
Time Line: e_PBG Module will reduce the time line of PBG to 72 hours from 45 days what used to be in case of paper form.

Current Status: e_PBG module designed and developed in association with SBI, Bank of Baroda and ICICI etc is now ready for implementation on live GeM Portal after satisfactory assessment in test environment.

Indicative Process Flow of e_PBG Module:

- Bankers server will be integrated with GeM portal for information interchange related with e_PBG through Application Programming Interface (API)/ Web Services.
- Nearest Branch of bankers will act as advising branch for E-PBG related transaction.
- If needed, buyer may opt for bank guarantee & indicate advising Banker of his choice at time of creating bid and accordingly system will alert prospective bidder about the requirement of bank guarantee in electronic form from the successful supplier after completion of bidding cycle.
- After successful bidding process, System will provide standard BG format complete with all the necessary field such as value of contract, validity of the BG, beneficiary detail, BIC Code of advising bank chosen by the buyer and vital information related with the contract populated from GeM data base in automated manner.
- Simultaneously, an advisory containing field value of critical SFMS attribute consisting of beneficiary details, validity of BG, value of BG, contract number & BIC code etc will also be made available by the system to issuing Bank trough supplier to avoid mistake during SFMS process. These values will also be transmitted to advising bank concurrently for validation of e PBG received from issuing bank of supplier. Responsibility of correctness of BG content will rest with issuing bank and supplier itself.
- Paper BG of issuing bank will not be operational unless same is transmitted to advising bank through SFMS message COV 760. There is provision for Supplier to upload paper BG in PDF format before sending the same to buyer for their reference and scrutiny.
- Advising bank, on receipt of the SFMS message (760 COV), will compare & validate the e_PBG from the validation data base created on basis of advance information received from GeM portal. On positive validation, banker server will update the GeM server by flag “Y” and thus enabling the buyer to place formal contract on supplier. Unless flag is “Y”, formal contract cannot be placed.
- In case validation failed, error message will be generated with the reason of failure. Accordingly GeM portal will advise supplier for amendment through COV 767 message from issuing bank. On receipt of amendment through SFMS, advising bank will process the input as per above step and update the flag of GeM portal suitably.
- Advising bank will keep on alerting the buyer about the e_PBG such as its expiry etc & if nothing received adversely, capital blocked in form of BG will be released within time frame which will ultimately reduce the cost of procurement.