

Expression of Interest

For running Govt. Timber Treatment & Seasoning Plant, Makum, Tinsukia.

Forest Department, Government of Assam proposes to associate with private partner for operation and maintenance of the Govt. Timber Treatment & Seasoning Plant located at Makum, Tinsukia District. Offers are invited from the reputed Companies/ agencies having experience in running such plants. At present the TTS Plant consists of six units viz. Seasoning Plant, Treatment Plant, Saw Mill Unit, Clamp Factory, Joinery Unit & Bamboo Plant available. The details are available at <https://www.apfbc.nic.in>

Eligibility Criteria

Interested bidders should meet the following eligibility criteria to participate in the bidding process:

- A minimum experience of five years in the relevant field.
- Minimum average turnover of Rs 2.00 crore/year in the last three year

Bids for operating the Plant as a whole and/or individual units may be submitted. DFO TTS Plant can be contacted for visiting the site.

Issue and Receipt of Offer

The offer supported with relevant documents including details of current business profile highlighting financial turnover, manpower, infrastructure and relevant past experience to be submitted in sealed cover to the Project Director, PMU, APFBC, Aranya Bhawan, Panjabari, Guwahati, Assam on or before 28th July, 2016. 3 pm. Assam Forest Department reserves the right to reject any or all EOIs received without assigning any reason thereof.

Evaluation Criteria

The Selection process will be as follows:

1. Short listing based on the eligibility criteria of EOI
2. Selected entity will be invited for technical presentation and pre-bid meeting to be intimated separately through email.
3. Detail proposal would be invited from the qualified shortlisted entities through issue of RFP.

In case of any clarification, please contact:

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Details of the Govt Timber Treatment and Seasoning Plant (TTS), Makum, Tinsukia, Assam

A. Infrastructure available

The TTS Plant consists of six units as listed below:

1. **Seasoning Plant:** Established in the year 1966 and started functioning from 1967. It has 8 chambers with total capacity of seasoning 150 cum of timber veneer. At present 3 chambers needs total repairing and 2 nos. partial repairing.
2. **Treatment Plant:** Minimum capacity – 9.0 cum at a time.
3. **Saw Mill Unit:-** Established during 1978 – 80 and is still functioning. The unit consists of Horizontal saw, Vertical saw, Cross cut saw and Grinder machine.
4. **Clamp Factory:** Established in 1976, but due to conversion of wooden sleeper to concrete sleeper by Railway Department this unit is not in service.
5. **Joinery Unit:** Established in 1986-87. Generally furniture such as Desk – Bench, Sofa set and building materials like door, window and ventilator frames including panel door as well as batten door are done here. The unit has Grooving machines, Mini band saw, Thickness planner, Surface planner, Chain chisel, Hand drill machine, Circular saw, Lathe machine, Sanding machine, Grinding machine and Stand grill.
6. **Bamboo Plant:** Established in 2008 with the aim of helping SHG and village people in value addition to bamboo. It has Dipper tank – for treatment of bamboo; Two side planer; Bamboo stick making and Grinder. It needs Splitter, stick cutting and Stick polishing machines to be a complete unit.

B. Present manpower

In addition to the equipment, the TTS Plant – at par with a Forest Division, is headed by a DFO with a sanctioned strength of Range Officer- 2 nos, Forester I – 4 nos, Forest Guard – 7 nos, Foreman – 1, Cylinder Operator – 2, Mechanic cum B/Man – 1 no, Kiln Operator – 3 nos, Fitter – 1 no, Crane operator – 1no, boiler attendant – 5 nos, driver – 2 nos, in addition to casual labor and office clerical staff – a total number of 53.

C. The Proposition

The saw mill has been dependent on nearby Territorial Divisions to allot round timber (Hard & soft wood) but the supply is very irregular and not sustained enough to run the Plant full capacity and economically. Though the units are being maintained regularly, some of the machines are old and some need repairing/ overhauling.

- i. An expression of interest is solicited to explore the scope of rejuvenating the seasoning and treatment plant which has tremendous potential if charged with new technology and run on a viable business model. The bamboo unit is definitely viable and can be upscaled to production of high end furniture and other value added products as a hub of Rural Artisanship and livelihoods.
- ii. The units which are found to be not economically viable may be converted to a museum as a heritage of Assam Forest Dept. This could form part of a tourist circuit in Upper

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Assam including the nearby Dibru Saikhowa WLS and the rain forests of Jeypore Reserve.

iii. The proposal should cover inter alia ways and means for:

- Economic viability of existing infrastructure for running the plant on a sustained basis as a business enterprise
- Upgradation of equipment as and where required
- Estimation and establishment of sustained source of raw timber/bamboo
- Capacity building of existing staff
- Establish permanent supplier – user (market) linkage
- Establish a museum to showcase heritage of Assam Forest Department