



**DIRECTORATE GENERAL AGRICULTURE
(WATER MANAGEMENT), PUNJAB
Dated Lahore, the 1 December 2023**

ORDER

No. ⁹⁸⁷⁹⁻⁹⁹³² /DGA/OFWM/Dev/DA/1-2. **WHEREAS**, M/s Hanzla Traders, Office No.2, Toor Plaza, Near Sheari Hotel, Luddan Road, Vehari was prequalified as Supply & Service Company (SSC) by the Government of Punjab, Agriculture Department vide notification bearing No.2416/DGA/OFWM/Dev., dated 09.03.2020 for provision of complete LASER unit to the farmers/service providers under PSDP/ADP funded project titled "National Program for Improvement of Watercourses in Pakistan (The Punjab Component) Phase-II (NPIW-II) for the project period on inter-alia following terms and conditions:-

ix)	The delivery of LASER unit will be made to the beneficiary in the office of concerned Deputy Director Agriculture (OFWM) / venue specified in the supply order.
x)	The SSC will ensure delivery of booked LASER unit within stipulated period and defaulting SSC will be dealt as per government rules.
xiv)	The SSC will follow the instructions contained in the supply order in true spirit in order to ensure timely delivery of LASER unit to the beneficiary farmer/service provider and fulfillment of other obligations for effective service delivery / facilitation of the farmer / service provider.
xv)	The SSC violating any of the above terms and conditions, provisions of the project PC-I/work order and other instructions issued by the authority from time to time in this regard will be proceeded as per Rules.

2. **AND WHEREAS**, M/s Hanzla Traders, Vehari failed to provide booked LASER units to farmers/service providers within specified timeframe after receipt of advice/work order from Directorate General Agriculture (Water Management), Punjab, Lahore. Resultantly, the affected farmers/service providers lodged complaints at Regional Offices of the Hon'ble Provincial Ombudsman.

3. **AND WHEREAS**, the matter was got probed through a Committee headed by Director, Water Management Training Institute, Lahore who submitted his report concluding therein that M/s Hanzla Traders, Vehari has received 75 bank drafts amounting to Rs.24,568,720/- in connivance with custodian of bank drafts before delivery of LASER units. In addition, the firm has succeeded to collect / steel fourteen (14) bank drafts amounting to Rs.3,259,432/- from Directorate General Agriculture (Water Management),

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Punjab, Lahore being the only beneficiary. Furthermore, bank drafts of 82 farmers/service providers amounting to Rs. 14,202,567/- who had booked LASER units with said SSC are available with the Deputy Directors Agriculture (OFWM) but M/s Hanzla Traders, Vehari has not delivered the LASER units to the farmers.

4. **AND WHEREAS**, M/s Hanzla Traders, Vehari has committed breach of trust and following omissions/commissions in violation of Punjab Procurement Rules, 2014:-

- (i) Acted in a manner detrimental to the public interest / good practices;
- (ii) Consistently failed to perform their obligations under the contract;
- (iii) Not performed the contract up to the mark; and
- (iv) Indulged in corrupt practice.

5. **AND WHEREAS**, Additional Secretary (Planning), Government of the Punjab, Agriculture Department / Chairman, Pre-Qualification Committee (PQC), Lahore was requested vide letter No.2192/DGA/WM/Dev. dated 12.05.2023 to initiate legal action against M/s Hanzala Traders, Vehari. In response thereof, it was desired by the Agriculture Department vide U.O.No.SOA(P)03-01/2019, dated 24.05.2023 that Directorate General Agriculture (Water Management), Punjab, Lahore may initiate appropriate action against the firm being procuring agency.

6. **AND WHEREAS**, pursuant to directions of the Agriculture Department dated 24.05.2023, M/s Hanzla Traders, Vehari was served upon Show Cause Notice vide letter No.2625/DGA/WM/Dev/DA/1-2, dated 25.05.2023 under Rule 21 of Punjab Procurement Rules, 2014 with the direction to submit written defense within seven days of the receipt of notice. The firm submitted reply to the Show Cause Notice vide letter dated 20.06.2023, which was considered and found unsatisfactory. Therefore, M/s Hanzla Traders, Vehari was afforded opportunity of personal hearing on 18.07.2023 vide registered letter dated 07.07.2023 under Rule ibid, which was not availed by the firm.


7. **AND WHEREAS**, detailed scrutiny of record has revealed that the farmers/service providers booked 82 LASER units amounting to Rs.14,805,567/- with M/s Hanzala Traders, Vehari out of which 36 demand drafts of farmers' share amounting to Rs.7,014,066/- have been returned to the farmers on their request. As such, 46 Nos. LASER units against farmer's share amounting to Rs. 7,791,501/- are still pending with the firm despite lapse of prescribed limit of 90 days. Furthermore, M/s Hanzla Traders, Vehari has received 75 bank drafts amounting to Rs.24,568,720/- in connivance with custodian of bank drafts before delivery of LASER units besides, collection / steeling of fourteen (14) bank drafts amounting to Rs.3,259,432/- from Directorate General Agriculture (Water

M/s Hanzla

Management), Punjab, Lahore being the only beneficiary and the same status prevails at the moment. As such, charges of corruption/fraud vis-à-vis failure to fulfil obligation under the contract levelled against the firm stood proved without any shadow of doubt and firm is liable to be blacklisted as per provisions of the Rule ibid.

8. **AND WHEREAS**, the Government of the Punjab, Agriculture Department has requested the Deputy Commissioner, Vehari vide letter No.SO(A-III)12-14/97(Inq), dated 15.09.2023 to recover the amount of Rs. 24.721 million from Mr. Zeeshan Aslam, CEO of M/s Hanzala Traders, Vehari and his dependents through arrears of land revenue from their property in revenue limits of the district for further disbursement amongst affected 70 number of farmers.

9. **NOW, THEREFORE**, after carefully considering reply to the Show Cause Notice and facts/record of the case, I, Muhammad Akram, Director General Agriculture (Water Management), Punjab, Lahore / Provincial Project Director, NPIW-II hereby blacklist M/s Hanzala Traders, Vehari for a period of five years under Rule 21 of the Punjab Procurement Rules, 2014 from participating in any public procurement process of the procuring agency. An amount of Rs.24.721 million of farmer's share received by the firm in violation of rules/regulations without delivery of LASER units will be recovered from the owner/caretaker of M/s Hanzala Traders, Vehari and his dependents through Arrears of Land Revenue from their property in revenue limits of the district, Vehari for further disbursement amongst affected farmers in the light of Government of the Punjab, Agriculture Department letter No.SO(A-III)12-14/97(Inq), dated 15.09.2023.


**DIRECTOR GENERAL AGRICULTURE
(WM), PUNJAB, LAHORE /
PROVINCIAL PROJECT DIRECTOR (NPIW-II)**

No. & Date Even

A copy is forwarded for information and necessary action to:-

1. The Secretary, Government of the Punjab, Agriculture Department, Lahore.
2. The Deputy Commissioner/Collector, District Vehari.
3. The Additional Secretary (Planning), Government of the Punjab, Agriculture Department, Lahore/Chairman, Pre-Qualification Committee (PQC).
4. The Director General Agriculture (WM), South Punjab, Multan.
5. The Managing Director, Punjab Procurement Regulatory Authority, Lahore with the request to upload the information on its website. Copies of the record referred in the order is enclosed.
6. The Section Officer (A-III), Government of the Punjab, Agriculture Department, Lahore with reference to letter No.SO(A-III)Estt.12-14/96 (Inq.), dated 15.09.2023.

7. All Directors Agriculture (OFWM) in the Punjab.
8. All Deputy Directors Agriculture (OFWM) in the Punjab. Since, M/s Hanzala Traders, Vehari have failed to deliver the booked LASER units of 46 number of farmers within stipulated period, therefore, immediate arrangements may be made for returning bank drafts of farmers' share to the concerned farmers/service providers enabling them to books their LASER units with one of the other pre-qualified supplier firm as per Clause 7.4.5. (xiii) of the PC-I of the PSDP/ADP funded project titled "National Program for Improvement of Watercourses in Pakistan (The Punjab Component) Phase-II".
9. The Deputy Director Agriculture (OFWM), Vehari. He is directed to pursue the case vigorously as directed by the Government of the Punjab, Agriculture Department vide No.SO(A-III)Estt.12-14/96 (Inq.), dated 15.09.2023 and submit a report regarding recovery of Rs.24.721 million from M/s Hanzala Traders, Vehari on fortnightly basis.
10. The System Analyst, Directorate General Agriculture (Water Management), Punjab, Lahore for publication on the website.
11. M/s Hanzla Traders, Office No.2, Toor Plaza, Near Sheari Hotel, Luddan Road, Vehari (**under registered cover**).


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