

Secretary may kindly see notes from Page-1 to 3 and her endorsement dated 13.05.2017.

2. Detailed discussion on issues related to Delegation of Power, suggestions of CVO related to tendering and contracting system at KoPT was held on 13.05.2017 at Board Room where Secretary, DMD, CE, CME, FA & CAO(I/C), GM(M&S), HDC, Sr.P.O, Dy.CAO(B) and SAS-I, SAS-II and SAS-III were present. GM(Finance)(I/C) joined the discussion through Video Conference. The salient aspects of the discussion are summarized below :

(a) In respect of the statutory and non-statutory powers delegated by Ministry vide Letter No.17011/1/2005-PG dated 11.02.2015 Dy.Chairman, HDC has not been given powers to the same extent as Chairman, KoPT. As per recommendation of various Committees constituted by the Govt.of India to look into the working of HDC, HDC was to be enabled to function as a self-contained Administrative and Operational Unit for which financial powers delegated to Dy.Chairman, HDC were equivalent to the powers of Chairman, Kolkata Port Trust. This is necessary for faster decision making process at HDC. This aspect is required to be stressed to Ministry so that Dy.Chairman, HDC is bestowed with powers equivalent to that of Chairman, KoPT.

(b) In respect of the various other statutory and non-statutory powers, views obtained during the meeting has been recorded by modifying the previous report of the Committee in this regard and has been highlighted in yellow under the Remarks Column. The same is placed at Folio-'A' and may kindly be seen.

(c) In respect of the issue of rate reasonableness , Vigilance had suggested that there should be a precise authority who should record / certify such rate reasonableness. Since all papers related to a tender are exhaustively scrutinized by a constituted Tender Committee, it was decided that it would be appropriate if rate reasonableness is adjudged and commented upon by the concerned Tender Committee.

(d) HoDs do not have any power to extend any contract without LD imposition. All such cases, even low value contracts, are sent to Dy.Chairman for extension without LD imposition. CVO had suggested that certain monetary limits can be frozen within which HoDs can allow contract extension without LD imposition as this would reduce the work-load of senior officials. The matter may be referred to Ministry, after the monetary limits are decided.

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(e) CVO had pointed out that in KoPT a Tender Committee puts up its recommendations to the sanctioning authority via other officers like departmental HoD and Finance. CVO is of the opinion that such intervention by other intermediate authorities leads to diffusion of accountability and such intermediary layers should be done away with. This issue was discussed in details. It was felt that the role of the Tender Committee is restricted particularly to the individual tender and they basically see whether tendering principles , ethics , formalities, all terms and conditions, technical specifications, etc. are fulfilled or not and whether the rate offered can be recommended or not. However, higher intermediary authorities like HoDs and Finance do not restrict their opinions to such issues but they take a holistic approach after analyzing pan – organization realities. For example, a Tender Committee may feel that a tender be discharged for high values , but the HoD concerned may feel that the work under the tender may be extremely vital for sustenance of processes under his department and may recommend the same in the larger interest of the organization. Similarly, Finance also takes a holistic role and examines a proposal from the organizational perspective. As such, the opinion of the house was to continue with the present system at KoPT and routing a Tender Committee proposal through intermediary layers and Finance.

Submitted please.

Sr.Asstt.Secretary-II

Sr.Asstt.Secretary-III

Secretary