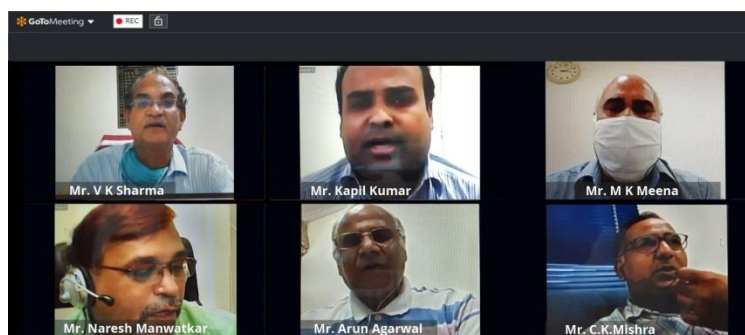


GeM - Government e Marketplace, Procurement Reimagined

Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi based on the recommendations of a group of secretaries, decided to set up a dedicated Government e Marketplace (GeM) for different goods and services procured by government organizations / departments / PSUs. This e Marketplace was created in a record time of five months. The GeM platform was developed to provide tools of e-bidding, reverse e-auction and demand aggregation to facilitate government users to achieve the best value for their money. In order to discuss the public procurement policy as well as benefits and registration process of GeM, World Trade Center Jaipur in association with MSME Development Institute Jaipur, Ministry of MSME, Government of India, Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL), Federation of Rajasthan Trade & Industry (FORTI) Jaipur and Laghu Udyog Bharti, Unit Behror organized a webinar on GeM portal to discuss new business opportunities for MSME's.

Mr. Navneet Agarwal, Assistant Director, World Trade Center Jaipur, in his opening remarks urged all participants to try and convert their challenges into opportunities and take maximum advantage of the GeM platform which is created to generate trade opportunities during the Covid-19 situation.



Chief Guest Mr. Arun Agarwal, Executive President, Federation of Rajasthan Trade & Industry (FORTI) Jaipur, Rajasthan, highlighting the very aim of Government E-Marketplace (GeM) said that “GeM is an e-commerce portal initiated and operated by the government to enable easy online purchase of consumer goods and services required by various government departments, organizations and public sector undertakings. The main objective of the GeM portal is to ensure transparency, efficiency and preparedness in procurement of supplies for the government.” Mr. Agarwal further added that “Government offices look forward to purchasing goods and services to meet their operations and office needs like any other private companies. Public procurement can be explained as the process by which central, state governments and public enterprises purchase goods and services from private traders and manufacturers. Strict procedures and rules must be followed to ensure that the procurement process is fair, efficient and transparent.”

In his keynote address Mr. V.K.Sharma, Director, MSME-DI, Jaipur, Ministry of MSME, Government of India, mentioned that “registering on the GeM portal will help sellers promote their business to the government which can be useful for the growth of private companies and vendors. All government offices have to fulfill their procurement requirement only by purchasing through registered vendors under GeM portal. One of the best features of the platform is that traders can sell their products to government buyers directly without bidding and at reasonable prices. The government has relaxed the terms and conditions for buying goods from start-ups and minimum paper work is required to get registered on the GeM portal.”

Earlier, in his welcome address, Mr. M. K. Meena, Dy. Director, MSME-DI, Jaipur, Ministry of MSME, Government of India, spoke about the transparency, effectiveness and speedy improvement of the online GeM portal, during the acquisition of essential goods and services. He further added that government officials have the freedom to search and purchase almost all goods and services on this portal.

Mr. Naresh Manwatkar, Assistant Director, MSME-DI Jaipur, Ministry of MSME, Government of India, elaborated on the process of vendor registration on the GeM portal. He also mentioned that GeM is dynamic, self-sustaining, user-friendly and a one-stop Government e-Market portal hosted by DGS&D, where common user goods and services can be procured by government officers. Mr. Manwatkar highlighted that public procurement forms a very important part of government activity and reform in public procurement is one of the top priorities of the present government. He also applauded the bold step taken by the government in creating GeM, with the aim to transform the way goods and services are procured by the government ministries and departments, public sector undertakings and other apex autonomous bodies of the central government.

Sessions expert speaker Mr. Kapil Kumar, Manager-Contracts Management, Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd., Rawatbhata, Rajasthan, made a presentation on how NPCIL helps in the growth of new startups by continuously expanding the basket of products and services it procures from the GeM portal. He informed that to improve fair participation in Bid / RA, GeM now ensures that at least 3 sellers have participated and offer products from at least two different OEMs. In case buyer wants to proceed with less than three resellers or two OEMs/Brand, they have to upload approval from a competent authority.

Mr. Kapil and Mr. Manwatkar also responded to queries on direct / L1 purchase, payment processing dashboards and filter, among others.

Vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Dinesh Soni, Assistant Director, MSME-DI Jaipur, Ministry of MSME, Government of India.

The webinar was held on September 3, 2020