



File No. EE (V)-11/Misc./2019/Systematic improvement for e-tendering

Government of India
Central Public Works Department
Office of JS & CVO
Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi-110011

Dated: 09 March, 2020

To,

The Additional Director General (Tech)
CPWD, Nirman Bhawan
New Delhi

Subject: Systemic Improvement No. 06/2020 regarding Malpractices in e-Tendering in CPWD.

Vigilance Unit is getting repeated complaints regarding following malpractices in e-tendering by certain CPWD officials:

- (i) Late authorization of the tenders on the portal (tenderwizard.com/cpwd) thereby publishing tenders for the period less than stipulated.
- (ii) Blocking cells initially while publishing tender and then unblocking such cells just 1 or 2 days before the due date and time for submission of the tender.

Above malpractices are allegedly being adopted by CPWD officials to restrict participation in the tenders by all the prospective bidders, thereby restricting competition and/ or to favour one or other contractors which is obvious by the above modus operandi too. Such malpractices in the tendering system due to basic deficiencies in our system, besides bringing a bad name to the Government and organization, are also eroding credibility of our tendering system and thus need to be plugged immediately.

Vigilance Unit is investigating the complaints and shall take time to conclude for necessary action against the delinquent officials. However, loopholes in the CPWD's e-tendering portal that are being exploited or may be exploited in future by the fence sitters need to be addressed and rectified immediately by improving our e-tendering portal for ensuring total transparency in bidding process.

Some of the weaknesses in the e-tender portal of CPWD that have come to the notice of Vigilance Unit after comparing our portal with other organizations like that of NBCC and detailed discussions with officials of ITI Ltd. (Service provider for e-tender portal) and e-Governance Division of CPWD have been summarized below:

- i. CPWD portal does not disclose the date and time of the authorization/publishing of the tender to public.
- ii. CPWD portal also does not give information to the public regarding number of days for which tender shall remain open.

- iii. On CPWD portal, tenders may be published by keeping some of the cells blocked which is again a major deficiency in our system, not being used by other organizations.
- iv. E-governance is not generating MIS reports to monitor that there is no in-appropriate use or abuse of the e-tendering system by our officials even un-knowingly and thus not taking any action to make e-tendering system fool proof.

In a meeting held recently by the Vigilance Unit with officials of ITI Ltd. (Service provider for e-tendering portal) and E-Governance Division of CPWD, M/s ITI mentioned that above provisions in the portal in use over CPWD is as per advice received from CPWD e-governance Division from time to time. Above malpractices seem to be unique in the case of CPWD as other organizations like NBCC are not experiencing such abuse of their e-tendering portal.

The above deficiencies in e-Tendering system of CPWD on tenderwizard.com portal be plugged immediately.

This issues with the approval of DG, CPWD.

(Sudhir Kumar Dak)
Superintending Engineer (V) - II

Copy to:

- ✓ 1. The AE (Computer), Vigilance Unit for uploading it on the website.

Sudhir
08/02/2020
Superintending Engineer (V) - II