A-12026/07/2018-E.II (22629) Government of India Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation National Sample Survey Office (Field Operations Division)

Sankhyiki Bhawan, GPOA Building, CBD Shahdara, Near Karkardooma Court, New Delhi-110032 Dated: 21/12/2023

Order

Whereas M/s Orion Security Solutions Pvt. Ltd. having registered office at 5E, 1st Floor, Jungi House, Street No-5, Near BSES Power Station, Shahpur Jat, New Delhi- 110049 was awarded contract on 29.10.2018 to supply the manpower (11 no. of Field Officers, 70 no. of Field Investigators and 23 no. of Admn. Staff) on contract basis for the required augmentation of available staff for surveys of NSSO (FOD) North-East Zone.

Whereas subsequent to acceptance of terms & conditions by the agency, work order was issued vide letter of even No. dated 12.12.2018 to supply the aforesaid manpower w.e.f. 17.12.2018. The initial period of contract was one (01) year which has been subsequently extended till 25.02.2021.

Whereas the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed between the agency and NSSO (FOD) stipulates the following terms & conditions:-

- The agency is responsible for compliance of all statutory provisions related to Provident Fund and Employees State Insurance, Service Tax etc. in respect of persons deployed by the agency in NSSO (FOD) as per Para 11.1 of MOA and is responsible to deposit the amount of statutory obligations to the authorities concerned as per Para 11.2 of MOA.
- The agency is responsible to make full payment of salaries & other payments regularly as due to its personnel deployed in NSSO (FOD) and furnish necessary proof to NSSO (FOD), whenever required. The payment has to be made on or before 15th day of the following month or within 03 working days after receipt of payment from NSSO(FOD), whichever is later as per Para 13.6 of the MOA

Whereas Regional Offices of NSSO (FOD), North-East Zone have made payment of invoices of remuneration, service charges, taxes etc. submitted by the agency with respect to manpower deployed in NSSO (FOD) as per Para 13.1 & 13.6 of MOA.

Whereas the agency could not make the payment of salary to the contractual manpower deployed in NSSO(FOD) for the month of Jan'2021 & Feb'2021 as per Para 13.6 of MOA. On enquiring the status of payment of salaries to the contractual manpower by NSSO (FOD), the agency failed to submit any proof showing remittance of salary to the contractual manpower deployed in NSSO (FOD) for the month of Jan'2021 & Feb'2021 as per Para 13.7 of MOA.

Whereas the agency defaulted in payment of statutory deductions i.e. ESI, EPF with respect to manpower deployed in NSSO(FOD) as per Para 11.1 of MOA. The agency

also failed to submit the proof of challan/receipt issued by Regional Provident Fund Commissioner or ESI authorities as per Para 13.8 of MOA.

Whereas the agency was requested several times by concerned Regional Offices of NSSO (FOD) to fulfill the obligations meant for contract. Further, the agency has been instructed by FOD Headquarters vide letter of even No. dated 26/03/2021 to make payment of salary, ESI & EPF to the manpower deployed in NSSO(FOD) for all the concerned periods. Agency has been subsequently reminded vide email dated 07/04/2021 and letter dated 26/04/2021, 15/06/2021 and 20/07/2021. Sufficient opportunities were provided to the agency to fulfill the obligations, however, the obligations still remain unfulfilled.

Whereas the agency did not adhered to the instructions of NSSO (FOD) and didn't fulfilled the obligations. Accordingly, the agency was served Show Cause Notices dated 05/07/2021, 28/07/2021 and 28/09/2021 wherein clarification were sought from the agency for non-fulfillment of obligations and solicited reasons why the agency shouldn't be blacklisted and Bank Guarantee shouldn't be forfeited. However, no satisfactory reply was received from the agency.

Whereas ample opportunities of personally hearing were provided vide letter of even No. dated 29/12/2021. Thereafter, representatives of the agency were personally heard on 06/01/2022. The agency submitted its proposal vide letter No. OSSPL/OEC-1/2022/117 dated 13/01/2022 that obligations w.r.t. salary shall be fulfilled by 31/01/2022 and all other obligations by 30/06/2022. The proposal was considered and acceded to by the competent authority. However, the agency failed again to fulfill its commitments.

Whereas a final opportunity was provided to the agency vide letter of even No. dated 13/01/2023 to be personally heard before the competent authority on 23/01/2023 of which minutes of the meeting has been circulated vide letter of even No. dated 14/02/2023. However, no representative of the agency attended the meeting.

Whereas the agency vide email dated 12/07/2023 communicated that it would like to close all pending obligations which are due to its ongoing financial crunch and requested to visit in person to NSSO(FOD) Hqrs. Even then the agency failed to fulfill the obligations.

Whereas the Performance Security deposit submitted by the agency in form of Bank Guarantee amounting to Rs. 20,00,000 /- (twenty lakhs only) has already been invoked vide letter of even No. dated 10/07/2023. However, the obligations conveyed vide letter dated 19/12/2022 still pending at the end of agency.

Keeping in view the facts and merits of the case, the competent authority conferring to the power prescribed under Rule 151 of General Financial Rules (GFR), 2017 and the manner prescribed under "Guidelines on Debarment of firms from Bidding" issued vide O.M. No. F.1/20/2018-PPD dated 02/11/2021 of Dept. of Expenditure, M/o Finance has decided that M/s Orion Security Solutions Pvt. Ltd. having registered office at 5E, First Floor, Jungi House, Street No-5, Near BSES Power Station, Shahpur Jat, New Delhi- 110049 has been debarred from all the businesses of NSSO(FOD) for a period of 02 years from the date of order

due to non-adherence of terms & conditions of the signed agreement. Contacts concluded before the issue of this debarment order shall not be affected by this debarment order.

(Arum Kumar Yadav) Deputy Director General (Admn.)

To,

M/s Orion Security Solutions Pvt. Ltd., 5E, First Floor, Jungi House, Street No-5, Near BSES Power Station, Shahpur Jat, New Delhi- 110049.

Copy to:

- 1. Computer Centre, MOSPI with a request to upload the same on the website of the Ministry.
- 2. ADG, NSSO (FoD) for information.

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