EoI No. ICMR/EoI/Multiplex/2026 dated 9th January 2026

Invitation for Expression of Interest (EoI)

Development of Real Time Multiplex Molecular Diagnostic Assays Detecting Priority Pathogens Causing Critical Infectious Syndromes in India

By ICMR-Hqrs

Indian Council of Medical Research
(Department of Health Research, GoI)
V. Ramalingaswami Bhawan,
P.O. Box No. 4911, Ansari Nagar,
New Delhi - 110029, India

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Letter of Invitation

1. Invitation for Expression of Interest

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi invites Expression of Interest (EoI) from eligible organizations, companies, manufacturers for undertaking "**Development of Real Time Multiplex Molecular Diagnostic Assays Detecting Priority Pathogens Causing Critical Infectious Syndromes in India**".

The EoI document containing the details of qualification criteria, submission details, brief objective & scope of work and evaluation criteria etc. can be downloaded from the ICMR website (https://www.icmr.gov.in).

Schedule for the Proponents is as under:

EoI Document Number	**ICMR/EoI/Multiplex/2026**
Date of Publication	Date: 9th January 2026
Last date of submission	Date: 25th January 2026

Note:
Interested applicants may please send their proposals in a sealed envelope to the following address:

Dr. Labanya Mukhopadhyay
Scientist C
Communicable Disease Division
Indian Council of Medical Research
V. Ramalingaswami Bhawan
P. O. Box No. 4911,
Ansari Nagar, New Delhi - 110029, India.

The EoI Document No. **"ICMR/EoI/Multiplex/2026**", along with the title of the EoI as "**EoI for Development of Real Time Multiplex Molecular Diagnostic Assays Detecting Priority Pathogens**" in **Bold,** and **complete address as above** must be clearly mentioned on the sealed envelope.

ICMR reserves the right to cancel this EoI and/or invite afresh with or without amendments, without liability or any obligation for such EoI and without assigning any reason. Information provided at this stage is indicative and ICMR reserves the right to amend/add any further details in the EoI, as may be desired by the Competent Authority ICMR and duly notified on its website.

2. Background

The laboratory testing algorithms for infectious diseases currently followed in India are varied, institute/region-specific, and largely directed towards individual diseases with sequential testing, with limited availability of scientific literature on countrywide prevalence and trends of pathogens to guide India-specific surveillance and testing policies. Consequently, pathogen testing in clinical microbiology laboratories differs as per institutional requirements and available laboratory resources, often missing out on common/critical pathogens, thereby hampering patient care and aggravating public health problems such as antimicrobial resistance. To address this issue, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi, the apex body in India for the formulation, coordination and promotion of biomedical research, has listed important pathogens causing critical infectious syndromes in the country, in an effort to guide patient management, public health policies, and biomedical R&D.

The priority pathogen lists for ***Acute Febrile Illness (including Acute Undifferentiated Fever, Fever with Rash, Fever with Lymphadenopathy), Acute Encephalitis Syndrome, Acute Respiratory Illness, and Acute Diarrhoeal Disease*** have been developed in consultation with eminent clinicians, laboratory experts, and epidemiologists from across the country over a series of meetings ***(URL: https://www.icmr.gov.in/icmrobject/uploads/Static/1762753179_syndromesurveillanceofinfectiousdiseases.pdf)***. Working groups of subject experts have conducted extensive review of literature from India and other similar settings, and drawn on their individual experiences to draft syndrome-wise lists of priority pathogens based on their prevalence, trends, outbreak potential, disease elimination targets, and availability of diagnostics/therapeutics. These lists have been reviewed, edited and approved by eminent review committee members. ICMR intends to support the development of diagnostic kits detecting these priority pathogens for public health use in India.

ICMR now invites this Expression of Interest (EoI) from applicants for development of syndrome-specific multiplex real time molecular diagnostic assays targeting Priority 1 pathogens causing these infectious syndromes. ICMR is lawfully entitled to enter into any form of **exclusive/non-exclusive agreements** with eligible indigenous manufacturers having R&D facility / indigenous manufacturer working in collaboration with academia / academic facility with collaborative industry partner, hereinafter referred to as the **"Applicant",** through a defined agreement for "**Development of Real Time Multiplex Molecular Diagnostic Assays Detecting Priority Pathogens" with GMP certification**, hereinafter referred to as **'Product(s)'.**

3. Objective

To facilitate "**Development of Real Time Multiplex Molecular Diagnostic Assays Detecting Priority Pathogens"** through indigenous **"Applicant"**.

ICMR will facilitate the process of GMP-certified "Product" development till TRL-6 (Test License), followed by "Product" Performance Evaluation (TRL-7) for CDSCO approval (TRL-8).

4. Scope of Work

i. ICMR is willing to provide overarching technical guidance to eligible "Applicant" to facilitate

"**Development of Real Time Multiplex Molecular Diagnostic Assays Detecting Priority Pathogens"** with GMP certification till TRL-6 (obtaining Test License).

ii. Financial support is envisaged under this joint collaboration for the development of GMP-certified Real Time Multiplex Molecular Diagnostic Assays for the detection of priority pathogens. The quantum of funding will be decided on project to project basis, as per the discretion of competent authority of ICMR.

iii. ICMR may adopt a "Non- Exclusive" approach by engaging single/multiple "**Applicant(s)**" to enable development of multiple "**Product(s)**" for societal benefit and public health use.

iv. ICMR will execute a Memorandum of Agreement with the "**Applicant**", depicting commitment from both the partners for "**Development of Real Time Multiplex Molecular Diagnostic Assays Detecting Priority Pathogens"** with GMP certification till TRL-6.

v. The "**Applicant"** shall undertake development of syndrome-wise **cost-effective** "**Product**" that is capable of detecting 80-100% Priority 1 pathogens from ICMR's lists.

vi. Once a prototype GMP-certified "**Product**" is developed, the "**Applicant**" shall undertake internal validation, and the data shall be shared by the "**Applicant**" with ICMR. If the internal validation data is found to be robust, the "**Applicant**" shall apply for a Test License (TRL-6) on the "**Product**".

vii. The "**Applicant**" shall ensure TRL-6 on the "Product(s)" is achieved within 6 months of funding. Extension may be granted based on the progress of work by the competent authority of ICMR.

viii. Once Test License is obtained, ICMR will facilitate performance evaluation of the "**Product**" (TRL-7) for CDSCO approval (TRL-8).

ix. The "**Applicant**" shall be willing to modify the assay design as per latest needs depending on emerging syndromic surveillance data.

Role of ICMR

i. ICMR will provide financial assistance to the "**Applicant**" for "**Product**" development through milestone-based approach till "Test License" is obtained (TRL-6), unless otherwise specified.

ii. ICMR will provide overarching technical support in "Product" development and will also facilitate its performance evaluation (TRL-7) for CDSCO approval (TRL-8), if required, as per the terms & conditions of the Agreement.

Role of Applicant

i. The **Applicant** shall have valid provisions for necessary infrastructure/material/manpower required for "**Product**" development, manufacturing, performance evaluation, and commercialization, either directly or otherwise.

ii. The "**Applicant"** shall have provisions to scale-up manufacturing of the "**Product**" as required. The "**Applicant**" shall have the capacity to manufacture at least 1 lakh tests per week in non-outbreak situation, and a minimum of 10 lakh tests per week during outbreaks/epidemics/pandemics.

iii. The "**Applicant"** shall agree to share all technical data up to TRL-6 with ICMR, and participate

in all discussions in a professional and mutually agreed-upon manner.

iv. The terms and conditions, and timelines for "Product" development as stipulated by ICMR, shall be binding on the "**Applicant**". An "**Applicant**" failing to achieve timely milestones due to noncooperation or other reasons, shall be liable to return whole or part of the grant to ICMR.

v. The "**Applicant"** shall be responsible for obtaining all the regulatory approvals required for the "**Applicant**", from R&D till commercialization.

5. Intellectual Property Rights

Intellectual Property (IP) shall mean patents, rights to inventions, copyright and related rights, moral rights, rights in designs, rights in trademarks, rights to preserve the confidentiality of information (including know-how and trade secrets) and any other intellectual property rights, in each case whether registered or unregistered and including all applications (or rights to apply for and be granted), divisional, continuations, continuations-in-part, reissues, renewals or extensions of, and rights to claim priority from, such rights and all similar or equivalent rights or forms of protection which subsist or will subsist now or in the future in any part of the world regarding subject matter disclosed in Licensed patents. ICMR and the "**Applicant**" shall share Intellectual Property Rights on developed "Product"/ processes.

6. Process involved in Partnership/Collaboration

Interested "**Applicant(s)**" are invited to join hands with ICMR for co- development & commercialization of the "**Product(s)**". Under this EoI, the respondents who fulfill all the technical criteria will be shortlisted based on their R & D plan, facilities and capabilities. Only a qualified "**Applicant**" will be contacted for execution of MoA for partnership/collaboration etc. The collaboration would be governed by relevant ICMR guidelines.

7. Publication

i. Both ICMR and the "**Applicant**" shall have equal rights on manuscripts/scientific publications (joint publication/acknowledgment/other credits as applicable), in accordance with guidelines of International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE.org).

ii. Authorship shall be mutually agreed upon by ICMR and "**Applicant**".

iii. Support of ICMR must be duly acknowledged in all publications.

8. Data Rights

i. Data rights shall be exclusively with ICMR, if ICMR provides 100% funding.

ii. Data rights shall be jointly owned by ICMR and Licensee/Co-developer, in case of joint funding.

iii. Data rights in cases where Artificial Intelligence is involved shall be dealt with separately.

iv. **"Applicant"** should ensure that data is anonymized, kept confidential and strictly abides by the provisions of Information Technology Act, 2000 while dealing with such data.

9. Details of documents to be furnished

Proponents are requested to go through all pre-qualification requirements, scope of work for execution & requirements with respect to technical capabilities for submission of interest, subject to verification by ICMR.

Documents to be furnished are as follows:

i. Declaration – Expression of Interest (Format – 1)
ii. Authorization Letter (Format – 2)
iii. Undertaking with regard to Blacklisting (Format – 3)
iv. Undertaking with regard to Non-Conviction (Format – 4)
v. EoI document with each page duly stamped and signed by the Authorized signatory.
vi. Undertaking with regard to laboratory facility (Format – 5)
vii. Production Capacity Undertaking (Format – 6)
viii. Supporting documents, as mentioned in Format – 1
ix. MSME Certificate (if applicable)
x. Concept note on business plan- A brief concept note on R & D, clinical studies, planning & execution, production, marketing etc. with timeline (not more than 5 pages)
xi. Any other information which proponent may wish to provide to support the EoI.

ICMR reserves the right to call for any clarifications confined in the broad scope, wherever such a clarification become necessary for proper judgement in evaluation.

10. Rejection Criteria

The application is liable to be rejected if:

i. The proposal is not submitted as per the requirements indicated in the EoI.
ii. Not in the prescribed format.
iii. Not properly stamped and signed.
iv. Received after the expiry of due date and time.
v. All relevant supporting documents are not furnished with the Pre-Qualification Criteria (PQC).
vi. The proposal shall be substantially responsive without any material deviation, failing which the proposal shall be summarily rejected.
vii. Applications not fulfilling the terms of the document will be summarily rejected.
viii. Any other non-compliance.

11. Evaluation Methodology

Screening of EoIs will be carried out as per Pre-Qualification criteria mentioned in the EoI document and based on verification of documents submitted.

12. Pre-Qualification Criteria (PQC)

The following will be the minimum Pre-Qualification Criteria (PQC). Responses not meeting the minimum PQC will be summarily rejected and will not be evaluated further:

Sl. No.	**Pre-Qualification Criteria (General)**	**Supporting copy of documents required** (All documents must be self- attested by the authorized person of the proponent)
General Criteria		
1	The proponent shall be a legal entity, registered as Institution/Company/LLP/Society/partn ership firm/proprietorship firm under respective acts in India and shall have more than 51% of Company stakes by promoters from India.	Registration of firm/organization/Company Incorporation Certificate from Registrar of Companies (ROC)/Partnership deed etc. whichever is applicable
2	The proponent must be registered in India with taxation and other administrative authorities.	GST Registration or GST exemption certificate/PAN Card
3	The proponent should have proven prior experience of manufacturing and/or R & D with manufacturing during the last **three** years, either in-house or through agreed collaboration and must have marketed same/similar products in the past with a good track record.	Research paper/Pamphlet/brochure of the product/DCGI License for existing product. Supporting documents for collaboration, if any.
4	The proponent has to be profitable and should not have incurred overall loss in past three (3) years. (applicable on commercial firms/organizations only)	Certificate from the Chartered Accountant of the Organization/Audited Balance sheets for last three financial years or Income Tax return.
5	The proponent should have good track record and currently not black- listed/barred by any Central/State Government/Public Sector Undertaking, Govt. of India, (applicable on commercial firms/organizations only).	Undertaking on the Letter Head of the Proponent duly signed & Stamped by Authorized Signatory (As per format – 3).
6	The proponent should have a manufacturing unit in India.	Registration copies/factory license/DSIR certificate, if have any.
7	The proponent and its promoters should not have been convicted for any offence in India by any competent court or judicial body during the past 3 years.	Undertaking on Proponent's Letter Head, duly signed and stamped by the Authorized Signatory (As per format – 4)
8	GMP/quality certification (ISO or approved Indian certification) of manufacturing facility and GLP/necessary certifications for R & D	Copies of Certificates

Specific Criteria (Based on the nature of the Proposal)		
9	The proponent should have functional laboratory to carryout R & D for the product development	Undertaking on Proponent's Letter Head, duly signed and stamped by the Authorized Signatory (As per format – 5)
10	Capacity to produce at least 1 lakh test kit per week	Undertaking (As per format – 6)

NOTE- For MSMEs and Start-ups, Start-Up-India, Make-in-India and other relevant guidelines of Government of India shall be applicable

13. Disclaimer

i. ICMR shall not be responsible for any late receipt of applications for any reasons whatsoever.
ii. ICMR reserves the right to cancel the call for EoI without assigning any reasons thereof.
iii. ICMR may relax or waive any of the conditions stipulated in this document as deemed necessary in the best interest of the ICMR without assigning any reasons thereof.
iv. To include any other item in the Scope of work at any time after consultation with proponents or otherwise.

14. Arbitration

That any dispute and/or any part of the dispute which couldn't be resolved through mutual consultation, the same shall be referred to the sole arbitrator as per the Arbitration & Conciliation Act, 1996 and any amendment thereafter. The Venue and Seat of the arbitration proceedings shall be New Delhi and the courts at New Delhi will have exclusive jurisdiction.

15. Contacts

In case of any clarification required, please contact:

Dr. Labanya Mukhopadhyay
Scientist C
Communicable Disease Division
Indian Council of Medical Research
V. Ramalingaswami Bhawan
P. O. Box No. 4911,
Ansari Nagar, New Delhi - 110029, India.
Email: *cdirdlivd@icmr.gov.in*

Format – 1

Expression of Interest

(To be submitted on Company's Letter Head)

To,

The Director General,

Indian Council of Medical Research,

Ansari Nagar, New Delhi.

Subject: Submission of Expression of Interest (EoI) for **"Development of Real Time Multiplex Molecular Diagnostic Assays Detecting Priority Pathogens Causing Critical Infectious Syndromes in India"**

Ref: EoI No. ICMR/EoI/Multiplex/2026 dated 9th January 2026

Sir,

The undersigned having read and examined in detail all the EoI documents pertaining to your transfer of technology, and do hereby express the interest to undertake the research & development/manufacture/sale/commercialization of the product as mentioned in the EoI document. The details of the Company and contact person are given below:

Name of the Proponent	
Address	
Name, designation & address of the person (to whom all communications shall be made)	
Telephone No. (with STD code)	
Mobile No. of the contact person	
Email ID of the contact person	

The following documents are enclosed:

Sl. No.	**Documents required**	**Type of document attached**	**Page No.**
1	Company Incorporation Certificate from ROC/Partnership deed etc.		
2	GST Registration or GST exemption certificate/PAN Card.		
3	DCGI/CDSCO license for the existing products available in the market		

4	Certificate from the Chartered Accountant of the Organization/Audited Balance sheets for last three financial years, Income Tax return.		
5	Proof of a registered office and a manufacturing Unit in India. Including DSIR certificate		
6	GMP/GLC and ISO Certification. Registration copies of both		
7	Authorization Letter	As per format – 2	
8	Undertaking on the Letter Head of the Proponent duly signed & Stamped by Authorized Signatory	As per format – 3	
9	Undertaking on Proponent's Letter Head, duly signed and stamped by the Authorized Signatory	As per format – 4	
10	MSME Certificate (if have any)		
11	Business Plan	A brief concept note on planning & execution, production, marketing etc. (not more than 5 pages)	

I/we hereby declare that my/our EoI is made in good faith and the information contained is true and correct to the best of my/our knowledge and belief.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

(Signature of the Authorized signatory)

Name:

Designation:

Seal:

Place:

Format – 2

Authorization Letter

(To be submitted on Company's Letter Head)

To,
The Director General,
Indian Council of Medical Research,
Ansari Nagar, New Delhi.

Subject: Letter for Authorized Signatory
Ref: **EoI No. ICMR/EoI/Multiplex/2026** dated 9th January 2026

Sir,

This has reference to your above-mentioned Expression of Interest (EoI) for **"Development of Real Time Multiplex Molecular Diagnostic Assays Detecting Priority Pathogens Causing Critical Infectious Syndromes in India"**

Mr./Ms./Mrs./Dr._____ is hereby authorized to submit the EoI documents and participate in the processing on behalf of M/s. (Company Name), who's signature is below.

(Specimen Signature of Representative)

Date:
Place:

Yours faithfully,

(Signature of the Authorized signatory)
Name:
Designation:
Seal:
Place:

Format – 3

Undertaking with regard to blacklisting

(To be submitted on Company's Letter Head)

To,

The Director General,
Indian Council of Medical Research,
Ansari Nagar, New Delhi.

Subject: Undertaking regarding Blacklisting/Non-Debarment.

Ref: EoI No. ICMR/EoI/Multiplex/2026 dated 9th January 2026

Sir,

It is hereby confirmed and declared that M/s. …….. (Company Name) currently has not been blacklisted/debarred by any Government Department/Public Sector Undertaking/or any other company for which works/assignments/services have been executed/undertaken.

Yours faithfully,

(Signature of the Authorized signatory)
Name:
Designation:
Seal:
Place:

Format – 4

Undertaking with regard to Non-Conviction
(To be submitted on Company's Letter Head)

To,
The Director General,
Indian Council of Medical Research,
Ansari Nagar, New Delhi.

Subject: Undertaking regarding Non-Conviction.
Ref: EoI No. ICMR/EoI/Multiplex/2026 dated 9th January 2026

Sir,

It is hereby confirmed and declared that M/s. ……. (Company Name) and owner of the firm/board of directors, have not been convicted for any offence in India by any competent court or judicial body during the past 3 years.

Yours faithfully,

(Signature of the Authorized signatory)
Name:
Designation:
Seal:
Place:

Format – 5

Undertaking with regard to laboratory facility

(To be submitted on Company's Letter Head)

To,
The Director General,
Indian Council of Medical Research,
Ansari Nagar, New Delhi.

Subject: Undertaking regarding laboratory infrastructure.

Ref: EoI No. ICMR/EoI/Multiplex/2026 dated 9th January 2026

Sir,

It is hereby confirmed and declared that M/s. …… (Company Name) do have

i. Adequate laboratory infrastructure (equipped laboratory facility). Please tick BSL-2/BSL- 3/ABSL-3/GMP/GLP/Other* (if other please specify) and
ii. Adequate no. of experienced staff/skilled manpower to undertake manufacture/research/commercialization of **"Development of Real Time Multiplex Molecular Diagnostic Assays Detecting Priority Pathogens Causing Critical Infectious Syndromes in India"**

Yours faithfully,

(Signature of the Authorized signatory)
Name:
Designation:
Seal:
Place:

*The Laboratory/ facility requirement will depend on the technology/Product

Format – 6

Undertaking with regard to production capacity

(To be submitted on Company's Letter Head)

To,

The Director General,

Indian Council of Medical Research,

Ansari Nagar, New Delhi

Subject: Undertaking with regard to production capacity.

Ref: EoI No. ICMR/EoI/Multiplex/2026 dated 9th January 2026

Sir,

It is hereby confirmed and declared that M/s. ……. does have the capacity in all mean (including infrastructure, fund, material, staff etc.) for manufacturing of **"Real Time Multiplex Molecular Diagnostic Assays Detecting Priority Pathogens Causing Critical Infectious Syndromes in India",** with production capacity of minimum 1 lakh tests per week in non-outbreak situation, and minimum 10 lakh tests per week during outbreaks/ epidemics/ pandemics.

Yours faithfully,

(Signature of the Authorized signatory)

Name:

Designation:

Seal:

Place: