

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 Rooman Technologies Pvt. Ltd. having its registered office at **130, Dr. Rajkumar Road, Ist Block, Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore-560010** was awarded contract on 04.01.2019 to supply the manpower equipped with tablet purely on contract basis for the required augmentation of available staff for surveys of NSSO (FOD), East Zone and South Zone as detailed below:

Sr. No.	Zone	Type of manpower			
		Field Officer	Field Investigators	Admin. Staff	Total
1	East Zone	91	507	35	633
2	South Zone	142	780	51	973

Whereas subsequent to acceptance of terms & conditions of Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed between NSSO(FOD) and the agency and work order was issued vide letter of even No. dated 30.01.2019 to supply the aforesaid manpower w.e.f. 01.02.2019. The initial period of contract was for one (01) year which has been subsequently extended till 25.02.2021 for South Zone and 31.08.2021 for East Zone.

Whereas it is expected service level that the agency shall deploy the manpower within 30 days of receipt of request from NSSO (FOD) and replace the personnel or tablet within 05 days of receipt of request from NSSO(FOD). In case of default on any or all such service levels, penalty @ Rs. 1,000/- per day shall be imposed by NSSO(FOD) for each person as per Para 8 of the MOA.

Whereas Regional Offices of NSSO(FOD) East Zone imposed penalties on the agency due to non-deployment/replacement of manpower or tablet, whichever the case may be, within the expected service level period. **However, the agency defaulted in payment of penalties amount to office of NSSO(FOD).**

Whereas 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 it in the NSSO as per Para 13.1 of MOA and

also responsible to deposit the amount to concerned authorities as per Para 13.2 of MOA.

Whereas Regional Offices of NSSO (FOD), South Zone and 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 15.6 of MOA. **However, the agency failed in making payment of statutory deductions i.e. ESI, EPF with respect to manpower deployed in NSSO(FOD) as per Para 13.1 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 15.8 of MOA.**

Whereas the agency was requested several times by concerned Regional Offices of NSSO (FOD) to fulfill the due obligations. 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 relevant period and deposit the amount of penalty at concerned office of NSSO(FOD). The agency was subsequently reminded vide email dated 07/04/2021 and letter dated 20/04/2021, 02/07/2021 respectively. **Accordingly, the agency made some payment in respect of salaries & ESI/EPF obligations due to the manpower deployed in NSSO(FOD). However, the agency did not make payment against the penalties imposed by the concerned Regional Offices.**

Whereas the agency failed to adhere to the instructions of NSSO(FOD) and didn't fulfill the obligations, accordingly, the agency was served Show Cause Notices dated 05/07/2021, 28/07/2021 and 24/08/2021 regarding the reason of non-fulfillment of obligations and solicited reasons why the agency shouldn't be blacklisted in participating in NSSO(FOD) activities. In response, the agency submitted its reply on 24/08/2021 which was considered and not acceded to by the competent authority. Accordingly, the agency vide letter of even No. dated 26/08/2021, 12/09/2021, 28/09/2021 and 19/12/2022 was again requested to fulfill its obligations. **However, the obligations still remain unfulfilled**

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 wherein the agency has been directed that entire amount of penalty may be deposited to the concerned Regional Office within 07 days vide minutes of the meeting circulated on 14/02/2023. The agency further raised its contentions vide letter dated 16/02/2023 which has been considered and not acceded to by competent authority and replied accordingly vide letter dated 01/03/2023. The pending obligations dues on part of the agency were again conveyed vide letter dated 19/12/2022 remains unfulfilled.

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 Rooman Technologies Pvt. Ltd. having registered office at 130, Dr. Rajkumar Road, Ist Block, Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore- 560010 has been debarred** from all the businesses of NSSO(FOD), MOSPI 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


(Arun Kumar Yadav)
21/12/2023
Deputy Director General (Admn.)

To,

M/s Rooman Technologies Pvt Ltd,
130, Dr. Rajkumar Road,
Ist Block, Rajaji Nagar
Bangalore-560010

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.

