OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Mandatory publication of Tender Enquiries on the Central Public Procurement Portal

Pursuant to the decisions of the Group of Ministers constituted to consider measures to tackle corruption and improve transparency, on the recommendations of the Committee on Public Procurement set up to look into various issues having an impact on public procurement policy, standards and procedures, it has been decided that:

a. NIC will set up a portal called the Central Public Procurement Portal (hereinafter referred to as CPP Portal) with an e-publishing module (similar to NIC’s website www.tenders.gov.in) and an e-procurement module (similar to NIC’s e-procurement sites such as pmgsytenders.gov.in and eproc-nicsi.nic.in). The CPP Portal will be accessible at the URL epurchase.gov.in and will provide links to the non-NIC e-procurement sites being used at present by various Ministries/Departments, CPSEs and autonomous/statutory bodies.

b. While e-publishing of tender enquiries, corrigenda thereto and details of contracts awarded thereon, on the Portal, shall be made mandatory in a phased manner w.e.f 1st January 2012, the comprehensive end-to-end e-Procurement feature would be implemented in a phased manner w.e.f. 1st April 2012, for which instructions will be issued separately. In the meantime, Digital Signature, which is essential at the e-procurement phase, may be obtained from any Certifying Authority or from NIC which is also a Certifying Authority, for the concerned officials.

E-Publishing:

c. It will be mandatory for all Ministries/Departments of the Central Government, their attached and subordinate offices, Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) and autonomous/statutory bodies to publish their tender enquiries, corrigenda thereon and details of bid awards on the CPP Portal using e-publishing module with effect from the following dates:

   c.i. Ministries/Departments and their attached and subordinate offices w.e.f. 1st January 2012;
   c.ii. CPSEs w.e.f. 1st February 2012;
   c.iii. Autonomous/statutory bodies w.e.f. 1st April, 2012.
d. Individual cases where confidentiality is required, for reasons of national security or to safeguard legitimate commercial interest of CPSE's, would be exempted from the mandatory e-publishing requirement. As far as Ministries/ Departments are concerned, decisions to exempt any case on the said grounds should be approved by the Secretary of the Ministry/ Department with the concurrence of the concerned Financial Advisor. In the case of CPSEs, approval of the Chairman & Managing Director with the concurrence of Director (Finance) should be obtained in each case to be exempted. In the case of autonomous bodies/ statutory bodies, approval of the head of the body with the concurrence of the head of the Finance function, should be obtained in each such case. Statistical information on the number of cases in which exemption was granted and the value of the concerned contract, may be intimated on a Quarterly basis to the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure at the email id ccpp-doe@nic.in

e. Ministries/ Departments, CPSEs and autonomous/ statutory bodies that are already publishing their tender enquiries on www.tenders.gov.in and/or on their respective websites, shall ensure that their tender enquiries are simultaneously published / mirrored on the CPP Portal also. They may also ensure that all corrigenda and details of the contract awarded as a result of the tender enquiry, are also published on the CPP Portal.

f. Ministries/ Departments, CPSEs and autonomous/ statutory bodies that are already carrying out e-procurement through NIC or their own website or through any other service provider, shall ensure that details of all their tender enquiries, related corrigenda and details of contracts awarded thereon, including those that are issued through e-procurement, are simultaneously published / mirrored on the CPP Portal. As stated at (a) above, they should also ensure that their e-procurement website is linked to the CPP Portal.

g. The above instructions apply to all Tender Enquiries, Requests for Proposals, Requests for Expressions of Interest, Notice for pre-Qualification/ Registration or any other notice inviting bids or proposals in any form, issued on or after the dates indicated at (c) above whether they are advertised, issued to limited number of parties or to a single party.

h. In the case of procurements made through DGS&D Rate Contracts or through Kendriya Bhandar/ NCCF, only award details need to be published on the Portal.

i. These instructions would not apply to procurements made in terms of provisions of Rules 145 (Purchase of goods without quotations) or 146 (Purchase of goods by purchase committee) of General Financial Rules – 2005 (or similar provisions relating to procurements by CPSEs, autonomous bodies).
2. In order to facilitate implementation of aforesaid decisions regarding e-publishing of tender details, NIC will provide detailed guidelines for using the e-Publishing module of the CPP Portal. These guidelines will also be available in the CPP Portal. User IDs and Passwords would have to be obtained from NIC for accessing the Portal. Details in this regard will also be available in the CPP Portal.

3. NIC will also provide the following support:
   
a. NIC will make arrangements for necessary training to the concerned officials in the use of the CPP Portal for e-publishing. For this purpose, Ministries/Departments may contact NIC through email at ccpp-nic@nic.in to work out the details.

b. Detailed guidelines for the use of e-Publishing module will be made available in the CPP Portal and this would also be circulated separately to all Ministries/Departments.

c. A demonstration web site, similar to the CPP Portal, would be made available for training and hands-on practice. The site will also contain necessary user manuals and presentation materials.

4. Ministries/Departments are requested to take necessary action to ensure that e-publishing of tender details on the Portal is commenced in terms of the time lines mentioned in para 2 (c) above. It is also requested that necessary instructions may be issued in this regard to all attached and subordinate offices as also to CPSEs, autonomous and statutory bodies under their administrative control.

(Suchindra Misra)
OSD (PPC)
011-23092689

To,

Secretaries of all Ministries/Departments

Copy to

FAs of all Ministries/Departments

Copy also to DG (NIC), CGO Complex, New Delhi