


No. 8-07/ 2017-18-Fin(Pt.IV)
Government of India
Ministry of Communications
Department of Telecommunications
Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi
(Finance Branch)

Dated: 22/06/2018

Sub: "Committee of Secretaries (CoS) recommendations on Government e-Marketplace (GeM)"

The undersigned is directed to enclose a copy of O.M No. F.13/4/2017-PPD(Pt.) Dated, the 4th May, 2018 from Under Secretary, Procurement Policy Division, Department of Expenditure, on the subject cited above for further necessary action please.

Encl. As above.


(R.C.Kumar)
ADG (Finance)

To,
The PPS to Member (F)/ Member (S)/ Member (T)
The PPS to Advisor (F)/ Advisor (T)/ Advisor (O)
DG (T)/ CGCA, DoT HQ
All Sr.DDsG/ DDsG in DoT (HQ)/Sr.DDG(TEC)
All Pr.CsCA/CsCA/Jt.CCA/DG (NICF)
Under secretary (SEA) for uploading on DoT website

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No.F.13/4/2017-PPD(Pt.)
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Expenditure
Procurement Policy Division

516, Lok Nayak Bhawan,
New Delhi Dated the 4th May, 2018

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Committee of Secretaries (CoS) recommendations on Government e-Marketplace (GeM).

The undersigned is directed to forward recommendations of CoS made during the review meeting on GeM held on 18.04.2018 for information and taking appropriate action:

- (a) Financial Advisers (FAs) of all buyer Departments/ Ministries may be asked to take active interest in routing purchases through GeM platform as well as making timely payments.
- (b) Standing Committee of GeM (SCoGeM) may ensure that all purchases are done through GeM platforms and timely payments are made. Any purchase outside the GeM platform may be made only with the recommendations of SCoGeM and approval of the Secretary concerned.
- (c) All Central Government agencies may use PFMS to pay for GeM purchases. Further, off-line payments, which may normally be avoided, may be updated on the GeM platform under the guidance of FAs.
- (d) GeM may devise an appropriate mechanism to aggregate the demand of different Government agencies. Further, Government agencies is requested to upload their annual procurement plans on GeM portal, under the guidance of respective FAs.
- (e) CPSEs and other sub-ordinate agencies may be encouraged to undertake procurement through GeM. GeM may consider linking ERP procurement modules of the CPSEs with GeM payment gateway

2. It is requested to organise periodic meetings of SCoGeM and mark a copy of the SCoGeM minutes to Secretary (Expenditure) and CEO, GeM without fail.

3. A copy of the minutes of meeting chaired by Cabinet Secretary is enclosed.

Pijush Mohanta
4-5-18
(Pijush Mohanta)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel: 24621305
Email: kn.reddy@gov.in

To,
Financial Advisors of all Central Government Ministries/ Departments

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CABINET SECRETARIAT
RASHTRAPATI BHAWAN

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF SECRETARIES

Doc. No. 26/2018-CA.IV

Copy No. 17 of 23

Venue: Committee Room, Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan

Date of meeting: Wednesday, the 18th April, 2018

Time of Meeting: 11:00 a.m.

PRESENT

Shri P.K. Sinha, Cabinet Secretary
 Dr. Inder Jit Singh, Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat
 Ms. Rita A. Teotia, Secretary, D/o Commerce
 Shri Anil Swarup, Secretary, D/o School Education & Literacy
 Shri A.P. Sawhney, Secretary, M/o Electronics & Information Technology
 Shri A.N. Jha, Secretary, D/o Expenditure
 Shri C. Roul, Special Secretary, D/o Agricultural Research & Education
 Shri Anthony Lianzuala, Controller General of Accounts
 Ms. Radha S. Chauhan, CEO, Government e-Marketplace
 Shri Suresh Kumar S., Addl. CEO, Government e-Marketplace
 Ms. Anuradha Mitra, Member (Finance), D/o Telecommunications
 Ms. Manjula Rangarajan, Additional Member (Finance), Railway Board
 Ms. Madhulika P. Sukul, CGDA, M/o Defence
 Shri A. Giridhar, Additional Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat
 Shri Arun Goel, Additional Secretary & FA, M/o Labour & Employment
 Shri G.C. Murmu, Additional Secretary, D/o Revenue
 Ms. Gargi Kaul, Additional Secretary & FA, M/o Civil Aviation
 Shri B. Bhattacharya, DG, HRD (CBIC), D/o Revenue
 Ms. Meenu Kumar, Additional Director, HRD (CBIC), D/o Revenue
 Shri Dilip Padhye, Sr. DDG, D/o Posts
 Shri Viraj Singh, Joint Secretary, M/o External Affairs
 Shri Madhuranjan Kumar, Joint Secretary, D/o Higher Education
 Shri Rajesh Kumar Sinha, Joint Secretary, M/o Coal
 Ms. Reena S. Puri, Joint Secretary & Financial Advisor, M/o Coal
 Shri Anil Malik, Joint Secretary, M/o Home Affairs
 Shri Bhaskar Verma, Joint CGA, O/o Controller General of Accounts
 Ms Surabhi Varma Garg, ADG (Expenditure Budget), CBDT
 Shri Alok Tiwari, Deputy Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat
 Shri M. Subramanian, Deputy Secretary, M/o Home Affairs

Subject: Review meeting on Government e-Marketplace (GeM).

A meeting of Committee of Secretaries (CoS) was held under the chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary on 18.4.2018 at 11.00 AM in the Committee Room, Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan on the subject mentioned above.

2. Secretary, D/o Commerce informed that GeM platform provides online end-to-end solution for procurement of goods and services for all Central Government and State Government Ministries, Departments, Public Sector Units and other subordinate bodies. GeM has been able to achieve significant scale in operations in terms of cumulative transaction value (Rs.6,307 cr), with the total number of orders being 366,697. She further informed that total number of products on the platform is 624,394 with 21,610 buyer organizations and 97,398 seller organizations on board.
3. CEO, GeM apprised the Committee that around 25% savings have been realized across all product categories, except automobiles. For automobiles, savings realized have been around 12%. GeM platform has signed MoUs with 22 States/Union Territories for mandatory procurement through GeM and MoUs have been signed with 8 banks for payment integration. CEO, GeM gave details of superior performance of the latest version viz., GeM 3.0, in terms of greater integration with user agencies and better monitoring using dashboards.
4. Commerce Secretary flagged three areas of concern. Firstly, there is a considerable delay in payments by many organizations, particularly in the case of non-PFMS organizations. In this context, she pointed out that CoS had recommended that all Government organizations not operating on PFMS should adopt and use GeM Pool Account for payment. Secondly, Standing Committee on GeM (SCoGeM) should be activated in all Ministries/Departments to drive procurement through GeM platform and ensure timely payment, apart from making other recommendations for improvement of GeM platform. Thirdly, the existing procurement guidelines for buyer organizations need to be modified in the context of procurement on GeM platform. In particular, since the bidding process on GeM is at the backdrop of a set of standardized parameters, in most cases technical evaluation committees are not required.
5. Additional Secretary & Financial Adviser, M/o Civil Aviation stated that certain instances have come to light in which sellers on GeM platform are quoting suspiciously low prices which may lead to quality issues. Secretary, D/o School Education and Literacy stated that a monthly report on payment pendency may be sent to the Secretaries of the Departments concerned. Secretary, D/o Expenditure (DoE) informed that a Committee is working on optimization of GeM Pool Account. Once that is done, delayed payment problem will be obviated. Secretary, DoE stated that procurement guidelines are being processed for deletion of provisions contradictory to GeM procedure. Additional Member (Finance), Railway Board informed that a large component of procurement made by M/o Railways relates to railway-specific items which are difficult to be procured through GeM. She further stated that efforts would be made to shift a larger share of railway procurement on GeM platform. It was observed that M/o Railways is not procuring even items of common usage on GeM platform and that they should strictly follow GFR in this regard.

6. After detailed deliberations, it was recommended that:

(a) D/o Expenditure may consider prescribing deposit of 100% of the cost of purchase in GeM Pool Account by non-PFMS buyer organizations prior to creating order of purchase. is FA Committee ←

(b) Financial Advisers (FAs) of all buyer Departments/Ministries may be asked to take active interest in routing purchases through GeM platform as well as making timely payments. FAs

(c) SCoGeM may ensure that all purchases are done through GeM platforms and timely payments are made. Any purchase outside the GeM platform may be made only with the recommendation of SCoGeM and approval of the Secretary concerned. FAs

(d) All Central Government agencies may use PFMS to pay for GeM purchases. Further, off-line payments, which may normally be avoided, may be updated on the GeM platform under the guidance of FAs. FAs / CGA

(e) GeM payment gateway may be integrated with Treasury payment systems of the States as well as with the payment system of all Central Government agencies / CPSEs. Monthly payment pendency reports may be sent to the Secretaries of the Departments/Ministries, with copy to FAs.

(f) DoE may expedite the notification of new GeM Pool Account guidelines as well as new procurement guidelines in the context of GeM platform. Committee ←

(g) Seller organizations, which have supplied substandard items, may be considered for appropriate action. Further, GeM may create a team of quality evaluation professionals to, *inter-alia*, identify non-serious low quality suppliers.

(h) GeM may devise an appropriate mechanism to aggregate the demand of different Government agencies. Further, Government agencies may be asked to upload their annual procurement plans on GeM portal, under the guidance of respective FAs. FAs

(i) GeM and D/o Commerce may operationalize and encourage reverse auction module on GeM platform.

(j) CPSEs and other sub-ordinate agencies may be encouraged to undertake procurement through GeM. GeM may consider linking ERP procurement modules of the CPSEs with GeM payment gateway. FAs
