

INFRASTRUCTURE CONSULTANTS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA



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Regd No: 01/01/01/24544/12 dated 07.01.2012

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Date: 23/07/2021

To,
The Secretary,
Ministry of Road Transport & Highways,
Transport Bhawan, 1 Parliament Street,
New Delhi- 110001
Email: Secy-road@nic.in



Sub: Proposal for making reforms in the tender process related with preparation of Detailed Project Report.

Respected Sir,

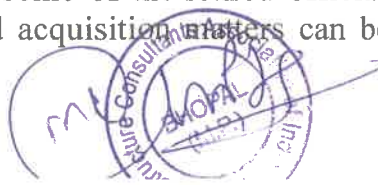
It is respectfully submitted that our association under the banner "Infrastructure Consultants Welfare Committee" registered with Government having registration No.01/01/01/24544/12 dated 07.01.2012 is working for welfare, betterment & growth, protection of interest and take up various burning issues. Our Association also impart trainings, organizes Seminars/Workshop/ Refresher courses for Consulting Engineers & Architects of the country to develop and share various new provision, orders and new technologies for skill enhancement and better coordination.

We have been receiving grievances from several of our members on delays occurring in most of DPRs projects. It has been told to us that most of the projects are getting delayed due to lack of coordination and support from Land Revenue Departments, Forest Departments and Electricity Boards. Many contracts related with preparation of Detailed Project Report are lingering from years on account of non-completion of these three activities which are basically related to liaisoning while the Preparation of Detailed Project Report is purely a technical job performed by the civil engineers and associated staff.

Many of our members have desired to initiate the proposal for bifurcation of preparation of DPR work into 4 parts:

1. Environment, Forest clearance and Wild life clearance
2. Land Acquisition
3. Utility Related Works
4. Preparation of Detailed Project Report

In our opinion based on the feedback of many consultants, Environment, Forest & Wild life Clearance can be handled efficiently by some of the retired officials from the post of forest conservator or equivalent. Similarly land acquisition matters can be handled effectively and



efficiently by the officials retired from the post of Additional Collector or some senior officers of the Revenue Department. Utility related works can be handled smoothly by the retired officers of State Electricity Boards.

We, on the advice received from several experienced consultants, suggest that the tenders for preparation of Detailed Project Report may be invited simultaneously in 4 parts. The whole process will bring immediate momentum in the progress of work during implementation stage. The technical portion of the tender will be handled by the technically qualified and experienced consultants who can handle the technical part of DPR very efficiently and effectively because the Director/Owner of the consultancy firms are usually Civil Engineers and they also employ many Civil Engineers who are technically competent to handle the preparation of technical part of DPRs. The progress of remaining three parts are entirely dependent on coordination of the officials of Ministry of Environment and Forest, Land Revenue Department and Electricity Boards. It is observed that the preparation of DPR is purely technical which are often completed by the consultants but they fail to get their work from these departments which are basically coordination work and result into non completion of contracts for many years in some cases. The consultancy firms generally do not have expertise to handle these types of coordination work and therefore generally not able to pursue those departments effectively for early clearance of their proposals. The priorities of Forest department, Land Revenue department and Electricity Boards are decided by the senior officers of their respective departments and clearance related works get low priority for them. Hence, the proposal has been mooted that the tenders of preparation of DPR may be bifurcated in four parts i.e the work of Environment/Forest clearance, Land acquisition and utility shifting work may be invited separately amongst the retired officials of Forest departments, Revenue departments and Electricity boards who are willing to provide their services on item rate contract / lump sum basis. There are several retired officers of these departments who are willing to provide their services independently. They have many contacts in the departments which they can usefully utilize in the execution of clearance related jobs and with the result these clearances will expeditiously completed.

Presently the consultants usually deploy retired officers of Forest departments, Land revenue departments and Electricity departments to get clearances from the respective departments. But, these retired Gazetted officers do not efficiently perform the coordination works under the administration of Consultants and which ultimately result in non-clearance of activities related to Forest, Land acquisition and utility. That is why the preparation of DPR works often get delay. On the other hand, if the coordination related works are awarded to the retired officers of these departments and agreements are executed for completion of works within a given time it is most likely that the entire works will be completed within the given time. We are confident that this process of preparation of DPR will take between 4 to 6 months, if the coordination work is separated from the technical portion of DPR preparation.

Sir, we on behalf of all the fellow members consultants appeal to your goodself that a policy decision to bifurcate the tender for DPR work into 4 portions as requested above may kindly be taken at the earliest. This will entail early preparation of DPRs which might ultimately prevent delays in completion of the projects which otherwise get delayed for want of Detailed Project Reports.



The image shows a handwritten signature in blue ink over a circular stamp. The stamp contains the text "Nature Consultants Association" around its perimeter. The signature is a cursive script that extends beyond the right side of the stamp.

Prayer

It is therefore prayed that the existing process of inviting tenders for preparation of detailed project reports may kindly be bifurcated on **experimental basis** in four parts namely 1) Technical part for preparation of DPR 2) Environment/Forest clearances related matters 3) Land Acquisition related matters 4) Utility related clearances and submission of estimates etc. It will bring remarkable improvement in downsizing the turnover time which will ultimately lead to completion of many projects earlier. We further request that if the DPR is completed expeditiously through the implementation of this process, it may kindly be continued.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,
For Infrastructure Consultants Association of India


(M.L. Gupta)
Secretary

