

**Government of Bihar**  
**Public Health Engineering Department**

Letter No.: 6B/Vi.1097/2019 - 922

From,

**Daya Shankar Mishra,**  
Engineer-in-Chief-Cum-Special Secretary

To,

**The Chief Editor,**  
Indian Express, New Delhi.

Patna/Date: 22.09.2021

**Subject: The actual facts with respect to a news published in Indian Express and Jansatta on 22.09.2021**

Sir,

A news article was published in Indian Express on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2021 with the heading 'Bihar's flagship scheme gave tap water to poor and contracts worth Rs. 53 crore to Dy CM's family, aides'.

In this regard the department would like to point out that the actual status of the implementation of 'Har Ghar Nal Jal' Schemes in Katihar district has been carried out with a transparent 'tendering process' as per the provisions laid down in PWD Code and Rules enforced by the Government.

The facts related to implementation of 'Har Ghar Nal Ka Jal' are as below:

- The Contract awarding is done through a transparent process and it is based on the PWD Codal Provisions and financial rules enforced by the State Government.
- This contracting process is carried out through a process of 'open tendering' on the e-procurement online tender gateway of the State. The entire tendering process is online and it is managed by the State Procurement Agency BELTRON. There is no way of external intervention in the process. The tender invitation notice is published through various newspapers as per the advertisement policy of State.
- The evaluation of tenders is carried on the information and document received through the online portal only by a Scrutiny Committee as prescribed in the policy approved by the State Government.
- The qualification criteria of each bid are well defined in the Bid Documents which are duly reviewed from time to time and approved by the authority as per codal provisions.
- Only technically qualified bidder enters in the financial bid assessment process and bid is awarded to the Lowest (L-1) one bidder.
- A three tier structure for Quality Control and Quality Assurance System has been set up. The first tier consists of departmental supervision by Executive Engineers, Superintending Engineers and Chief Engineers. The second tier consists of supervision and grading of schemes by Independent



Engineers (who are outsourced AE rank officers hired independently). The 3rd tier consists of supervision by CPQMs / PQMs who are retired CEs/ SEs from GoI departments or organizations / State governments / PSUs.

Only after receipt of satisfactory ranking/grading, are eligible payments made to contractors. In case of unsatisfactory reporting, Chief Principal Quality Monitor (CPQM) & Principal Quality Monitor (PQM) respectively, visits the field and monitors the scheme.

- To ensure quality in procurement, prior 3<sup>rd</sup> party inspection of key materials like Pipes (by CIPET), WTPs, Steel staging etc are implemented with vigour.

The facts related to contractors name mentioned in the said news article are as below:

1. **Puja Kumari** (Work was awarded for 4 nos. of Schemes covering 4 Wards of Bhawara Gram Panchayats of Katihar Block, one agreement)
  - The contract was awarded in November, 2019.
  - The total contract is Rs. 1,87,08,766 only. The awarded rate is below of scheduled rate.
  - Status of work completion: Completed and Schemes under trial run/O&M.
2. **Deepkiran Infrastructure Pvt Ltd.** (Work awarded for 9 Schemes covering 9 Wards of Bhawara Panchayat in Katihar Block)
  - The contract was awarded in November-October, 2019 through two individual agreements.
  - The total contract value is Rs. 4,19,94,623 only. The awarded rate is below of scheduled rate.
  - Status of work completion: Completed and Schemes under trial run/O&M.
3. **Jeevanshree Infrastructure Pvt Ltd.** (Work awarded for 113 nos. of Schemes covering 78 Wards in 8 Gram Panchayats of Dandkhora, Hasanganj, Katihar and Pranpur Blocks).
  - The contract was awarded in September – October, 2019 through 32 individual agreements.
  - The total contract value is Rs. 49,41,47,866 only. The awarded rate is below of scheduled rate.
  - Status of work completion: Completed and Schemes under trial run/O&M.

No complaint against award of tender and/or deficiency in service has been received in the Department so far. In case any complaint is received or any adverse issue is flagged, strict action would be taken as per the Government Rules and provisions.

It is requested to issue suitable rebuttal in this matter. It is also requested that in future before publishing such news you may kindly confirm the facts from all concerned sources.

Thanking you,

Sd/-

(Daya Shankar Mishra)

Memo No. 922

Patna, Dated: 22.09.2021

Copy to: Director, IPRD, Bihar, Patna for information and necessary action please.

(Daya Shankar Mishra)