

THE PLANTATION CORPORATION OF KERALA LTD

(An ISO 9001:2015 Certified Company under Government of Kerala)

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Inviting Expression of Interest/Technical Bids for establishing Solar Power Plants

Plantation Corporation of Kerala Ltd., Kottayam invites Expression of Interest (EOI)/Technical Bids from competent agencies for developing Solar Power Projects at its Kasaragod and Cheemeni estates in Kasaragod district, Kerala.

Introduction

Plantation Corporation of Kerala Ltd. (PCK) is a Public Sector Undertaking under the Department of Agriculture, Government of Kerala. Established in 1962, PCK is registered as a Private Limited Company, fully owned by the State Government and its primary business is cultivating various plantation crops. Presently the company has an annual turnover of around Rs. 85 cr. Articles of Association of PCK allow it to take up other types of commercial projects.

PCK holds a total of 14,135 ha of estates (plantations) in different parts of Kerala. Most of the land is leased from the Forest Department (11,480 ha) and Revenue Department (799 ha). PCK has two estates in Kasaragod district, namely Kasaragod and Cheemeni estates that are PCK's own land. There is considerable extent of non-arable, hard laterite rocky land in these estates. Such lands are well-drained plain areas, receive abundant sunlight and are suitable for solar power generation.

Why the proposed projects: India is a signatory to almost all international agreements on climate change adopted in the past three decades. The NDCs submitted by India to the Paris Agreement include a commitment to reduce the carbon intensity of the GDP by 33-35% from 2005 levels and achieve about 40% electric power production from non-fossil fuel based renewable energy sources by 2030. India has also expressed its ambition to become a net zero emitter by 2070.

To achieve these targets, it is imperative for the country to move towards a low carbon growth trajectory. Power is critical to industrial and economic growth and India still has a large dependence on fossil fuels in power generation. Contributing more than 33% of the national greenhouse gas emission annually, power sector is the single largest emitter of greenhouse gas emission in the country.

To achieve the country’s greenhouse gas emission reduction targets without compromising economic growth, it is essential to increase the share of non-emitting and renewable forms of energy such as solar power. Investing in solar power not only supports environmental sustainability and India’s international commitments in various climate treaties but also brings economic benefits, job creation and technological advancement.

PCK has identified one site each in Kasaragod 32 ha, 20 MW and Cheemeni 70 ha, 30 MW estates run by PCK that are congenial for establishing Solar Power Projects. Once commissioned, these two projects will contribute substantially to Kerala’s renewable energy production capacity and help bring down emissions from the power sector in the state apart from generating much needed revenue from the mostly barren land which is otherwise not yielding any significant returns for PCK as of now.

Hence PCK seeks technically proficient and financially sound bidders to ensure these projects’ timely implantation and long-term success and sustainability.

Project Overview

Location	*Capacity	*Area and terrain	Land ownership
Kasaragod estate, Kasaragod district	20 MW	32 ha, Hard laterite, plain	PCK’s own land
Cheemeni estate, Kasaragod district	30 MW	70 ha, Hard laterite, plain	PCK’s own land

*Approximate estimates

Objectives

The projects aim for efficient and sustainable production of solar power from the above two sites for the entire duration of the projects, ensuring a stream of regular income from the mostly non-arable land which is not yielding any significant revenue now.

Bidding Process

A two-bid system comprising of technical and financial bids will be implemented. Prospective bidders may now submit their Expression of Interest/Technical Bids for the two projects. Only those technical bids that qualify the eligibility criteria will be asked to submit their financial bids which will be considered for final evaluation/selection. The final selection will typically favor the highest financial bid, subject to techno-commercial considerations.

Eligibility Criteria for Expression of Interest/Technical Bids

Sl.	Bidders should meet the following requirements while submitting their	Documents to be submitted with
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No.	EOI/Technical Bids	EOI/Technical Bids
1	Authorization to undertake solar power projects in India	Appropriate document
2	Eligible entities: Single company, Joint Company, SPVs, JVs etc.	Proof of entity
3	At least one Indian shareholder should have a minimum 25% stake (in the case of foreign bidders)	Proof of shareholding
4	Experience in solar power generation with a minimum capacity of 10 MW (for the 20 MW project) and 20 W (for the 30 MW project)	Project documentation and proof of capacity
5	Annual turnover: Rs. 30 cr (for the 20 MW project) and Rs. 50 cr (for the 30 MW project)	Financial statements certified by a Chartered Accountant
6	Presence of office and service facilities in India	Office documentation
7	Team: At least 2 Electrical Engineers with 2 years of experience in Solar Power Plant implementation, 1 Civil Engineer with 5 years of experience	Proof of qualification and employment

Additional Conditions

Blacklisted companies are not eligible.

Project life span is 25 years from the date of signing the agreement.

Early commissioning of the project is preferred, and the major milestones should be indicated in the technical bid.

Entire risk and cost of the projects will be the responsibility of the bidder.

Bidders should ensure there is no environmental pollution.

At the end of the project, sites should be restored to pre-project conditions with no damage.

PCK reserves the right to negotiate with qualified bidders and the decision will be final.

Successful bidder will generate, store and sell the power at its own risk and costs.

All statutory permits and approvals for the same and all statutory payments to its employees and workers will be borne by the successful bidder and PCK will have no role nor responsibility in the same.

PCK will not be responsible for any loss or damage to people or property or environment as part of this project which will rest entirely on the successful bidder.

PCK reserves the right to terminate the bidding process at any time without citing any reasons and no bidder will have any right to challenge or seek any kind of explanation or compensation for any inconveniences or damages caused by this action.

Submission of Expression of Interest/Technical Bids

Interested parties who will meet the eligibility criteria and agree to abide by the conditions given above may submit their Expression of Interest/Technical Bids detailing their technical competency, qualifications, previous experience and alignment with the various criteria and conditions outlined here. Separate Bids may be submitted for each project. Last date for submission of Expression of Interest/Technical Bids: 15.01.2025 5 PM.

Expression of Interest/Technical Bids will be opened at 3 PM on 17.01.2025 at PCK Head Office at Kottayam.

No financial bid should be submitted along with Expression of Interest/Technical Bids. Prospective bidders are encouraged to inspect the sites before submitting Expression of Interest/Technical Bids.

Pre-bid Meeting and Site Inspection

Those bidders whose Expression of Interest/Technical Bids meeting the eligibility criteria will be invited to a pre-bid meeting and site inspection. Attendance in the pre-bid meeting and site inspection are mandatory for submission of financial bids. Bidders must independently assess the suitability of the proposed sites for power generation, power generation capacity, etc.

For further information may contact :

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