No. 10/3/2012-PPC
Ministry of Finance
Department of Expenditure
Procurement Policy Division

North Block, New Delhi
Dated 3rd September, 2012

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: **Compliance of e-procurement Systems with DIT guidelines on Quality requirements**

This has reference to this Department's O.M. of even number dated 30th March 2012 vide which it was conveyed that the Ministries/Departments of the Central Government, their attached and subordinate offices would need to commence e-procurement in respect of all procurements with estimated value of Rs. 10 lakh or more in a phased manner as per the prescribed schedule. Further, option was also given to the procuring entities either to use the e-procurement solution developed by NIC or to continue to carry out e-procurement through other service provider/other e-procurement solutions developed in house, provided the conditions/guidelines envisaged in the O.M. referred to above are fulfilled.

2.   One such condition was to ensure that the e-procurement solutions meet the requirements notified by Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY) under the **"Guidelines for compliance to Quality requirements of e-procurement Systems" published on the e-Governance Standards Portal (http://egovstandards.gov.in).** In this regard, para 4.2 of the DIT Guidelines issued in August 2011 inter alia states that the audit for certification of the entire e-Procurement solution shall be undertaken after its deployment and prior to its usage. Further, CVC circular No. 01/01/2012 dated 12.01.12 also reiterates that DIT/STQC guidelines be used for compliance to "Quality requirements for certifying the e-Procurement Systems'.

3.   In this context, in consultation with DeitY, it has been decided that;

i.   Testing of e-Procurement solution will be conducted by Standardization Testing and Quality Certification (**STQC**) Directorate laboratories at Delhi, Bengaluru & Kolkata.

ii.   STQC can be directly contacted by the solution provider for testing/audit. The contact details in STQC for this purpose are available on the website of STQC (www.stqc.gov.in).

iii.   e-Procurement solution developed by NIC is also to be certified by STQC.

4.   All Ministries/Departments are therefore requested to ensure audit and testing of e-Procurement applications used by them and to obtain compliance certificate in this regard from STQC. Further, necessary instructions in this regard may also be issued to all attached and subordinate offices as well as to CPSE's, autonomous and statutory bodies under your administrative control.

(Yashashri Shukla)
Director (PPD)
011-23093457

To,

Secretaries of all Ministries/Departments

Copy to:

1.   **Secretary, Department of Information Technology**

2.   **DG (NIC), CGO Complex, New Delhi**

Copy also through e-mail to:

Nodal Officers of all Ministries/Departments