POLICY MEMORANDA

Reforming Public Procurement for Fiscal Integrity

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ABSTRACT

This memorandum sets out practical steps to make public procurement more transparent and competitive, building on the e-GP system so that public money buys better value and contracts are open to scrutiny.

KEYWORDS

public procurement, e-GP, transparency, open contracting, fiscal integrity

FULL TEXT

Public procurement accounts for a large share of government spending in Bangladesh. When contracts are awarded with little competition or poor oversight, the cost falls on taxpayers through inflated prices, delays and low-quality works.

The electronic government procurement system has improved access to tenders, but data on contract changes, final costs and supplier performance is still hard to find. Single-bid contracts remain common in several sectors.

This memorandum proposes four priorities for decision-makers: publishing full contract data under open contracting standards, flagging high-risk tenders automatically, strengthening complaint mechanisms, and linking supplier performance to future eligibility.

These steps are low-cost, can be introduced within existing law, and would give parliament, auditors and the public the information they need to hold spending agencies to account.

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