

Minutes of the 21st meeting of the Standing Committee under DMI&SP Policy held on 29th July 2024 at 12.00 Noon. in hybrid mode under the Chairmanship of Shri Nagendra Nath Sinha, Secretary, Ministry of Steel

List of Participants who attended the meeting is given in Annexure-I.

At the outset, Chairman of the Standing Committee welcomed the participants to the 21th Meeting of the Committee. The details of the issues discussed and the decisions taken are as under:

1. ATR on recommendations of 20th Standing Committee meeting.

- i. Request for import of Hollow drill bars for ONGC and OIL contract

Background:

The Standing Committee during its 20th Meeting had approved the proposal for import of the Hollow Drill Bars for the present. However, for any future imports, the PIPL would need to approach the Committee again. Further, to indigenous the said item, ONGC, EIL and IOCL were asked to share future requirement. Technical division was requested to assess demand of similar class of products in the economy.

The following information was received from the stakeholder PSUs:

- I. IOCL and OIL vide email dated 03.06.2024 and 28.06.2024, informed the ministry that they do not have any requirement for Hollow drill bars in near future. No reply was received from EIL.
- II. ONGC vide email dated 01.07.2024 informed the Ministry that tentative requirement of Hollow Drill Bars at ONGC for the year 2024-25 and 2025-26 combined is likely to be in the range of 2400 Ton

Discussion:

The Committee desired to know why the other Oil Companies except ONGC do not require this item. OIL officer informed that they do not use Hollow Drill Tubes but various other types of drill pipes/ collars etc. Shri Praveen, OCTL mentioned that their company manufactures all the items mentioned. It was felt that the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas should be involved when dealing with the Oil PSUs. OCTL was requested to indicate their assessment of requirements of all the Oil PSUs and the eligibility criteria to be modified for supporting the domestic manufacturers.

Recommendation of Standing Committee

The Committee decided a meeting be held within a month to take a final decision on the matter. It was also decided that the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas should

coordinate with all the Oil PSUs and project a clear view regarding the requirements/stand of the Oil PSUs before the Standing Committee. The Ministry representative may be called for such meetings on every such occasion.

- ii. Hand holding industries under crisis and not lose potential manufacturing capacity – ONGC Tender for Heavy Weight Drill Pipes

Background:

Standing Committee in its 20th Meeting has requested ONGC to hand hold the industries under crisis & not lose potential manufacturing capacity. Despite this, the ONGC have gone for importing the by issue of International Tender while OCTL has the capacity to manufacture the item domestically. OCTL has stated that ONGC has not made any relaxation in Bid Evaluation Criteria in line with the Standing Committee orders.

Discussion:

Standing Committee felt that the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas should be involved in the matter

Recommendation of Standing Committee

The Committee decided that a reference be sent to Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas asking them to examine the matter and convey their stand in the matter.

2. Waiver for procurement of Premium Casing.

Background

M/s ONGC requested for exemption from DMI&SP Policy to procure below mention Premium threaded casing with accessories for the year 2024-25, wherein no domestic vendor is available-

- i. 11-3/4" OD Size, N-80, 60 PPF Flush Joint

Discussion:

Jindal Saw Ltd mentioned that the item is not in their manufacturing scope at present. Shri Avnish Kumar, Jindal Saw mentioned that they would be able to start manufacturing the item in the next few months.

Recommendation of Standing Committee

The Committee decided that exemption may be granted to ONGC for import of the item - 11-3/4" OD Size, N-80, 60 PPF Flush Joint for the year 2024-25.

Background

M/s ONGC requested for exemption from DMI&SP Policy to procure below mention Premium threaded casing with accessories for the year 2024-25, wherein no domestic vendor is available-

- ii. 7" P-110, 35 PPF for HPHT application
- iii. 7" OD Size Q125, 35 PPF for HPMT application

Discussion:

Jindal Saw Ltd mentioned that the items are available only on the 180°C Max. whereas ONGC requirement is 225°C min. Shri Pradeep Soni, ONGC mentioned that the items are required specifically for use in High Pressure High Temperature (HPHT) Well for which a minimum of 225°C min has been prescribed. This is as per Cal-IV certification i.e. upto 180°C for non HPHT Wells and 225°C min for HPHT Wells. They requested for grant of exemption to import the items for both 2024-24 and 2025-26 since even the items for 2025-26 need to become available to them by April 2025 since it will take another 7-8 before they can be put to use at their work sites.

Jindal Saw Ltd mentioned that they are not aware of any temperature stipulation for Cal-IV certifications. They have requested their technology provider M/s Hunting for getting the tests done but it will take 6-7 months to get it done. The testing is to be done outside the country and testing facility is not available in India.

The Committee noted that there were no testing facilities available within the country due to which the proposal to expedite the domestic manufacture is getting delayed.

Recommendation of Standing Committee

- The Committee decided that exemption may be granted to ONGC for import of the items - 7" P-110, 35 PPF for HPHT application AND 7" OD Size Q125, 35 PPF for HPMT application; for the year 2024-25.
 - The Committee asked Jindal Saw Ltd to expedite their testing requirements and submit the report at the earliest. It was decided that the matter may be again reviewed in 2 months' time.
 - The Committee requested to Technical Division to list out such tests which are not being done within the country and take up with all the technical institutions/ laboratories to find out which can be done domestically currently and how should the testing facility be upgraded.
3. The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chairman.