The Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) is the apex regulatory body of the construction Industry of Sri Lanka, established as per the provisions of the Construction Industry Development Act No.33 of 2014. According to the Section 67 of the said Act, “identified construction works” is defined as follows:

“(a) all buildings, structures, or any building or structure or landscape which consists of facilities and amenities for public use exceeding in value rupees ten million or such higher value as may be prescribed by the Minister, from time to time; and

(b) all buildings, structures or landscapes which need approval of environmental, geological and cultural heritage regulatory bodies.

Any private residential building constructed for the personal use of any private owner shall be excluded from the definition of the expression “identified construction works”

As per the provisions of the Construction Industry Development Act No.33 of 2014; Any “Identified Construction Works” carried out in Sri Lanka, shall be executed adhering to the provisions of section 46 and the Regulations published in the Gazette under sections 30 and 38, of Construction Industry Development Act No.33 of 2014.

The Standard Bidding Documents (SBD’s) are published by the CIDA, as per the provisions of section 46 of the said Act. Accordingly, “any party that engages a qualified person as a consultant or a registered contractor in any identified construction work shall use the standard documents specified for the purpose by the Authority.”

Therefore, we urge the requirement of adhering to the Standing Bidding Documents (SBDs), published by CIDA for any “Identified Constructions Works” as mandated by the provisions of the said Act. Any modifications or amendments to this Standard Bidding Document shall not be carried out without prior approval of the Authority.

Further, according to the Subsection 56 (1) (a) of the Construction Industry Development Act, “any person who contravenes, or fails to comply with, any provision of this Act or any regulation made thereunder shall be guilty of an offence under this Act” and as per the Subsection 56 (2) of the said Act, “any person who commits an offence under this Act, shall upon conviction after summary trial before a Magistrate, be liable to a fine not exceeding rupees one hundred thousand or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding two years or to both such fine and imprisonment.”

Therefore, failure to adhere to SBDs amounts to an offence under the provisions of the Construction Industry Development Act No 33 of 2014 and CIDA will take necessary legal actions accordingly.

Chairman
Construction Industry Development Authority

Ministry of Urban Development, Water Supply and Housing Facilities
26.05.2020