

No. 12014/3/2015/Goa/P-6
Government of India
Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
(Zone-IV)

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

Dt. 24.08.
2020

To,

M/s Bloom Companies LLC, USA in association with Credible Management & Consultant Pvt. Ltd. [Authority Engineer (AE) for the project mentioned in Subject below]

Subject: Collapse of scaffolding for the project of construction of approaches in km 531.934 to km 536.250 for Bridge across river Zuari of existing NH-17 (New NH-66) on Panjim-Mangalore section in the state of Goa (Package-III) on EPC mode.

Ref.: - Action Taken Report submitted by CE (NH,R&B) PWD Goa vide letter no. PWD/CE(NH,R&B)F.MORTH/2019-20/273 dated 27.02.2020.

Sir,

This is in reference to the collapse of scaffolding which took place on 13.03.2019 at the construction site of Zuari Bridge (Package-III).

2. State PWD has informed that the scaffolding system for one of span of flyover had fallen down on 13.03.2019. Ministry has taken the cognizance of the sad incident and appointed immediately an Expert Committee on 28.03.2019 for submitting a report incorporating causes for collapse of scaffolding ; suggesting remedial measures; assessing responsibility of various stake holders; review of design of temporary works; and suggesting preventive steps for avoiding such incidents in future etc.

3.1 The Committee observed that contractually the AE is required to review all the design submitted by the Contractor, as mentioned in schedule I, and clause of 9 Appendix B-3 on approach paper on methodology and work plan for performing the assignment. Therefore, the AE have role in review of design or inspection and approval of scaffolding works. The review of design and drawing of scaffolding by The AE shows many lapses, particularly with regard to awareness of IRC 87. From a core team comprising Senior Bridge Engineer and Structural Engineer, such lapses

are not expected particularly the standard of performance implies following all the code and specification.

3.2 The Authority Engineer need to monitor the execution of the construction work to confirm that the construction methods employed on the project are in accordance with sound engineering practice/IRC guidelines and are not likely to endanger permanent works or members of the public. AE is also required to be fully responsible for supervising the design, construction and maintenance and operation of the facility as per EPC Agreement, which implies that all Codes and Specifications must be followed. Therefore, there is direct responsibility of AE in designing of scaffolding. The review of the design and drawing of scaffolding by AE shows many lapses on his part including improper design of scaffolding system, allowing the erection of scaffolding system in variation to approved drawing and awareness/understanding of IRC:87.

4. A meeting was held on 21.08.2019 under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister (RT&H and MSME) which was attended by all the stakeholders including you to discuss this issue wherein it was directed to seek explanation from all stakeholders on this issue In this regard, State PWD vide letter dated 25.09.2019 and subsequently vide letter dated 18.02.2020 instructed you to submit an explanation addressing the issue of collapse of scaffolding for the above project. In response, you vide letter dated 25.02.2020 has submitted that all the corrective measures as stated above are being followed as a regular practice in this subject. You have assured that you have fully complied with the advice forwarded by the Investigation Report of the committee & SOP issued by Ministry vide letter no. RW/NH-12014/3/2015-Goa/P-6 (Zone-IV) dated 20.06.2019 as proposed by the committee and assure that no such incident will be repeated in future.

5. In the view of above, you are instructed to ensure that all remedial and precautionary measures must be taken at site by the Contractor and always stick to prescribed safety norms so that such incident is avoided in future otherwise deterrent action in accordance with contract agreement will be taken against you.

Yours faithfully,



(Praveen Kumar)
Assitt. Executive Engineer (Zone-IV)
For Director General(RD) & Spl Secretary

Copy for information to: -

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister (RT&H and MSME), New Delhi
2. APS to Hon'ble Minister of State (RT&H), New Delhi
3. PPS to Secretary, MoRT&H
4. PPS to DG(RD)&SS, MoRT&H

5. CE(Z-IV), MoRT&H

6. CE(NH) PWD Goa

7. CE-RO, RO MoRT&H Mumbai.

Copy to Director (NIC):It is requested to upload this letter on Ministry's website