

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (Eoi)

For

Deep Dredging / Desilting of Bhakra & Pong Reservoirs

Notice No.: 13/CS/C-207

Dated: 21.04.2026

1. NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) invites Expression of Interest (Eoi) from experienced, technically qualified, and financially sound agencies (Indian / International / Consortium) for:

“Deep Dredging / Desilting of Reservoirs using advanced technologies for sediment removal in submerged zones of Bhakra and Pong Reservoirs.”

This Eoi is being floated to identify:

- Prospective bidders (domestic & international)
- Proven technologies
- Execution methodologies for large-scale deep dredging in submerged reservoir conditions

2. BACKGROUND & PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) operates two of India's most significant multipurpose reservoirs, namely Bhakra Reservoir (Gobind Sagar) on River Sutlej and Pong Reservoir (Maharana Pratap Sagar) on River Beas. These reservoirs are strategic assets for:

- Irrigation
- Hydropower generation
- Flood control
- Pisciculture
- Drinking water supply to multiple northern states

2.1 Bhakra Reservoir (Gobind Sagar)

The Bhakra Reservoir is one of India's largest multipurpose reservoirs.

- Location: Himachal Pradesh
- FRL & MDDL: EL 1690 feet/ EL 1462 feet
- Design Gross Storage Capacity: 9.867 BCM
- Design Live Storage Capacity: 7.436 BCM
- Reservoir Area: ~168 sq. km at Full Reservoir Level (FRL)
- Catchment Area: ~56,980 sq. km
- River: Sutlej
- Commissioned: 1963

2.2 Pong Reservoir (Maharana Pratap Sagar)

The Pong Reservoir is another critical storage system.

- Location: Himachal Pradesh
- FRL & MDDL: EL 1400 feet/ EL 1260 feet
- Design Gross Storage Capacity: 8.571 BCM
- Design Live Storage Capacity: 7.291 BCM
- Reservoir Area: ~243 sq. km at FRL
- Catchment Area: ~12,560 sq. km
- River: Beas
- Commissioned: 1974

2.3 Sediment Load & Impact

- Both reservoirs are experiencing progressive sedimentation due to high silt inflow from Himalayan catchments characterized by fragile geology, steep slopes, deforestation, and intense rainfall events.
- Annual sediment inflow
 - Bhakra Reservoir: ~35-40 MCM
 - Pong Reservoir: ~25 MCM
- Identified Critical Zones
 - Bhakra Reservoir: Below EL 1500 ft
 - Pong Reservoir: Below EL 1300 ft
- **Key Impacts-** Over time, significant sediment deposition has reduced
 - Live storage capacity
 - Power generation efficiency
 - Reservoir life
 - Irrigation reliability

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE EoI

- Identify technically feasible and economically viable deep dredging solutions
- Explore state-of-the-art dredging technologies
- Assess market capability and interest
- **To facilitate finalization of eligibility criteria, scope, and contractual terms & conditions for the Request for Proposal (RFP) to be floated by BBMB subsequently**

4. Scope of Work

The selected agency (post-tender stage) shall be responsible for:

4.1 Surveys & Investigations

- Bathymetric surveys
- Sediment characterization
- Identification of dredging zones

4.2 Dredging Operations

Deep water dredging below the specified EL levels (Bhakra Reservoir: Below EL 1500 ft and Pong Reservoir: Below EL 1300 ft)

Use of specialized equipment such as

- Cutter suction dredgers
- Submersible dredging system with centrifugal slurry pumps
- Robotic/remote dredging technologies
- Other innovative methods

4.3 Sediment Handling & Disposal

- Pumping/transport of dredged material
- Environmentally safe disposal/reuse

4.4 Environmental & Social Safeguards

- Adherence to environmental norms
- Biodiversity protection (especially the Pong wetland ecosystem)
- Sediment management plans

5. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

5.1 Technical Eligibility:

- The interested bidder participating in the EoI should have experience in dredging works of minimum 10 MCM either in a single project or cumulatively over multiple projects, with at least one project in Reservoir / River dredging.
- Experience in Hydraulic dredging (CSD/TSHD)
- Availability of advanced dredging equipment
- Experience in sediment management / reclamation projects

5.2 Financial Eligibility:

- Average annual turnover of minimum INR 50 Cr during last 3 financial years ending 31.03.2025.
- Net worth during last financial year ending 31.03.2025, should be positive.

6. Submission Requirements

The interested bidders shall submit the following with their EoI proposal:

- Company profile
- Experience Details (Project-wise)
- Technology proposed (Methodology)
- Equipment Details
- Approach for Deep Dredging
- Innovative ideas / global best practices
- Key risks & mitigation
- Suggested implementation model
- Financial documents viz. Average annual turnover and Net worth of the last 3 Financial years, ending 31.03.2025.

7. Key Considerations for Technology

The EoI specifically seeks inputs on:

- Feasibility of dredging at deep reservoir levels
- Handling of high-water pressure & depth
- Continuous vs seasonal dredging feasibility
- Cost-effectiveness and scalability
- Minimal disturbance to dam operations

8. Outcome of EoI

Based on the consultation meeting and responses received, BBMB shall:

- Finalize the scope of work to be undertaken by the agency/contractor to be selected through the tendering process.
- Decide contract structure
- Draft detailed RFP
- Define Eligibility criteria realistically

9. Disclaimer

This EoI is not a tender. This EoI is only for information gathering, market assessment, and consultation purposes.

Participation in EoI does not guarantee qualification for the subsequent RFP to be floated by BBMB at a later stage.

This EoI is exploratory & non-binding in nature and shall not constitute any commitment on the part of BBMB for award of work based on this EoI.

BBMB reserves the right to:

- Accept or reject any submission
- Modify scope at any stage
- Cancel the EoI without assigning any reason

Interested bidders are strongly advised to undertake a site visit to familiarize/satisfy themselves with the project site conditions, available infrastructure, and other relevant aspects so as to make their proposal more realistic for submission to BBMB.

10. Timeline (Indicative)

- Issue of EoI: 21.04.2026
- Interaction/Consultation meeting: 18.05.2026 at 03:00 PM
- Last Date for Submission of EoI proposal: 01.06.2026

11. Contact Details

Director/Consultancy, Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB), Chandigarh

Email: dir-consultancy@bbmb.nic.in, ddcons@bbmb.nic.in

Phone: 9463998265