

**EOI NO. DS-2: Seed production of onion on contract basis under Public-Private-Partnership during Rabi 2025-26 and 2026-27 in Jalna/Budlana region of Maharashtra**

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**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

**FOR**

**SEED PRODUCTION OF ONION UNDER  
PPP in JALNA/BUDLANA region of  
Maharashtra**

**Punjab Agricultural University  
Ludhiana**

**EOI NO.DS-2: Seed production of onion on contract basis under Public-Private-Partnership during Rabi 2025-26 and 2026-27 in Jalna/Budlana region of Maharashtra**

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BIDDER'S SIGNATURE WITH SEAL 1

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- a. Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana (PAU) has played a key role in increasing food grain production in the Punjab State by developing improved varieties/hybrids and their dissemination from lab to field.
- b. The University also serves the farmers by providing quality seed of improved varieties/hybrids of different field and vegetable crops to the farmers during kisan melas and around the year at seed shops and seed sale centres at KVKs, FASCs, RRSs and USFs in various districts of Punjab.
- c. PAU intends to increase the production of onion seed 'variety PRO-7' in niche area of onion seed production i.e. Jalna/Budlana region of Maharashtra so as to make available the quality seed of PRO-7 variety of onion released by PAU to large number of farmers.
- d. The purpose of this Expression of Interest is, therefore, to seek the services of a progressive farmers/seed growers having expertise in onion cultivation/seed production. The objective of this document is to provide information about the scope and objective of this activity.

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**2. NOTICE INVITING EOI**

- a) Punjab Agricultural University invites expression of interest from progressive farmers/seed growers vide **EOI NO. DS-1 Seed production of onion on contract basis from progressive farmers/seed companies in Jalna/Budlana region of Maharashtra** desirous of taking up seed production of onion during Rabi 2025-26.
- b) Interested progressive farmers/seed growers who meet the criteria may furnish their Expression of Interest with all the necessary documents in a sealed cover along with the covering letter and quotation for seed supply rates (per Kg) to PAU duly signed by an authorized signatory.
- c) The term of MoU will be for two seasons i.e. Rabi 2025-26 and Rabi 2026-27. However, Initially the MoU will be for only Rabi 2025-26 and University may not extend the MoU for one more season i.e. Rabi 2026-27, if it is not satisfied with the performance of the seed grower and based on anticipated demand for the onion seed.
- d) The Expression of Interest may be submitted by post/ courier/ in person on or before 14.08.2025 by 16:00 hrs at the following address:

**Dr. Amandeep Singh Brar**

Director(Seeds),

Punjab Agricultural University,

Ludhiana – 141 004

- d) The EOI submitted by telegram / fax / e-mail etc shall not be considered. PAU shall not be responsible for any postal delay or non-receipt / non-delivery of the documents. No further correspondence on the subject will be entertained.

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**3. TIME LINE**

Submission of a proposal in response to this notice should be made after careful study and examination of this document with full understanding of its terms, conditions and implications as per the following timeline.

1.	Last date for submission of written queries for clarifications	08.08.2028
2.	Release of response to clarifications on <a href="http://www.pau.edu">www.pau.edu</a>	12.08.2025
3.	Last date for submission of EOI Proposal	14.08.2025
4.	Opening of EOI	19.08.2025

**4. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

The invitation of bids is open to all progressive farmers/seed growers who fulfil the criteria as specified below:

- a) The farmer/agency must have at least 3years experience of onion seed production and thorough knowledge of package of practice. Farmers with knowledge about seed production aspects would be given priority. Famer will attach a self-declaration attested by village sarpanch regarding crop raising experience.
- b) The seed grower/ company should have valid licence for seed production of onion and atleast 3 years experience of onion seed production (attach the documents).
- c) The work being of specialised nature, if bids received are limited in numbers, the competent authority may relax one or many dimensions of the eligibility criteria at its discretion.

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## **5. TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT**

- The seed production of onion will be carried out on an area of 3 acres during Rabi 2025-26 and Rabi 2026-27.
- The source seed (bulbs of variety PRO-7) will be supplied by PAU to the 'Company' on cost. The grower has to use the entire bulbs of onion provided to him for seed production only and cannot retain, resale or multiply this at his own. In case the grower left with some bulbs after finishing sowing, that bulbs will be the property of the university and the grower will have to return them to the university.
- The individual grower must maintain the recommended isolation distance even from the nearby fields of neighbours.
- The cost of production of raw seed including expenses on sowing, irrigation, weeding, fertilizers, harvesting and threshing will be borne by the company/seed growers.
- The 'Company' will ensure the genetic purity of the seed by maintaining field and seed standards as per the IMSCS.
- The 'Company' may organize seed production at its own farm or those of the seed growers and the 'Company' shall be solely responsible for selection of seed growers as well as liabilities arising out of agreement entered into with their seed growers. The PAU will not be responsible for less seed production and or crop failure at the grower's fields & will not be liable to pay any compensation.
- The 'company' will ensure to carry out the seed production of onion in the designated niche area in Jalna/Budlana region of Maharashtra.
- The seed crop will be monitored for verifying the field standards and purity by the scientists of the office of Director (Seeds) and Department of Vegetable Crops as and when required at their own costs and means.

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- The raw seed must be graded as per the standard procedure and should have at least 98% physical purity, 75 percent germination and maximum of 8% moisture content (to be determined on sample basis).
- The rain affected/discoloured seed and having less germination (less than 75 percent- to be tested at Seed Testing Lab of the office of Director (Seeds), PAU, Ludhiana by taking a minimum of 4 random samples drawn from the graded seed) will not be accepted and in case of rejection, the company will be free to sell the produce at their own level.
- The Company shall supply the graded seed packed in gunny bags (30 kg) to PAU in the last week of June 2026 and June 2027 and payment will be released after safe delivery and testing of seed.
- The safe delivery of dispatched seed at the destination (University Seed Farm, Ladhowal) shall be the responsibility of the 'Company'. Any loss or damage during transport will be to the account of 'Company'.
- Director USF Ladhowal will arrange the payment of the procured graded seed and will arrange packing and sale of the seed.
- The interested 'Company' may quote the supply rates in **Rupees (INR) per Kg or quintal**. This rate shall be only for graded seed and F.O.R. delivery at the University Seed Farm, Ladhowal (Punjab), which will be inclusive of all the charges viz, seed production cost, processing, drying, storage, transportation charges etc. and all other miscellaneous charges, if any.
- Memorandum of Understanding will be executed with the company offering lowest seed supply rates as per PAU's terms and conditions for undertaking the seed production of onion.
- In case of any dispute, the worthy Vice-Chancellor of PAU will be the final authority to settle it and the decision will be binding on both the parties.

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**6. EVALUATION PROCESS**

- a) PAU will constitute an Evaluation Committee to evaluate the responses of the applicants.
- b) The Evaluation Committee constituted by PAU shall evaluate the EOI and all supporting documents & documentary evidence. The committee may seek additional documents / presentation as it deems necessary.
- c) Each of the EOI shall be evaluated to validate competence of the applicant according to the supporting documents specified in this document.
- d) The decision of the Evaluation Committee in the evaluation of Expression of Interest shall be final. No further correspondence will be entertained in this regard.
- e) The Evaluation Committee reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

**7. SUBMISSION OF EOI**

- a) The application shall be submitted in a single sealed envelope and superscripted as **EOI NO. DS-2 Seed production of onion on contract basis under Public-Private partnership during the Rabi season 2025-26 and Rabi 2026-27 in Jalna/Budlana region of Maharashtra.** This envelope should contain signed hard copy of EOI proposal along with the signed copy of the bid quoting the per quintal rate of onion seed for supply to PAU.
- b) No overwriting/changes is allowed in submitted EOI documents.

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## **8. EOI PROPOSAL PREPARATION COSTS & RELATED ISSUES**

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- a) The Applicant is responsible for all costs incurred in connection with participation in this process, including, but not limited to, costs incurred in preparation of proposal, participation in meetings / discussions. PAU in no case will be responsible or liable for these costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the EOI process.
- b) This EOI does not commit PAU to award a contract or to engage in negotiations. Further, no reimbursable cost may be incurred in anticipation of award or for preparing this EOI.
- c) All materials submitted by the Applicants will become the property of PAU and may/may not be returned completely at its sole discretion.

## **9. QUERIES**

- a) All queries may be sent to the following Officer of PAU by post, or e-mail on or before 08.08.2025

Dr. Amandeep Singh Brar  
Director (Seeds)

Punjab Agricultural University,  
Ludhiana- 141 004

E-mail: [directorseeds@pau.edu](mailto:directorseeds@pau.edu)

- b) All enquiries / clarifications from the Applicants, related to this EOI, must be directed in writing exclusively to the contact person(s) notified in 9 (a) above. Enquiries received after the due date shall not be entertained.
- c) The preferred mode of delivering questions is through e-mail. Telephonic responses, if sought for, shall not be treated as valid responses. The queries by the applicants shall be raised in the following format:

S. No.	Page	Clause of the EOI	Clarification required

BIDDER'S SIGNATURE WITH SEAL8

## **10. RESPONSES TO PRE-SUBMISSION QUERIES & ISSUE OF CORRIGENDUM**

- a. Based on the response to the EOI, queries from interested parties would be taken to clarify / to amend the scope and revised scope / term shall be issued to the parties responding to the EOI. Further, evaluation of bids received shall be as per Para 6. The contact person notified by PAU will begin accepting written questions from the applicants. PAU will endeavour to provide timely response to all queries. However, PAU makes no representation or warranty as to the completeness or accuracy of any response made in good faith, nor does PAU undertake to answer all the queries that have been posed by the applicants. The responses to the queries from all Applicants will be posted online on [www.pau.edu](http://www.pau.edu) by 12.08.2025.
- b. At any time prior to the last date for receipt of EOI, PAU may, for any reason, whether at its own initiative or in response to a clarification requested by a prospective applicant, modify the EOI document by a corrigendum.
- c. The corrigendum (if any) shall be posted only online at [www.pau.edu](http://www.pau.edu).
- d. Any such corrigendum shall be deemed to be incorporated into this EOI.
- e. In order to provide prospective applicants reasonable time for taking the corrigendum into account, PAU may, at its discretion, extend the last date for the receipt of EOI proposals which shall again be notified online through PAU portal [www.pau.edu](http://www.pau.edu).

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Covering Letter on Letterhead of the Applicant

<Location, Date>

To,

Director (Seeds),  
Punjab Agricultural University,  
Ludhiana – 141 004

Kind Attn. – **Dr. Amandeep Singh Brar**

Dear Sir,

We, the undersigned, offer to provide our services for seed production of onion on contract basis.

We are hereby submitting our Expression of Interest. We understand you are not bound to accept any proposal you receive. The sealed envelope containing the duly signed bid/quotation for seed supply rates (per quintal) to PAU is also enclosed.

We fully understand and agree to comply that on verification, if any of the information provided here is found to be misleading, we are liable to be dismissed from the EOI selection process or termination of the contract during the project.

We agree to abide by the conditions set forth in this EOI.

We hereby declare that our proposal submitted in response to this EOI is made in good faith and the information contained is true and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.

Sincerely,

<Applicant's Name with seal>

Name: <<Insert Name of Contact>>

Title: <<Insert Title of Contact>>

Signature: <<Insert Signature>>

BIDDER'S SIGNATURE WITH SEAL 10