

Integrity Pact

(To be executed on plain paper and submitted along with technical bid/tender documents for tenders having a value of Rs.1 crore or more. To be signed by the bidder and NFL.)

National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) 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, economic use of and of fairness/transparency in its relations with its Bidder(s) and/or Contractor(s).

In order to achieve these goals, the Principal will appoint an Independent External Monitor (IEM), 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 immaterial benefit which the personal 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(s) confidential/additional information through which the Bidder(s) could obtain an advantage in relation to the 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 IPC/PC Act, or if there be a substantive suspicion in this regard, the Principal will inform the Chief Vigilance Officer and in addition can initiate disciplinary actions.

Section 2 - Commitments of the Bidder(s)/Contractor(s)

1. The Bidder(s)/Contractor(s) commit himself to take all measures necessary to prevent corruption. He commits himself to observe the following principles during his participation in the tender process and during the contract execution.
 - a. The Bidder(s)/contractor(s) will not, directly or through any other persons 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 he/she is not legally entitled to, in order to obtain in exchange any advantage or during the execution of the contract.
 - b. The Bidder(s)/Contractor(s) will not enter with other Bidders 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 cartelization in the bidding process.
 - c. The Bidder(s)/Contractor(s) will not commit any offence under the relevant IPC/PC Act; further the Bidder(s)/Contractors will not use improperly, for purposes of competition or personal gain, or pass on to others, any information or documents 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(s)/Contractor(s) of foreign origin shall disclose the name and address of the Agents/representatives in India, if any. Similarly, the bidder(s)/contractor(s) of Indian Nationality shall furnish the name and address of the foreign principals, if any. All the payments made to the India agent/representative have to be in Indian Rupees only.
 - e. The Bidder(s)/Contractor(s) will, when presenting his bid, disclose any and all payments he has made, is committed to or intends to make to agents, brokers or any other intermediaries in connection with the award of the contract.

2. The Bidder(s)/Contractor(s) 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 contract

If the Bidder(s)/Contractor(s), before award or during execution has committed a transgression through a violation of Section 2 above or in any other form such as to put his reliability or credibility in question, the Principal is entitled to disqualify the Bidder(s)/Contractor(s) from the tender process or to terminate the contract, if already signed, for such reasons.

Section 4 : Compensation for Damages

1. If the Principal has disqualified the Bidder(s) from the tender process prior to the award according to Section 3, the Principal is entitled to demand and recover the 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 of the Contract value or the amount equivalent to Performance Bank Guarantee.

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 TII's anti-corruption approach or with any other public sector enterprise in India that could justify his exclusion from the tender process.
2. If the bidder makes incorrect statement on this subject, he can be disqualified from the tender process and appropriate action can be taken including termination of the contract, if already awarded, for such reason.

Section 6 : Equal treatment of all Bidders/Contractors/Sub-contractors.

1. The Principal will enter into agreements with the identical conditions as this one with all bidders, contractors and sub-contractors.

2. 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 violation Bidder(s)/Contractor(s)/Subcontractors(s)

If the Principal obtains knowledge of conduct of a Bidder(s)/ Contractor(s) which constitutes corruption, or if the Principal has substantive suspicion in this regard, the Principal will inform the same to the Chief Vigilance Officer.

Section 8 : Independent External Monitor/Monitors

1. The Principal appoints competent and credible Independent External Monitor for this Pact. 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 functions neutrally and independently. It will be obligatory for him to treat the information and documents of bidders/contractors as confidential. He reports to the Chairman & Managing Director, NFL.
3. The Bidder(s)/Contractor(s) 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 request and demonstration of a valid interest, unrestricted and unconditional access to his project documentation. The same is applicable to Subcontractors. The Monitor is under contractual obligation to treat the information and documents of the Bidder(s)/Contractor(s)/Subcontractor(s) with confidentiality.
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 will so inform the Management of the Principal and request the Management to discontinue or take corrective action, 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 & Managing Director,, NFL within 8 to 10 weeks from the date of reference or intimation to him by the Principal and, should be occasion arise, submit proposals for correcting problematic situations.
7. Monitor shall be entitled to compensation on the same terms as being extended to/provided to Independent Directors on NFL Board.
8. If the Monitor has reported to the Chairman & Managing Director, National Fertilizers Limited, a substantiated suspicion of an offence under relevant IPC/PC Act, and the Chairman & Managing Director, NFL has not, within the 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.
9. The word "Monitor" word 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 contract, and for all other Bidder 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 & Managing Director of NFL.

Section 10 : Other Provisions

- This agreement is subject to Indian Law. Place of performance and jurisdiction is the Registered Office of the Principal i.e. New Delhi.
- Changes and supplements as well as termination notices need to be made in writing. Side agreements have not been made.

- If the contractor is a partnership or a consortium, this agreement must be signed by all partners or consortium members.
- 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.
- A person signing IP shall not approach the courts while representing the matters to IEMs and he/she will await their decision in the matter.

- COMPLIANCE WITH LABOUR LAWS/CODES/SCHEMES

“The bidder (s)/Contractor (s) shall, wherever applicable, comply with all the statutory requirements relating to the contracts such as relevant Labour Laws/Codes/Schemes including but not limited to the EPF & Misc. Provisions Act-1952, the ESI Act-1948, the payment of Bonus Act-1965, the Contract Labour (Regulation& Abolition) Act, 1970, the Minimum Wages Act-1948, etc, as amended from time to time and for the time being in force.”

(For & on behalf of the Principal) (Office Seal) Place_____	(For & on behalf of Bidder/Contractor) (Office Seal)
Date_____	

Witness 1 :

(Name & Address)

Witness 1 :

(Name & Address)

Witness 2 :

(Name & Address)

Witness 2 :

(Name & Address)

Annexure-XXII

NO CLAIM CERTIFICATE

Sub: Contract Agreement no. dated..... for the Work of

We have received the sum of Rs. (Rupees only) in full and final settlement of all the payments due to us under the above mentioned contract agreement, between us and National Fertilizers Limited (NFL). We hereby unconditionally, and without any reservation whatsoever, certify that with this payment, we shall have no claim whatsoever, of any description, on any account, against NFL, against aforesaid contract agreement executed by us. We further declare unequivocally, that with this payment, we have received all the amounts payable to us, and have no dispute of any description whatsoever, regarding the amounts worked out as payable to us and received by us, and that we shall continue to be bound by the terms and conditions of the contract agreement, as regards performance of the contract.

Yours faithfully,

Signatures of contractor
or officer authorized to sign the contract documents on behalf of the
contractor

(Company stamp)

Date:

Place:

Annexure-XXV

Preference to Make in India

To encourage 'Make in India' and promote manufacturing and production of goods and services in India with a view to enhancing income and employment, Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, issued Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India), Order 2017¹. The order is issued pursuant to Rule 153 (iii) of GFR, 2017. The Order is applicable on the procurement of Goods, Works and Services. For the purpose of this Order:-

- a) '*L1*' means the lowest tender or lowest bid or the lowest quotation received in a tender, bidding process or other procurement solicitation as adjudged in the evaluation process as per the tender or other procurement solicitation.
 - b) '*Margin of purchase preference*' means the maximum extent to which the price quoted by a "Class-I local supplier" may be above the L1 for the purpose of purchase preference. It has been fixed as 20 (twenty) percent.
 - c) '*Nodal Ministry*' means the Ministry or Department identified pursuant to this order in respect of a particular item of goods or services or works.
 - d) '*Procuring entity*' means a Ministry or department or attached or subordinate office of, or autonomous body controlled by, the Government of India and includes Government companies as defined in the Companies Act.
 - e) '*Works*' means all works as per Rule 130 of GFR- 2017, and will also include '*turnkey works*'.
- i) Eligibility of 'Class-I local supplier'/ 'Class-II local supplier'/ 'non-local suppliers' for different types of procurement.**
- a) In procurement of all goods, services or works in respect of which the Nodal ministry/Department has communicated that there is sufficient local capacity and local competition, only 'Class-I local supplier', shall be eligible to bid irrespective of purchase value.
 - b) Only 'Class-I local supplier' and 'Class-II local supplier', shall be eligible to bid in procurements undertaken by procuring entities, except when Global tender enquiry has been issued. In global tender enquiries, 'Non-local

suppliers' shall also be eligible to bid along with 'Class-I local suppliers' and 'Class-II local suppliers'. In procurement of all goods, services or works, not covered by sub-para (i)(a) above, and with estimated value of purchases less than Rs. 200 Crore, in accordance with Rule 161(iv) of GFR, 2017, Global tender enquiry shall not be issued except with the approval of competent authority as designated by Department of Expenditure.

- c) For the purpose of this Order, works includes Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contracts and services include System Integrator (SI) contracts.

ii) Purchase Preference

- a) Subject to the provisions of the Order and to any specific instructions issued by the Nodal Ministry or in pursuance of the Order, purchase preference shall be given to 'Class-I local supplier' in procurements undertaken by procuring entities in the manner specified here under.
- b) In the procurements of goods or works, which are covered by para (i) (b) above and which are divisible in nature, the 'Class-I local supplier' shall get purchase preference over 'Class-II local supplier' as well as 'Non-local supplier', as per following procedure:
 1. Among all qualified bids, the lowest bid will be termed as L1. If L1 is 'Class-I local supplier', the contract for full quantity will be awarded to L1.
 2. If L1 bid is not a 'Class-I local supplier', 50 (fifty) percent of the order quantity shall be awarded to L1. Thereafter, the lowest bidder among the 'Class-I local supplier' will be invited to match the L1 price for the remaining 50 (fifty) percent quantity subject to the Class-I local supplier's quoted price falling within the margin of purchase preference, and contract for that quantity shall be awarded to such 'Class-I local supplier' subject to matching the L1 price. In case such lowest eligible 'Class-I local supplier' fails to match the L1 price or accepts less than the offered quantity, the next higher 'Class-I local supplier' within the margin of purchase preference shall be invited to match the L1 price for remaining quantity and so on, and contract shall be awarded accordingly. In case some quantity is still left uncovered on Class-I local suppliers, then such balance quantity may also be ordered on the L1 bidder.
- c) In the procurements of goods or works, which are covered by para (i)(b)

above and which are not divisible in nature, and in procurement of services where the bid is evaluated on price alone, the 'Class-I local supplier' shall get purchase preference over 'Class-II local supplier' as well as 'Non-local supplier', as per following procedure:

1. Among all qualified bids, the lowest bid will be termed as L1. If L1 is 'Class-I local supplier', the contract will be awarded to L1.
2. If L1 is not 'Class-I local supplier', the lowest bidder among the 'Class-I local supplier', will be invited to match the L1 price subject to Class-I local supplier's quoted price falling within the margin of purchase preference, and the contract shall be awarded to such 'Class-I local supplier' subject to matching the L1 price.
3. In case such lowest eligible 'Class-I local supplier' fails to match the L1 price, the 'Class-I local supplier' with the next higher bid within the margin of purchase preference shall be invited to match the L1 price and so on and contract shall be awarded accordingly. In case none of the 'Class-I local supplier' within the margin of purchase preference matches the L1 price, the contract may be awarded to the L1 bidder.
4. "Class-II local supplier" will not get purchase preference in any procurement, undertaken by procuring entities.

iii) Applicability in tenders where contract is to be awarded to multiple bidders

In tenders where contract is awarded to multiple bidders subject to matching of L1 rates or otherwise, the 'Class-I local supplier' shall get purchase preference over 'Class-II local supplier' as well as 'Non-local supplier', as per following procedure:

- a) In case there is sufficient local capacity and competition for the item to be procured, as notified by the nodal Ministry, only Class I local suppliers shall be eligible to bid. As such, the multiple suppliers, who would be awarded the contract, should be all and only 'Class I Local suppliers'.
- b) In other cases, 'Class II local suppliers' and 'Non local suppliers' may also participate in the bidding process along with 'Class I Local suppliers' as per provisions of the Order.
- c) If 'Class I Local suppliers' qualify for award of contract for at least 50 (fifty) percent of the tendered quantity in any tender, the contract may be awarded to all the qualified bidders as per award criteria stipulated in the bid documents. However, in case 'Class I Local suppliers' do not qualify for award of contract for at least 50 (fifty) percent of the tendered quantity,

purchase preference should be given to the 'Class I local supplier' over 'Class II local suppliers'/ 'Non local suppliers' provided that their quoted rate falls within 20 (twenty) percent margin of purchase preference of the highest quoted bidder considered for award of contract so as to ensure that the 'Class I Local suppliers' taken in totality are considered for award of contract for at least 50 (fifty) percent of the tendered quantity.

- d) First purchase preference has to be given to the lowest quoting 'Class-I local supplier', whose quoted rates fall within 20 (twenty) percent margin of purchase preference, subject to its meeting the prescribed criteria for award of contract as also the constraint of maximum quantity that can be sourced from any single supplier. If the lowest quoting 'Class-I local supplier', does not qualify for purchase preference because of aforesaid constraints or does not accept the offered quantity, an opportunity may be given to next higher 'Class-I local supplier', falling within 20 (twenty) percent margin of purchase preference, and so on.
- e) To avoid any ambiguity during bid evaluation process, the procuring entities may stipulate its own tender specific criteria for award of contract amongst different bidders including the procedure for purchase preference to 'Class-I local supplier' within the broad policy guidelines stipulated in sub-paras above.

iv) Exemption of small purchases: Notwithstanding anything contained in paragraph (i), procurements where the estimated value to be procured is less than Rs. 5 lakhs shall be exempt from the Order. However, it shall be ensured by procuring entities that procurement is not split for the purpose of avoiding the provisions of this Order.

v) Minimum local content: The 'local content' requirement to categorize a supplier as 'Class-I local supplier' is minimum 50 (fifty) percent. For 'Class-II local supplier', the 'local content' requirement is minimum 20 (twenty) percent. Nodal Ministry/ Department may prescribe only a higher percentage of minimum local content requirement to categorize a supplier as 'Class-I local supplier'/ 'Class-II local supplier'. For the items, for which Nodal Ministry/ Department has not prescribed higher minimum local content notification under the Order, it shall be 50 (fifty) percent and 20 (twenty) percent for 'Class-I local supplier'/ 'Class-II local supplier' respectively.

vi) Requirement for specification in advance: The minimum local content, the margin of purchase preference and the procedure for preference to Make in India shall be specified in the notice inviting tenders or other form of procurement solicitation and shall not be varied during a particular procurement transaction.

vii) Government E-marketplace: In respect of procurement through the Government E-marketplace (GeM) shall, as far as possible, specifically mark the items which meet the minimum local content while registering the item for display, and shall, wherever feasible, make provision for automated comparison with purchase preference and without purchase preference and for obtaining consent of the local supplier in those cases where purchase preference is to be exercised.

viii) Verification of local content:

- a) The 'Class-I local supplier'/ 'Class-II local supplier' at the time of tender, bidding or solicitation shall be required to indicate percentage of local content and provide self-certification that the item offered meets the local content requirement for 'Class- I local supplier'/ 'Class-II local supplier', as the case may be. They shall also give details of the location(s) at which the local value addition is made.
- b) In cases of procurement for a value in excess of Rs. 10 crores, the 'Class-I local supplier'/ 'Class-II local supplier' shall be required to provide a certificate from the statutory auditor or cost auditor of the company (in the case of companies) or from a practicing cost accountant or practicing chartered accountant (in respect of suppliers other than companies) giving the percentage of local content.
- c) Decisions on complaints relating to implementation of this Order shall be taken by the competent authority which is empowered to look into procurement-related complaints relating to the procuring entity.
- d) Nodal Ministries may constitute committees with internal and external experts for independent verification of self-declarations and auditor's/ accountant's certificates on random basis and in the case of complaints.
- e) Nodal Ministries and procuring entities may prescribe fees for such complaints.
- f) False declarations will be in breach of the Code of Integrity under Rule 175(1)(i)(h) of the General Financial Rules for which a bidder or its

successors can be debarred for up to two years as per Rule 151 (iii) of the General Financial Rules along with such other actions as may be permissible under law.

- g) A supplier who has been debarred by any procuring entity for violation of the Order shall not be eligible for preference under the Order for procurement by any other procuring entity for the duration of the debarment. The debarment for such other procuring entities shall take effect prospectively from the date on which it comes to the notice of other procurement entities, in the manner prescribed under paragraph (h) below.
- h) The Department of Expenditure shall issue suitable instructions for the effective and smooth operation of this process, so that:
 - 1. The fact and duration of debarment for violation of the Order by any procuring entity are promptly brought to the notice of the Member-Convenor of the Standing Committee and the Department of Expenditure through the concerned Ministry/Department or in some other manner;
 - 2. on a periodical basis such cases are consolidated and a centralized list or decentralized lists of such suppliers with the period of debarment is maintained and displayed on website(s);
 - 3. in respect of procuring entities other than the one which has carried out the debarment, the debarment takes effect prospectively from the date of uploading on the website(s) in the such a manner that ongoing procurements are not disrupted.

ix) Specifications in Tenders and other procurement solicitations:

- a) Every procuring entity shall ensure that the eligibility conditions in respect of previous experience fixed in any tender or solicitation do not require proof of supply in other countries or proof of exports.
- b) Procuring entities shall endeavour to see that eligibility conditions, including on matters like turnover, production capability and financial strength do not result in unreasonable exclusion of 'Class-I local supplier'/ 'Class-II local supplier' who would otherwise be eligible, beyond what is essential for ensuring quality or creditworthiness of the supplier.
- c) Procuring entities shall review all existing eligibility norms and conditions with reference to sub-paragraphs (viii) (a) and (b) above.

d) Reciprocity Clause

- 1. When a Nodal Ministry/Department identifies that Indian suppliers of an

item are not allowed to participate and/ or compete in procurement by any foreign government, due to restrictive tender conditions which have direct or indirect effect of barring Indian companies such as registration in the procuring country, execution of projects of specific value in the procuring country etc., it shall provide such details to all its procuring entities including CMDs/CEOs of PSEs/PSUs, State Governments and other procurement agencies under their administrative control and GeM for appropriate reciprocal action.

2. Entities of countries which have been identified by the nodal Ministry/Department as not allowing Indian companies to participate in their Government procurement for any item related to that nodal Ministry shall not be allowed to participate in Government procurement in India for all items related to that nodal Ministry/ Department, except for the list of items published by the Ministry/ Department permitting their participation.
 3. The stipulation in (2) above shall be part of all tenders invited by the Central Government procuring entities stated in (1) above. All purchases on GeM shall also necessarily have the above provisions for items identified by nodal Ministry/ Department.
 4. State Governments should be encouraged to incorporate similar provisions in their respective tenders.
 5. The term 'entity' of a country shall have the same meaning as under the FDI Policy of DPIIT as amended from time to time.
- e) Specifying foreign certifications/ unreasonable technical specifications/ brands/ models in the bid document is restrictive and discriminatory practice against local suppliers. If foreign certification is required to be stipulated because of non- availability of Indian Standards and/or for any other reason, the same shall be done only after written approval of Secretary of the Department concerned or any other Authority having been designated such power by the Secretary of the Department concerned.
- f) “All administrative Ministries/Departments whose procurement exceeds Rs. 1000.

Crete per annum shall notify/ update their procurement projections every year, including those of the PSEs/PSUs, for the next 5 years on their respective website.”

x) Action for non-compliance of the Provisions of the Order: In case restrictive

or discriminatory conditions against domestic suppliers are included in bid documents, an inquiry shall be conducted by the Administrative Department undertaking the procurement (including procurement by any entity under its administrative control) to fix responsibility for the same. Thereafter, appropriate action, administrative or otherwise, shall be taken against erring officials of procurement entities under relevant provisions. Intimation on all such actions shall be sent to the Standing Committee.

- xi) Assessment of supply base by Nodal Ministries:** The Nodal Ministry shall keep in view the domestic manufacturing / supply base and assess the available capacity and the extent of local competition while identifying items and prescribing the higher minimum local content or the manner of its calculation, with a view to avoiding cost increase from the operation of this Order.
- xii) Increase in minimum local content:** The Nodal Ministry may annually review the local content requirements with a view to increasing them, subject to availability of sufficient local competition with adequate quality.
- xiii) Manufacture under license/ technology collaboration agreements with phased indigenization**
- a) While notifying the minimum local content, Nodal Ministries may make special provisions for exempting suppliers from meeting the stipulated local content if the product is being manufactured in India under a license from a foreign manufacturer who holds intellectual property rights and where there is a technology collaboration agreement / transfer of technology agreement for indigenous manufacture of a product developed abroad with clear phasing of increase in local content.
 - b) In procurement of all goods, services or works in respect of which there is substantial quantity of public procurement and for which the nodal ministry has not notified that there is sufficient local capacity and local competition, the concerned nodal ministry shall notify an upper threshold value of procurement beyond which foreign companies shall enter into a joint venture with an Indian company to participate in the tender. Procuring entities, while procuring such items beyond the notified threshold value, shall prescribe in their respective tenders that foreign companies may enter into a joint venture with an Indian company to participate in the tender. The procuring Ministries/Departments shall also make special provisions for exempting such joint ventures from meeting the stipulated

minimum local content requirement, which shall be increased in a phased manner.

xiv) Powers to grant exemption and to reduce minimum local content: The administrative Department undertaking the procurement (including procurement by any entity under its administrative control), with the approval of their Minister-in-charge, may by written order, for reasons to be recorded in writing,

1. reduce the minimum local content below the prescribed level; or
2. reduce the margin of purchase preference below 20 (twenty) percent; or
3. exempt any particular item or supplying entities from the operation of this Order or any part of the Order.

A copy of every such order shall be provided to the Standing Committee and concerned Nodal Ministry / Department. The Nodal Ministry / Department concerned will continue to have the power to vary its notification on Minimum Local Content.

xv) Directions to Government companies: In respect of Government companies and other procuring entities not governed by the General Financial Rules, the administrative Ministry or Department shall issue policy directions requiring compliance with this Order.

xvi) Standing Committee. A standing committee is hereby constituted with the following membership: Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade-Chairman Secretary, Commerce-Member Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology-Member Joint Secretary (Public Procurement), Department of Expenditure-Member Joint Secretary (DPIIT)-Member-Convenor The Secretary of the Department concerned with a particular item shall be a member in respect of issues relating to such item. The Chairman of the Committee may co-opt technical experts as relevant to any issue or class of issues under its consideration.

xvii) Removal of difficulties: Ministries /Departments and the Boards of Directors of Government companies may issue such clarifications and instructions as may be necessary for the removal of any difficulties arising in the implementation of the Order.

xviii) Ministries having existing policies: Where any Ministry or Department has its

own policy for preference to local content approved by the Cabinet after 1st January 2015, such policies will prevail over the provisions of the Order. All other existing orders on preference to local content shall be reviewed by the Nodal Ministries and revised as needed to conform to this Order, within two months of the issue of this Order.

xix) Transitional provision: The Order shall not apply to any tender or procurement for which notice inviting tender or other form of procurement solicitation has been issued before the issue of this Order.

(Rule 153 of GFR 2017)

(Note: ¹Latest revision to the Order notified vide OM No. P-45021/2/2017-PP (BE- II) issued by DPIIT, dated 16.09.2020)

[Buyer is advised to refer latest guidelines, if any, issued by the Ministry/ Corporate Office].

Annexure-XXVI

Model Clauses for Tenders

- I. Any bidder from a country which shares a land border with India will be eligible to bid in this tender only if the bidder is registered with the Competent Authority.

- II. "Bidder" (including the term 'tenderer', 'consultant' or 'service provider' in certain contexts) means any person or firm or company, including any member of a consortium or joint venture (that is an association of several persons, or firms or companies), every artificial juridical person not falling in any of the descriptions of bidders stated hereinbefore, including any agency branch or office controlled by such person, participating in a procurement process.

- III. "Bidder from a country which shares a land border with India" for the purpose of this Order means:
 - a. An entity incorporated, established or registered in such a country;
or
 - b. A subsidiary of an entity incorporated, established or registered in such a country;
or
 - c. An entity substantially controlled through entities incorporated, established or registered in such a country;
or
 - d. An entity whose beneficial owner is situated in such a country;
or
 - e. An Indian (or other) agent of such an entity;
or
 - f. A natural person who is a citizen of such a country;
or
 - g. A consortium or joint venture where any member of the consortium or joint venture falls under any of the above.

- IV. The beneficial owner for the purpose of (iii) above will be as under:
 1. In case of a company or Limited Liability Partnership, the beneficial owner

is the natural person(s), who, whether acting alone or together, or through one or more juridical person, has a controlling ownership interest or who exercises control through other means.

Explanation–

- a. “Controlling ownership interest” means ownership of or entitlement to more than twenty-five per cent, of shares or capital or profits of the company;
 - b. “Control” shall include the right to appoint majority of the directors or to control the management or policy decisions including by virtue of their shareholding or management rights or shareholders agreements or voting agreements;
2. In case of a partnership firm, the beneficial owner is the natural person(s) who, whether acting alone or together, or through one or more juridical person, has ownership of entitlement to more than fifteen percent of capital or profits of the partnership;
 3. In case of an unincorporated association or body of individuals, the beneficial owner is the natural person(s), who, whether acting alone or together, or through one or more juridical person, has ownership of or entitlement to more than fifteen percent of the property or capital or profits of such association or body of individuals;
 4. Where no natural person is identified under (1) or (2) or (3) above, the beneficial owner is the relevant natural person who holds the position of senior managing official;
 5. In case of a trust, the identification of beneficial owner(s) shall include identification of the author of the trust, the trustee, the beneficiaries with fifteen percent or more interest in the trust and any other natural person exercising ultimate effective control over the trust through a chain of control or ownership.
- V. An Agent is a person employed to do any act for another, or to represent another in dealings with third person.
- VI. [To be inserted in tenders for Works contracts, including Turnkey contracts]
The successful bidder shall not be allowed to sub-contract works to any contractor from a country which shares a land border with India unless such contractor is registered with the Competent Authority. Model Certificate

for Tenders (for transitional cases as stated in para 3 of this Order).

"I have read the clause regarding restrictions on procurement from a bidder of a country which shares a land border with India; I hereby certify that this bidder is not from such a country and is eligible to be considered."

Model Certificate for Tenders

"I have read the clause regarding restrictions on procurement from a bidder of a country which shares a land border with India; I certify that this bidder is not from such a country or, if from such a country, has been registered with the Competent Authority. I hereby certify that this bidder fulfills all requirements in this regard and is eligible to be considered. [Where applicable, evidence of valid registration by the Competent Authority shall be attached.]"

Model Certificate for Tenders for Works involving possibility of sub-contracting:

"I have read the clause regarding restrictions on procurement from a bidder of a country which shares a land border with India and on sub-contracting to contractors from such countries; I certify that this bidder is not from such a country or, if from such a country, has been registered with the Competent Authority and will not sub- contract any work to a contractor from such countries unless such contractor is registered with the Competent Authority. I hereby certify that this bidder fulfills all requirements in this regard and is eligible to be considered. [Where applicable, evidence of valid registration by the Competent Authority shall be attached.]"

Model Certificate for GeM:

"I have read the clause regarding restrictions on procurement from a bidder of a country which shares a land border with India; I certify that this vendor/ bidder is not from such a country or, is not from such a country, has been registered with the Competent Authority. I hereby certify that this vendor/ bidder fulfills all requirements in this regard and is eligible to be considered for procurement on GeM. [Where applicable, evidence of valid registration by the Competent Authority shall be attached.]"

[Buyer is advised to refer latest guidelines, if any, issued by the Ministry/ Corporate Office].

Annexure-XXVII

Public Procurement Policy for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs):

Reservation of specific items for procurement from Micro and Small Enterprises (MSE)

To enable wider dispersal of enterprises in the country, particularly in rural areas, the Central Government Ministries or Departments or Public Sector Undertakings shall continue to procure items reserved for procurement exclusively from MSE (presently 358 (three hundred and fifty-eight) items including eight items of Handicrafts) from Micro and Small Enterprises, which have been reserved for exclusive purchase from them. The latest list may be seen from the website of the MSME Ministry¹. Ministry of MSME has clarified that the laminated paper Gr.I,II and III are not covered under the paper conversion product (SI.No.202) of the Public Procurement Policy². For locating the sources of such reserved items, NSIC may be contacted.

Public Procurement Policy for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs)

- i) From time to time, the Government of India (Procuring Entity) lays down procurement policies to help inclusive national economic growth by providing long- term support to micro, small and medium enterprises and disadvantaged sections of society . The Procurement Policy for Micro and Small Enterprises, 2012 [amended 2018 and 2021] has been notified by the Government in exercise of the powers conferred in Section 11 of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act, 2006. Details of the policy along with the amendments issued in 2018 and 2021 are available on the MSME website³.
- ii) Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) registered under Udyam Registration are eligible to avail the benefits under the policy.
- iii) The Policy is applicable to all the Central Government Ministries/ Departments/ CPSUs.

However, the policy is not applicable to State Government Ministries/ Departments/PSUs.

- 1) To reduce transaction cost of doing business, MSEs will be facilitated by providing them tender documents free of cost, exempting MSEs from payment of earnest money deposit, adopting e-procurement to bring transparency in tendering process. However, exemption from paying Performance Bank Guarantee is not covered under the policy. MSEs may also be given relaxation in prior turnover and prior experience criteria during the tender process, subject to meeting of quality and technical specifications.

However, there may be circumstances (like procurement of items related to public safety, health, critical security operations and equipment, etc.) where procuring entity may prefer the vendor to have prior experience rather than giving orders to new entities⁴.

- 2) Chapter V of the MSMED Act, 2006 also has provision for ensuring timely payments to the MSE suppliers. The period agreed upon for payment must not exceed forty-five days after the supplies. For delays in payment the buyer shall be liable to pay compound interest to the supplier on the delayed amount at three times of the bank rate notified by the Reserve Bank. For arbitration and conciliation regarding recovery of such payments and interests, Micro and Small Enterprises Facilitation Council has been setup in states.
- 3) In tender, participating Micro and Small Enterprises (MSE) quoting price within price band of L1+15 (fifteen) per cent shall also be allowed to supply a portion of requirement by bringing down their price to L1 price in a situation where L1 price is from someone other than a MSE and such MSE shall be allowed to supply up to 25(twenty five) per cent of total tendered value. The 25(twenty five) per cent quantity is to be distributed proportionately among these bidders, in case there are more than one MSEs within such price band.
- 4) Within this 25% (Twenty Five Percent) quantity, a purchase preference of four (4) per cent is reserved for MSEs owned by Scheduled Caste (SC)/Scheduled Tribe (ST) entrepreneurs and three (3) percent is reserved for MSEs owned by women entrepreneur (if they participate in the tender process and match the L1 price).However, in event of failure of such MSEs to participate in tender process or meet tender requirements and L1 price,

four percent sub-target for procurement earmarked for MSEs owned by SC/ST entrepreneurs and three (3) percent earmarked to women owned by SC/ ST entrepreneurs:

- a) In case of proprietary MSE, proprietor(s) shall be SC /ST;
 - b) In case of partnership MSE, the SC/ ST partners shall be holding at least 51% (fifty-one percent) shares in the unit;
 - c) In case of Private Limited Companies, at least 51% (fifty-one percent) share shall be held by SC/ ST promoters.
- iv) If subcontract is given to MSEs, it will be considered as procurement from MSEs.
- v) In case of tender item cannot be split or divided, etc. the MSE quoting a price within the band L1+15% may be awarded for full/ complete supply of total tendered value to MSE, considering the spirit of the Policy for enhancing Govt. Procurement from MSEs.
- vi) To develop MSE vendors so as to achieve their targets for MSEs procurement, Central Government Ministries /Departments /PSUs shall take necessary steps to develop appropriate vendors by organizing Vendor Development Programmes (VDPs) or Buyer-Seller Meets focused on developing MSEs for procurement through the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) portal. In order to develop vendors belonging to MSEs for Public Procurement Policy, the Ministry of MSME is regularly organizing State Level VDPs and National Level VDPs under the Procurement and Marketing Support Scheme. For enhancing participation of MSEs owned by SCs/STs/ Women in Government procurement, Central Government Ministries/ Departments/ CPSUs have to take the following steps:
- a) Special Vendor Development Programmes/ Buyer-Seller Meets would be conducted by Departments/ CPSUs for SC/STs and Women.
 - b) Outreach programmes will be conducted by National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) to cover more and more MSEs from SC/STs under its schemes of consortia formation; and
 - c) NSIC would open a special window for SCs/ STs under its Single Point Registration Scheme (SPRS).
 - d) A National SC/ST hub scheme was launched in October, 2016, for

providing handholding support to SC/ST entrepreneur which is being coordinated / implemented by the NSIC under this Ministry.

- vii) Where any Aggregator has been appointed by the Ministry of MSME, themselves quote on behalf of some MSE units, such offers will be considered as offers from MSE units and all such facilities would be extended to these also.
- viii) This Policy is meant for procurement of only goods produced and services rendered by MSEs. Traders/ distributors/ sole agent/ Works Contract are excluded from the purview of the policy.
- ix) **Exemptions from the policy:** Given their unique nature, defence armament imports shall not be included in computing 25(twenty five) per cent goal for Ministry of Defence.

In addition, defence equipments like weapon systems, missiles, etc. shall remain out of purview of such Policy of reservation. Monitoring of goals set under the policy will be done, in so far as they related to Defense sector, by Ministry of Defense itself in accordance with suitable procedures to be established by them.

- x) To monitor the progress of procurement by Central Government Ministries/Departments and CPSUs from MSEs, Ministry of MSME has launched the MSME 'Sambandh'⁵ Portal on 8th December, 2017 for uploading procurement details by all CPSUs on a monthly and an annual basis which is regularly monitored by the Ministry.
- xi) To redress the grievances of MSEs related to non-compliance of the Policy a Grievance cell named "CHAMPION Portal" has been set up in the Ministry of MSME.

(Note: ¹ <http://www.dcmsme.gov.in/schemes/Listof358itemsReserved.pdf> ²Policy Circular No. 21(6)/2016-MA dated 26.05.2016

³<http://dcmsme.gov.in/pppm.htm.aspx>

⁴Notified vide OM No.F.20/2/2014-PPD(Pt.) issued by Department of Expenditure dated 29.09.2016.

⁵https://sambandh.msme.gov.in/PPP_Index.aspx

[Buyer is advised to refer latest guidelines, if any, issued by the Ministry/ Corporate Office].