverage/scope/file format of drawing are not defined.	Please refer to Annexure II, page 23. The clause does not require any clarification.
	RFP annexure 2, Point 15	Value added/ Noval Feature	coverage/scope of number of documents which are rewritten manually in simple english language is not defined. Simply yes or no are arbitrary conditions. Also calling for providing patents rewritten manually in simple english language are against official language act and rules.	Please refer to Annexure II, page 23. The clause does not require any clarification.
	RFP annexure 2, Point 20	Document download provision	Number of documents required to be downloaded in bulk.	Please refer to Annexure II, page 23. The clause does not require any clarification.
	RFP annexure 2, Point 25	Exportable result	Please define etc. as etc are unreasonable arbitrary conditions.	Please refer to Annexure II, page 23. The clause does not require any clarification.
	RFP annexure 2, Point 26	MIS module	Define the features of MIS module. also define or remove etc.	Please refer to Annexure II, page 23. The clause does not require any clarification.
	RFP annexure 2, Point 11	Analytics tools	Define etc.	Please refer to Annexure II, page 23. The clause does not require any clarification.