

RFP Reference No.	MOR-PSDP-TPV-2026
Issuing Authority	Ministry of Railways, Government of Pakistan
Pre-Bid Meeting	08 th July, 2026 1100 Hours
Proposal Submission Deadline	22 nd July, 2026 1400 Hours
Mode of Submission	Hard Copy + Soft Copy (USB), delivered to Ministry of Railways, Islamabad
Regulatory Basis	PM Directives dated 23.06.2024 & 22.10.2024; CDWP Decision dated 29.04.2026

This RFP has been prepared in accordance with PPRA Rules 2004 (as amended) and MPD&SI guidelines issued vide letter No. 1(1-6)COORD/TPV-MINUTES/PW/PDSI/2025-26 dated 16.06.2026.

SECTION 1 - BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

1.1 Policy Mandate

The Prime Minister of Pakistan, cognizant of persistent delays in the execution of Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP)-funded projects and the consequent escalation in costs and deferral of intended benefits, issued a directive on 23rd June 2024 making Third Party Evaluation/Validation (TPE/V) mandatory for all development projects costing above Rs. 70 million. This directive was reiterated on 22nd October 2024, with the responsibility for implementation explicitly assigned to all Ministries/Divisions.

In pursuance of these directives, the Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives (MPD&SI) pre-qualified twenty-six (26) firms for undertaking TPE/V, whose details are hosted on the Planning Commission website (https://pc.gov.pk/web/pre_qualified_firms). The Central Development Working Party (CDWP), in its meeting held on 29th April 2026, further approved the TPE/V Position Paper, including the financing mechanism and frequency: TPV shall be conducted once every three years during the execution period of the project and funded from the contingency head of the respective project.

1.2 Issuing Authority

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is issued by the Ministry of Railways (MOR), Government of Pakistan, in compliance with the aforementioned PM directives and the implementation guidelines issued by MPD&SI vide letter No. 1(1-6)COORD/TPV-MINUTES/PW/PDSI/2025-26 dated 16th June 2026.

1.3 Purpose and Objectives of TPE/V

The overarching purpose of Third Party Evaluation/Validation is to strengthen governance, transparency, and accountability in the execution of public development investments by providing an independent, objective, and professional assessment. The specific objectives are:

- To assess actual physical and financial progress of the project against approved PC-I targets, Annual Work Plans (AWPs) and Cash Plans.
- To verify compliance with approved scope, design specifications, Bills of Quantities (BoQs), and quality standards.
- To examine procurement of goods, works, and services for compliance with PPRA Rules 2004 (as amended) to ensure transparency and economy.
- To identify bottlenecks, implementation constraints, and systemic weaknesses, and recommend workable solutions.
- To establish and/or verify Result-Based Monitoring (RBM) indicators and assess sustainability of the investment.
- To develop linkages between physical progress and financial utilization, and flag any discrepancies.
- To contribute to a centralized database of development project performance for policy decisions, sectoral analysis, and informed resource allocation.

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- To promote timely execution, sound financial management, and observance of applicable rules and regulations.

SECTION 2 - PROJECTS COVERED UNDER THIS RFP

This RFP covers the following five (5) PSDP-funded projects of the Ministry of Railways. Firms may submit proposals for one or more projects. The Ministry reserves the right to award to the same or different firms for different projects.

S.No	Project Name	Budget Cost (Rs. Million)	Project Status	Project Director / Contact
1.	Thar Rail Connectivity with Existing Railway Network including Last Mile Connectivity with Port Qasim (TRCP)	7	Ongoing	Project Office, Loco Shed Road, Near Railway Diesel Shed, Pakistan Railways, Karachi Cantt. Tel: 021- 35632296 , DG Planning MOR Islamabad
2.	Procurement / Manufacture of 820 High-Capacity Bogie Wagons & 230 Passenger Coaches	7	Ongoing	I. Project Director – 820 Wagons Project Building, Inside Divisional Superintende nt Workshop Office, Moghalpura, Lahore Project Director – 230 Coaches Pakistan Railways, Carriage Factory Admin Building, Islamabad, DG Planning MOR Islamabad
3.	Special Repair of 100 Nos. Diesel Electric Locomotives for Improving the Reliability / Availability of Running Locomotive	7	Ongoing	Project Director Project Building, Inside Divisional Superintendent Workshop Office, Moghalpura, Lahore, DG Planning MOR Islamabad

4.	Immediate Track Safety Works on Rohri–Kotri (ROH-KPR) Section	7	Ongoing	Project Director Divisional Superintendent Office, Pakistan Railways, Sukkur Division, DG Planning MOR Islamabad
5.	Rehabilitation of Track Maintenance Machines (Revised)	7	Ongoing	Project Director Pakistan Railways Headquarters Office Empress Road, Lahore, DG Planning MOR

Note: Detailed Project Information (DPI) packages including PC-I documents, approved AWP, and latest progress reports shall be shared with shortlisted firms at the Pre-Bid Meeting or upon written request.

SECTION 3 - SCOPE OF SERVICES

The Consultant shall carry out a comprehensive Third Party Evaluation/Validation (TPE/V) of the assigned project(s) in accordance with the MPD&SI framework and these Terms of Reference. The scope of services shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

3.1 Desk Review and Data Analysis

- Review all secondary data and project documentation provided by the Ministry of Railways / Project Directorate, including PC-I, Revised PC-I (if any), approved scope of work, AWP, Cash Plans, progress reports, inspection reports, audit observations, and procurement records.
- Analyse financial utilization vis-a-vis physical progress and identify variance trends.
- Review the procurement trail for goods, works, and services to ascertain compliance with PPRA Rules 2004 and applicable government directives.

3.2 Inception Report

Within fifteen (15) days of contract award, the Consultant shall prepare and submit an Inception Report defining:

- Confirmed understanding of project scope, objectives, and context.
- Detailed methodology, sampling strategy, and data collection tools (quantitative and qualitative).
- Field survey plan including site visit schedule and stakeholder engagement plan.
- Draft outline of the TPE/V report.
- Detailed activity schedule and deliverables timeline.

3.3 Field Validation and Data Collection

- Conduct structured site visits to physically verify works executed against approved designs, drawings, BoQs, and specifications.
- Collect primary data through structured interviews, focused group discussions, and direct observations with project staff, executing agencies, contractors, and end beneficiaries (where applicable).
- Verify key milestones against the approved implementation schedule.
- Assess quality of materials and workmanship against applicable standards and contract provisions.
- Examine contract management practices including variation orders, extension of time, and price adjustment claims.

3.4 Evaluation and Analysis

- Assess performance against key indicators including: physical progress, financial utilization, procurement compliance, quality of outputs, and adherence to the approved scope.
- Identify bottlenecks, implementation risks, systemic weaknesses, and areas of concern, with evidence-based documentation.
- Develop or verify Result-Based Monitoring (RBM) indicators and assess long-term sustainability of the investment.

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- Evaluate the effectiveness of project management and governance arrangements.

3.5 Reporting

- Prepare a draft TPE/V Report and submit for review and comments by the Ministry of Railways and the Project Directorate.
- Incorporate all feedback and comments received within the stipulated timeframe.
- Deliver a presentation to senior management of the Ministry of Railways prior to submission of the final report.
- Submit a Final TPE/V Report in English, professionally formatted, with the following structure:
 - Executive Summary
 - Project Background and Context
 - Methodology
 - Key Findings: Physical Progress, Financial Utilization, Procurement Compliance, Quality Assessment
 - Result-Based Monitoring Indicators
 - Identified Bottlenecks and Risks
 - Conclusions and Recommendations (actionable and time-bound)
 - Way Forward and Workable Solutions
 - Annexures: Data tools, site visit records, stakeholder list, photographic evidence

SECTION 4 - DELIVERABLES AND TIMELINE

The assignment shall be completed within three (3) months from the date of contract award, in accordance with the CDWP decision of 29th April 2026. The key deliverables and timelines are as follows:

S.No	Deliverable	Description	Submission Deadline	Payment %
1.	Inception Report	Objectives, methodology, data tools, field plan, draft report outline, activity schedule	Within 15 days of contract award	20%
2.	First Draft TPE/V Report	Full draft incorporating desk review, field validation findings, preliminary analysis, and draft recommendations	Within 1.5 months of contract award	30%
3.	Final TPE/V Report and Presentation	Revised final report incorporating all MOR feedback, senior management presentation, executive summary, actionable recommendations and way forward	Within 2.5 months of contract award	50%

Payment shall be contingent upon submission and formal acceptance of each deliverable by the Ministry of Railways. No advance payment shall be made.

SECTION 5 - ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

S.No	Criterion	Requirement / Documentary Evidence
1.	Registration	Valid registration with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) and/or Pakistan Council of Architects and Town Planners (PCATP), as applicable to the nature of the project.
2.	Tax Compliance	Valid GST registration certificate, Active Taxpayer Status (FBR), Tax Returns for last three (3) years, and NTN certificate.
3.	Financial Standing	Audited financial statements for the last three (3) years demonstrating financial viability and sufficient capacity to undertake the assignment.
4.	Relevant Experience	Completion certificates for a minimum of six (6) TPE/V assignments on PSDP-funded infrastructure projects with approved cost of Rs. 4 billion or above.
5.	No Conflict of Interest	Affidavit/declaration confirming the firm was not involved in the design, preparation of PC-I, execution, or supervision of the project being evaluated.
6.	Key Personnel	CVs of proposed Team Leader (min. 15 years), and key experts (Transport/Civil Engineer, Financial Analyst, Procurement Specialist) as per the staffing plan submitted.
7.	International Affiliation (if any)	Documentary evidence of any international affiliation or accreditation (desirable, not mandatory).

SECTION 6 - PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

Proposals shall be evaluated using a Quality and Cost-Based Selection (QCBS) approach with the following weightage:

Component	Weightage	Minimum Qualifying Score
Technical Qualification (see breakdown below)	80%	60 out of 80
Financial Proposal	20%	N/A

6.1 Technical Evaluation Breakdown

S.No	Evaluation Criterion	Max. Score	Evidence Required
1.	Firm's general experience in TPE/V of infrastructure / railways projects (number and scale of projects)	15	Assignment completion certificates
2.	Specific experience in PSDP-funded railway or large infrastructure TPE/V assignments above Rs. 4 billion	20	Certificates with contract values
3.	Technical approach and methodology (clarity, relevance to railway projects, innovation)	20	Technical Proposal document
4.	Qualifications and experience of proposed Team Leader (Railway/Civil Engineer, min. 15 years)	10	CV with supporting documents
5.	Qualifications of key experts (Transport Planner, Financial Analyst, Procurement Specialist)	10	CVs with supporting documents
6.	Valid pre-qualification certificate from MoPD&SI for Railway sector	5	Valid Certificate
Total Technical Score		80	

SECTION 7 - CONFLICT OF INTEREST, CONFIDENTIALITY & ETHICS

7.1 Conflict of Interest

The Consultant must not have been involved in any capacity — including design, feasibility study, preparation of PC-I, detailed engineering, construction, execution, or supervision — in the project(s) subject to this TPE/V assignment. A signed Conflict of Interest Declaration (as per Annex-I) shall be submitted along with the Technical Proposal. Any misrepresentation shall result in immediate disqualification and may attract legal action under applicable laws.

Joint ventures and associated firms of the principal consultant are equally subject to this restriction. The Ministry of Railways reserves the right to verify all declarations.

7.2 Confidentiality

All project information, data, reports, and documentation made available to the Consultant shall be treated as strictly confidential. The Consultant shall not disclose any project-related information to any third party without prior written consent of the Ministry of Railways. This obligation shall survive the termination or completion of the contract.

7.3 Code of Conduct

The Consultant and all personnel deployed under this assignment shall adhere to the highest standards of professional ethics and integrity. Any act of bribery, corruption, fraud, coercion, or collusion shall result in immediate termination of contract, forfeiture of payments due, and referral to the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) and Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) under applicable laws.

SECTION 8 - REPORTING AND ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

8.1 Oversight Authority

The Consultant shall work under the administrative and technical oversight of the Ministry of Railways as the Sponsoring Ministry. Day-to-day coordination shall be managed through a designated Focal Person within the Ministry, in coordination with the Chief Project & Planning Officer (CPPO), Pakistan Railways Headquarters, Lahore.

8.2 Coordination with Project Directorate

The Consultant shall coordinate directly with the concerned Project Director(s) for access to project sites, documentation, records, and personnel. Project Directors shall extend full cooperation to the TPE/V team including access to site offices, records, and personnel as required.

8.3 Report Submissions

All reports shall be submitted in both hard copy (three sets) and soft copy (MS Word and PDF on USB) to the Ministry of Railways, Islamabad. The Ministry shall revert with comments within ten (10) working days of receipt of each deliverable.

8.4 Liaison with Planning Commission

A copy of the final TPE/V report shall be furnished to the Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives (MPD&SI) / Planning Commission in compliance with the CDWP decision and PM directives. The Consultant shall be available for any presentation to the Planning Commission as required.

SECTION 9 - PROPOSAL SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

9.1 Proposal Structure

Firms are required to submit separate Technical and Financial Proposals in sealed envelopes, clearly marked:

- ENVELOPE A: Technical Proposal - MOR-PSDP-TPV-2026 - [Project Name]
- ENVELOPE B: Financial Proposal - MOR-PSDP-TPV-2026 - [Project Name]
- OUTER ENVELOPE: To be addressed to the Director General Planning, Ministry of Railways, Block-D, Pak Secretariat, Islamabad.

9.2 Technical Proposal Contents

- Cover letter on firm's letterhead signed by authorized representative.
- MPD&SI pre-qualification certificate (valid copy).
- Company profile and registration documents (PEC/PCATP, NTN, GST).
- Audited financial statements for last 3 years.
- Tax returns for last 3 years and Active Taxpayer certificate.
- Relevant experience: completion certificates for min. 6 TPE/V assignments on PSDP projects above Rs. 4 billion.
- Technical approach and methodology paper.
- Proposed staffing plan with CVs of Team Leader and key experts.
- Signed Conflict of Interest Declaration (Annex-I).
- Any international affiliation certificate (if applicable).

9.3 Financial Proposal Contents

- Total lump-sum fee for the assignment, broken down by deliverable.
- Detail of man-days, daily rates, and personnel costs.
- Provision for out-of-pocket expenses (travel, per diem, printing) separately itemized.
- All costs inclusive of applicable taxes.

9.4 Pre-Bid Meeting

A mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting shall be held on 8th July 2026 at 1100 Hours at the Ministry of Railways, Islamabad. Attendance is required for eligibility to submit a proposal. Queries raised at the Pre-Bid Meeting shall be addressed in writing and circulated to all registered participants.

9.5 General Conditions

- Late proposals shall not be entertained under any circumstances.
- The Ministry of Railways reserves the right to reject any or all proposals without assigning any reason.
- Proposals shall remain valid for a period of ninety (90) days from the submission deadline.
- Canvassing in any form shall result in immediate disqualification.
- This RFP does not constitute a commitment by the Ministry to award a contract.

SECTION 10 - CONTRACT AND PAYMENT TERMS

10.1 Contract Type

A lump-sum, output-based contract shall be executed between the Ministry of Railways and the selected Consultant. The contract shall be governed by the Government of Pakistan's standard consulting services agreement and applicable laws.

10.2 Payment

Payment shall be made against submission and formal written acceptance of each deliverable as per the schedule in Section 4. All payments shall be subject to applicable withholding tax deductions. No advance payment shall be made.

10.3 Funding Source

As per the CDWP decision of 29th April 2026, the cost of TPE/V shall be met from the Contingency Head of the respective PSDP-funded project. In cases where no provision exists under the Contingency Head, or the allocated amount has been fully exhausted, a revision of the PC-I shall be processed through the competent forum before contract award.

10.4 Penalty Clause

Delays in submission of deliverables beyond the agreed timeline, attributable to the Consultant, shall attract a penalty of 0.5% of the total contract value per week of delay, subject to a maximum of 10% of the total contract value, before termination proceedings may be initiated.

ANNEX-I - CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

(To be submitted on firm letterhead, duly signed and stamped by the authorized representative)

To,
The Director General Planning,
Ministry of Railways,
Government of Pakistan, Islamabad.

Subject: Declaration of No Conflict of Interest — RFP Reference: MOR-PSDP-TPV-2026

We, [Firm Name], hereby declare and confirm that:

1. Our firm has not been involved in the design, preparation of PC-I, technical studies, construction, execution, supervision, or monitoring of the project(s) listed under RFP Reference MOR-PSDP-TPV-2026 for which this proposal is being submitted.
2. None of our firm's employees, associated firms, sub-consultants, or joint venture partners have any financial or professional interest in the project(s) under evaluation.
3. We understand and agree that any misrepresentation in this declaration shall result in immediate disqualification and may attract legal consequences under applicable laws of Pakistan.
4. We confirm our firm's independence and objectivity in undertaking the Third Party Evaluation/Validation assignment.

Name and Designation of Authorized Signatory: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Official Stamp of Firm:

ANNEX-II - GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Abbreviation	Full Form / Meaning
AWP	Annual Work Plan
BoQ	Bills of Quantities
CDWP	Central Development Working Party
CPPO	Chief Project & Planning Officer
FBR	Federal Board of Revenue
GST	General Sales Tax
MOR	Ministry of Railways
MPD&SI	Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives
NTN	National Tax Number
PC-I	Planning Commission Proforma-I (Project Document)
PCATP	Pakistan Council of Architects and Town Planners
PEC	Pakistan Engineering Council
PM	Prime Minister
PPRA	Public Procurement Regulatory Authority
PSDP	Public Sector Development Programme
RBM	Result-Based Monitoring
RFP	Request for Proposals
TOR	Terms of Reference
TPE/V	Third Party Evaluation / Validation
TRCP	Thar Rail Connectivity Project (with Port Qasim)