



TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL-PAKISTAN

22nd February 2012

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Advisory Committee

Mr. Khushnood Lashari,
Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister,
Prime Minister House,
Islamabad.

1st REMINDER

Sub: Efforts to grant exemption to procurement of 19 million doses of measles vaccine from Public Procurement Rules 2004 proposed by the Board of PPRA on 23 February 2011 to award Contracts without Tendering – TI-P Letter dated 01st February 2012.

Dear Sir,

This is with reference to TI-Pakistan's letter dated 01st February 2012 regarding efforts to grant exemption to procurement of 19 million doses of measles vaccine from Public Procurement Rules 2004 proposed by the Board of PPRA on 23rd February 2011 to award contracts without tendering.

TI-Pakistan had referred to the news report published in "The News" on 29th January 2012 which mentioned that the PPRA Board as written a letter to the Prime Minister asking him to exempt the procurement of EPI vaccines from PPRA Ordinance 2002 and the Public Procurement Rules 2004 after the decision was taken in a meeting headed by Finance Secretary.

A complaint has also been received with a note of the Inter-Provincial Coordination (IPC) Ministry dated 21st December 2011 and PPRA recommendations along with confirming some allegations.


TI-P also raised the point that can there be only one bidder when 15 international manufacturers are approved by the World Health Organization for the pre-qualified vaccine producers in the world. It was also mentioned that the tender conditions appeared to be tailor made for one supplier, M/S Amson Vaccines and Pharma, which is a violation of Rule 10 of the Public Procurement Rules 2004.

It was also noted that UNICEF was able to procure the vaccines at Rs. 28.18 i.e. Rs. 13.14 less than the price quoted by M/S Amson Vaccines and Pharma.

TI-Pakistan is of the view that the Public Procurement Rules 2004 have been violated in all such past procurements of vaccines, by inserting conditions/specifications which were not acceptable to all the 15 WHO approved manufacturers and therefore are a violation of Rule 32.

TI-Pakistan again recommends that instead of approving the PPRA recommendations for exemption, open bidding shall be proposed by the Prime Minister, and the bid documents may be prepared with the help of UNICEF as UNICEF will also have to invite tenders if Government of Pakistan asks them to supply.

With Regards,


Syed Adil Gilani
Adviser

Copies forwarded for the information of:

1. Chairman, Public Accounts Committee, Islamabad.
2. Chairman, NAB, Islamabad.
3. Registrar, Supreme Court of Pakistan, Islamabad.
4. Auditor General, Islamabad.
5. Managing Director, PPRA, Islamabad.