

Lot 1 Thorne's Drive,
Durban Backlands,
Lodge, Georgetown
Tel: (592) 227-1161

February 3, 2023

Chairperson
Public Procurement Commission,
262 New Garden Street,
Queenstown,
Georgetown, Guyana

Dear Madam,

Re: FOUR LANE HIGHWAY FROM ECCLES, EAST BANK DEMERARA TO GREAT DIAMOND

A contract for the construction of the Four Lane Highway from Eccles to Great Diamond (Lot 2) was awarded to V. Dalip Enterprise, the procuring entity was the Central Housing and Planning Authority, I write seeking an investigation into the award of this contract on the basis that the Contractor was not eligible for the award.

The tender process was conducted by the National Procurement and Tender Administration Board (NPTAB), the details are follows: -

Project Description: Construction of a Four Lane Highway from Eccles, East Bank Demerara to Great Diamond, Region 4- Lot 1-12

Reference Number: 52/2021/45

Procuring Entity: Central Housing and Planning Authority

Contract Award: V. Dalip Enterprise (G\$889,900,000.00)

The Public Procurement Commission (PPC) via Circular No. 02/2019 instructed all Permanent Secretaries, Regional Executive Officers, heads of Agencies and Heads of Departments that in accordance with the Procurement (Suspension and Debarment) Regulations 2019, that the above-mentioned company was debarred due to fraudulent practices.

The PPC Circular 02/2019 categorially states that:

“Procuring Entities are advised that no contract shall be awarded to an entity that has been debarred by the Commission. The List of debarred contractors is maintained on the Commission’s website and should be checked prior to the award of any contract”

The PPC website on today’s date, currently confirms that V. Dalip Enterprise continues to be debarred until 28th December 2030, no circular has been issued removing this contractor from the Debarred Contractor’s List.

Please find attached, documents and articles for your reference.

I would be grateful, via the PPC, if an investigation can be conducted, to ascertain how the debarred contractor was awarded a contract and that the necessary actions be taken against the entities and individuals associated with this award.

Yours faithfully,



David Patterson



Co-operative Republic of Guyana

PUBLIC PROCUREMENT COMMISSION

Established Under Articles 212W, X & Y of the Constitution.

262 New Garden Street, Queenstown, Georgetown

E-mail: publicprocurement@ppc.org.gy

Website: https://ppc.org.gy

Tel: (592) 226-2364, (592) 226-729, (592) 231-7306, (592) 231-7304

Circular: No. 02/2019

Date

20/11/2019

MINISTER'S OFFICE

To: All Permanent Secretaries, Regional Executive Officers, Heads of Agencies & Heads of Departments

From: Chairperson, Public Procurement Commission

Date: November 12th, 2019

Subject: Procurement (Suspension and Debarment) Regulations 2019

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2. Mr. Sharmah
3. Mr. Varghese
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6. IFC
7. ALL Agency Heads

The Public Procurement Commission wishes to inform all procuring entities that the **Procurement (Suspension and Debarment) Regulations 2019** were gazetted into law on June 21, 2019. Regulations 5(1) and 5(2) mandate as follows:

5(1) 'A proposal for the debarment of a supplier or contractor may be submitted to the Commission by a procuring entity or any other person'.

5(2) 'The request shall be in writing and shall-

- (a) identify the supplier or contractor and any affiliate of the supplier or contractor that is the subject of the application;
- (b) state the grounds on which the applicant is seeking debarment;
- (c) contain the factual record and evidence to support the application; and
- (d) indicate whether suspension is sought pending an adjudication of the debarment application.'

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE
PERMANENT SECRETARY

Procuring Entities are advised that no contract shall be awarded to an entity that has been debarred by the Commission. The list of debarred contractors is maintained on the Commission's website and should be checked prior to the award of any contract.

Please see attached, a list of contractors debarred by the Commission effective **October 25th & 27th, 2019**.

Carol Corbin
Carol Corbin
Chairperson

PERMANENT SECRETARY
RECEIVED
Date 18/11/2019
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

Copy: Chairman, National Procurement and Tender Administration Board

FIRM NAME/INDIVIDUAL NAME	ADDRESS	INELIGIBILITY PERIOD	
		FROM DATE	TO DATE
MOHAMED FASIL YUNAS	23 ALNESS VILLAGE CORENTYNE, BERBICE	25/10/2019	24/10/2020
MOHAMED FASIL YUNAS TRADING AS YUNAS CIVIL & BUILDING CONSTRUCTION SERVICES	23 ALNESS VILLAGE CORENTYNE, BERBICE	25/10/2019	24/10/2020
CHINA RAILWAY FIRST GROUP (GUYANA) INC. *WORLD BANK	106-107 LAMAHA STREET, NORTH CUMMINGSBURG, GEORGETOWN	17/09/2019	16/09/2021
MR. VEVAKANAND DALIP	LOT 97 PHASE 2, LETHEM, RUPUNINI, REGION 9, ESSEQUIBO	20/02/2018	28/12/2030
MR. VEVAKANAND	71 SOMERSET COURT, GARDEN OF EDEN, EAST BANK DEMERARA.	20/02/2018	28/12/2030
VEVAKANAND DALIP ENTERPRISE	LOT 97 PHASE 2, LETHEM, RUPUNINI, REGION 9, ESSEQUIBO.	20/02/2018	28/12/2030
VEVAKANAND DALIP ENTERPRISE	71 SOMERSET COURT, GARDEN OF EDEN, EAST BANK DEMERARA.	20/02/2018	28/12/2030
MS. SABRINA MARY WILLIAMS	LOT 97 PHASE 2, LETHEM, RUPUNINI, REGION 9, ESSEQUIBO.	20/02/2018	28/12/2030
MS. SABRINA MARY WILLIAMS	71 SOMERSET COURT, GARDEN OF EDEN, EAST BANK DEMERARA.	20/02/2018	28/12/2030
INVEPAR CONSTRUTORA LTDA- ME(CNPJ:20.182.043/0001-42)	LOT 97 PHASE 2, LETHEM, RUPUNINI, REGION 9, ESSEQUIBO.	20/02/2018	28/12/2030
INVEPAR CONSTRUTORA LTDA- ME(CNPJ:20.182.043/0001-42)	71 SOMERSET COURT, GARDEN OF EDEN, EAST BANK DEMERARA.	20/02/2018	28/12/2030
RON JAISARI	966 BLOCK D BATH, WEST COAST DEMERARA	21/02/2017	29/06/2022
SIDRAI ENTERPRISES	NO.6 VILLAGE, WEST COAST BERBICE	21/02/2017	29/06/2024
ABEL KHEMRAJ RAI	89 BONASIKA STREET, SECTION K, CAMPBELLVILLE, GEORGETOWN.	29/11/2016	22/08/2024

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Debarred Contractors

FIRM NAME/INDIVIDUAL NAME ◆	ADDRESS ◆	FROM ◆	TO ◆
ABEL KHEMRAJ RAI	89 BONASIKA STREET, SECTION K, CAMPBELLVILLE, GEORGETOWN	11/29/2016	08/22/2024
INVEPAR CONSTRUTORA LTDA-ME (CNPJ:20.182.043/0001-42)	LOT 97 PHASE 2, LETHEM, RUPUNINI, REGION 9, ESSEQUIBO	02/20/2018	12/28/2030
INVEPAR CONSTRUTORA LTDA-ME (CNPJ:20.182.043/0001-42)	71 SOMEREST COURT, GARDEN OF EDEN, EAST BANK DEMERARA	02/20/2018	12/28/2030
MOHAN SURUJPAUL TRADING AS M. SURUJPAUL GENERAL CONSTRUCTION AND GENERAL SERVICE.	57 MARKET STREET, MON REPOS, EAST COAST DEMERARA.	04/02/2020	04/01/2023
MR. VEVAKANAND	71 SOMEREST COURT, GARDEN OF EDEN, EAST BANK DEMERARA	02/20/2018	12/28/2030
MR. VEVAKANAND DALIP	LOT 97 PHASE 2, LETHEM, RUPUNINI, REGION 9, ESSEQUIBO	02/20/2018	12/28/2030
MR. VEVAKANAND DALIP ENTERPRISE	LOT 97 PHASE 2, LETHEM, RUPUNINI, REGION 9, ESSEQUIBO	02/20/2018	12/28/2030
MR. VEVAKANAND DALIP ENTERPRISE	71 SOMEREST COURT, GARDEN OF EDEN, EAST BANK DEMERARA	02/20/2018	12/28/2030

FIRM NAME/INDIVIDUAL NAME	ADDRESS	FROM	TO
MS. SABRINA MARY WILLIAMS	LOT 97 PHASE 2, LETHEM, RUPUNINI, REGION 9, ESSEQUIBO	02/20/2018	12/28/2030
MS. SABRINA MARY WILLIAMS	71 SOMEREST COURT, GARDEN OF EDEN, EAST BANK DEMERARA	02/20/2018	12/28/2030
SIDRAI ENTERPRISES	NO.6 VILLAGE, WEST COAST BERBICE	02/21/2017	06/29/2024

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(<https://www.gra.gov.gy/>)
- Ministry of Legal Affairs
(<https://mola.gov.gy/>)
- Audit Office of Guyana
(<http://www.audit.org.gy/>)
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(<https://www.nis.org.gy/>)
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\$13.3 Billion in Contracts Inked for Eccles to Diamond Four-Lane Highway

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\$13.3 Billion in Contracts Inked for Eccles to Diamond Four-Lane Highway

📅 December 22, 2021 (<https://mohw.gov.gy/2021/12/22/13-3-billion-in-contracts-inked-for-eccles-to-diamond-four-lane-highway/>)

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📁 News (<https://mohw.gov.gy/category/news/>), Press Releases (<https://mohw.gov.gy/category/press-releases/>)

💬 0 (<https://mohw.gov.gy/2021/12/22/13-3-billion-in-contracts-inked-for-eccles-to-diamond-four-lane-highway/#respond>) ❤️ 3

Twelve contractors have inked contracts to the tune of \$13.3 billion for the commencement of construction for the Eccles to Great Diamond four-lane highway.

The contracts were signed during a simple ceremony earlier today at the Arthur Chung Conference Centre in the presence of Housing and Water Minister, the Hon. Collin Croal, Minister within the Ministry, the Hon. Susan Rodrigues, Permanent Secretary, Mr. Andre Ally, Central Housing and Planning Authority's, Director of Operations, Mrs. Denise King-Tudor and

Director of Projects, Mr. Omar Narine.



[From left] Permanent Secretary, Mr. Andre Ally; Minister of Housing and Water, Hon. Collin Croal; and Hon. Susan Rodrigues, Minister within the Ministry of Housing & Water

Using the competitive bidding process, the National Procurement and Tender Administration Board awarded the different lots for the project to the contractors.

Works will be executed by; GuyAmerica Construction Inc, V. Dalip Enterprise, (JV) Colin Talbot Contracting Services and Eron Lall Civil Engineering Works, S. Jagmohan Construction and General Supplies Inc., H. Nauth and Sons, JS Guyana Inc., (JV) VALs Construction and AJM Enterprise, China Railway First Group Company Ltd., Aronco Services Inc., Ivor Allen, (JV) Puran Brothers Disposal Inc. and Khemraj Nauth Contracting Services.

The project which has been divided into twelve (12) lots includes, the construction of more than thirty (30) reinforced concrete bridges, two roundabouts and a total of 9.4 Km of reinforced concrete road. The estimated timeline for the project is 15 to 18 months.





Contractors signing their contracts for the Eccles to Great Diamond four-lane Highway

On the occasion Minister Rodrigues in her remarks applauded the team of the Ministry of Housing and Water-Central Housing and Planning Authority for their part in realizing such a project.

Given the history of the project, Minister Rodrigues pointed out that the project was conceptualized by President, Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali in 2010 during his stint as Minister of Housing and Water.

“ *“Years later, this project is being executed by the Ministry’s Project Department, which shows that the capacity was also there given the fact that the foundation for this project was set years ago” she added.*





Hon. Susan Rodrigues, Minister within the Ministry of Housing & Water

Speaking to the magnitude of the project, the Minister noted that it's not only about the cost but the focus should be on how such a project will transform the lives of thousands of Guyanese.

“ *“What we doing here is not just signing \$13 billion in contractors but transforming the lives of our citizens,” Minister Rodrigues said.*

Mention was also made of the importance of parallel infrastructure development and the establishment of new housing schemes.

“ *“On Monday we commissioned the Eccles to Diamond inter-link road and the impact is already evident, as commute time on the East Bank has been reduced significantly and that is just a smaller project so it's easy to see how this new project will impact the lives of our citizens”.*

Meanwhile, in his charge to the contractors, Minister Croal called on them to place emphasis on timeliness and quality.



“ *“I want to implore you to be innovative and strategic in your approach, time is of essence... since you are using the local labour force, be sure to impress on them the importance of punctuality, avoid absenteeism and other unnecessary delays.”*

He also reminded the contractors of the importance of workers' safety and the need for adequate protective gear.



Hon. Collin Croal, Minister of Housing & Water

“ *“To skimp on these can be to the detriment of the project and the welfare of your workers, be sure to cultivate a working relationship with the residents and communicate any inconveniences that may occur as a result of the work you are doing in a timely and respectful manner.”*

In closing Minister Croal noted the Ministry's and by extension the Government's commitment to bringing relief to the residents within the catchment areas in the shortest time possible.

“ *“Should you adhere to these guidelines, I'm confident that you will have a successful project and the communities and citizens will be better off,” the Minister reiterated.*





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Useful Links

Central Housing & Planning Agency (<http://www.chpa.gov.gy>)

Guyana Water Incorporated (<http://www.gwiguyana.gy>)

Office of the President (<http://www.motp.gov.gy/>)

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Blacklisted company among contractors for EBD road link works

Dec 24, 2021 News

– gets \$889M to build Lot 2 of project

Kaieteur News – A blacklisted company which was debarred by the now dismantled Public Procurement Commission (PPC) back in 2019, and remains on the list, has received a contract to the tune of \$889 million to complete an aspect of the Eccles to Diamond road link, under the Ministry of Housing and Water.

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ABEL KHEMRAJ RAI	89 BONASIKA STREET, SECTION K, CAMPBELLVILLE, GEORGETOWN.	29/11/2016	22/08/2024

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Pres. Ali begging for loans!!



The Blunt of the Day



Sports

On Wednesday, the construction firm V. Dalip Enterprise was awarded Lot 2 of the project, at a cost of \$889 million. A total of \$13.3B in contracts was signed by 12 contractors, which will pave the way for the new four-lane Eccles to Great Diamond highway. The signing took place at the Arthur Chung Conference Centre in the presence of the Minister of Housing and Water, Collin Croal, Minister within the Ministry of Housing, Susan Rodrigues and other senior officials within the Ministry.

The new four-lane project has been divided into 12 Lots and will measure some 9.4km of concrete road. Some of the features of the highway include heavy duty bridges, converts, 12km of drains, concrete medians, solar street lights, two roundabouts and an emergency lane. The duration for this project is 15 to 18 months and works will begin from January 2022.

In 2019, V. Dalip Enterprise was listed on a circular, addressed to all procuring entities from the PPC, advising them that no contract shall be awarded to an entity that has been debarred by the Commission. Among the companies or individuals who were blacklisted until 2030 are Mr. Vevakanand Dalip and Vevakanand Dalip Enterprise appeared at least thrice on the list, given that three addresses were listed for the company or individual.

The other individuals or companies who remain on the blacklist include Ms. Sabrina Mary Williams, Invepar Construtora Ltda-Me, Ron Jaisari, Sidrai Enterprises and Abel Khemraj Rai. The suspension took effect in October 2019, after the list was officially gazetted on June 21, 2019.

In addition to receiving a local suspension, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) had also barred Vevakanand Dalip Enterprises and Vevakanand Dalip, its principal from participating in IDB contracts, for the period December 29, 2017 to December 28, 2030.

Dalip was blacklisted by the IDB for "Fraudulent and Collusive Practices".

Dalip, reportedly based in Lethem, Region Nine, has been bidding for state contracts.

Though it is not the first time that a local contractor and individual has been barred by IDB, it must be noted that the institution is one of the biggest funders of government projects.

It was learnt that a previous Coordinator of the Citizen's Security Programme, Abel Khemraj Rai, was banned for eight years from August 23, 2016 to August 22, 2024.

Four other companies and individuals that seem to have connections with Rai – including Sidrai Radiator Works, Sidrai Enterprises, Siddaharta Rai and Ron Jaisari – were also sanctioned and banned for four to eight years. "Debarred firms are declared ineligible to be awarded and participate in any IDB-financed contract for the periods indicated. Ineligibility may extend to any firm or individual who directly or indirectly controls the debarred firm or any firm which the debarred firm directly or indirectly controls. In the case of a debarred individual, ineligibility may extend to any firm which the debarred individual directly or indirectly controls," IDB explains on its website.

However, even though these measures are outlined by the financial institution, Guyana has made zero provisions in this regard and in fact has clearly ignored the command given by the PPC. Local watchdogs have intensified their call for the PPC to be reassembled, given the current irregularities that continue to take place, daringly, before the eyes of the public.

Only recently, a contract was issued to a company with no public experience in construction work. Nevertheless, the 'fly-by-night' company, St8ment Investment Inc. has been granted a whopping \$346 million contract to build a new Primary School at Bamia in Region 10, although the Procurement Act of 2003 clearly states that suppliers and contractors seeking Government projects must substantiate their past performance with the necessary documents for consideration.

Leader of the Opposition, Joseph Harmon has accused the People Progressive Party (PPP) of dismantling the PPC and replacing it with a system that in turn benefits Vice President, Bharrat Jagdeo.

Harmon, during a news conference last month explained, "The PPP Administration decided that they would take a grip on the Public Procurement Process, to ensure that only those persons and companies that support them get any form of contracts from the Government." He added, "What they have done, they have dismantled the Public Procurement Commission; they have dismantled the National Procurement and Tender Board Administration and replaced them with a system which leads directly to Bharrat Jagdeo." Harmon said that due to the Commission not being in place, the Government has been awarding contracts to their friends and family, who they hope will in return keep them in power.

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Minister of Housing and Water Collin Croal, Minister within the Ministry of Housing and Water Susan Rodrigues and the contractors who will be engaging in road works along the Eccles to Diamond roadway (Photo: News Room/ December 22, 2021)

BUSINESS

Over \$13 billion in contracts inked for Eccles to Diamond four-lane highway

By Editor On Dec 22, 2021

As efforts continue to ease the traffic congestion on the East Bank of Demerara (EBD), 12 contractors were awarded contracts totalling about \$13.3 billion for works on the new four-lane highway from Eccles to Diamond.

These contracts were signed on Wednesday at the Arthur Chung Conference Centre at Liliendaal, Georgetown.

This highway has been divided into 12 sections, stretching some 9.4 kilometres (or just less than six miles). The road will be fully concrete, replete with bridges, drains, paving and other supporting infrastructure.

Minister of Housing and Water Collin Croal on Wednesday highlighted that the works on the Eccles to Diamond highway are expected to last between 15 and 18 months, starting from January 2022.

Importantly, this new highway is part of a wider roadway link from Mandela Avenue in Georgetown to Diamond on the East Bank. Works have already commenced on the Eccles to Mandela four-lane highway and a Mocha/ Diamond interlink road has been opened.



China Railway First Group Company Ltd. signing their contract on Wednesday (Photo: News Room/ December 22, 2021)

When the entire road project from Mandela Avenue to Diamond is completed, the daily traffic congestion along the East Bank corridor should be significantly reduced. Minister Croal also explained that there are more than 22,000 households along this roadway that will directly benefit from the freer flow of traffic.

He, however, emphasised, "... it also will result in increased commercial activity along this belt- the Diamond to Mandela in completion."

This will be possible since he reminded the gathering of contractors that the new highway is expected to connect with another roadway link: the Eccles (East Bank) to Ogle (East Coast) road link.

And that new pathway will open up lands for further development, including the creation of new housing areas and business activity.

While Croal talked up the benefits of the road project, Minister within the Ministry of Housing and Water Susan Rodrigues reminded the gathering that this project was conceptualised many years ago but was scrapped with the change in government.

In fact, the project commenced while the President served as the Housing Minister prior to 2015.

Now, with increased commercial activity along the East Bank corridor- including the creation of shore bases for the nascent oil and gas industry- there is a much greater need to ease the enduring traffic woes.

The 12 contractors who received the contracts are:

1. Guyamerica Construction Inc. – \$1.2 billion
2. V. Dalip Enterprise \$889.9 million
3. Colin Talbot Contracting Services and Eron Lall Civil Engineering Works (joint venture)- \$1.3 billion
4. KP Thomas and Sons contracting Inc. – \$1.4 billion
5. S. Jagmohan Construction and General Supplies Inc. – \$1.2 billion
6. H. Nauth and Sons – \$1.1 billion
7. JS Guyana Inc. – \$1.2 billion
8. VALs Construction and AJM Enterprise (joint venture)- \$1.1 billion
9. China Railway First Group Company Ltd. – \$1.02 billion
10. Aronco Services Inc. – \$753 million
11. Ivor Allen – \$825 million
12. Puran Brothers Disposal Inc. and Khemraj Nauth Contracting Services (joint venture) – \$964 million