

**Office of Chief Technical Coordinator
Department of Water Supply & Sanitation Punjab,
State Programme Management Cell, Mohali**

PROCEEDINGS BIDDER CONFERENCE DATED 22.5.2013.

State Program Management Cell, Department of Water Supply and Sanitation (DWSS) convened a bidders' conference on 22.5.2013 at 11.00 hours at Kissan Bhawan, Sector – 35 Chandigarh. The main aim was to evoke greater participation of prospective bidders in the tendering process under PRWSS Project. The schedule of the conference is attached as **Annexure A**. In all 45 participants attended the conference and the list of participants is appended as **Annexure B**.

At the outset, Sh. D. S. Cheema, Chief Engineer cum Program Director, SPMC, Mohali, welcomed all the participants and provided brief introduction of World Bank assisted Punjab Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project and tenders available on web portal for e-tendering.

Subsequently, Sh. S. R. Aggarwal., Chief Technical Coordinator, SPMC, Mohali, further substantiating and explaining in detail informed that tenders for sewerage and water supply works worth approximately Rs. 300.00 crore are awaiting response from the prospective bidders. It was made clear that the funds are available with the Department in hand and all the tenders shall be evaluated expeditiously for ensuring award upto 30.06.2013 in view of present completion date of the project as 31st December 2013 which is expected to be extended upto 31 December 2014.

Consequently, Sh. J. J. Goel, Executive Engineer, gave a power point presentation highlighting the important procurement aspect and eligibility criteria for tendering in the PRWSS Project. Subsequently Mr. Shashi from M/s ITI Ltd. i.e. service provider for e-procurement delivered a presentation concerning Punjab Govt. e-procurement portal and educated about the important features of the e-tendering system.

After completion of presentations, the house was thrown open for discussions with the bidders. The replies to the questions were given by officers who attended the conference. Some of the main questions asked by bidders are produced below:

1. What normally constitutes the broad scope of work incase of sewerage scheme?
2. Sometimes, tender rates do not get uploaded in the last hours of bid closing on the web portal. In such cases some mechanism need to be worked out for submission of tenders.
3. The works are very small in value. They should be clubbed so that bigger firms may also take interest in bidding.
4. What is the scope of installation of RO plants in the state?

Sh. D. Kumar, Senior Procurement, Consultant World Bank, while indicating about the World Bank's mission of extending help in reducing poverty informed that it is a vital source of financial and technical assistance to developing countries. Procurement principles and processes in World Bank Project ensure economy & efficiency, equal opportunity to everybody, development of domestic contractors and transparency which is critical for sustainable development and reduction of poverty. He also threw light on the procurement relationship among World Bank, Borrower and Contractor/ Consultants. While highlighting the problems such as wastage of time and efforts etc. incase of rejection and rebidding of tenders due to unreasonably high prices and unusual conditions; he further emphasized to go through the term and conditions of the bid documents and submit/ quote reasonable prices.

In the last, the vote of thanks was proposed by Sh. A. K. Soni, Chief Engineer (Central) DWSS Patiala.