

श्रीकान्त सिंह

प्रमुख मुख्य सिगनल एवं दूरसंचार इंजीनियर

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No. N / SS / System Improvement / 2019



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Dated: 09.11.2020

SDGM/NER

Gorakhpur.

Sub: System Improvement regarding schedule of work.

Ref:- Dy.CVO/Elect's letter No. Z/13/SS/CVO-II/2016/34/PC/03dt. 24.08.2020

Vide letter under reference, the issue of subject matter was deliberated in consultation with field units (Divisions & Construction unit) and the emerging consensus within the department keeping in view the nature of S&T works the following view is communicated as systems improvement.

1. In S&T works, most of the high value items and machinery which are supply intensive like Signalling cables, Quad cables, OFC, IPS, Relays (mostly), DG sets etc are already being procured through Stores department.
2. The execution part of items being procured through Stores department is however covered in works contract which can be executed by any eligible contractor. The installation (cable laying, terminations, IPS installations, testing) & commissioning of items supplied through stores contact are covered in Schedule of works of most of contracts.
3. On the other hand in the works contract the schedule of work is divided into "Supply of Materials" and "Installations and/or commissioning of Equipments/Systems". The supplies of materials are mostly from RDSO approved firms after third party (RDSO/RITES) inspection and installations are done by OEMs for certain equipments. The other medium value and low value items taken in schedule are being installed and commissioned by the works contractor.
4. In order to safeguard Railway's interest and to make contractors more accountable, a condition of partial payment against supply of material is being incorporated (i.e. 80% of scheduled cost against supply of material and remaining 20% released only after commissioning). Thus, partial payment upto 80% value makes the contractor motivated to complete the execution and also enables him to mobilize financial resources keep him motivated and interested to complete the work as quickly as possible. Such measures are taken to avoid the cases of arbitration in the contract so that execution may not be affected.
5. It has been found very difficult to synchronize the availability of Signalling material (duly inspected by RDSO/RITES) with the execution time schedule. Prior availability of Signaling materials helps to facilitate fast execution once decision regarding time frame for commissioning of Yard remodeling, Doubling and Gauge Conversion is taken after various approvals from Operating, Engineering, Traffic & Safety organizations. Moreover, Commissioning of signaling system also involves multi layer approvals of various plans, drawings & circuits and CRC sanctions which sometimes take time beyond normal duration. Most of the time S&T works execution agency does not have any control on time frame for commissioning decisions.

6. In case supply and installation are linked for contract of targeted signaling and telecom works, contractor will tend to place order to RDSO approved supplier only after a confirmed decision regarding time frame of commissioning is frozen. Since orders for material are placed by various contractors from different zonal railways and RDSO approved suppliers are very limited, the supply schedule may not synchronize with commissioning and project may not adhere to specified time frame and target date for completion.
7. Over a period of time, except for some rare cases, present system has worked satisfactorily. Similar systems are being also adopted by other Zonal Railways.
8. However, system of keeping "Supply & installation of high value item as one item" in Schedule of works may be considered for certain passenger amenities works of Divisions, if found practicable by tender inviting authority as advised by GM(Vig.) that "as far as practicable supply and installation of high value items should kept as one item".
9. Efficiency of this system may be reviewed after a reasonable period of one year by taking feedback from various stakeholders.

Signed by Shrikant Singh

Date: 09-11-2020 13:25:34

Reason: Approved
(Shrikant Singh)

Principal Chief Sig. & Telecom. Engineer