

INTEGRITY PACT DOCUMENT AS APPROVED BY SCI

INTEGRITY PACT

Between

The Shipping Corporation of India Limited (SCI)
hereinafter referred to as “The Principal”,

and

_____ hereinafter referred to as “The Bidder/Contractor”.

PREAMBLE

The Principal intends to award, under laid down organizational procedures, contract/s for _____. The Principal values full compliance with all relevant laws of the land, rules, regulations, the principles of economical use of resources, and of fairness and transparency in its relations with its Bidder(s) and Contractor(s).

In order to achieve these goals, the Principal cooperates with renowned international Non-Governmental Organization “Transparency International” (TI). The Principal will appoint Independent External Monitors (IEMs) who will monitor the tender process and the execution of the contract for compliance with the principles mentioned above.

SECTION 1 – COMMITMENTS OF THE PRINCIPAL

- (1) The Principal commits itself to take all measures necessary to prevent corruption and to observe the following principles:
 - a. No employee of the Principal, personally or through family members, will in connection with the tender for, or the execution of a contract, demand, take a promise for or accept, for self or third person, any material or non-material benefit which the person is not legally entitled to.
 - b. The Principal will, during the tender process treat all Bidder(s) with equity and reason. The Principal will in particular, before and during the tender process, provide to all Bidder(s) the same information and will not provide to any Bidder confidential/additional information through which the Bidder could obtain an advantage in relation to the tender process or the contract execution.
 - c. The Principal will exclude from the process all known prejudiced persons.

- (2) If the Principal obtains information on the conduct of any of its employees which is a criminal offence under the relevant Anti-Corruption Laws of India, or if there be a substantive suspicion in this regard, the Principal will inform its Chief Vigilance Officer and in addition can initiate disciplinary actions.

SECTION 2 – COMMITMENTS OF THE BIDDER/CONTRACTOR

- (1) The Bidder/Contractor commits itself to take all measures necessary to prevent corruption. The Bidder/Contractor commits itself to observe the following principles during its participation in the tender process and during the contract execution.
- a. The Bidder / Contractor will not, directly or through any other person or firm, offer, promise or give to any of the Principal's employees involved in the tender process or the execution of the contract or to any third person any material or other benefit which they are not legally entitled to, in order to obtain in exchange any advantage of any kind whatsoever during the tender process or during the execution of the contract.
 - b. The Bidder / Contractor will not enter with other Bidder(s) into any undisclosed agreement or understanding, whether formal or informal. This applies in particular to prices, specifications, certifications, subsidiary contracts, submission or non-submission of bids or any other actions to restrict competitiveness or to introduce cartelisation in the bidding process.
 - c. The Bidder / Contractor will not commit any offence under the relevant Anti-Corruption Laws of India; further the Bidder / Contractor will not use improperly, for purposes of competition or personal gain, or pass on to others, any information or document provided by the Principal as part of the business relationship, regarding plans, technical proposals and business details, including information contained or transmitted Electronically.
 - d. The Bidder / Contractor will, when presenting its bid, disclose any and all payments made, is committed to or intends to make to agents, brokers or any other intermediaries in connection with the award of the contract.
 - e. Bidder / Contractor who has signed the Integrity Pact shall not approach the Courts while representing the matter to IEMs and shall wait for their decision in the matter.
- (2) The Bidder / Contractor will not instigate third persons to commit offences outlined above or be an accessory to such offences.

SECTION 3 – DISQUALIFICATION FROM TENDER PROCESS AND EXCLUSION FROM FUTURE CONTRACTS

If the Bidder/Contractor, before contract award or during execution has committed a serious transgression through a violation of Section 2 or in any other form such as to put his reliability or credibility as Bidder into question, the Principal is entitled to disqualify the Bidder/Contractor from the tender process or take action as per the procedure mentioned in-the “Policy and Guidelines for Removal / Suspension / Banning of Entities”. **Copy of the “Policy and Guidelines for Removal / Suspension / Banning of Entities” is placed at Page Nos. 6 to 13.**

SECTION 4 – COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGES

- (1) If the Principal has disqualified the Bidder from the tender process prior to the award according to Section 3, the Principal is entitled to demand and recover from the Bidder damages equivalent to Earnest Money Deposit / Bid Security.
- (2) If the Principal has terminated the contract according to Section 3, or if the Principal is entitled to terminate the contract according to Section 3, the Principal shall be entitled to demand and recover from the Contractor liquidated damages equivalent to Security Deposit and /or Performance Bank Guarantee.
- (3) The Bidder agrees and undertakes to pay the said amounts without protest or demur subject only to condition that if the Bidder / Contractor can prove and establish that the exclusion of the Bidder from the tender process or the termination of the contract after the contract award has caused no damage or less damage than the amount of damages claimed by the Principal, the Bidder / Contractor shall compensate the Principal only to the extent of the damage in the amount proved.

SECTION 5 – PREVIOUS TRANSGRESSION

- (1) The Bidder declares that no previous transgressions occurred in the last three years with any other Company in any country conforming to the anti-corruption approach or with any Public Sector Enterprise in India that could justify its exclusion from the tender process.
- (2) If the Bidder makes incorrect statement on this subject, the bidder can be disqualified from the tender process and/or action can be taken as per the procedure mentioned in “Policy and Guidelines for Removal / Suspension / Banning of Entities”.

SECTION 6 – EQUAL TREATMENT OF ALL BIDDERS / CONTRACTORS

- (1) In case of sub-contracting, the Principal Contractor shall take the responsibility of the adoption of Integrity Pact by the sub-contractor.
- (2) The Principal will enter into agreements with identical conditions as this one with all Bidders and Contractors.
- (3) The Principal will disqualify from the tender process all Bidders who do not sign this Pact or violate its provisions.

SECTION 7 – CRIMINAL CHARGES AGAINST VIOLATING BIDDERS / CONTRACTORS

If the Principal obtains knowledge of conduct of a Bidder, Contractor or of an employee or a representative or an associate of a Bidder, Contractor which constitutes corruption, or if the Principal has substantive suspicion in this regard, the Principal will inform the Chief Vigilance Officer.

SECTION 8 – EXTERNAL INDEPENDENT MONITOR/ MONITORS

- (1) The Principal appoints competent and credible Independent External Monitor(s) for this Pact after approval by the Central Vigilance Commission. The task of the Monitor is to review independently and objectively, whether and to what extent the parties comply with the obligations under this agreement.
- (2) The Monitor is not subject to instructions by the representatives of the parties and performs his/her functions neutrally and independently. The Monitor would have access to all Contract documents, whenever required. It will be obligatory for him/her to treat the information and documents of the Bidders/Contractors as confidential. He/she reports to the Chairman, SCI.
- (3) The Bidder/Contractor accepts that the Monitor has the right to access without restriction to all Project documentation of the Principal including that provided by the Contractor. The Contractor will also grant the Monitor, upon his/her request and demonstration of a valid interest, unrestricted and unconditional access to its project documentation. The same is applicable to Subcontractors.
- (4) The Principal will provide to the Monitor sufficient information about all meetings among the parties related to the Project provided such meetings could have an impact on the contractual relations between the Principal and the Contractor. The parties offer to the Monitor the option to participate in such meetings.
- (5) As soon as the Monitor notices, or believes to notice, a violation of this agreement, he/she will so inform the Management of the Principal and request the Management to discontinue or heal the violation, or to take other relevant action. The monitor can in this regard submit non-binding recommendations. Beyond this, the Monitor has no right to demand from the parties that they act in a specific manner, refrain from action or tolerate action.
- (6) The Monitor will submit a written report to the Chairman, SCI, within 8 to 10 weeks from the date of reference or intimation to him/her by the “Principal” and, should the occasion arise, submit proposals for correcting problematic situations.
- (7) If the Monitor has reported to the Chairman, SCI, a substantiated suspicion of an offence under relevant Anti-Corruption Laws of India, and the Chairman has not, within reasonable time, taken visible action to proceed against such offence or reported it to the Chief Vigilance Officer, the Monitor may also transmit this information directly to the Central Vigilance Commissioner, Government of India.

(8) The word “Monitor” would include both singular and plural.

SECTION 9 – PACT DURATION

This pact begins when both parties have legally signed it. It expires for the Contractor 12 months after the last payment under the respective contract, and for all other Bidders 6 months after the contract has been awarded.

If any claim is made / lodged during this time, the same shall be binding and continue to be valid despite the lapse of this pact as specified above, unless it is discharged / determined by Chairman of the Principal.

SECTION 10 – OTHER PROVISIONS

- (1) This agreement is subject to Indian Law. Place of performance and jurisdiction is the Registered office of the Principal, i.e. Mumbai.
- (2) Changes and supplements as well as termination notices need to be made in writing. Side agreements have not been made.
- (3) If the Contractor is a partnership or a consortium, this agreement must be signed by all partners or consortium members.
- (4) Should one or several provisions of this agreement turn out to be invalid, the remainder of this agreement remains valid. In this case, the parties will strive to come to an agreement to their original intentions.
- (5) Issues like Warranty / Guarantee etc. shall be outside the purview of IEMs.
- (6) In the event of any contradiction between the Integrity Pact and its Annexure, the Clause in the Integrity Pact will prevail.

.....
For the Principal
(Official Seal)

.....
For the Bidder / Contractor
(Official Seal)

Place:

Witness 1:
(Signature and Name & Address)

Date:

Witness 2:
.....
(Signature and Name & Address)

BANNING GUIDELINES DOCUMENT

THE SHIPPING CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD. **Policy and Guidelines for Removal / Suspension / Banning of Entities**

1. INTRODUCTION

The Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. (SCI), a premier commercial organisation, is committed to maintaining ethics of the highest standard and adopt best industry practices in all its activities. During the course of business, SCI transacts with various firms and companies in their capacity as bidders / vendors / contractors / agents, hereinafter, referred to as the 'Entity'. SCI considers all its business dealings as a relationship and no relationship can be built on deceit or unethical conduct or repeated poor performance on the part of bidders/vendors/contractors/agents. SCI in all its business dealings endeavors to maintain competency, fairness, transparency, and it is expected that the other party to the deal will also uphold similar code of conduct.

This guideline on banning unscrupulous elements / parties is being adopted to weed out corrupt practices and repeated poor performance and their recurrence from the system.

Since banning of business dealings involves civil consequences for an Entity concerned, it is incumbent that adequate opportunity of hearing is provided and the explanation, if tendered, is considered before passing any order in this regard keeping in view the facts and circumstances of the case. Accordingly, during the proceedings as laid down in this document, the party / parties would be provided with ample opportunity to tender their explanations along with documentary evidence to present their case which would be duly considered based on the principles of natural justice. The banning guidelines are not applicable to any inadvertent or unintentional lapse on part of the party.

The decision of banning any business dealings would be taken only after it is established beyond doubt that the party has committed an act of deception, fraud or other misconduct (including repeated poor performance) in the tendering process or in the execution of contracts awarded / orders issued to them.

2. SCOPE

2.1 SCI reserves its rights to remove an entity from its list of approved suppliers / contractors or to ban business dealings and also to suspend business dealings pending investigation if that entity has been found to have committed misconduct.

2.2 The guiding principles and processes for

- (i) Removal of an Entity from the list of approved suppliers / contractors
- (ii) Suspension and

- (iii) Banning of an Entity from doing business with the Corporation, for a specified period, are laid down herein.
- 2.3 These guidelines apply to all firms / bidders / vendors / contractors / agents, etc. including those on approved panels, who have or are expected to have business dealings with SCI, and shall extend to all units, offices, establishments, subsidiaries and vessels of the SCI including those which get set up in future.
- 2.4 Without prejudice to the claims and rights of SCI in relation to subsisting arrangements, action under these guidelines would take effect prospectively.

3. **DEFINITIONS**

In these Guidelines, unless the context otherwise requires:-

- (i) The Expression ‘Party / Contractor / Supplier / Purchaser / Customer / Bidder / Vendor /Agent/ Entity’ includes a company incorporated in law, a firm (whether registered or not), an individual, HUF, a co-operative society or an association or a group of persons engaged in or expected to be engaged in business dealings with SCI.
- (ii) ‘Inter-connected Entity’ shall mean two or more companies having any of the following features: -
 - (a) If any or all of the Partner(s) / Functional Director(s) are common,
 - (b) If the Management is common,
 - (c) If the entity is controlled or is otherwise subservient to an entity against which action under these guidelines is taken or contemplated.
- (iii) ‘Competent Authority’ and ‘Appellate Authority’ shall mean the following:
 - (a) For banning any Entity, Indian or foreign, the “Competent Authority” would be a “Committee of Directors” comprising of the Director of the Division awarding the contract, Director (Finance) and the Director/s of the concerned Operations Divisions. The Committee will consist minimum three Directors. In case Director of the Division awarding the contract and the Director of the concerned operating Division are same, the Committee should co-opt one more Director from other Division.

The Chairman & Managing Director, SCI, shall be the ‘Appellate Authority’ in respect of such cases.

- (b) In case the original contract has been approved by the Chairman, then, for banning of the party, the competent authority would include the Chairman &Managing Director, Director (Finance) and Directors of the concerned operating divisions. In such a case an Appellate

Authority would be the SCI Board of Directors or a committee formed by the Board for the purpose.

- (c) For contracts where Board approval is mandatory for award, the Board or nominees of the Board would constitute the competent authority. In such cases any appeal would also lie with the Board.

Banning proposals initiated by the SCI branch offices would be heard by the same authorities as mentioned at **Clause 3 iii (a)** and **Clause 3 iii (b)** above, and would have a company-wide effect, unless otherwise specified by the Competent Authority.

- (iv) ‘Investigating Department’ shall mean any department / division / office of SCI investigating into the conduct of the Entity and shall include the Vigilance Department, “Central Bureau of Investigation, the State Police or any other authority or entity set up by the Central or State Government having powers to investigate”.
- (v) List of ‘Approved Entities’ – shall mean and include list of approved Parties /Contractors / Suppliers / Purchases / Customers / Bidder / Vendor / Agents’, if registered / contracted with SCI.

4. **GROUND FOR INITIATION OF BANNING BUSINESS DEALINGS**

- 4.1 If considerations of security, sovereignty, or friendly relations of the state with other countries or reasons of trade or commercial confidence of SCI so warrant.
- 4.2 If any persons by whatever designation / name holding control of the entity or having substantial influence in the affairs of the entity is convicted by a Court of Law for offences involving moral turpitude, during the last five years.
- 4.3 If there is strong reason to believe that the Directors, Proprietors, Partners, Managers of the Entity have been guilty of malpractices such as bribery, corruption, fraud, misrepresentation of facts, interpolations or other unfair /unethical practices, formation of cartel with other entities with a view to artificially hike the prices
- 4.4 If the Entity continuously refuses to return / refund the dues of SCI without showing adequate reason and this is not due to any reasonable dispute which would attract proceedings in arbitration or Court of Law.
- 4.5 If business dealings with the Entity have been banned by the Govt. or any other Central Public sector enterprise, then, such banning may also be extended for the same period as banned by the concerned Govt. / CPSE.
- 4.6 If any recommendation is received from Vigilance Division to ban business dealings with the Entity.

- 4.7 If the Entity has resorted to corrupt, fraudulent practices, coercion, undue influence, and other violations including misrepresentation of facts and / or fudging / forging / tampering of documents.
- 4.8 If the Entity uses intimidation / threats or brings undue outside pressure on the Corporation (SCI) or its officials in acceptance / performance of the job under the contract.
- 4.9 If the Entity indulges in repeated and / or deliberate use of delay tactics in complying with contractual obligations.
- 4.10 Established litigant nature of the Entity to derive undue benefit.
- 4.11 If the Entity misuses the premises or facilities of the Corporation (SCI), forcefully occupies tampers or damages the Corporation's properties including land, water resources, forests / trees, etc.
- 4.12 If the Entity employs a dismissed / removed public servant or employs a person convicted for an offence involving corruption or abetment of such offence.
- 4.13 Willful indulgence by the Entity in supplying substandard material irrespective of whether inspection was carried out by the company, its agents or its representatives.
- 4.14 Based on the findings of the investigation report of CBI / Police against the Entity for malafide/unlawful acts or improper conduct on the Entity's part in matters relating to SCI or even otherwise.
- 4.15 If the entity supplies poor/substandard materials as against mentioned in the Purchase Order/samples provided, if any or performs substandard quality of service and fails to rectify/replace the same even after reasonable extension of time given to such entity.
- 4.16 Continued poor performance or any other action of the vendors/contractors/Agents-which may result in damage to the brand image and/or result into commercial loss to SCI.
- 4.17 Failed to honor the bid without sufficient grounds.

(Note: The examples given above are only illustrative and not exhaustive. The Competent Authority may decide to ban business dealings for any good and sufficient reason).

5. **INITIATION OF BANNING / SUSPENSION**

The Contracting Department on receiving request to ban the Entity on any of the above grounds (as listed under **Clause 4**) will initiate the banning process by forming a Investigating Committee comprising of Representatives from concerned

User Division, Contracting Division and Finance Division. The User / Reporting Division to provide all relevant facts /material to the contract initiating Department / Division which will present it to the Investigating Committee. The Committee so formed will study the case and then submit its recommendations to the Competent Authority to decide on banning the Entity from all dealings with SCI. The Competent Authority and the appellate Authority would be as defined in **Clause 3.0 (iii)** as above.

6. **SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS DEALINGS DURING INVESTIGATION PERIOD**

- 6.1 If the conduct of any Entity dealing with SCI is under investigation, the Investigating Department will inform the concerned Divisional Director, who in turn will convene a meeting of the Competent Authority. The Vigilance Department will be informed as well, and the Chief Vigilance Officer can send his recommendations to the Competent Authority based on the same.
- 6.2 The Competent Authority may consider whether the allegations (under investigation) are of a serious nature and whether, pending investigation, it would be advisable to continue business dealings with the Entity. If the Competent Authority, after consideration of the matter, including the recommendations of the Investigating Department (if any), decides that it would not be in the interests of the Corporation to continue business dealings pending investigation, it may decide in favor of suspending business dealings with the Entity. The report of the Competent Authority must be submitted to the CMD, SCI, within 21 days from the receipt of the reference by the concerned Divisional Director and within the effective date of suspension.
- 6.3 The order of suspension will be passed by the concerned Divisional Director and would operate for a period of not more than six months from the date of issuance of such order, and may be communicated to the Entity as also to the Investigating Department.
- 6.4 The Investigating Department must ensure that their investigation is completed and the whole process of final order is over within such period. However, if investigations are not completed in six months' time, the Competent Authority may extend the period of suspension by another three months, during which period the investigations must be completed.
- 6.5 The order of suspension shall be communicated to all Departments / Divisions / branch offices of SCI. During the period of suspension, no business dealing may be held with the Entity.
- 6.6 As far as possible, other existing contract(s) with the Entity may continue, unless the Competent Authority, having regard to the circumstances of the case, decides otherwise.

- 6.7 If the Entity concerned asks for detailed reasons of suspension, the Entity maybe informed that its conduct is under investigation. It is not necessary to enter into correspondence or argument with the Entity at this stage.
- 6.8 It is necessary to give a show-cause notice to the Entity along with the order for suspension unless it is not expedient in the public interest to do so. The Entity has to be allowed to submit its written defense to the show-cause notice within 15 days. Competent Authority has to take the decision within thirty days of receipt of written defense.
- 6.9 Period of suspension shall be accounted for in the final order passed for Holiday listing (Banning business dealing) with the “Entity”.

7. **BANNING OF BUSINESS DEALINGS**

- 7.1 A decision to ban business dealings with any Entity shall normally apply throughout SCI, unless otherwise specified by the Competent Authority. The Competent Authority may restrict the ban to a Division/s or branch Office/s if in the particular case, banning of business dealings by the respective Unit will serve the purpose and achieve its objective and banning throughout the Corporation is not required in view of the local conditions and limited impact of the non-performance/misconduct / default.
- 7.2 There will be an Investigating Committee in each Division / Branch office, to be appointed by the Divisional Director, for processing cases of “Banning of Business Dealings” as referred in **Clause 5** above. The functions of the committee shall, inter-alia include:
- (i) To examine and report material and other circumstances to determine whether or not if a prima-facie case for banning exists.
 - (ii) To recommend for issue of show-cause notice to the Entity by the concerned department as per **Clause 8.1**.
 - (iii) To examine the reply to show-cause notice and call the Entity for personal hearing, if required.
 - (iv) To submit recommendations to the Competent Authority for banning or otherwise.
- 7.3 If the Competent Authority is prima-facie of the view that action for banning business dealings with the Entity is called for, a show-cause notice may be issued to the Entity as per paragraph 8.1 and an enquiry held accordingly.

8. **SHOW-CAUSE NOTICE**

- 8.1 In case where the Competent Authority decides that action against an Entity is called for, a show-cause notice has to be issued to the Entity. A statement containing the imputation of misconduct or misbehavior may be appended to the show-cause notice and the Entity should be asked to submit within 15 days a written statement in its defense.

- 8.2 On request from the Entity, necessary facility will be provided for inspection of relevant document/s in possession of SCI that establishes the grounds for banning (under **Clause 4**).
- 8.3 If no reply is received from the “Entity” within the specified period, the decision may be taken ex-parte. The Competent Authority will pass an appropriate speaking order after examining the materials on record.
- 8.4 The Competent Authority may consider and pass an appropriate order:
- (i) For exonerating the Entity if the charges are not established or
 - (ii) For removing the Entity from the list of approved Suppliers / Contactors, etc. or
 - (iii) For banning business dealings with the Entity.
- 8.5 The period for which the ban would be operative may be mentioned in the order. The period of Banning will be of two (2) years. The Competent Authority will have a right to extend the banning period for cases where issues are not resolved. It should also state explicitly that whether the ban would extend to the Inter-connected Entities based on case to case basis.

(9) **REMOVAL FROM LIST OF APPROVED ENTITIES - SUPPLIERS/ CONTRACTORS, ETC.**

- 9.1 If the Competent Authority decides that the charge against the Entity is of a minor nature, it may consider removing the name of the Entity from the list of approved Entities – Suppliers / Contractors, etc. – without recourse to an outright ban for a period of one (1) year or for the balance period of the contract whichever is longer.
- 9.2 The effect of such a removal order would be that the Entity would not be entitled to participate in both Open and Limited Tender Enquiries of SCI during such removal period.

10. **APPEALS AGAINST THE DECISION OF THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY**

- 10.1 No Appeal is permitted in case an Agency is Holiday Listed (Banning of business dealing) based on Ministry’s advice.
- 10.2 The Entity may file an appeal against the order of the Competent Authority banning business dealing etc. The appeal shall be filed to the Appellate Authority. Such an appeal shall be made within one month from the date of receipt of the order banning business dealing, etc.
- 10.3 The Appellate Authority would consider the appeal and pass appropriate orders which shall be communicated to the Entity as well as the Competent Authority.
- 10.4 **Duration of Banning**

Ordinarily the period for which an Agency is banned should not be less than six months and should not exceed 2 years. However, in extraordinary circumstances the period can be more than 2 years.

11. **REVIEW OF THE DECISION BY THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY**

Any petition / application filed by the Entity concerning the review of the banning order passed originally by Competent Authority under the existing guidelines either before or after filing of appeal before the Appellate Authority or after disposal of appeal by the Appellate Authority, the review petition can be decided by the Competent Authority upon disclosure of new facts / circumstances or subsequent development necessitating such review. The Competent Authority may refer the same petition to the Investigating Committee for examination and recommendation.

12. **CIRCULATION OF THE NAMES OF ENTITIES WITH WHOM BUSINESS DEALINGS HAVE BEEN BANNED**

12.1 The banning order will be issued to the Entity by the concerned contracting Divisional Director. It will also be circulated to all the Divisions and branch offices of the Corporation and the names of the banned entities will be posted on the SCI website.

12.2 Depending upon the gravity of misconduct established, the Competent Authority of the Corporate Office may circulate the names of the Entity with whom business dealings have been banned, to Government Departments, other Central Public Sector Enterprises, etc. for such action as they deem appropriate.

12.3 If a Government Department or a Central Public Sector Enterprise requests for more information about the Entity with whom business dealings have been banned, a copy of the report of Investigating Department together with a copy of the order of the Competent Authority/Appellate Authority may be furnished.

12.4 If business dealings with any Entity have been banned by the Central or State Government or any other Central Public Sector Enterprise, SCI may, without any further enquiry or investigation, issue an order banning business dealing with the Entity and its inter-connected Entities.

13. **EFFECT OF BANNING AND SUSPENSION OF AN ENTITY**

13.1 The entity after issue of order of banning /suspension shall be debarred from participating in any of the tenders of SCI during the banning/suspension period and the same shall also be hosted on SCI website.

13.2 If the entity has already participated in the tender and price bids are not opened, the technical bids of such entity will be rejected. If the price bid of the tender is already opened and happened to be L1, the tender has to be

cancelled and re-tender has to be issued. If the entity is not L1, the tender can be processed further.

- 13.3 Banning does not preclude a claim for damages for non-performance.
- 13.4 Banning does not affect any provision in the contract for the settlement of disputes or any other term of the contract which is to operate even after termination.

14. **REVOCAATION**

Suspension/ Removal of an entity shall be deemed to have been automatically revoked on the expiry of Suspension/ Removal period and it will not be necessary to issue a specific formal order of revocation. However, in case of Banned entities, the same shall continue to remain in force unless it is specifically revoked based on the firm's representation with the approval of the Competent Authority who has earlier accorded approval for banning.

- 14.1 In banning cases, where the proprietor of the entity, its employee, partner or representative is convicted by a court of law for offences involving moral turpitude in relation to business dealings, may be revoked if in respect of the same facts, accused has been wholly exonerated by court of Law.
- 14.2 A banning / suspension order may, on a review be revoked by the competent authority if it is of the opinion that the disability already suffered is adequate in the circumstances of the case.

These guidelines shall be applicable for and be part of the Tender document.
