



**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA  
COMMERCIAL TAXES DEPARTMENT**

**Request for Expression of Interest (EOIs) for Empanelment of Chartered  
Accountants / Chartered Accountant firms/Cost Accountants/Cost Accountant  
firms for Special Audit of GST registered persons under Section 66 of the Central  
Goods & Services Tax Act, 2017**

Date: 27-06-2024

EOI is to be submitted only online on the Telangana Commercial Taxes department Portal at <https://tgct.gov.in>.

The last date for submission of EOI is 12/07/2024 (5:00PM). Please note that if any due date happens to be a holiday then the next working day will be the due date at the same time.

**Sd/-  
Commissioner of Commercial Taxes**

Copy to:-

1. To be published on the official website of Commercial Taxes Department portal at <https://tgct.gov.in>.
2. To the Central Computer Wing, O/o Commissioner of Commercial Taxes, Telangana State, Hyderabad.
3. To the Chief Commissioner GST and customs, Address: GST Bhavan, L.B. Stadium Road, Basheerbagh, Hyderabad - 500 004.
4. The institute of Chartered Accountant of India, Hyderabad Branch of Southern India Regional Council (SIRC) of ICAI, Office Address, ICAI BHAWAN, 11-5-398/C, Red Hills, Telangana, Hyderabad 500004, India Email: [hyderabad@icai.org](mailto:hyderabad@icai.org).
5. The institute of Cost Accountants of India, Hyderabad chapter, CMA Bhavan, 1-2-56/44A, Street No. 5, Himayatnagar, Hyderabad, 500029, Email: [hyderabad@icmai.in](mailto:hyderabad@icmai.in), [hccaicwai@gmail.com](mailto:hccaicwai@gmail.com)

## **NOTICE FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

**Sub:- Empanelment of Chartered Accountants / Chartered Accountant firms/ Cost Accountants/Cost Accountant firms for Audit of GST registered persons.**

Attention of practicing Chartered Accountants, Chartered Accountant firms, Cost Accountants and Cost Accountant firms is invited to the provisions of Section 66 of the Goods and Service Tax Act, 2017. Office of the Commissioner of Commercial Taxes proposes to prepare a panel of Chartered Accountants / Chartered Accountant firms/ Cost Accountants and Cost Accountant firms for conducting Special Audit of accounts of GST Registered persons as envisaged under the said Section.

1. **Eligibility:-** In order to be eligible for to be empanelled for the said audit, a person / Firm should fulfill the following conditions :-

The applicant firm/person should-

- i. Be a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India / Institute of Cost Accountants of India and should have valid full time Certificate of practice issued by the respective institutes.
- ii. Possess experience of atleast seven years of practice as Chartered Accountant /Cost Accountant and also Telangana Value Added Tax Act, GST Act matters.
- iii. The applicant or any partner/ proprietor of the applicant firm having experience and practice as stated above should not have indulged in any unethical professional practice or professional misconduct including moral turpitude;
- iv. The applicant or any partner/proprietor of the applicant firm should not have been held guilty of any professional misconduct under the Cost and Works Accountant Act, 1959 (as amended) or Chartered Accountants Act,1949(as amended) during past seven years or penalized under Chapter V of the Finance Act,1994 or Central Excise Act, 1944 or Customs Act, 1962 or Telangana Value Added Tax Act, 2005 or the Goods and Service Tax Act, 2017;
- v. The applicant or any partner/ proprietor of the applicant firm should not be facing any investigation or enquiry by the CBIC or Govt. of Telangana or any of its subordinate offices for any violations under the Chapter V of the Finance Act, 1994 or Central Excise Act, 1944 or the Customs Act, 1962 or the Telangana Value Added Tax Act, 2005 or the Goods and Service Tax Act, 2017.

2. **Selection Procedure and other terms:-**The selection will be as follows-

- A. All the applications received upto the last date for filing of application shall be scrutinized in terms of criteria / guidelines issued in this regard. The basic criteria for selecting the applicant would be the experience in audit/ consultancy / representation in the Income Tax, Central Excise, Service Tax, VAT and GST matters, turnover, staff strength, audit experience etc. The detailed evaluation criteria would be as follows:-

- a. Applicant's existence in years after its registration (Provide copy of certificate of registration with Institute of Chartered Accountants of India/Institute of Cost Accountants of India):-
  - b. Applicant(s) empanelment as auditor with anyone of the following departments during the last 7 years (Provide copy of order / letter of empanelment with the Department(s)):-
  - c. Applicant(s) average annual turnover in last three financial years (Provide copies of full Income tax returns & Financial Accounts for the last three financial years):-
  - d. No. of Audit Assignments of internal / Statutory/ Forensic Audit of Corporate/ PSUs entities, except Bank Branch Audit, for which the audit has been done in the last 5 years (Provide copy of order of assignment of such Audit):-
  - e. Applicant(s) or any partner(s) / proprietor of the applicant firm(s) / professional(s) office profile with staff strength of at least 5 (excluding typist, stenographers, computer operators, secretaries and subordinate staff etc.) consisting of audit and article clerks with the knowledge in book-keeping and accountancy and are engaged in outdoor audit (Provide details of staff engaged along with their names, educational qualification, date of engagement, contact details etc.):-
  - f. The selected candidates shall be called for interview/discussion by a Committee of officers for final empanelment. The final panel shall be notified and may be modified as and when required.
- B. The number of professionals/firms being empanelled will depend upon the applications received and the requirement of this office. Based on the evaluation of this pilot the decision for further empanelment would be taken.
  - C. Out of empanelled candidates, audit would be allotted to the firms / person as and when required by this office at the sole discretion of the Commissioner. Their performance would be monitored by examining the quality and findings of audit reports submitted by them.
  - D. The panel so made above shall be in force for a period of 5 years. However, in case of necessity, new person / firm can be added in the panel by following the prescribed procedure.
  - E. The empanelment of the Auditor will stand cancelled, without any prejudice to all available legal / other remedy / recourse in the event of any of the followings:-
    - i. If the empanelment has been obtained on the basis of false information / mis-statement.

- ii. If the Auditor does not take up the Audit in terms of the appointment / allotment letter.
- iii. If the Auditor fails to maintain/honour confidentiality & secrecy in all respect.
- iv. If the Auditor fails to comply with any of the eligibility criteria / other terms & conditions.
- v. If the Auditor fails to provide the audit reports and mandated inputs of requisite quality within prescribed time.
- vi. If the auditor, after empanelment, ceases to be the member / registrant with Institute of Chartered Accountants of India/Institute of Cost Accountants of India

3. **Scope of Work:-**The Special Audit shall be conducted by the Special Auditor under Section 66 of Goods and Service Tax Act, 2017. He/She shall examine and audit the records & books of accounts of the registered person. She/He shall check and verify the compliance of the provisions of GST Act, 2017, IGST Act, 2017 & Telangana GST Act, 2017 and Rules made there under by the registered person including the correctness of turnover declared, input tax credit availed, taxes paid, refund claimed etc. and detect the tax evasion, if any, by the registered person. He shall submit his report within the prescribed period as per sub section 2 of section 66 of the GST Act 2017. In case the registered person does not accept the findings of the Special Audit and consequent tax liability, interest etc. & contests the same by way of appeal, the auditor will render all required assistance/advice in the matter to protect the interest of the government in such appeals.

4. **Duties and obligations:-**The person/ Firm so nominated to act as special auditor shall have the following duties and obligations :-

- i. The audit shall be conducted as per the Terms of Reference & within the prescribed time limit.
- ii. The auditor may be required to visit the offices including branch office/ head office of GST registered person to conduct the Audit of GST and to call for and examine the required documents.
- iii. The Audit shall be conducted in coordination with the departmental officers. In other words, the departmental officer may also join the audit team of the nominated Chartered Accountants/ Cost Accountants to conduct the audit.
- iv. The auditor, within the period specified by the Commissioner shall submit a report of such audit duly signed and certified by him. The audit report shall provide full details of audit, including the audit plan, details of documents verified, result of verification, short levy / wrong availment of Input Tax credit etc. duly quantified and with their observations. Duly authenticated copies of sample documents shall also be enclosed with audit report for taking further action by the department.
- v. The nominated person / firm should not have represented or advised in any manner the registered person whose audit is ordered by the department in any area like maintenance of accounts, auditing, tax consultancy, any other consultancy, representation etc. and therefore should not be in conflict of interest position. This aspect would be verified while assigning a particular registered person for audit and a certificate in this regard

would have to be submitted by the appointed empanelled special auditor before accepting the special audit.

- vi. Maintain confidentiality in all respect related to special audit assigned to him and should not disclose / share any sensitive / confidential information / documents etc. to the registered person / any outsider.
- vii. On receipt of audit report, department may call the auditor for seeking any clarification or ask them to complete audit, if it is found that particular area has not been examined properly.
- viii. In case the registered person does not accept the findings of the Special Audit and consequent tax liability, interest etc. and contests the same by way of appeal, the auditor will render all required assistance / advice in the matter to protect the interest of the government in such appeals.
- ix. The empanelled Chartered Accountants and the Cost Accountants shall give an undertaking at the time of allotment of units that they will not take up Statutory Audits of the said units allocated to them for special audit and also during the period they are on the panel of Telangana Commercial Taxes Department.
- x. The auditor will not associate any junior staff for the Audit purpose except with due approval of such person with equivalent qualification & experience by the Department in writing.

5. **Schedule of Fees:-**The Chartered Accountants/ Chartered Accountant firms/Cost Accountants/ Cost Accountant firms would be entitled to a fees depending upon the size of the unit whose Special Audit has been conducted. The amount of such fees payable is as indicated below:-

Sr. No.	Aggregate Turnover (Rs.)	Rate of Audit Fee (Rs.) (+GST as applicable)
1	Less than 100 crore	40,000
2	Above 100 Crore	75,000

The payment of fee to the extent of 80% will be released on satisfactory conclusion of Special Audit and after issuance of information of findings upon Special Audit in Form GST ADT-04 to the registered person. Rest 20% of the fee will be released either on discharge of statutory liabilities towards tax, interest etc., determined on the basis of Special Audit report, if any, by the registered person or after rendering of all required assistance/advice by the auditor during the first stage appeal in case the registered person prefers to contests the findings of Special Audit, whichever is earlier

6. **General:-**

- i. It is the sole discretion of the Commissioner of Commercial Taxes Department, Telangana to select any of the Chartered Accountants / Cost Accountants from the panel for conducting the Special Audit.
- ii. This officer reserves the right to remove name of any of the Chartered Accountants / Cost Accountants from the panel so made, after making enquiries as deemed fit and such decision would be final.

- iii. This office also reserves the right to cancel / withdraw the expression of interest without assigning any reason whatsoever.

7. **Last Date and Time for Submission and Opening of the EOI**

- i. If any due date in the Critical date sheet happens to be a holiday then the next working day will be the due date at the same time.
- ii. Office of the Commissioner of Commercial Taxes Department, Telangana may, at its discretion, extend the last date and time for submission of EOI and / or date and time of opening of EOI by issuing corrigendum/addendum.

8. **Submission of EOI**

- i. The applicant has to upload the duly filled and signed Performa as at Annexure-A.
- ii. The applicant has to upload duly filled and signed Annexure-B as well as all the self-certified documents as per Annexure-B.
- iii. The intending Applicants are advised to visit <https://tgct.gov.in> regularly till closing date of submission of EOI for any corrigendum/addendum/amendments.
- iv. There is no cost of the EOI document.
- v. EOI submission start date/time, EOI submission end date/time and the EOI opening date/time will be as per as critical date-sheet.
- vi. Any documents for eligibility/qualification not mentioned in the annexures shall be attached separately.