

Generally speaking, some traditional practices and habits existing in many industries are acceptable. However, we cannot simply say that they are absolutely lawful because it depends on whether the advantage offered is an exchange for the employee or agent to act in violation of his/her functional duties. If not, there is no problem.

If the kick-back, intermediate fee or other advantages offered by the suppliers serves as reward for staff's violation of their functional duties, such as unfairly deciding the winning supplier, replacing quality goods with substandard ones, overstating the amount and price of goods purchased, etc., not only bribe offering and accepting but also other criminal offences may be constituted.