

भारत सरकार Government of India  
रेल मंत्रालय Ministry of Railways  
रेलवे बोर्ड (Railway Board)

No. 2024/RS(G)/164/33/IR

नई दिल्ली New Delhi Dated: 27.05.2024

The General Managers, All Indian Railways/PUs, NF(C), CORE  
DG/RDSO/Lucknow, NAIR/Vadodara,  
PCAO, DMW/Patiala, COFMOW  
CAO, WPO/Patna, RWP/ Bela.

**Sub.: Procurement of ISI marked products and avoiding floating of tenders indicating Specific Brand Names**

Ref: (i) Railway Board's letter No. 2021/RS(G)/164/IR dated 08.07.2022  
(ii) Railway Board's letter No. 2022/RS(G)/709/4 dated 09.04.2024

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Railway Board has received many references alleging procurement of goods by various Railway units specifying particular acceptable brands. These references are specifically numerous in cases related to procurement of winter jackets, retro reflective tapes etc. It is further alleged in these references that preference to brands is being given even when there are BIS specifications available for the goods being procured.

2. In this regard, a reference was also made to all Railways forwarding therewith a complaint alleging incorporation of conditions in specifications/tenders, suitable only to a few set of suppliers {{ref (i)}}, for examining the matter and taking corrective actions (copy enclosed).

3. Instructions have recently been issued vide ref (ii) (copy enclosed) reiterating all previous instructions issued on the subject and Railway units have been requested to ensure that Railway Board instructions to promote ISI marked products and for compliance with PPP-MII orders are implemented in letter and spirit.

4. In view of all above, it is stated that wherever ISI marked products are available, procurement will be restricted to ISI marked product only. Further, wherever BIS specifications are available, specifications shall not reflect any preference for any brand. Additionally, the description of the subject matter of procurement to the extent practicable should not indicate a requirement for a particular trade mark, trade name or brand.

5. Please ensure compliance.

  
(Chandan Kumar)  
Director Railway Stores(IC)  
Railway Board  
Email [drsic@rb.railnet.gov.in](mailto:drsic@rb.railnet.gov.in)  
Tel. No. 011 23047518

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CORE, WPO/Patna and RWP/Bela  
Sr. Prof. (Material Management), NAIR, Vadodara, ED (Stores), RDSO, Lucknow  
Chief Commissioner, Railway Safety, Lucknow  
Zonal Railway Training Institute, Sukadia Circle, Udaipur

### **Copy to:**

The Genl. Secy., AIRF, Room No. 248, & NFIR Room No. 256-C, Rail Bhavan  
The Secy. Genl., IRPOF, Room No. 268, FROA, Room No. 256-D & AIRPOA, Room No.  
256-D Rail Bhavan.

### **Copy to:-**

PSOs/Sr. PPSs / PPSs / PSs to :  
MR, MOSR(D), MOSR(J)  
CRB&CEO, M(TRS), M(Infra), M(O&BD), M(F), Secretary/RB, DG (RHS), DG (RPF),  
DG(HR), DG(Safety)

Advisor/MR, EDPG/MR, OSD/MR, OSD/Co-ord/MR and Additional PS/MR.  
All AMs, PEDs & Executive Directors of Railway Board.



भारत सरकार Government of India  
रेल मंत्रालय Ministry of Railways  
रेलवे बोर्ड (Railway Board)



No. 2021/RS(G)/164/IR

नई दिल्ली New Delhi, dated: 08.07.2022


The General Managers, All Indian Railways/PUs, NF(C), CORE  
DG/RDSO/Lucknow, NAIR/Vadodara,  
PCAO, DMW/Patiala, COFMOW  
CAO, WPO/Patna, RWP/ Bela.

- Sub.:** Regarding alleged monopolization in purchase of Rain Coats/Rain Suits and Winter Jackets by Zonal Railways.  
**Ref.:** Letter dated 20.04.2022 from Shri Rana Sudarshan Biswas, Advocate, for their client, Mangal Corporation, Kolkata (copy enclosed).

Please find enclosed herewith the letter under reference from Shri Rana Sudarshan Biswas, Advocate, for their client, Mangal Corporation, Kolkata wherein it has inter-alia been alleged that in procurement of raincoat and winter jackets, conditions have been introduced in the specifications/tenders which are suitable only to a few set of suppliers. It has also been alleged that the conditions are completely arbitrary and done in a manner to bar other bidders from participation except a select few. Citing a particular case of reflective tape used in these items, it has been stated that, despite availability of BIS standard (IS:15809-2017), selected brands of reflective tapes are being mandated along with condition of bid specific authority letter from these brands. The letter details how mentioning of these brands is restricting competition in public procurement which is against General Financial Rules, CVC Guidelines and other financial rules and guidelines. Similar case of winter jacket is also mentioned in the complaint.

2. You are requested to get the complaint examined in detail and remove any restrictive conditions which are against existing guidelines/rules for ensuring efficient and competitive procurement. Action taken may please be sent to Board.

DA: As above

  
(Chandan Kumar) 8.7.22  
Director Railway Stores/IC  
Railway Board

Copy to:

The PCMMs  
Zonal Railways/PUs  
CORE/Allahabad, COFMOW/New Delhi  
NF(C)/Guwahati, WPO/Patna, RWP/Bela  
ED(Stores)/RDSO, Lucknow &  
Sr. Prof. (MM)/NAIR, Vadodara





भारत सरकार Government of India  
रेल मंत्रालय Ministry of Railways  
रेलवे बोर्ड (Railway Board)



No. 2022/RS(G)/709/4

नई दिल्ली New Delhi Dated: 09.04.2024

The General Managers, All Indian Railways/PUs, NF(C), CORE  
DG/RDSO/Lucknow, NAIR/Vadodara,  
PCAO, DMW/Patiala, COFMOW  
CAO, WPO/Patna, RWP/ Bela.

**Sub.: Procurement of ISI marked products and avoiding floating of tenders indicating Specific Brand Names**

- Ref:
- Railway Board (RB) letter No. 99/RS(G)/709/4 dated 05.11.2015.
  - RB letter No. 99/RS(G)/709/4 dated 02.12.2016.
  - RB letter No. 99/RS(G)/709/4 dated 07.02.2018.
  - RB letter No. 2021/RS(G)/779/6(1) dated 22.05.2021.
  - RB letter No. 2022/RS(G)/709/4 dated 28.12.2022.

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1. Vide letter at ref. (i), instructions were issued, by Railway Board, to promote use of ISI marked products. These instructions were reiterated vide letters at ref. (ii) and (iii). The letter instructed purchase officers to ascertain whether ISI certified manufacturers were available for the item under procurement. Letter further mandates that in case such manufacturers were available, procurement will be restricted to ISI marked product only. Additionally, the letter states that if the order is placed directly on an ISI certified manufacturer, the material can be accepted on manufacturer's WTC and there will be no need for any third party inspection of ISI marked product from ISI certified manufacturer.

2. Public Procurement (Preference to make in India) Order, 2017 (PPP-MII) also emphasizes on adoption of Indian Standards. The same was reiterated by Railway Board vide letter dated 22.05.2021 (ref. iv).

3. Railway Board vide letter dated 28.12.2022 (ref. v) has circulated OM of Ministry of Commerce which provided examples of restrictive and discriminatory conditions against the local suppliers resulting in the tender document being non-compliant to PPP-MII order. Mentioning foreign brands either for finished products or for part of scope of work/ component of scope of supply has been specifically considered as restrictive and discriminatory technical specification. Therefore, mentioning foreign brands in scope of item being procured is a violation of PPP-MII order.

Contd./-

4. However, Railway Board is still receiving representations alleging non-compliance to above instructions by various procuring entities under the administrative control of Ministry of Railways.

5. In view of all above, all procuring entities are requested to ensure compliance to Railway Board instructions discussed above. Railway units shall ensure that Railway Board instructions to promote ISI marked products and for compliance with PPP-MII order are implemented in letter and spirit.

  
(Chandan Kumar)  
Director Railway Stores(IC)  
Railway Board

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Advisor/MR, EDPG/MR, OSD/MR, OSD/Co-ord/MR and Additional PS/MR.  
All AMs, PEDs & Executive Directors of Railway Board.