

Invitation for
Expression of Interest (EOI)

for

Empanelment as Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)
Consultants

With

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY DHARWAD



॥ सा विद्या या विमुक्तये ॥
ಭಾ.ಕೆಂ.ಸಂ. ಧಾರವಾಡ
भा. प्रौ. सं. धारवाड
I.I.T. DHARWAD

EoI Reference No.	IITDH/R&D/IPR/2024-25-/001
Description	Empanelment of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Consultants/Firms
EoI Submission Start Date	24-Mar-2025 12:00 PM
EoI Submission End Date	14-Apr-2025 06:00 PM
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EoI Submission Address	Shri. Chetan Totad, Assistant Registrar(R&D) R&D section, Indian Institute of Technology Dharwad Chikkamalligawad,Dharwad,Karnataka, India 580 011 Email:arrnd@iitdh.ac.in Tel 0836- 2309610

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Indian Institute of Technology DHARWAD (IITDH) is a premier research and Technology educational Institution of national importance, established under the Institutes of Technology Act, 2016, enacted by the Parliament of Republic of India having its office at Chikkamalligawad, DHARWAD, Karnataka- 580 011.

IITDH invites applications from the IP consultant firms meeting requirements prescribed in Serial No. 4 of this EoI for providing “IPR Consultancy Services” on a case-to-case basis.

1. GENERAL INFORMATION TO BIDDERS

- i. All information called for in the enclosed forms should be furnished against the respective columns in the forms. If information is furnished in a separate document, reference to the same should be given against respective columns in such cases. If any particular query is not applicable, it should be stated as “**Not Applicable**”. However, the bidders are cautioned that not giving complete information called for in the tender forms or not giving it in clear terms or making any change in the prescribed forms or deliberately suppressing the information may result in the bidder being summarily disqualified.
- ii. The Tenders should be typewritten or handwritten with clear legibility, but there should not be any overwriting or cutting or interpolation. Correction, if any, shall be made by neatly crossing out, initialling, dating, and rewriting. The name and signature of bidder's authorized person should be recorded on each page of the application. All pages of the tender document shall be numbered and submitted as a package along with forwarding letter on agency's letter head.
- iii. Bidders must keep their offer open for a minimum period of 120 days from the date of opening of the bids, within which the bidders cannot withdraw their offer. However, subject to the period being extended further, if required, by mutual agreement from time to time.
- iv. The bidder is advised to attach any additional information, which she/he thinks is necessary in regard to her/his capabilities to establish that the bidder is capable in all respects of successfully completing the envisaged work. She/He is, however, advised not to attach superfluous information. No further information will be entertained after the tender document is submitted unless the Institute calls for it.
- v. **Incorrect or misleading information:** If the bidder deliberately gives incorrect or misleading information in their tender or wrongfully creates circumstances for the acceptance of the tender, IITDH reserves the right to reject such a tender at any stage.
- vi. The responsibility of submission of the bids on or before the last date shall rest with the tenderer. The institute will hold no responsibility for the non-receipt of the bids, or the bids received after the date/time specified. Any bid received by IITDH after the bid submission deadline prescribed by IITDH, shall be rejected and returned unopened to the Bidder.
- vii. Canvassing or offer of an advantage or any other inducement by any person with a

- view to influencing acceptance of a bid is an offence under the Laws of India. Such action will result in the rejection of bid, in addition to other punitive measures.
- viii. Each bidder shall submit only one bid, either by himself or as a partner in a joint venture or as a member of the consortium. If a bidder or if any of the partners in a joint venture or any one of the members of the consortium participate in more than one bid, the bids (of both the individual and the partnership/consortium/joint venture) are liable to be rejected.
 - ix. The bidder shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of his bid and IITDH shall in no case be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the tender process.
 - x. IITDH will respond to any request for clarification or modification of the Tender Document that is received up to TWO DAYS prior to the deadline for submission of bids prescribed by IITDH. For this purpose, the prospective bidder(s) requiring clarification in the Tender Document shall notify IITDH through email to arrnd@iitdh.ac.in with cc to fic.ipr@iitdh.ac.in. Any such clarification, together with all the details on which the clarification had been sought, will be published in the ONLINE Portal ONLY. Deviations, if any, observed by the Institute in the submitted bids, from the Terms and Conditions of the Tender Document will not be accepted by the Institute.
 - xi. At any time before the submission of bids, IITDH may amend the bid document by issuing an addendum in writing or by standard electronic means. The addendum shall be sent to all Bidders and will be binding on them. Bidders shall acknowledge receipt of all amendments.

2. SCOPE OF WORK

IIT DHARWAD is pursuing R&D activities in-house and in collaboration with reputed organizations/laboratories in India/abroad in various Thrust Areas. The ongoing R&D Projects are at various stages of execution and the options to secure IPR are being evaluated at different stages.

IIT DHARWAD seeks to engage specialized IP firms to provide comprehensive consultancy services for securing intellectual property rights (IPR) across its ongoing and upcoming R&D projects, covering patents, trademarks, copyrights, and other related IPR areas.

The scope of work (SOW) for the consultant will include the following:

a. Patent Search and Analysis:

- To conduct thorough prior art searches to identify existing patents, publications, and any other relevant information.
- To provide a detailed patentability analysis and opinion based on search results.

- To perform landscape analysis to understand the existing patents in the field of interest.

b. Patent Drafting:

- To draft patent specifications, including detailed descriptions, claims, drawings, and abstracts.
- To ensure the patent draft is in compliance with the relevant patent office guidelines.
- To revise and refine drafts based on feedback from the client and patent office.

c. Patent Filing:

- To file patent applications (provisional, complete, PCT, or national phase) with the relevant patent offices.
- To handle all formalities related to patent filing, including preparing and submitting required documents.
- To monitor deadlines for filing patent applications and ensure timely submissions.

d. Patent Prosecution:

- To respond to office actions and objections raised by patent examiners.
- To provide strategic advice on overcoming rejections and objections.
- To attend hearings and represent the client before the patent office if required and
- To regularly update the client on the status of the application.

e. Patent Portfolio Management:

- To assist in developing and managing a robust patent portfolio strategy.
- To conduct periodic reviews of the patent portfolio to assess the strength and relevance of patents and
- To provide recommendations for maintaining, licensing, or abandoning patents.

f. Patent Infringement Analysis:

- To conduct infringement analysis to determine whether any third party is infringing on the client's patents.
- To provide advice on enforcement strategies, including potential litigation or alternative dispute resolution and
- To assist in drafting cease and desist letters, if necessary.

g. Freedom to Operate (FTO) Analysis:

- To carry out FTO searches to assess the risk of infringing on existing patents before launching a product.

- To Provide a detailed FTO opinion and suggest strategies to mitigate any risks identified.

h. Patent Commercialization:

- To advise on strategies for monetizing patents through licensing, sale, or partnerships.
- To assist in drafting and negotiating licensing agreements and other related contracts and
- To evaluate potential licensing opportunities and partners.

i. Training and Advisory:

- To conduct training sessions for the client's team on patent-related matters, including patent laws, procedures, and best practices and
- To provide ongoing advisory services on patent strategy and management.

j. Regular Reporting and Communication:

- To provide periodic reports on the status of patent applications and other ongoing activities.
- To maintain regular communication with the client, including conveying meetings and updates on key developments.
- To ensure confidentiality and security of all client information and documents and
- The prospective consultants should disclose any conflict of interest with IIT DHARWAD and its community.

k. Securing registration and maintenance of copyright, design, trademark, IC Layout design and industrial design.

- Preparing of supporting documents and filing of copyright, design, trademark, IC layout design and industrial design

3. DELIVERABLES

i. Patent Search Reports:

- To prepare detailed reports on prior art searches, landscape analysis, and patentability assessments.

ii. Draft Patent Applications:

To submit complete drafts of patent specifications ready for client review and filing.

iii. Filed Patent Applications:

- Copies of all filed patent applications, along with acknowledgement receipts from the patent office.

iv. Response to Office Actions:

- To furnish written responses to office actions, including legal arguments and amendments to claims.

v. Infringement and FTO Opinions:

- To prepare comprehensive infringement analysis and FTO opinions with strategic recommendations.

vi. Portfolio Review Reports:

- To prepare periodic reports on the status and strength of the patent portfolio, with recommendations for action.

vii. Commercialization Strategy Documents:

- To prepare Strategy Documents and Agreements related to patent commercialization efforts.

viii. Training Materials:

- To provide materials and presentations used in training sessions provided to the client's team.

ix. Regular Progress Reports:

- To furnish monthly or quarterly reports detailing the progress of all ongoing patent related activities.

x. Preparation of Minutes of meetings and Communication Logs:

- To prepare detailed minutes of all meetings, to record and preserve all communications, and actions taken during the engagement.

Additional Requirements:

- **Compliance:** The IP consultant firms should ensure that all deliverables comply with the relevant laws, regulations, and guidelines of the patent offices in which applications are filed.
- **Timeline:** Each deliverable should be completed within the specified due date & time as agreed upon in the Contract.
- **Confidentiality:** The IP consultant firms should adhere to strict confidentiality regarding all pertaining to the client information.

4. MINIMUM QUALIFYING REQUIREMENTS

This empanelment is open to eligible IP Consultant Firms that fulfil the following minimum qualifying requirements and provide satisfactory evidence in support of the same.

Sl. No.	Minimum requirement for submission of Expression of Interest	Remarks
A	The bidder should have registered as Company/LLP/Firm with Govt. of India or respective state govts.	Copy of the Registration/ Incorporation Certificate shall be provided.
B	Experience in IP Field	A minimum of 5 years as of February 2025, including experience in IP litigation, IP commercialization, and handling IP-related legal proceedings. Annexure-II
C	Employees in Organization	10+ Across all domains. Please attach a proof of the document. Submit the Annexure V .
D	Area of expertise	Mechanical, Biomedical, Chemistry, Physics, Economics, Biology, Biochemistry, Civil, Electrical, Electronics, Computer Science, Mathematics, Chemical, AI & ML Annexure V
E	Empanelled with a minimum of two other CFTIs.	Please submit proof of empanelment with other CFTIs. (In case of no empanelled letter, then must be filed 40 patent application for each IIT after 2021 January to current date) Annexure VI, VII
F	Time Duration	Drafting of an application needs to be completed within 21 days from date of sharing the Invention Disclosure Form
G	Should possess patent searching software	Please submit authenticated valid proof
H	The bidder should have a Functional office (either a corporate office / branch office) in Bangalore or Delhi/NCR.	Please submit details of offices at different locations (address along with designation of the person in charge, visiting card, and contact details) and a Certificate from Authorized Signatory as per the Format attached at Annexure-IV .
I	Price Listing at various Stages	Please submit the rates for various stages as mentioned in Annexure VIII

J	Evaluation of Firms	The formula to compute the score for firms based on prices submitted in Annexure VIII are presented in Annexure IX
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5. CRITERIA FOR EMPANELMENT

The minimum eligibility criteria outlined in Section 3 will serve as the primary basis for empanelment. Each submission will be evaluated based on the quality, relevance, and depth of experience in the specified domains.

6. GENERAL INFORMATION

- a) The submission of an application, even if all eligibility criteria are met, does not guarantee empanelment with IIT DHARWAD. The final selection will be based on a detailed evaluation of the application, the firm's capabilities, and their strategic fit with IIT DHARWAD's IP objectives
- b) IIT DHARWAD reserves the right to cancel the EOI at its sole discretion.
- c) IIT DHARWAD reserves the right to summarily reject the Applications at its sole discretion without assigning any reason.
- d) Application may be rejected for any of the reasons (i) not submitted in the prescribed format or (ii) do not meet any of the eligibility criteria or (iii) not accompanied with requisite documents/information or (iv) incomplete in any respect.
- e) IIT DHARWAD reserves the right to verify/cross check the information furnished/ submitted by the applicant.
- f) The panel may be reviewed after three years from the date of order as per the requirement at the discretion of the IIT DHARWAD subject to the approval of the Competent Authority.
- g) Empanelment of the IPR Firms would serve in all IPR related matters.
- h) Mere empanelment of the Consultants does not guarantee any award of work/assignment by IIT DHARWAD.
- i) Any change which is material to the empanelment criteria, shall be immediately informed to IIT DHARWAD and IIT DHARWAD reserves the right to review any empanelled IP subsequently in case any Managing Partner/IP(s)/associated firm moves/ leaves/withdraws association with IPE/firm.
- j) Within the tenure of panel, if any IP Consultant Firm was found to be blacklisted by any CFTIs or any other Central / State government organization where they were empanelled, they would be deemed to be blacklisted from that moment and would not be considered for fresh empanelment.

- k) The Consultant shall furnish any information as required by IIT DHARWAD regarding selection within 7 days of such demand including during the tenure of empanelment.
- l) The IP Consultant Firm is expected to carry out its assignments with due diligence and in accordance with prevailing standards of professional ethics in all respects, related laws and enrolling/registering Authority. IIT DHARWAD may, however, prescribe other liabilities depending on the requirement in each case without any restriction on their liability as per the applicable law.
- m) The prices offered and agreed by both the parties shall be valid for a period of **Two Years**, which may be extended by **One year** upon mutual agreement. No price escalation shall be entertained by the Client for any reasons, whatsoever, it may be, during the currency of the Contract.
- n) The Consultant firm shall raise invoice by referring the work order of the IIT DHARWAD after successful delivery of the ordered material. IIT DHARWAD shall make all endeavors to make payment as early as possible from the date of receipt of such invoice.
- o) All fields are mandatory to be filled, and self-attested supporting documents should also be provided.
- p) IIT DHARWAD may empanel more than one Firm based on the minimum score obtained using the steps given in Annexure IX.

7. HOW TO APPLY:

Interested and eligible IP Consultant Firms may submit their Application Form for the empanelment with IIT DHARWAD as Consultant to provide “IPR Consultancy Services”. Superscribing on envelope as “Expression of Interest for Empanelment of IPR Consultancy Services with IIT DHARWAD”.

- i. Submit the duly filled forms to the address mentioned below, by post/courier latest by **5 PM on 14th April 2025**. The application form and all the enclosures should be substantiated with relevant documents and must be signed and sealed by an authorized person of the firm.
- ii. The copy of the same must be submitted through email to arrnd@iitdh.ac.in by looping fic.ipr@iitdh.ac.in with email subject as “Expression of Interest for Empanelment of IPR Consultancy Services with IIT DHARWAD”.

Note:

- a) *IIT DHARWAD will not be held responsible for any delay in postal/courier service, and you are requested to take care of the acknowledgement receipt.*
- b) *The Consultant/IP Firm has to ensure that they abide by and meets all the above criteria and minimum qualifying requirements, along with the profiles of the Partner, IP(s) and other team members clearly specifying the names of the projects handled.*

- c) *The Consultant/Firm should ensure and confirm that it has not been blacklisted by any of the IITs or any other Institutions due to deficiency of services.*

Address to send EoI & Point of contact for any clarification

Mr. Chetan Totad, Assistant Registrar(R&D),

R&D Section

Indian Institute of Technology Dharwad

Chikkamalligawad, Dharwad

Karnataka, India - 580 011

E-mail: arrnd@iitdh.ac.in,

Web: www.iitdh.ac.in

Tel: +91-0836- 2309610

The application is liable to be rejected if:

- a) The proposal is not submitted as per the requirements indicated in the EOI.
- b) Not in the prescribed format/ tampering with the format.
- c) Not properly signed and sealed as per requirements.
- d) Received after the expiry of due date and time.
- e) All relevant supporting documents are not furnished.
- f) Any misrepresentation, misleading, false, incorrect and/or insufficient information furnished.

8. APPLICATION:

To

The Director,
Indian Institute of Technology DHARWAD
Permanent Campus, Chikkamalligawad
DHARWAD - 580 011
Karnataka, Bharata (India)

Dear Sir,

With reference to the advertisement dated _____ and EOI placed on IIT DHARWAD website we wish to apply for empanelment with Indian Institute of Technology DHARWAD as IP matters with _____. The information sought for empanelment is given below.

A. Details of the IP Firm

- a) Name of the Firm
- b) Address:
- c) Point of Contact for Services:
- d) Contact No(s):
- e) E-Mail
- f) Alternative Email:
- g) Number of Partners in the firm as per Annexure V.

Other Details (In case of IP the following details may be given with respect to the firm whose support has been identified at B2 above.

1. Details of the Work Experience in terms of number of cases for the following (In the format mentioned in Annexure II):
2. Names of the IITs or other Institutions where Empanelled as IP. Letters or any other confirmation (ensuring appointment) by the empanelling authority are to be enclosed as per Annexure VI.
3. Details of Functional offices at different locations as per (Annexure IV).
4. Details of following (If applicable): GST No: PAN:

C. Certification

We accept all the terms and conditions mentioned in the invitation of EOI as per certificate placed at Annexure I.

Declaration

I hereby declare that I have verified the details indicated above and also confirm that all the information submitted is true to the best of my knowledge.

(Signature _____)

Name: _____)

(Authorised Signatory)

(With seal)

On the letter head of the applicant

Annexure I

Letter of Acceptance

To

The Director,

Indian Institute of Technology DHARWAD.

Permanent Campus, Chikkamalligawad

DHARWAD - 580 011

Karnataka, Bharata (India)

Dear Sir,

- 1) We hereby propose to offer ourselves for Empanelment as Consultant with IIT Dh as outlined in your invitation for Expression of Interest.
- 2) We have understood the instructions, minimum qualification and empanelment eligibility criteria and the terms and conditions mentioned in the Expression of Interest furnished by you and have thoroughly examined the detailed scope of work laid down by you and are fully aware of the nature and scope of work required.
- 3) We hereby confirm our acceptance and compliance to the provisions and terms and conditions contained in the invitation for Expression of Interest.
- 4) We certify that all the information provided in our Application along with annexures, including the information regarding the partner(s), IP(s) and other members, is true. We understand that any misstatement in the Application (even if found later) may lead to disqualification or removal from the Panel. We also understand that in such a case we may be debarred for future assignments with IIT DHARWAD for a period which may be deemed necessary by IIT DHARWAD in its absolute discretion.

Yours faithfully,

Signature.....

Name.....

Designation.....

Date.....

Place.....

On the letter head of the applicant

Annexure II

Details of the Work Experience

Sl. No.	Name of the CFTIs or any other Institute/Organizations	No. of Applications filed since engaged by CFTIs or any other Institute	Attach copy of letter from the appointing Authority regarding award of the assignment(If any)
1			
2			
3			
4			
n			

Copy of letter from the appointing Authority regarding award of the assignment must be attached

On the letter head of the applicant

(Annexure IV)

Certificate regarding functional offices

To

The Director,

Indian Institute of Technology DHARWAD

Permanent Campus, Chikkamalligawad

DHARWAD - 580 011, Karnataka, Bharata (India)

Dear Sir(s),

I/We certify that we have a functional office at Delhi /NCR / Karnataka / Abroad as per the details given below:

Sr. No.	Location/ city	Address	Name of Incharge	Designation of In-charge	Visiting cards attached
1					Yes/NO
2					Yes/NO
3					
N					

Yours faithfully,

Signature.....

Name.....

Managing Partner/Authorised Officer

(With Seal)

Date:

Place:

On the letter head of the applicant

Annexure V

Duly self-certified (by Managing Partner/Authorized Signatory) of the Firm giving support to the IP

To

The Director,

Indian Institute of Technology DHARWAD

Permanent Campus, Chikkamalligawad

DHARWAD - 580 011, Karnataka, Bharata (India)

Dear Sir(s),

- 1) I/We certify that we as a firm will provide the support required for carrying out the “IPR Consultant Services”.
- 2) The support will continue during the continuity of the empanelment with IIT DHARWAD.
- 3) I/We undertake that after IIT DHARWAD empanels the applicant IPR we shall not withdraw the above support without prior permission of IIT DHARWAD.
- 4) We agree that IIT DHARWAD may, at its discretion, permit, depending upon the status of engagement as a Consultant for any specific assignment, any modification in the above support with condition(s).
- 5) Details of the Partners/IP experts associated with our Firm are as follows:

Sr. No	Name of the Partner/IP Expert	Relevant field of Partner/IP Expert	Years of Association of the Partner/IP Expert with the Firm	Total Experience of Partner/IP Expert	Highest Qualification of Partner/IP Expert
1					
2					
3					
4					

Yours faithfully,

Signature.....

Name.....

Managing Partner/Authorised Officer

(With Seal)

Date:

Place:

On the letter head of the applicant

Annexure VI

Duly self-certified by the IP as the case may be applicable

Details of the Empanelment/Appointment by CFTIs or Others.

Sr. No.	Name of the Institution	Whether CFTIs or Other Institute	Year of empanelment/ appointment	Self-attested copy of the empanelment letter or any other letter/ written confirmation by the empanelling/ appointing authority attached
1				Yes/No
2				Yes/No
3				Yes/No
n				

Yours faithfully,

Signature.....

Name.....

Managing Partner/Authorised Officer

(With Seal)

Date:

Place:

On the letter head of the applicant

Annexure VII

Details of the Application filed for IIT/IISc/CFTIs/Central or State govt organization in case of No Empanelment

Sr. No.	Name of the IIT	Application Number	Year of Filing
1			
2			
3			
n			

Yours faithfully,

Signature.....

Name.....

Managing Partner/Authorised Officer

(With Seal)

Date:

Place:

On the letter head of the applicant

Annexure VIII

Provide the prices for below items. The gross weightage we consider for these items is also given.

Sr. No.	PARTICULARS	Weight (%)
1	Patent Search (Quick search: 5 business days)	
2	Drafting Complete Patent Application (drafting and filing)	
3	Request for Examination	
4	Request for Early Publication	
5	Replying First Examination Report	
6	Hearing (Attending hearing in the presence of patent examiner to discuss objections and finalize patent application)	80
7	Provisional Patent Application (drafting, preparing forms and filing patent application)	NIL
8	Amendment of a Patent application with respect to change of name, address, nationality and/or address of service	
9	Amendment of specification before Grant	
10	Amendment of specification after Grant	
11	Request for rectification of clerical error	
12	Substitution of Applicant(s) before grant	
13	For entry/alternation of Entry in the patent register	
14	For changing of address of service or entry of additional address of service	
15	Request for inspection of register	
16	Submitting details of corresponding applications (Form – 3)	
17	Submitting copies of foreign search/examination reports	
18	Request for a duplicate Patent Certificate	10

19	Preparing a Petition not otherwise provided for	
20	Checking and reporting of Publications	
21	Application for Post Dating	
22	Request for Obtaining Certified Priority Document up to 30 pages	
23	Request for Obtaining Certified Priority Document beyond 30 pages	
24	Request for certifying office copies	
25	Petition for late filing of documents	
26	Stamping and Notarization of documents	
27	Executing abandonment instructions	
28	Filing a request not otherwise provided for	
29	Reviving a Patent under Restoration period when prior instructions were towards abandonment.	
30	Application to add/modify inventors in the Application OR in the patent Certificate (before grant)	
31	Application to surrender a Patent	
32	Preparing and Filing a PCT Application	
33	Handling the PCT application from entering the National Phase till grant	
34	Reviewing Written Opinion of International Searching Authority (WO-ISA), providing comments and filing Informal comments and/or Article 19 amendments	
35	Preparing and filing Demand for International Preliminary Examination (IPE), along with Article 34 amendments	
36	Preparing of supporting documents and filing of Industrial Design	
37	Responding to Office actions- Industrial Design (FER Reply or Hearing)	
38	Preparing of supporting documents and filing of Trademark	
39	Responding to Office actions- Trademark (FER Reply or Hearing)	10

40	Preparing of supporting documents and filing of Copyright	
41	Responding to Office actions- Copyright (FER Reply or Hearing)	
42	Preparing of supporting documents and filing of IC Layout Design	
43	Responding to Office actions- IC Layout Design	

Yours faithfully,

Signature.....

Name.....

Managing Partner/Authorised Officer

(With Seal)

Date:

Place:

Annexure IX

Below are the steps to evaluate the firms based on the price quotes received for items listed in Annexure VIII.

1. For each firm f , scale price P^f_i of each item i by 1000.

$$Ps^f_i = P^f_i/1000$$

2. Reciprocal the scaled Price:

$$Pr^f_i = 1/Ps^f_i$$

3. For N firms standardize data for each item i as follows:

$$\mu_i = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{f=1}^N Pr^f_i$$

$$\sigma_i = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{f=1}^N (Pr^f_i - \mu_i)^2}$$

Standardized Pr^f_i of firm f as

$$Pstd^f_i = (Pr^f_i - \mu_i)/\sigma_i$$

4. The score for each firm is

$$Score^f = \sum_{i=1}^M w_i * Pstd^f_i$$

Where w_i , M are the weight for item i and number of items respectively. The empanelment of firms will be in the decreasing order of $Score^f$.