

**Mandatory e-procurement from 01.04.2023 –
Press Release by the Government of Tamil Nadu**

In the budget speech of 2022-23, it was announced that e-procurement system will be made mandatory for all procurements by Governments and public sector entities from 01.04.2023 onwards and necessary amendments would be made in the Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders Rules for this purpose.

Fulfilling this promise, the Government has added a new rule 4-A to the Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tender Rules, 2000 that enables the Government to mandate procuring entities to do procurement through electronic mode through online web portals. Further, the Government has now issued orders to the effect that all tendering activities from 1.4.2023 for new tenders shall henceforth be done through the web portal <https://tntenders.gov.in>

This portal has incorporated major changes and has been completely restructured in compliance with the provisions of TNTIT Act and Rules. All the transactions through the portal, including bid submission by bidders, opening of tenders, issuance of letter of award etc. would be done with authentication through password and would be digitally signed. All the data would be encrypted and would be visible only to the authorised users. The portal would generate report of each event in the tender process with a date and time stamp.

The Earnest Money Deposit can either be paid as bank guarantee or through online money transfer as per the choice of the bidder. Bid opening would be done online at the same time and would be visible to all participating bidders.

The procurement for categories specifically mentioned under Section 16 of the TNTIT Act and those governed by the procedure related to projects funded by International Financial Agencies would not come under the purview of this order. The bids which have already been floated in offline mode before 01.04.2023, and are at various stages of procurement would be completed offline.

Except in these specific cases, any new bid that would be floated after 01.04.2023 outside this portal would be termed as violation of procedure. With this land mark reform, the Government under Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. M.K.Stalin has taken a giant step forward towards transparent and accountable governance.

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