



Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Limited

(A State Government Undertaking)

Regd. Office: Himfed Building, BCS, New Shimla.

Ph. No: 0177-2671589 Website: www.hppcl.in

(CIN: U40101HP2006SGC030591)

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR APPOINTMENT/ EMPANELMENT OF CHARTERED
ACCOUNTANT / COST ACCOUNTANT FIRMS FOR CONDUCTING INTERNAL AUDIT FOR THE
FINANCIAL YEAR 2023-24 and 2024-25**

Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (HPPCL) invites Expression of Interest from Firms eligible under Section 138 of the Companies' Act 2013 for empanelment to appoint as Internal Auditors for the Financial Year 2023-24 and 2024-25. Firm conducted Audit of H.P. Power Corporation Ltd. for preceding last 3 years will not be eligible and need not to apply. For detailed Terms & Conditions, Scope of Work, Eligibility & Selection Criteria and Fee payable etc. **Annexure "A" to "G"** be referred by logging in to HPPCL Website: www.hppcl.in. Interested and eligible firms may submit their application in prescribed format as per **Annexure – "F"**, to the undersigned, latest by 3rd January 2024, by 03:00 P.M. and shall be opened on same date i.e. on 3rd January 2024 at 3:30 P.M. in the chamber of D.G.M.(Fin.), HPPCL, BCS, New Shimla-9. Management reserves the right to cancel the EOI at any time, without assigning any reasons.

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Director (Finance)

Internal Audit terms and conditions for the FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25

Annexure “A”

Introduction:

Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (HPPCL) was incorporated in December, 2006 under the Companies Act 1956, with the objective to plan, promote and organize the development of power generation on behalf of Government of Himachal Pradesh (GoHP). Govt. of Himachal Pradesh has allotted 16 Hydro projects with aggregate installed capacity of 2778 MW and 500MW Solar Power Projects for development under state sector to Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Ltd. (HPPCL). Out of these 276 MW of hydro projects and a 5 MW solar project are in successful operation and work is in progress on hydro projects aggregating to 658 MW.

HPPCL is actively in process of identifying suitable locations for setting up of aggregate 500MW of Solar Capacity by December 2024.

SCOPE OF INTERNAL AUDIT:

For achieving an excellence in accounting principles in compliance of the accepted Accounting Standards and physical targets linked to the budgetary allocations, the Management of a Company needs to watch and exercise effective control over the financial as well as non- financial functioning of the company. The system of Internal Audit is the best tool for the purpose. The Management of HPPCL is aware of certain weaknesses in the working of the company, especially in the area of budgetary allocation and allocation of physical targets in linkage to the financial target among others. Therefore, the following areas have been identified to fall in the scope of Internal Audit for the current financial year.

A) Budget:

1) Review of budget formation procedure.

- i. Check whether guidelines for preparation of Budget are followed and draft budget is submitted by the profit center to the competent authority and approved budget is on record.
- ii. Whether budgetary allocations for the financial year are progressively scaled over consecutive months.
- iii. Whether specific physical targets have been allotted and aligned with the financial targets set by the management.
- iv. To verify the availability of resources and their utilization on a prescribed timeline.
- v. To help in drawing the guidelines and procedures for budget preparation with specific linkage reference to physical/execution targets.

2) Review of Budget Utilization and reasons for under/over utilization.

- i. To verify submission of report on utilization of financial budgets and achievement of physical targets on suitable formats for Review of budget utilization.
- ii. To guide in for mutation of the reporting formats.
- iii. To verify and comment that the periodical bills as per physical target have been received from the executing vendors and have been paid duly accounted for in the budget and advance adjusted,
- iv. To verify and help submit proposals for necessary reallocation of budgets financial/physical targets during the currency of the budgetary period.
- v. To verify the rationality/ indispensability in submitting re-appropriation budgetary proposals. To comment on observance of time line for submission of such proposals and guide the units to carry out such exercises well within the financial year so that approvals are obtained well in time to ensure putting through the entries before 31st March of the financial year. Laxities in submitting such proposals should be specially commented upon to ensure timely annual closing and conducting of Income Tax, GST, Cost and Statutory Audits etc.

B) Land Acquisition and R&R Policies:

- i. Review of land acquisition process, reasons for delay in land acquisition and disbursement of compensation awards.
- ii. Review of follow up of Land acquisition Regular First Appeal (RFA) Cases.
- iii. Monitoring of enhancement cases and their logical follow-up at various civil / revenue court.
- iv. Review of land dispute settlement procedures, status of mutations & possession of the acquired land.
- v. Review of R&R policies and adherence thereof by projects (HEPs).
- vi. To verify status of target achievements and its social impact at ground, PAFs & PAAs level etc.

C) EMP, CAT Plan & Forest Compensation payments:

- i. To verify and comment on adherence to Govt. Policies in vogue related to EMP, CAT Plan and LADF.
- ii. To verify and comment on the status of payment of installments as per schedule under the various corporate social welfare schemes.
- iii. To comment on the status of utilization of funds by Govt. agencies on PAFs & PAAs etc. by verifying their books of expenditure.

D) Contract: Review of tendering and awarding process:

- i. Review of awarding of tenders in respect of Civil, Electro Mechanical and Infrastructure works including variation orders/amendments /extensions thereto and accounting for the expenditure there against . To take into account the following areas also:
 - a. Pre –award and post award procedures of the contract and linkage of their execution to budgetary allocation,
 - b. Availing of facilities of exemptions of excise, central excise duties and entry taxes allowed to power companies,
 - c. All the awards of Rs.1.00 Crore and above awarded/executed during the FY, under audit to be verified for adherence to execution time lines and thereby timely completion and also to comment upon their status of execution.
- ii. Review of terms & Conditions of agreements with special emphasis on adherence of time line for completion/execution and linkage with the monthly/quarterly /half yearly / yearly budgetary allocation,
- iii. To examine and comment on the reasonableness of deviations/extensions in works and their quantum.
- iv. Review of procurement procedures and authorizations (DOFP) with reference to routine / low value purchases.
- v. Review of procedure of work award to professionals and advocates.

E) F&A:

- I. Review of court cases related to all Tax matters, EPF etc.
- II. Review of FC procedures & its compliance.
- III. Compliance to statutory requirements & payment of dues related to Income Tax, GST& Custom duties etc.

F) Statutory compliances and internal controls:

To verify compliance of Companies Act 2013 with reference to Accounting Standards, as applicable and guidance Notes issued by Institute of Chartered Accountants of India from time to time. Advising on statutory requirements of the Companies Act, Accounting Standards and other various taxation laws. To report any other matters coming to notice during verification in order to strengthen internal control system and for improving MIS.

G) Work accounting:

- i. To scrutinize/verify the payment to contractors with reference to contract & adjustments and comments on timely recovery of the related advances and statutory deductions.

- ii. To check and comment on adjustment for returns, strategies, damages, unserviceable stores/material at sites.
- iii. To check timely filing of statutory tax returns and make specific comments on delay and leviability of fines for delay/short deposits etc.
- iv. To review the system for issue of project authority certificates (PAC) and re-imburement of custom duty/excise duty benefits due to subsequent legislations, so that loopholes for issue of certificates can be curtailed.
- v. To examine irregularities with specific reference to financial concurrence, release of payments, updating of accounting records, authorization as per DOFP.

(H) Insurance other claims lodged by the company:

- i. To verify timely and correct (with all the requisite documents) lodgment of the insurance claims with insurance company follow up for settlement,
- ii. Claims lodged against the company: to verify that the claims passed by the company have the approval of the competent authority.
- iii. Review the adequacy of the insurance cover for the various risks involved.

(I) Checking of FMRs (Financial Management Records):

Checking of the Financial Management Reports prepared by Corporate Office and Project Offices and confirming that the same have been made on a realistic basis, based on books of Accounts and submitted timely.

(J) Nomination/Single tender:

To examine and comment on at least 10% of the contracts awarded on single tender/nomination basis and to submit a separate report to the audit committee of the Company.

(K) Capital work-in-progress & capitalization:

The following observations/verifications will be restricted to the projects which were commissioned during the year under audit only during the current financial year.

- i. Work in progress should be verified with reference to interim payment certificate and certification of progress issued by the EIC, quantum of work in progress recorded should be compared with the awards/contracts and subsequent variations.
- ii. To verify and comment on the capitalization of assets and accounting of capital expenditure and its further distribution on specific assets as per accounting policy of the company for capitalization.
- iii. The above said areas will also include expenses on

additions/alterations/renovations/repairs etc in electrical/civil/mechanical installations.

(L) Vouching:

To verify the transaction and narration recorded in the voucher to ensure inter-alia that bookings have been made to the correct head of account.

To verify that journal numbers generated for each transaction is manually recorded on the relative voucher and another transaction serial number is manually created and punched in the system against the relative transaction.

(M) Fixed Assets:

To verify that proper records of assets of the company are maintained as per requirements of Companies (Auditors' Report) Order, 2016, issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs in terms of sub-section (11) of Section 143 of the Companies Act, 2013.

Review the system regarding accounting, custodianship and safeguarding of monetary and non-monetary assets of the enterprise and to see that the assets of the company are reasonably and adequately protected against loss. Also check that the transfer / sale of each asset is immediately and properly accounted for. Also check the applicable depreciation rates and calculation of depreciation

(N) Physical Verification of Assets:

The physical verification report may be properly checked by the Auditor.

(O) Store transactions and valuation thereof:

To verify the vouchers pertaining to stores receipts, issues and the valuation thereof. The coverage shall include purchases of stores and scrap disposal on test basis. The internal auditor while verifying these transactions shall evaluate internal control procedures operative within the enterprise for efficient materials management.

(P) Verification of secured / unsecured advances and securities given / received on behalf of the company:

- (i)** Documents / agreements relating to secured & unsecured advances to parties / Govt. Bodies shall be verified.
- (ii)** The scope includes verifications of securities deposited by the company with different authorities / parties. The internal auditor shall check and examine the purpose and the duration of such deposits and whether the deposit certificates are in safe custody for presentation at the time of claiming refund. Security deposit received from the parties

shall also be verified to ensure that the company beyond prescribed period does not retain these.

(Q) Income Recognition:

- a) To verify that income recognition is being made in conformity to Accounting Policy / procedure and the transactions are recorded accordingly.
- b) Energy audit: Audit of power generation of all projects of HPPCL on the following points:
 - Audit of energy generation, Charges, net energy sold, and reconciliation of income thereof.
 - Audit of energy consumption, costs, and specific energy consumption,
 - Suggested energy conservation measures energy savings, benefits, cost economics, monitoring and evaluation.

(R) Additional Matters:-

- Checking of accounting for the funds received and expenditure incurred against the financing by Multi/bilateral funding agencies such as world bank, ADB & AFD etc.
- All important documents including term deposit receipts, tax returns, bank guarantees, cheque books etc. are kept under safe custody,
- There is a proper mechanism that the bank guarantees are extended well before the expiry dates.
- Helping in rectification of errors and omissions observed in the course of audit.
- Guiding in location of difference in Bank Reconciliation and proper control over banking transactions.
- Review and guidance in the finalization of accounts.
- Online scrutiny of TDS deductions from payments made to contractors/suppliers and consultants.
- Review of liabilities and provisions.
- Proper accounting of expenditure and incomes accruing to the enterprise and adherence to matching principle.
- Review the system for intangible assets assessment and impairment of assets.
- To verify that all moneys received are accounted for.
- Consultancy Services: Review the terms and conditions of all consultancy contracts and report the debtors' position in case the same are overdue.

(S) Drawing of Annual Accounts of the Company, as per Ind. AS, as applicable:

In addition to the internal audit work, the appointed Internal Audit Firm has to draw and submit to the HPPCL (Hard as well as Soft Copies) the Annual Accounts both Standalone & Consolidated,

as per Ind. AS, applicable to the Company i.e. Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Accounts, along with associated statements, required schedules and Notes on accounts, complete in all respects, to the satisfaction of the Management and further submission to the Statutory Auditors for audit & submitting their report thereon. Project wise Balance Sheets also are to be drawn and submitted to the Management in both hard and soft copies (**Separate Annual Accounts in respect of all Projects**).

Code of ethics for Auditors:

1. The Internal Auditors should keep themselves away from illegal practice / dishonest arrangements.
 2. The Internal Auditors shall have an obligation to work objectively and diligently while performing his/her duties.
 3. The Internal Auditor shall not accept any gifts or hospitality from any employee, contractor, supplier or business associate of HPPCL.
 4. None of the staff of Internal Audit Team would direct or supervise the activities of any department of HPPCL, except where such activities are a part of the internal audit process.
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REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Internal Audit Reports should be divided into four separate parts, namely:

PART- I IMPORTANT OBSERVATIONS, OBJECTIONS AND RESERVATIONS:

This part should contain the auditor’s comments on all such irregularities or occurrences which auditors want to bring to the notice of management, along-with their financial implications, if any. This part should also bring out deviations (non - compliances) by units from (with) policies, systems and procedures prescribed by HPPCL. Any non-compliance with the matters/areas specified in the Guidelines/ policy of HPPCL should also be identified here. The observations should be arranged in self-contained paras, preferably with suitable titles.

PART – II COMPLIANCE REPORT:

Auditors to Report on compliance of internal audit observations outstanding as at the end of the previous year (that is, as contained in the Report of the preceding year), pending settlement, is included and details of corrective actions taken on those observations are furnished in the current year’s audit report.

PART –III REPORT ON CONTRACTS / P.Os PLACED ON SINGLE TENDER BASIS:

Internal auditors will report separately on Contracts / Work Orders (W.Os)/Purchase Orders (P.Os) placed on Single Tender basis, ascertaining the follow- up, of procedure etc.

PART – IV DETAILED REPORT:

This part shall comprise auditor’s detailed observations regarding areas specified in the Scope of the audit. However, non-compliance with the matters / areas specified in the Audit Scope which are identified in Part I of the report, should also be invariably detailed in Part IV. While, Contracts/W.Os. / P.Os placed on Single Tender basis should be reported in Part – III of the report, auditors should report their findings on all Contracts/W.Os. / P.Os placed on other than Single Tender basis in this Part (i.e. Part IV). Further, a point -wise report on the scope of audit is to be submitted a/w a certificate that the internal audit has been done as per scope of work. Further, the auditors should give specific observations along with factual data (details of transaction etc.) instead of general statement in their audit report.

Other terms & conditions:

- (a) The report should be supplemented by a statement indicating:
 - (i) Particulars of records checked along with their volume and value as compared to the total volume and value of the transactions. Auditors should also mention the entry date of the last document verified by them in the SAP system.

- (ii) A statement indicating the audit personnel deployed with their designation and the period of deployment.

- (b) Further, internal auditor is expected to have good working knowledge of “**Standard on Internal Audit**” (SIA) issued by ICAI from time to time and should invariably apply such standard while conducting internal audit and concluding his comments.

The firms shall be required to maintain highest standard of professional competence and ethics. A thorough professional approach towards work, concisely written Audit Report with concrete suggestions, clear and unambiguous approach towards issues of concern and practical solutions to the issues is highly desirable.
- (c) The report should also contain references to areas where no adverse observations have been noted. In respect of other areas, specific suggestions for improvement, if any, may also be highlighted for each area.
- (d) The results of audit should be discussed with Head of Project followed by Director (Finance) in each phase and important observations should be brought to their notice so that timely corrective actions may be taken. The report should be prepared after duly taking into account the additional information that may be provided / obtained at such discussions.
- (e) The firm shall not disclose the documented management systems to any third party including their internal department.
- (f) **Performance Security:** Firm has to deposit Performance Security in shape of Bank Demand Draft of Rs.35,000/- (Thirty Five Thousand only) and the same shall be refunded after three months period, from the date of submission of Audit Reports and Annual Accounts as per the scope of work, complete in all respects.
- (g) The firm will be required to comply with the instructions if any issued by the HPPCL.
- (h) Firm to whom the work awarded shall not sub contract the work to any other parties either in part or full.
- (i) The firm shall not be entitled to claim any additional amount for any reason whatsoever for the above Internal Audit.
- (j) In case of any dispute, the decision of HPPCL Management shall be final and binding on the firm.
- (k) The terms and conditions enumerated in this document can be modified at any time by HPPCL at its sole discretion.
- (l) **Disclaimer:** HPPCL reserves the right to cancel the audit assignment at any stage without assigning any reason, without thereby incurring any liability to the Firm concerned or any obligation to inform the Firm concerned of the grounds, for the Corporation’s action.
- (m) **Jurisdiction of courts:** Any dispute arising out of or in respect of the contract will be subject to the jurisdiction of High Court of H.P. Shimla only.

The Time Frame of Audit:

The tenure of appointments shall be at the sole discretion of the Company. The tenure for appointments shall be initially for one year. The period of appointment can further be extended for another period of one year based on the satisfactory performance of Auditors.

- 1) The Internal Audit shall be conducted as per the schedule given hereunder:

Period of Audit	Last date for completion of audit	Last date for submission of audit report
1 st April 2023 to 31 st March 2024	15 th June, 2024	20 th June, 2024
1 st April 2024 to 31 st March 2025	15 th June, 2025	20 th June, 2025

- 2) Annual Accounts complete in all respects, as specified in the scope of work must be finalized and submitted to the management by 15th July, 2024 for F.Y. 2023-24 and 15th July 2025 for F.Y. 2024-25.

Fee structure for Internal Audit:

Sr. No.	Projects/Units	Amount in rupees
1.	For projects under construction & operation stage (SHKHEP, SKHEP, Sainj HEP, IKHEP-I, IKHEP-II & III, Chanju III, 5 nos.)	45,000/-+taxes as applicable (Each Project)
2.	For projects under Investigation or pre- Construction stage (Deothal Chanju, RDP, Thana Plaun 3 nos.)	15,000/-+taxes as applicable (Each Project)
3.	Corporate Office, Shimla	45,000/- + taxes as applicable
4.	Design Wing, Sunder Nagar	15,000/- + taxes as applicable
5.	Solar Power Projects under Construction and Generation stage.	45,000/-+taxes as applicable (Lum Sum per year)

Out of pocket expenses i.e. TA/DA etc. shall be reimbursed to the partners of the CA firm, under HPPCL/H.P.Govt. rules at the rates at par with the entitlement of DGM level executive (E-7) and to its audit assistants at the rates at par with Finance Officer level executive (E-2) of the Corporation.

Further, for drawing Annual Accounts (Separate Annual Accounts in respect of Projects Under Generation) as specified in the Scope of Work, extra fee of Rs. 2.50 Lacs, plus taxes, as applicable, (each financial year) shall be paid, in addition to the Internal Audit Fee mentioned above.

Schedule of payment:**The payment to Audit Firms shall be released as under:**

1. 50% of the Audit Fee payable shall be made after acceptance of final reports of all the Units/Projects by HPPCL authorities. Audit firms are to submit fee invoices including TA/DA claims, supported by stay certificates, issued by Head of Finance of the unit/project and any other supporting documents required to process such bills. Boarding/lodging to the audit team during audit will be provided in HPPCL rest/guest house subject to availability.
2. Remaining 50% of the Audit Fee payable shall be paid after the Annual Accounts both, Standalone & Consolidated complete in all respect are drawn, placed and approved in the BoD meeting.
3. The payment for drawing of Annual Accounts shall be released on receipt of final Statutory Audit Report for the year under consideration.

Annexure “E”

Eligibility criteria:

1. Preference shall be given to the Audit Firm having its Head office or Branch Office in Himachal Pradesh.
2. The firm should have minimum 10 years' experience in carrying out Internal Audit/statutory Audit of Companies.
3. The Audit firm should have minimum three Members/Partners.
4. Minimum experience of 3 years of audit in SAP environment is compulsory.
5. Experience of at least 4 years in conducting audit of Central or State PSUs Power Generating Companies which are under construction and also some of its projects must be in commercial operations, presently generating capacity of 100 MW and above.
6. Experience of at least 4 years in drawing of Annual Accounts Standalone and Consolidated i.e. Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Account, alongwith associated statements, schedules and Notes on accounts as per the requirements of Ind. AS (as applicable) of the power generating companies, which are under construction and also some of its projects must be in commercial operations, having production capacity of 100 MW and above, along with certification of such works to be submitted by the firm.
7. Firms having maximum experience w.r.t. the above points will be given preference by giving due weightage during evaluation of technical bids.
8. The audit team should consist of at least one technically knowledgeable professional in power industry and headed every time by a Chartered Accountant / Cost Accountant (who may be a partner) and consist of adequate number of qualified/semi qualified audit assistants of the firm.

“Appointment of Internal Auditors F.Y. 2023-24 and 2024-25”

Annexure-“F”

The following information to be furnished by interesting professionals/firms on their Letter Head:

1. Name of the Firm.
2. Firm Registration no. allotted.
3. Copy of PAN Card.
4. Copy of GST Registration.
5. Address of the Head Office as well as Branch Offices (if any).
6. Contact Nos. (Landline and Mobile).
7. Details of Registration with CAG Office, if any.
8. Details of Internal Audit and Statutory Audit of companies undertaken by the firm during last five years.
9. Details of partners with their education qualification /Membership No's, if any.
10. Details of partners experience in years.
11. Details of total staff strength of the firm.
12. Turnover of the firm.
13. Details of experience as Internal Auditors of companies.
14. Details of having experience of working in ERP along with certification from the respective organization (s) where SAP is implemented is to be submitted by the firm where they have conducted audit along with the application form.
15. Details of having experience in conducting audit of Power Generating Companies which are in commercial operations, having production capacity of 100 MW and above, along with certification of such audit to be submitted by the firm.
16. Details of having experience in drawing of Annual Accounts i.e. Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Accounts both Standalone and Consolidated, as per Ind. AS of Power Companies which are under construction and also some of its projects must be in commercial operations, having production capacity of 100 MW and above, along with certification of such works to be submitted by the firm.

Declaration:

1. We confirm that the information furnished herein is correct and fair in all respects and we have the necessary documentary proof to substantiate the same. It is further confirmed that in case any of the contents contained herein are found to be incorrect, Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Ltd. is free to initiate any appropriate action against us.
2. We further declare that there have been no adverse comments/ qualification on our performance from the Management/Audit Committee.

Partner (Signature)
Name & Membership No.
Date:

Annexure – “G”

SELECTION CRITERIA (POINT ALLOCATION) FOR SELECTION OF INTERNAL AUDITORS FY 2023-24 & 2024-25 WILL BE AS FOLLOWS

Sr. No.	Particulars	Minimum requirement	Maximum marks allotted	Evaluation Criteria
1	Year of Establishment of the Audit Firm/ Limited Partnership Firms (Minimum 10 years)	10 Years	15	1 point per year
2	No. of Qualified Assistants (CA / CMA) employed with the firm	3 Qualified Assistants	10	2 (Two) per Qualified Assistant
3	Turnover of the firm (Average annual turnover in the Last three years) At least Rs.25 Lakh	25 Lakh	10	Rs. 25-30 Lakh = 5 Marks , Rs.30-40 lakh=8 Marks More than Rs. 40 lakh = 10 Marks
4	Experience of Audit in ERP (SAP) software	3 years	10	2 points per year
5	Experience of Internal / Statutory Audit assignment of Power Sector PSUs (Central/State) Power generating companies having capacity of 100 MW and above	4 years	12	2 points per year
6	Experience of Drawing of Annual Accounts as per Ind. AS requirements.	4 years	10	2 points per year
7	Place of Registered Office/Branch office of Chartered Accountant/Cost Accountant firm	--	20	H.P. at Shimla= 20 Points H.P. other than Shimla= 10 Points Chandigarh/Punjab/Haryana/ Uttrakhand = 5 points
	Total Points		87	*Maximum Marks=87 *Minimum Marks=48