



GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB  
MINES & MINERAL DEPARTMENT

Dated Lahore, the 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2023

**ORDER**

SUBJECT: - No. SOT(M&M)4-2/2022(ORDER 04/2023)- DIRECTIONS REGARDING CONDUCT OF OPEN AUCTIONS AND COMPETITIVE BIDDING PROCESS

Whereas, it has been observed that one of the fundamental jobs of the attached formations of Mines & Minerals Department is to conduct open auctions/ competitive bidding processes for grant of a variety of contracts & mineral lease agreements, like Royalty Contract, Excise Duty Contract, Grant of Minor Mineral & Small-Scale Mining Concessions etc.

2. **And, Whereas,** Fairness & Transparency are the core principles of high-quality open auctions.

3. **And, Whereas,** an open and transparent competitive bidding process improves competition, increases efficiency and reduces the threat of unfairness or corruption.

4. **And, Whereas,** a robust auction regime enables people to hold the Department and officers accountable, thereby reposing trust in a Department's working.

5. **And, Whereas,** appropriate method for improving transparency and efficiency is the use of online tools. Using **e-auction** for competitive bidding shall result in **increased transparency, efficiency, easy access to information, increased competition and lower costs.**

6. **Now, Therefore,** in order to ensure good governance in auction proceedings, following directions are issued to all the attached formations in general and specifically to the office of Director General Mines & Minerals, Punjab & Mines Labour Welfare Commissioner, for strict compliance:

- i. All the relevant laws, rules, regulations, procedures, relating to the open auction / competitive bidding process must be readily available to the prospective bidders. In this regard, a booklet/ **key book** may be developed and its **online availability** shall be ensured for the information of the intended bidders.
- ii. The details/ **status of all mining concessions**, contracts, whether granted or vacant, shall be made available to the public/ prospective bidders via website as well as **through online GIS Portal.**

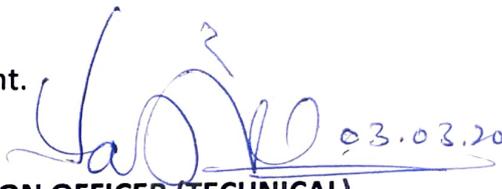
- iii. Advance **Tentative Auction Schedules** shall be prepared by the competent authorities, the details of which shall be shared with public at large through website as well as through online GIS Portal.
- iv. **Broad publicity** shall be given to the advertised Auction Schedules through press, social media & other electronic means
- v. The competent authorities shall accept or reject the received bids citing reasons.
- vi. **Secrecy** shall be maintained by the Secretary Auction Committees regarding the details/ list of registered bidders to **avoid the chances of pooling & collusive bidding**.
- vii. All the attached formations shall take necessary steps to **start e-auctioning** / online competitive bidding process within the next three months. In this regard, the initial plans shall be shared within next fifteen days, positively.
- viii. Prepare and update **details on an excel sheet**, incorporating details of all the running & Tentative Auction Schedules on an all-encompassing format **every Friday**.

**(BABAR AMAN BABAR) (PAS)**  
**SECRETARY**  
**MINES & MINERALS DEPARTMENT**

**No. & Date Even:**

A copy is forwarded to:

- 1) Principal Secretary to Governor, Punjab
- 2) Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, Punjab
- 3) All Commissioners in Punjab
- 4) Additional Secretary (Staff) to Chief Secretary, Punjab
- 5) Director General, Mines & Minerals, Punjab, Lahore
- 6) All Deputy Commissioners in Punjab
- 7) Chief Inspector of Mines, Punjab
- 8) Mines Labor Welfare Commissioner, Punjab
- 9) Managing Director, Punjab Mineral Development Corporation (PUNJMIN)
- 10) Chief Financial Officer, Punjab Mineral Company Pvt. Limited
- 11) PS to Secretary, Mines & Minerals Department
- 12) PA to Additional Secretary, Mines & Minerals Department.

  
03.03.2023  
**SECTION OFFICER (TECHNICAL)**