

## **Press Note**

## Bilateral 'MoU' Agreement between the Online Portal of Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India for Procurement of Goods and Services by Government Departments - "Government-e-Marketplace (GeM)" and "Indian Industries Association (IIA)"

On 17<sup>th</sup> of July 2018 a bilateral MoU agreement was signed between Indian Industries Association (IIA) and Governemnt-e-Marketplace (GeM), Ministry of Commerce and Industry-Government of India.

Mr. Neeraj Singhal – IIA Vice President signed this MoU at the Delhi based Head-Quarter of GeM and Mr. Suresh Kumar I.A.S – A.C.E.O GeM was the authorised signatory on behalf of GeM SPV.

Other dignitaries- Smt. Radha S. Chauhan I.A.S – C.E.O. GeM, Shri Mayank Bisht -Director GeM and Shri Deepesh Gehlot – Dy. Director from GeM SPV and Shri Pradeep Kumar Gupta – IIA's Ghaziabad Chapter Chairman with Shri Visharad Ji - Secretary IIA's Noida Chapter from Indian Industries Association (IIA) were also present to grace this occasion.

Government e-Marketplace (GeM) facilitates online procurement of common use Goods & Services required by various Government Departments / Organizations / PSUs. GeM aims to enhance transparency, efficiency and speed in public procurement. It provides the tools of e-bidding, reverse e-auction and demand aggregation to facilitate the government users, achieve the best value for their money.

It is very important for the MSMEs to register themselves on this GeM Portal and upload its products and services with all the needed descriptions and specifications as it provides them a transparent and level playing field to compete with the large industry houses that were enjoying a monopolistic scenario in all of the Government Procurements earlier, but after advent of this GeM Portal the Government Procurements are open to all who can provide the best quality product at right price.

Through its' studies and interaction with industry IIA came to know that the MSMEs are facing problems while working through this portal and need assistance for their registration and transactions through GeM Portal.

So IIA has established a "GeM Facilitation Centre" at its head-office in Lucknow supported by this bilateral MoU Agreement with GeM, for providing handholding support



to the MSMEs and providing all the needed assistance to them needed to start their business transactions through GeM Portal.

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The Central Government of India as well as the State Governments would give priority and preference to the MSMEs- that are registered on GeM Portal, for their procurement of common use goods and services for which the Government has proclaimed a procurement target of 5 Lakh Crores from the MSMEs, which will be extended later onwards.

I.I.A. is committed for the all round sustainable development of MSMEs and this MoU agreement with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India is one of the such significant endeavours that are being made by IIA for the growth and upliftment of the MSMEs.

I.I.A. would provide all the needed support to and bring awareness among, the MSMEs to register themselves on GeM Portal. GeM SPV would provide training and facilitation to the executives of IIA Chapters so that they can offer handholding support to the MSMEs for registering their enterprises and upload their products and services on GeM Portal.

Through this training and facilitation programme IIA Chapters can work at their best for registering more and more MSMEs on this "GeM Portal" so that MSMEs can get benefitted and avail the multi-dimensional business opportunities in Government Procurements and simultaneously new employment opportunities might be created.

Regards

D.S. Verma Executive Director