





CLARIFICATION #8 FOR PROCUREMENT OF PLANT DESIGN, SUPPLY, DELIVERY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF LOT 1: 400 KV RATMATE SUBSTATION AND WORKS AT LAPSIPHEDI AND NEW HETAUDA SUBSTATIONS, LOT 2: 400 KV NEW BUTWAL SUBSTATION, LOT 3: 400 KV NEW DAMAULI SUBSTATION Ref No: MCA-N/ETP/CB/004 Date of Issue: 22 September 2023

SN	Reference to the Bidding Document	Questions from Bidders	Response of Millennium Challenge Account Nepal (MCA-Nepal)
1.	Addendum #9 PSR 2.2.1.c & Price schedule 2 Cl. 2.2.2 & 2.2.4 Transformer 220kV side bays	The scope of Transformer has been increased to 3 no. However the scope for 220kV side bus extensions, integration with existing system have not been included anywhere in scope or price schedules.	• 1 1
2.	Clarification #7; SN. 17; Clarification #5.1 S.N. 144; Addendum #9 PSR 3.1.g.viii; Price schedule 2 Cl. 2.6.2; Drg. NBW-100-1 Surge arrester for Transformer	As per pre-bid reply of Clarification #7; SN. 17 the SA for Transformer is included in the line item of Transformer itself; as per Clarification #5.1 S.N. 144, 400kV Transformer side is directly connected to GIB; as per Addendum #9 PSR 3.1.g.viii, the Transformer module includes set of gas-to-	shall be connected to Auto Transformer viz. SF-6 to Air Bushing.

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		 air bushing. Drg. NBW-100-1 shows SA outside of GIS. All of the above combined has created contradiction as follows and need clarification: If 400kV side Transformer side termination is direct GIB, then 400kV SA will be placed inside GIS enclosure. This will be in violation of PSR 3.1.g.viii because gasto-air bushing will not be required in this case & Drg. NBW-100-1 as it shows SA outside GIS. If the 400kV side Transformer SA is outside of GIS, then this will be in violation #5.1 S.N. 144 as GIB cannot be connected directly to Transformer in this case. 	
		Kindly confirm the exact requirement.	
3.	Addendum #9, Price schedule-2 Cl. 2.7.2.1 220kV CB Relay Panel	Quantity of 220kV is 3 Nos., however quantity of relay panel is mentioned as 4 nos.	MCA-Nepal will issue an addendum 10 to the Bidding Document to include the quantity of 220kV as 3nos.
4.	220kV system <i>Transformer</i> 220kV side bays	The existing 220kV system at New Butwal is designed for 40kA. We understand that the 220kV equipment to be supplied in this package should be 50kA, however, please note that the system shall remain 40kA in accordance with the existing infrastructure.	220kV equipment to be supplied in this package should be 50kA.
5.	Price schedule 2 Cl. 4.3.4.3 <i>Switchyard</i> <i>Panel Room</i>	220kV SPR has been added in the latest revised price schedule however the associated illumination, firefighting and air	Illumination for 220kV SPR to be quoted in Accessories and Ancillary materials of the BPS. The price of HVAC & Ventilation

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		conditioning systems have not been added in the price schedule. It is requested to kindly add these items also in price schedule.	and firefighting system of the SPR to be quoted under appropriate heading of Control House of the BPS.
6.	Price schedule 2 Cl. 2.1.1 <i>Transformer</i> 220kV side bays	Please confirm how the third 400/220kV Transformer should be connected to the 220kV Bus. We propose connection using Al. Tube. Kindly confirm.	Connection arrangements shall be made as per the provisions of the technical specifications.
7.	Price schedule 2 Cl. 2.1.1 <i>Transformer</i> 220kV side bays	The 220kV side connection for third 400/220kV Transformer will require dismantling of existing LM-1. Kindly confirm on which head this cost should be considered?	Dismantling of existing LM-1, if envisaged, shall be deemed included in 4.3.2.13. Please note that any items required to be carried out as per Employer's requirement or Conditions of Contract, cost of that must be included in the price of other items of Price Schedule.
8.	Clause 17.6 Limitation of Liability / FIDIC 1999 First edition/ Pg 54 & Sub-Clause 17.6 /Limitation of Liability / Section VII/ Pg 210 & CLARIFICATIONS # 4.1 dated (02.08.2023)/ Sl. No.42 "Neither Party shall be liable to the other Party for loss of use of any Works, loss of profit, loss of any contract or for any indirect or consequential loss or	There are too many exceptions to the consequential loss or damage and limitation of liability clause, rendering the clause non- effective. The exceptions leave the Contractor exposed to risk higher than 100% of the contract value. Therefore, we once again request MCA to accept the below changes: First Para:- We would like to retain the original clause as per FIDIC 1999 version except for change below:	The Standard provisions of the MCC Standard Bidding Document requirements, which also includes Conditions of Contract based on FIDIC Yellow Book 1999 edition cannot be changed.
	damage which may be suffered by the other Party in connection with the Contract, other than as specifically provided in Sub-Clause 8.7 [Delay Damages]; Sub-Clause 11.2 [Cost of	Neither Party shall be liable to the other Party for loss of use of any Works, loss of profit, loss of any contract or for any indirect or consequential loss or damage which may be suffered by the other Party in	

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	Remedying Defects]; Sub-Clause 15.4 [Payment after Termination]; Sub- Clause 16.4 [Payment on Termination]; SubClause 17.1 [Indemnities]; Sub- Clause 17.4 (b) [Consequences of Employer's Risks] and Sub-Clause 17.5 [Intellectual and Industrial Property Rights]." MCA Nepal Reply: The Bidding Document shall not be amended.	connection with the Contract, other than under Sub-Clause 16.4 [Payment on Termination] and Sub-Clause 17.1 (a) [Indemnities]. Second Para:- Request for modify as under: The total liability of the Contractor to the Employer, under or in connection with the Contract other than under Sub-Clause 4.19 [Electricity, Water and Gas], Sub-Clause 4.20 [Employer's Equipment and Free-Issue Material], Sub-Clause 17.1 (a) [Indemnities] and Sub-Clause 17.5 [Intellectual and Industrial Property Rights], shall not exceed the sum stated in the Particular Conditions or (if a sum is not so stated) the Accepted Contract Amount. Third Para: - Request the terms - deliberate default and reckless misconduct be defined. "This Sub-Clause shall not limit liability in any case of fraud, deliberate default or reckless misconduct by the defaulting Party".	
9.	Clause 17.1 [Indemnities];/ FIDIC 1999 First edition/ Pg 52 & CLARIFICATIONS # 4.1 dated (02.08.2023)/ Sl. No.41 Indemnities MCA Nepal Reply: The Bidding Document shall not be amended.	We once again request MCA to modify the clause as highlighted below as Indemnities should be applicable for third party liabilities only and negligence of either party: The Contractor shall indemnify and hold harmless the Employer, the Employer's Personnel, and their respective agents, against and from all claims, damages, losses and expenses (including legal fees and expenses) in respect of:	The Standard provisions of the MCC Standard Bidding Document requirements, which also includes Conditions of Contract based on FIDIC Yellow Book 1999 edition cannot be changed.

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		(a)bodily injury, sickness, disease or death,	
		of any person third party whatsoever arising	
		out of or in the course of or by reason of the	
		design, execution and completion of the	
		Works and the remedying of any defects,	
		unless attributable to any negligence, wilful	
		act or breach of the Contract by the	
		Employer, the Employer's Personnel, or any	
		of their respective agents, and	
		(b)damage to or loss of any property, real or	
		personal (other than the Works) of a third	
		party, to the extent that such damage or loss:	
		(i) arises out of or in the course of or by	
		reason of the design, execution and	
		completion of the Works and the remedying	
		of any defects, and (ii) is attributable to any	
		negligence, wilful act or breach of the	
		Contract by the Contractor, the Contractor's	
		Personnel, their respective agents, or anyone	
		directly or indirectly employed by any of	
		them to the extent (a) and/or(b) above is	
		caused due to the negligence of the	
		Contractor.	
		The Employer shall indemnify and hold	
		harmless the Contractor, the Contractor's	
		Personnel, and their respective agents,	
		against and from all claims, damages, losses	
		and expenses (including legal fees and	
		expenses) in respect of (1) bodily injury,	
		sickness, disease or death, which is	
		attributable to any negligence, wilful act or	
		breach of the Contract by the Employer, the	
		Employer's Personnel, or any of their	

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		respective agents, and (2) the matters for which liability may be excluded from insurance cover, as described in sub- paragraphs (d)(i), (ii) and (iii) of Sub-Clause 18.3 [Insurance Against Injury to Persons and Damage to Property]. In the event the injury or damage is caused by joint or concurrent negligence of the Employer and the Contractor, the loss or expense shall be borne by each party in proportion to its degree of negligence.	
10.	230817_Addendum #7_0 of SS bid_Final & MCA Mail Dtd : September 12, 2023	Considering the complexity of package and intense engineering required for subject package, we request MCA to grant an extension in the due date for Tender submission at least by 4 weeks from present due date.	MCA-Nepal intends to extend the deadline of submission up to 19 October 2023 subject to approval from the authorities.
11.	D. Technical Evaluation Criteria for each Lot 1. Organizational Capability and Experience of the Contractor within last 10 Years: - 1.4 Similar Construction Experience in 380kV or above GIS Substation Construction in minimum four projects	We have understood that credentials of Similar Construction GIS Experience GIS Extension substations projects will also be eligible against the referred clause. Please confirm.	Similar construction experience refers to the construction or extension of Gas- Insulated Switchgear (GIS) Substations rated at 380kV or higher with supply and installation of GIS Bays and Interconnecting Transformers or Interconnecting Auto Transformers is an acceptable similar construction experience.

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12.	D. Technical Evaluation Criteria for each Lot 1. Organizational Capability and Experience of the Contractor within last 10 Years	Please clarify whether bidder needs to propose separate information against clause 1.1 to 1.7 for each lot. For example, if we propose four nos. GIS projects for LOT 1 against Organizational Capability and Experience of the Contractor within last 10 Years, clause No. 1.4, whether we can propose same projects for LOT 2 & 3 or we have to propose four different projects for different LOTs. Please clarify/ confirm	Please refer Note 1 below table D. Technical Evaluation Criteria for each Lot under Section III, which states "For each lot, the Bidder needs to include separate information for Criteria 2 and Criteria 3. To qualify for each lot, the Bidder's proposal for each lot needs to score minimum technical score of 70." Thus, for Organizational Capability and Experience same information is required to be submitted for Lot 1, Lot 2 and Lot 3 and the Bidder will be getting same score for this criterion for Lot 1, Lot 2 and Lot 3.
13.	General	Also, in view of involvement of detailed engineering, costing, third party quotations and site survey, we will request you to please extend the due date for submission of the above tender at least by another 2 weeks i.e. 19.10.2023 to enable us submit our technically complete and most competitive offer.	MCA-Nepal intends to extend the deadline of submission up to 19 October 2023 subject to approval from the authorities.
14.	General	We require at least 8 weeks extension to the current bid submission date. You are requested to provide time extension and clarification / amendments at the earliest to enable us for preparation and submission of our most competitive Techno-commercial proposal. Presently bid submission is due on 05th Oct'23.	MCA-Nepal intends to extend the deadline of submission up to 19 October 2023 subject to approval from the authorities.

15.	Ch 1 S2 TS 220kV GIS RAT	In any substation, busbar fault is considered	MCA-Nepal insists on segregating busbar
10.	12.2.6	to be the most serious in nature.	for each bay or diameter for better
	For breaker-and-a-half, double bus single	Offered GIS busbar design is such that	maintainability and reliability.
	breaker, double bus double breaker	chances of busbar fault are practically nil as	
	and single bus single breaker	busbar does not have any switching element	
	arrangements, gas zones for main buses	in its compartment. Because of this feature it	
	shall be	is not necessary to segregate the busbar for	
	segregated on a per diameter or bay basis	each bay or diameter. Also with this offered	
	(i.e., gastight barriers shall be installed in the main bus enclosures	busbar design function requirement of service continuity is fully complied. We	
	between each diameter or bay connecting	confirm that offered design is fully type	
	the main buses).	tested as per latest requirement of IEC	
	MCA Reply reference - Ref No: MCA-	62271-203 and is in successfully commercial	
	N/ETP/CB/004 - Sr. No 128	operation across the globe.	
		Letter on benefits of offered passive busbar	
		design enclosed (Annexure 1).	
		The bidder requests for acceptance of the	
16.	Ch 1 S2 TS 220kV GIS RAT	same. The bidder confirms that offered GIS designs	The bidder has to submit the price as per
10.	2. HIGH VOLTAGE DESIGN	shall be as below:	the technical specifications, and this price
	PARAMETERS	1. 400kV GIS is single phase encapsulated	will be considered for bid evaluation.
	Techincal Specification of 220kV GIS	design.	Any alternative technical options may be
	Busbar design for 245KV GIS	2. 220kV GIS is with 3 phase encapsulated	submitted with price and justifications of
	Offered 220KV GIS is type tested in	passive busbar and rest all	the advantages to the employer and will be
	accordance with IEC 62271-203, Which	components are single phase encapsulated.	considered at the contract negotiations
	has	The bidder requests acceptance of the same.	stage with the successful bidder.
	3 phase encapsulated GIS busbar and		stage with the successful bluder.
	other modules are single phase		
	encapsulated. This design is accepted by various utilities in India and Abroad.		
	We request the employer's acceptance on		
	this design.		
	MCA Reply reference - Ref No: MCA-		
	N/ETP/CB/004 - Sr. No 249		

17.	Drawings: RTE_300_1_Rev_1 NBW_300_1_Rev_1 NDM_300_1_Rev_1 Layout for GIS building_all lots Location of LCC MCA Reply reference - Ref No: MCA- N/ETP/CB/004 - Sr. No 248	The bidder proposes the 220kV GIS shall be with integrated type LCC and for 400kV floor mounted type LCC within GIS hall. The bidder requests acceptance of the same.	Bidders are kindly requested to comply with the requirements of the bidding documents.
18.	Ch 1_S2_TS_220kV GIS_RAT 12.14 CONTROL WIRING Techincal Specification of GIS Control cable for LCC MCA Reply reference - Ref No: MCA- N/ETP/CB/004 - Sr. No 251	The bidder proposes FRLS (Fire Retardant Low Smoke) type cables as LCC control cables. We do not envisage ETFE insulation as control cable will not face such high temperature in its life span as the room temperature is also maintained by HVAC system. This type of cable is offered and approved by various state & central utilities in India as well as abroad. The bidder requests acceptance on the same.	Bidders are kindly requested to comply with the requirement of the bidding documents.
19.	16.1_TDS_420kV_GIS_RAT 16.2_TDS_220kV_GIS_RAT 9_TDS_420kV GIS_NBW 16.1_TDS_420kV GIS_NDM 16.1_TDS_420kV_GIS_RAT 1.16 Ambient temperature range: -30 up to +40°C MCA Reply reference - Ref No: MCA- N/ETP/CB/004 - Sr. No 73 & Ref No: MCAN/ ETP/CB/004 Sr. No 74	The bidder confirms that the offered 220kV & 400kV GIS shall be suitable for temperature range between -25 up to +40°C. However for busducts outside the GIS hall shall be between -30 up to +40°C. Suitable derating to be considered in case of variance in temperature range. We request the employer's acceptance of the same. We wish to highlight that offered GIS is running satisfactorily in adverse atmospheric conditions globally.	Bidders are kindly requested to comply with the requirement of the bidding documents. Any change to the requirements may be discussed only during contract negotiations with the successful bidder.

20.	Drawings - RTE- 100-1, 100-2, NWE 100-1, NWB-100-2, NDM-100-1, NE 100-	disconnectors and the safety grounding documents.
	2, RTE- 100-3,100-4	switches are separate modules and shall have
	400kV Motor operated Isolator with o	1
	earth switch, RL with 10kV Insulation	is confirmed that padlocking facility shall be
	and Mechanical Interlocking	available.
	400kV Motor operated Isolator with t	e
	earth switch, RL with 10kV Insulation	maximum voltage injection shall be
	and Mechanical Interlocking	10kV AC.
	&	The employer's acceptance is requested on
	220kV Motor operated Isolator with o	e the same.
	earth switch, RL with 10kV Insulation	
	and Mechanical Interlocking	
	220kV Motor operated Isolator with t	
	earth switch, RL with 10kV Insulation	
	and Mechanical Interlocking	
21.	Drawings:	After our detailed study, the CT data Bidders are kindly requested to comply
	RTE-100-1,	provided in tender SLD & specifications are with TS requirements subject to Engineer
	RTE-100-2,	technically not feasible to meet. design review and approval of performance
	RTE-100-3,	The best technically feasible burden for the namely with respect to IEC 61869-6.
	RTE-100-4	offered compact design shall be 20VA.
	CT Parameters	We request your review & confirmation on
	Ref No: MCA-N/ETP/CB/004 - Sr. N	same.
	126	REFER ENCLOSED: Annex - 2 & 3 -
	400kV GIS - CT PARTICULAR 220kV GIS - CT PARTICULAR	DATA SHEETS FOR CT
	SPECIFICATION I II III SPECIFICATION I CORE CORE	3
	RATIO (TR - TURNS RATIO) MULTI RATIO 4000.1A RATIO (TR - TURNS RATIO) MULTI RATIO	A
	CLASS SP20, 200VA CLASS SP20, 200	
	RATED SECONDARY 1A 1A 1A CURRENT 1A 1A	
	THERMAL RATING FACTOR PER IEEE C37.13 15 15 15 15 PER IEEE C37.13 15 15	

22.	Drawings: RTE-100-1, RTE-100-2, RTE-100-3, RTE-100-4 PT Parameters Ref No: MCA-N/ETP/CB/004 - Sr. No 127	After our detailed study, the VT data provided in tender SLD & specifications are technically not feasible to meet. Kindly note that, for the offered 400/220KV GIS PT shall be in line with IEC standard and confirm to the following specification, Thermal burden : 750VA Normal VA burden : 100VA Accuracy class: winding-1 : 100VA/0.2 &	Bidders are suggested to comply with TS requirements subject to Engineer design review and approval of performance namely with respect to IEC 61869-3 and 5.
	PRIMARY V02 TAGE LINE TO GROUND (W) 400°J PRIMARY V02 TAGE LINE TO GROUND (W) 223°J RATID 21001 1100 TARS FER WINDING) 1100 TARS FER WINDING) 1100 TARS FER WINDING) ACCURACY 0.3 W/YZ RATED OUTPUT 1500 VA (MINIMUM) 1500 VA (MINIMUM) 1500 VA (MINIMUM) 1500 VA MINIMUM) 1500 VA MINIMUM) </td <td>winding-2 : 100VA/3P We request your review & confirmation on same. REFER ENCLOSED: Annex - 2 & 3 -DATA SHEETS FOR VT</td> <td></td>	winding-2 : 100VA/3P We request your review & confirmation on same. REFER ENCLOSED: Annex - 2 & 3 -DATA SHEETS FOR VT	
23.	Chapter 3: Auto Transformer Specification 2.3.FUNTIONAL GUARANTEES OF THE FACILITIES 2.3.2 GUARANTEED VALUE NOT REACHED Temperature Rise	As per mentioned clause, penalty is applicable on temperature rise point. However, as per description it is applicable for each kVA of the actual transformer rating below the guaranteed output, an amount of US\$ 200.00 will be deducted from the Contract Price of this transformer. However, it has to be applicable on MVA and not kVA. Please confirm if our understanding is correct.	The value of \$200/kVA specified in the TS is to ensure that the manufacturer will comply with the rating even with temperature rise margin. The penalty of 200.00 USD will be applied per kVA, not MVA
24.	Chapter 6: Control and Power Cable Specification HV POWER CABLES (FOR WORKING VOLTAGES FROM 3.3 kV AND INCLUDING 33 kV) 2.1 HV POWER CABLE FOR AUXILIARY POWER SUPPLY	As per the mentioned specification, its states that, Auxiliary transformer connection shall be with 33kV HT XLPE cable , however transformer tertiary Associated equipment for LT transformer are having 72.5kV voltage grades. The bidder understands that Cable shall be of 38/66 (72.5) kV (UE).	The Cable shall be followed for 38/66 (72.5) kV subject to the approval of the Engineer. Cable to follow applicable IEC standard or equivalent.

25.	PC	Please confirm if our understanding is correct, if yes please provide the relevant standards to be followed for 38/66 (72.5) kV (UE) cable. As Bidder already has a registered PE	Compact Section 2.8 read along with
23.	PC 21 Taxes and duties	As Bidder already has a registered PE (Permanent Establishment) in Nepal, will it be eligible for tax exemptions (direct and indirect tax) in Nepal as provided under the tender document. The bidder requests confirmation on the same	Annex VII – Tax Schedules provide the conditions for tax exemption, refund or reimbursement of Taxes. The bidder needs to assess the application of taxes on its own depending on its status of incorporation and prior registration in Nepal.
			All entities will be eligible for all the tax exemptions provided in the Compact, however subject to Compact Section 2.8 read along with Annex VII – Tax Schedules.
			The Bidders are requested to go through the MCC Compact carefully and understand the different requirements to be eligible for Tax exemptions under Value Added Tax, Custom Duties, Excise Duties, Corporate Income and Withholding Tax and other taxes mentioned in Schedule VII of the Compact.
26.	Appendix to Financial Offer Application for Interim Payment 3Certificates: 14.3(c) Amount to be retained shall be: ten percent (10%) of Interim Payment Certificates.	We understand that 20% of the payment portion is linked to Taking over certificate (TOC) and Defects Liability Period (DLP). While in Appendix to Letter of Financial offer Clause 14.3 (c) there is an additional deduction of 10% as retention money from any Interim Payment Certificate.	We will review the payments conditions and if agreed MCA-Nepal may issue an addendum to the bidding document after obtaining approval from authority.

	14.3(c) Limit of retention money shall be: ten percent (10%) of the Contract Price. The bidder requests confirmation on the same.	It is practically challenging for the contractors to handle such cash flow gap. We request you to please review the payment terms and propose as per international Multilateral Funded Contracts i.e. 20% Advance, 75% Interim, 5% on TOC.	
27.	Section 4 Form CON-2: Compliance with Sanctions Certification Form	Is there any maximum limit for key personnel, subcontractors, vendors, suppliers, and grantees For the verifications of the eligibility of key personnel, subcontractors, vendors, suppliers, and grantees, for Annex A "Additional Provisions," Paragraph G "Compliance with Terrorist Financing Legislation and Other Restrictions?? The bidder requests confirmation on the same. And Requests to provide the guidance for filling this Bid Schedule.	verifications have been completed in accordance with Annex A "Additional Provisions," Paragraph G "Compliance with Terrorist Financing Legislation and Other Restrictions", and the

28.	PC PC 21 Taxes and duties	Taxes for the Subcontractor, clearing & Forwarding Agency engaged in the project is also exempted as per main contractor. The bidder requests clarification on the same.	Compact Section 2.8 read along with Annex VII – Tax Schedules provide the conditions for tax exemption, refund or reimbursement of Taxes. The bidder needs to assess the application of taxes on its own as per Section 2.8 of the Compact. Further, Schedule VII <i>inter alia</i> states "Each Project Partner, and any Provider, Covered Provider, or any other entity, including prime contractors and any subcontractors working directly with prime contractors and all natural persons, importing or providing goods, works or services in furtherance of the Compact (an " <i>Exempt</i> <i>Entity</i> " in the case of a legal entity or an " <i>Exempt Individual</i> " in the case of a natural person)." Also, PCC 21.1 <i>inter alia</i> states "the Employer shall use reasonable efforts to ensure that the Government provides the Contractor, any Subcontractor and any Contractor's Personnel the exemptions from taxation applicable to such persons or entities, in accordance with the terms of the Compact or related agreements.".
29.	Price Schedule	The bidder requests to Clarify the correctness of our below understanding on Taxes and duties as per the Bidding Document for SCHEDULES 2: Plant and Mandatory Spare Parts Supplied from Abroad: The Employer shall exempt all customs, import duties, domestic taxes such as, sales	This shall be as per section 2.8 of the Compact read along with Schedule B, Annex VII. Compact Section 2.8 read along with Annex VII – Tax Schedules provide the conditions for tax exemption, refund or

		tax and value added tax (VAT) and Withholding Taxes for the Imported Materials in the Price Schedule. Hence quoted Price for	to assess the application of taxes on its own
		Imported Materials shall be exclusive of all such Taxes. The bidder requests clarification & confirmation on the same.	The Tax exemption letter will be provided by MCA-Nepal for the Goods imported for the purposes of the Compact.
30.	PC 21 Taxes and duties	The bidder requests to provide the details of the Taxes and Duties which are Exempted for the Project as per the Funding agreement to enable us to suitably quote prices in the schedule	Please refer Compact Section 2.8 read along with Annex VII.