

‘Digital India’ to get tech support from consultancies

With an aim to implement the Prime Minister’s ambitious ‘Digital India’ programme in an effective manner, the NDA Government has decided to hire five consultancies to get technical and managerial support. The consultancies will meet the growing demand for design, development, implementation and large-scale rollout of e-governance applications under Digital India/e-Kranti initiative.

The National e-Governance Division (NeGD) has recently issued a tender to invite bidders in this regard. The tender states that NeGD intends to empanel reputed consultancy organisations to accelerate not only the identification of new areas of use of ICT but also to assist in all activities related to e-governance projects.

According to the tender, the consultancies will be initially empanelled for a period of two years but it could be extended by a year. Further, they will be paid on the time-and-materials basis, but it is expected that the government will prefer to pay them on the basis of results.

Notably, Prime Minister’s one of the flagship programmes ‘Digital India’ was launched in the first week of July and there has been a quantum leap in mere 30 days. To give it a push, the decision has been taken by the government to involve consultancies, which will work on technology and programme management for the initiative at the national level.

The government expects all kinds of support from the consultancies, including mobile solutions, collaborative digital platforms, cloud solutions, cyber-security solutions IT solutions for rural areas and other technologies. If all goes well, the consultants will be empanelled by August-end.

The consultancies will also help the government in programme management, viz. preparing RFPs and templates, e-governance project monitoring, application security audit and bid process management, among others.