

E-Tendering

Background:

Tenders were being invited through newspapers, printed and sold through our offices, submitted to our offices in two envelope system, opened by our officers. Complaints were about some contractors not being able to purchase from our offices, some contractors not being allowed to fill and submit the tenders, contractors making a 'RING' as names of all purchasers of tenders could be known through office. Office problems included – how many tenders to be printed, opening of first envelope always to check qualification with similar papers, no effective way of blacklisting a contractor.

Vision:

To make tendering transparent, easy, 'ring-free'; making possible for all contractors to buy without having to come to office; registering contractors for effective control like black listing; reducing time of processing a tender.

Proposal:

To implement internet tendering – on a PPP basis, with private party hosting and maintaining a website – www.amctenders.com, registering all tenders – giving them account no and passwords, making compulsory digital signature, putting electronic payment gateway, allowing contractors to buy, fill and submit tenders on internet, opening tenders on internet. Private party charges 160 rupees extra from the contractor for every tender sold. Papers required in envelope no 1 are taken at the time of registration.

■ Benefits:

1. As contractors are not coming to corporation to buy tenders, nobody knows how many have been sold and who has purchased them. This has made the system totally 'RING-Free'.

2. There is no cost to the corporation as Private Party is making money through charging for tenders sold.
3. All the 'live' tenders are available for all to see, history of all the tenders filled is there for all to see always – great transparency.
4. All 'fights' as well as 'interference' stopped.
5. As information required for envelope 1 has already been checked, opening of tenders on internet takes just a fraction of a second. System produces one page report on tenders filled and their listing as per rates filled. Not only time has reduced considerably, thick files have been reduced to one pagers.
6. No printing of any tenders now. Tenders are given to Tender-Cell in electronic format.
7. Single tenders are also going below as no of buyers is unknown to all. Totalling single tenders gone below corporation has saved about 3.9 crores in one year. Cost of the project for the corporation is ZERO.

■ **Salient Features:**

1. Officers are happy as lots of head-ache has gone.
2. System got developed slowly and slowly over a period of one year as experience grew and now it is fully stabilized. With digital signature it is now 100% safe as well as confirms to all legal requirements.
3. For contractors who are not registered but wants to participate in a tender without coming to Aurangabad, temporary registration is available through net.
4. Some politicians and officers are some times not very happy with the systems as discretion becomes zero.
5. We have entered into the agreement with the private party that he can use this system for other corporations also, with the payment of 37 rs to AMC as royalty payment for each tender sold.

- 6. Most of the serious contractors are really happy as they have been saved from the blackmailing by unscrupulous contractors who used to buy only for the sake of taking money from 'Ring'.**
- 7. Now the system will survive as many corporators have understood the benefits in terms of time saved, officers have understood benefits of no stress and contractors have understood benefits of no blackmailing from anyone.**