19-01-2023

Subject: Second re-tender to procure an Ultra-High Resolution Analytical Transmission Electron Microscope with Field Emission Source for CRF on buy back basis

Ref: Retender Enquiry No. IIT/CRF/ENQ/2022-23/HRTEM-01 dated 19-01-2023


For the procurement of the Ultra-High Resolution Analytical Transmission Electron Microscope with Field Emission Source for CRF on buy back basis, the tender as referred above was brought out on 27-06-2022. A pre-bid meeting attended by the representatives of Indian subsidiaries of both the global manufacturers, i.e. JEOL, Japan and ThermoFisher, USA was held on 15-07-2022, and a corrigendum based on the modifications (suggested during the pre-bid meeting) was published on 29-07-2022, with the date for submission of bids being extended by two weeks to 09-09-2022 in response to the request made by the Vendors. No quotation was received from any of the Vendors on the due date (09-09-2022) of the first tender, and both the parties expressed their inability to submit and requested for an extension just before the bid-opening date for undisclosed reasons. Subsequently, a re-tender was carried out with the approval of the Competent Authority on 21-09-2023. Against the re-tender referred, the bids were received from the Indian subsidiaries of both ThermoFisher, USA and JEOL, Japan on 19-10-2022, and the technical bids were opened. On evaluation of the technical bids and seeking multiple clarifications through email exchanges, deviations from specifications were found for both the participating Vendors. Such non-compliance with the specifications is considered to have occurred due to the oversight along with misinterpretation of the tender requirements/specifications by the Vendors.

As a result of the non-compliance by both the Vendors for some of the technical requirements, it has become necessary to further make minor modifications in the specifications in order to match with those of the products available with the participating Vendors as well as to improve the clarity further to avoid possibility of misinterpretation. Having deliberated on this issue further, the Technical-Cum-Purchase Committee has recommended for a retender with specifications having minor revisions wherever required, and this has been subsequently approved by the Competent Authority. It is expected that the Retender will permit the participating Vendors to understand the specifications clearly and come up with their best offers.

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