EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR RIG WALKING SYSTEM (RWS) FOR NEW GENERATION (NG) ONSHORE DRILLING RIGS

1. Introduction

1.1 ONGC is inducting 27 New Generation (NG) onshore drilling rigs in the NG 1500 and NG/HP 2000 categories, out of which 17 have been commissioned and the remaining are under rollout. These rigs are equipped with advanced automation, electro-hydraulic systems, digital controls and real-time data monitoring facilities. Except for two Category-I rigs, they share a common footprint, mast design and general configuration.

1.2 Availability of land for new drill sites has become a constraint in onshore operations. Therefore ONGC is moving towards cluster drilling, where several wells are drilled from one site. Here, rig-move time between wells directly affects rig productivity.

1.3 A Rig Walking System (RWS) is a hydraulically operated lift–move–lower arrangement and is fitted beneath the rig substructure. It allows the mast and substructure assembly to be moved between closely spaced wells without a complete rig-down and rig-up. ONGC expects that such a system could reduce rig-move time and non-productive time between cluster wells and reduce the safety exposure associated with conventional rig moves.

1.4 A rig walking system has not so far been deployed on ONGC's rigs. Fitting one to the NG rigs would be a retrofit, requiring rig-specific engineering of the substructure interfaces, modifications to the rig, a suitable civil (ground and foundation) interface at each site, and new operating and maintenance procedures.

1.5 ONGC is therefore issuing this Expression of Interest (EOI) to agencies capable of engineering, supplying, installing, commissioning and supporting a rig walking system for the NG rigs. The responses will help ONGC understand the available technologies, the capability of the market and the practical options for execution. Under ONGC's procurement procedure, the information received may be used to finalise the scope of work, technical specifications, bid structure and bid evaluation criteria for any procurement that ONGC may decide to undertake later.

2. Objective

This EOI is intended as a market-exploration and information gathering exercise through which ONGC seeks to:

- Identify agencies with proven experience in designing, supplying, installing and supporting RWS for land rigs, particularly as retrofits;
- Understand available RWS technologies, including capacities, movement capabilities, limitations and suitability for NG 1500 and NG/HP 2000 rigs;
- Understand the engineering, rig-modification, load-balance and civil-interface requirements of each technology, including the rig data needed for a retrofit;
- Assess agencies' capability to install, commission, operate, maintain and support geographically dispersed rigs round the clock, including manpower, training, OEM support and spares;
- Understand safety features, operating limits and applicable standards;
- Obtain suggestions on technical specifications, scope split, execution and contracting models, and evaluation criteria;
- Understand whether the system is available on hire as well as for purchase, and how hiring would work in practice; and
- Gather inputs for the final scope of work, qualification requirements and procurement strategy for any future tender.

3. Submission Guidelines, Key Information and Dates

EOI Reference No.	ONGC/ RWS/EOI/2026/15
Issue Date	06/11/2026
Submission Due Date	27/11/2026
Submission Mode	Electronic Submission by Email
Language	English
Contact Email(s)	gupta_p1@ongc.co.in, mishra_sb@ongc.co.in
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4. Broad Technical Requirement

This section describes the services and capabilities on which ONGC seeks information and does not constitute a Scope of Work or Technical Specification. Any binding requirements will be specified separately in a subsequent tender, if issued by ONGC.

4.1 Overall Service Requirement

4.1.1 ONGC is exploring the availability of a rig walking system that can be retrofitted to the NG 1500/2000 HP rigs and used to move the rig, in drilling configuration, between wells at a cluster location. ONGC is interested in modular systems that can be removed from one rig and installed on another NG rig, so that one set of equipment can serve more than one rig.

4.1.2 ONGC wishes to consider two ways of obtaining the system:

(a) **Purchase:** the agency engineers, supplies, installs and commissions the system, which then belongs to ONGC. The agency also provides training, spares and maintenance support during operations.

(b) **Hiring:** the agency provides the system on hire, either for each rig move or for an agreed period, and the system stays with the agency. The agency also provides related engineering, rig modification, installation, operation or supervision, maintenance and spares. When the hire ends, the agency removes the system and restores the rig.

Respondents may give information on either model or both. They may also suggest any other arrangement they consider suitable for ONGC's requirement.

4.1.3 Under either model, the services being explored cover the full life cycle of the system: rig-specific engineering; design, manufacture and supply, or provision on hire; rig modification, installation, integration and commissioning; field demonstration; training; and maintenance and technical support during operation.

4.1.4 To keep the purpose of this EOI clear, the following distinction applies:

Services being explored	**Capabilities on which information is requested**	**Matters to be defined**
Engineering, supply or hiring, installation, commissioning and support of a rig walking system for NG rigs, including the related rig modifications and civil interface.	Technology, capacity, movement envelope, rig-integration approach, foundation requirement, track record, manpower, maintenance and OEM support, safety features, documentation.	Detailed scope of work, specifications, qualification and evaluation criteria, commercial and contractual terms.

4.2 Rig and Operating Context

4.2.1 The table below gives indicative information about the NG rigs and their drill sites, to help respondents frame their responses. The values are approximate and are given for information only.

Table 4.1: Indicative rig parameters

Parameter	Indicative information
Rig type	NG 1500 HP, NG 2000, HP/HT onshore land rigs of HSL design, manufactured by M/s Drillmec
Fleet	27 rigs being inducted, 17 in operation (Category-I excluded); common footprint and configuration
Rig footprint	The substructure base is about 30.6 m long in rig-up condition. It is made up of the centre bottom box (about 11.7 m), a rear extension (about 9.5 m) and a front extension (about 9.5 m). Rig height from ground about 58.6 m.
Design loads	Rig dead load approx. 400 t. Hook load capacity 500 t; setback load capacity 300 t.
Substructure	Two bottom boxes (driller side and off-driller side), approximately 9.1 m apart centre-to-centre
Clearance below drawworks	Approximately 1.0–1.4 m (field observation)
Wellhead equipment	Wellhead approximately 0.6 m high; Christmas tree approximately 2.4 m high when installed
Equipment around the substructure	BOP cart and BOP handling, hydraulic catwalk, hydraulic power unit, BOP accumulator unit, grasshopper (cable tray), casing-line spooler, mast-raising cylinders and counterweight elements
Mud system	Mud tanks, shaker tank and trip tank are installed on fixed foundations on the drill site
Hydraulic power	A rig-up hydraulic power unit forms part of the rig package; respondents may propose to use it or a dedicated power unit to operate the RWS
Existing drill-site foundations	Strip foundations designed for a maximum static surface load of about 1.5 kg/cm²; approx. 0.34–0.59 kg/cm² when operating
Cluster layouts	Well spacing and layout vary from site to site

Parameter	Indicative information
Operating areas and environment	Onshore Assets of ONGC in India
Quantity	Not yet determined

4.2.2 The indicative coverage of the NG rig fleet is given below.

Table 4.2: Indicative rig coverage

Rig Category	Make	Rated Drawworks	Indicative Drilling Capacity	Deployment
NG-1500	Drillmec S.p.A., Italy	1500 HP	Up to approximately 4,500 m	Assam, Rajahmundry, Ankleshwar, Cambay, Mehsana & Silchar Assets, as applicable
NG-2000	Drillmec S.p.A., Italy	2000 HP	Up to approximately 6,000 m	Assam, Agartala, Rajahmundry, as applicable
HP-2000	Drillmec S.p.A., Italy	2000 HP	Up to approximately 6,000 m	Rajahmundry Asset

Note: The exact number of rigs, deployment locations, equipment configuration, operating status, work allocation and contract coverage shall be finalised during any subsequent tendering process.

4.2.3 **Respondents should note that ONGC does not hold detailed fabrication or structural design data for the rig substructure. Respondents are requested to state clearly what rig data they would need to engineer a retrofit and how they would obtain or generate it. Accordingly, respondents are advised to visit drill sites.**

4.2.4 ONGC is particularly interested in how each respondent's technology addresses the following:

- the movement envelope — forward and backward longitudinal moves, lateral and diagonal moves, change of direction and rotation;
- walking over installed wellhead equipment, including a Christmas tree of the height indicated above;

- the ground-bearing pressure imposed during walking, and the foundation or walking-path arrangement needed to support it;
- the rig equipment that must be disconnected, removed or repositioned for each move, and the resulting all-in cycle time (preparation, walking and reinstatement);
- the ability to walk with the mast up, drawworks and top drive installed, and with or without tubulars in the setback;
- fail-safe behaviour on loss of hydraulic power, control or a single cylinder, and the procedure and time to lower the rig safely;
- permissible wind speed, gusts and other environmental limits for walking; and
- the time and resources needed to transfer the system from one NG rig to another.

4.3 Key Areas of Service Capability

Under each heading below, ONGC seeks information on the respondent's demonstrated capability and proposed approach.

4.3.1 Engineering, Rig Integration and Civil Interface

- Experience in engineering walking systems as retrofits to existing rigs, including rigs made by other manufacturers.
- Engineering support for the design of walking paths or pad foundations, and options to limit civil works.
- Approach to the engineering assessment of the NG rig, the data required, and whether any of it can be completed before a contract is placed.
- Structural and stability verification of the rig in the walking condition, and any third-party verification normally obtained.
- Basis for calculating ground-bearing pressure at each pad, including uneven and dynamic loading.
- Integration of cable management, mud flow line and service lines, and the effect on other rig equipment.

4.3.2 Operations and Manpower

- Experience in operating rig walking systems at drilling sites, and in supervising rig moves.
- Availability of qualified engineers and technicians for installation, commissioning and initial operations, including OEM-trained personnel.

- Proposed manpower structure for installation, transfer between rigs and walking operations, and the crew normally needed for a move.
- Training of ONGC rig crews and maintenance staff, competency assessment and certification.

4.3.3 Maintenance and Reliability

- Recommended preventive, condition-based and corrective maintenance for the walking system, and inspection intervals for critical components such as cylinders, pads and structural interfaces.
- Breakdown diagnosis and restoration, including recovery of the rig if a walker fails during a move.
- Reliability data from existing installations, such as availability, typical failures and their causes.
- Critical spares and consumables, recommended holding levels and lead times.
- Maintenance records, equipment history and reporting; use of digital maintenance or condition-monitoring tools, if offered.
- Measures proposed to reduce non-productive time during rig moves.

4.3.4 Safety

- Health, safety and environment management systems relevant to installation and operation of the system at drilling sites.
- Hazard identification and risk assessment for rig walking, including job safety analysis and permit-to-work practices for moves and maintenance.
- Engineered safety features: fail-safe lowering, redundancy, synchronisation, overload and tilt protection, and emergency stop.
- Environmental operating limits and the engineering basis for them.
- Emergency procedures for failures during a move, and incident reporting and investigation practices.
- Design and manufacturing standards followed, and certifications held for the system and its components, including hazardous-area certification of electrical and instrument items.

4.3.5 OEM Support and Technical Assistance

- Whether the respondent is the manufacturer of the walking system or acts for a manufacturer, with details of any authorisation or support agreement.

- Access to technical documentation, diagnostics, and control-system software and firmware support.
- Availability of OEM specialists, the escalation route for critical failures, and response times.
- Supply of genuine spares, presence of a service base or partner in India, and policy on obsolete components.
- Any implications of the retrofit for the rig manufacturer's warranty or design responsibility, and how these would be managed.

4.3.6 Documentation and Compliance

- Engineering documentation normally supplied: design basis, calculations, general arrangement and interface drawings, and walking procedures.
- Operation and maintenance manuals, spare-parts catalogues, inspection and test plans, and test and commissioning records.
- Equipment registers, maintenance and inspection records, and breakdown and reliability reports.
- Compliance with all applicable statutory provisions, labour laws, wage regulations, safety requirements, social security legislation, DGMS and OISD guidelines, and other regulations.
- Certificates of conformity and other compliance documents.

5. Information Sought from Interested Agencies

Interested agencies are requested to submit a structured response containing the information listed below, in the same order. Where an item does not apply to the respondent, this should be stated with a brief reason.

- Covering letter expressing interest.
- Company profile including details of ownership and corporate structure.
- Capability statement relevant to rig walking systems.
- Details of similar projects executed.
- Client references and supporting documents.
- OEM support arrangements.
- Suggested contracting model and execution methodology.

6. Confidentiality

All information received by ONGC as part of this EOI shall become the property of ONGC and will be maintained in confidence and utilized solely for internal evaluation and assessment purposes.

7. Disclaimer

This EOI is solely for the purpose of market exploration. It does not constitute a commercial tender or RFP, nor does it commit ONGC to proceed with any procurement process.