

- c) Unless otherwise agreed between the Parties, Conciliation proceedings under these Rules may be held at the registered office of HPCL at 17, Jamshedji Tata Road, Churchgate, Mumbai-400020 or any other office of HPCL.
- d) Unless the parties have agreed upon the place where meetings with the conciliator are to be held, such place shall be determined by the conciliator, be convenient to both parties and take into consideration the circumstances of the conciliation proceedings.
- e) Equal opportunities shall be given to the Parties to express their views before the SAC and the SAC shall make utmost efforts to ensure that the Conciliation proceedings are conducted in a friendly and conducive manner.
- f) Representation of the Parties may be oral or in writing. Only if both Parties agree to in writing, then minutes of the meetings/hearings may be recorded in broad general terms, without however, recording adversarial submissions/ claims or stand of either party on the same, if any. Copies of such minutes of meetings shall be sent to the Parties within 7 (seven) working days of each meeting/hearing. No such minutes shall constitute any evidence as to the stand of either party and shall not be used in evidence before any Court of law. If Minutes are not agreed by either Party it shall not be made or issued. Only a record of Attendance of a meeting/ Attendance Sheet shall be made in such cases.
- g) Best efforts shall be made to ensure that Conciliation proceedings are conducted in a time-bound manner without, however, diluting procedural flexibility of such proceedings.
- h) The language of the Conciliation proceedings under these Rules shall be English.

9. Role of Settlement Advisory Committee/ Conciliators

- a) The Settlement Advisory Committee shall attempt to facilitate resolution of the dispute(s) by the Parties, and communicate the view of each party to the other, assist them in identifying issues, reduce misunderstandings, clarify priorities, explore areas of compromise and generate options in an attempt to resolve the dispute(s), emphasizing on the benefits of settlement.
- b) The SAC shall encourage the Parties to meet and discuss amongst themselves for an amicable settlement of the dispute(s) referred.
- c) The SAC shall be guided by the principles of objectivity, fairness and justice and shall assist the Parties in an independent and impartial manner to reach an amicable settlement of dispute(s).
- d) The SAC shall conduct Conciliation proceedings in conformity with these Rules and Part-III of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 to the maximum extent possible, but shall be flexible with appropriate adjustments, whenever required or whenever the Parties make joint request.

- e) The broad approach of the SAC shall be speedy, efficient and amicable `settlement of disputes, without however diluting objectivity of approach, principles of natural justice and established principles of law.
- f) The SAC shall act more as facilitators, rather than as judges/umpires/arbitrators and shall not impose any view or terms of settlement on any of the Parties.
- g) The SAC may suggest to either of the Parties or both of them, the possible terms of a settlement for their consideration. If such possible terms of a settlement are given, then both parties shall comment on the same and after considering the comments, the SAC may offer a revised terms of settlement for consideration.
- h) Unless it is signed by both the Parties to the Dispute/ Conciliation, no “terms of settlement” which are proposed or commented upon, shall be binding upon either Party or held against it.

10. Time Frame

- a) The SAC shall attempt to dispose of the entire Conciliation proceedings within a time frame of 6 (six) months from the date of constitution of the SAC, but the same may be extended with the mutual consent of the Parties, for a period not exceeding 2 (two) months.
- b) Notwithstanding sub rule (a), a Settlement Agreement signed after the 8 (eight) months period stipulated in sub-rule (a) shall not become void or unenforceable merely because such agreement has been signed after the stipulated 8 (eight) months period.
- c) Notwithstanding sub rule (a), the SAC may terminate the Conciliation proceedings any time before the expiration of the 6 (six) months stipulated in sub-rule (a) if it is of the view that because of the vastly divergent, extreme and/or rigid views of the Parties or non-cooperation/ response of any one party or both parties or for any other substantial reason it is no longer possible or practicable to meaningfully conduct the Conciliation proceedings.
- d) The total number of meetings of the SAC/ hearings in a Conciliation proceeding shall not be more than 6 (Six), unless otherwise agreed between the parties in consultation with the SAC.

11. Conciliator’s fee

- a) Each Conciliator constituting the SAC shall be entitled to the following fees:-
 - i. a fee of ₹ 40,000/- (Rupees Forty Thousand only) for each hearing/meeting.
 - ii. a lump sum reading fee of ₹ 40,000/- (Rupees Forty Thousand only).
 - iii. a lump sum facilitation fee of ₹ 40,000/- (Rupees Forty Thousand only) if a draft Settlement Agreement is prepared by the SAC.
- b) Provided that the total fees payable shall not exceed a maximum of ₹ 4,00,000/- (Rupees Four Lacs only) per Conciliator per dispute (case referred for Conciliation) excluding service tax. This is unless otherwise agreed to in writing by both the Parties.

- c) In addition to the fees and expenses stated in sub-rule (a) above, the SAC shall be entitled to incur for themselves secretarial services at a lump sum amount of ₹25,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand only). The SAC/ Conciliators will make its own arrangements for secretarial services. The SAC/ Conciliators shall make their own local travel arrangements.
- d) If the Conciliation Proceedings are held at a place other than the location/ residence of the Conciliator (outstation visit), then each such Conciliator shall also be entitled for reimbursement of (i) actual rail/ air travel expenses, (ii) expenses for suitable Hotel Accommodation, (iii) meals and local travel on actual basis. The accommodation to the Conciliator(s) shall be provided at the guest houses of HPCL, where available.
- e) In all cases the fees and expenses of conciliation mentioned above shall be borne equally by the Parties. Further, the Parties shall pay and bear their respective share of the fees and expenses within 30 (thirty) days from the date of first meeting/ hearing, to the Conciliators as directed by the SAC or to such an account as may be designated by them. The process and payment stage can be agreed and varied by the consent of the Parties and the Conciliator(s).
- f) Final account towards fees, payment for secretarial services and other expenses of the Conciliation proceedings shall be reconciled and settled between the Parties and the SAC on the termination of the Conciliation proceedings. In case of signing of a Settlement Agreement, the fees and expenses as determined by the SAC as per these Rules shall be paid by the Parties within 30 (thirty) days of the signing the Settlement Agreement.
- g) In the event where the dispute does not involve any monetary claim or disputed amount cannot be quantified, then the Conciliator's fees will be a consolidated sum of Rs.3.00 lakhs inclusive of fees for hearing, study, facilitation, etc. Secretarial charges will be extra as per the above provisions.

12. Non-disclosure of Information

When a Party to a Conciliation proceeding provides any information concerning any issue of dispute to the SAC subject to a specific condition that such an information is to be treated confidential, the SAC shall not disclose that information to the other Party.

13. Co-operation of Parties

- a) The Parties shall, in good faith co-operate with the SAC and in particular will endeavor to comply with any request of the SAC to submit written materials, provide evidence, give clarification, attend meetings/hearings, etc.
- b) Conciliation being an amicable dispute settlement mechanism, the Parties shall not take adversarial roles, but instead make every possible effort to understand and appreciate the other Party's viewpoints without, however, diluting the correct factual position.

® **REVISION: PROC-043/16.03.2020**

- c) The Parties shall make every possible effort to render optimum co-operation for a speedy, efficient and mutually acceptable amicable resolution of disputes.
- d) The Parties shall not in any manner make any attempt to unduly influence the Conciliation proceedings or the SAC by way of inducement in any form or manner and shall conduct themselves with full dignity, honesty and integrity.
- e) Notwithstanding that any Conciliation Proceedings have commenced or continued between the Parties, no work shall be stopped by a Contractor merely because of the pendency of disputes before Conciliation. Every work including extra work shall have to be carried out and performed as per the terms of the contract, by a contractor irrespective of the pendency of conciliation proceedings.

14. Agreement of Settlement

- a) After discussing with and hearing the Parties involved, if the SAC is of the view that there exist circumstances for a settlement of the dispute, the SAC shall formulate the draft terms of a possible settlement and submit the same to the Parties for their consideration and comments.
- b) If any part of the draft terms of settlement is not acceptable to any of the Parties, further meetings/hearings shall be held for possible resolution till mutually acceptable terms are reached.
- c) When a settlement can be arrived at only in regard to any one or only some of the issues referred for Conciliation, an Agreement of Settlement may be signed in regard to the said issue(s), but not the others. Such a Settlement shall be binding on only that one or only some of the issues which are Settled and not the others, unless otherwise agreed upon in writing by both Parties.
- d) An Agreement of Settlement shall contain a statement to the effect that each of the person(s) signing: (I) is fully authorized by the respective Party he/she represents, (II) has fully understood the contents of the same, (III) is signing the same out of complete free will and consent, without any pressure or undue influence and (IV) the same shall be final and binding on and enforceable against the Party and the persons who(m) he represents.
- e) When an Agreement of Settlement is signed, the same shall be final and binding on the Parties and the persons claiming under/ through them respectively.
- f) The SAC shall authenticate the Agreement of Settlement. The Agreement of Settlement shall be made in 2 Originals – one each for the two parties. If there are more Parties, then every Party shall be given an original signed Agreement of Settlement and hence more originals shall be made.
- g) The settlement agreement shall have the same status and effect as if it is an arbitral award on agreed terms on the substance of the dispute, under Section 30 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996.

® **REVISION: PROC-043/16.03.2020**

15. Confidentiality and Admissibility of Evidence in Other Proceedings

- a) The SAC and the Parties shall keep confidential all information furnished, documents filed, evidence produced/adduced during the course of the Conciliation proceedings and the contents of any terms of settlement or draft Settlement Agreement or final Settlement Agreement, except where its disclosure is necessary for purposes of implementation and enforcement of the Settlement Agreement.
- b) Confidentiality under these Rules shall extend to proposals, alternative proposals, communications exchanged between/amongst the Parties, communications exchanged between any of the Parties and the SAC or any of the Conciliators (in case of multi Conciliator Committee), minutes of meeting/hearings, draft Settlement Agreement(s), expert opinions, evidence of witness etc. in relation to the Conciliation proceedings.
- c) Neither the Parties nor the Conciliator(s) shall rely upon or introduce as evidence or give testimony regarding any of the following in any arbitration, judicial or similar proceedings:
 - i. A proposal or alternative proposal by a party, or the willingness of a party to accept a proposal or alternative proposal during the Conciliation proceedings;
 - ii. Views expressed during the Conciliation proceedings in respect of a possible settlement of a dispute or the terms of a possible settlement or otherwise;
 - iii. Statements or admissions made by a party in the course of the Conciliation proceedings;
 - iv. Proposals or suggestions made or views expressed by the SAC;
 - v. A document prepared solely for purposes of the Conciliation proceedings.
- d) The above provisions on confidentiality and admissibility of evidence of the aforesaid material/matter shall also extend to any arbitration, judicial or similar proceedings relating to disputes, which are not the subject matter of the same Conciliation proceedings.
- e) No person who has been a part of the Conciliation proceedings including the Conciliator(s), a Party, witness, or any third party, shall, unless required by applicable law or unless the Parties agree otherwise in writing, give testimony in any arbitration or judicial or similar proceedings concerning any aspect of the Conciliation proceedings, except in respect of a Signed Settlement Agreement, if the veracity of the same is in question, doubt or challenge.
- f) Subject to the limitations contained in this Rule, evidence that is otherwise admissible in arbitration or judicial or similar proceedings does not become inadmissible merely as a consequence of it having been used in a Conciliation proceeding.

16. Judicial or other Proceedings

- a) During the course or pendency of a Conciliation proceeding under these Rules; the Parties shall not initiate or take any step to initiate any judicial or other proceedings in respect of a dispute, which is subject matter of a pending Conciliation proceeding and if any proceeding is already pending, then the Party(ies) shall ensure that the same is kept in abeyance/ withdrawn.

® **REVISION: PROC-043/16.03.2020**

- b) Subject to the above sub rule (a), reference of any dispute to Conciliation under these Rules shall be without prejudice to any rights and interest of the Parties involved to resort to Court or judicial proceedings, in case the Conciliation proceedings fails or terminates.
- c) The Conciliation Proceedings under these Rules shall not be deemed to be Arbitration proceedings and any agreement for conciliation shall not be deemed to be an agreement between the parties for Arbitration.

17. Personal Exemption of Conciliators

- a) A Conciliator shall be given full immunity by both Parties and shall not be held liable for anything done or omitted to be done by him during the course of a Conciliation proceeding, whether by way of any civil or criminal action or otherwise howsoever. No Conciliator shall be summoned or presented by any party as a witness in any arbitration or judicial or similar proceedings in regard to any information received or action taken by him during the course of a Conciliation proceeding.
- b) No Conciliator shall be engaged by the parties in any arbitration or judicial or similar proceedings in respect of a dispute which is the subject matter of a Conciliation proceeding.

18. Termination of Conciliation proceedings

The Conciliation Proceedings are terminated:

- i. By the signing of the Settlement Agreement by the Parties, on the date of the Agreement; or
- ii. By a written declaration of the SAC, after consultation with the Parties, to the effect that further efforts at Conciliation are no longer justified, on the date of the declaration; or
- iii. By a joint written declaration of the Parties addressed to the SAC to the effect that the Conciliation proceedings are terminated, on the date of the declaration; or
- iv. By a written declaration of one party to the other Party (or other parties) and the SAC, to the effect that the Conciliation proceedings are terminated, on the date of declaration; or
- v. On the expiration of the time period specified in Rule 10(a) above for the completion of a Conciliation proceeding, or any agreed extension thereof by the Parties; or
- vi. On the non-payment of fees/expenses as specified under Rule 11 by a Party; or
- vii. On the failure of the Parties to appoint a Conciliator to constitute the SAC in accordance with these Rules.
- viii. On disqualification of a Conciliator who is part of the SAC.

19. Miscellaneous

The Management of HPCL may revise, amend or alter these Rules or the Schedule of Fees and other charges to be charged and paid as and when it may think necessary.

Any matter not covered in these Rules shall be in accordance with the provisions of Part-III of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, and in general consonance with the intent of these Rules.

® **REVISION: PROC-043/16.03.2020**

SCHEDULE A

DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE AND INDEPENDENCE BY MEMBERS OF SETTLEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ref: Conciliation betweenand arising out of contract/agreement (insert details) dated.....

I, the undersigned, do hereby agree to serve, as a member of the Settlement Advisory Committee in the referred case and hereby make the following declarations:

1. I am familiar with the requirements of the law, particularly the Arbitration and Conciliation Act,1996 and HPCL Conciliation Rules, 2018.
2. I am available to serve as a Member of the Settlement Advisory Committee and I am independent of any of the Parties involved in the referred Conciliation proceeding and have no interest – business, financial or otherwise - in any part of the contract/Agreement under reference or subject of the Conciliation proceeding. I am not related to either of the two parties as a serving employee or consultant or Director or Legal Adviser or a substantial shareholder or being a close relative of the owner of either party or in any other manner which will affect my independence or impartiality.
3. I have not dealt earlier with the contract under reference or the subject matter of the Conciliation proceeding in any manner or capacity, which could compromise my ability, independence or impartiality to resolve the dispute(s).
4. In future I will not act as an arbitrator or as a representative or counsel of any Party in any arbitration or judicial or similar proceedings in respect of the dispute which has been referred and which is the subject matter of the Conciliation proceedings.
5. The fees and other facilities for conciliation, offered to and accepted by me will remain fixed and under no circumstances will there be any demand from me for any alteration or change or increase therein, under any nomenclature.

Date:

(Signature)

Name:

Address:

Tender No. : 21000110-HB-10155



Tender Published On : 25-Jul-2021 14:27

Formats

Sl.No.	Description	Attached File	Set Value	Supporting Doc. Req'd
1	PBG	PBG.pdf	-	No

ANNEXURE - 10
(SPECIMEN)10. BANK GUARANTEE FOR PERFORMANCE OF THE OBLIGATIONS OF
SUPPLIER / CONTRACTOR

(on non-judicial stamp paper of appropriate value)

To,

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.,
(Address as applicable)

IN CONSIDERATION OF THE HINDUSTAN PETROLEUM CORPORATION LTD. a

Government of India Company registered under the Companies Act, 1956, having its registered office at 17, Jamshedji Tata Road, Bombay - 400 020 (hereinafter called "the Corporation" which expression shall include its successors and assigns) having awarded to M/s _____ a partnership firm/sole proprietor business/a company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 having its office at _____ (hereinafter referred to as "the Supplier" which expression shall wherever the subject or context so permits includes its successors and assigns) a supply contract in terms inter alia, of "the Corporation's" Order No. _____ dated _____ and the General procurement conditions of "the Corporation" and upon the condition of "supplier's" furnishing security for the performance of "the Supplier's" obligations and/or discharge of "the supplier's" liability under and/or in connection with the said supply contract upto a sum of ₹ (Rupees _____) amounting to 10% (ten percent) of the total contract value.

We, _____ (hereinafter called "the Bank" which expression shall include its successors and assigns) hereby jointly and severally undertake and guarantee to pay to "the Corporation" in rupees forthwith on demand in writing and without protest or demur of any and all moneys anyway payable by "the Supplier" to "the Corporation" under, in respect of or in connection with the said supply contract inclusive of all the Corporation's losses and damage and costs, (inclusive between attorney and client) charges, and expenses and other moneys anyway payable in respect of the above as specified in any notice of demand made by "the Corporation" to the Bank with reference to this Guarantee upto and aggregate limit of ₹ _____ (Rupees _____) and "the

Bank" hereby agrees with "the Corporation" that:

1. This Guarantee/Undertaking shall be a continuing Guarantee /Undertaking and shall remain valid and irrevokable for all claims of "the Corporation" and liabilities of "the Supplier" arising upto and until midnight of _____
2. This Guarantee/Undertaking shall be in addition to any other guarantee or security whatsoever that "the Corporation" may now or any time anyway have in relation to "the