

M N Vijayakumar
(Retired IAS officer, 1981 Batch, Karnataka cadre)
Bangalore

21st October 2016

Sub: Requesting M/s Larson & Turbo Pvt Ltd, M/s STUP Constructions Pvt Ltd, the private companies involved in the Steel Bridge Project, Bangalore, to give proper facts to the citizens in the light of 23/09/2016 letter of the Central Vigilance Commission as specific information sought denied by the BDA gives rise to serious concerns about the intention behind pushing the project against public opinion.

Dear Sri. A.M. Naik, Chairman ,(L& T), Sri. A.C. Alimchandani, Chairman, (STUP), Sri SC. Khuntia, IAS, Chief Secretary, Sri Mahendra Jain , IAS, ACS, Urban Development Department, Sri Rajkumar Khatri, IAS,Commissioner, BDA,

To those who do not know me, I would like to inform them that I have been trying to promote whistleblowing among very senior IAS officers in the country for more than two decades, while in Service and also after retirement in April 2015. To know something about me, please go through the attachments to this email.

I draw your attention to the 23/09/2016 letter of the Central Vigilance Commission. **I hope someone in your office has brought that letter to your notice and all of you would have taken appropriate action to come out with unique programs starting from 31st October 2016.** I have not given further details here because I want to apply the logic BDA has been stressing regarding public consultation related to the steel bridge project. I would not have written this letter to all of you in this manner if BDA had not been stubborn in continuing to deny information to the citizens. Luckily for the citizens, unlike in the past, the 23/09/2016 letter of the CVC demands even the Corporate Sector to step in when Ministers and senior officers oppose transparency. In this connection, I have enclosed a letter addressed by me to various authorities on 12th October 2016. In that letter, I have mentioned about the fact accepted by the CVC that senior Ministers and senior officers in the country are incapable of fighting corruption and that the time has come for ordinary citizens and the Corporate sector to lead the fight against corruption. **BDA denying information even after that letter by the CVC shows the arrogance of the corrupt Ministers and officers in Karnataka.**

As you notice in this letter, I have also sought specific action from each of the recipient of this letter to whom this letter is directly addressed and in case they fail to act, I have demanded while marking a copy of this letter to the Anti-Corruption Bureau to treat it as a compliant of massive corruption against senior IAS officers of government of Karnataka involved in the project at various stages, Sri Siddaramaiah, Chief Minister of Karnataka and the Minister in charge of BDA.

Action requested from Chairman, L &T:

1. From 2004 to 2006, while I was in Service, I reported to the government and other authorities /documented in files (No. EN/SS/PR/PS/2005/286 and No. DPE/MSI/10/2005 and many others) tens of thousands of crores of swindling of public money by senior IAS officers in many public sector undertakings. I have filed cases before various authorities. One such competent authority in CAT No. 463/2016, in April 2016, took suo motto decision to make the CVC and the CBI as Respondents in my case in which I had made government of Karnataka and two corrupt Chief Secretaries as Respondents for not taking action against corruption reports given by me. One of the files built by me in 2006 involved L & T Company also. My repeated insistence to take action against all those IAS officers who looted government money resulted in many attempts on my life/my family members' lives, the latest such attempt being made on 3rd October 2016. While reporting one such the first attempt on my life, the **New York Times** had also mentioned a specific type of swindling of public money revealed by me in its article dated 5th July 2007. It is quite possible that those corrupt IAS officers fabricated documents and used L & T's name. In spite of my many requests to produce that file before various authorities since 2006, in addition to severe resistance, I had to face extreme harassments (including attempts on life). I would not have mentioned about the L & T case, but for L & T itself keeping quiet even after the huge public uproar against the project even after the CVC letter dated 23/09/2016 and BDA stubbornly denying information and disclosing extremely relevant facts about the steel bridge project till today.
2. Because of the absence of credible information about the steel bridge project, I am making the following observations purely based on some information available in the public domain which have not been challenged by the Companies involved. As per the information on the internet, it appears that L & T has jointly bid for the steel bridge project along with another construction Company. Information in the public domain indicates that the other Company was blacklisted by another State government in 2012 itself. That Company after slightly changing its name had taken up another major project in another State and it appears that on 21/4/2016, the structure built by that Company collapsed during testing stage itself. If L & T is the sole Company to execute the project, appropriate clarification may be issued to reduce the huge trust gap which responsible citizens of Bangalore have about the project forcing them to conclude that the Project cost has been bloated to swindle public money.
3. I request you to go through the actions I have demanded from Sri SC. Khuntia, IAS, Chief Secretary, and others later in this letter. Considering all these, I request to put as much information as possible on your Company's website before 28th October 2016, about all

such information denied by the BDA to the citizens (which have been reported in major National newspapers) and other specific issues raised by me later in this letter.

Action requested from Chairman, STUP:

1. From the date of appointment as Consultant to prepare DPR for the Steel Bridge Project till the commencement of the work for months together, it appears that there was no significant activity from STUP. Did government of Karnataka direct STUP to keep quiet during this period after blacklisting of STUP by the government of Kerala was upheld by the High Court of Kerala?
2. What is the reason behind STUP coming out with the third option in the DPR (while the first two options provided sideway entry and exit at various points) and suggesting a totally dedicated bridge from Chalukya Circle to Hebbal while Sri Siddaramaiah and Sri KJ George are today denying that the project, at no point of time was exclusively conceived for elite people going to the airport.
3. A few days back, BDA had after lot of noise from the citizens put some information in a condensed manner on its website. Quite a good number of points mentioned contradict the DPR given by STUP. In larger public interest and in particular in view of the 23/9/2016 letter of the Central Vigilance Commission, will STUP come out with a rejoinder as to the points it finds BDA clarification differs from the DPR, as BDA has failed to mention explicitly why it has made such changes and on the other hand has been stubbornly denying proper information to the citizens.
4. Why STUP did not prepare the DPR in such a manner keeping the Government of India norms, so that project could be partially funded by the central government and the areas given in the DPR as one of the options but now left out could also have been funded and covered.

Action demanded from Sri SC. Khuntia, IAS, Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka, Sri Mahendra Jain , IAS, ACS, Urban Development Department, Sri Rajkumar Khatri, IAS, Commissioner, BDA, before 28th October 2016:

Were the points given hereunder brought to notice of the Chief Secretary or the Chief Minister or Shri T J George, Minister in charge of BDA by Dr. Rajkumar Khatri , IAS Commissioner BDA or his predecessor Sri ShamBhatt. Further whether Sri SC, Khuntia, IAS , Chief Secretary or his predecessors Sri Kaushik Mukherjee and Sri Arvind Jadhav and the Chief Minister bring to the notice of the State Cabinet and whether the State Cabinet deliberately ignored following facts -

1. that the bid document was prepared plagiarising a document relating to Greater Hyderabad Development Corporation. A deeper investigation would reveal how this plagiarism was used to prevent more interested parties from bidding.
2. that I had documented and reported between 2004 to 2006 regarding swindling of public money by senior IAS officers in many cases including the one involving the using/misusing of the name of L & T Company to loot public money?
3. that BDA gave confusing clarification to keep out international bidders from showing any interest in the project? – to mention a few randomly noticed aberrations like vague technical clarification, confusing eligibility criteria, 12% interest on mobilisation fund, lacking clarity on conflict resolution, not giving specific clarification sought regarding conditions of subcontracting, denying even a few months extension sought by international bidders in view of the extremely ambitious project which has not been taken up anywhere in India, not preparing the project in such a manner which would have allowed government of India to fund the project (was it deliberately not done to avoid direct scrutiny by CVC, CBI, etc.), BDA not confident of giving 100 % land even after one year after awarding the contract, clarification given that laying of pipes includes purchase of pipes which is similar to a tailor interpreting that stitching charge includes the cost of the cloth, etc.,
4. that the total cost which is presently quoted does not include many items for which BDA has clarified that payment would be made after measurement.
5. about allowing a blacklisted Company from participating in the bid? Further, that the structure built by the same blacklisted company in another State had collapsed on 21st April 2016.
6. about the frequent irrational extension of the last date for submission of the bid to avoid the complications that would arise out of only one Company bidding out of 19 Companies showing interest? Information available in the public domain gives an impression that clarification was continued to be issued even after the last date fixed for submission of the bids!
7. Suppressing that the Consultant was appointed to give initially exclusive bridge from Chalukya Circle to Hebbal for the elite travelling to and from the airport?
8. that the escalation arising out of any delay in addressing issues related to environment would be a burden on the citizens, as frequent demands made by citizens for such assessment have been deliberately ignored (For those who have converted Bangalore into an ugly concrete jungle by allowing massive land grabbing, city aesthetics is not at all a concern though reminded by many responsible citizens).
9. that the interested companies ran away from participating in the bid because of the extreme poor image of Karnataka as the most corrupt State in the country?. No wonder the former Lokayukta Justice Dr. Y. Bhaskar Rao who had to act as watchdog against corruption has himself been charged with serious corrupt practices, which has not happened anywhere in

the country. Sri Siddaramaiah, Chief Minister and Sri. KJ. George , Minister will continue to escape punishment as long as Sri Om Prakash, the present DG and IGP and Sri Kempaiah, Advisor, Home Department, who were used by the IAS mafia -the mastermind behind criminally taking over the Lokayukta institution, continue to allow handpicked IPS officers to function in the SIT to scuttle probing corruption in the Lokayukta institution.

10. that BDA has extremely low track record of having kept up its promise on compensatory tree planting as is evident from the outer ring road project (A senior IFS officer specifically requested me to include this)

The statements made by the Chief Minister Sri Siddaramaiah, Sri KJ George, Minister and the BDA Commissioner gives an impression that citizens living in many areas now left out from the project, though included in one of the options given in the DPR, whole heartedly allowed to exclude themselves and further that elected representatives belonging to this area including Corporators agreed to the same. I am writing this letter to stop these Ministers and officers from continuing to treat not just citizens as fools, but even elected representatives as fools. As BDA is afraid of its own corrupt practices being exposed does not want to help citizens in areas suggested in DPR by seeking assistance from the Central government.

PS: i. Has Sri SC.Khuntia returned all the money swindled by him from MSIL apart from those mentioned in my letter dated 12th October 2016? He should also return the illegally kept second site before public forcefully make him to do so. This becomes very important as very serious issues have been raised in this letter. ii. Sri. Mahendra Jain must refrain from damaging documents available to him to avoid pressure from those who want to take action against him for misusing his official position,(to mention a few easily verifiable ones), to get a huge loan for his son without security from a State government owned bank, brazenly violating building law to construct his house close to my house(Ihad informed this when Sri TM Vijaybhaskar was Administrator, BBMP). iii. If Dr. Rajkumar Khantri had been honest, then he would reported to government of Karnataka by now, innumerable corrupt practices brazenly indulged into by his predecessor Sri. Sham Bhatt brought to his notice by those working under him. He would not have ignored the CVC letter dated 23rd Sep 2016 and denied information to protect corrupt officers and Ministers

Yours Sincerely,
M N Vijayakumar

To:

Shri K.V. Chowdary, The Chief Vigilance Commissioner, - He is requested to give publicity to his 23rd Sep 2016 letter at least now. He is also requested to inform M/S L & T and M/S STUP to act as requested in this letter

Shri A.M. Naik, Chairman, L & T,
Shri A.C.Alimchandani, Chairman, STUP, India
Shri SC. Khuntia,IAS, Chief Secretary, Karnataka.
Shri Mahendra Jain,IAS, ACS, Urban Development Department,
Shri Rajkumar Khathri, IAS, Commissioner, BDA

Copy to:

- 1. All Secretaries to GOI** for information to give an idea as to what happens in the most corrupt State in the country
- 2.** All Chief Secretaries to State governments in India for information
- 3. Retired Justice Sri. Markandey Khatju** – for information,
- 4.** Some others who have helped me to protect myself, some IAS officers across the country and many retired IAS officers of Karnataka Cadre – I am thankful to the four of them responded to my letter dated 9th Aug 16 opposing the appointment of Sri. Sham Bhatt, as Chairman, KPSC. I request Shri V Balasubramanian, retired ACS to ask Transparency International, Bangalore to make arrangements for a discussion of this letter on 31.10.2016 inviting all retired and serving IAS officers. . I would also like to participate
- 5. The Principal Secretary, DPAR** he must place all files mentioned in the body of this letter and in the attachments on GOK website before 28th Oct 2016 and also produce those along with this letter before the Competent Authority in the case filed by me in April 2016 in which CVC and CBI have also been made parties.
- 6. To all senior IPS officers in the Anti –Corruption Bureau, Karnataka** – to treat this as a complaint against Sri Siddaramaiah, Chief Minister, Sri KJ. George, Minister, Sri SC. Khuntia, IAS, Chief Secretary and his predecessors Sri Arvind Jadhav and Sri Kaushik Mukherjee, Sri Raj Kumar Khatri, IAS Commissioner BDA and his predecessor Sri Sham Bhatt, if clarification sought is not publicly issued before 28th October 2016. In case the 2004-2006 files mentioned in the letter are not produced, at least those pertaining to L & T, then complaint is to be registered against former Chief Secretaries, Sri BK. Das, Dr. Malati Das, Sri PB . Mahishi, Sri Sudhakar Rao , Sri . SV. Ranganath, Sri Kaushik Mukherjee, Sri Arvind Jadhav and the present Chief Secretary Sri SC. Khuntia