Section IV: General Conditions of Contract (GCC)

Part I: General Conditions of Contract applicable to all types of Tenders

1. Definitions; Interpretation and Abbreviations: In the contract, unless the context otherwise requires:

1.1 Definitions and Interpretation:

- (i) "Contract" means the letter or memorandum communicating to the Contractor the acceptance of this tender and includes "Intimation of Award" of his tender; "Contract" includes Bid Invitation, Instructions to Tenderers, Tender, Acceptance of Tender, General Conditions of Contract, Schedule of Requirements, particulars and the other conditions specified in the acceptance of tender and includes a repeat order which has been accepted or acted upon by the Contractor and a formal agreement, if executed;
- (ii) "Contractor" or "Supplier" means the individual or the firm supplying the goods and services. The term includes his employees, agents, successors, authorized dealers, stockists, and distributors. Other homologous terms are: Vendor, Firm, Manufacturer, OEM etc.:
- (iii) "Drawing" means the drawing or drawings specified in or annexed to the Specifications;
- (iv) "Government" means the Central Government or a State Government as the case may be;
- (v) The "Inspecting Officer" means the person, or organisation specified in the contract for the purpose of inspection of stores of work under the contract and includes his/ their authorised representative;
- (vi) "Purchase Officer" means the officer signing the acceptance of tender and includes any officer who has authority to execute the relevant contract on behalf of the Purchaser;
- (vii) The "Purchaser" means SPMCIL the organization purchasing goods and services as incorporated in the documents;
- (viii) "Signed" includes stamped, except in the case of an acceptance of tender or any amendment thereof;
- (ix) "Test" means such test as is prescribed by the particulars or considered necessary by the Inspecting Officer whether performed or made by the Inspecting Officer or any agency acting under the direction of the Inspecting Officer;
- (x) The delivery of the stores shall be deemed to take place on delivery of the stores in accordance with the terms of the contract, after approval by the Inspecting Officer if so provided in the contract
 - a. The consignee at his premises; or



- b. Where so provided, the interim consignee at his premises; or
- c. A carrier or other person named in the contract for the purpose of transmission to the consignee: or
- d. The consignee at the destination station in case of contract stipulating for delivery of stores at destination station.
- (xi) "Writing" or "Written" includes matter either in whole or in part, in manuscript, typewritten, lithographed, cyclostyled, photographed, or printed under or over signature or seal, as the case may be.
- (xii) Words in the singular include the plural and vice-versa.
- (xiii) Words importing the masculine gender shall be taken to include the feminine gender and words importing persons shall include any company or association or body of individuals, whether incorporated or not.
- (xiv) 'The heading of these conditions shall not affect the interpretation or construction thereof.
- (xv) Terms and expression not herein defined shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Indian Sale of Goods Act, 1930 (as amended) or the Indian Contract Act, 1872 (as amended) or the General Clauses Act, 1897 (as amended) as the case may be.
- (xvi) "Parties": The parties to the contract are the "Contractor" and the "Purchaser", as defined above;
- (xvii) "Tender" means quotation / bid received from a firm / supplier.
- (xviii) "Goods" means the articles, material, commodities, livestock, furniture, fixtures, raw material, spares, instruments, machinery, equipment, industrial plant etc. which the supplier is required to supply to SPMCIL under the contract. Other homologous terms are: Stores, Materials etc.
- (xix) "Services" means services allied and incidental to the supply of goods, such as transportation, installation, commissioning, provision of technical assistance, training, after sales service, maintenance service and other such obligations of the supplier covered under the contract.
- (xx) "Earnest Money Deposit" (EMD) means monetary guarantee to be furnished by a Tenderer along with its tender.
- (xxi) "Performance Security" means monetary guarantee to be furnished by the successful Tenderer for due performance of the contract placed on it. Performance Security is also known as Security Deposit or Performance Bank Guarantee.
- (xxii) "Consignee" means the person to whom the goods are required to be delivered as specified in the Contract. If the goods are required to be delivered to a person as an interim consignee for the purpose of despatch to another person as provided in the Contract then that "another" person is the consignee, also known as ultimate consignee.

- (xxiii) "Specification" or "Technical Specification" means the drawing/ document/ standard that prescribes the requirement to which product or service has to conform.
- (xxiv) "Inspection" means activities such as measuring, examining, testing, analysing, gauging one or more characteristics of the product or service, and comparing the same with the specified requirement to determine conformity.
- (xxv) "Day" means calendar day.
- (xxvi) "Scheduled Commercial Bank" means a bank, defined as a scheduled bank under section 2(e) of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

1.2 Abbreviations:

AAEC	"Appreciable Adverse Effect on Competition" as per Competition Act
BG	Bank Guarantee
BL or B/L	Bill of Lading
BNPMIPL	Bank Note Paper Mill India Private Limited, Mysore
BRBNMPL	Bhartiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran Private Limited, Bangalore
CD	Custom Duty
CIF	Cost, Insurance and Freight Included
CMD	Chairman and Managing Director
CPSU	Central Public Sector Undertaking
CST	Central Sales Tax
CWBN	Cylinder-mould-Vat-made Watermarked Bank Note Paper
DDO	Direct Demanding Officer in Rate Contracts
DEA	Department of Economic Affairs
DoCC	Currency and Coins Division in Department of Economic Affairs
DP	Delivery Period
ECS	Electronic clearing system
ED	Excise Duty
EMD	Earnest money deposit
EOI	Expression of Interest (Tendering System)
ERV	Exchange rate variations
FAS	Free alongside shipment
FOB	Freight on Board
FOR	Free on Rail
GCC	General Conditions of Contract
GIT	General Instructions to Tenderers
GOI	Government of India
GST	Goods and Services Tax which will replace Sales Tax
H1, H2 etc	First Highest, Second Highest Offers etc in Disposal Tenders
Incoterms	International Commercial Terms, 2000 (of ICC)

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L1. L2 etc	First or second Lowest Offer etc.
LC	Letter of Credit
LD or L/D	Liquidated Damages
LSI	Large Scale Industry
NIT	,
	Notice Inviting Tenders.
NSIC	National small industries corporation
PQB	Pre-qualification bidding
PSU	Public Sector Undertaking
PVC	Price variation clause
RBI	Reserve Bank of India
RC	Rate contract
RFI	Request for Information
RFP	Request for Proposal
RFQ	Request for Qualification
RR or R/R	Railway Receipt
SBD or T E Document	(Standard) BID / Tender Document
SCC	Special Conditions of Contract
SIT	Special Instructions to Tenderers
SPM	Security Paper Mill, Narmadapuram, India
SPMCIL	Security Printing and Minting Corporation Limited
SSI	Small Scale Industry
ST	Sales Tax
VAT	Value Added Tax

2. Application

- 2.1. The General Conditions of Contract incorporated in this section shall be applicable for this purchase to the extent the same are not superseded by the Special Conditions of Contract (SCC) prescribed under Section V of this document.
- **2.2.** General Conditions of the contract shall not be changed from one tender to other.

2.3. Other Laws and Conditions That will Govern the Contract:

Besides GCC and SCC following conditions and Laws will also be applicable and would be considered as part of the contract:

- i. Indian Contracts Act, 1872
- ii. Sale of Goods Act, 1930
- iii. Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 and Arbitration and Reconciliation Amendment Act, 2015
- iv. Competition Act, 2002 as amended by Competition (Amendment Act), 2007
- v. 2071 Contractor's Tender Submissions including Revised Offer during Negotiations if any

- vi. Conditions in other parts of the Tender Documents
- vii. Integrity Pact signed in terms of the Tender Document
- viii. Correspondence including counter-offers if any; between the Contactor and SPMCIL during the Tender Finalization
- ix. Notification of award and Contract Documents
- x. Subsequent Amendments to the Contract

3. Use of contract documents and information

- 3.1. The supplier shall not, without SPMCIL's prior written consent, disclose the contract or any provision thereof including any specification, drawing, sample, or any information furnished by or on behalf of SPMCIL in connection therewith, to any person other than the person(s) employed by the supplier in the performance of the contract emanating from this tender document. Further, any such disclosure to any such employed person shall be made in confidence and only so far as necessary for the purposes of such performance for this contract.
- 3.2. During the process of procurement of Security or Sensitive Machinery and Items, Tender Documents and the specifications/ drawings of such items would be issued only to Vendors having security clearance within the validity of such clearance and he shall maintain absolute secrecy and strictly control the number of copies and access to the documents and copies thereof, in addition to safeguards mentioned in sub-para above.
- **3.3.** Further, the supplier shall not, without SPMCIL's prior written consent, make use of any document or information mentioned in GCC sub-clause 3.1 above except for the sole purpose of performing this contract.
- **3.4.** Except the contract issued to the supplier, each and every other document mentioned in GCC sub-clause 3.1 above shall remain the property of SPMCIL and, if advised by SPMCIL, all copies of all such documents shall be returned to SPMCIL on completion of the supplier's performance and obligations under this contract.

4. Patent Rights

4.1. The supplier shall, at all times, indemnify SPMCIL, free of cost, against all claims which may arise in respect of goods & services to be provided by the supplier under the contract for infringement of any right protected by patent, registration of designs or trademarks. In the event of any such claim in respect of alleged breach of patent, registered designs, trademarks etc. being made against SPMCIL, SPMCIL shall notify the supplier of the same and the supplier shall, at his own expenses take care of the same for settlement without any liability to SPMCIL.

5. Country of Origin

- **5.1.** All goods and services to be supplied and provided for the contract shall have the origin in India or in the countries with which the Government of India has trade relations.
- **5.2.** The word "origin" incorporated in this clause means the place from where the goods are mined, cultivated, grown, manufactured, produced, or processed or from where the services are arranged.

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6. Performance Bond/ Security

- 6.1. Within 21 (Twenty Days) in case of Non-GeM tenders and 14 (Fourteen Days) in case of GeM tenders days after the issue of notification of award by SPMCIL, the supplier shall furnish performance security to SPMCIL for an amount equal to 3% 5% of the total value of the contract, valid up to sixty days after the date of completion of all contractual obligations by the supplier, including the warranty obligations.
- **6.2.** The Performance security shall be denominated in Indian Rupees or in the currency of the contract and shall be in one of the following forms:
 - Account Payee Demand Draft or Fixed Deposit Receipt drawn on any commercial bank in India, in favour of SPMCIL as indicated in the clause 1 of NIT in reference to EMD.
 - b) Bank Guarantee (including e-PBG) issued by a commercial bank in India, in the prescribed form as provided in section XV of this document.
 - c) Insurance security bonds
 - d) Online Payments
- **6.3.** In the event of any loss due to supplier's failure to fulfil its obligations in terms of the contract, the amount of the performance security shall be payable to SPMCIL to compensate SPMCIL for the same.
- **6.4.** In the event of any amendment issued to the contract, the supplier shall, within twenty-one days of issue of the amendment, furnish the corresponding amendment to the Performance Security (as necessary), rendering the same valid in all respects in terms of the contract, as amended.
- **6.5.** Subject to GCC sub-clause 6.3 above, SPMCIL will release the performance security without any interest to the supplier on completion of the supplier's all contractual obligations including the warranty obligations.

7. Technical Specifications and Standards

7.1. The Goods & Services to be provided by the supplier under this contract shall conform to the technical specifications and quality control parameters mentioned in 'Technical Specification' under section vii and 'Quality Control Requirements' under Sections VII and VIII of this document.

8. Packing and Marking

- **8.1.** The packing for the goods to be provided by the supplier should be strong and durable enough to withstand, without limitation, the entire journey during transit including transhipment (if any), rough handling, open storage etc. without any damage, deterioration etc. As and if necessary, the size, weights and volumes of the packing cases shall also take into consideration, the remoteness of the final destination of the goods and availability or otherwise of transport and handling facilities at all points during transit upto final destination as per the contract.
- **8.2.** The quality of packing, the manner of marking within & outside the packages and provision of accompanying documentation shall strictly comply with the requirements as provided in

Technical Specification as per Section VII and Quality Control Requirements under Section VIII and in SCC under Section V. In case the packing requirements are amended due to issue of any amendment to the contract, the same shall also be taken care of by the supplier accordingly.

8.3. Packing instructions:

Unless otherwise mentioned in the Technical Specification as per Section VII and Quality Control Requirements under Section VIII and in SCC under Section V, the supplier shall make separate packages for each consignee (in case there is more than one consignee mentioned in the contract) and mark each package on three sides with the following with indelible paint of proper quality:

- a) contract number and date
- b) brief description of goods including quantity
- c) packing list reference number
- d) country of origin of goods
- e) consignee's name and full address and
- f) supplier's name and address

9. Inspection and Quality Control

- 9.1. SPMCIL and/ or its nominated representative(s) will, without any extra cost to SPMCIL, inspect and/ or test the ordered goods and the related services to confirm their conformity to the contract specifications and other quality control details incorporated in the contract. SPMCIL shall inform the supplier in advance, in writing, SPMCIL's programme for such inspection and, also the identity of the officials to be deputed for this purpose.
- 9.2. The Technical Specification and Quality Control Requirements incorporated in the contract shall specify what inspections and tests are to be carried out and, also, where, and how they are to be conducted. If such inspections and tests are conducted in the premises of the supplier or its subcontractor(s), all reasonable facilities and assistance, including access to relevant drawings, design details and production data, shall be furnished by the supplier to SPMCIL's inspector at no charge to SPMCIL.
- 9.3. If during such inspections and tests the contracted goods fail to conform to the required specifications and standards, SPMCIL's inspector may reject them and the supplier shall either replace the rejected goods or make all alterations necessary to meet the specifications and standards, as required, free of cost to SPMCIL and resubmit the same to SPMCIL's inspector for conducting the inspections and tests again.
- **9.4.** In case the contract stipulates pre-despatch inspection of the ordered goods at suppliers premises, the supplier shall put up the goods for such inspection to SPMCIL's inspector well ahead of the contractual delivery period, so that SPMCIL's inspector is able to complete the inspection within the contractual delivery period.
- **9.5.** If the supplier tenders the goods to SPMCIL's inspector for inspection at the last moment without providing reasonable time to the inspector for completing the inspection within the contractual delivery period, the inspector may carry out the inspection and complete the formality beyond the contractual delivery period at the risk and expense of the supplier. The

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- fact that the goods have been inspected after the contractual delivery period will not have the effect of keeping the contract alive and this will be without any prejudice to the legal rights and remedies available to SPMCIL under the terms & conditions of the contract.
- **9.6.** SPMCIL's contractual right to inspect, test and, if necessary, reject the goods after the goods' arrival at the final destination shall have no bearing of the fact that the goods have previously been inspected and cleared by SPMCIL's inspector during pre-despatch inspection mentioned above.
- 9.7. Goods accepted by SPMCIL and/ or its inspector at initial inspection and in final inspection in terms of the contract shall in no way dilute SPMCIL's right to reject the same later, if found deficient in terms of the warranty clause of the contract, as incorporated under GCC Clause 16.

10. Terms of Delivery

10.1. Goods shall be delivered by the supplier in accordance with the terms of delivery specified in the contract.

11. Transportation of Goods

- **11.1.** The supplier shall not arrange part-shipments and/ or transhipment without the express/ prior written consent of SPMCIL.
- **11.2.** Instructions for transportation of domestic goods including goods already imported by the supplier under its own arrangement: In case no instruction is provided in this regard in the SCC, the supplier will arrange transportation of the ordered goods as per its own procedure.
- 11.3. Shipping Arrangement for Foreign Contracts: In the case of FOB/FAS/FCA contracts, shipping arrangements shall be made by SPMCIL. The Contractor shall give adequate, notice to the Forwarding Agents/Nominees about the readiness of the cargo from time to time and at least six weeks' notice in advance of the required position for finalising the shipping arrangements. In the case of C&F/CIF/CIP contracts, the Contractor shall arrange shipment in accordance with the instructions from SPMCIL.
- 11.4. Airlifting: Should the Purchaser intend to airlift all or some of the stores the Contractor shall pack the stores accordingly on receipt of intimation to that effect from the Purchaser. Such deliveries will be agreed upon well in advance and paid for as may be mutually agreed.

12. Insurance:

- 12.1 Unless otherwise instructed in the SCC, the supplier shall make arrangements for insuring the goods against loss or damage incidental to manufacture or acquisition, transportation, storage, and delivery in the following manner:
- 12.2 In case of supply of domestic goods on CIF destination basis, the supplier shall be responsible till the entire stores contracted for arrive in good condition at destination. The transit risk in this respect shall be covered by the Supplier by getting the stores duly insured. The insurance cover shall be obtained by the Supplier in its own name and not in the name of SPMCIL or its Consignee.

- 12.3 In the case of FOB and C&F offers for import of Goods, insurance shall be arranged by the Purchaser. However, the supplier must give sufficient notice to the Purchaser prior to the date of shipment, so that the Insurance Cover for the shipment can be activated. The Supplier must co-ordinate so as to ensure that the Shipment sails only with Insurance cover in place.
- 12.4 In case of Import of Goods, even in case where the insurance is paid by the Purchaser, and loss or damage shall be made good by the Contractor free of cost, without waiting for the settlement of insurance claim. The payment after settlement of insurance claim shall be reimbursed by the Purchaser to the Contractor. It will be entirely the responsibility of the Contractor to make good loss/damage without waiting for settlement of insurance claim so that machine is commissioned within the time specified in the contract.

13. Spare parts

- **13.1.** If specified in the List of Requirements and in the resultant contract, the supplier shall supply/ provide any or all of the following materials, information etc. pertaining to spare parts manufactured and/ or supplied by the supplier:
 - a) The spare parts as selected by SPMCIL to be purchased from the supplier, subject to the condition that such purchase of the spare parts shall not relieve the supplier of any contractual obligation including warranty obligations; and
 - b) In case the production of the spare parts is discontinued:
 - i. sufficient advance notice to SPMCIL before such discontinuation to provide adequate time to SPMCIL to purchase the required spare parts etc., and
 - ii. immediately following such discontinuation, providing SPMCIL, free of cost, the designs, drawings, layouts, and specifications of the spare parts, as and if requested by SPMCIL.
- **13.2.** Supplier shall carry sufficient inventories to assure ex-stock supply of consumable spares for the goods so that the same are supplied to SPMCIL promptly on receipt of order from SPMCIL.

14. Incidental services

- **14.1.** Subject to the stipulation, if any, in the SCC (Section-V) and the Technical Specification (Section VII), the supplier shall be required to perform any or all of the following services.
 - a) Providing required jigs and tools for assembly, start-up, and maintenance of the goods
 - b) Supplying required number of operation & maintenance manual for the goods
 - c) Installation and commissioning of the goods
 - d) Training of SPMCIL's operators for operating and maintaining the goods
 - e) Providing after sales service during the tenure of the contract
 - f) Providing maintenance service after expiry of the warranty period of the goods if so incorporated in the contract

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14.2. Prices to be paid to the supplier by SPMCIL for any of the required incidental services, if not already included in the contract price during the placement of the contract, shall be settled



and decided in advance by SPMCIL and the supplier. However, such prices shall not exceed the contemporary rates charged by the supplier to other customers for similar services.

15. Distribution of Despatch Documents for Clearance/ Receipt of Goods

- **15.1.** The supplier shall send all the relevant despatch documents well in time to SPMCIL to enable SPMCIL to clear or receive (as the case may be) the goods in terms of the contract. Unless otherwise specified in the SCC, the usual documents involved and the drill to be followed in general for this purpose are as follows:
- **15.2.** For Domestic Goods, including goods already imported by the supplier under its own arrangement Within 24 hours of despatch, the supplier shall notify SPMCIL, consignee, and others concerned if mentioned in the contract, the complete details of despatch and also supply the following documents to them by registered post / speed post (or as instructed in the contract):
 - (a) Supplier's Invoice indicating, inter alia description and specification of the goods, quantity, unit price, total value;
 - (b) Packing list;
 - (c) Insurance certificate;
 - (d) Railway receipt/ Consignment note;
 - (e) Manufacturer's guarantee certificate and in-house inspection certificate;
 - (f) Inspection certificate issued by SPMCIL's inspector
 - (g) Expected date of arrival of goods at destination and
 - (h) Any other document(s), as and if specifically mentioned in the contract.
- **15.3.** For Imported Goods, within 3 days of despatch, the supplier will Notify SPMCIL, consignee and other concerned if mentioned in the contract, the complete details of despatch and also supply the following documents to them by Courier (or as instructed in the Contract), besides advance intimation by Fax/ email:
 - (a) Clean on-Board Airway Bill/Bill of Lading (B/L)
 - (b) Original Invoice
 - (c) Packing List
 - (d) Certificate of Origin from Seller's Chamber of Commerce
 - (e) Certificate of Quality and current manufacture from OEM
 - (f) Dangerous Cargo Certificate, if any.
 - (g) Insurance Policy of 110% if CIF/CIF contract.
 - (h) Performance Bond/Warranty Certificate

16. Warranty

16.1. The supplier warrants that the goods supplied under the contract is new, unused, and incorporate all recent improvements in design and materials unless prescribed otherwise by SPMCIL in the contract. The supplier further warrants that the goods supplied under the contract shall have no defect arising from design, materials (except when the design adopted and / or the material used are as per SPMCIL's specifications) or workmanship or from any act or omission of the supplier, that may develop under normal use of the supplied goods under the conditions prevailing in India.

- 16.2. This warranty shall remain valid for twelve months after the goods or any portion thereof as the case may be, have been delivered to the final destination and installed and commissioned at the final destination and accepted by SPMCIL in terms of the contract or for fifteen months from the date of despatch from the supplier's premises for domestic goods (including goods already imported by the supplier under its own arrangement) or for eighteen months after the date of shipment from the port of loading in the source country for imported goods offered from abroad, whichever is earlier, unless specified otherwise in the SCC.
- **16.3.** In case of any claim arising out of this warranty, SPMCIL shall promptly notify the same in writing to the supplier.
- 16.4. Upon receipt of such notice, the supplier shall, with all reasonable speed (or within the period, if specified in the SCC), repair or replace the defective goods or parts thereof, free of cost, at the ultimate destination. The supplier shall take over the replaced parts/ goods after providing their replacements and no claim, whatsoever shall lie on SPMCIL for such replaced parts/ goods thereafter.
- **16.5.** In the event of any rectification of a defect or replacement of any defective goods during the warranty period, the warranty for the rectified/ replaced goods shall be extended to a further period of twelve months from the date such rectified / replaced goods starts functioning to the satisfaction of SPMCIL.
- 16.6. If the supplier, having been notified, fails to rectify/ replace the defect(s) within a reasonable period (or within the period, if specified in the SCC), SPMCIL may proceed to take such remedial action(s) as deemed fit by SPMCIL, at the risk and expense of the supplier and without prejudice to other contractual rights and remedies, which SPMCIL may have against the supplier.

17. Assignment

17.1. The Supplier shall not assign, either in whole or in part, its contractual duties, responsibilities, and obligations to perform the contract, except with SPMCIL's prior written permission.

18. Subcontracts

- 18.1. The Supplier shall notify SPMCIL in writing of all subcontracts awarded under the contract if not already specified in its tender. Such notification, in its original tender or later, shall not relieve the Supplier from any of its liability or obligation under the terms and conditions of the contract.
- **18.2.** Subcontract shall be only for bought out items and sub-assemblies.
- **18.3.** Sub-contracts shall also comply with the provisions of GCC Clause 5 ("Country of Origin").

19. Modification of contract

- 19.1. Once a contract has been concluded, the terms and conditions thereof will generally not be varied. However, if necessary, SPMCIL may, by a written order given to the supplier at any time during the currency of the contract, amend the contract by making alterations and modifications within the general scope of contract in any one or more of the following:
 - (a) Specifications, drawings, designs etc. where goods to be supplied under the contract are to be specially manufactured for SPMCIL,

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- (b) mode of packing,
- (c) incidental services to be provided by the supplier
- (d) mode of despatch,
- (e) place of delivery, and
- (f) any other area(s) of the contract, as felt necessary by SPMCIL depending on the merits of the case.
- 19.2. In the event of any such modification/ alteration causing increase or decrease in the cost of goods and services to be supplied and provided, or in the time required by the supplier to perform any obligation under the contract, an equitable adjustment shall be made in the contract price and/ or contract delivery schedule, as the case may be, and the contract amended accordingly. If the supplier does not agree to the adjustment made by SPMCIL, the supplier shall convey its views to SPMCIL within twenty-one days from the date of the supplier's receipt of SPMCIL's amendment / modification of the contract.
- **19.3. Option Clause:** By a suitable provision in the SCC, The Purchaser reserves the right to increase/decrease the ordered quantity up to 25% at any time, till final delivery date of the contract (or the extended delivery date of the contract), by giving reasonable notice even though the quantity ordered initially has been supplied in full before the last date of Delivery Period (or the extended delivery period of the contract)

20. Prices

20.1. Prices to be charged by the supplier for supply of goods and provision of services in terms of the contract shall not vary from the corresponding prices quoted by the supplier in its tender or during negotiations, if any, and incorporated in the contract except for any price adjustment authorized in the SCC.

21. Taxes and Duties

- **21.1.** Supplier shall be entirely responsible for all taxes, duties, fees, levies etc. incurred until delivery of the contracted goods to SPMCIL.
- **21.2.** Further instruction, if any, shall be as provided in the SCC.

22. Terms and Mode of Payment: Unless specified otherwise in SCC, the terms of payments would be as follows:

- **22.1.** Unless otherwise specified in SCC, usual payment term is 100% on receipt and acceptance of goods by the Purchaser and on production of all required documents by the supplier.
- 22.2. For Domestic Goods: Unless otherwise specified in the SCC, payments to suppliers are usually made by account payee cheque or through ECS only. The tenderer shall give his consent in a mandate form for receipt of payment through NEFT (Section XIX); by attaching the same in the (Technical) Bid. Tenderer shall provide the details of Bank A/C in line with RBI guidelines for the same. These details will include Bank Name, Branch Name & Address, Account Type, Bank A/C No., and Bank & Branch Code as appearing on MICR cheque issued by bank. Tenderer shall also attach certificate from their bank certifying the correctness of all above-mentioned information. In case of non-payment through EFT, or where EFT facility is not available, payment may be released through cheque. The purchase order will contain the following details as furnished by the firm;

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- (i) Account no. & Type
- (ii) Bank Name & Code.
- (iii) Branch name & Address.
- (iv) Whether payment is through EFT or Cheque.
 - **22.2.1.** Where the terms of delivery is FOR dispatching Station, the payment terms, depending on the value and nature of the goods, mode of transportation etc. maybe 60% to 90% (as specified in SIT) on proof of despatch and other related documents and balance on receipt at site and acceptance by the consignee.
 - **22.2.2.** Where the terms of delivery is CIF destination/delivery at site/FOR destination, usual payment term is 100% on receipt and acceptance of goods by the consignee and on production of all required documents by the supplier.
 - **22.2.3.** Where goods to be supplied also need installation and commissioning by the supplier, the payment terms are generally as under:
 - (a) For a contract with terms of delivery as FOR dispatching station
 - i. 60% on proof of despatch along with other specified documents
 - ii. 30% on receipt of the goods at site by the consignee and balance
 - iii. 10% on successful installation and commissioning and acceptance by the user department.
 - (b) For a contract with terms of delivery as CIF destination/ Delivery at site/FOR destination
 - 90% of the machine cost on receipt and acceptance of goods by the consignee at destination and on production of all required documents by the supplier
 - ii. 10% of the machine cost and 100% of the installation, commissioning and training (ICT) cost on successful installation and commissioning and acceptance by the user department.
- **22.3.** For Imported Good: Unless otherwise specified in SCC, payments are made through an irrevocable Letter of Credit (LC).
 - (a) Cases where Installation, Erection and Commissioning (if applicable) are not the responsibility of the Supplier 80-100% NET FOB/FAS/CFR/CIF/CIP price is to be paid against invoice, shipping documents, inspection certificate (where applicable), manufacturers' test certificate, etc. and balance after receipt of goods and acceptance by the consignee/user department.
 - (b) Cases where Installation, Erection and Commissioning are the responsibility of the Supplier 80% 90% net FOB/FAS price (as specified in the SCC) will be paid against invoice, inspection certificate (where applicable), shipping documents etc. and balance within 21 30 days of successful installation and commissioning at the consignee's premises and acceptance by the consignee.

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- (c) Payment of Agency Commission against FOB/FAS/CFR/CIP/CIF Contract Entire 100% agency commission is generally paid in Indian Rupees; after expiry of 90 days after the discharge of all obligations under the contract and after all other payments have been made to the supplier in terms of the contract. Tax deduction at source is applicable to the agency commission paid to the Indian agent as per the prevailing rules.
- (D) If LC in not opened, payment can also be made to the seller through direct bank transfer for which seller has to provide all the required documents as specified in the contract.
- **22.4.** Unless specified otherwise in the SCC, the following general conditions will apply for payment to the supplier.
- 22.5. The payment shall be made in the currency / currencies authorized in the contract.
- **22.6.** The supplier shall send its claim for payment in writing as per Section XVIII "Proforma for Bill for Payments", when contractually due, along with relevant documents etc., duly signed with date, as specified in SCC and in a manner as also specified therein.
- **22.7.** While claiming payment, the supplier is also to certify in the bill that the payment being claimed is strictly in terms of the contract and all the obligations on the part of the supplier for claiming that payment has been fulfilled as required under the contract.
- **22.8.** The important documents which the supplier is to furnish while claiming payment are:
 - a) Original Invoice
 - b) Packing List
 - c) Certificate of country of origin of the goods from seller's Chamber of Commerce.
 - d) Certificate of pre-despatch inspection by SPMCIL's representative/ nominee
 - e) Manufacturer's test certificate
 - f) Performance /warranty certificate, if applicable
 - g) Certificate of Insurance
 - h) Clean on Bill of lading/ Airway bill/ Rail receipt or any other despatch document, issued by a government agency (like postal department) or an agency duly authorized by the concerned ministry/ department
 - i) Consignee's Certificate confirming receipt and acceptance of goods
 - j) Dangerous Cargo Certificate, if any, in case of Imported Goods.
 - k) Any other document specified.
- 22.9. While claiming reimbursement of duties, taxes etc. (like sales tax, excise duty, custom duty) from SPMCIL, as and if permitted under the contract, the supplier shall also certify that,GST in case it gets any refund out of such taxes and duties from the concerned authorities at a later date, it (the supplier) shall refund to SPMCIL, SPMCIL's share out of such refund received by the supplier. The supplier shall also refund the applicable amount to SPMCIL immediately on receiving the same from the concerned authorities.
- **22.10.** In case where the supplier is not in a position to submit its bill for the balance payment for want of receipted copies of Inspection Note from the consignee and the consignee has not

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complained about the non-receipt, shortage, or defects in the supplies made, balance amount will be paid by the paying authority without consignee's receipt certificate after three months from the date of the preceding part payment for the goods in question, subject to the following conditions:

- a) The supplier will make good any defect or deficiency that the consignee (s) may report within six months from the date of despatch of goods.
- b) Delay in supplies, if any, has been regularized.
- c) The contract price where it is subject to variation has been finalized.

d)	The supplier furnishes the following undertakings:
	"I/We, certify that I/We have not received back the Inspection Note duly receipted by the consignee or any communication from SPMCIL or the consignee about non-receipt, shortage or defects in the goods supplied. I/We agree to make good any defect or deficiency that the consignee may report within three months from the date of receipt of this balance payment or six months from the date of despatch whichever is later.

23. Delay in the supplier's performance

- 23.1. The time for and the date specified in the contract or as extended for the delivery of the stores shall be deemed to be the essence of the contract and the supplier shall deliver the goods and perform the services under the contract within the time schedule specified by SPMCIL in the List of Requirements and as incorporated in the contract.
- **23.2.** Subject to the provision under GCC clause 28, any unexcused delay by the supplier in maintaining its contractual obligations towards delivery of goods and performance of services shall render the supplier liable to any or all of the following sanctions besides any administrative action:
 - a) imposition of liquidated damages,
 - b) forfeiture of its performance security and
 - c) termination of the contract for default.
- 23.3. If at any time during the currency of the contract, the supplier encounters conditions hindering timely delivery of the goods and performance of services, the supplier shall promptly inform SPMCIL in writing about the same and its likely duration and make a request to SPMCIL for extension of the delivery schedule accordingly. On receiving the supplier's communication, SPMCIL shall examine the situation as soon as possible and, at its discretion, may agree to extend the delivery schedule, with or without liquidated damages for completion of supplier's contractual obligations by issuing an amendment to the contract.
- **23.4.** When the period of delivery is extended due to unexcused delay by the supplier, the amendment letter extending the delivery period shall, inter alia contain the following conditions:
 - a) SPMCIL shall recover from the supplier, under the provisions of the clause 24 of the General Conditions of Contract, liquidated damages on the goods and services, which the Supplier has failed to deliver within the delivery period stipulated in the contract.

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- b) That no increase in price on account of any ground, whatsoever, including any stipulation in the contract for increase in price on any other ground and, also including statutory increase in or fresh imposition of customs duty, excise duty, sales tax or on account of any other tax or duty which may be levied in respect of the goods and services specified in the contract, which takes place after the date of delivery stipulated in the contract shall be admissible on such of the said goods and services as are delivered and performed after the date of the delivery stipulated in the contract.
- c) But nevertheless, SPMCIL shall be entitled to the benefit of any decrease in price on account of reduction in or remission of customs duty, excise duty, sales tax or any other duty or tax or levy or on account of any other grounds, which takes place after the expiry of the date of delivery stipulated in the contract.
- **23.5.** The supplier shall not despatch the goods after expiry of the delivery period. The supplier is required to apply to SPMCIL for extension of delivery period and obtain the same before despatch. In case the supplier despatches the goods without obtaining an extension, it would be doing so at its own risk and no claim for payment for such supply and / or any other expense related to such supply shall lie against SPMCIL.

24. Liquidated damages

24.1. Subject to GCC clause 28, if the supplier fails to deliver any or all of the goods or fails to perform the services within the time frame(s) incorporated in the contract, SPMCIL shall, without prejudice to other rights and remedies available to SPMCIL under the contract, deduct from the contract price, as liquidated damages, a sum equivalent to the ½% percent (or any other percentage if prescribed in the SCC) of the delivered price of the delayed goods and/ or services for each week of delay or part thereof until actual delivery or performance, subject to a maximum deduction of the 10% (or any other percentage if prescribed in the SCC) of the delayed goods' or services' contract price(s). During the above-mentioned delayed period of supply and / or performance, the conditions incorporated under GCC sub-clause 23.4 above shall also apply. In all such cases GST would not be applicable on LD.

25. Custody and Return of SPMCIL Materials/ Equipment/ Documents loaned to Contractor

- **25.1.** Whenever stores are required to be issued to the firm/contractor for fabrication or prototypes or sub-assemblies are issued for guidance in fabrication, these would be issued against appropriate Bank Guarantee as specified in SCC. In addition to the Bank Guarantee, appropriate insurance may be asked if specified in the SCC.
- **25.2.** All drawings and samples issued to the contractor in connection with the contract must be returned by him. Final payment will be withheld if this is not done, besides any other sanction deemed fit by SPMCIL.

26. Termination for default

26.1. SPMCIL, without prejudice to any other contractual rights and remedies available to it (SPMCIL), may, by written notice of default sent to the supplier, terminate the contract in whole or in part, if the supplier fails to deliver any or all of the goods or fails to perform any other contractual obligation(s) within the time period specified in the contract, or within any extension thereof granted by SPMCIL pursuant to GCC sub-clauses 23.3 and 23.4.

- 26.2. In the event of SPMCIL terminates the contract in whole or in part, pursuant to GCC subclause 26.1 above, SPMCIL may procure goods and/ or services similar to those cancelled, with such terms and conditions and in such manner as it deems fit at the "Risk and Cost" of the supplier and the supplier shall be liable to SPMCIL for the extra expenditure, if any, incurred by SPMCIL for arranging such procurement.
- **26.3.** Unless otherwise instructed by SPMCIL, the supplier shall continue to perform the contract to the extent not terminated.

27. Termination for insolvency

27.1. If the supplier becomes bankrupt or otherwise insolvent, SPMCIL reserves the right to terminate the contract at any time, by serving written notice to the supplier without any compensation, whatsoever, to the supplier, subject to further condition that such termination will not prejudice or affect the rights and remedies which have accrued and / or will accrue thereafter to SPMCIL.

28. Force Majeure

- 28.1. A Force Majeure (FM) means extraordinary events or circumstance beyond human control such as an event described as an act of God (like a natural calamity) or events such as a war, strike, riots, crimes (but not including negligence or wrong-doing, predictable/seasonal rain and any other events specifically excluded in the clause). An FM clause in the contract frees both parties from contractual liability or obligation when prevented by such events from fulfilling their obligations under the contract. An FM clause does not excuse a party's non-performance entirely, but only suspends it for the duration of the FM. The firm has to give notice of FM as soon as it occurs and it cannot be claimed ex-post facto. There may be a FM situation affecting the purchase organisation only. In such a situation, the purchase organisation is to communicate with the supplier along similar lines as above for further necessary action. If the performance in whole or in part or any obligation under this contract is prevented or delayed by any reason of FM for a period exceeding 90 (ninety) days, either party may at its option terminate the contract without any financial repercussion on either side. Notwithstanding the punitive provisions contained in the contract for delay or breach of contract, the supplier would not be liable for imposition of any such sanction so long as the delay and/or failure of the supplier in fulfilling its obligations under the contract is the result of an event covered in the FM clause.
- **28.2.** Notwithstanding the provisions contained in GCC clauses 23, 24 and 26, the supplier shall not be liable for imposition of any such sanction so long the delay and/ or failure of the supplier in fulfilling its obligations under the contract is the result of an event of Force Majeure.
- **28.3.** In case due to a Force Majeure event SPMCIL is unable to fulfil its contractual commitment and responsibility, SPMCIL will notify the supplier accordingly and subsequent actions taken on similar lines described in above sub-paragraphs.

29. Termination for convenience

29.1. SPMCIL reserves the right to terminate the contract, in whole or in part for its (SPMCIL's) convenience, by serving written notice on the supplier at any time during the currency of the contract. The notice shall specify that the termination is for the convenience of SPMCIL. The notice shall also indicate inter-alia, the extent to which the supplier's performance

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- under the contract is terminated, and the date with effect from which such termination will become effective.
- **29.2.** The goods and services which are complete and ready in terms of the contract for delivery and performance within thirty days after the supplier's receipt of the notice of termination shall be accepted by SPMCIL following the contract terms, conditions, and prices. For the remaining goods and services, SPMCIL may decide:
 - a) to get any portion of the balance completed and delivered at the contract terms, conditions, and prices; and / or
 - b) to cancel the remaining portion of the goods and services and compensate the supplier by paying an agreed amount for the cost incurred by the supplier towards the remaining portion of the goods and services.

30. Governing language

30.1. The contract shall be written in Hindi or English language following the provision as contained in GIT clause 2. All correspondence and other documents pertaining to the contract, which the parties exchange, shall also be written accordingly in that language.

31. Notices

- **31.1.** Notice, if any, relating to the contract given by one party to the other, shall be sent in writing or by cable or telex or facsimile and confirmed in writing. The procedure will also provide the sender of the notice, the proof of receipt of the notice by the receiver. The addresses of the parties for exchanging such notices will be the addresses as incorporated in the contract.
- **31.2.** The effective date of a notice shall be either the date when delivered to the recipient or the effective date specifically mentioned in the notice, whichever is later.

32. Code of Ethics, Obligations, Penalties and Punishments

- **32.1. Code of Ethics**: Officers and staff of SPMCIL as well as Bidders, Suppliers, Contractors, and Consultants under SPMCIL contracts shall observe the highest standard of ethics and should not indulge in following prohibited practices, either directly or indirectly, at any stage during the procurement process or during execution of resultant contracts:
 - (i) "Corrupt practice" making offer, solicitation or acceptance of bribe, reward or gift or any material benefit, in exchange for an unfair advantage in the procurement process or to otherwise influence the procurement process; Anti-Bribery Management System (ABMS): By participating in this tender, the suppliers/Vendors/ Contractors are deemed to have undertaken that they shall not give or take, any financial or non-financial bribe, to or from anyone during the tender or during the execution of the contract thereafter and if they notice any such incident happening, they shall report it to Vigilance. (It shall be incorporated in all tender including GeM tenders)
 - (ii) "Fraudulent practice" any omission, or misrepresentation that may mislead or attempt to mislead so that financial or other benefit may be obtained, or an obligation avoided. This includes making false declaration or providing false information for participation in a tender process or to secure a contract or in execution of the contract;
 - (iii) "Anti-competitive practice" any collusion, bid rigging or anti-competitive

arrangement, or any other practice coming under the purview of The Competition Act, 2002, between two or more bidders, with or without the knowledge of the procuring entity, that may impair the transparency, fairness, and the progress of the procurement process or to establish bid prices at artificial, non-competitive levels;

- (iv) "Coercive practice" harming or threatening to harm, persons, or their property to influence their participation in the procurement process or affect the execution of a contract:
- (v) "Conflict of interest" –participation by a bidding firm or any of its affiliates who are either involved in the Consultancy Contract from which particular procurement is linked; or if they are part of more than one bid in the procurement; or if their personnel have relationship or financial or business transactions with any officer in Procuring entity, who are directly or indirectly related to tender or execution process of contract; or improper use of information obtained by the (prospective) bidder from the procuring entity with an intent to gain unfair advantage in the procurement process or for personal gain; and
- (vi) "Obstructive practice" materially impede procuring entity's investigation into allegations of one or more of the above mentioned prohibited practices either by deliberately destroying, falsifying, altering; or by concealing of evidence material to the investigation; or by making false statements to investigators and/or by threatening, harassing or intimidating any party to prevent it from disclosing its knowledge of matters relevant to the investigation or from pursuing the investigation; or by impeding the procuring entity's rights of audit or access to information;

32.2. Obligations for proactive disclosures:

- i) Procuring authorities as well as bidders, suppliers, contractors, and consultants, are obliged under this Code of Integrity to suo-moto proactively declare any conflict of interest (coming under the definition mentioned above pre-existing or as and when these arise at any stage) in any procurement process or execution of contract. Failure to do so would amount to violation of this code of integrity.
- ii) Any bidder must declare, whether asked or not in a bid-document, any previous transgressions of such code of integrity with any entity in any country during the last three years or of being debarred by any other procuring entity. Failure to do so would amount to violation of this code of integrity.

32.3. Penalties and Punishments

A particular violation of ethics may span more than one of above-mentioned unethical practices. Without prejudice to and in addition to the rights of the procuring entity to other penal provision as per the bid-documents or Contract, If the procuring entity comes to a conclusion that a (prospective) bidder or contractor directly or through an agent has violated this code of ethics in competing for the contract or in executing a contract, the procuring entity may take appropriate measures including:

- a) Rejection and exclusion of the bidder from the procurement process;
- b) Calling off of any pre-contract negotiations and forfeiture or encashment of bid security;
- c) Forfeiture or encashment of any other security or bond relating to the procurement;

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- d) Cancellation of the relevant contract and recovery of compensation for loss incurred by the procuring entity;
- e) Recovery of payments made by the procuring entity along with interest thereon at prevailing rate;
- Debarment of the bidder from participation in future procurements of the procuring entity.
- g) In case of Anti-competitive practices, information for further processing may be filed with the Competition Commission of India.
- h) Initiation of suitable disciplinary or criminal proceedings against any individual staff found responsible,

33. Resolution of disputes

When a dispute/ difference arise, both SPMCIL and the supplier shall first try to resolve the same amicably by mutual consultation. Normally, there should not be any scope of dispute between the purchaser and the supplier after entering into a mutually agreed valid contract. However, due to various unforeseen reasons, problems may arise during the progress of the contract leading to disagreement between the purchaser and the supplier. Therefore, the conditions governing the contract shall contain suitable provision for settlement of such disputes/ differences binding on both the parties. Mode of settlement of such disputes/ differences shall be through Arbitration. However, when a dispute/ difference arises, both the purchaser and the supplier shall first try to resolve the same amicably by mutual consultation. If the parties fail to resolve the dispute by such mutual consultation within twenty-one days, then, depending on the position of the case, either the purchaser or the supplier shall give notice to the other party of its intention to commence arbitration. When the contract is with domestic supplier, the applicable arbitration procedure will be as per Indian Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 as amended by Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act, 2015 and 2021. While processing a case for dispute resolution/litigation/ arbitration, the procuring entity is to take legal advice, at appropriate stages.

33.2 Arbitration Clause:

Having regard to legal complications, cost involved in litigation and difficulties in enforcing legal awards, if amicable settlement is not forthcoming, and recourse may be taken to settlement of disputes through arbitration as per The Arbitration and conciliation Act 1996. For this purpose, when the contract is a domestic supplier, a standard arbitration clause may be included in the SBD indicating the arbitration procedure to be followed in accordance with Indian Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 as amended by Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act, 2015. The venue of arbitration shall be the place from where the contract has been issued.

A. Arbitration and dispute resolution

- During operation of the contracts, issues and disputes arising due to lack of clarity in the contract become the root cause of litigation. Litigation has adverse implications on the timelines and overall cost of the project. Before resorting to arbitration/litigation, the parties may opt for mutual discussion, mediation, and Conciliation for the resolution of disputes.
- ii) Arbitration /court awards should be critically should be critically reviewed. In cases

where there is a decision against SPMCIL, the decision to appeal should not be taken in a routine manner, but only when the case genuinely merits going for the appeal and there are high chances of winning in the court/ higher court. There is a perception that such appeals etc. are sometimes resorted to postpone the problem and defer personal accountability. Casual appealing in arbitration / court cases has resulted in payment of heavy damages / compensation / additional interest cost, thereby causing more harm to the exchequer, in addition to tarnishing the image of the Government.

- iii) SPMCIL should monitor the success rate of appealing against arbitration awards. There should be a clear delegation to empower officials to accept arbitration / court orders. A special board / committee may be set up to review the case before an appeal is filed against an order. Arbitration /court awards should not be routinely appealed without due application of mind on all facts and circumstances including realistic probability of success. The board / committee or other authority deciding on the matter shall clarify that it has considered both legal merits and the practical chances of success and after considering the cost of, and rising through, litigation / appeal / further litigation as the case may be, it is satisfied that such litigation / appeal / further litigation cost is likely to be financially beneficial compared to accepting the arbitration / court award.
- iv) Statistics have shown that in cases where the arbitration award is challenged, a large majority of cases are decided in favour of the contractor. In such cases, the amount becomes payable with the interest, at a rate which is often far higher than the government's cost of funds. This results in huge financial losses to the government. Hence, in aggregate, it is in public interest to take the risk of paying a substantial part of the award amount subject to the result of the litigation, even if in some rare cases of insolvency etc. recovery of the amount in case of success may become difficult. Instructions have been issued in this matter in the past, but have not been fully complied with.
- v) The only circumstances in which such payment need not be made is where the contractor declines, or is unable, to provide the requisite bank guarantee and/or fails to open a escrow account as required. Persons responsible for not adhering to are liable to be held personally accountable for the additional interest arising, in the event of the final court order going against the SPMCIL.

B. Foreign Arbitration

The Arbitration and conciliation Act 1996 has provision for international commercial arbitration which will be applicable if one of the parties has its central management and control from any foreign country. The salient features of this law are: -

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- (a) The parties can choose either Indian or Foreign Law governing arbitration.
- (b) Minimization of interference of courts in stalling arbitration proceedings.
- (c) Arbitrator can be changed by mutual consent without approaching court.
- (d) Vesting of enhanced powers to arbitrator.
- (e) Clearly defining obligations of the arbitrator.

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(f) Arbitrators award to be enforceable as if it were a decree of court.



Purchase contracts with Foreign Firms should be in the form of self-contained agreements, especially for large value contracts or those for costly plant and machinery which involves elaborate erection & commissioning, trying out of capacity/ quality/ consumption rate/ time cycles warranty period etc. The venue of arbitration shall be in accordance with UNCITRAL or Arbitration Rules of India, whereby it may be in India or in any neutral country. When the contract is with foreign supplier, the supplier has the option to choose either Indian Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 as amended by Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act, 2015 or Arbitration in accordance with the provision of UNCITRAL (United Nations Commission on international Trade Law) Arbitration Rules.

Arbitration Awards

- i) In cases where the Ministry/Department has challenged an arbitral award and, as a result, the amount of the arbitral award has not been paid, 75% of the arbitral award (which may include interest up to date of the award) shall be paid by the Ministry/ Department to the contractor/ concessionaire against a Bank Guarantee (BG). The BG shall only be for the said 75% of the arbitral award as above and not for the interest which may become payable to the Ministry/Department should the subsequent court order require refund of the said amount.
- ii) The payment may be made into a designated Escrow Account with the stipulation that the proceeds will be used first, for payment of lenders' dues, second, for completion of the project and then for completion of other projects of the same Ministry/ Department as mutually agreed/decided. Any balance remaining in the escrow account subsequent to settlement of lenders' dues and completion of projects of the Ministry/ Department may be allowed to be used by the contractor/ concessionaire with the prior approval of the lead banker and the Ministry/ Department. If otherwise eligible and subject to contractual provisions, retention money and other amounts withheld may also be released against BG

34. Applicable Law

- **34.1.** The contract shall be interpreted in accordance with the laws of India.
- **34.2.** Irrespective of the place of delivery, or the place of performance or the place of Payments under the contract, the contract shall be deemed to have been made at the place from which the notification of acceptance of the tender has been issued.
- **34.3.** The courts of the place from where the notification of acceptance has been issued shall alone have jurisdiction to decide any dispute arising out or in respect of the contract.

35. Secrecy

- **35.1.** The Contractor shall take all reasonable steps necessary to ensure that all persons employed in any work in connection with the contract, have full knowledge of the Official Secrets Act and any regulations framed thereunder.
- **35.2.** Any information obtained in the course of the execution of the contract by the Contractor,; his servants or agents or any person so employed, as to any matter whatsoever, which would or might be directly or indirectly, of use to any enemy of India, must be treated secret and shall not at any time be communicated to any person.
- **35.3.** Any breach of the aforesaid conditions shall entitle the Purchaser to cancel the contract and to purchase or authorise the purchase of the stores at the risk and cost of the Contractor, In the event of such cancellation, the stores or parts manufactured in the execution of the contract shall be taken by the Purchaser at such price as he considers fair and reasonable and the decision of the Purchaser as to such price shall be final and binding on the Contractor.