स्कूल शिक्षा एवं साक्षरता विभाग
शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
Department of School Education & Literacy
Ministry of Education, Government of India

राष्ट्रीय e-पुस्तकालय
Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya

NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya, a free National Digital Library for children and adolescents, an initiative of the Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, Government of India, implemented by the National Book Trust, India, invites Expression of Interest (EOI) for the empanelment of publishers for the selection and procurement of e-books for Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya, with the objective of enriching the book collection on the platform.

Non-academic books (e-books) suitable for Young Adults (14+ years) that promote and inculcate the habit of reading are intended to be procured in the following languages: Assamese, Bangla, Bhojpuri, Bilingual, Bodo, Dogri, English, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Maithili, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Santhali, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, as well as other Indian regional and tribal languages.

Eligible and interested book publishers are requested to visit for the detailed process and guidelines. https://www.nbtindia.gov.in/.

Mode of submission	https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app
Submission Start Date:	16/09/2026
Submission End Date:	16/10/2026 at 17:00 hrs

Any amendments/extensions to the submission deadline for the EOI will be published on the above-mentioned website.



The decision of the Competent Authority of the Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat regarding the empanelment of publishers and procurement of e-books shall be final and binding.

For any queries, publishers may write to rashtriyaepustakalaya@gmail.com

राष्ट्रीय पुस्तक न्यास, भारत
शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
NATIONAL BOOK TRUST, INDIA
Ministry of Education, Government of India

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NATIONAL BOOK TRUST, INDIA
Ministry of Education, Government of India

Expression of Interest

for

Empanelment of Publishers for

Selection & Procurement of e-books for

राष्ट्रीय e-पुस्तकालय
Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya

Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya , National Book Trust, India

Department of School Education and Literacy

Ministry of Education, Government of India

Reference Number- ReP/2026-27/01 dated 16/09/2026

Disclaimer:

The information contained in this Expression of Interest ("EoI") document or subsequently provided to Applicants, whether verbally or in documentary or any other form by or on behalf of Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya or any of its employees or advisers, is provided to Applicants on the terms and conditions set out in this EoI and such other terms and conditions subject to which such information is provided.

This EoI is not an agreement or an offer by Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat, at National Book Trust, India to the prospective Applicants or any other person. The purpose of this EoI is to provide interested parties with information that may be useful to them in the formulation of their Proposal/responses pursuant to this EoI. This EoI includes statements, which reflect various assumptions and assessments arrived at by the Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat, at National Book Trust, India in relation to the subject and scope of work of this EoI. Such assumptions, assessments and statements do not purport to contain all the information that each applicant may require. This EoI may not be appropriate for all persons, and it is not possible for Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat, at National Book Trust, India, its employees or advisors to consider the objectives, technical expertise and particular needs of each party who reads or uses this EoI. The assumptions, assessments, statements and information contained in this EoI, may not be complete, accurate, adequate or correct. Each Applicant should, therefore, conduct its own investigations and analysis and should check the accuracy, adequacy, correctness, reliability and completeness of the assumptions; assessments and information contained in this EoI and obtain independent advice from appropriate sources.

Information provided in this EoI to the Applicants may be on a wide range of matters, some of which may depend upon interpretation of law. The information given is not intended to be an exhaustive account of statutory requirements and should not be regarded as a complete or authoritative statement of law. Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat, at National Book Trust, India accepts no responsibility for the accuracy or otherwise for any interpretation or opinion on the law expressed herein.

Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat, at National Book Trust, India, its employees and advisers make no representation or warranty and shall have no liability to any person including any Applicant under any law, statute, rules or regulations or not, principles of restitution or unjust enrichment or otherwise for any loss, damages, cost or expense which may arise from or be incurred or suffered on account of anything contained in this EoI or otherwise, including the

accuracy, adequacy, correctness, reliability or completeness of the EoI and any assessment, assumption, statement or information contained therein or deemed to form part of this EoI or arising in any way in this selection process.

Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat, at National Book Trust, India also accepts no liability of any nature whether resulting from negligence or otherwise however caused arising from reliance of any applicants upon the statements contained in this EoI.

Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat, at National Book Trust, India may, in its absolute discretion, but without being under any obligation to do so, update, amend or supplement the information, assessment or assumption contained in this EoI.

The issue of this EoI does not imply that the Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat, at National Book Trust, India is bound to select an Applicant or to appoint the Selected Applicant(s), as the case may be and Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat, at National Book Trust, India reserves the right to reject all or any of the Proposal/response(s) without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

The Applicant shall bear all its costs associated with or relating to the preparation and submission of its proposal/response including but not limited to preparation, copying, postage, delivery fees, expenses associated with any demonstrations or presentations which may be required by Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat, at National Book Trust, India, or any other costs incurred in connection with or relating to its proposal/response. All such costs and expenses will remain with the Applicant and Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat, at National Book Trust, India shall not be liable in any manner whatsoever for the same or for any other costs or other expenses incurred by an Applicant in preparation or submission of the Proposal/response, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the Selection Process.

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Abbreviations and Definitions

Authorised Signatory	The publisher's representative/ officer vested (explicitly, implicitly, or through conduct) with the powers to commit the authorizing organization to a binding agreement. Also called signing officer/authority having the Power of Attorney (PoA) from the competent authority of the respective Bidding firm.
Committee	Empowered Committee, Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat, at National Book Trust, India for evaluation of responses submitted by publishers
Competent Authority	An authority or officer to whom the relevant administrative or financial powers have been delegated for taking decision in a matter relating to procurement/Empanelment.
Day	A calendar day as per Government of India
Effective date	The date on which the contract comes into force and effect
EoI Document	Documents issued by the procuring entity, including any amendments thereto, that set out the terms and conditions of the given procurement and includes the invitation to bid.
GoI	Government of India
GSTIN	Goods and Services Tax Identification Number
INR	Indian Rupee
LoI	Letter of Intent
MoE	Ministry of Education, Government of India
NBT / NBT – India	National Book Trust, India
PAN	Permanent Account Number
Proposal/response	Proposal/responses submitted by publishers in response to the EoI issued by the Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat, at National Book Trust, India for empanelment of publishers
Publisher / Agency / Firm /Supplier	Any person/ firm/ agency/ company/ contractor/ supplier/ vendor / publisher participating in the empanelment process
Working Days	Working days is defined as working days as per Government of India and working hours are defined as 09:00 hours till 18:00 hours Indian Standard Time

1. Invitation for Proposal/response

1.1 Data Sheet

Sl. No.	Information	Details
1	Date of Publishing of EoI document	16.09.2026 through www.nbtindia.gov.in | www.ndl.education.gov.in
3	Place, Time and Date of pre-bid submission meeting.	Conference Hall, Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat, 3rd Floor, National Book Trust, 5 Institutional Area, Phase-II Vasant Kunj, New Delhi -110070 on **25.09.2026** at 15:00 hrs
4	Last date and time for submission of response	**16.10.2026** up to 17:00 hrs.
5	Opening of EOI Response	**19.10.2026 at 11:00** At Conference Hall, Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat, National Book Trust, 5 Institutional Area, Phase-II Vasant Kunj, New Delhi -110070
6	Contact Person for queries	Name: Mr. Kumar Vikram, Chief Editor and Joint Director Mobile Number: 9319703004 E-mail: rashtriyaepustakalaya@gmail.com
7	Address at which proposal/any response to EoI notice is to be submitted:	Director, NBT-India Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat, 3rd Floor, National Book Trust, India 5, Institutional Area, Phase-II, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi – 110070 Email: epustakalaya@nbtindia.gov.in
8	Bid validity	120 days from the date of bid opening

2. Project Profile & Background Information

2.1. About Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya

The Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya, a one of its kind digital library, facilitates availability of quality non-academic books across geographies, languages, genres and levels, and enables device agnostic accessibility. The Digital Library consists of non-academic books for children and adolescents categorized in four age groups i.e., 3-8, 8-11, 11-14, and 14+ years respectively. The books cover different genres for children and adolescents like fiction, non-fiction, biographies, poetry, classics, comics, novels, etc. The repository of books in Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya focus on history, culture, scientific achievements, and other significant facets of India.

For providing access, applications have been developed for the initiative, which currently hosts over 7000+ books sourced from more than 250+ publishers, in 25+ languages, and spanning across 21 genres. The Android and iOS applications may be downloaded from the Google Play Store and Apple App Store respectively. The library shall also be made available via web browser through the URL https://ndl.education.gov.in.

The download links for the app are –

Android: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=national.digital.library

iOS: https://apps.apple.com/in/app/rashtriya-e-pustakalaya/id6475687147

Universal QR Code for downloading the app



2.2. About National Book Trust, India

The National Book Trust (NBT), India, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Education, was established in 1957 to promote literacy and reading culture. Its main objectives include the production, publication, and distribution of high-quality, affordable books, and promoting literacy across India. The NBT organizes various initiatives such as book fairs, seminars, and workshops, and supports authors and publishers. It publishes a diverse range of books and distributes them across India and internationally. The NBT has been recognized for its

contributions to literature and literacy in India and confers awards like the National Book Awards.

The National Book Trust (NBT), India — the nodal body for promoting a reading culture and fostering book development in the country — plays a key role in publishing books for children and adolescents, and is also actively engaged in the production of e-books. NBT has been entrusted with the responsibility of managing the operations, maintenance, and enhancement of the Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya digital platform.

As part of this initiative, NBT aims to expand the platform's collection of non-academic digital books in multiple Indian languages and to actively engage a wide audience of children and adolescents through rich and diverse content.

In this context, Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat at the National Book Trust, India, is inviting publishers who share a passion for promoting reading habits to collaborate with us. We seek collaboration with publishers who are committed to enriching young minds and are interested in contributing to this national effort to make reading accessible and enjoyable for all.

3. Scope of work

The scope of work in this section is not exhaustive and the empanelled publishers may have to undertake other responsibilities as may be necessary or incidental to accomplish the objectives outlined in this EoI.

The empanelled publishers are expected to adhere to the below mentioned scope of work:

1. The empanelled publishers shall provide acceptable and age-appropriate e-books for ages 8–11, 11–14, and 14+ (Young Adults) across genres such as Classics, Mystery, Thriller, Historical, Fiction, Science and Technology, Sports and Fitness, Adventure, etc., with a special emphasis on promoting Indian Knowledge System, rich history, traditions and achievements of India. The books shall be specifically suitable for readers aged 14+ years. Please note that the list of genres is indicative in nature only and may be expanded.
2. The empanelled publisher must provide e-books in the specified formats, namely, ePUB / searchable PDF that can be accessed on Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya app after the successful selection of titles by the Committee.

3. The empanelled publishers must ensure to take all the necessary consent and approvals from the authors / illustrators / artists / translators / legal owners etc. or their legal heirs of the intellectual properties as per the Copyright Act, 1957 and the Copyright Rules, 2013 prior to making the e-books available on the Rashtriya e-

Pustakalaya platform. Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya or Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat, at National Book Trust, India shall, in no way, be responsible for any claims from authors / illustrators / artists / translators / legal owners etc. or their legal heirs of the intellectual properties as per the Copyright Act, 1957 and the Copyright Rules, 2013 for any material sourced from the empanelled publishers.

4. The empanelled publishers shall ensure necessary licensing agreements for any sourced material and adherence to copyright laws for uninterrupted hosting and access on Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya. This may include, but not be limited to, extending contracts with the respective copyright holders at their own cost.

5. The empanelled publishers shall have to ensure that the contents are relevant to the specific age groups and to the target groups of the Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya platform with special emphasis on promoting Indian Knowledge System, rich history, tradition and achievements of India.

6. The empanelled publishers must provide content having ISBN / RNI registrations only.

7. The empanelled publishers shall provide the metadata of the e-books in the format provided and ensure periodic updates, if any, regarding the same.

4. Eligibility criteria

The criteria given in the succeeding paragraphs must strictly be fulfilled by the publisher. The publisher must submit documentary evidence in support of their claim for fulfilling the criteria and they should submit an undertaking on their letter heads to the fairness of these documents in support of their claim while submitting the Bid(s). The bids received without documentary evidence will be outrightly rejected.

The publisher participating in the procurement/empanelment process shall possess the following minimum pre-qualification/ eligibility criteria.

S. No.	Basic Requirement	Specific Requirements	Documents Required
1.	Legal Entity	The publisher should be a company registered under The Companies Act, 2013 OR An LLP firm registered under The Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008 OR A Trust Registered under The Indian Trusts Act, 1882 OR A Society Registered under The Societies Registration Act, 1860 OR A partnership firm registered under The Indian Partnership Act, 1932. OR A Proprietorship firm duly registered under Shops & Establishment Act / Labour Department / GST Registration / Any other statutory department.	- Copy of valid Registration Certificate OR - Copy of Certificate of incorporation
2.	ISBN / RNI Registration	The publisher must have valid ISBN / RNI Registration	Relevant Document to be submitted
3.	Tax registration	The publisher should posses i. GST Registration, if applicable ii. PAN iii. Aadhar Card, if applicable	Copies of relevant documents
4.	Mandatory Undertaking	a) The Publisher should not be blacklisted by Government of India or its agencies for any reasons whatsoever and/or the Publisher should not be blacklisted by Central / any other State/UT Government or its agencies for corrupt or fraudulent practices or for indulging in unfair trade practices or for	A Self Certified letter as per Annexure-3: Self-Declaration

S. No.	Basic Requirement	Specific Requirements	Documents Required
		backing out from execution of contract after award of work. The Publisher shall submit an affidavit to this effect. b) The publisher, and / or their directors and officers should not have been convicted of any criminal offence related to their qualification and professional conduct or the making of false statements or misrepresentations as to their qualifications to enter a procurement contract within a period of three years preceding the commencement of the procurement process, or not have been otherwise disqualified pursuant to debarment proceedings. c) The Publisher should not have a conflict of interest in the empanelment in question as specified in the EoI document. d) The Publisher must indemnify the Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya / Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat at NBT-India for any claims from authors / illustrators / artists / translators / legal owners etc. or their legal heirs of the intellectual properties as per the Copyright Act, 1957 and the Copyright Rules, 2013 for any material sourced from the empanelled publishers.	

5. General information and instructions for the Publishers

5.1 The Expression of Interest (EoI) can be downloaded from the website www.nbtindia.gov.in and www.ndl.education.gov.in

5.2 Interested applicants are advised to study the document carefully. Submission of responses shall be deemed to have been done after careful study and examination of the document with full understanding and its implications.

5.3 The Publisher shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of its bid and Content Procurement Committee, Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat at National Book Trust, India will be in no case be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bid process.

5.4 Each offer shall specify only a single response meeting the specifications and it is the responsibility of the Publisher to decide the most appropriate solution to meet the specified requirements.

5.5 Publishers are neither allowed to join hands to participate in the tender nor allowed to submit multiple bids. In case of detection of such, their responses (s) is/are liable to be rejected.

5.6 The publisher is allowed to submit maximum of **100 titles per bid**. Any titles submitted beyond this limit shall not be considered for review.

5.7 The publisher must submit one copy each in printed book format to Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat within one week of submission of EoI.

5.8 The Competent Authority of Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat at National Book Trust, India reserves the right to empanel any publisher or cancel the process without assigning any reason. In case of differences, if any, the decision of the Competent Authority of Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat, at National Book Trust, India shall be final. Multiple agencies may be empanelled as per the requirement of Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya. Initially the empanelment will be for three years and can be extended up to five years at the discretion of competent authority. The empanelment shall, however, be subject to an annual review, and the continuation of individual titles on the Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya platform shall be subject to the requirements and suitability of Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya. Accordingly, certain titles may be discontinued or removed from the platform based on the outcome of such review or as deemed appropriate by the Competent Authority.

5.9 The Competent Authority of Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat at National Book Trust, India reserves the right to accept any response under this EoI in full or in part, or to reject any response or all responses without assigning any reason.

5.10 The Publishers, at no point of time, can excuse themselves from any claims by The Competent Authority of Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat at National Book Trust, India whatsoever for their deviations in conforming to the terms and conditions, payment schedules, timeframe for implementation etc. as mentioned in Expression of Interest (EoI) document.

5.11 The Publisher has to adhere to the time schedule of activities mentioned in the Expression of Interest (EoI) and no request to change the last date or extend period / time for submission shall be entertained by The Competent Authority of Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat at National Book Trust, India. However, the Competent Authority reserves the right to extend the date/time for submission of the responses without assigning any reason by notifying in its website.

5.12 The Competent Authority of Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat at National Book Trust, India reserves the right to divide the scope and may empanel multiple/different Publishers.

5.13 To assist in the examination, evaluations, and comparison of responses, the Competent Authority of Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat at National Book Trust, India may, at its sole discretion, ask the participating publishers for clarification on the responses submitted. The request for clarification shall be in writing, through e-mail. The response shall be submitted in writing by the authorised representative of the Publisher. If the response to the clarification is not received before the expiry of deadline prescribed in the request, the submission may subject to be rejected. No representation in this regard would be entertained after such rejection of the responses.

5.14 The response document should be electronically/type-written and there should not be any overwriting. The response Document shall be signed by a person duly authorized by the Publisher.

5.15 The person signing the response Document shall sign and stamp at the bottom of all pages of the Response Document and each page of the response document should be properly numbered and submitted as a package along with forwarding letter on Participating publisher's letter head. Any correction/overwriting/cutting/use of whitener etc. may lead to rejection of the Response.

5.16 All the Participating Publishers have to abide by all the terms and conditions mentioned in this EoI document.

5.17 Information relating to the clarification, evaluation and comparison of Responses, and recommendations for the award of the empanelment shall not be disclosed to Participating Publishers or any other persons until the award of empanelment to the successful Publisher has been announced.

5.18 Notwithstanding anything contained in this document, the Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat at National Book Trust, India reserves the right to cancel/terminate the

empanelment process without assigning any reason whatsoever, at any time, prior to declaration of the results and it shall have no liability for above-mentioned actions.

5.19 Any response received by ReP, NBT-India after the deadline for submission of Responses prescribed in this document, will be summarily rejected and returned unopened to the Publisher. ReP, NBT-India shall not be responsible for any delay or non-receipt / non-delivery of the documents. No further correspondence on this subject will be entertained.

5.20 ReP, NBT-India will open Expression of Interest (EoI) as per schedule. The participating publisher may depute their authorised representative for the event. The Participating Publisher's representative who is present shall sign the attendance roll evidencing his/her attendance. Even if no representative of the Participating Publisher is available, the Expression of Interest (EoI) would be opened as per schedule. In the event of the specified date being declared a holiday the Expression of Interest (EoI) shall be opened at the appointed time and location on the next working day.

5.21 The Response to EOI shall be submitted duly filled by downloading EoI document from website. Response to EOI may be rejected at any stage of the evaluation if it is found that any participating publisher has provided misleading information or has been blacklisted by a Central or a State government or has indulged in malpractice/unethical practice or not honoured contractual obligation elsewhere. A response that does not meet all pre-qualification criteria or is not responsive shall be rejected by the Competent Authority of ReP, NBT-India and will not subsequently be made responsive by correction or withdrawal of the nonconforming deviation or any reservation by the Participating Publisher.

5.22 The Response shall be valid for acceptance for a period of at least 120 days from the last date of submission of Response. However, the parties may extend the validity period of the responses based on mutual agreement.

6. Financial Response

6.1. Participating publishers shall quote prices exclusive of all applicable taxes, not exceeding the standardized annual subscription rates outlined below.

S. No.	Number of Pages	Rate per page (in Rs.)
1.	Up to 32 Pages	Upto 300.00
2.	33–64 Pages	Upto 200.00
3.	65-144 Pages	Upto 100.00
4.	145-256 Pages	Upto 75.00
5.	257-512 Pages	Upto 50.00

6.2. The participating publisher should quote their most competitive prices/rates. Any quote exceeding the above prescribed standard rates will not be considered for selection.

6.3. All prices/rates should be clearly written both in figures and in words. Failure to write prices/rates both in figures and in words shall render the participating publisher liable for rejection. Participating Publishers should ensure that there are no alterations / corrections in the prices/rates submitted by them.

6.4. In case of a discrepancy between the prices/rates in figures and words, the prices/rates in words will be considered correct.

6.5. The prices/rates quoted shall be firm throughout the period of the validity of the offer and subsequently during the currency of the contract and shall not be subject to any variation/revision.

6.6. Financial Responses of all eligible participating publishers will be opened and compared. The date, time and venue of opening of financial quotations will be intimated by call, e-mail or through notice published in the website of Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat at National Book Trust, India.

6.7. During the contract period, the publishers shall need to provide updated editions of the e-books, if any, without any incremental charges.

7. Selection Criteria

7.1 Content Evaluation

The Competent Authority of Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat at National Book Trust, India will evaluate applications based on several criteria, including the quality and relevance of content, pricing competitiveness, and adherence to copyright laws.

7.1.1 Quality and Relevance of Content: Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya seeks e-books that uphold high standards of literary merit, accuracy, and relevance to the diverse interests and needs of our readership. Publishers are encouraged to submit works that demonstrate originality, depth of research, and engagement with contemporary issues.

7.1.2 Pricing Competitiveness: Publishers are invited to propose competitive pricing, upto the standardised limit indicated above, for their e-books, taking into consideration market trends

and affordability for readers. Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya aims to offer a diverse range of e-books at no cost to the end users, in order to ensure inclusivity and affordability for all readers.

7.1.3 Adherence to Copyright Laws: Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya places utmost importance on respecting intellectual property rights and adhering to copyright laws. Publishers must provide assurances that the e-books they offer for inclusion in the digital library are authorized for distribution and do not infringe upon the rights of any third parties. Proper documentation validating copyright ownership or licensing agreements may be required as part of the application process.

7.1.4 Accessibility and Inclusivity: Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya values accessibility and inclusivity in literature. Publishers are encouraged to consider accessibility features such as text-to-speech functionality, adjustable font sizes, and compatibility with screen readers to ensure that e-books are accessible to readers with diverse needs, including those with visual or print disabilities.

7.1.5 Diversity of Content: Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya aims to curate a digital library that reflects the rich cultural and linguistic diversity of India. Publishers are encouraged to submit e-books representing a wide range of genres, languages, and perspectives, including works by emerging authors and voices from marginalized communities.

7.1.6 Technical Specifications: E-books submitted for consideration should meet technical specifications compatible with Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya's digital platform. This includes adherence to standard e-books formats, namely, ePUB / searchable PDF / InDesign and compatibility with common reading devices and software.

7.1.7 Content Hosting for Evaluation -The publisher shall provide a No Objection Certificate (NOC) permitting Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya to host the proposed titles for a period of 90 days on the ReP website and application for platform compatibility testing and internal evaluation. Such hosting shall be entirely free of cost and shall not create any financial obligation, payment, royalty, compensation, or liability whatsoever on Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya, National Book Trust, and the Ministry. The publisher shall have no claim in this regard.

7.1.8 Disclaimer: The publisher must ensure that the content uploaded on the platform maintain the standard ethics of the content in a way that it should not hurt any caste, creed, gender, race etc. and wherever India's national symbol or national anthem or national flag is used, it follows the standard protocol.

7.2 Best Rates:

Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya is committed to ensuring that the readers have access to high-quality content without paying any charges. As such, publishers offering competitive rates below the standardised limit will be given preference for inclusion in the digital library. It recognizes the

importance of balancing quality with affordability to provide value to the readers while supporting the sustainability of the publishing industry.

7.2.1 Publishers are encouraged to submit pricing proposals that reflect market competitiveness and align with the goal of making literature accessible to a wide audience. While Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya values quality and diversity in content, it also prioritizes affordability to ensure inclusivity and accessibility for all readers, regardless of their financial means.

7.2.2 By offering competitive rates, publishers not only contribute to the expansion of the digital library but also play a vital role in promoting a culture of reading and lifelong learning across diverse communities. Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya believes that fair and reasonable pricing fosters a symbiotic relationship between publishers, readers, and Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya, ultimately enriching the literary landscape of the nation.

7.2.3 Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya looks forward to partnering with publishers who share the commitment to provide high-quality content to the larger stakeholders of India, thereby enriching the reading experience for audiences nationwide.

7.3 Diverse Content:

Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya is committed to curating a digital library that mirrors the rich tapestry of India's literary heritage. Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat extends a warm invitation to publishers to contribute e-books that embrace the diverse literary landscape of the nation. This includes works in regional languages, as well as those tailored for different age groups and interests.

7.3.1 Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya encourages publishers to submit e-books that showcase the richness of regional languages, dialects, and literary traditions. By amplifying voices from every corner of the country, it aims to foster a deeper appreciation for the linguistic diversity that defines India with a special emphasis on promoting Indian Knowledge System, rich history, tradition and achievements of India.

7.3.2 In addition to linguistic diversity, Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya recognizes the importance of catering to readers of all ages and interests. From children's books to young adult fiction, from literary classics to contemporary bestsellers, the publishers are invited to offer a diverse array of content that appeals to a wide spectrum of readers. By providing literature that resonates with readers at different stages of life and with varied interests, Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya strives to create a digital library that is inclusive and accessible to all.

7.3.3 Through the inclusion of diverse content, Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya hopes to not only celebrate the richness of Indian literature but also promote cross-cultural understanding and appreciation. By exploring stories and perspectives from diverse backgrounds, readers can gain insights into the complexities of Indian society and develop empathy and respect for different cultures and experiences.

7.3.4 Publishers play a crucial role in shaping the literary landscape of the nation, and Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya invites them to join hands in this endeavour.

7.4 Long-term Partnership:

7.4.1 Regular Updates and Additions: Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya is committed to keeping our digital library dynamic and up to date. Selected publishers will have the opportunity to regularly update and add new e-books to our collection, ensuring that readers always have access to fresh and relevant content.

7.4.2 Collaborative Curation: Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya recognizes the expertise and insights that publishers bring to the curation process. Its long-term partnership programme encourages publishers to collaborate with Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya in curating the digital library, selecting e-books that resonate with the readership and reflect the diversity of India's literary landscape.

7.4.4 Reader Feedback and Engagement: Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya values the feedback from its readers and actively seek to engage with them to enhance their reading experience. Publishers will have the opportunity to receive feedback from readers through the app.

Interested publishers are invited to submit their applications detailing the e-books they wish to onboard, along with pricing information with in the standardised rates and any other relevant details. The deadline for submissions is **00th Month 2026 by 00:00 hrs**

Please send your applications addressed to:

Director-NBT India,
Rashtriya e-Pusakalaya Secretariat,
National Book Trust India, 5, Nehru Bhavan,
Institutional Area, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi 110070.

For any inquiries or clarification regarding the Expression of Interest (EoI) process, Kindly mail at: rashtriyaepustakalaya@gmail.com.

Annexure 1: Details of the participating publishers

Sr. No.	<Name of participating publisher>	Response
1	Name, Designation and Contact Details of the Authorized Signatory	<Details>
2	Registered/Head office Address	<Details>
3	Year of Establishment	<Details>
4	Mobile No.	<Details>
5	Website URL, if available	<Details>
6	E Mail address of contact person	<Details>
7	Indicate if the organization has been blacklisted or unable to service its obligations towards Book Publication in the past? If so, details may be provided.	<Details>

Annexure 2: Covering Letter

(On Participating Publisher's Letter head)

Date: _____

To,
<Name >
<Designation>
Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat,
3rd Floor, National Book Trust, India
5, Institutional Area,Phase-II, Vasant Kunj,
New Delhi – 110070

Sub: Empanelment of Publishers for procurement of e-books for Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya
Ref. No. _____

Sir,

We hereby propose to provide e-books for "Empanelment of Publishers for procurement of e-books for Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya" as outlined in your EoI document.

We have understood the instructions and the terms and conditions mentioned in the EoI Document furnished by you and have thoroughly examined the detailed scope of work laid down by you and are fully aware of nature and scope of work required. We hereby confirm our acceptance and compliance to the provisions and terms & conditions contained in the EoI Document.

We confirm that the prices quoted by us in the "Financial Response" are firm and shall not be subject to any variation for the entire period of the contract.

We further confirm that any deviation to the clauses found anywhere in our proposal, implicit or explicit, shall stand unconditionally withdrawn, without any implication whatsoever to Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya, failing which the proposal may summarily be rejected.

We warrant that our offer do not violate or infringe upon any patent, copyright, trade secret or other property right of any other person or other entity. We agree that we shall waive Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya from any claim or demand, action or proceeding, directly or indirectly

resulting from or arising out of any breach or alleged breach of any of the terms & conditions of Response document and contract.

We certify that all the information provided in our Response, including the information regarding the copyright status, is true. We understand that any wilful misstatement in the response may lead to disqualification or cancellation of award if made or termination of contract. We also understand that in such a case we may be debarred for future assignments with GoI, for a period of maximum three years from the date of such disqualification.

Yours faithfully,

(Signature of the Participating publisher)
Printed Name
Designation
Seal
Date:
Business Address:

Annexure 3: Self-Declaration

(On Rs. 100 non-judicial stamp paper, duly notarised)

This is to certify that **<< COMPANY NAME >>** having its registered office at <<address>>

a) is not blacklisted by the Government of India or any of its agencies for any reasons whatsoever and not blacklisted by any other State/UT Government or its agencies for indulging in corrupt or fraudulent practices or for indulging in unfair trade practices and not backed out from executing the work after award of the work as on the DD/MM/2024.
b) is not insolvent / in receivership / bankrupt or being wound up and does not have its affairs administered by a court or a judicial officer, not have its business activities suspended and is not the subject of legal proceedings for any of the foregoing reasons
c) does not have a conflict of interest as mentioned in the response document which materially affects fair competition.
d) indemnifies the Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya / Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya Secretariat at NBT-India for any claims from authors / illustrators / artists / translators / legal owners etc. or their legal heirs of the intellectual properties as per the Copyright Act, 1957 and the Copyright Rules, 2013 for any material sourced from the empanelled publishers.

If this declaration is found to be incorrect then without prejudice to any other action that may be taken as per the provisions of the applicable Act and Rules thereto prescribed by GoI, my/ our proposal/response may be summarily rejected.

_____

Signature
Name of Signatory:
Designation:
Participating Publisher Name:
Date:
Place:

Annexure-5: Pre-submission query format

To be filled by the responding publisher and shared via email to:

rashtriyaepustakalaya@gmail.com

Name of the Company/Firm:

Name of Person(s) Representing the Company/ Firm:

Name of Person	Designation	Email-ID(s)	Tel. Nos. & Fax Nos.

Company/Firm Contacts:

Contact Person(s)	Address for Correspondence	Email-ID(s)	Tel. Nos. & Fax Nos.

Query / Clarification Sought:

S.No.	Page Number	Point No.	Detailed point	Query/Suggestion/ Clarification

Note: - Queries must be strictly submitted in the prescribed format of both Excel (.XLS/ .XLSX/) and PDF only with duly seal and sign on each page. Queries not submitted in the prescribed format will not be considered for response by the empanelling entity.