

MINUTES OF 3RD BOARD OF CHIEF ENGINEERS MEETING HELD ON 06.05.2026 @ 03.00 PM THROUGH HYBRID MODE (BOTH PHYSICAL AS WELL AS VIRTUAL MODES).

At the outset, the Engineer-in-Chief (AW/IW), WR Dept. & Chairman, BoCEs, has welcomed all the members to the Board of Chief Engineers meeting to discuss on various agenda items. The list of members attended the meeting is appended vide Annexure-I. The Engineer-in-Chief (AW/IW) initiated the discussions.

Agenda No.1: Finalization of Steel item rates and PH monthly rates for the month of March-2026 – Reg.

In terms of G.O.Ms.No.62, WR (REFORMS) Dept., Dt:30.11.2021, the Sub-Committee reviewed the quotations obtained through E-mail as well as enquires made through Telephonic mode and finalized the rates.

For the item Nos.7 to 12, specifically useful to PH Department., the Engineer-in-Chief, P.H. Department has furnished the rates based on the quotations obtained from M/s. Tata Steel Ltd., Mumbai, M/s. Electrosteel castings Ltd., Kolkata, M/s. Tata Steel Ltd., Kolkata, M/s. JSW Steel Ltd., Hyderabad and Rates from Joint Plant Committee (Constitute by Govt. of India). The rates are finalized based on the above quotations.

BoCEs recommendation:

The members have examined the draft rates and after thorough discussion, the BoCEs recommended the rates for the Steel items and PH items for the month of March-2026 as follows:

Sl. No.	Material	Rates at site as Recommended in the present Meeting for the month of March 2026 (Excluding GST)
	STEEL	Rate per MT
1	6mm M.S. Rods	Rs.56,000/- (Rupees Fifty Six Thousand only)
2	M.S. Flats	Rs.55,000/- (Rupees Fifty Five Thousand only)
3	Mild steel, structural Steel, i.e., Angles, Channels & I – Sections	Rs.55,000/- (Rupees Fifty Five Thousand only)
4	TMT / HYSD bars (Produced by ISI approved firms of bearing ISI Standard Mark.)	

a)	Fe-415	Rs.54,000/- (Rupees Fifty Four Thousand only)
b)	Fe-500/Fe-500D/Fe-550	Rs.54,000/- (Rupees Fifty Four Thousand only)
5	M.S. Plates	Rs.61,000/- (Rupees Sixty One Thousand only)
6	HSCR Steel bars	Rs.58,000/- (Rupees Fifty Eight Thousand only)
PH Items		Rate per MT
7	P.C. drawn Wire / H.T. Wire 3mm	Rs.61,000/- (Rupees Sixty One Thousand only)
8	P.C. drawn Steel wire / HT Wire 4mm	Rs.61,000/- (Rupees Sixty One Thousand only)
9	H.R. Sheet in coils 1.6 mm	Rs.52,000/- (Rupees Fifty Two Thousand only)
10	H.R. Sheet in coils 2.0 mm	Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand only)
11	5.5/6.0 mm M S Wire rod Coil	Rs.49,000/- (Rupees Forty Nine Thousand only)
12	Foundry Grade Pig Iron (2.00 to 2.24)	Rs.48,000/- (Rupees Forty Eight Thousand only)

This is submitted for consideration of Government for approval.

Action: Engineer-in-Chief (AW/IW), WR Dept.,

Agenda No.2: BoCEs opinion sought in respect of the amount on which 5% recovery is to be imposed on the original contractor when some part of the work was deleted under Clause 60 (C) of PS to APSS and entrusted to some other agency thus incurring excess expenditure by the Government – Reg.

The Government, vide Memo No. ICD01-COOROMISC/95/2023 (2167710), dated 04.08.2023 of Water Resources Department, has forwarded the minutes of the review meeting held by the Principal Secretary to Government, Water Resources Department, for compliance of the activities mentioned therein.

One of the issues pertains to clarification regarding the amount on which recovery is to be affected from the original contractor, in cases where a portion of the work is deleted under Clause 60 (C) of PS to APSS and entrusted to another agency, resulting in excess expenditure to the Government. It is observed that differing interpretations exist with regard to the base amount on which the 5% recovery is to be calculated.

Accordingly, the Engineer-in-Chief (AW/IW), WRD and the Chairman, Board of Chief Engineers (BoCEs), were requested to place the matter before the BoCEs for examination and to furnish recommendations.

The subject was placed before the 5th BoCEs meeting held on 24.08.2023. The members observed that multiple scenarios may arise during implementation of Clause 60 (C) in the course of execution of works, and opined that the matter requires detailed examination based on case studies. The Chairman, BoCEs, accordingly requested all members to examine relevant case studies in their respective Departments and come prepared with considered views for discussion in the subsequent meeting.

In continuation, vide T.O. Lr. No. ENC/IW/SE (P&M)/EE.I/DEE.2/AEE (NR)/Suggestion/Opinion on 60(C), dated 31.08.2023, the Engineers-in-Chief / Chief Engineers of all Departments were requested to examine various cases pertaining to implementation of Clause 60 (C) and to furnish issues/suggestions, particularly with reference to levy of 5% recovery from the original contractor, in cases where recovery is limited to 5% of either:

(a) the total finished contract value, including the value of the deleted portion along with all deviations encountered in the entire work;

or

(b) the total finished contract value of the deleted portion of work, including deviations encountered during execution of the deleted portion.

Subsequently, the subject was again discussed in the BoCEs meeting held on 10.10.2023. During the deliberations, the members expressed varied opinions on the methodology for calculating the 5% recovery under Clause 60 (C), citing different case studies and field situations and differed the discussion to next BoCEs meeting.

Accordingly, the subject matter is once again placed before the current BoCEs for their discussion and recommendation.

BoCEs recommendation:

The members have held detailed discussion on the subject matter. During the discussion, the members opined that as the improper interpretation of the subject issue may impact many of the ongoing works, wider participation from all Departments is necessary for proper interpretation of the subject matter and to arrive at a conclusion. Hence, the BoCEs suggest deferring the subject matter to the next BoCEs meeting.

Action: Engineer-in-Chief (AW/IW), WR Dept.,

Agenda No.3: Inclusion of Jai Raj AT00T Fe 550 D Rebars as Primary TMT Rebars in SOR and Applicable Departments-Reg

The Government, vide Govt. Memo No. ICD01-COOR0MISC/ 92/ 2025-reforms dt. 18.07.2025 of Water Resources Department, forwarded the

copy of the D.O.Letter of Sri T.G.Bharath, Minister for Industries & Commerce, Food Processing, GoAP and requested to examine the matter to place before BoCEs for their recommendation and send a report to the Government for taking further necessary action in the matter.

The Minister for Industries & Commerce, Food Processing, GoAP in his D.O. Letter has informed that, M/s. Jai Raj Steel, Hyderabad represented that they are a well-established manufacturer of DRI and TMT Rebars, having manufacturing facilities at Hyderabad and Ballari, with a reputed presence in the Iron and Steel sector.

The firm has further informed that their group has partnered with the State Government for establishment of a Primary Integrated Steel Plant in Kurnool, a backward region of Rayalaseema. The foundation stone for the project was laid by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 10.05.2018 at Orvakal Mega Industrial Hub under Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (APIIC).

They have also stated that the state-of-the-art facility has an installed capacity of 0.50 million tons, producing Jai Raj ATOOT Fe 550 D / Fe 600 TMT Rebars, and that they are proposing expansion of the capacity during the financial year 2026-27.

The firm further represented that they had suffered during the previous Government period and requested consideration for inclusion of their brand Jai Raj ATOOT Fe 550 D in the list of Primary TMT Rebars approved by CRDA, ADCL, and MA&UD Departments.

In this regard, the Engineer-in-Chief (Admn.), Vijayawada, was requested to examine the matter in detail and place the subject before the Board of Chief Engineers for their recommendation, and thereafter furnish a report to the Government for taking further necessary action in the matter.

Accordingly, the subject matter is placed before the current Board of Chief Engineers for discussion and recommendations.

BoCEs recommendation:

The members have examined the subject matter. The members observed that as per Govt. Memo No.ICD01-COOROMISC/7/Reforms/2021, Dt.08.02.2021, the Government has instructed the field staff not to specify any particular brands in Estimates, Tender Documents, or Agreements, and instead to insist upon products manufactured by companies complying with ISI specifications, including the prescribed physical and chemical properties, while inviting Tenders/Estimates/Agreements for works under their jurisdiction. The said memo is issued in line with the Department of Steel, Government of India's Quality Orders issued on Steel products.

In view of the above, the BoCEs opined that as per the above Government instructions, the inclusion of brand names in SoR is not being allowed. The field staff is permitted to use all steel brands which

conform to ISI codal specifications in terms of both Physical and Chemical Properties.

Action: Engineer-in-Chief (AW/IW), WR Dept.,

Agenda No.4: WR (reforms) Dept.,-State Level support to RINL for its revival supply of Vizag TMT Rebars and Structural Steel from RINL VSP-Board of Chief Engineers to examine the request of RINL -Reg.

The Government while referring to the Govt. Memo No. INC01-INDOMISC/4/2024-P-I(2514134) dt. 26-10-2025 of Industries & Commerce (P&I) Dept., requested the Engineer-in-Chief (AW/IW), vide Govt.Memo.No.ICD01-COORMISC/147/2025-Reforms, dt.10-11-2025, to examine the subject of extending State Level support to RINL for its revival in considering the supply of Vizag TNT rebars and Structural Steel from RINL, VSP.

The Government, vide Memo No. INC01-INDOMISC/4/2024-P-I(2514134) dt. 26-10-2025 of Industries & Commerce (P&I) Dept., while enclosing the Chairman & Managing Director, RINL Lr. No. CMD/ 24/22 dt. 14.10.2025, requested the Board of Chief Engineers (BoCEs) to examine the request of RINL keeping in view of the State Level support extended by the State Government for the revival of RINL.

The Chairman & Managing Director, Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL), has informed that Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL), Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP), an integrated steel producer under the Ministry of Steel, Government of India, has an installed capacity of 7.3 MTPA and manufactures premium-quality steel using state-of-the-art technology with stringent quality controls.

It is further informed that all products are made from 100% virgin, fully killed steel, ensuring superior strength, consistency, and durability. RINL's Vizag TMT Rebars, available in grades Fe500D, Fe550D, and HSCRMD (High Strength Corrosion Resistant Marine Ductile), have been extensively used in projects of national and state importance such as Polavaram Irrigation Project, Sitarama Sagar Project, Bhogapuram Airport, and Naval Projects at Visakhapatnam.

The HSCRMD TMT Rebars are particularly suited for coastal, port, and bridge projects where corrosion risks are high. Their inherent chemical composition provides long-term corrosion resistance, making them a more durable and cost-effective alternative to epoxy-coated or cement-coated reinforcement bars.

Further, it is stated that RINL also produces a wide range of structural steel, including Angles, Channels, and Beams (125 mm to 600 mm), catering to infrastructure and industrial requirements.

In view of the State’s focus on development of high-quality and sustainable infrastructure, the Chairman & Managing Director, RINL has requested the following:

i. Preference may be accorded to Vizag TMT Rebars and Structural Steel, particularly HSCRMD TMT Rebars, in all Government of Andhra Pradesh projects, especially in coastal and high-corrosion zones.

ii. Departments and agencies may be advised to procure directly from RINL, either from the Visakhapatnam Plant or nearby stockyards, to ensure timely supply and quality assurance.

In view of the above, the subject matter is placed before the current BoCEs meeting for discussion and suitable recommendation to the Government.

BoCEs recommendation:

The BoCEs deliberated on the subject matter at length. During the discussion, the members opined that in order to recommend to utilize steel products with specific manufacturing process, some technical issues are to be sorted out for which the detailed examination of the existing procedures are to be studied. Hence, the BoCEs defer the issue for further discussion in the next BoCEs meeting.

Action: Engineer-in-Chief (AW/IW), WR Dept.,

Agenda No.5: Amendment to the procedure of Recording of Measurement book in non-EPC woks – Reg.

During the review meeting held by the Special Chief Secretary to Government, Water Resources Department with the officials of the Water Resources Department on the status of ongoing works, it was observed, inter alia, that the procedure being followed for recording entries in Measurement Books (MBs) differs between EPC works and non-EPC works, as detailed below:

Type of work	Entries to be done as per the existing G.O/ Rules
EPC works	<p>The Government has issued vide G.O.Ms.No.50, dated:02.03.2009 certain guidelines for EPC system including recording of measurements are as follows;</p> <p>“1. In case of EPC works, measurements shall be recorded by EPC agency in M. Books and LF</p>

	<p>Books issued by the concerned EE duly numbered and certified. The M. Books and LF Books have to be maintained by the EPC Agency through authorized graduate engineers as per procedure prescribed in Code and finally to be handed over to the department (Engineer-in-charge).</p> <p>2. In Earth Work Excavation and embankment AE/AEEs, have to verify and record:</p> <p>a. 1/3rd of pre levels taken by EPC Agency.</p> <p>b. 100% levels in case of cut off and foundations.</p> <p>c. 25% of intermediate work done levels</p> <p>d. 100% for final levels recorded by the EPC Agency.</p> <p>e. All measurements recorded by the EPC Agency in the M. Books issued by the EE shall be checked to 100% extent by AEs/AEEs.</p> <p>f. DEEs, EEs, and SEs have to check/super check the above levels and measurements as per standing codal provisions and G.O.Ms.No.52 dt:06.01.2021.</p> <p><i>Wherever Quality Control agencies are in existence, such agency has to record its findings in M. Books besides furnishing certificates as prescribed separately.</i></p>
Non-EPC Works	(a)After execution of the work, the AE/AEE shall measure the 100% of the executed work in accordance with the designs and specifications and enters the details in the M-book as per para no.293 a (ii) of A.P.Public

	<p>Works Accounts Code.</p> <p>(b) Subsequently, the DyEE, EE and SE shall check measure/super check the same as per the rules in vogue and certify the same</p> <p>(c) The representative of contractor/ executing agency shall make initials after satisfying himself regarding the m-book entries.</p>
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During the meeting, it was suggested to replace the existing procedure of “recording of measurements in the Measurement Book (M.Book) by AE/AEE” with “recording of measurements by the technical personnel of the contracting agency” in respect of Non-EPC works also, on the lines of the procedure being followed in EPC works.

The Special Secretary to Government, Water Resources Department, accordingly directed that the matter be placed before the Board of Chief Engineers (BoCEs) for examination and recommendations.

Accordingly, the subject matter was placed before the BoCEs meeting held on 30.07.2024 and the members expressed that in the conventional system of Non-EPC works, the AE/AEE shall record the measurements as per the Design specifications and then Dy.EE/EE/SE shall check/super check the M.book recordings, based on which payments shall be made and the AE/AEE shall be held responsible for any wrong entry or errors in the M.book.

Whereas in EPC works, the members opined that the M.book recording is being done to assess the quantity of work done to fix up the Statutory taxes such as Seigniorage charges, DMF, MERIT etc., and also as a documentary proof in case any dispute arises between the Department and contracting agency during the course of execution of the work. Further, the payment in EPC works is being based on the payment schedule under Schedule-A of the Agreement.

In view of the above and also keeping in view of the differences in the payment methodologies for EPC works and Non-EPC works, the members observed that implementing the procedure of “*M-book recording by the technical personnel of the contracting agency*” in Non-EPC works have practical problems and hence opined that it requires a detailed study and deep examination before coming to conclusion on this matter.”

In view of the above, the proposal is once again placed before current BoCEs for their discussion and for recommendations.

BoCEs recommendation:

The BoCEs discussed the matter at length. After detailed discussion, the members opined that as per the current procedure of eMbook recording, the above suggestion may be examined. However, the members opined that wider participation of all Departments is necessary to arrive a suitable methodology and hence defer the issue for further discussion in the next BoCEs meeting.

Action: Engineer-in-Chief (AW/IW), WR Dept.,

Agenda No.6: WRD-Reforms-State of Andhra Pradesh Building Contractors Association-Request to extend the Benefits of G.O.Rt.No.1652, dt.05.05.2025 for one more till 31.03.2027-requested-Reg.

The Government, while enclosing SABCA Lr.NO.2025-26/176 dated.25.03.2026, issued Govt. Memo No..FIN01/ FMU0MRAS/ (WR.2)/ 81/2026, Dated.06.05.2026 addressed to this office, wherein it was requested to extend the benefits of G.O.Rt.NO.1652, dt.05.05.2025 (relaxation of certain contractual obligations in the works agreements relating to securities for performance and defect liabilities with the intention to provide immediate relief to agencies/contractors engaged in the execution of works, in the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic) for one more year i.e., till 31.03.2027 and requested to place the subject matter before the Board of Chief Engineers and furnish the recommendations to the Government for taking further necessary action.

In this connection, it is to inform that the Government issued G.O. Rt. No. 2451, dt. 07-10-2020, of Finance (HR-V-TFR-A&L-EWF) Dept., relaxing certain contractual obligations for the then ongoing works and fresh agreements concluded till 31-03-2021. Subsequently, the Government extended the relaxations in the year 2022, vide G.O. Rt. No. 117 Dt. 17-05-2022 of Finance (HR-V-TFR-A&L-EWF) Dept., for the fresh agreements concluded till 31-03-2023. Thereafter, the Government extended the relaxations for all the existing agreements in force & the fresh agreements concluded upto 31-03-2023 only. In the latest G.O. viz., G.O. Rt. No. 1652, dt. 05-05-2025 of Finance (FMU-WR.II) Dept., the Government ordered that the benefits extended, vide G.O.Rt.No.233, Dt.17.09.2024, applicable to all agreements concluded till 31st March 2023, be continued to apply till the closure of the contract or till 31-03-2026, whichever is earlier. All the remaining conditions mentioned in the G.O.Rt.No.117 dt.17.05.2022 would remain unchanged for this purpose.

Now, SABCA, in their representation to Honorable Minister for Finance, Planning, Commercial Taxes & Legislative Affairs, requested to facilitate the closure of agreements by enabling completion of pending works and to overcome the technical hurdles relating to EMD and FSD deductions in the software by extending the benefits be made applicable to all agreements concluded up to 31st March 2023, and that the same be continued till the closure of the contract or till 31-03-2027 whichever is earlier.

In view of the above, the subject matter is placed before the Board of Chief Engineers for discussion and recommendations to the Government.

BoCEs recommendation:

The members have deliberated on the subject matter at length. During the deliberations, the members opined that the covid-19 relaxations are to those agreements concluded before 31-03-2023, may be extended upto 31.03.2027 or till the closure of the above said agreements, whichever is earlier.

In view of the above, the Board of Chief Engineers (BoCEs) recommend to Government for extension of Covid-19 relaxations in certain contractual obligations for agreements concluded before 31-03-2023 upto 31.03.2027 or till their closure whichever is earlier.

Action: Engineer-in-Chief (AW/IW), WR Dept.,

Agenda No.7: Coverage of Materials and Work Loss for Contractors in Recent Floods-A Natural Calamity Disaster.

The SABCA-Krishna, vide Letter No.SABCA-Krishna-2024-25/01, dated 05.09.2024, requested that benefits similar to those extended to the general public may also be considered for SABCA member contractors, who are stated to be key contributors to the State's infrastructure development.

The SABCA has represented that unprecedented floods caused widespread destruction and heavy losses to all affected persons, including member contractors. It was stated that the severe floods washed away or damaged construction materials, machinery and equipment, causing substantial loss to contractors who had invested their own resources in ongoing works and procured materials for completion of works.

Further, the SABCA represented that while the Government had announced compensation for vehicle losses to the general public, contractors were facing difficulty in availing similar benefit in the absence of compulsory insurance provisions in agreements. It was further stated that such insurance component was omitted when Overhead (OH) charges were reduced from 14% to 13.615%.

In view of the above, the SABCA requested consideration of the following:

1. Extension of compensation scheme to cover contractors' works, including those without insurance, so as to support recovery efforts of contractors affected by the disaster.
2. Simplification of claim procedure for speedy disbursement of compensation, with certification of losses by the Executive Engineer and counter-certification by the Superintending Engineer.
3. Making CAR (Contractor's All Risk) Policy compulsory in works contracts to safeguard contractors against losses arising during the construction period, particularly due to natural calamities.
4. Restoration / revision of Overhead (OH) charges to 14% by including an insurance reimbursement component, similar to the earlier arrangement, to ensure adequate risk coverage.

In view of the above, the matter is placed before current Board of Chief Engineers for discussion and suitable recommendations to the Government.

BoCEs recommendation:

The BoCEs discussed the matter at length. After detailed discussion, the members opined that there is no necessity to provide the compensation towards the loss of materials as the responsibility of taking insurance of the materials entirely lies with the contractor.

However, the BoCEs observed that for works part, the Government instructed the concerned Chief Engineer, vide GO Ms. No.61, dt. 25-06-2013 of Irrigation and CAD (Reforms) Dept., to send the proposal to Government if any critical work is to be insured.

Action: Engineer-in-Chief (AW/IW), WR Dept.,

Agenda No.8: Request for Orders for Implementing of 10-year Experience in Tenders and Bid Capacity Uniformly Across All Departments in the State, along with Amendment of Point 7 in G.O.Ms.No.4 of WRD (reforms), dated.10.02.2025-Reg.

The SABCA, vide Letter No.SABCA/2025-26/031, dated 13.05.2025, has expressed gratitude to the Government for issuance of G.O.Ms.No.4, WRD Reforms Department, wherein consideration of 10 years past experience for contractor registration / renewals has reportedly been provided. It has further stated that reforms initiated through G.O.Rt.No.28, WRD Reforms Department, dt. 12.05.2025, are yielding positive results.

The SABCA has further represented that proposals relating to implementation of 10 years past experience for tender eligibility have received necessary approvals and are awaiting Cabinet approval.

In addition, the SABCA has requested consideration of another important issue relating to Point No.7 of G.O.Ms.No.4, WRD Reforms Department, particularly Clause (a), seeking redefinition of "A" to represent

the maximum value of engineering works executed in any one year during the last 10 years, instead of the last 5 years, including completed or ongoing projects.

The SABCA has stated that, unless the above amendment is made, difficulties may arise in calculation of **3AN - B** for bid capacity in tenders across various departments including Water Resources, MA&UD, Panchayat Raj, Roads & Buildings and other Engineering Departments, especially where 10-year experience criteria is being considered for tenders and bid capacity.

Further, the SABCA has requested issuance of uniform orders for implementation of 10-year past experience criteria in tenders and bid capacity across all State Departments.

In view of the above, SABCA has requested that the matter may be placed before the Board of Chief Engineers for discussion and suitable recommendations to the Government.

In this context, it is to inform that the Government, vide G.O. Ms. No. 13 dt. 10-02-2017 of Water Resources (Reforms) Dept., modified the bid capacity to 3AN-B instead of 2AN-B in which 'A' value is considered out of 10 years and in the G.O. Ms. No. 28, Irrigation & CAD(PW-Reforms) Dept., dt. 12-05-2025, the past experience is to be considered in one year out of 10 years.

However, in the G.O. Ms. No. 4, WRD Dept., dt. 10-02-2025, while revising the bid capacity to 3AN-B, the 'A' value is considered out of 5 years only

Accordingly, the subject matter is placed before the current meeting of the Board of Chief Engineers for discussion and suitable recommendations.

BoCEs recommendation:

The proposal is examined by the members and the members observed that the Government has already issued the amendment, vide G.O.Ms.No.37, Dt.27.06.2025, and hence opined that no recommendation is needed on the current subject.

Action: Engineer-in-Chief (AW/IW), WR Dept.,

Agenda No.9: Issuance of a circular ensuring mandatory implementation of G.Os related to the Contractors' community, which have been discussed and recommended by the BoCEs and approved by the Department of Finance and Cabinet Ministers. These GOs implementation should be maintained as status quo across A.P, effective immediately upon release-Reg.

The SABCA, vide Letter No.SABCA/2025-26/049, dated 07.07.2025, requested uniform and compulsory implementation of various reforms already approved by the Government and issued through Government Orders for the benefit of the contractors' community across the State.

The Association has referred to the following reforms / orders:

1.Consideration of Past 10 Years Block Period of Experience in Tenders:

Considering past ten years' experience block period in place of past five years' experience block period in tenders, ordered vide G.O.Ms.No.37, WRD Reforms Department.

2.Contractor Category / Class Registrations:

Considering past ten years' experience block period in place of past five years' experience block period for contractor category / class registrations, ordered vide G.O.Ms.No.28, WRD Reforms Department.

3.Revision of Bid Capacity Clause:

Revising the bid capacity clause from 2A×N-B to 3A×N-B in tender eligibility and evaluation, ordered vide G.O.Ms.No.4, WRD Reforms Department and amended vide G.O.Ms.No.37, WRD Reforms Department.

4.Reinstating Mobilization Condition:

Reinstating mobilization condition in tenders and agreements, ordered vide G.O.Ms.No.57, WRD Reforms Department.

The Association has stated that the above proposals were approved by the Cabinet after clearance from the Finance Department for uniform implementation across all Departments in Andhra Pradesh.

The Association has represented that implementation of the above Government Orders is not taking place uniformly in some Departments / Engineering Corporations and requested that necessary directions be issued for immediate compliance. It has further requested issuance of a circular to all Departments for mandatory implementation of the above Government Orders concerning the contractors' community.

In view of the above, the SABCA requested to place before the Board of Chief Engineers for discussion and suitable recommendations to the Government regarding uniform implementation of the above Government Orders across all Departments.

Accordingly, the subject matter is placed before the current meeting of the Board of Chief Engineers for discussion and suitable recommendations.

BoCEs recommendation:

The BoCEs discussed the matter at length. During the discussion, the members opined that all Government Orders cannot be applicable to all Departments. Some G.O.s are specific to individual Department. However, if the subject matter is generic in nature and the G.O. issued is based on the recommendation of the BoCEs, the Government Orders be implemented uniformly across all Departments. Hence, the BoCEs

suggest to mention specifically in the BoCEs minutes, from hereafter, that the recommendation is applicable to all Departments to avoid any ambiguity in the subject matter.

Action: Engineer-in-Chief (AW/IW), WR Dept.,

Agenda No.10: Note on Representation of SABCA Regarding Reinstatement of Monthly Cement Price, Correction Material Leads before SoR, Gravel Scarcity and Use of Selected Earth and Acceptance of Bank Guarantees / TDRs for EMD & FSD.

The SABCA, vide Lr.No.SABCA/2025-26/162, dated 10.02.2026, requested immediate consideration of certain issues raised by its members and for recommending the same to the Government for appropriate orders. The Association has raised the following four important points:

1. Reinstatement of Monthly Cement Price

The SABCA has represented that Departments are presently adopting cement price at ₹4,220/- per tonne as per Standard Schedule of Rates (SOR), and earlier APTPC was supplying cement at the same rate. Consequently, monthly cement prices were reportedly discontinued.

However, it is stated that APTPC has since stopped supply of cement at the Government-determined rate, and contractors are now procuring cement from the open market at higher rates. Even during earlier supply through APTPC, contractors were sometimes compelled to purchase from the open market due to mismatch between supply schedules and work schedules.

In this context, the Association has requested reinstatement of the earlier system of notifying monthly cement prices along with steel prices and allowing reimbursement / recovery of differences in contractors' bills in accordance with G.O.Ms.No.94, TR&B Department.

2. Correction of Material Leads Before Annual SOR

The Association has represented that, before release of annual Standard Schedule of Rates, the existing leads for materials in each district require revision, as sources of materials change over time. It is stated that sand quarries and stock points frequently change due to seasonal conditions and policy revisions.

Accordingly, the Association requested that material leads be corrected before issue of each SOR and, where necessary, interim orders be issued for sand based on actual quarries / stock points in operation from time to time, with reimbursement of differences wherever applicable.

3. Gravel Scarcity and Use of Selected Earth

It is represented that due to absence of official gravel quarries and scarcity of gravel, Departments are alternatively including "selected earth" in estimates. The Association requested that where such materials are

proposed, details of source quarries and leads considered in estimates may be furnished in bid documents.

It has further requested that gravel items should not be included in estimates unless authentic quarry sources are identified and notified.

4. Acceptance of Bank Guarantees / TDRs / FDRs for EMD & FSD

The SABCA has requested that the existing facility of accepting Bank Guarantees for Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Further Security Deposit (FSD) for works above ₹50 lakhs may be extended to all works without value limitation. It is represented that this would enable contractors undertaking smaller works to secure timely refund of EMD / FSD after completion of the Defects Liability Period.

Alternatively, if Bank Guarantees are not feasible, the SABCA requested acceptance of lien-marked TDRs / FDRs in favour of the beneficiary, being equivalent security instruments commonly accepted in commercial contracts, tenders and Government procurement.

Accordingly, the matter is placed before the Board of Chief Engineers for discussion and suitable recommendations to the Government.

BoCEs recommendation:

The BoCEs discussed the matter. After detailed discussion, the members opined that additional details are required to arrive at a conclusion and hence, decided to defer the issue for further discussion in the next BoCEs meeting.

Action: Engineer-in-Chief (AW/IW), WR Dept.,

Agenda No.11: Allowing Upper Class registered contractors to participate in all lower category works (existing procedures)

The Builders Association of India (BAI), vide Lr. No. BAI/AP/2024-25/140, dated 13.02.2025, has informed that, with reference to Agenda Item No. 8 of the Board of Chief Engineers (BoCEs) meeting held on 08.01.2025, the Builders Association of India, AP Chapter has submitted a representation requesting reconsideration of the decision taken therein.

The BAI has stated that, in all Public Sector undertakings and State & Central Government Departments, contractors are classified into various categories based on defined criteria such as annual turnover, work experience, solvency, technical expertise, and availability of equipment. Based on such classification, contractors are permitted to participate in tenders up to the monetary limits corresponding to their registered category. It is also a general practice that contractors of higher category are allowed to participate in tenders of lower category works.

However, it is represented that the proposal of SABCA to restrict contractors to participate only one level below their registered category is not in line with the established practices and principles of contractor registration policy. The Association has contended that such restriction would defeat the very purpose of classification, as it would limit fair competition and may compel higher-category contractors to seek registration in lower categories unnecessarily.

The BAI has further stated that, particularly in respect of road works, higher-category contractors possess specialized equipment such as Hot Mix Plants and Batch Mix Plants, which are generally not available with lower-category contractors. Therefore, restricting their participation in lower-category works may adversely impact quality and competitiveness.

It is also contended that acceptance of SABCA's proposal by the BoCEs, without considering the above aspects, may lead to reduced competition, potential monopolization within specific categories, and increased grievances from bidders.

In view of the above, the Builders Association of India, AP has strongly objected to the decision taken under Agenda Item No. 8 and has requested that the same be reviewed. The Association has requested that the existing system, which permits higher-category contractors to participate in tenders of lower-category works, may be continued in the interest of fairness, competition, and established practice.


Accordingly, the subject matter is placed before the current BoCEs for discussion and suitable recommendation.

BoCEs recommendation:

The BoCEs examined the matter at detail. During the discussion, the members observed that the representation made by Builders Association of India (BAI) is in reaction to the earlier recommendation of BoCE on the subject matter during their meeting dt. 08.01.2025.

The members also observed that Government decision on the earlier BoCEs recommendation is awaited and hence, opined that no need of discussion on the subject matter as there is no change in the existing position.

Action: Engineer-in-Chief (AW/IW), WR Dept.,


**Engineer-in-Chief (AW/IW), WRD, Vijayawada &
Chairman, Board of Chief Engineers**

ANNEXURE- I

MEMBERS PRESENT IN THE 3RD BOARD OF CHIEF ENGINEERS MEETING DURING THE YEAR 2026 HELD AT 03.00 PM ON 06.05.2026 THROUGH PHYSICAL AND VIRTUAL MODE.

S. No	Name of the Engineer- in - Chief / Chief Engineer	Designation
1	Sri. M.L.N. Varaprasad	Engineer-in-Chief (Admin), Chairman of BOCEs, W R Dept., Vijayawada
2	Sri. V. Ramachandra	Engineer-in-Chief(Admin), NDB, Vijayawada
3.	Smt. Gayatri Devi	Engineer-in-Chief RWS & S Department, Vijayawada.
4	Sri. K.Seshu Babu	Commissioner, Commissioner of Tenders, Vijayawada
5.	Sri. Vijaya Bhaskar Alla	Chief Engineer, Central Designs Organization, Vijayawada
6.	Sri. K.Seshu Babu	Chief Engineer, Quality Control Wing for Coastal Region, Dowlaiswaram.
7	Sri. China Babu Potluri	Chief Engineer, Godavari Delta System, Dowlaiswaram
8.	Sri. B. Rambabu	Chief Engineer, Krishna Delta System, Vijayawada
9.	Sri. M.L.N.Varaprasad Medasani	Chief Engineer, NTR TGP, Tirupati.
10.	Sri. Ravi Kiran Nidadavolu	Chief Engineer (Projects), Kadapa
11.	Sri. N.Madhavi Sukanya	Chief Engineer, (R&B), Building &RSW, NABARD, Rural roads, LWE, Vijayawada
12.	Sri. P.Butchi Raju	Chief Engineer, (R&B), Electrical, Vijayawada

