OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Tender Sample Clause

The Commission has received complaints that some organizations, while procuring clothing and other textile items insist on submission of a tender sample by the bidders though detailed specifications for such items exist. The offers are rejected on the basis of tender samples not conforming to the requirements of feel, finish and workmanship as per the ‘master sample’ though the bidders confirm in their bids that supply shall be made as per the tender specifications, stipulated in the bid documents.

2. While it is recognized that samples may be required to be approved to provide a basis in respect of indeterminable parameters such as shade, feel, finish & workmanship for supplies of such items but system of approving/rejecting tender samples at the time of decision making is too subjective and is not considered suitable, especially for items which have detailed specifications. The lack of competition in such cases is also likely to result in award of contracts at high rates.

3. It is thus advised that Government Departments/Organizations should consider procurement of such items on the basis of detailed specifications. If required, provision for submission of an advance sample by successful bidder(s) may be stipulated for indeterminable parameters such as, shade/tone, size, make-up, feel, finish and workmanship, before giving clearance for bulk production of the supply. Such a system would not only avoid subjectivity at the tender decision stage but would also ensure healthy competition among bidders and thus take care of quality aspect as well as reasonableness of prices.

4. It is requested that these guidelines may be circulated amongst the concerned officials of your organization for guidance. These are also available on the CVC’s website, http://cvc.nic.in.

Sd/-
(A.K. Jain)
Technical Examiner
for Chief Technical Examiner

To
All CVOs of Ministries/Departments/PSUs/Banks/Insurance Companies/Autonomous Organizations/Societies/UTs.