





#### New Delhi, January 30, 2025

# Press Release Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

UnionMinister of Electronics & IT, Railways and I&B announces major initiatives under India AI Mission

# **Availability of Affordable AI Compute**

# Call for proposals for BuildingIndia's Foundational AI Models

# **Setting up of IndiaAI Safety Institute**

# **AI Application Development Initiative**

Hon'ble Minister of Electronics & IT, Shri Ashwini Vaishnawin presence of Hon'ble MoS of E&IT Shri Jitin Prasada, Shri Abhishek Singh, Additional Secretary, MeitY and CEO, IndiaAI, Smt. Kavita Bhatia, COO, IndiaAI, Shri Nand Kumarum, P&CEO, NeGD & CEO, DIC and senior officials from MeitY and IndiaAIannounced availability of 18,000+ GPUs through empanelment of AI cloud service providers, a call for proposals for the development of indigenous foundational models, creation of an AI Safety institute and AI applications funded under the IndiaAI Innovation Challenge.

Hon'ble Minster Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw said that "Our Prime Minister's economic thinking is very inclusive. He believes in making modern technology accessible to everyone to ensure the people at the bottom of the pyramid are economically empowered."

#### **Empanelment of Al services on cloud**

Government of India has approved the IndiaAl Mission with a Budgetary outlay of Rs 10372 Cr with the objective to bridge the gaps in the existing Al ecosystem and enable emergence of India as a hub of development of Al technology and applications.







IndiaAl Mission is being implemented through 7 key pillars and one of the key pillars is enabling the availability of 10,000 GPUs for Al Compute Infrastructure. Towards this objective, The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), through IndiaAl Independent Business Division (IBD), published a Request for Empanelment (RFE) on August 16, 2024, to empanel Al services on cloud and offer the services to academia, MSMEs, startups, research community, governments, public sector agencies and other entities approved by IndiaAl via the CPP portal.

19 bidders that included Cloud Service Providers (CSPs), Managed Service Providers (MSPs), and Data Center Service Providers submitted proposals. After initial scrutiny as per the pre qualification criterion 13 bidders were invited to make presentations to the technical evaluation committee. As per the technical evaluation, ten bidders were found to be eligible for opening of financial bids. The financial bids of the 10 technically qualified bidders were opened on January 22, 2025. The 10 bidders listed below have offered their commercials for various category of Al compute units (GPUs) quoted.

- 1. CMS Computers India Pvt Ltd
- 2. Ctrls Datacenters Ltd
- 3. E2E Networks Limited
- 4. Jio Platforms Limited
- 5. Locuz Enterprise Solutions Limited
- 6. NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologies Private Limited
- 7. Orient Technologies Limited
- 8. Tata Communications Limited
- 9. Vensysco Technologies Limited
- 10. Yotta Data Services Private Limited

These bidders have quoted diversified category of AI compute units (GPUs) that include Intel Gaudi 2, AMD MI300X, MI325 X, NVIDIA H100 (PCIe, NVL and SXM), NVIDIA H200 (PCIe, NVL and SXM), NVIDIA A100, NVIDIA, L40S, NVIDIA L4, AWS Inferentia2 and Aws Tranium, Bidders have also offered 8 GPU modules of NVIDIA and AMD.







As per the terms of empanelment, the bidder quoted the L1 rates for a particular category of compute unit will be empaneled first and all other bidders in that category of the compute unit will be eligible for empanelment if they agree to match the L1 bid.

The lowest (L1) bidder, L1 bid price offered in each AI compute category and discount in percentage offered On-demand hourly, monthly, 6 monthly and annually in comparison to published market prices is given in Annexure 1 in Tables A & B

The L1 bidder price offered for storage and network services is given in Annexure 2 in Tables C & D.

The bidders have also provided Al Platform and other services at a discounted price in comparison to their market price.

Hon'ble Minister also announced that eligible end users will get a further reduced price access as upto 40% of the costs will be borne by IndiaAl Mission.

The empanelment will be valid for 36 months, with the option to extend for an additional 12 months based on mutually agreed terms. IndiaAl will ensure that all processes post-empanelment is transparent and accessible to stakeholders.







# Call for Proposals for Building India's Foundational Al Models

Furthermore, Hon'ble Minister also launched a Call for Proposals under the IndiaAl Mission to support the development of foundational AI models, inviting startups, researchers, and entrepreneurs to collaborate on creating state-of-the-art AI models using Indian datasets. This initiative aims to establish indigenous AI models, which can be Large Multimodal Models, Large Language Models (LLM), or Small Language Models (SLM), to address India-specific challenges across various sectors. These AI models must be trained on Indian datasets, ensuring linguistic, cultural, and contextual relevance. The objective is to create scalable and impactful AI solutions across sectors such as healthcare, education, agriculture, climate, and governance.

Proposals will be assessed based on several key criteria, including **team capability**, which evaluates expertise in Al/ML, prior experience, and the ability to execute high-impact projects. The **approach and strategy** will be reviewed for innovativeness, dataset strategy, model architecture, and sustainability plans. **Timelines and milestones** must present realistic development schedules with clear deliverables. The **use cases** section will be judged on creativity, feasibility, and the scalability of societal impact applications. **Ethical compliance** will require adherence to the DPDP Act, IT Act, and bias mitigation strategies. **Scalability and sustainability** will be examined based on industry benchmarks, long-term adaptability, and commercial viability. Lastly, **financial viability** will be assessed in terms of budget justification, funding sources, and cost-effectiveness.

Funding and support mechanisms include **direct funding**, which offers grants and Al compute credits with milestone-based disbursements, and **equity-based investments**, where additional funding is provided through mutual agreements. There are also **co-financing options**, allowing entities to secure additional funding from venture capitalists, angel investors, non-profits, or state and central government grants. Proposals will be accepted on a **rolling submission basis** and evaluated on a **first-come**, **first-served** approach.







# Setting up IndiaAl Safety Institute

The Hon'ble Minister announced the setting up of IndiaAl Safety Institute under the Safe and Trusted Pillar of the IndiaAl Mission to address Al risks & Safety Challenges. The IndiaAl Safety Institute will work with all relevant stakeholders, including academia, startups, industry and government ministries/departments, towards ensuring safety, security and trust in Al. The Institute will advance indigenous research and development, based on Indian datasets and contextualized to India's social, economic, cultural, and linguistic diversity. The Institute, incubated by IndiaAl Mission will be set up on a hub and spoke model with various research and academic institutions, private sector partners joining the hub and taking up projects under the Safe and Trusted Pillar of IndiaAl Mission. Under the Safe and Trusted pillar. the IndiaAl Mission has selected eight Responsible Projects against the first Expression of Interest (EoI). These projects are listed in Annexure 3.

Further IndiaAl has launched the 2nd round of Expression of Interest (EoI) open to Indian Academic Institutes/Organizations, Autonomous bodies, R&D Institutes/Organizations, Startups and Companies.

Themes covered under the 2<sup>nd</sup> Eol include:

- i. Watermarking & Labelling
- ii. Ethical Al Frameworks
- iii. Al Risk Assessment & Management
- iv. Stress Testing Tools
- v. Deepfake Detection Tools







# 18 Al applications selected under IndiaAl Application Development Initiative

Additionally, the Hon'ble Minister also announced the selection of 18 Al applications for the first round of funding under the IndiaAl Innovation Challenge. The projects selected were from the areas of Agriculture, Assistive Technology for Learning Disabilities and Climate Change and Disaster Management. The IndiaAl Innovation challenge was launched on 13th August 2024. The Innovation Challenge sought to seek and advance the development, deployment, and adoption of Al applications in critical sectors. The challenge was open to Indian innovators, startups, non-profits, students, academic/R&D organizations, and companies. Over 900 applications were received across the five focus areas which include Healthcare, Improved Governance, Agriculture, Assistive Technology for Learning Disabilities and Climate Change and Disaster Management.

#### **About IndiaAl**

IndiaAl IBD (Independent Business Division) under Digital India Corporation under Ministry of Electronics and IT, is the implementation agency for the IndiaAl Mission. It strives to democratize the benefits of Al across all strata of society, bolster India's leadership in AI, foster technological self-reliance, and ensure the ethical and responsible use of AI.







## **Annexure 1**

# A. L1 bidder name, L1 bid price and %discount for on-demand hourly and monthly price

G!	AI Compute	L1 Bidder in On-Demand	On-Der	mand Pricing Charges)	g (Hourly	Monthly Reserved - 1 Month (Hourly Charges)		
SI. No.	Unit (GPU) Category	and Monthly Reserved – 1 Month	L1 Bid Price (in ₹)	Market Price (in ₹)	% Discount	L1 Bid Price (in ₹)	Market Price (in ₹)	% Discount
1	AMD MI300X (1x)	Jio Platforms Ltd	210.28	378.00	44.37%	206.31	352.50	41.47%
2	AMD MI300X (8x)	Jio Platforms Ltd	1770.79	2656.19	33.33%	1737.38	2606.07	33.33%
3	AMD MI325X (1x)	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologies Pvt Ltd	188.00	251.00	25.10%	137.00	201.00	31.84%
4	AMD MI325X (8x)	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologies Pvt Ltd	1502.00	2010.00	25.27%	1100.00	1608.00	31.59%
5	Inferentia Inf2 32 GB inf2.48xlarge (12x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	1425.48	1603.19	11.08%	1425.48	1603.19	11.08%
6	Inferentia Inf2 32 GB inf2.xlarge (1x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	83.25	93.64	11.10%	83.25	93.64	11.10%
7	Inferentia Inf2 32GB inf2.24xlarge (6x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	712.73	801.59	11.09%	712.73	801.59	11.09%
8	Inferentia Inf2 32GB inf2.8xlarge (1x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	216.08	243.03	11.09%	216.08	243.03	11.09%
9	Intel Gaudi-2 (1x)	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologies Pvt Ltd	64.00	110.00	41.82%	53.00	88.00	39.77%
10	NVIDIA A100 40 GB (1x)	E2E Networks Ltd	136.00	170.00	20.00%	89.00	103.00	13.59%
11	NVIDIA A100 40 GB (8x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	3321.95	3736.08	11.08%	3321.95	3736.08	11.08%
12	NVIDIA A100 80 GB (8x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	4152.44	4670.10	11.08%	4152.44	4670.10	11.08%
13	NVIDIA A100 80GB (1x)	E2E Networks Ltd	151.00	226.00	33.19%	99.00	137.00	27.74%
14	NVIDIA H100 NVL (1x)	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologies Pvt Ltd	140.00	456.31	69.32%	135.00	415.24	67.49%
15	NVIDIA H100 NVL (4x)	Jio Platforms Ltd	789.74	1825.22	56.73%	774.84	1660.95	53.35%
16	NVIDIA H100 PCIe (1x)	CtrlS Datacenters Ltd	252.00	378.00	33.33%	234.00	351.00	33.33%
17	NVIDIA H100 PCIe (8x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	9966.09	11208.48	11.08%	9966.09	11208.48	11.08%







18	NVIDIA H100 SXM (1x)	E2E Networks Ltd	170.00	480.00	64.58%	149.00	450.00	66.89%
19	NVIDIA H100 SXM (8x)	E2E Networks Ltd	1360.00	11208.48	87.87%	1192.00	10264.61	88.39%
20	NVIDIA H200 NVL (1x)	Jio Platforms Ltd	146.38	794.77	81.58%	143.61	723.24	80.14%
21	NVIDIA H200 NVL (8x)	Jio Platforms Ltd	1171.00	4191.60	72.06%	1148.91	3701.40	68.96%
22	NVIDIA H200 SXM (1x)	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologies Pvt Ltd	140.00	645.00	78.29%	135.00	601.50	77.56%
23	NVIDIA H200 SXM (8x)	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologies Pvt Ltd	1125.00	6369.30	82.34%	1100.00	5796.06	81.02%
24	NVIDIA L4 (1x)	E2E Networks Ltd	50.00	221.08	77.38%	30.00	201.18	85.09%
25	NVIDIA L4 (8x)	Jio Platforms Ltd	580.80	871.19	33.33%	569.84	854.76	33.33%
26	NVIDIA L40S (1x)	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologies Pvt Ltd	75.00	355.55	78.91%	55.00	323.55	83.00%
27	NVIDIA L40S (4x)	E2E Networks Ltd	340.00	1422.21	76.09%	220.00	1294.21	83.00%
28	Trainium trn1 32GB trn1.2xlarge (1x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	136.19	153.19	11.10%	136.19	153.19	11.10%
29	Trainium trn1 32GB trn1.32xlarge (16x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	2179.31	2451.00	11.08%	2179.31	2451.00	11.08%
30	Trainium trn1 32GB trn1n.32xlarge (16x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	2511.78	2824.92	11.08%	2511.78	2824.92	11.08%

# B. L1 bidder name, L1 bid price and %discount for 6 monthly and annually price

SI.	AI Compute Unit (GPU) Category	Monthly Reserved - 6 Months (Hourly Charges)			Monthly Reserved - 12 Months (Hourly Charges)				
No.		L1 Bidder	L1 Bid Price (in ₹)	Market Price (in ₹)	% Discou nt	L1 Bidder	L1 Bid Price (in ₹)	Market Price (in ₹)	% Discou nt
1	AMD MI300X (1x)	Jio Platforms Ltd	202.35	315.00	35.76%	CtrlS Datacenter s Ltd	185.00	297.57	37.83%
2	AMD MI300X (8x)	Jio Platforms Ltd	1703.97	2555.96	33.33%	Jio Platforms Ltd	1670.56	2505.84	33.33%
3	AMD MI325X (1x)	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologies Pvt Ltd	114.00	201.00	43.28%	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologi es Pvt Ltd	95.00	161.00	40.99%
4	AMD MI325X	NxtGen Datacenter	912.00	1608.00	43.28%	NxtGen Datacenter	760.00	1286.00	40.90%







SI.	AI Compute	Monthly	Reserved - Charg	6 Months (H	Monthly Reserved - 12 Months (Hourly Charges)				
No.	Unit (GPU) Category	L1 Bidder	L1 Bid Price (in ₹)	Market Price (in ₹)	% Discou nt	L1 Bidder	L1 Bid Price (in ₹)	Market Price (in ₹)	% Discou nt
	(8x)	and Cloud Technologies Pvt Ltd		,		and Cloud Technologi es Pvt Ltd	,	,	
5	Inferentia Inf2 32 GB inf2.48xlar ge (12x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	1425.48	1603.19	11.08%	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	898.07	1603.19	43.98%
6	Inferentia Inf2 32 GB inf2.xlarge (1x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	83.25	93.64	11.10%	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	52.44	93.64	44.00%
7	Inferentia Inf2 32GB inf2.24xlar ge (6x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	712.73	801.59	11.09%	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	449.03	801.59	43.98%
8	Inferentia Inf2 32GB inf2.8xlarg e (1x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	216.08	243.03	11.09%	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	136.15	243.03	43.98%
9	Intel Gaudi-2 (1x)	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologies Pvt Ltd	44.00	88.00	50.00%	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologi es Pvt Ltd	38.00	70.00	45.71%
10	NVIDIA A100 40 GB (1x)	E2E Networks Ltd	85.00	98.00	13.27%	E2E Networks Ltd	81.00	92.00	11.96%
11	NVIDIA A100 40 GB (8x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	3321.95	3736.08	11.08%	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	3321.95	3736.08	11.08%
12	NVIDIA A100 80 GB (8x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	4152.44	4670.10	11.08%	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	4152.44	4670.10	11.08%
13	NVIDIA A100 80GB (1x)	E2E Networks Ltd	95.00	130.00	26.92%	E2E Networks Ltd	90.00	123.00	26.83%
14	NVIDIA H100 NVL (1x)	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologies Pvt Ltd	118.00	387.86	69.58%	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologi es Pvt Ltd	100.00	360.48	72.26%
15	NVIDIA H100 NVL (4x)	Jio Platforms Ltd	759.94	1551.44	51.02%	Jio Platforms Ltd	745.04	1441.92	48.33%
16	NVIDIA H100 PCIe (1x)	CtrlS Datacenters Ltd	209.00	313.50	33.33%	CtrlS Datacenter s Ltd	185.00	277.50	33.33%
17	NVIDIA H100 PCIe (8x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	9966.09	11208.48	11.08%	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	9966.09	11208.48	11.08%
18	NVIDIA H100 SXM (1x)	E2E Networks Ltd	139.00	400.50	65.29%	E2E Networks Ltd	130.00	352.50	63.12%
19	NVIDIA H100 SXM (8x)	E2E Networks Ltd	1112.00	10264.61	89.17%	E2E Networks Ltd	1040.00	10264.61	89.87%
20	NVIDIA H200 NVL (1x)	Jio Platforms Ltd	140.85	675.56	79.15%	Jio Platforms Ltd	138.09	627.87	78.01%
21	NVIDIA H200 NVL	Jio Platforms Ltd	1126.81	3561.10	68.36%	Jio Platforms	1104.72	2774.40	60.18%







SI.	AI Compute	Monthly Reserved - 6 Months (Hourly Charges)			Monthly Reserved - 12 Months (Hourly Charges)				
No.	Unit (GPU) Category	L1 Bidder	L1 Bid Price (in ₹)	Market Price (in ₹)	% Discou nt	L1 Bidder	L1 Bid Price (in ₹)	Market Price (in ₹)	% Discou nt
	(8x)					Ltd			
22	NVIDIA H200 SXM (1x)	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologies Pvt Ltd	118.00	537.00	78.03%	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologi es Pvt Ltd	100.00	472.50	78.84%
23	NVIDIA H200 SXM (8x)	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologies Pvt Ltd	945.00	5413.90	82.54%	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologi es Pvt Ltd	785.00	5031.75	84.40%
24	NVIDIA L4 (1x)	E2E Networks Ltd	27.00	187.92	85.63%	E2E Networks Ltd	25.00	174.65	85.69%
25	NVIDIA L4 (8x)	Jio Platforms Ltd	558.88	838.32	33.33%	Jio Platforms Ltd	547.92	821.88	33.33%
26	NVIDIA L40S (1x)	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologies Pvt Ltd	55.00	302.22	81.80%	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologi es Pvt Ltd	50.00	280.89	82.20%
27	NVIDIA L40S (4x)	E2E Networks Ltd	220.00	1208.88	81.80%	E2E Networks Ltd	200.00	1123.55	82.20%
28	Trainium trn1 32GB trn1.2xlarg e (1x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	136.19	153.19	11.10%	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	136.19	153.19	11.10%
29	Trainium trn1 32GB trn1.32xlar ge (16x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	2179.31	2451.00	11.08%	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	2179.31	2451.00	11.08%
30	Trainium trn1 32GB trn1n.32xla rge (16x)	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	2511.78	2824.92	11.08%	Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd	2511.78	2824.92	11.08%







## **Annexure 2**

# C. L1 bidder name, L1 bid price and % discount for Storage Service

SI. No.	Туре	L1 Bidder	L1 Bid Price (in ₹ per GB per month)	Market Price (in ₹ per GB per month)	% Discount
1	High Speed Block Storage/ File Storage	NxtGen Datacenter and Cloud Technologies Pvt Ltd	1.20	20.00	94.00%
2	Object Storage	Yotta Data Services Private Limited	0.84	16.20	94.81%

# D. L1 bidder name, L1 bid price and % discount for Network Service

SI. No.	Туре	L1 Bidder	L1 Bid Price (in ₹ per GB per month)	Market Price (in ₹ per GB per month)	% Discount
1	Ingress	i. CMS Computers India Pvt Ltd ii. E2E Networks Ltd iii. Jio Platforms Ltd iv. Locuz Enterprise Solutions Ltd v. Orient Technologies Ltd vi. Vensysco Technologies Ltd	0.00	8.00	100.00%
2	Egress	E2E Networks Ltd	0.00	14.82	100.00%







## **Annexure 3**

NAME OF THE THEME	SELECTED APPLICANT	TITLE OF THE PROJECT	ABOUT THE PROJECT
Machine Unlearning	IIT Jodhpur	Machine Unlearning in Generative Foundation Models	To development novel method for targeted unlearning in opensource generative foundation models while minimising negative impact on overall model performance.
Synthetic Data Generation	IIT Roorkee	Design and Development of Method for Generating Synthetic Data for Mitigating Bias in Datasets; and Framework for Mitigating Bias in Machine Learning Pipeline for Responsible AI	To develop the algorithm and method for handling the bias at the model training and in-processing stage of ML model development
AI Bias Mitigation Strategy	National Institute of Technology Raipur	Development of Responsible Artificial Intelligence for Bias Mitigation in Health Care Systems	To develop responsible AI algorithms that reduce biases in medical system applications, image analysis, and diagnostic decisions
Explainable AI Framework	DIAT Pune and Mindgraph Technology Pvt. Ltd.	Enabling Explainable and Privacy Preserving AI for Security	Create AI models that provide accurate and interpretable results for human activity analysis for effective security in crowded environment.







Privacy Enhancing Strategy	IIT Delhi, IIIT Delhi, IIT Dharwad and Telecommunication Engineering Center (TEC)	Robust Privacy- Preserving Machine Learning Models	To develop robust distributed/federated learning algorithms which perform well in an adversarial environment susceptible to attacks
AI Ethical Certification Framework	IIIT Delhi and Telecommunication Engineering Center (TEC)	Tools for assessing fairness of AI model	To develop a three step certification process involving bias risk assessment, processing for metrics, and bias testing to ensure fairness for AI Systems in the Indian context
AI Algorithm Auditing Tool	Civic Data Labs	ParakhAI - An open-source framework and toolkit for Participatory Algorithmic Auditing	The proposed framework and toolkit will enable involving citizens in the responsible design, development, and deployment of algorithmic decision making systems.
AI Governance Testing Framework	Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham and Telecommunication Engineering Center (TEC)	Track-LLM, Transparency, Risk Assessment, Context & Knowledge for Large Language Models	To identify and address the specific gaps in the existing governance testing frameworks related to LLM;s downstream use-case and deployment

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