



LAKSHADWEEP DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

FOR

**SELECTION OF VENDOR(S) FOR THE OPERATION AND
MANAGEMENT OF ONBOARD CANTEENS IN PASSENGER
VESSELS OWNED BY THE UNION TERRITORY OF LAKSHADWEEP
ADMINISTRATION (UTLA) AND LAKSHADWEEP DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION LTD (LDCL)**

EOI Number	Submission Date & Time
LDCL/EOI/Canteen/2026-01	13.06.2026, at 1700 hours IST

MAY 2026



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(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

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OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF ONBOARD CANTEENS IN PASSENGER
VESSELS OWNED BY THE UNION TERRITORY OF LAKSHADWEEP
ADMINISTRATION (UTLA) AND LAKSHADWEEP DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION LTD (LDCL)**

*(This notice is issued only to elicit an Expression of Interest from Parties interested
operation and management of onboard canteens in passenger vessels owned by the U
T of Lakshadweep administration (UTLA) and does not constitute any binding
commitment from Administration of U T of Lakshadweep whatsoever)*

SECTION I

1. BACKGROUND

Lakshadweep Development Corporation Ltd. (LDCL), a Government of India Undertaking, presently operates a fleet of 21 vessels owned by the Union Territory of Lakshadweep Administration (UTLA). In line with its mandate to enhance passenger welfare and improve the quality of onboard services, LDCL intends to identify and empanel a competent and experienced vendor(s) for the operation and comprehensive management of onboard canteen facilities across its five passenger vessels.

Through this Expression of Interest (EOI), LDCL seeks to identify reputed, technically competent, and financially sound entities in the catering and hospitality sector, possessing a proven track record in managing similar service operations.

Accordingly, Expressions of Interest are invited from eligible caterers and hoteliers having the requisite experience, infrastructure, and financial capability to undertake the aforesaid responsibility as a vendor of LDCL. The participating entities shall also demonstrate adequate in-house manpower or robust outsourcing arrangements to effectively meet the staffing and service requirements as stipulated in this EOI.

2. OBJECTIVE OF EOI PROCESS

The primary objective of this Expression of Interest (EOI) is to engage a competent and experienced vendor for the operation and management of onboard catering services across passenger vessels owned by the UTLA and operated by LDCL. The initiative is aimed at ensuring the delivery of high-quality, professional catering services, supported by functionally efficient systems and operational effectiveness, while simultaneously upgrading the existing onboard canteen facilities into premier and classic restaurant formats to enhance the overall passenger experience.

Through this EOI, LDCL seeks to identify reputed, technically competent, and financially sound entities in the catering and hospitality sector, possessing a proven track record in managing similar large-scale service operations. In addition to improving service quality, the initiative is also designed to unlock and maximize the commercial potential of onboard catering services by providing affordable, hygienic, and timely meals throughout the vessels' operational hours, thereby contributing to enhanced passenger satisfaction as well as sustained revenue generation for the Corporation.

3. DETAILS OF CANTEENS AND ALLIED FACILITIES ONBOARD PASSENGER VESSELS

A. Basic Information on Passenger Vessels

Sl. No.	Name of Vessel	Owners Cabin	VIP Cabin	1st Class Cabins	2nd Class Cabins	Bunk Class	Total Passenger Capacity	Onboard Accommodation for Canteen Staff
1	MV Kavaratti	2	2	200	200	300	700	12
2	MV Corals	2	NIL	10	40	350	400	8*
3	MV Lagoons	2	NIL	10	40	350	400	8*
4	MV Arabian Sea	2	2	10	40	200	250	8*
5	MV Lakshadweep Sea	2	2	10	40	200	250	8*

Notes:

1. Accommodation for canteen staff is intended for Cooks/Saloon Ratings deployed by the service provider.
2. *Except MV Kavaratti, the other vessels do not have dedicated canteen staff accommodation. Required space shall be allocated from either passenger or crew accommodation.
3. Each vessel includes a designated commercial outlet area for product display and sales.

B. Canteen and Storage Facilities Onboard

Sl. No.	Name of Vessel	Seating Capacity (1st Class)	Seating Capacity (2nd/Bunk Class)	Fully Equipped Galley	Meat Room	Fish Room	Dry Provisions Room	Sales Outlet

Sl. No.	Name of Vessel	Seating Capacity (1st Class)	Seating Capacity (2nd/Bunk Class)	Fully Equipped Galley	Meat Room	Fish Room	Dry Provisions Room	Sales Outlet
1	MV Kavaratti	152	152*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	MV Corals	30*	102	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	MV Lagoons	30*	102	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	MV Arabian Sea	24	41*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
5	MV Lakshadweep Sea	24	41*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗

Notes:

1. Galleys are equipped with modern appliances suitable for professional food preparation.
2. *MV Kavaratti: 1st Class canteen is exclusive to 1st Class Cabin passengers; 2nd Class canteen is accessible to both 2nd Class and Bunk Class passengers.
3. *MV Corals and Lagoons: 1st Class canteen is shared by 1st and 2nd Class passengers; Bunk Class canteen is accessible to all classes.
4. *MV Arabian Sea and Lakshadweep Sea: 1st Class canteen is for 1st Class passengers only; 2nd Class canteen is used by both 2nd and Bunk Class passengers.

C. Other Connected Facilities Onboard

1. Drinking water supply for canteens will be provided by the vessel.
2. Electricity and refrigeration facilities shall be made available by the vessel.
3. Existing kitchen equipment and crockery may be utilized by the service provider on an "as is where is" basis.
4. Service providers will be permitted to operate food kiosks in designated commercial spaces onboard.

4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE VENDOR

- a) The selected vendor shall be fully responsible for the operational and managerial aspects of onboard canteen services in accordance with the standards and objectives set by LDCL. Upon commencement, the vendor shall take over the onboard canteens, galleys, dry storage and meat storage rooms, including all utensils, kitchen equipment, and machinery on an "as is where is" basis, along with the accommodation space earmarked for canteen staff deployed onboard the vessels.
- b) The vendor is expected to deliver hygienic, high-quality, and professional catering services during voyages, ensuring strict adherence to legal and regulatory

requirements, including the lawful and environmentally compliant disposal of kitchen waste.

- c) The Vendor shall be responsible for the operation, management, improvement, and qualitative upgradation of onboard catering facilities across passenger vessels, with the objective of enhancing passenger experience, service standards, hygiene, and commercial viability. In respect of the existing Cabin Class restaurant facilities, the Vendor shall have the operational liberty either to maintain and operate the same in an improved form or to introduce and run a separate restaurant/service format in its place, subject to the availability of existing onboard space, vessel safety requirements, statutory norms, and prior approval of LDCL wherever required. Such improvement shall be carried out without undertaking any structural modification to the existing vessel infrastructure and may include enhancement of ambience, service quality, menu presentation, cuisine standards, and overall dining experience. Similarly, the Vendor shall improve the Bunk Class cafeteria facilities by enhancing appearance, hygiene standards, service delivery, and availability of affordable and value-for-money food options suited to the general passenger segment. The Vendor shall provide food services for a minimum of ten (10) hours per day and operate a comprehensive menu comprising a variety of food items at rates determined by the Vendor, subject to applicable approvals, transparency, and reasonableness. In addition, the Vendor shall ensure availability of essential food and beverage items on a 24-hour basis through designated food kiosks, counters, or other suitable onboard service arrangements, so as to provide continuous access to basic refreshments for passengers. The Vendor shall be solely responsible for maintaining quality, hygiene, safety, timely service, regulatory compliance, and efficient operation of all such catering facilities throughout the period of engagement.
- d) All provisions, including dry goods, poultry, meat, and fish, must be sourced and supplied by the Vendor in full compliance with Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and Port Health Organisation (PHO) norms.
- e) The vendor is encouraged to procure locally available products from islanders, such as coconuts, jaggery, neera, and other traditional items, at prevailing market rates and bear the cost of transporting the goods from point of origin to the vessel.
- f) Catering staff deployed onboard—including cooks and saloon ratings—must be qualified and certified in accordance with the STCW courses: First Aid at Sea, Basic Firefighting, Personal Survival Techniques, and Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities. These personnel shall be treated as supernumeraries. The Vendor must also comply with the provisions of Crew Circular No. 5 of 2009 and any further circulars issued by the Directorate General of Shipping regarding the deployment of supernumerary personnel. Subject to financial viability, preference in employment shall be given to eligible local islanders.
- g) The vendor shall manage all aspects of food operations, including procurement, storage, processing, transportation, and securing relevant shipping documentation. Food kiosks may be operated within the designated canteen premises with prior written approval from LDCL.
- h) The vendor must ensure that no operational activity adversely impacts the fragile ecological environment of the Lakshadweep Islands or the surrounding Exclusive

Economic Zone (EEZ). Absolute compliance with applicable environmental, food safety, pollution control, and maritime regulations issued by the Lakshadweep Administration and the Government of India is mandatory. Further, the Vendor must comply with all instructions and directions issued from time to time by LDCL, the UTLA and Department Port Shipping and Aviation, UTLA (DPSA).

- i) The vendor shall bear all statutory charges related to the operation of canteen services. No structural alterations or improvements shall be made to the allocated premises. Upon termination or expiration of the agreement, the Vendor is required to restore the facilities to their original condition and rectify any damages at their own cost and risk.
- j) The vendor shall coordinate with all relevant Government authorities, regulatory bodies, and port agencies to obtain the requisite approvals, clearances, and permits necessary for the operation of onboard canteen services on passenger vessels. Wherever assistance or facilitation from LDCL is required for this purpose, the vendor shall formally request the same in writing, providing complete details of the requirement, whereupon LDCL may extend appropriate support and intervene with the concerned authorities, as deemed necessary.
- k) The Vendor shall remain solely responsible for the proper, lawful, safe, and uninterrupted conduct of its services, and LDCL's oversight, if any, shall be confined to protecting passenger interest, vessel safety, regulatory compliance, and the integrity of services, without assuming any operational, financial, contractual, or statutory liability on behalf of the Vendor.

5. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF LDCL

- a) Role of LDCL under the arrangement shall be limited to reasonable facilitation and coordination, subject to operational feasibility, availability of onboard spaces, applicable approvals, vessel requirements.
- b) LDCL may, wherever considered necessary, facilitate access to designated onboard areas, coordinate with vessel personnel or terminal authorities, and provide general administrative assistance for operational integration; however, such facilitation shall not be construed as creating any binding obligation, assurance, guarantee, or responsibility on LDCL in respect of the Vendor's operations, logistics, supplies, manpower, licensing, statutory compliance, food quality, hygiene, safety standards, procurement, business continuity, or commercial arrangements with any third party.

6. MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

- a) Duly filled Section III A, B, C and D.
- b) Interested entities submitting their Expression of Interest (EoI) are required to provide the following documents and information to establish their eligibility and credentials for consideration:
- c) A copy of the valid legal document(s) evidencing the constitution and legal status of the applicant entity, such as Certificate of Incorporation/Registration, indicating whether the entity is a Company, Partnership Firm, Proprietary Concern, or Limited Liability Partnership (LLP).
- d) A detailed list of key stakeholders including members of the Board of Directors, partners, or proprietors, as applicable, containing their names, contact details, and addresses. Submission of individual profiles of the key stakeholders is optional but encouraged.

- e) Audited financial statements or certified financial summaries indicating the annual turnover of the applicant entity for the last three (3) financial years, duly certified by a Chartered Accountant.
- f) Documentary evidence demonstrating relevant experience in the catering, hospitality, or allied service industry. This may include work orders, completion certificates, contracts, or other supporting documents establishing the applicant’s experience in managing similar operations.
- g) In case the EoI is submitted by a consortium, a valid Power of Attorney (PoA) must be submitted, authorizing one of the consortium members as the Lead Member to represent the consortium for all purposes related to the EoI process. The PoA shall remain valid for a minimum period of nine (9) calendar months from the date of EoI submission as specified in the timelines.
- h) The EoI submitted by the applicant (or consortium) shall remain valid for a period of at least three (3) calendar months from the last date of submission of the EoI as indicated in the timeline section of this document.
- i) Lakshadweep Development Corporation Ltd. (LDCL) reserves the right to request the original copies of any documents submitted as part of the EoI for verification purposes. Failure to produce such original documents upon request may result in the rejection of the EoI without further consideration.

7. PROPOSAL

Interested parties are hereby invited to submit their “Expression of Interest” (EOI) for **selection of vendor(s) for the Operation and Management of onboard Canteens in Passenger Vessels Owned by the Union Territory of Lakshadweep Administration (UTLA) and Lakshadweep Development Corporation Ltd (LDCL)**. The information submitted will be treated as confidential.

8. Submission Details

Submission Deadline	13.06.2026, at 1700 hours
Mode of Submission	All interested parties are hereby invited to submit their Expression of Interest (EoI) in the prescribed formats provided under Section III A, B, C and D of this document. The completed EoI, along with all requisite enclosures, must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked <i>“Expression of Interest for selection of vendor(s) for the operation and management of onboard canteens in passenger vessels owned by UTLA and LDCL”</i> and delivered to the address mentioned below on or before 13.06.2026, by 1700 hours (IST) . Submission Address: Lakshadweep Development Corporation Ltd. 56/2366, Panampilly Nagar, Cochin – 682036, Kerala, India.
Contact Details	Ubaidulla K.P, Officer (Marketing) & PRO Mobile: 09446093122 Email: ubaidullakp-lk@gov.in
Note	This is an invitation for an Expression of Interest only. The final decision and selection process will follow applicable government procurement norms and guidelines.

SECTION II
INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

1. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- a) The **Letter of Interest** along with Forms **A, B, C, and D**, which seek relevant information and supporting documents, are provided in **Section III** of this document.
- b) All information requested in Forms **A, B, C, and D** must be duly filled in the respective columns. Incomplete or ambiguous responses may render the Expression of Interest (EOI) liable for rejection.
- c) Lakshadweep Development Corporation Limited (LDCL) reserves the right to request additional information or clarification from applicants during the evaluation process. Applicants are expected to provide the requested details within the stipulated timeframe.
- d) The completed EOI, in the prescribed format and duly signed, shall be submitted in **hard copy**, enclosed in a sealed envelope clearly superscribed ***“Expression of Interest for selection of vendor(s) for the operation and management of onboard canteens in passenger vessels owned by UTLA and LDCL”***
The sealed envelope should be delivered to the following address on or before **00.05.2025 by 1700 hours**:
- e) **Managing Director**
Lakshadweep Development Corporation Ltd
56/2366, Panampilly Nagar,
Cochin – 682036, Kerala, India.
- f) Please note that all documents submitted in response to this EOI shall become the property of the **Lakshadweep Development Corporation Ltd**.
- g) For further information or clarifications, applicants may contact:
Shri Ubaidulla K.P
Public Relations Officer & Officer (Marketing)
Lakshadweep Development Corporation Ltd, Kochi
Tel: 0484-2323448, 0484-2323458
Mobile: +91 9446093122
Email: ubaidullakp-lk@gov.in

2. PROJECT PARTICULARS

The project details provided in **Section I** are indicative and subject to revision. These should be treated as preliminary information meant to assist applicants in the preparation of their EOI.

3. SUBMISSION FORMAT AND REQUIRED INFORMATION

Applicants must furnish the following information using the prescribed forms:

A. Applicant Details (Form A)

Applicants shall provide complete organizational and contact details as per Form A.

B. Supporting Documents (Form B)

All relevant documents as outlined under **Section I, Item 5** must be submitted using Form B.

C. Budgetary Offer (Form C)

Applicants shall indicate the estimated Quarterly financial contribution in the form of Percentage of Quarterly Profit and User Fee that the Vendor can offer to LDCL.

D. Suggestions and Proposals (Form D)

Applicants are encouraged to submit suggestions, views, and value additions related to the onboard canteen operations in Form D.

4. LETTER OF INTEREST

Each applicant must submit a duly completed **Letter of Interest**, as provided in Section III of this EOI document.

5. DISCLAIMER

The contents of this EOI document are intended solely for the purpose of assisting prospective applicants in preparing their Expressions of Interest. It is hereby clarified that:

- a) This EOI does not constitute an offer, invitation to offer, or binding agreement of any nature with respect to the proposed transaction.
- b) The document does not create any obligation on the part of LDCL to enter into any contract or partnership with any applicant.
- c) The information provided herein does not claim to be exhaustive. Applicants must conduct their own investigations, evaluations, and analyses to assess the feasibility of participating in this EoI.
- d) Neither the information in this document nor any related written or oral communication should be construed as inducement to invest or as a basis for any contractual obligation.
- e) LDCL, its officials, and representatives shall not be held liable under any circumstances (including under contract law, tort law, or equity) for any loss, damage, or expense incurred by any applicant or related entity in connection with the preparation or submission of this EOI or participation in any part of the selection process.
- f) While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, LDCL makes no representations or warranties, express or implied, as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of the information provided. LDCL also reserves the right to modify, amend, or supplement any part of this document without prior notice.

SECTION III
LETTER OF INTEREST

To

The Managing Director
Lakshadweep Development Corporation Ltd.
56/2366, Panampilly Nagar
Ernakulam, Kochi – 682036
Kerala, India

Subject: Submission of Expression of Interest (EOI) for Selection of vendor(s) for the Operation and Management of Onboard Canteens in Passenger Vessels Owned by the Union Territory of Lakshadweep Administration (UTLA) and Lakshadweep Development Corporation Ltd. (LDCL)

Sir,

Having carefully reviewed the Expression of Interest (EOI) Notice and associated documentation for the above-mentioned initiative, I/We hereby submit our formal Expression of Interest for consideration as a Vendor for the Operation and Management of onboard canteen services in the passenger vessels owned by UTLA and operated by LDCL.

1. I/We certify that the information and particulars provided in the enclosed Forms 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D', as well as in the accompanying documents, are true, complete, and accurate to the best of our knowledge and belief.
2. I/We confirm that all relevant details and disclosures necessary for the purposes of this EOI submission have been provided, and no material information has been withheld.
3. I/We hereby authorize Lakshadweep Development Corporation Ltd. or its duly appointed representatives to make inquiries or seek clarifications from any individuals, entities, or authorities to verify the facts and information submitted herein.

We look forward to the opportunity of partnering with LDCL in this endeavour.

Yours faithfully,

Signature(s) of the Applicant(s)

Name & Designation:

Seal of the Applicant

Place:

Date:

Enclosures:

1. Form A – Applicant Details
2. Form B – Supporting Documents
3. Form C – Budgetary Offer
4. Form D – Suggestions/Views/Proposal

FORM – ‘A’

DETAILS OF APPLICANT

Sl. No.	Particulars	Details
1	Name and Address of the Applicant (Include Telephone Number and Email Address) <i>(In the case of a consortium, provide details of the Lead Member and all consortium members)</i>	
2	Legal Status of the Applicant <i>(Attach copies of original documents defining legal status)</i> (Please tick applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Single Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Consortium	
3	Name(s) of the Contact Person(s) (With Designation, Email ID and Contact Number) <i>(In case of a consortium, furnish only details of the Lead Member’s representative)</i>	
4	Relevant Industry Experience <i>(Briefly indicate experience in similar/related sectors)</i>	
5	Any Other Relevant Information <i>(Include any additional details the applicant considers pertinent to the EOI submission)</i>	

Signature of the Authorized Signatory

Name:

Designation:

Seal of the Applicant

Date:

**Form – ‘B’
DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED**

Sl. No.	Description	Remarks / Attached (Yes/No)
1	Documents and details as specified under Section I, Item No. 6 of the EOI	
2	Any other supporting documents or information the applicant considers relevant and necessary, but not covered above	

Declaration:

I/We hereby confirm that the documents and information furnished above are true and complete to the best of my/our knowledge and belief.

Signature of the Authorized Signatory

Name:

Designation:

Seal of the Applicant

Date:

**Form – ‘C’
BUDGETARY OFFER**

The applicant is requested to indicate the estimated monthly license fee that can be offered by the vendor(s) to Lakshadweep Development Corporation Ltd. (LDCL) for each vessel.

Sl. No.	Name of Vessel	Monthly licence fee (INR)/Per vessel/ Month	Remarks (if any)
1	MV Kavaratti		
2	MV Corals		
3	MV Lagoons		
4	MV Arabian Sea		
5	MV Lakshadweep Sea		

Declaration:

I/We hereby declare and affirm that the budgetary estimates set forth herein are submitted in good faith and are based on the information made available through the Expression of Interest (EoI) document, prevailing market conditions, and reasonable operational assumptions. These estimates are indicative in nature and shall not be construed as binding in any manner on LDCL and vendor.

I/We further acknowledge and understand that the selection of the vendor shall be subject to and contingent upon the outcome of a competitive public tender process to be conducted by LDCL, and that this submission does not confer any right or entitlement to be selected as a vendor.

Signature of the Authorized Signatory

Name:

Designation:

Seal of the Applicant

Date:

FORM – ‘D’
SUGGESTIONS / VIEWS / PROPOSALS OF THE APPLICANT

Sl. No.	Description	Remarks / Details (Attach separate sheets if necessary)
1	Suggestions or views related to the scope of work	
2	Proposed minimum duration of the contractual arrangement (to be specified in number of years) in the event of selection as vendor for operation of onboard canteen services.	
3	Proposals for efficient operation and management of onboard canteen services	
4	Innovative ideas for enhancing service quality and passenger satisfaction	
5	Recommendations on sustainability, hygiene, and compliance with statutory regulations	
6	Any additional information or detail considered important by the applicant	

Signature of the Authorized Signatory

Name:

Designation:

Seal of the Applicant

Date: