## Government of Tripura Directorate of Information and Cultural Affairs \*\*\*\*

News-4376 Agartala, 18th March, 2021

## Rejoinder issued by Directorate of Skill Development

Tripura Times has highlighted one news item on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021 about irregularities in Directorate of Skill Development (DSD) to favor outsiders on which DSD is highlighting the actual fact as below:

DSD floated RFP inviting eligible agencies for conducting Skill gap and Impact Assessment study at Tripura vide Ref No F.2 (7)/TSDM/2016/11734 dated 29<sup>th</sup> May 2020 with the last date as 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020 and received proposals from four agencies. All the agencies were based outside the State but none of the agencies were found to be eligible by the technical evaluation committee. No financial bids were opened.

DSD floated again the same RFP vide Ref No F.2 (7)/TSDM/2016/13458 dated 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020 with the last date 28<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020. A total of eight agencies submitted proposals in response to the RFP. Only one agency out of the eight applicant agencies was from the State and seven were from outside the State.

Previous RFP was cancelled as several inconsistencies were observed and new RFP was prepared and floated on 19th January 2021 having detailed tender evaluation process and evaluation was based on having two bid process – technical and financial proposals. And agency quoting lowest rate will be selected from technically qualified bidders.

DSD has asked the CV of the technical manpower in both the tender documents (RFP floated in Oct 2020 and Jan 2021). Previous RFP had a clause "Detailed proof of having local office in Tripura with the detailed address" was dropped as it was found to be restrictive.

Another clause about Arbitration proceedings will be held in Chandigarh remained inadvertently while preparing the RFP document when documents of other states were examined. However in page 17 there is a specific clause about legal disputes between the parties shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Courts situated in Agartala only as per clause no 30.

DSD has made an attempt to ensure more participation of bidders.

The newspaper is requested to verify facts before publishing news as sensational news tarnishes the image of DSD

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