

Apparel Export Promotion Council

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

FOR

“DEVELOPMENT OF AI-POWERED CHATBOT (AEPC TRADEbot) FOR APPAREL EXPORTERS (AEPC MEMBERS)”

Date:- 17/08/2026

IMPORTANT DATES

1.	Issue of RFP/Tender	17/08/2026
2.	Last date & time for submission of RFP/Tenders	31/08/2026
3.	Date & time of opening of Bids	01/09/2026 03:00 P.M.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR

“DEVELOPMENT OF AI-POWERED CHATBOT (**AEPC TRADEbot**) FOR APPAREL EXPORTERS (AEPC MEMBERS)”

Apparel Export Promotion Council invites Tender for “DEVELOPMENT OF AI-POWERED CHATBOT (**AEPC TRADE bot**) FOR APPAREL EXPORTERS (AEPC MEMBERS) “

The Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) seeks proposals from qualified technology vendors to design, develop, and deploy an AI-powered chatbot. The chatbot will serve AEPC members by providing real-time trade statistics, apparel export/import data, and country-specific insights in a user-friendly manner.

The offer of tender for DEVELOPMENT OF AI-POWERED CHATBOT (**AEPC TRADE bot**) FOR APPAREL EXPORTERS (AEPC MEMBERS) will be valid for 60 days after opening of Bids.

Apparel Export Promotion Council reserves the rights to amend the dates mentioned in the tender document.

Objectives

- Enable AEPC members to access reliable trade statistics on apparel exports from India.
- Provide country-specific import data (e.g., USA, EU, Japan, Australia).
- Improve member engagement through conversational AI.
- Ensure audit-ready compliance and secure handling of trade data.

Scope of Work

1. Chatbot Development

- AI-powered conversational interface (web + mobile integration).
- Natural Language Processing (NLP) for queries like “*What are India’s apparel exports to Germany in 2025?*”.
- Multilingual support (English + Hindi initially, expandable to other languages).

2. Data Integration

- Connect with AEPC’s internal trade databases.
- API integration with DGFT, DGCIS, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Textiles, WTO and other reliable sources.
- Automated updates for monthly/quarterly trade statistics.

3. Features

- Country-wise apparel import/export data.
- Product category filters (knitwear, woven, home textiles, etc.).
- Trend analysis (year-on-year growth, top destinations).
- Downloadable reports (PDF/Excel).
- Member authentication (secure login).

4. Deployment & Support

- Cloud-hosted solution (Azure/AWS preferred).
- Ongoing maintenance and technical support.
- Training AEPC staff for chatbot administration.

Deliverables

- Functional chatbot prototype within **3 months**.
- Final deployment with full integration within **6 months**.
- Documentation: User manual, technical architecture, API references.
- Training sessions for AEPC staff.

Vendor Qualifications

- Proven experience in AI chatbot development (preferably for trade/commerce organizations).
- Expertise in data integration and analytics.
- Strong track record in secure, compliance-driven solutions.
- Ability to provide post-deployment support.

Proposal Submission Guidelines

- Company profile and relevant experience. (Ref Technical Bid Format)
- Technical approach and architecture.
- Project timeline and milestones.
- Cost proposal (development, deployment, maintenance).
- References of similar projects.

Evaluation Criteria

- Technical capability (40%)
- Relevant experience (25%)
- Cost competitiveness (20%)
- Support & training plan (15%)

Timeline

- RFP Release: [17th August 2026]
- Proposal Submission Deadline: [31st August 2026]
- Bid Opening Date: [1st September 2026]

PAYMENT TERMS

Sr. No.	Stage	%ge of payment
1.	Advance	50%
2.	Successful Completion & handover of the website.	50%

PROCEDURE FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS

The bidders will be required to submit quotation and documents latest by 31st August 2026. The quotes should be received only on e-mail tender@aepecindia.com addressed to the Head - IT, AEPC. The proposal should consist of followings documents:

1. Fully filled Technical Bid Format as mentioned in Tender document.
2. Photocopies License /Registration Certificate of the firm.
3. Copy of PAN Card
4. Copy of GST Registration
5. Copies of the work orders evidencing that the agency has experience in similar work
6. Detailed Technical Proposal with signature of the bidder or his/her authorized signatory & stamp on each page.
7. Financial bids in format as mentioned in Tender document.
8. Demand Draft for Rs.25,000/- towards EMD in favour of “Apparel Export Promotion Council” payable at Gurugram. MSME’s are exempted from submitting the EMD

Terms & Conditions

1. The last date of receipt of quotation on E-mail id tender@aepecindia.com is 31st August 2026. The offers received after the due date and time will not be entertained. The quotation received through any other mode would not be considered.
2. The EMDs of the unsuccessful bidders will be refunded by way of handing over the original Demand Draft/Banker’s Cheque duly endorsed by the Competent Authority without any interest.
3. Conditional quotations are liable to be rejected.
4. Apparel Export Promotion Council reserves the right to reject or accept any or all application(s) without assigning any reason(s).

5. Quoted rates should be free from any pre-conditions regarding payments etc. or otherwise offers are liable to be rejected.
6. There will be no escalation in the price during the entire contract period.
7. The contract shall be terminated in respect of the followings: -
 - a) If, the service of the agency is not found satisfactory or the agency changes the rate of contract during the contract period.
 - b) In case the agency fails to execute the job as per the terms and conditions of the agreement, the balance/total work will be executed through other agencies at the agency's risk and cost.
 - c) The decision of the AEPC will be final and binding on the agency and no request will be entertained in any manner.

DISCLAIMER:

This tender is being issued by the AEPC for inviting bids for the DEVELOPMENT OF AI-POWERED CHATBOT (**AEPC TRADE bot**) FOR APPAREL EXPORTERS (AEPC MEMBERS). The words 'Tender', 'Quotation' and 'RFP' are used interchangeably to refer to this document. The purpose of this document is to provide the Bidder with information to assist in the formulation of their proposal. The information is not intended to be exhaustive. Interested parties are required to make their own inquiries. AEPC reserves the right not to proceed with the project, to alter the functionalities/specifications & timetable reflected in this document or to change the process or procedure to be applied. It also reserves the right to decline to discuss the project further with any party submitting a bid. No reimbursement of any cost will be paid to persons, entities submitting a Bid.

Technical bid format

Name of Company: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone No: _____

Email id: _____

Address: _____

EMD Details (If Submitted): Rs. _____ DD/Cheque/UTR No _____

_____ Bank _____ Date/Transfer _____

Statutory Details (Copies to be attached)	
Company Registration	
GST No.	
PAN No.	
Whether agency read all requirements, Terms & conditions?	Yes / No
Has agency ever been blacklisted?	Yes / No
Has agency made any same project For Apparel/textiles/Handicraft/carpet etc. industry	Yes / No

Name and contact details of past clients:

Format for submission of Financial Bid

Details	Amount in Rs. (In both figure and word)
DEVELOPMENT OF AI-POWERED CHATBOT (AEPC TRAD Ebot) FOR APPAREL EXPORTERS (AEPC MEMBERS)	
Taxes & Levies	
Total Amount (Incl Taxes & levies)	

Name and Signature with Stamp