

**Request for Proposal (RFP)**

**For**

**"Empanelment of Agencies for undertaking diagnostic study in assigned clusters (blocks) under the Central Sector Scheme for formation and promotion of 10000 FPO in Bihar"**

**Bihar State Cooperative Bank  
Bihar**



**Notice for Inviting Proposals from eligible research agencies to conduct diagnostic study in the blocks towards formation and promotion of FPOs by Bihar State Cooperative Bank Ltd. and District Central Cooperative Bank Ltd. as CBBO in the state of Bihar**

Government of India formulated a Central Sector Scheme (CSS) viz., "Formation and Promotion of 10000 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)" in India. The Scheme was launched by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare (DAC&FW), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MoA & FW), Government of India for formation and promotion of 10,000 FPOs in the year 2020. The formation and promotion of FPO clusters is to be promoted by the CBBOs. Bihar State Cooperative Bank Ltd. (SCB) and District Central Cooperative Bank Ltd. (DCCB) are also directed to form and promote FPOs as CBBOs by order dated 2/06/2023 of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare, Government of India.

As part of the intervention, diagnostic study in the blocks has to be carried by the CBBO for formation and promotion of the FPOs. The said RFP is for empanelment of eligible and reputed agencies to undertake the diagnostic study in **100 blocks of Bihar State.**

Event	Date and Time
Date of Publication of RFP	19.12.2024
Query submission date	23.12.2024
Last date of Submission	31.12.2024 By 2 :00 PM

The complete details viz. term of reference and evaluation process, for submission of proposal can be downloaded from Bihar State Cooperative Bank Ltd. (SCB) portal <https://biharscb.co.in/> and the proposal shall be submitted only through hardcopy mode.

**Managing Director**

**Bihar State Cooperative Bank Ltd.**

Address- Ashok Rajpath, Patna-800004, Bihar

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## Overview

The agriculture sector has tremendous potential for generation of employment opportunities and consequently, mitigating the levels of rural poverty. These objectives can be achieved only if concerted efforts are made to realize the untapped potential of this sector. Low productivity in many crops, imbalance in regional development, post-harvest losses and inadequate processing facilities are some of the major weaknesses that are hindering the growth of the agriculture sector. Also, there is a critical need for establishment of efficient linkages between the producers and the consumers and better marketing of agricultural products. This shall lead to generation of employment opportunities for rural population as well as enhance the income levels of the populace associated with the agriculture sector. The development of farmer producer linkages and marketing of agricultural products can be efficiently undertaken by Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) that facilitate agglomeration of the produce.

Bihar State Cooperative Bank Ltd. (SCB) and District Central Cooperative Bank Ltd. (DCCB) as CBBO has been mandated by National Cooperative Development Corporation, to form and promote the FPOs in 100 blocks of Bihar. Before the entry level activities, diagnostic/feasibility study has to be done by the CBBO in the respective blocks.

## Purpose of diagnostic study

The study including the baseline will focus on finding out produce and socio-cultural similarity, existing gaps and potential activity. The study will also observe interventions in terms of existing infrastructure, services required in the value chain of agricultural and horticulture produce including post-harvest management and marketing. The Baseline survey should identify current situation of farming, small, marginal and landless farmers for aggregation and to identify minimum geographical area for potential intervention.

## Eligibility Criteria:

Description	Means of Verification
Agency must be registered as a legal entity under the Company's Act/Section-8 of the Company Act/LLP/Society Registration Act/Trust.	Copy of MOA, PAN, TAN, NGO Darpan Registration (in case of civil society organisation)
Financial Turnover of last one year should not be less than 20 lacs	Audit report
Age of the organisation should not be less than 1.5 years. Startups are encouraged to apply	Certificate of incorporation
Experience of research studies: At-least 2 research study/diagnostic/feasibility study in 2 states	Agreement document and sample reports
Experts / Human Resource: the CEO/Director/Secretary should have at least minimum 15 years of experience of working in development sector with minimum 4 years as a research scientist	Experience Certificate of three major organisations where the experience is not less than 5 years.
Other Experts: Agriculture, social scientist and data analyst	CVs



## Scope and Methodology

Bihar State Cooperative Bank Ltd. (SCB) and District Central Cooperative Bank Ltd. (DCCB) is looking to hire and collaborate with an external agency for conducting the diagnostic cum baseline study in the 100 blocks of Bihar. The consultant will be required to design a detailed methodology and work in close coordination with the team of Bank. The external agency must consider the below points for the proposal:

### Target Area

The study will be 100 blocks of Bihar. Appropriate sample size has to be taken of at-least 100 households per block.

### Methodology

Mix research techniques will be used by the agency using structured and semi structured tools.

### Target Audience

1. The target audience will be members of the FPO and households pursuing cultivation or agriculture-based livelihood activity as source of income.
2. District/Block agriculture officer
3. Credit linkage agencies operating in the area
4. Civil society/NGO working in the area
5. Market actors for sale of agriculture produce
6. Van Dhan Kendra
7. Government agriculture-based agencies

Note: the tools used for the above target audience will be different.

### Timeline:

90 days (Jan-Mar'2025) including desk work and field visit.

### Deliverable:

S. No	Deliverable	Timeline Payment
1	Inception Report: will be developed post the inception meeting within 5 days of signing the contract	30% of the contract amount
2	Desk Review and tool development of the documents Within 10 days of signing of agreement Data Collection: within 45 days	20% of the contract
3	Data analysis: 20 days Draft Submission:	30% of the contract
4	Final Report Submission: 10 days	20% of the contract

### Expert Expertise

1. Sound understanding of the Central Sector Scheme for Formation and Promotion of 100 FPO
2. Experience of conducting 3 similar studies on diverse sectors in last 2 years
3. Sound understanding of socio, political, cultural fabric of Bihar State
4. The team should be well versed with the agricultural practices prevalent in state and the agro climatic zones also.
5. Experience in using diverse data collection tools and analysis tool like SPSS and STRATA



**Budget Estimation:** Rs 1, 00,000 (rupees one lac only) fixed per block inclusive of all taxes.

### **Proposal Submission Process**

The agency/ institution will have to submit proposal as per below to qualify for participation in the selection process.

### **Proposal: (Should not exceed 5 pages)**

The proposal should outline the design methodology clearly specifying the following areas:

- Study Design
- Sample Size and sampling methodology
- Data Collection process with data quality assurance
- Implementation Plan including field visits
- Reporting Framework
- Team involved with their expertise
- Time-frame

The proposal should be submitted in PDF or word file only.

### **Scoring and Selection**

It will be based on the experience, eligibility, requirement and proposal submitted.

Only selected agency will be informed about the empanelment process within 15 days after the end date of submission of the proposal.

### **Proposal submission Process:**

Eligible agencies will send in their proposal with a covering letter along with two samples of the relevant task carried in past. The proposal should be in word or pdf, and all other documents should be given in pdf version.

The eligible agencies should email the required documents as per the ToR to The Bihar State Co-operative Bank Ltd. (Head office) with subject line as ***“Diagnostic Study under Central Sector-Scheme for Formation and Promotion of 10000 FPOs”***. ***Any failure in mentioning the subject line will not be considered for the procurement process.*** The last date of submission of proposal is 31.12.2024 at 02:00 PM Only shortlisted agency will be informed about the next stage of procurement process within 15 days after the end date of submission of the proposal. Any queries related to the assignment will be addressed to [scbbihar@gmail.com](mailto:scbbihar@gmail.com) until 23.12.2024 only. Any queries post the specified date will not be responded.

