



GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
PUNJAB PROCUREMENT REGULATORY AUTHORITY
SERVICES AND GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT

304-T, 3rd Floor Al-Falah Building, The Mall Lahore.
Dated Lahore, the 3rd May, 2024

Tel: 042-99205593
Tel: 042-99204572
Tel: 042-36284773
Exe: 042-36284774

003678

CIRCULAR

No. L&M (PPRA)10-01/2011. Punjab Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) has observed that procuring agencies do not verify the genuineness/authenticity of certain documents required to be attached with the bid/prequalification application e.g. certificates, licenses, previous supply orders/purchase orders, financial instruments, stamp paper and authorization letter from principal/manufacture/sole-agent/distributor etc. by the bidder or contractor. There have been certain instances reported where, upon verification, documents attached with the bid/prequalification application submitted by bidder or contractor were found fake/forged. PPRA is of the view that submission of fake/forged documents clearly falls under corrupt practices as defined under Section 2(d)(iv) of Punjab Procurement Regulatory Act, 2009 (PPRA Act, 2009). The Section ibid stipulates as follows:

"2. Definitions.- (d) corrupt practice (iv). any act or omission, including a misrepresentation, that knowingly or recklessly misleads, or attempts to mislead, a party to obtain a financial or other benefit or to avoid an obligation;"

2. It is prime responsibility of every procuring agency to have documents attached with the bid/prequalification application verified from its original source/quarter concerned while evaluating the bid/prequalification application and deciding the responsiveness of the bidder or contractor accordingly. Bidder or contractor found guilty of submitting fake/forged documents must be proceeded against for blacklisting by the procuring agency under Section

17A(1) of PPRA Act, 2009 read with Rule 21(1) and the schedule providing blacklisting process or mechanism appended with Punjab Procurement Rules 2014 (PPR-14). Such bidder or contractor do not deserve any concession and are required to be debarred across the Punjab under Section 17A(2) of PPRA Act, 2009 read with Rule 21 (2)(b) of PPR-14 to curb these heinous fraudulent and corrupt practices. The ibid provisions are reproduced as under:

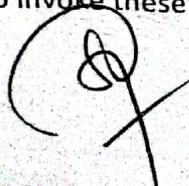
“17A. Blacklisting.— (2) The Managing Director may, in the prescribed manner, debar a bidder or contractor from participating in any public procurement process of all or some of the procuring agencies for a specified period.

“21. Blacklisting.—(2) If a procuring agency debars a bidder or contractor under sub-rule (1), the procuring agency:

(b) may request the Authority to debar the bidder or contractor for procurement of all procuring agencies.”

3. For the purpose, while issuing show cause notice to bidder/applicant/contractor must also mention “the intention of the procuring agency to make a request to the Managing Director, PPRA for debarring the bidder/applicant/contractor across the Punjab” under para 2(c) of the schedule providing blacklisting mechanism or process appended to PPR-14. Even otherwise under Section 17A(2) of PPRA Act, 2009 Managing Director, PPRA may at its own, debar a bidder or contractor from participating in any public procurement process of all or some of the procuring agencies for a specified period. However, procuring agencies must also refer all such cases (which involve the submission of fake/forged documents) to PPRA under Rule 21 (2)(b) of PPR-14 for debarring the bidder or contractor for procurement of all procuring agencies in Punjab.

It is further added here that submission of fake/forged documents also have criminal consequences under the provisions of Pakistan Penal Code 1860 and in addition to blacklisting proceeding, the procuring agency may also invoke these provisions.



4. Keeping in view all above, PPRA is of the concerted opinion that all such bidders/applicants/contractors found guilty of submitting fake/forged documents must be debarred for participating in procurement of all the procuring agencies across the Punjab. All the procuring agencies are advised to proceed in such cases accordingly.

-sd-
(WAQAR AZIM)
Managing Director, PPRA

No. & Date even.

A copy is forwarded for information and necessary action to:-

1. The Senior Member, Board of Revenue, Punjab.
2. The Chairman, Planning & Development Board.
3. The Inspector General of Police, Punjab.
4. The Accountant General, Punjab.
5. All the Administrative Secretaries, Govt. of the Punjab.
6. All the Divisional Commissioner in Punjab.
7. All the Heads of Attached Departments, Punjab.
8. All the Heads of Autonomous Bodies, Punjab.
9. The Director General Anti-Corruption Punjab.
10. All the Deputy Commissioners in Punjab.
11. PSO to the Chairman PPRA/Chief Secretary, Punjab.
12. PSO to the Additional Chief Secretary, Punjab.
13. Web-Developer/Data Administrative, PPRA with the direction to immediately upload the same on the website of the PPRA.
14. PS to MD, PPRA.

Cc:

1. The Registrar, Lahore High Court Lahore.
2. The Director General NAB, Lahore.
3. The Ombudsman, Punjab.

Abdus Salam
SENIOR LAW OFFICER
PPRA S&GAD

3/5/2024