

Government of West Bengal Office of the Chief Engineer, South Zone Public Works Directorate Writers' Buildings, Block-II (Part),1st Floor,Kolkata-700001. Phone No: 033 – 2262 7089 e-mail: cepwdsouth@gmail.com

No. 01/2023

Date: 21/02/2023

ORDER

Whereas Superintending Engineer, Central Circle, PWDte & Chairman Bid Evaluation Committee for NIeT No. WBPWD/SS/CC/e_NIT_11(3rd Call) (Sl. No.1) of 2021-2022 informed Chief Engineer, South Zone, PWDte & Chairperson, Suspension Committee, South Zone, PWDte under his memo no. 1071 Dated. 27.12.2022 that the credential certificate submitted by one bidder, namely Amitava Kumar Kundu, 74/1,Ukilabad Road, Berhampore, Murshidabad, Pin-742101was found to be falsified and had been proved as fake on verification from the issuing authority, that is, Chief Project Engineer, West Bengal State Agricultural Marketing Board (WBSAMB) vide his memo no 3018/EE-114-KB-II (Payment) dated. 02.12.2022. He recommended for initiating the process of suspension / debarment of the said bidder in terms of clause 44 of the aforesaid NIeT.

And

Whereas the Chairperson, Suspension Committee issued notice to the alleged bidder electronically through his registered e-mail ID to submit all relevant documents in support of his defence within three working days of the issue of the notice vide his memo no 3071/CE(S.Z)/P.W.Dte dated. 29.12.2022.

And

Whereas, in reply, the bidder Amitava Kumar Kundu, stated that the fabricated credential was uploaded by his vendor, when he was busy in some family issue, and he had no idea as to why his vendor had done this because he had sufficient credential issued by the Executive Engineer, Berhampore Division No. 1, P.W.Dte and as such he did not need to fabricate and submit false credential in that tender.He also attached a copy of the aforesaid credential. He also tendered his apology for the unintentional mistake and sought forgiveness vide his letter dated 12.01.2023.

And

Whereas on receipt of documents from the alleged bidder on 13.01.2023, Chief Engineer South Zone, P.W.Dte & Chairperson, Suspension Committee issued a notice to the bidder requesting him to appear before the Suspension Committee.

And

Whereas Mr. Amitava Kumar Kundu appeared before the suspension Committee on the scheduled date and time and reiterated what he had already stated by his letter dated 12.01.2023. He categorically stated that he had requisite credential and, therefore, did not need to submit any fabricated credential; and it was his vendor who had submitted the fabricated credential for reasons best known to him.

Although the statement of defence does not hold water because all the uploaded documents were digitally signed by the alleged bidder using his Digital Signature Certificate, it was decided to probe further into the matter with a view to verify authenticity of his claim regarding possession of sufficient and valid credential for the work, in question.

Since this was the 3rd call of NIeT, it was decided to check whether the alleged bidder had participated in earlier calls of the NIeT and the credential he had submitted therein. In reply to memo no 383/CE(SZ)/ P.W.Dte dated 13.02.23, Superintending Engineer, Central Circle, PWDte & Chairman Bid Evaluation Committee informed that the alleged bidder had submitted the same fabricated credential in the 2nd call of the NIeT as he had submitted in the 3rd call of the NIeT. On examination of the documents, it is found that the alleged bidder did not have requisite credential as required in the 2nd call of the NIeT and, therefore, he had submitted fabricated credential in the 2nd call of the NIeT. However, this fabricated credential was not verified by the Bid Evaluation Committee in the 2nd call and he was technically disqualified on other ground as is seen from authenticated copy of the Bid Evaluation Sheet of the 2nd call submitted by the Superintending Engineer, Central Circle, PWDte & Chairman Bid Evaluation Committee. This prompted the alleged bidder to submit the same fabricated credential in the 3rd call notwithstanding the fact that he had requisite credential in the 3rd call of the NIeT which he has submitted in his defence but did not submit in the 3rd call.

And

Whereas Suspension Committee concluded that it was a wilful act of submission of falsified document by the bidder to unduly influence the outcome of the bidding in his favour which was a sufficient ground for suspension as per Rule 4.1 and 4.4 of Procedure for Suspension/Debarment of Suppliers, Contractors and Consultants circulated under memorandum no. 547-W(C)/IM-387/15 dated 16.11.2015, and accepted recommendation of the Bid Evaluation Committee for suspension of the alleged bidder.

And

Whereas Suspension Committee resolved to place the alleged bidder, Amitava Kumar Kundu, 74/1,Ukilabad Road, Berhampore, Murshidabad, Pin-742101under suspension for a period of 6 (six) months from the date of issue of Suspension Order in terms of Clause 44 of the NIeT and Rule 3.13, 3.14 and 7 of the Procedure for Suspension and Debarment of Suppliers, Contractors and Consultants Circulated under memorandum no 547-W(C) /IM-387/115 dated: 16.11.2015 of the Joint Secretary, Public Works Department vide its resolution dated 16.02.2023.

And

Therefore, I, Sri Tapan kumar Saha, Chairperson, Suspension Committee, South Zone, P.W.Dte on behalf of the Governor of West Bengal and by virtue of the power vested in me by clause 3.14 of the memorandum no 547-W(C) /IM-387/115 dated: 16.11.2015 of the Joint Secretary, Public Works Department vide its resolution dated 16.02.2023 do hereby place the bidder, 'Amitava Kumar Kundu', 74/1, Ukilabad Road, Berhampore, Murshidabad, Pin-742101 under suspension for a period of six months from the date of issue of this order, and consequent upon such suspension, the said firm shall not be allowed to participate in any procurement / bidding process in Public Works Department during the period of suspension.

Chairperson, Suspension Committee

&

Chief Engineer, South Zone, P.W.Dte

Date: 21/02/2023

No. 459/1(3)/CE(SZ)/PWDte

Copy forwarded for information to:

1) The Secretary, Public Works Department.

2) The Engineer-in-Chief, Public Works Department.3) The Sr Deputy Secretary (Works), Public Works Department.

Chairperson, Suspension Committee

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Chief Engineer, South Zone, P.W.Dte

Date: 21/02/2023

No. 459/2(7)/CE(SZ)/PWDte

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

- 1) The Chief Engineer, Head Quarter, P.W.Dte.
- 2) The Chief Engineer, South Zone, P.W(Roads)Dte.
- 3) The Chief Engineer, West Zone / North Zone, P.W.Dte. / P.W(Roads)Dte.
- 4) The Chief Engineer, Social Sector, P.W.Dte.
- 5) The Chief Engineer, Electrical (Works) / Electrical Planning, P.W.Dte.

Chairperson, Suspension Committee

&

Chief Engineer, South Zone, P.W.Dte

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No. 459/3(6)/CE(SZ)/PWDte

Date: 21/02/2023

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

- Assistant Chief Engineer, Monitoring and Member, Suspension Committee, South Zone, P.W.Dte
- 2) Assistant Chief Engineer, Planning, South Zone, P.W,Dte
- 3) Superintending Engineer, Central Circle, P.W.Dte & Member, Suspension Committee, South Zone, P.W.Dte for the instant tender.
- 4) Superintending Engineer, Presidency Circle / Nabanna Circle / Eastern Circle / Kolkata Health Circle / Southern Circle / Central Circle, PWDte.

Chairperson, Suspension Committee

& Chieffusiness South Zone R.W.Dt.

Chief Engineer, South Zone, P.W.Dte

Date: 21/02/2023

No. 459/4/CE(SZ)/PWDte

Copy forwarded for information to Amitava Kumar Kundu, 74/1,Ukilabad Road, Berhampore, Murshidabad, Pin-742101.

Chairperson, Suspension Committee

&

Chief Engineer, South Zone, P.W.Dte