

No.F.20/45/2020-PPD  
Government of India  
Ministry of Finance  
Department of Expenditure  
Procurement Policy Division

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Room No.512, Lok Nayak Bhawan,  
New Delhi dated the 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2021.

**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

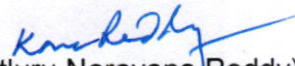
**Subject: Global Tender Enquiry under Rule 161(iv) of General Financial Rules (GFRs), 2017.**

Attention is invited to this Department's OM No. F.12/17/2019-PPD dated 15.05.2020 regarding amendment in Rule 161(iv) of General Financial Rules (GFRs) 2017 stipulating that no Global Tender Enquiry (GTE) shall be invited for tenders upto Rs.200 crore or such limit as may be prescribed by the DoE from time to time.

2. In partial modification to the above, it has now been decided that for procurement of specialized equipment required for research purposes, and spares and consumables for such equipments upto Rs. 200 crores for the use of Educational and Research Institutes, Secretary of Ministry/ Department concerned shall be the competent authority to approve issue of GTEs. The equipment should be of specialized nature required for research purpose and not the routine equipment used in offices.

3. Ministries/Departments are free to evolve procedure for evaluation of such cases for issuance of GTEs. Broad guidelines adapted from the D.O. letter dated 14.12.2020 from Principal Scientific Advisor(PSA) are attached herewith, which may be used as broad guidance for devising the procedure for evaluation of such GTE cases.

4. This issues with the approval of Secretary(Expenditure).

  
(Kotluru Narayana Reddy)  
Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India  
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To,  
Secretaries of all Ministries/Departments of Government of India.

**Copy to:**

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2. Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.  
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**Efforts to locate domestic suppliers**

Educational, Research institutions and other units will make full efforts towards reducing of imports in following manner. This will result in substantial effects both within the institutions and also through impact on the eco-system:

- (i) Identification of equipment being procured time and again from abroad, and help developing them in India by identifying potential manufacturers and providing them technical help and expertise for developing the equipment. This programme will be coordinated by the Empowered Technology Group (constituted by Cabinet and chaired by the PSA)
- (ii) Efforts to promote technology transfer through agreements or to encourage technological collaboration with foreign manufacturing in India at the Start-ups set up in Research Parks.
- (iii) Sharing and updating of information about the availability of research equipment across various Indian Institutes on a single portal (their I-STEM portal has been developed for this purpose) so that those can be utilized by the needy institutes.
- (iv) Without compromising quality, Institutes should indicate alternative/ equivalent technical specifications that could suit their requirement, so that there are more chances of local manufacturers participate in the tendering process.
- (v) Regular Interaction between academia and Indian industry organizations at the level of the institution about the requirement of equipment of foreign origin and for encouraging the domestic manufacturing.
- (vi) Regular requirement of proprietary/ non-proprietary research consumables may be assessed and domestic alternatives are explored for use.
- (vii) A national level programme for indigenous development of scientific equipment be initiated by the Office of PSA.
- (viii) Without compromising quality, Institutes should be flexible with specifications so that domestic manufacturers are encouraged to meet requirements.

**2. Guidelines for resorting to GTE :**

- (i) Market assessment should be done by the concerned institution, as certified by the Head of the Institution. Only after no Indian manufacturer is found, a GTE should be issued.
- (ii) In case no Indian manufacturer/ suppliers are found, procurement may be done, through GTE, subject to compliance of provisions of GFR and requirement of procurement through GeM.



- (iii) DEAN (R&D) or an appropriate authority within the institute will issue certificates as per para 3 below, before inviting GTE. As a reporting matter in the Board of Governors, such certificates should be tabled, and also shared with Office of the PSA, DPIIT and concerned Administrative Ministry.
- (iv) The information about the procurement of equipment should be shared across various Educational and Research Institutes, through the I-STEM portal, already established for this purpose by the PSA's office. This will allow the equipment to be used by other institutions too, for research purposes.
- (v) Analyze the equipment being procured time and again from abroad, and help developing them in India by identifying potential manufacturers and providing them technical assistance and expertise for developing the equipment. Half-Yearly reports on this action to be shared by the Institutes with the Office of the PSA, DPIIT and concerned Administrative Ministry. A national level scheme will also be initiated by the Office of PSA for indigenous development of scientific equipment.
- (vi) Preference to local suppliers over foreign supplier as per the existing GoI guidelines, should be observed as applicable.

### **3. Certificates to be issued**

- (i) Confirmation of non-availability in India of particular equipment/ consumables of foreign origin through Government e-Marketplace (GeM) and other sources;
- (ii) Certification that locally available alternatives with equivalent specifications are not suitable for research purposes;
- (iii) The non-availability of such equipment for research purposes with nearby research institutes or within the institute.
- (vi) Certification of the requirement of proprietary items of foreign origin for research purposes (where applicable).