Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Government of India

Request for Qualification (RFQ)
For
Empanelment of Institutional Partners under PM-SETU

RFQ Ref. No.: MSDE/PM-SETU/RFQ/01/ 2026-27

Date of Issue: 05/08/2026

Issuing Authority

Deputy Director

Directorate General of Training (DGT)

Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

720, Kaushal Bhawan, New Moti Bagh, New Delhi 110023

Disclaimer

This Request for Qualification (RFQ) is issued by the Directorate General of Training (DGT) solely for the purpose of inviting Applications for empanelment of Institutional Partners under PM-SETU. The information contained in this RFQ is provided in good faith to assist Applicants in preparing their applications and does not constitute an offer, agreement, or contract.

While reasonable care has been taken in preparing this RFQ, Applicants are advised to conduct their own investigations, assessments, and due diligence and to seek independent professional advice, as necessary. The Authority makes no representation or warranty regarding the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the information contained in this RFQ and shall not be liable for any loss, cost, or expense incurred by any Applicant in connection with this RFQ or the empanelment process.

The Authority reserves the right to amend, modify, supplement, withdraw, or cancel this RFQ, or to reject any or all Applications, at any stage without assigning any reason and without incurring any liability.

Applicants shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of their Applications. Empanelment under this RFQ shall not create any obligation on the Authority to award any assignment, project, or engagement.

INDEX

Section 1: Letter of Invitation

To,

Prospective Applicants

Subject: Request for Qualification (RFQ) for Empanelment of Institutional Partners under PM-SETU

Sir/Madam,

1. The Directorate General of Training (DGT), under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Government of India, invites Applications from eligible establishment for empanelment as Institutional Partners for implementation of Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs (PM-SETU) Scheme.
2. The objective of this RFQ is to identify and empanel qualified Institutional Partners with demonstrated experience in skill development, institutional management, governance, and industry engagement for implementation of ITI Clusters under the PM-SETU Scheme. The eligibility and qualification requirements are specified in this RFQ.
3. The empanelled Institutional Partners may collaborate with Industries, including industry conglomerates, Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), corporate entities, industry associations, and other eligible industry entities, to undertake activities such as preparation and implementation of Strategic Investment Plans (SIPs), establishment and management of Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs), institutional strengthening, infrastructure modernization, capacity building, and other activities in accordance with the PM-SETU Guidelines.
4. Key information related to this RFQ is provided below:

Particulars	Details
Name of Assignment	Empanelment of Institutional Partners under PM-SETU
Method of Selection	Qualification-based (Eligibility + Technical Evaluation)
Release Date	05/08/2026
Last Date for submission of Queries on email	18/08/2026 schemes.section@dgt.gov.in
Pre-Application Meeting Date, Time and Place / online	19/08/2026 Link will be published on portal/website
Mode of Submission	E-procurement portal https://eprocure.gov.in
Last Date of Submission	31/08/2026
Opening of Applications	01/09/2026

5. Interested Applicants shall submit their Applications through the designated mode on or before the specified date and time. The Application shall be complete in all respects and signed by the authorised signatory of the Applicant.
6. This RFQ document includes the following sections:
   a) Section 1 – Letter of Invitation
   b) Section 2 – Instructions to Applicants
   c) Section 3 – Eligibility, Qualification and Evaluation Criteria
   d) Section 4 – Scope of Empanelment

   e) Section 5 – Application Formats
   f) Section 6 – Appendix
7. Empanelment under this RFQ shall not confer any right to receive any assignment, project, or ITI cluster. Allocation of ITI clusters shall be undertaken separately by the Authority in accordance with the PM-SETU Guidelines and applicable Government procedures.
8. The Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all applications, cancel or modify the empanelment process, or seek additional information from applicants at any stage without assigning any reason and without incurring any liability.

Yours Sincerely,

Deputy Director
Directorate General of Training (DGT)
Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
720, Kaushal Bhawan, New Moti Bagh, New Delhi 110023
Email : schemes.section@dgt.gov.in

Section 2 – Instructions to Applicants (ITA)

A. General

1) Introduction

a) This Section provides instructions to Applicants for the preparation and submission of Applications for empanelment under this Request for Qualification (RFQ).

b) The Directorate General of Training (DGT) (hereinafter referred to as the "Authority") intends to empanel eligible Institutional Partners under the Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs (PM-SETU) programme, in accordance with the provisions of this RFQ.

c) This RFQ is issued solely for the purpose of empanelment of eligible Institutional Partners and does not constitute an offer, invitation to offer, agreement, or contract. Empanelment under this RFQ shall not create any contractual obligation on the Authority, nor shall it guarantee allocation of any ITI Cluster under the PM-SETU Scheme.

d) Applicants shall submit their Applications strictly in accordance with the formats, requirements, and timelines prescribed in this RFQ. Applications that are incomplete, conditional, misleading, or not substantially responsive to the requirements of this RFQ may be rejected by the Authority.

e) The empanelled Institutes shall act as Institutional Partners under the PM-SETU Scheme. The detailed roles and responsibilities of the Institutional Partner are provided in Section 4 of this RFQ.

2) Code of Integrity and Applicable Anti-corruption Guidelines

The WB "Guidelines on Preventing and Combating Fraud and Corruption in Program for Results Financing" dated February 1, 2012, and revised on July 10, 2015, and ADB's Anticorruption Policy dated July 1998, as amended from time to time (collectively referred to as the "Guidelines".) shall apply to this activity which is within the Program Boundary. The World Bank and ADB Anti-Corruption requirements applicable to this RFQ are provided in Appendix 2.

3) Eligibility and Qualification Criteria for Applicants

The Applicant shall satisfy the Eligibility and Qualification Criteria specified in Section 3 of this RFQ. Applications not meeting the prescribed criteria shall be treated as non-responsive.

4) Earnest Money Deposit (EMD: Not Applicable

5) Cost of Preparation of Application:

The Applicant shall bear all costs and expenses related to the preparation, submission, and processing of its Application, including any demonstrations, samples, or presentations, if required. The Authority shall not be responsible or liable for any such costs, regardless of the outcome of the empanelment process.

6) Language of Application

The application and all supporting documents shall be submitted in English. Documents in any other language shall be accompanied by a self-certified English translation.

7) Documents Forming Part of the Application:

The Applicant shall submit following documents, strictly in the formats provided in Section 5 of this RFQ.

1. Copy of Incorporation/Registration Certificate of Applicant**.**
2. Copy of GST Registration Certificate and PAN Card.
3. Covering Letter (Form-1)
4. Institutional Profile of Applicant (Form-2)
5. Self-Certification (Eligibility & Non-Blacklisting) (Form-3)
6. Certification of Turnover /Financial Capability (Form -4)
7. Power of Attorney for Signing of Application (RFQ) (Form-5)
8. All documents mentioned in Section 3 Part A & B
9. A brief write-up on the Applicant's understanding of the PM-SETU Scheme and its proposed approach for performing the role of the Institutional Partner, including its proposed implementation strategy, institutional capability, industry engagement, governance framework, and value addition for successful implementation of the Scheme. (Form-6)

8) Single Application:

Each Applicant shall submit only one Application under this RFQ in its individual capacity. Consortiums, Joint Ventures (JVs), Associations, or any other form of joint application shall not be permitted.

9) Pre-Application Meeting and Clarifications:

a) A Pre-Application Meeting may be held on the date, time, and location specified in ***section 1*** to address queries from prospective Applicants. Participation in the meeting is optional.

b) Applicants may submit their queries in writing or through electronic means, as specified in ***section 1***, on or before the prescribed deadline.

10) Application Validity:

Applications shall remain valid for the period of 180 days.

11) Submission of Applications:

Applications shall be uploaded on the designated e-Procurement Portal on or before the deadline specified in Section 1 or any subsequent corrigendum. Applicants shall be solely responsible for timely submission.

12) Opening of Applications:

The Authority shall open the Applications online on the date and time specified in Section 1 or any subsequent corrigendum, in the presence of the Applicants' representatives, if they choose to attend. Applicants may also view the opening status online through the e-Procurement Portal.

13) Evaluation of Applications:

a) The Authority shall evaluate the Applications in the following two stages:

(i) **Stage 1**: Eligibility Assessment (Pass/Fail):

Applications shall be assessed against the eligibility criteria specified in Section 3. Applications that do not meet the eligibility requirements shall be rejected as non-responsive.

(ii) **Stage 2**: Technical Evaluation:
Only those Applicants who meet the eligibility criteria shall be considered for technical evaluation, based on the criteria and scoring framework specified in Section 3.

14) Clarification of Applications:

During the evaluation of Applications, the Authority may, at its discretion, seek clarifications from Applicants in writing or through electronic means, within a specified timeframe. Failure to provide the requested clarifications within the stipulated time shall result in evaluation of the Application based on the information available on record.

15) Confidentiality:

Information relating to the examination, clarification, and evaluation of Applications shall remain confidential until completion of the empanelment process.

16) Empanelment:

a) Applicants satisfying the eligibility criteria and securing the minimum qualifying marks in the technical evaluation shall be empanelled in the order of merit, subject to approval of the Competent Authority.
b) The empanelment shall remain valid for a period of three (3) years from the date of issue of the empanelment letter, unless extended, curtailed, or terminated earlier by the Authority.
c) Empanelment under this RFQ shall not confer any right to receive any assignment, project, or work and shall not guarantee selection or engagement under the PM-SETU Scheme.

17) Right of the Authority

The Authority reserves the right to:

a) accept or reject any or all applications;
b) seek additional information or clarifications;
c) cancel or modify the empanelment process at any stage without assigning any reason;
d) empanel such number of Institutional Partners as it considers appropriate.

18) Grievance Redressal

a) Any applicant aggrieved by the empanelment process or evaluation may submit a representation/complaint to the authority in accordance with the applicable procurement rules and procedures.
b) The Authority shall examine such representations in a fair and transparent manner and communicate its decision within a reasonable time.
c) The decision of the Competent Authority shall be final and binding, subject to applicable legal remedies.

19) Governing Law and Jurisdiction:

a) This RFQ, the empanelment process, and any empanelment issued pursuant hereto shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of India.

b) Subject to the above, the courts at New Delhi shall have exclusive jurisdiction over all disputes arising out of or in connection with this RFQ and the empanelment process.
c) This clause shall apply only to the empanelment process and related matters and shall not be construed as creating any contractual relationship between the Parties.
d) The decision of the Authority on the interpretation of this RFQ shall be final and binding.

Section 3 – Eligibility, Qualification and Evaluation Criteria

Applicants shall satisfy the eligibility and qualification criteria specified in this Section and submit the prescribed documentary evidence. Only eligible Applicants shall be considered for technical evaluation in accordance with the criteria and scoring framework specified herein.

A) Part A-Eligibility and Qualification Criteria:

The Applicant should meet the following all Eligibility & Qualification criteria:

S. No.	Criteria	Requirement	Documentary Evidence
1	**Legal Status**	Applicant shall be a University, Deemed University, Skill University, Section 8 Company, Trust, Society, Foundation, Technical Institution, Training Institution, or any other recognized academic or skill development institution registered under the applicable law in India.	Certificate of Incorporation / Registration / Establishment Act
2	**Experience**	The Applicant shall have at least 3 years' experience in technical education, skill development, vocational education, research, training, industry collaboration, incubation, technology transfer	Institution Profile, Annual Reports
3	**Institutional Capacity**	The Applicant shall have trained or produced a minimum average of 2,000 students/trainees/pass-outs per annum during the last three completed academic years.	Self-certified data with supporting records
4	**NSQF Training Capacity**	The Applicant shall have successfully conducted NSQF-aligned courses of a minimum duration of 240 hours and trained at least 500 students/trainees under such courses during the last three (3) academic years.	Self-certification supported by NSQF course details, training records, assessment /certification records
5	**Performance**	Minimum 50 % average placement rate over last 3 years	Placement records / CA certificate
		The Applicant shall have established at least ten (10) active industry partnerships/ MoUs for facilitating internships, apprenticeships, On-the-Job Training (OJT), placements, industry-led skill development initiatives, or CSR-supported skill development activities.	Copies of MoUs / Partnership Agreements; and Supporting documents demonstrating implementation of such partnerships (such as internship records, apprenticeship agreements, placement records, training reports, CSR project

S. No.	Criteria	Requirement	Documentary Evidence
			documents, or similar evidence).
6	**Financial Strength**	The applicant shall have an Average Annual Turnover / Gross Receipts / Income of at least INR 100 Crore during the last three completed financial years ending 31 March 2025.	CA certificate / audited statements
		Positive net worth in last 3 financial years	CA certificate / audited statements
		The Applicant should not be under insolvency, bankruptcy, or similar financial distress	Self-declaration
7	**Blacklisting / Debarment / Sanctions**	The Applicant shall not be blacklisted, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or sanctioned by any Government authority, PSU, Statutory Authority, Multilateral Development Bank (including World Bank and ADB), or under the MDB Cross-Debarment Framework as on the Proposal Submission Date.	Self-Declaration on company letterhead by authorized signatory
8	**Tax and Statutory Compliance**	The applicant must have a valid PAN and, GSTN	Copy of PAN and GSTN

Part B) Technical Evaluation of Applications:

Only those Applicants who meet the prescribed eligibility criteria shall be considered for technical evaluation. The evaluation shall be conducted based on the criteria and weightages specified below.

Main Criteria	Sub-Criteria & Scoring Basis	Max Marks	Documents to be Submitted
Institutional Experience	Years of Experience in Skill Development / Education: a) ≥10 years (15), b) 6–10 years (10), c) 3–5 years (5)	15	Registration certificate, annual reports
Past Performance	Placement Rate (Average of last 3 years): a) ≥60 % (10), b) 50–59% (5)	10	Placement reports, certification by institution/CA
	Trained or produced no of students/trainees/pass-outs per annum during the last three completed academic years a) ≥5001 (25), b) 4001- 5001 (20), c) 3001–4000 (15),	25	Pass records, annual reports, Self Certification of pass-outs

Main Criteria	Sub-Criteria & Scoring Basis	Max Marks	Documents to be Submitted
	d) 2000 - 3000 (10)		
Industry Linkages	Active Industry Partnerships / MoUs facilitating internships, apprenticeships, OJT, placements or other industry-led skill development activities a) ≥15 partnerships (20), b) 13–15 (15), **c)** 10–12 (5)	20	MoUs, internships agreements, apprenticeship agreements, placement partnerships
Proposed Approach and Implementation Strategy	a) Understanding of PM-SETU Scheme and role of institutional Partner b) Proposed implementation approach and institutional capability c) Industry collaboration, employability strategy and innovation	30	Explain details as per Form 6
Total		100	

Minimum Qualifying Marks for Empanelment: 70 Marks

Section -4 Scope of Engagement

1) **Background and Overview of the Scheme**

a) The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), Government of India, is the nodal Ministry responsible for coordinating and promoting skill development initiatives across the country. Its mandate includes strengthening vocational education and training, enhancing employability, fostering innovation, and preparing a skilled workforce to meet current and future industry requirements.

b) The Directorate General of Training (DGT) is responsible for implementing the Craftsmen Training Scheme (CTS) through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), offering training in trades aligned with the National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF). DGT also oversees National Skill Training Institutes (NSTIs), instructor training, apprenticeship training, and other initiatives for strengthening the vocational training ecosystem.

c) Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation Through Upgraded ITIs (PM-SETU) a centrally sponsored scheme with an outlay of Rs.60,000 crore (Central Rs.30,000 crore, State Rs.20,000 crore, Industry Rs.10,000 crore), aimed at:

   (i) Upgrading 1,000 ITIs in a Hub-and-Spoke model into aspirational, industry-aligned institutions.

   (ii) Transforming selected NSTIs into exemplar institutions and establishing five National Centers of Excellence (NCOEs).

   (iii) Training nearly 20 lakh youth over five years in emerging sectors, including Industry 4.0 and green technologies.

d) The scheme is structured in two components:

   (i) <u>Component I: Upgradation of 1,000 Government ITIs</u>

   Under Component I, 1,000 Government ITIs shall be upgraded through a Hub-and-Spoke cluster model under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) framework. Implementation shall be carried out through Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) established for each cluster. The objective is to transform ITIs into industry-aligned institutions by strengthening infrastructure, modernising curricula, enhancing trainer capacity, improving governance, and increasing employability outcomes. Each SPV shall be jointly owned by the Anchor Industry Partner (51%), the Central Government (24.5%), and the respective State Government (24.5%), and shall operate the ITIs in accordance with the applicable PM-SETU Guidelines.

   (ii) <u>Component II: Capacity Augmentation of 5 NSTIs:</u>

   Five NSTIs located in Bhubaneswar, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kanpur, and Ludhiana will be developed as premier institutions for skilling and trainer development, creating a framework for government-owned, industry-managed institutions. This will involve enhancing industry engagement, governance, infrastructure, training quality, learning outcomes, and market relevance of courses. The NSTIs will also be developed as National Centres of Excellence for Skilling in partnership with global institutions. The outlay for this component is Rs.1,500 crore.

e) The implementation of the Scheme shall be guided by a National Steering Committee (NSC), chaired by the Secretary, MSDE, which shall provide policy oversight, monitor implementation, and ensure alignment with industry requirements. The Scheme also incorporates results-based financing supported by the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to promote quality, institutional capacity, and sustainable employment outcomes.

f) Through these interventions, PM-SETU aims to transform ITIs and NSTIs into modern, industry-responsive institutions capable of delivering high-quality skill training, improving employability, and meeting the evolving workforce requirements of the country.

g) Definitions (For the purpose of this RFQ):

(i) Establishment: Any Industry/Institutions who are eligible as per section 3 of RFQ

(ii) Anchor Industry Partner (AIP)

Anchor Industry Partner (AIP) means the empanelled Institutional Partner designated by the Authority for implementation of an approved ITI Cluster under the PM-SETU Scheme. The AIP shall be responsible for the upgradation, management, and operation of the approved ITI Cluster, including preparation and implementation of the Strategic Investment Plan (SIP), establishment and management of the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), the AIP shall have shareholding in the SPV, mobilization of industry participation, and overall implementation of the approved project in accordance with the PM-SETU Guidelines.

(iii) Industry Partner

Industry Partner means an industry conglomerate, Public Sector Undertaking (PSU), corporate entity, industry association, CSR contributor, philanthropic organization, or any other eligible industry entity that provides the prescribed industry contribution and/or technical, sectoral, or industry support for implementation of an approved ITI Cluster under the PM-SETU Scheme.

(iv) Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV)

Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) means the company incorporated under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013 by the Central Government, the State Government, and the Anchor Industry Partner (AIP), having the charitable object of promoting vocational education through the upgradation, management, and operation of ITIs in accordance with the PM-SETU Scheme.

(v) Strategic Investment Plan (SIP)

Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) means the comprehensive five-year implementation plan for an approved ITI Cluster, covering infrastructure development, academic and institutional reforms, governance arrangements, financial planning, implementation milestones, and outcome targets, prepared by the Institutional Partner in accordance with the PM-SETU Guidelines and approved by the National Steering Committee (NSC). The SIP shall provide details related to funding of the project for the respective ITI cluster. As per scheme guidelines, A hub ITI shall receive 81 Crore and Spoke ITI shall receive 40 Crore. The Central and State Governments together provide 83% of the above outlay while the industry's share is approximately 17%.

(vi) ITI Cluster

ITI Cluster means a group of Government Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) comprising one Hub ITI and one or more Spoke ITIs, identified under the PM-SETU Scheme for implementation through a common Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) under the Hub-and-Spoke model. The upgradation of ITI Cluster shall be implemented through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) in accordance with the PM-SETU Guidelines.

(vii) Hub ITI

Hub ITI means the principal Government ITI designated under the PM-SETU Scheme to lead and coordinate implementation of the approved ITI Cluster.

(viii) Spoke ITI

Spoke ITI means a Government ITI associated with a Hub ITI as part of an approved ITI Cluster under the PM-SETU Scheme and covered under the approved Strategic Investment Plan (SIP).

2) Objective of Empanelment:

a) The objective of this RFQ is to identify and empanel eligible establishment having the organisational capability, institutional capacity, financial strength, technical expertise, and commitment to act as Anchor Industry Partners (AIPs) for implementation of approved ITI Clusters under the Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs (PM-SETU) Scheme.
b) The empanelment is intended to create a pool of qualified Institutional Partners for consideration by the Directorate General of Training (DGT) for allocation of ITI Clusters in accordance with the PM-SETU Guidelines and decisions of the Competent Authority.

3) Scope of Empanelment:

a) The empanelled Institutional Partner shall be responsible for preparing the SIP in alignment with the collaborative industry partner and local economy and as per the objectives of the PM-SETU Scheme.
b) The Institutional Partner, with the support of the collaborating Industry partner, shall be responsible for implementation of the approved SIP, governance and management of the SPV, institutional strengthening, infrastructure modernisation, academic and operational reforms, industry linkages, monitoring, reporting, and achievement of project outcomes in accordance with the PM-SETU Guidelines.

4) Indicative Scope of Work of the Institutional Partner

The Institutional Partner shall broadly undertake the following roles and responsibilities for implementation of the approved ITI Cluster under the PM-SETU Scheme. The scope of work provided below is indicative in nature. The detailed roles, responsibilities, deliverables, governance requirements, performance obligations, and implementation arrangements shall be governed by the approved Strategic Investment Plan (SIP), the Shareholders' Agreement (SHA), the License Agreement (LA), other applicable project agreements, and the PM-SETU Guidelines, as amended from time to time.

4.1 Strategic Planning & Governance

a) Prepare, submit, implement, monitor, the Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) and Annual Operational Plans (AOPs) in accordance with the PM-SETU Guidelines.
b) Provide inputs on institutional development, infrastructure planning, training capacity expansion, staffing requirements, and outcome targets.
c) Participate in governance and management arrangements established for implementation of the approved SIP, including representation in relevant committees and working groups, as applicable.
d) Support institutional modernization, governance reforms, and compliance with applicable policies, regulations, and guidelines.

4.2 Infrastructure Planning and Development

a) Plan, coordinate, and oversee modernization of classrooms, laboratories, workshops, hostels, ICT infrastructure, and allied facilities, including support for procurement, installation, commissioning, and contract management through the SPV, in accordance with the approved SIP and PM-SETU Guidelines.

b) Advise on equipment specifications, training aids, laboratory design, workshop layouts, and technology requirements.
c) Facilitate integration of industry-relevant equipment, tools, simulators, and training technologies.
d) Support adoption of accessibility, inclusivity, safety, and environmental sustainability standards.

4.3 Academic and Training Management

a) Develop, upgrade, and oversee delivery of long-term and short-term training programs aligned with industry requirements and applicable regulatory standards.
b) Facilitate introduction of emerging and future-oriented courses, including sectors such as advanced manufacturing, renewable energy, electric mobility, artificial intelligence, digital technologies, and other industry-relevant domains.
c) Promote competency-based, outcome-oriented, blended, and technology-enabled learning methodologies.
d) Support integration of on-the-job training (OJT), apprenticeships, internships, industry projects, and experiential learning opportunities.
e) Design and implement modular, industry-customized courses and special modules in accordance with the flexibility provided under PM-SETU Guideline

4.4 Faculty and Capacity Development

a) Plan and implement training, upskilling, and capacity-building initiatives for instructors, trainers, and administrative personnel.
b) Facilitate industry immersion programs, Training of Trainers (ToT), workshops, certifications, and professional development initiatives.
c) Promote adoption of modern pedagogical practices, digital learning tools, and industry best practices.
d) Facilitate engagement of subject matter experts and industry professionals, wherever required.

4.5 Operational Management

a) Establish, operate, and continuously improve systems for academic administration, student management, learning management, asset management, monitoring, financial management, and reporting through the SPV.
b) Assist in operational planning and management of training activities assigned under the approved SIP and implementation framework.
c) Support deployment of ICT-enabled solutions for institutional management and performance monitoring.
d) Manage and oversee implementation of approved operational initiatives through the SPV, in accordance with the approved SIP and PM-SETU Guidelines.
e) Ensure proper financial management, utilization, accounting, record maintenance, and reporting of Government funds released to the SPV in accordance with the PM-SETU Guidelines, applicable financial rules, and the approved SIP.
f) Establish, operate, and maintain digital Management Information Systems (MIS), Student Management Systems, and other digital platforms prescribed under PM-SETU for monitoring, reporting, and performance management.

4.6 Industry Linkages, Apprenticeship and Placement

a) Facilitate partnerships with industry, employers, sector bodies, and training providers.
b) Support apprenticeship promotion, internships, industry visits, workplace learning, and employer engagement initiatives.
c) Assist in placement facilitation, career counselling, and employment linkage activities for trainees.
d) Support organization of job fairs, recruitment drives, employer interactions, and industry outreach programs.
e) Develop long-term industry engagement for curriculum development, assessment, certification, apprenticeship, placement and employment generation.

4.7 Quality Assurance, Monitoring and Reporting

a) Ensure compliance with NCVET, NSQF, DGT, and other applicable quality and regulatory standards.
b) Facilitate continuous improvement of training quality, learner outcomes, institutional performance, and employability outcomes.
c) Support implementation of monitoring, evaluation, reporting, and documentation systems.
d) Assist in collection, analysis, and reporting of performance indicators as prescribed under the approved SIP and PM-SETU Guidelines.
e) Monitor and achieve the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), milestones, and outcome targets specified in the approved SIP and PM-SETU Guidelines.

4.8 Innovation and Sustainability

a) Promote innovation, entrepreneurship, incubation, industry-academia collaboration, and technology-enabled learning initiatives.
b) Develop and implement sustainable operational models, resource mobilization strategies, and industry participation mechanisms.
c) Facilitate adoption of emerging technologies, digital tools, green skills, and future-ready training practices.
d) Support long-term sustainability initiatives, including alumni engagement, industry partnerships, and knowledge-sharing platforms.

4.9 Governance, SPV Management and Industry Partnership

a) Incorporate, manage, and operate the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for implementation of the approved ITI cluster in accordance with the PM-SETU Guidelines and applicable laws.
b) Execute and comply with the Shareholders' Agreement (SHA), License Agreement (LA), and other agreements required for implementation of the approved SIP.
c) Provide strategic leadership and operational oversight for the SPV and ensure effective governance, financial management, and project implementation.
d) Constitute, manage and participate in the SPV Board and its Committees in accordance with the Shareholders' Agreement and PM-SETU Guidelines.
e) Collaborate with Industry Partners/PSUs for provision of the prescribed Industry contribution, technical collaboration, industry participation, apprenticeship opportunities, and sectoral expertise. Coordinate with the Central Government, State Government, Industry Partners, training institutions, employers, and other stakeholders for effective implementation of the approved SIP.
f) Ensure compliance with all statutory, regulatory, financial, governance, and reporting requirements applicable to the SPV and the PM-SETU Scheme.

g) Facilitate preparation and submission of periodic progress reports, utilization certificates, annual operational plans, and other documents required under the PM-SETU Guidelines.
h) Develop and implement measures to ensure operational sustainability, industry participation, and long-term institutional strengthening of the ITI cluster beyond the project period.
i) Undertake such other activities as may be necessary for successful implementation of the approved SIP and achievement of the objectives of the PM-SETU Scheme.

5) Funding Framework

a) Empanelment of an Institutional Partner under this RFQ shall not, by itself, create any obligation on the Institutional Partner to provide financial contribution towards the project, unless otherwise agreed under a separate arrangement.
b) The arrangements relating to industry contribution, resource mobilization, financial participation, and utilization of funds shall be governed by the applicable agreements executed among the concerned stakeholders and the PM-SETU Guidelines.

6) Implementation Arrangement

a) Implementation of approved ITI Clusters under PM-SETU shall be undertaken in accordance with the PM-SETU Guidelines, the approved Strategic Investment Plan (SIP), and the applicable agreements executed among the concerned stakeholders.
b) An empanelled Institutional Partner may act as the Anchor Industry Partner (AIP) and collaborate with Industries, including Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), industry conglomerates, corporate entities, industry associations, or other eligible organizations, for implementation of an ITI Cluster under PM-SETU.
c) The Institutional Partner acting as the AIP and the Industry Partner(s) may jointly prepare and submit the Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) for the proposed ITI Cluster in accordance with the PM-SETU Guidelines.
d) The Industry Partner(s) shall provide the prescribed industry contribution, including the minimum contribution required under the PM-SETU Scheme, and may support the project through industry expertise, technical collaboration, mentorship, apprenticeship opportunities, placement support, and other forms of industry participation.
e) Upon approval of the SIP, the Institutional Partner acting as the AIP shall be responsible for incorporation, management, and operation of the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) in accordance with the PM-SETU Guidelines and applicable laws.
f) The Institutional Partner acting as the AIP shall execute the Shareholders' Agreement (SHA), Licence Agreement (LA), and other implementation agreements, as applicable, and shall be responsible for governance, management, implementation, monitoring, and reporting of the approved project through the SPV.
g) The Institutional Partner acting as the AIP shall hold and manage the shareholding in the SPV allocated to the Anchor Industry Partner in accordance with the approved implementation framework, the Shareholders' Agreement (SHA), and the PM-SETU Guidelines.
h) The Industry Partner(s) shall not be required to hold equity or shareholding in the SPV merely by virtue of providing the industry contribution. However, the Industry Partner(s) may nominate representative(s) to the SPV Board or other governance bodies, as provided under the applicable agreements and the PM-SETU Guidelines.
i) The detailed roles, responsibilities, deliverables, financial commitments, governance arrangements, performance obligations, and implementation framework applicable to

the Institutional Partner, Industry Partner(s), SPV, and other stakeholders shall be governed by the approved SIP, the Shareholders' Agreement (SHA), the Licence Agreement (LA), other applicable project agreements, and the PM-SETU Guidelines, as amended from time to time.

Section- 5: Application Submission Forms

Form-1

Covering Letter Format

To:

Subject: Submission of Application for Empanelment as Institutional Partner under PM-SETU

Sir/Madam,

We, [Name of the Organization], hereby submit our Application for empanelment as Institutional Partners for implementation of Industrial Training Institute (ITI) Clusters under the PM-SETU Scheme, in accordance with the provisions of this RFQ.

We confirm that:

a) We have carefully examined and understood the provisions of this RFQ and agree to abide by its terms and conditions.
b) All information and documents submitted as part of this Application are true, correct, complete, and authentic to the best of our knowledge and belief.
c) We satisfy all the eligibility and qualification criteria prescribed in this RFQ.
d) We possess the necessary legal status, technical capability, institutional capacity, financial strength, and organizational resources required for empanelment under this RFQ.
e) We have not been blacklisted, debarred, declared ineligible, or otherwise prohibited from participating in procurement or empanelment processes by the Government of India, any State Government, any Government agency, Public Sector Undertaking, statutory authority, or any Multilateral Development Bank (including the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank) as on the last date of submission of this Application.
f) We are not under liquidation, insolvency, bankruptcy, receivership, or any similar proceedings, nor have we made any assignment for the benefit of creditors.
g) We have no conflict of interest that would affect our participation in this empanelment process or the performance of our responsibilities under the PM-SETU Scheme.
h) We undertake to promptly inform the Authority of any material change in the information provided in this Application until completion of the empanelment process.
i) We understand that empanelment under this RFQ does not guarantee allocation of any ITI Cluster, assignment, or project, and that any future engagement shall be subject to the applicable PM-SETU Guidelines, approval of the Strategic Investment Plan (SIP), and other applicable procedures.
j) We understand that if any information furnished by us is found to be false, misleading, or incorrect at any stage, the Authority may reject our application, cancel our empanelment, and take any other action deemed appropriate.

We further understand that the Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any Application or to annul the empanelment process at any stage without assigning any reason.

We hereby authorize [Name of Authorized Signatory], [Designation], to act on our behalf, sign documents, furnish clarifications, and represent us in connection with this Application.

Yours faithfully,

Authorized Signatory
Name:
Designation:
Organization:
Seal:

Form-2

Institutional Profile

Sl. No	Information Required	Details/Attachment Reference
1	Name of Organization	
2	Type of Organization	
3	Year of Incorporation	
4	Registered Office Address	
5	Contact Person (Name, Designation, Email, Phone)	
6	Brief Profile of the Organization	Attach organogram
7	Nature of Business / Sector	Attach certificates
8	Relevant Experience as per eligibility criteria	
9	Experience in Skill Development, Training, Apprenticeship, CSR, Workforce Development or Educational Initiatives (if any)	Attach project list
10	Existing Collaborations with Government, Educational Institutions or Skill Development Organizations	Attach MoUs/Letters
11	Financial Strength (Annual Turnover Receipt)	Attach Audited Financial Statements / CA Certificate
12	Awards / Recognitions / Major Achievements	Attach audited statements
13	PAN and GST Registration Details	Attach Certificates
14	Authorized Representative for this RFQ	Name, Designation, Email & Phone

Name of authorized person

Designation

Authorized Signatory: ____________________

Name & Designation: ____________________

For and on behalf of Applicant: ____________________

(Seal of the Firm):

Form-3

Declaration for non-debarment

(On bidder's letter head)

Date :

To

This is to (hereby confirms that M/S ----------------------------(name of the firm) have not been sanctioned under the World Bank and Asian Development Bank system of debarment and cross-debarment.

Should this declaration found to be false then Borrower has the right to declare the proposal /bid as non-responsive.

With Regards

Name of authorized person

Designation

Authorized Signatory: ____________________

Name & Designation: ____________________

For and on behalf of Applicant: ____________________

(Seal of the Firm)

Form-4

Certification of Turnover /Financial Capability
(On the letterhead of the Chartered Accountant)

Date: ____________________

To:

Subject: Certificate of Turnover

This is to certify that we have examined the audited financial statements, books of accounts, and other relevant records of M/s __________________________ [Name of Applicant], having its registered office at ____________________________.

Based on our examination and according to the information and explanations furnished to us, we hereby certify that the Turnover/Gross Receipts of the Applicant for the financial years indicated below are as follows:

Financial Year	Turnover / Gross Receipts (Rs. in Lakhs)
2022-23	
2023-24	
2024-25	

Chartered Accountant's Certification

We certify that the above information is true and correct based on the audited financial statements and records produced before us.

Chartered Accountant Details:

Signature: ____________________
Name: ________________________
Designation: __________________
Membership Number: ___________
Date: ________________________
Company Seal: _________________
Business Address: _____________

UDIN :

Form-5

Power of Attorney for Signing and Submission of Application

(On Non-Judicial Stamp Paper of appropriate value)

Know all persons by these presents:

We, [Name of the Applicant Organization], having our registered office at [Address] (hereinafter referred to as the "Applicant"), do hereby irrevocably constitute, nominate, appoint and authorize *Mr./Ms. [Name of Authorized Signatory]*, son/daughter/wife of *[Name],* residing at *[Address],* who is presently employed with us and holding the position of *[Designation]*, as our true and lawful attorney (hereinafter referred to as the "Attorney") to do in our name and on our behalf all such acts, deeds and things as are necessary or required in connection with or incidental to submission of our Application in response to the Expression of Interest (RFQ) for Empanelment of Industries as Institutional Partners under PM-SETU, including but not limited to the following:

1. Signing and submission of the application, forms, annexures, undertakings, and all other related documents;
2. Providing clarifications / information and responding to queries raised by the Authority;
3. Participating in meetings, presentations, or discussions, if required;
4. Representing the Applicant in all matters related to the empanelment process;
5. Executing declarations, undertakings, and agreements, if required, pursuant to empanelment; and
6. Generally dealing with all matters in connection with or relating to the RFQ and empanelment process.

We hereby agree to ratify and confirm all acts, deeds and things done or caused to be done by our said Attorney pursuant to and in exercise of the powers conferred by this Power of Attorney.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we, [Name of the Applicant], the above-named Principal, have executed this Power of Attorney on this [Date].

For [Name of the Applicant]
(Signature, Name, Designation, and Address of Authorized Signatory/Competent Authority)

Witnesses:
Accepted by:

(Signature, Name, Designation, and Address of the Attorney)

Notarized

Notes:
The Power of Attorney shall be executed in accordance with the applicable laws and the internal authorization procedures of the Applicant, such as a Board Resolution or other valid authorization, as applicable.
The Applicant shall submit supporting documents such as Board Resolution / Authorization Letter evidencing the authority of the person issuing this Power of Attorney.

Form-6

Write-up on Understanding of the PM-SETU Scheme and Proposed Approach for Implementation as Institutional Partner

1. Understanding of the PM-SETU Scheme

Provide a brief understanding of the objectives, implementation framework, key features, and expected outcomes of the PM-SETU Scheme.

2. Understanding of the Role of the Institutional Partner

Describe your understanding of the role and responsibilities of the Institutional Partner/Anchor Industry Partner (AIP) under the PM-SETU Scheme.

3. Proposed Implementation Approach

Briefly describe the proposed approach for implementation of an ITI Cluster, including preparation and implementation of the Strategic Investment Plan (SIP), management of the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), coordination with stakeholders, and institutional strengthening

4. Industry Engagement and Employability Strategy

Describe the proposed strategy for:

- Industry collaboration;
- Apprenticeship and on-the-job training;
- Placement and employability enhancement; and
- Alignment of training with industry requirements.

5. Innovation and Value Addition

Briefly describe any innovative practices, technology interventions, digital initiatives, or other value additions proposed for successful implementation of the PM-SETU Scheme.

6. Risk Assessment and Mitigation

Identify key implementation risks and briefly describe the proposed mitigation measures.

7. Key Strengths of the Applicant

Briefly highlight the Applicant's institutional strengths, relevant experience, technical capability, and other competencies that would support successful implementation of the PM-SETU Scheme.

Authorized Signatory

Name: ____________________________

Designation: ______________________

Organization: _____________________

Date: ____________________________

Seal of the Applicant

Note:

1. The write-up shall be **concise** and **not exceed ten (10) pages** (excluding annexures, if any).
2. The Applicant may include diagrams, flowcharts, or illustrations, wherever considered appropriate.
3. The information furnished in this Form shall be used by the Authority for assessing the Applicant's understanding of the PM-SETU Scheme and its proposed approach for performing the role of the Institutional Partner.

Appendix-1

PM-SETU-Guidelines-Component-I-Upgradation-of-ITIs

https://dgt.gov.in/sites/default/files/2025-10/PM-SETU-Guidelines-Component-I-Upgradation-of-ITIs.pdf

Appendix- 2

Code of Integrity and Applicable Anti-corruption Guidelines

The WB "Guidelines on Preventing and Combating Fraud and Corruption in Program for Results Financing" dated February 1, 2012, and revised on July 10, 2015, and ADB's Anticorruption Policy dated July 1998, as amended from time to time (collectively referred to as the "Guidelines".) shall apply to this activity which is within the Program Boundary. Accordingly, the following shall be applicable:

(i) Bidder shall prepare and furnish to the Borrower and/or the Bank, all such information that the Borrower, and/or the Bank shall reasonably request in relation to the Program.

(ii) Bidder shall accept the carrying out of inspections by the Borrower and/or the Bank for the monitoring of, and in relation to, the carrying out of the activities under the Program.

(iii) Any inquiries conducted by the Bank pursuant to these Guidelines are administrative in nature, for the purpose of determining compliance with the Bank's policies, directives, and procedures. Inquiries include, but are not limited to, the review of relevant accounts, records and other documents, and interviews with relevant persons.

(iv) The Guidelines address the following defined practices in connection with the Program:[1]

(a) A "corrupt practice" is the offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting, directly or indirectly, of anything of value to influence improperly the actions of another party.[2]

(b) A "fraudulent practice" is any act or omission, including a misrepresentation, that knowingly or recklessly[3] misleads, or attempts to mislead, a party to obtain a financial or other benefit or to avoid an obligation.

(c) A "collusive practice" is an arrangement between two or more parties designed to achieve an improper purpose, including to influence improperly the actions of another party.

(d) A "coercive practice" is impairing or harming, or threatening to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any party or the property of the party to influence improperly the actions of a party.

(e) An "obstructive practice" is (i) deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering or concealing of evidence material to the investigation or making false statements to investigators in order to materially impede a Bank investigation[10] into

[1] Unless otherwise specified in the Loan Agreement, whenever these terms are used in the Loan Agreement, including in the applicable General Conditions, they have the meanings set out in paragraph 4 of these Guidelines.

[2] Typical examples of corrupt practice include bribery and "kickbacks."

[3] To act "knowingly or recklessly," the fraudulent actor must either know that the information or impression being conveyed is false, or be recklessly indifferent as to whether it is true or false. Mere inaccuracy in such information or impression, committed through simple negligence, is not enough to constitute fraudulent practice. [10] As used in the definition of "obstructive practice", the term "investigation" includes any inquiry undertaken under these Guidelines.

allegations of a corrupt, fraudulent, coercive, or collusive practice; and/or threatening, harassing or intimidating any party to prevent it from disclosing its knowledge of matters relevant to the investigation or from pursuing the investigation, or (ii) acts intended to materially impede the exercise of the Bank's contractual rights of audit or access to information.

(f) "abuse" means theft, waste or improper use of assets related to ADB-related activity, either committed intentionally or through reckless disregard.

(g) "Conflict of interest" means any situation in which a party has interests that could improperly influence that party's performance of official duties or responsibilities contractual obligations, or compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

(h) "integrity violation" is any act, as defined under ADB's Integrity Principles and Guidelines (2015, as amended from time to time) which violates ADB's Anticorruption Policy (1998, as amended from time to time), including (a) to (g) above, and the following: violations of WB and ADB sanctions, retaliation against whistleblowers or witnesses, and other violations of ADB's Anticorruption Policy (1998, as amended from time to time), including failure to adhere to the highest ethical standard.

The above practices, as so defined, are referred to collectively in these Guidelines as "Fraud and Corruption."

(v) Ensure that Bid document includes a self-declaration which will be signed and submitted by the bidder that the firm is not subject to ineligibility or has not been sanctioned under the Bank system of debarment and cross-debarment The Bidder is required to fill up the declaration as provided below:

Letter of Acceptance of the World Bank's Anticorruption Guidelines and Sanctions Framework

Date:

Invitation of Bids/Proposals No.

To:

We, along with our sub-contractors, sub-applicants, service providers, suppliers, agents (whether declared or not) applicants and personnel, acknowledge and agree to abide by the World Bank's policy regarding Fraud and Corruption (corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive, and obstructive practices), as set out and defined in the World Bank's Anti-Corruption Guidelines[2] in connection with the procurement and execution of the contract (in case of award), including any amendments thereto.

We declare and warrant that we, along our sub-contractors, sub-applicants, service providers, suppliers, agents (whether declared or not), applicants and personnel, are not subject to, and are not controlled by any entity or individual that is subject to, a temporary suspension, early temporary suspension, or debarment imposed by a member of the World Bank Group, including, inter alia, a cross-debarment imposed by the World Bank Group as agreed with other international financial institutions (including multilateral development banks), or through the application of a World Bank Group finding of non-responsibility on the basis of Fraud and Corruption in connection with World Bank Group corporate procurement. Further, we are not ineligible under the laws or official regulations of [Insert name of Employer as per bidding document] or pursuant to a decision of the United Nations Security Council.

We confirm our understanding of the consequences of not complying with the World Bank's Anti-Corruption Guidelines, which may include the following:

a. rejection of our Proposal/Bid for award of contract;

b. in the case of award, termination of the contract, without prejudice to any other remedy for breach of contract; and

c. sanctions, pursuant to the Bank's Anti-Corruption Guidelines and in accordance with its prevailing sanctions policies and procedures as set forth in the Bank's Sanctions Framework. This may include a public declaration of ineligibility, either indefinitely or for a stated period of time, (i) to be awarded or otherwise benefit from a Bank-financed

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1This document shall be signed by each bidder/proposer/applicant and submitted as part of its bid/proposal. In case of award, this document shall be subsequently form an integral part of the awarded contract.

2Guidelines on Preventing and Combating Fraud and Corruption in Program for results financing, Dated February 1, 2012 and Revised July 10, 2015, as they may be revised from time to time.

contract, financially or in any other manner; [3] (ii) to be a nominated[4] sub-contractor, sub applicant, applicant, manufacturer or supplier, or service provider of an otherwise eligible firm being awarded a Bank-financed contract; and (iii) to receive the proceeds of any loan made by the Bank or otherwise to participate further in the preparation or implementation of any Bank-financed project.

We understand that we may be declared ineligible as set out above upon:

a. completion of World Bank Group sanctions proceedings according to its prevailing sanctions procedures;

b. cross-debarment as agreed with other international financial institutions (including multilateral development banks);

c. the application of a World Bank Group finding of non-responsibility on the basis of Fraud and Corruption in connection with World Bank Group corporate procurement; or

d. temporary suspension or early temporary suspension in connection with an ongoing World Bank Group sanctions proceeding.

For avoidance of doubt, the foregoing effects of ineligibility do not extend to a sanctioned firm's or individual's execution of its ongoing Bank-financed contracts (or its ongoing sub-agreements under such contracts) that are not the subject of a material modification, as determined by the Bank.

We shall permit, and shall cause our sub-contractors, sub-applicants, agents (whether declared or not), personnel, applicants, service providers or suppliers, to permit the Bank to inspect[5] all accounts, records, and other documents relating to the procurement process and/or contract execution (in the case of award), and to have them audited by auditors appointed by the Bank.

We agree to preserve all accounts, records, and other documents (whether in hard copy or electronic format) related to the procurement and execution of the contract.

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3 For the avoidance of doubt, a sanctioned party's ineligibility to be awarded a contract shall include, without limitation, (i) applying for pre-qualification or initial selection), expressing interest in a consultancy, and bidding, either directly or as a nominated sub-contractor, nominated applicant, nominated manufacturer or supplier, or nominated service provider, in respect of such contract, and (ii) entering into an addendum or amendment introducing a material modification to any existing contract.

4 A nominated sub-contractor, nominated applicant, nominated manufacturer or supplier, or nominated service provider (different names are used depending on the bidding document) is one which has been: (i) included by the bidder in its pre-qualification or initial selection application or bid because it brings specific and critical experience and know-how that allow the bidder to meet the qualification requirements for the particular bid; or (ii) appointed by the Borrower.

5 Inspections in this context are usually investigative (i.e., forensic) in nature: they involve fact-finding activities undertaken by the Bank or persons appointed by the Bank to address specific matters related to investigations/audits, such as evaluating the veracity of an allegation of possible Fraud and Corruption, through the appropriate mechanisms. Such activity includes but is not limited to accessing and examining a firm's or individual's financial records and information, and making copies thereof as relevant; accessing and examining any other documents, data, and information (whether in hard copy or electronic format) deemed relevant for the investigation/audit, and making copies thereof as relevant; interviewing staff and other relevant individuals; performing physical inspections and site visits; and obtaining third-party verification of information.

Signature of Authorized Person
Name of the Bidder/Proposer/Applicant:
Name of the person duly authorized to sign the Bid/Proposal on behalf of the Bidder/Proposer/ Applicant:
Title of the person signing the Letter: