

To,
Prospective Hardware Vendors

Subject: Request for Proposal (RFP) – Empanelment of Hardware Vendor for the Cisco thingQbator Program (FY 2026–27)

Dear Sir/Madam,

Nasscom Foundation, a non-profit organization, in partnership with Cisco, runs the 'thingQbator' programme – a network of IoT/makerspace labs set up across 40+ partner engineering colleges in India where students build working prototypes for real-world problems.

We are inviting proposals from experienced and reliable hardware vendors to supply electronic components, sensors, actuators, prototyping and tooling items required by our student teams across our partner colleges on a PAN-India basis, in accordance with the enclosed Scope of Work and the item list at Annexure I.

The key terms and conditions, evaluation requirements, and the list of documents to be submitted are detailed in the enclosed RFP. Interested vendors are requested to submit their proposal, item-wise quotation and supporting documents as per the format enclosed.

Last Date for Proposal Submission	25th August 2026, 6:00 PM IST
Submission Email	rfp@nasscomfoundation.org
Email Subject Line	thingQbator Hardware Vendor Proposal – <Name of the Organization>
Clarification Call	A 30-minute call can be scheduled on request

Proposals received after the above deadline, or that do not comply with the terms set out in the RFP, are liable to be rejected. Nasscom Foundation reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals without assigning any reason.

We look forward to your participation.

Warm regards,
Administration & IT
Nasscom Foundation

Request for Proposal

Introduction

Nasscom Foundation is a non-profit, non-governmental, non-religious organization established under the Indian Society Act in India. Nasscom Foundation is a voluntary organization focused on improving the quality of life of individuals by imparting Education and Information Technology (IT) & Computer related skills development and training among women and youth.

‘thingQbator’ is a CSR initiative of Cisco in partnership with the Nasscom Foundation. The programme aims at promoting makerspace culture across partner universities by enabling enterprising students to work on their own innovative ideas and build scalable solutions. The programme is run in partnership with Engineering colleges and fosters a spirit of entrepreneurship among students by encouraging them to think innovatively, work in a makerspace environment, access relevant mentoring from subject matter experts to build their solutions and avail financial support to fund the expenses of their project.

Project Overview

What is thingQbator?

“thingQbator” is a network of makerspaces in partner Universities where students can learn about digital technologies in a hands-on environment, turn their ideas into working prototypes and, in the process, come up with local solutions to local problems.

The name “thingQbator” (a combination of ‘Internet of Things’ and ‘Incubator’) was started as an internal incubator to identify and fund IoT ideas originating in Cisco’s engineer community. With the central belief that none of us is smarter than all of us, the aim was to create makerspaces where IoT enthusiasts could learn more about digital technologies in a hands-on environment and turn their ideas into working prototypes, and hopefully the next billion-dollar business innovation.

Inspired by the success of its internal makerspaces, Cisco has come up with the concept of “thingQbator for Academia” to help academic institutions set up IoT makerspaces to help them accelerate innovation around IoT and digital technologies on their campus.

thingQbator started in 2018 with 5 colleges in India. Now, in 2026, in its 8th year, the programme is working across 40+ colleges in India.

Scope of Work

Objective

We are currently in the process of identifying vendors for supplying hardware components that are frequently required by our students during their prototyping and development phases. For this, we need to onboard hardware vendors capable of supplying electronic components and equipment for the Cisco thingQbator programme student participant teams. Vendors are expected to provide quotations against the shared item list with quantities (Annexure I), ensure timely and reliable deliveries across PAN India, and comply with all commercial requirements.

Work Requirements

1. Quotations
 - a. Vendors must provide item-wise quotations (inclusive of base price and taxes).

- b. All costs should be transparent with no hidden charges.
- 2. Delivery Timelines
 - a. Express delivery required within 4–5 working days of order confirmation.
 - b. Vendor must ensure reliable delivery commitments.
- 3. Order Flexibility
 - a. No Minimum Order Quantity (MOQ) will be entertained.
 - b. Orders may be placed in varying volumes, depending on programme requirements.
- 4. Logistics
 - a. Vendors are responsible for safe and secure delivery across PAN India.
 - b. Logistics costs, if applicable, must be additionally mentioned in the quotation.
- 5. Tax & Compliance
 - a. All invoices must be GST compliant.
 - b. Applicable taxes should be clearly indicated in quotations.
- 6. Vendor Eligibility
 - a. Only vendors able to comply with all terms (quotation, delivery, logistics, compliance, no MOQ) should apply.
 - b. Partial compliance will not be considered.

Deliverables

- Supply of all listed items in required quantities.
- On-time delivery to specified locations within 4–5 days.
- GST-compliant invoices with tax and logistics clearly stated.
- Delivery tracking and confirmation shared with the programme team.

Please note: The total volume of business is estimated at approx. INR 7,50,000 (inclusive of GST) and is expected to be executed until 31st March 2027.

Organization's Profile*(To be filled in and submitted by the applying vendor)*

Registered Name	
Focus Area of Work	
Year of Establishment	
Registered Office	
Names of Directors/Partners	
Brief Profile of Senior Management	
Address	
Contact Person	
Phone Number	
Mobile Number	
Fax Number	
Email	
Website	

Financial Details

Total Turnover – FY 2025-26	
Total Turnover – FY 2024-25	
Total Turnover – FY 2023-24	
Registration Certificate	
PAN Number	
GST Number (if applicable)	
Has the Organization ever been blacklisted (Provide details, if Yes)	
Does any personnel of the Organization have any business relationship of any kind with Nasscom Foundation's officers, directors, employees or agents (Yes/No). Provide details if Yes	

Documents to be Submitted

Organization's Profile (above), Item-wise Financial Quotation against Annexure I, Registration Certificate, PAN & GST Certificate, Last 3 years' Audited Income Statement / P&L (or CA-certified turnover statement for newer entities), and examples of past work/case studies (if any).

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Clarification Call	A 30-minute call can be scheduled for any clarification

All proposals should be mailed to rfp@nasscomfoundation.org with the subject line: "thingQbator Hardware Vendor Proposal – <Name of the Organization>".

Note: The detailed item list with quantities is enclosed separately as Annexure I (Hardware Vendor Items List).