

Quarterly
NEWSLETTER

Central Procurement
Technical Unit (CPTU)

GOODS
WORKS
SERVICES

Essence of Public
Procurement

- Transparency
- Accountability
- Non Discrimination
- Fair Competition
- Equal Treatment

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Public Procurement

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 22

Feb - April 2019

CPTU provides e-GP training to Ethiopian team



The Central Procurement Technical Unit (CPTU) has provided training on electronic government procurement (e-GP) to a foreign delegation at CPTU in Dhaka.

A nine-member Ethiopian e-GP team received the training from 18 March to 21 March 2019 from experts at CPTU of IME Division under the Ministry of Planning. *See Page # 2*

Mr. Md. Ali Noor takes over as DG CPTU

Additional Secretary Mr. Md. Ali Noor has taken over as the Director General of the Central Procurement Technical Unit (CPTU), IME Division, Ministry of Planning.

Before joining the CPTU on 26 February 2019, Mr. Ali Noor was the Managing Director of Jibon Bima Corporation since 7 May 2018. Earlier he worked as the Additional Secretary, Social Welfare Ministry.

Mr. Ali Noor is a member of the BCS 1986 batch of Administration Cadre. He performed in various government positions including Assistant Commissioner, Metropolitan Magistrate, Cantonment Executive Officer, Upazilla Nirbahi Officer, Additional Deputy Commissioner (General), Additional District Magistrate, Chief Executive Officer of Zilla Parishad, Controller of Examination (Bangladesh Public Service Commission), Joint Secretary, Fisheries and Livestock Ministry.

He passed SSC from Nababganj Pilot High School and HSC from the Dhaka College. Mr. Ali Noor obtained his Honours and post-graduation in Sociology from the University of Dhaka.



As part of training and official requirements, Mr. Ali Noor visited the USA, Canada, Australia, Italy, Sweden, China, Turkey, Thailand, Malaysia, Brazil, Vietnam, Bhutan, Tajikistan and the Philippines.

He comes of a respectable Muslim family of Bardhanpara village of Nababganj Upazilla in Dhaka district. Mr. Ali Noor and his wife have two daughters.

ITCILO Inception Mission under DIMAPPP held at CPTU



On 18 March 2019, Mr. Abul Mansur Md. Faizullah, ndc, Secretary in Charge, IME Division, attended as Chief Guest the Inception Mission of ITCILO with representatives of 32 selected public sector organizations at the Conference Room of CPTU.

The Director General of CPTU and Additional Secretary Mr. Md. Ali Noor, senior officials of CPTU and Engineering Staff College Bangladesh were also present in the meeting.

Lead Procurement Specialist, the World Bank and Task Team Leader of Digitizing Implementation Monitoring and Public Procurement Project (DIMAPPP) Dr. Zafrul Islam was present on the occasion. The CPTU has been implementing DIMAPPP with support from WB since 1st July 2017.

Director (Training and Coordination) Mr. Shish Haider Chowdhury conducted the inception meeting. There are four components in DIMAPPP. Mr. Haider leads the Component 3 that deals with Capacity Development, Professionalization and Citizen Engagement. The objective of the Inception Meeting was to have a thorough understanding about the needs of the SPSOs, CPTU and other stakeholders and to direct the CDP to that end.

The Secretary in Charge in his speech said that training is vital for practitioners of public procurement. "Project implementation often gets delayed due to various reasons including delay in procurement", he said, adding "We have to overcome the problem by enhancing efficiency and creating professionalization in the domain of public procurement in Bangladesh."

In his address of welcome the DG CPTU expressed the hope that through training the CPTU would be able to create a skilled workforce in public procurement in the country.

From Page # 1

Earlier, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Nepal, Afghanistan and Zambia visited the e-GP system of Bangladesh at CPTU. But the orientation for those countries was not as extensive as for Ethiopia that has started e-GP implementation.

On 18 March 2021, the Ethiopian team called on Secretary in Charge, IME Division, Ministry of Planning, Mr. Abul Mansur Md Faizullah, ndc at his office. The same day Director General of CPTU Mr. Md. Ali Noor chaired a meeting with the delegation at CPTU.

The Ethiopian delegation was led by Ms. Marta Luwigi, Director General of the Public Procurement and Property Disposal Service. Other members were from Ministry of Finance, National Bank of Ethiopia, Ministry of Innovation and Technology, Ethiopian Road Authority, Public Procurement and Property Administration Agency and the World Bank Ethiopia Office.

During the period Senior System Analyst Mr. Md Mosharraf Hussain, Senior e-GP Adviser Mr. Ashfakul Islam of CPTU, Deputy Team Leader of e-GP Operation and Maintenance Mr. Nazmul Islam Bhuiyan and Trainer Mr. Hasan Mahmud of Dohatec conducted various sessions on e-GP for the Ethiopian team. On 21 March 2019 the DG CPTU concluded the training.

The CPTU has been implementing e-GP with support from the World Bank since 2011 as part of the government's vision for digitizing all public services to improve the public service delivery.

Bangladesh participates in South Asia Public Procurement Conference in Bhutan



The Sixth South Asia Region Public Procurement Conference was held during 22 April - 25 April 2019 at Thimpu in Bhutan.

Director (Training and Coordination) of CPTU Mr. Shish Haider Chowdhury made a presentation on 23 April 2019 on Bangladesh Public Procurement System, Reforms and e-GP.

Senior System Analyst of CPTU Mr. Md. Mosharraf Hussain also made a presentation on e-GP system in the conference.

RHD wins awards

Senior System Analyst of Roads and Highways Department (RHD) Ms. Kazi Sayeda Momtaz won this year the South Asia Procurement Innovation Award for the entry she submitted for competition on Achievement of value for money and enhancement of efficiency-Document Archive System of RHD.

On the concluding day on 25 April, 2019, Ms. Momtaz and other winners in various categories received the award.

Muhammad Shariful Islam, Senior Assistant Engineer, Local Government Engineering Department, became Runner Up in the competition for his entry titled, "Institutional and Capacity Development of LGIs in Public Procurement Management with Knowledge Transfer Initiatives."

Earlier in 2017, Ms. Momtaz also won South Asia Procurement Innovation Award for her entry on Tenderers' Data Base in e-GP at RHD.

Contract signed: Citizen Portal on public procurement in the making



A contract was signed on 18 April 2019 between CPTU and Dnet on the development, establishment and maintenance of a citizen portal to disclose information on public procurement to citizens.

Director General of CPTU and Additional Secretary Mr. Md. Ali Noor and CEO of Dnet Mr. ABM Sirajul Hossain signed the contract at CPTU conference Room.

The Dnet will develop, install and maintain the citizen portal along with up-gradation and maintenance of CPTU Mobile App on public procurement and social media. It will also produce digital video contents and some success stories. The contract with Dnet will continue until June 30, 2022

The purposes of the Citizen Portal are as follows:

To disclose information on public procurement to citizens; to hear citizens' voice as public money is spent on public procurement; to create greater openness in the process of public procurement; to help establish good governance in public procurement; to establish open contracting data standard. In some categories CPTU will disclose the data in Jason format and also do analytics; policy-makers, researchers, students and others can take such data and analyze to understand procurement performance.

The Citizen portal on public procurement will remain linked to CPTU website. The portal will be updated with information from various sources like Government Tenderers' Forum (GTF), citizen engagement, e-GP, Public-Private Stakeholders Committee (PPSC) on public procurement etc.

Process to restructure CPTU as BPPA going on



An inter-ministerial meeting to review the draft of Bangladesh Public Procurement Authority (BPPA) Act was held at the IMED Conference Room on 25 April 2019 with Secretary in Charge, IMED, Mr. Abul Mansur Md Faizullah ndc, in the chair. Additional Secretary of IMED Mr. Mohammad Abdul Mannan and Director General (Additional Secretary) of CPTU Mr. Md. Ali Noor were present in the meeting. Director (Planning) of CPTU Md Shamimul Haque made a presentation on the draft Act.

Participants from various ministries gave their suggestions and opinions which CPTU will now accommodate for the next course of actions.

“New entrepreneurship should grow in public procurement”

Before 2014 he did not have that much idea about e-GP. He was only at his 34 at that time. But because of his keen interest and inquisitiveness, Md. Jahidul Hasan looked beyond his mobile phone business at Gopalganj.

What came into his mind is e-GP site of CPTU and its 24/7 Help Desk. He came to know about it from mass media campaign the CPTU conducted in 2013 and 2014. Jahid called the Help Desk and started to learn about e-GP system. In 2014 he got registered with e-GP as a tenderer.

The very first tender he won was in e-GP. The CPTU started digitization of public procurement from 2011. On June 2, 2011, Honorable Prime Minister opened the e-GP Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd). The World Bank has been supporting CPTU in implementing public procurement reforms since 2002.

Since his first award in 2014 Jahid did not look back. He became acquainted with e-GP and a brief training at his town provided by LGED could not add value for him because of his having good idea about the ICT based electronic procurement system. But he demands a certified training by which he can teach his fellows who are still lagging behind in his area.

Jahid said he has given orientation to about 150 local tenderers on e-GP. A master of management, Jahid said his main business is now to compete for government Works and Goods.

“At the beginning I faced some problems due to much older version of fire-fox for GP site. Such problems are now removed” Jahid said.

Having now a turnover of about taka 12 crore, all contract awards except one Jahid has won are in e-GP. Jahid appreciated the regular updates and advance notices now he gets from e-GP system. He demands tender submission through mobile apps in both android and ios. Jahid said some procuring agencies now hardly do LTM which is discouraging those who want to enter this profession. He said registration with e-GP and then again enlistment by agencies locally create problem for them. He suggested that agencies can mention particular area for the tenderers registered with e-GP for LTM.

Jahid has a plan to develop himself as an e-GP trainer by taking training from CPTU. He expressed the view that e-GP training for tenderers will also enable them to use computer and internet for other purposes. The IT skills will help them do business with government.

Case Study



Tenderers, procuring entities take interest in GTF



Tenderers and procuring entities in districts have expressed their keen interest in taking forward the Government-Tenderers' Forum (GTF) which have already been formed in 64 districts of the country. They reinforced the demand for making GTF sustainable through establishment of a central body titled "Bangladesh Government-Tenderers Forum" in presence of IMED Secretary and DG CPTU at a workshop held at the DC Office Conference Room in Chattogram on 7 April 2019.

Mr. Abul Mansur Md. Faizullah ndc, Secretary in Charge, IME Division, was present in the workshop as the Chief Guest. Mr. Md. Ali Noor, Director General of CPTU and Additional Secretary, was present as the Special Guest.

Dr. Zafrul Islam, Lead Procurement Specialist, World Bank, and Mr. Shish Haider Chowdhury, Director (Training and Coordination) of CPTU were also present at the workshop as Special Guests at DC Office Conference Room, Chattogram. Ms. Yasmin Parvin Tibriji, DD LG, Chattogram, presided over the workshop.

On 4 April 2019, Secretary in Charge, IME Division, and Director General of CPTU and Additional Secretary Mr. Md. Ali Noor attended another workshop as Chief Guest and Special Guest of GTF at the DC Office Conference Room in Mymensingh.

Additional Divisional Commissioner of Mymensingh Mr. Nirajan Debnath was present as the Special Guest. Director (Training and Coordination) of CPTU Mr. Shish Haider Chowdhury moderated the inaugural session. Additional District Magistrate Mr. Shomor Kanti Basak was in the chair. Mr. Md Shafiu Alam, Senior Communications Consultant of CPTU made the keynote presentation in both the workshops. Ms. Khadiza Bilkis, Senior Deputy Director of BCCP moderated the session of GTF Committee reconstitution. BCCP managed and facilitated it as the Consultant of CPTU.

Both tenderers and procuring entity officers made observations positively about the GTF. They also exchange ideas on e-GP and procurement procedures. The CPTU Director explained the legal provisions in reply to their queries.

DG CPTU opens three-week training at ESCB



Director General of CPTU and Additional Secretary Mr. Md. Ali Noor inaugurated the three-week training on public procurement management for government officers at ESCB Gazaria campus in Munshiganj on 3 March 2019.

About 30 participants from 11 government agencies are taking part in the training.

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Knowledge on public procurement needed for officers in missions abroad: DG CPTU



Director General of CPTU and Additional Secretary Mr. Md Ali Noor has said if officers posted in Bangladesh high commissions or embassies abroad are familiar with provisions of PPA and PPR, they can handle public procurement efficiently.

The DG CPTU made this observation while speaking at an orientation for five ERD officers on public procurement issues at CPTU on 11 April 2019.

The five officers have got posting to five missions in five countries. They came to CPTU to have an orientation on PPA, PPR and e-GP issues.

They are Mr. Md. Mahadee Hassan, Economic Minister, Washington, USA, Mr. Syed Rashedul Hossen, Economic Counselor, Bangkok, Thailand, Mr. Mohd. Rashedul Amin, Economic Counselor, New Delhi, India, Mr. Murtuza Zulkar Nain Noman, Economic Counselor, Riyadh, KSA, and Mr. Fakhruddin Ahamed, First Secretary (Economic), Brussels, Belgium.

The DG CPTU said, "Public money is spent on public procurement. So, we need to ensure value for money. And for that purpose it is essential to know procurement procedures."

He observed that the officers who got posting in Bangladesh high commissions and embassies would brighten image of the country through their efficient delivery of services.

In doing so they also need to have a clear conception about public procurement, he noted.

Director (Training and Coordination) Mr. Shish Haider Chowdhury and Director (Opinion) Mr. Masud Akhter Khan of CPTU, made presentations on public procurement and its procedures. Public Policy Implementation Adviser to DIMAPPP, CPTU, Mr. AKM Fazlul Karim also spoke on the occasion.

The officers expressed their satisfaction over the learning from CPTU and said they would maintain contact with CPTU experts from their foreign work places whenever they are in need of any support on public procurement issues.

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While speaking on the occasion as the Chief Guest the DG CPTU said that training is of utmost importance as public procurement is a technical subject.

He said CPTU has laid importance on capacity development and professionalization for the procuring agencies and also training for tenderers.

Until 30 April 2019, under DIMAPPP a total of 313 government officers received three-week training on public procurement. Of them 28 are female officers. Six courses have been held in Gazaria Campus and 4 in Dhaka campus of ESCB. The Capacity Development and Professionalization Consultant ITCILO has been providing the training in cooperation with ESCB. Meanwhile, the CPTU and ITCILO have adopted a six-month plan for July to December 2019 for three-week training. During the period, about 560 officers will receive three-week training.

There are 18 types of training under the Capacity Development and Professionalization component of DIMAPPP. More than six thousand stakeholders including tenderers will receive the trainings. These include basic procurement training, specialized procurement training, highly specialized procurement training, procurement management training, short training courses, junior level officers training, civil service officers training, auditors, accounts officers training, NBR officers training, orientation for the judiciary officials, orientation for the ACC officials, orientation for the journalists, orientation for Parliament officers, orientation for the elected representatives of local govt. institutions, business outreach program, workshop for policy level officials, workshop for the tenderer community/civil society and other kinds of workshops and refreshers courses. The Consultant will also prepare Disposal Policy, update training modules and Standard Tender Documents (STDs).

e-GP training continues



Amid fast growth of the e-GP adoption among procuring entities and tenderers since 2012, CPTU started capacity building of the major users of e-GP from beforehand. It is now going on. Until 30 April 2019, Dohatec New Media on behalf of CPTU provided e-GP training to a total of 16,389 users. Of them 9,337 are PE Users, 2,804 Organization Admin, 4,149 Tenderers and 99 are Bank Users.

DGDP team visits e-GP system at CPTU



Directorate General of Defence Procurement is going to digitize its procurement. As part of a learning process, a team of the DGDP led by Brigadier General Mr. Mohammad Mamun, PSC, visited e-GP system at CPTU on 2 April 2019.

Director General of CPTU and Additional Secretary Mr. Md. Ali Noor chaired a meeting on the occasion at CPTU.

The DGDP team leader said that the government had instructed the directorate to introduce online tendering system like e-GP which is being implemented by CPTU of IME Division, Ministry of Planning. "We are impressed by the e-GP operation", he observed adding, "We have come to see and learn from you."

Site-specific citizen monitoring begins

Under DIMAPPP, local citizen groups started site-specific citizen monitoring of contract implementation in public procurement process in 12 among 16 upazilas in April 2019 in the first phase. A team of CPTU and World Bank observed citizen engagement activities being implemented by BIGD at Chakaria and Lohagara Upazilas. On 30 April 2019 the team visited and heard the local citizens at Lohagara upazila in Chattogram. The citizen group there is monitoring the construction of a rural road.



From the editor



e-GP enhances public procurement performance

The ICT-based electronic government procurement (e-GP) over the last several years maintained a sharp growth in both value and volume. About 50 per cent of the total expenditures on public procurement are now conducted through the e-GP system.

The system is safe, secure and speedy. Procuring entities and tenderers have gladly accepted digitization of public procurement. Piloted in 2011, the e-GP started its journey in 2012. Since then with continuous simplification over time the system has earned trust of the users.

We are grateful to all concerned, particularly the Honorable Prime Minister for giving us an all-out support in achieving good results of the e-GP system.

Now there is no limit in terms of value for procurement through e-GP. Since its introduction, there has been procurement of goods and works in e-GP. Now we are going to introduce procurement of intellectual and professional services in e-GP. The Contract Management System (CMS) has also been developed and it is ready for piloting. Process has also been finalized to start inviting international tenders in e-GP.

The electronic procurement system being implemented by CPTU of IMED, Ministry of Planning, has drawn appreciation at home and abroad. Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Afghanistan, Zambia have already visited our system at CPTU.

In April, a nine-member government team from Ethiopia came to CPTU and received four-day training on e-GP operation.

In her valedictory speech in the last session of the 10th Parliament, the Honorable Prime Minister appreciated implementation of e-GP. The system has saved time and costs. It has contributed to improvement in the law and order. Performance of public procurement has improved as it has ensured transparency and accountability. Competition has increased which now 11 per tender against only 4 per tender before introduction of the system. More than 93 per cent contracts are being awarded within the tender validity period. Transparency has increased as 100 per cent of tender notices are published on the eprocure.gov.bd website and briefly in the press.

It is very heartening that the Roads and Highways Department has won twice the South Asia Procurement Innovation Awards for its Tenderers' Data Base and Document Archiving system in connection with e-GP.

It is expected that e-GP will significantly contribute to government's Vision for Building a Digital Bangladesh by 2021.



Published by

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