

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
FOOD & SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT
11A, MIRZA GHALIB STREET, KOLKATA-700087

No.727(Sanction)-FS/P/Sectt/GE&EM/4M-166/2015

Dated, Kolkata, the 17th December, 2015

ORDER

Government Food Depot at Cossipore, consisting of 74 godown-sheds having a capacity of 80,364 MT was set up for storage and distribution of foodgrains to cater to the need of ration card holders living in Statutory Rationing areas of Kolkata and its suburbs. With the creation of Food Corporation of India in 1966, the godowns were handed over to this organisation on hiring basis vide this Deptt. Order No.10118-F dated 26-11-1966 but the maintenance of infrastructure of the GFD complex rested on the Directorate of Storage.

2. With gradual dwindling of off-take of foodgrains in Statutory Rationing Areas and also corresponding reduction in allocation of foodgrains, the functions of F.C.I at Cossipore G.F.D where foodgrains were transported by movement of railway-rake started losing relevance. As a result more and more number of godown sheds remained unutilised.
3. In the meanwhile, West Bengal being declared a DCP State in respect of rice, the main procurement wing of the Deptt., i.e. West Bengal Essential Commodities Supply Corporation (WBECS) was allowed to step in Cossipore GFD where 15 godown-sheds were provided to them primarily for storage of procured rice.
4. In another subsequent development WBECS was entrusted with the responsibility, of executing petty maintenance of godown-infrastructure of Cossipore GFD, along with other godowns vide G.O. No.7150-FS dated 12.12.2011 with a view to increasing utilisation of optimum capacity which will earn higher amount of storage charges from Govt. of India. WBECS could not live up to the expectation.
5. In the meantime, volume of operations by F.C.I at Cossipore GFD having descended to a very low level, F.C.I decided to de hire all the 25 godown-sheds occupied by them and eventually they vacated the godowns and left Cossipore GFD in January, 2015.
6. Since then, it was under active contemplation of the Government in Food and Supplies Deptt. for optimum utilisation of entire space of Cossipore GFD through upgradation of existing infrastructure and West Bengal State Warehousing Corporation (WBSWC) now under the administrative jurisdiction of this Department having the expertise and potentiality of managing warehousing activities is considered suitable for the purpose.
7. Governor has, therefore, been pleased to order that the entire GFD complex at Cossipore which was so long administratively maintained by the Directorate of Storage will come under the administrative jurisdiction of West Bengal State Warehousing Corporation with effect from the date of issue of this order under the following terms and conditions.
8. WBSWC shall take-over the entire Cossipore GFD complex on "As is where is basis"

on renovation. Two other Rationing Offices now functioning from the GFD premises will continue to be located in the premises.

10. 15 godowns now the operational management of WBECSC will continue to remain so until further order.
11. While the sanctioned strength of staff for Cossipore GFD will nationally be retained by the Directorate of Storage, the existing staff of Cossipore GFD will render their services to WBSWC with their posting in Cossipore GFD, for a period of 6 months from the date of issuances of this order.
12. Though the storage space in Cossipore GFD is intended for maintaining PDS operation in greater Kolkata, going by the present run of PDS operations in Kolkata, there is no likelihood of usage of even 30 number of godowns for the purpose and as such leaving aside 25 number of godowns including 15 owned by WBECSC, WBSWC shall take all measures for usage of the balance 49 godowns for their warehousing activities.
13. To start with, WBSWC shall take immediate steps including issue of "Notice inviting Tender" for starting warehousing activities in at least in 20 godowns, found to be fit for use on minor repairing on "deemed to have been taken over" basis. Such godowns may be used for storage of commodities, other than PDS foodgrains; but the commodities must not have the effect of contaminating foodgrains.
14. For surveillance activities, WBSWC may engage 6 security staff through outsourcing on usual terms and conditions. F & S Department will re-imburse their salary for a period of 6 months only. During this period WBSWC shall develop their own infrastructure of warehousing operation at Cossipore GFD and attain financial sustainability for engaging required member of security staff.
15. Electricity charges shall be borne by the Department for a period of 6 months. Thereafter, WBSWC shall be liable to pay it. Local taxes, if any, are payable by WBSWC.
16. Some of the godowns being in a very dismal state will require thorough renovation for which WBSWC will request PWD having jurisdiction for submission of necessary estimate. If the estimated cost involves considerable sums, it will be funded by the Deptt. For day to-day maintenance of the GFD Complex and also for petty repairing works WBSWC shall arrange funding out of its own.
17. WBSWC shall ensure that no godown is used for storing commodities which may have even a semblance of contaminating effect on foodgrains.
18. No perishable goods which spread bad odour on being rotted shall be stored in any godown.
19. WBSWC shall submit to the department detailed statement of annual income and expenditure within 1 month from the expiry of a financial year.

This order issues in cancellation of this department order No.10118-FS dated 26.11.66 and No.7150-FS dated 12.12.2011.

Card
17/11/15

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. The Principal Accountant General (Audit), West Bengal, Treasury Buildings, Kolkata-700 001.
2. The Principal Accountant General (A&E), West Bengal, Treasury Buildings, Kolkata-700 001.
3. The Principal Accountant General (Receipt, Works & Local Bodies Audit), West Bengal, CGO Complex, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700091.
4. The Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Government of West Bengal, "Nabanna", 12th Floor, 325, S.C. Road, P.O.-Shibpur, District-Howrah, Pin-711102.
5. The Financial Advisor, M&SSE&T, F&S and CA Departments, 11A, Mirza Ghalib Street, Kolkata-700087.
6. The Managing Director, West Bengal State Warehousing Corporation.
7. The Managing Director, West Bengal Essential Commodities Supply Corporation Ltd.
8. The District Magistrate 24 Paraganas North.
9. The District Magistrate 24 Paraganas South.
10. The all Directors and Heads of the Department.
11. The Chief Engineer (HQ), P.W.D., NABANNA, 8th Floor, Howrah-711102.
12. The Chief Engineer (Electrical)-I, P.W.D.
13. The Executive Engineer, PWD, Bidhan Nagar Electrical Division.
14. The Director of Storage / DDP&S, Department of Food & Supplies.
15. The Pay & Accounts Officer, Kolkata Pay & Accounts Office, 81/2/2, Phears Lane, Kolkata-700012.
16. The Executive Engineer, North Suburban Division, PWD, 166/10, BT Road, 1st & 2nd Floor, Dunlop More, Kolkata-700108.
17. The P.S. to the Hon'ble M.I.C., Department of Food & Supplies.
18. The P.S. to the Commissioner, Food & Principal Secretary, Department of Food & Supplies.
19. The Budget Cell of this Department.
20. Guard File.

17/12/15
Secretary

to the Govt. of West Bengal

MD, SWE