



September 24, 2025

TL2025/0924/3A

General Manager,
Outsourcing Management Division,
(Procuring Division: Micro-Enterprise Policy & Program Design),
Lahore.

Subject: Violation of Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) Rules 2004, General Manager, Outsourcing Management Division, (Procuring Division: Micro-Enterprise Policy & Program Design), Lahore's Tender Notice for Consultancy Services of Training Service Providers (TSPs) Firms for Conducting Training on Financial Literacy of SMEs

Dear Sir,

This is with reference to your tender notice appeared in Daily 'Express' Newspaper on 21 September, 2025. The said advertisement is in violation of Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) Rules 2004, Rule No. 13 'Response Time'.

In the tender notice, the submission and opening date of bid is given on 02-10-2025, where it does not fulfill the fifteen days of response time, and is three (3) days less. It is a violation of Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) Rules 2004, Rule 13. The Rule is quoted below for your reference;

*13. Response time.- (1) The procuring agency may decide the response time for receipt of bids or proposals (including proposals for pre-qualification) from the date of publication of an advertisement or notice, keeping in view the individual procurement's complexity, availability and urgency. However, under no circumstances the response time shall be less than fifteen ***days for national competitive bidding and thirty ***days for international competitive bidding from the date of publication of advertisement or notice.*

General Manager, Outsourcing Management Division, (Procuring Division: Micro-Enterprise Policy & Program Design), Lahore is requested to rectify the given mistake and issue corrigendum in accordance with Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) Rules 2004 to avoid mis-procurement under Rule 50.

Transparency International Pakistan is striving for across-the-board application of Rule of Law, which is the only way to stop corruption, and achieve Zero tolerance against corruption.

Regards,


Advocate Daniyal Muzaffar,
Trustee/Legal Advisor
Transparency International Pakistan

Copies forwarded for the information with request to take action under their mandate to:

1. Managing Director, Public Procurement Regulatory Authority, Islamabad.
2. Chairman, Prime Minister Inspection Commission (PMIC), Islamabad.



Note:

This is to clarify that Transparency International Pakistan is not a complainant, it acts as a whistleblower and operate under Article 19-A, of the Constitution of Pakistan which gives the right to public to know how government is being run by public officers. Article 19-A makes the right to access of information pertaining to a public authority a fundamental right, and a three member bench in case of Mukhtar Ahmad Ali vs the Registrar, Supreme Court of Pakistan, Islamabad, headed by Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa in the landmark judgment on 16 October 2023, in CP No. 3532/2023, has declared that

"What previously may have been on a need-to-know basis Article 19A of the Constitution has transformed it to a right-to-know, and the Access to information is no longer a discretion granted through occasional benevolence, but is now a fundamental right available with every Pakistani which right may be invoked under Article 19A of the Constitution"



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)



For Consultancy Services of Training Service Providers (TSPs) Firms for Conducting Training on Financial Literacy of SMEs

1. SMEDA invites sealed electronic Expression of Interest (EOI) from Training Service Providers (TSPs) Firms for Financial Literacy of SMEs, who are registered on "e-Pak Acquisition and Disposal System (E-PADS)" and registered with relevant Tax Regulatory Authorities, capable to Design and Deliver Comprehensive Training Programs on selected topics under the indicative list of areas identified by SMEDA. Quality and Cost based method of selection will be used.
2. Electronic EOI Document containing detailed requirements, Terms and Conditions is available for the registered bidders on E-PADS at www.eprocure.gov.pk and SMEDA Website www.smeda.org.pk.
3. The Consulting Firms will be shortlisted for a period of three years from the date of finalization of shortlisted applicants, for the said services.
4. Notification of the GRC constituted in terms of Rule 48 of PPRA 2004 is provided on SMEDA Website www.smeda.org.pk and on E-PADS at www.eprocure.gov.pk.
5. In order to clarify the bidder's queries for the captioned work, a pre-bid meeting will be held at 1:00 PM on September 25, 2025, at the address mentioned below. Online link of the meeting will be provided upon request.
6. The proposals must be uploaded on e-PADS until October 2, 2025 by 12:30 PM and will be opened on the same day at 01:00 PM. SMEDA reserves the right to reject all offers in terms of Rule 33 of PPRA Rules.
7. Incomplete applications will not be entertained.
8. The Applicants must respond to all queries and provide complete information as advised in this document.
9. A Complete Set of Expression of Interest (EOI) Document is available at SMEDA Website (www.smeda.org.pk), PPRA (www.ppra.gov.pk) and E-PADS (www.eprocure.gov.pk) free of cost.
10. The firm can seek any clarification regarding the project, EOI Documents or Evaluation Criteria electronically, through E-PADS.

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(Procuring Division: Micro-Enterprise Policy & Program Design)
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