# No. CE-RO/LKO/In-Principle Approved NH-91A,92, 97 & 28B/UP/2016-17/550 (Pkg-V) Government of India Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (North-II)

## Transport Bhawan, 1, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

Dated: 17.06.2025

The Authorized Signatory, M/s REDECON (INDIA) PRIVATE LIMITED, H-54A, Kalkaji, New Delhi - 110 019. E-mail: redecon1@gmail.com [Corporate office: E-49/4, Okhla Phase-II, New Delhi -110020]

Subject: Consultancy Services for feasibility study and preparation of Detailed Project Report for improvement and up-gradation of newly declared National Highways including existing NH-91A, NH-92, NH-97 & NH-28B in the State of Uttar Pradesh - Pkg-V [Stretch (i) Etawah - Bharthana - Bidhuna - Kannauj Road - NH-91A (ii) Bhogaon- Etawah - Gwalior - M.P.Border - NH-92 and length 178.43 Km.] -Penalty along with debarment - Reg.

### References:

To

(i) Letter of Acceptance dated 29.05.2017.

(ii) Contract Agreement no. 05-SE-NH Circle Kanpur/2017-18 dated 05.07.2017.

(iii) Consultant letter no DPR-NH(Newly declared)/Uttar Pradesh/2448/53 dated 03.07.2018.

(iv) Executive Engineer, NH Division, UP PWD, Etawah letter no -595/IC dated 04.07.2018.

(v) Superintending Engineer, NH Circle, UP PWD, Kanpur Show cause notice dated 06.08.2022.

(vi) Consultant letter no. DPR-NH (Newly Declared)/Uttar Pradesh/2448/119 dated 11.08.2022.

(vii) Chief Engineer (NH), UPPWD, Lucknow letter no. 3254NH/104N/18 dated 18.08.2022.

(viii) Ministry's letter no. CE-RO/LKO/NH-91A/UP/2019-20/577 dated 13.12.2022.

(ix) Executive Engineer, NH Division, UP PWD, Etawah Show cause notice dated 21.10.2024.

(x) Consultant letter no. DPR-NH (Newly Declared)/Uttar Pradesh/2448/153 dated 05.11.2024.

(xi) Ministry's letter no. CE-RO/LKO/NH(O)/17/NH-92/2021-22 (Computer No. 202620) dated 11.12.2024

(xii) Executive Engineer, NH Division, UP PWD, Etawah letter no. 10/1A/25 dated 06.01.2025

(xiii) Chief Engineer (NH), UPPWD, Lucknow letter no. 201NH/107N/21 dated 23.01.2025

(xiv) Executive Engineer, NH Division, UP PWD, Etawah Show cause notice dated 11.03.2025.

(xv) Consultant letter no. DPR-NH (Newly Declared)/Uttar Pradesh/2448/161 dated 24.03.2025

(xvi) Ministry's letter no. CE-RO/LKO/In-Principle Approved NH-91A,92,97&28B/UP dated 17.04.2025.

(xvii) Consultant letter no. DPR-NH (Newly Declared)/Uttar Pradesh/2448/163 dated 21.04.2025.

(xviii) Executive Engineer, NH Division, UP PWD, Etawah letter no. 377/7C/25 dated 06.05.2025.

(xix) Executive Engineer, NH Division, UP PWD, Etawah letter 378/6C/25 dated 06.05.2025.

#### Sir,

no.

Whereas, M/s Redecon (India) Private Limited ("the consultant") was engaged by the NH Wing, Uttar Pradesh State Government for Consultancy Services for feasibility study and preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for improvement and up-gradation of newly declared National Highways including existing NH-91A, NH-92, NH-97 & NH-28B in the State of Uttar Pradesh - Pkg-V [Stretch (i) Etawah - Bharthana - Bidhuna - Kannauj Road - NH-91A (ii) Bhogaon- Etawah - Gwalior - M.P.Border - NH-92 and length 178.43 Km.].

2.1 Whereas the DPR consultant submitted the DPR of the following works:

- i. Rehabilitation and upgradation to four lane road from km 70.500 to km 78.600 of NH-92 under EPC mode in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- ii. Widening & strengthening of section from Bharthana chowk to Kodarkoot (km 0.00 to km 40.00) of NH-91A in the state of Uttar Pradesh on EPC mode.

2.2.1 Whereas, Ministry had sanctioned the work of Rehabilitation and upgradation to four lane from km 70.500 to km 78.600 of NH-92 under EPC vide job no. CE-RO/LKO/NH-92/2021-22/628 dated 06.01.2022 for an amount of Rs.296.02 Cr as per the estimated cost submitted by the consultant which included items of land acquisition and environment clearance.

2.2.2 Whereas UP(PWD) reported that due to increase in the 3G award declared by CALA/Competent Authority, Etawah/Bhind under the land acquisition proceedings and the amount demanded by the Forest Department in lieu of forest clearance/wildlife clearance, the cost estimate has increased to Rs.351.78 Cr. The State PWD also reported that the DPR consultant had wrongly calculated the amount of land acquisition and forest clearance etc. at the time of preparing DPR for stretch from Km. 70.500 to Km. 78.600 of NH-92. Accordingly, there was variation in cost of LA & Forest Clearance, the variation proposal was sent to the Ministry. Revised Cost Estimate was sanctioned amounting to Rs.351.78 Cr vide sanction letter no. CE-RO/LKO/NH(O)/17/NH-92/2021-22 (Computer No. 202620) dated 11.12.2024.

2.2.3 Whereas deficiency in the services of DPR consultant was noted, Executive Engineer, NH Division, UP PWD, Etawah vide letter no. 927/6C dated 21.10.2024 issued show cause notice to the DPR consultant seeking a reply as to why penalty of 5% should not be imposed on it and debarment of the firm from future contracts of MoRTH should be initiated for the incorrect calculation of the cost of land acquisition and forest clearance & wildlife clearance at the time of approval of the subject work as per clause no. 7.3.1 and clause no. 7.4.2 of Consultancy agreement.

2.2.4 Whereas, in reply of the show cause notice, the consultant submitted his response vide letter no. DPR-NH (Newly Declared)/Uttar Pradesh/2448/153 dated 05.11.2024, that at the time of preparation of DPR, the cost of land acquisition was calculated by it at the rate of agricultural land in relation to the total affected land and by estimating the value of Multiplication factor mentioned in (RFCTLARR) Act, 2013 as 1.0. Further, the consultant has submitted that it has estimated the LA cost based on the nature of land at the time of submission of DPR. It has submitted that variation in LA cost is quite natural as the area assessed without joint verification may vary after joint verification with revenue authority.

2.2.5 Whereas, Executive Engineer, NH division, Etawah vide letter no. 10/1A/25 dated 06.01.2025 further reported that at the time of preparation of DPR, the DPR consultant ignored the non-agricultural land and calculated the cost of the total affected land at the rate of agricultural land and the cost of land acquisition was calculated erroneously by taking the value of Multiplication factor as 1.0. However, for non-agricultural land M.F is taken as 2.0 in the state of Uttar Pradesh as per (RFCTLARR) Act, 2013.

2.2.6 Whereas Chief Engineer (NH), UP PWD, Lucknow vide letter no. 201NH/107N/21 dated 23.01.2025 has recommended penalty of 5% and debarment of the firm from future contracts of MoRTH for a period of one year for the incorrect calculation of the cost of land acquisition and forest clearance & wildlife clearance in accordance with clause no. 7.3.1 and clause no. 7.4.2 of Consultancy agreement.

2.3.1 Whereas Ministry had sanctioned the work of "Widening & Strengthening of section from Bharthana Chowk to Kodarkoot (km 0.00 to km 40.00) of NH-91A in the State of Uttar Pradesh on EPC mode" vide job no NH-91A-UP-2019-20-577 dated 30.03.2020 for an amount of Rs.262.37 cr. on the basis of DPR submitted by the consultant.

2.3.2 Whereas, Superintending Engineer, NH Circle, UP PWD, Kanpur has issued show cause notice to the consultant to take action of debarment vide letter no. 1555C/162C-NHCK/17 dated 06.08.2022 regarding deficiency in service.

2.3.3 Whereas, Ministry on the basis of the proposal submitted by the State PWD through CE(NH) vide letter no. 3254NH/104N/18 dated 18.08.2022 had sanctioned the Revised cost estimate amounting to Rs.343.77 Cr. vide letter no. CE-RO/LKO/NH-91A/UP/2019-20/577 dated 13.12.2022. Increase in the project cost has occurred due to variation in cost of Land acquisition, tree cutting and utility shifting.

3.1 Whereas, attention is drawn to Ministry circular No.RW/NH-33044/24/2020-S&R (P&B) dated 06.01.2021 which stipulates Policy guidelines on action against the consultancy firms . Ministry in accordance with the para 9 of the circular and taking reference to Clause 7.3.1 "Penalty for Error/Variation" and Clause 7.4.2 "Warning/Debarring" constituted a three member committee for examining the matter with due diligence and to recommend action for acceptance of competent authority.

3.2. Whereas, the committee on the basis of proposal of Regional officer, Lucknow noted that on account DPR deficiencies Show Cause Notices were issued vide letter no. 927/6C on 21.10.2024 and the consultant responded with replies vide letter no. DPR-NH (Newly Declared)/Uttar Pradesh/2448/153 dated 05.11.2024. Further, Show Cause Notice was issued vide letter no. 1555C/162C-NHCK/17 on 06.08.2022.

3.3 Whereas, In accordance with circular No.RW/NH-33044/24/2020-S&R (P&B) dated 06.01.2021, committee vide letter dated 17.04.2025 gave another opportunity to the consultant to submit clarification in meeting to be held on 30.04.2025.

3.4 Whereas the representatives of the consultant M/s Redecon (India) Pvt. Ltd appeared in person in the meeting held on 30.04.2025 and made a power point presentation. The consultant also submitted letter no. DPR-NH(Newly Declared)/Uttar Pradesh/2448/161 dated 24.03.2025 and letter no DPR-NH(Newly Declared)/Uttar Pradesh/2448/163 dated 21.04.2025 to defy charges issued vide Show cause notice of State PWD. Para wise reply to these show cause notices were submitted by the State PWD vide letter no. 377/7C/25 dated 06.05.2025 & letter no. 378/6C/25 dated 06.05.2025.

3.5 Whereas committee in meeting held on 16.05.2025, examined the proposal submitted by RO MoRTH Lucknow and representations of Consultant in details and agreed with the recommendation of RO MoRTH Lucknow for debarment of one year and penalty of 5% of Contract agreement in accordance with clauses 7.3 and 7.4 of Contract Agreement for acceptance of competent authority. Minutes of Meeting held on 16.05.2025 is being conveyed to Consultant separately.

4. In light of the above stated facts, based on the recommendation of the committee the Competent Authority has approved the penalty to the tune of 5% of Contract value of the consultancy work and also debarment for a period of one year from all works of NH PWD/MoRT&H/NHAI/Centrally sponsored works in accordance with clauses 7.3 and 7.4 of Contract Agreement on *M/s REDECON (INDIA) PRIVATE LIMITED*.

5. The period of debarment shall be One Year from the date of issuance of this order.

6. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

Yours Sincerely,

(Subhash Chandra Meena) Assistant Executive Engineer (North-II) For DG(RD)&SS

## Copy to:

- i. NIC MORT&H, New Delhi- for uploading on Ministry's Website
- ii. The Chief Engineer, RO, MoRTH Lucknow
- iii. The Chief Engineer (NH), UP PWD, Lucknow.
- iv. The Superintending Engineer, NH Circle, UP PWD, Kanpur.
- v. The Executive Engineer, NH Division, UP PWD, Etawah.
- vi. IT Cell, NHAI for information and with request to upload this letter on their website.
- vii. NIC, NHIDCL for information and with a request to upload this letter on their website.