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**GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
SERVICES AND GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT**

304-T, 3rd Floor Al-Falah Building, The Mall Lahore.
Dated Lahore, the 10th February, 2020

CIRCULAR

No. L&M(PPRA)10-01/2011. PPRA is being frequently approached by different bidders/firms stating that while conducting prequalification for procurement it has been repeatedly experienced by them that only a single firm is prequalified for further bidding process. Fair competition is the essence of bidding process. Single prequalified firm is an exodus from the principles of procurement as envisaged under rule-4 of Punjab Procurement Rules-2014 (PPR-14) and being rogue and lex-causae does not justify the purpose of open competitive bidding process. Principal method of procurement is open competitive bidding process as provided under Rule 22 & 23 of PPR-14 whereas Prequalification procedure provided under rule-16 & 17 of PPR-14 is an alternative (optional) modality for open competitive bidding process and becomes mandatory only when procurement of goods of 100 million and above and large consultancy is involved.

2. It is being clarified for the convenience of all concerned that whenever procuring agencies take up public procurement through prequalification mode they must ensure that at least three (03 number) prequalified bidders are available for further bidding process and in case if the turnout of the prospective bidders for the procurement emerges less than three or only one bidder qualifies out of the clusters

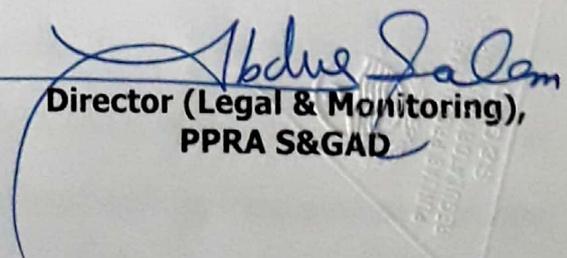
of applicant bidder for prequalification then the procuring agency must reconsider the prequalification criteria modalities which obstructs attracting the desired number of prospective bidders.

3. Inference to this fact is drawn from Rule-46 of PPR-14 which clearly requires if procuring agency intends to hire an individual consultant for short consultancy it shall select the same while comparing **at least three** bidders amongst those who have expressed interest in the assignment despite the fact no open competitive bidding is required in such cases. In the wake of above, PPRA is of the concerted opinion that a prequalification cannot be considered as valid if it falls short of at least three bidders to compete for further bidding process.

g/c. (SHAHID HUSSAIN)
Managing Director, PPRA
11/2/2020

CC:-

1. The Chairman, Planning & Development Board.
2. The Senior Member, Board of Revenue, Punjab.
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 Head of Attached Departments Punjab.
8. All the Head of Autonomous Bodies Punjab.
9. The Director General NAB, Lahore.
10. The Director General Anti-Corruption Punjab.
11. The Registrar, Lahore High Court Lahore.
12. All the Deputy Commissioner Punjab.
13. Web-Developer/Data Administrator, PPRA with the direction to immediately upload the same on the website of the PPRA.
14. PA to MD, PPRA.

g/c. 
Director (Legal & Monitoring),
PPRA S&GAD