

Procurement of 60 CORE Argo floats and 10 BGC Argo floats
Technical and Financial Evaluation (TFE) Committee meeting

Date	June 10, 2026	Time	11:00 – 12:00 hrs.	
Facilitator	INCOIS	Venue	INCOIS	
Online link	https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YTRjNjUyNGUtMzFhMS00NzA1LThINDQtMDQ3OGM1Y2ExOTk1%40thead.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%227e17d518-ccce-443b-afd6-3312ce5c6a1d%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%223d1a1112-dee9-445c-bc34-3d1f0ccbdfc8%22%7d			
Scribe	B. Praveen Kumar (Member-Secretary)			
Purpose	1. Pre-bid meeting with prospective vendors for the procurement of 60 number of Core and 10 number of Bio Argo profiling floats along with a one-year standard warranty – New Purchase for the FY 2026-27.			
Attendees	Sl	Participants (Prof/Dr/Mr/Ms)	Role	
	1.	Dr G A Ramadass, Former Director, NIOT	Chairman	
	2.	Dr M. S. Girishkumar, Scientist-F, INCOIS	Member	
	3.	Shri. N. Sureshkumar, Scientist-E, INCOIS	Member	
	4.	Shri Gracias Desmond G., Former Principal Technical Officer, CSIR-NIO	Member	
	5.	Shri B. Jagannath Acharyulu, Retd. Dy. F.A, CSIR N Delhi	Member	
	6.	Shri Devendra Kumar, Administrative Office, Accounts and Finance Division, INCOIS	Member	
	7.	Shri V Subramanyam, Administrative Officer, Purchase Division, INCOIS	Member	
	8.	Dr B. Praveen Kumar Scientist-F, INCOIS	Member-Secretary	
	<i>The following vendors participated in the prebid meeting</i>			
		Mr. Nishant and Chirag from M/s Spry India Pvt Ltd		
		Ms. Kaur and Mr. Naresh Agarwal from M/s Pan India Consultants		
		Mr. Hariharan and Mr. Dinesh Babu from M/s Samhitha Marine Pvt Ltd		
	Mr. Pankaj from M/s SeaBird Ltd			
1. Background				
The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad, is mandated to provide ocean information and advisory services to various stakeholders through sustained observations and focussed research. Hence, INCOIS is maintaining several observation networks, including Argo, Drifters, Wave Rider Buoys (WRB), Automatic Weather Station (AWS) on Ships,				

Procurement of 60 CORE Argo floats and 10 BGC Argo floats

Technical and Financial Evaluation (TFE) Committee meeting

tide gauges, Bottom Pressure Recorders (BPR), GNSS and Strong Motion Accelerometer (SMA). The data from these observing networks are efficiently and effectively utilised for the generation of ocean information and advisory services, along with calibration and validation of ocean models and satellite data. India is now embarking on Ocean Climate Change Advisory Services (OCCAS) of Deep Ocean Mission (DOM) to understand and provide future projections of the important ocean climate change indicators on decadal to longer time scales and associated impact on the coastal regions by developing a suite of dynamical/statistical models and techniques and establishing dedicated observational system. Argo float network in the Indian Ocean is an important component of this observation system.

Director, INCOIS, constituted the Technical and Financial Evaluation Committee (TFEC) (vide office order no. 78/2026 dated February 17, 2026) for the procurement of 60 CORE Argo floats and 10 BGC Argo floats. The TFEC conducted its first meeting on 5th March 2026 and finalized the scope of the tender, specifications, terms and conditions and mode of procurement.

2. Opening Remarks and Briefing

Dr G A Ramadass, Former Director of NIOT, Chennai and the Chairman of TFEC, welcomes all the members, invitees and vendor participants to the prebid meeting. Further, Dr Ramadass requested the member-secretary to brief the tender scope, conditions, specifications and expectations to the vendor participants.

Dr B. Praveen Kumar, Scientist-F, INCOIS and Member-Secretary, TFEC, briefed on the cases as per the agenda elaborated in the subsequent section.

3. Discussion and Recommendations

3.1. Supply of 60 Nos of Core (pumped CTD) and 10 Nos of Bio Argo (pumped CTD-FLBB-DO) Profiling float with a one-year standard warranty for the financial year 2026-27.

The TFEC discussed and noted the following:

- The Committee noted that most of the queries received from prospective vendors pertained to the commercial terms and conditions of the tender. After detailed deliberations, the Committee decided that: (a) no relaxation shall be provided with respect to the warranty conditions stipulated in the tender document; (b) no reduction shall be considered in the Performance Bank Guarantee (PBG) requirement specified in the original tender document; and (c) no advance payment shall be made by INCOIS under this procurement
- The Committee further noted that there is a request for the phased delivery of the 60 Core Argo floats. The Committee observed that, due to constraints in obtaining ship time for deployments, INCOIS may not be able to deploy all 60 floats within a period of 4–5 months. Accordingly, the Committee considered it advantageous to permit delivery of the 60 Core Argo floats in two equal batches of 30 floats each, with an interval of four months between deliveries. This arrangement would also ensure that the second batch benefits from an additional four months

Procurement of 60 CORE Argo floats and 10 BGC Argo floats


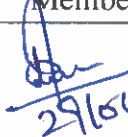

Technical and Financial Evaluation (TFE) Committee meeting

of warranty coverage compared to the first batch. However, the Committee concluded that a similar phased-delivery arrangement would not be beneficial for the procurement of 10 BGC floats, considering the relatively small quantity involved.

- The Committee notes that a single Usance Letter of Credit (ULC) be established for the procurement, with payments released in a staggered manner corresponding to the two-stage
- Queries from the vendors are provided in Annexure-I and corrigendum to publish in INCOIS website and CPP portal are provided in Annexure-II

The TFEC recommended the following:

After detailed deliberations, the Committee recommended allowing the supply of the 60 Core Argo floats in two equal lots of 30 floats each, with a gap of four months between the two deliveries. The Committee also recommended the establishment of a single User Letter of Credit (ULC), with payments to be made on a staggered basis in accordance with the delivery and acceptance of each lot.

<p>Email approval attached</p> <hr/> <p>(M. S. Girishkumar) Member</p>	<p>Email approval attached</p> <hr/> <p>(N Sureshkumar) Member-Secretary</p>
<p>Email approval attached</p> <hr/> <p>(B. Jagannath Acharyulu) Member</p>	<p>Email approval attached</p> <hr/> <p>(Gracias Desmond) Member</p>
<p></p> <hr/> <p>(V. Subramanyam) Member</p>	<p> 29/06/26</p> <hr/> <p>(Devendra Kumar) Member-Secretary</p>
<p></p> <hr/> <p>(B. Praveen Kumar) Member-Secretary</p>	<p>Email approval attached</p> <hr/> <p>(G A Ramadass) Chairman</p>

For Kind Approval

Approved vide L-0-2016 NO.28 Dt. 29/6/26
Director, INCOIS

AMDP
29/6