



Golden Jubilee Celebrations 1964 – 2014

Central Vigilance Commission, the apex anti-corruption institution of India, known popularly as CVC is completing 50 years of its existence on 11th February, 2014.

CVC was setup by the Government of India through a resolution dated 11th February, 1964 in pursuance of the recommendations of Santhanam Committee, for exercising general superintendence over vigilance administration in the Government. The Commission was given the same measure of independence and autonomy as the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). It was at the end of 1997, Supreme Court of India, in criminal writ petitions nos. 340-343/1993 (Vineet Narain and others Vs. Union of India and others) popularly known as Jain Hawala case, had inter-alia given directions on 18.12.1997 that statutory status should be conferred upon the Central Vigilance Commission. Accordingly, the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003 was enacted.

The Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003 provides for constitution of Central Vigilance Commission to inquire or to cause inquiries to be conducted into offences alleged to have been committed under the Prevention of Corruption Act 1988 by certain categories of public servants of the Central Government, Corporations established by or under any Central Act, Government companies, societies and local authorities owned or controlled by the Central Government and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The Act empowers the Commission to exercise superintendence over the functioning of the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) now called Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), insofar as it relates to the investigation of offences alleged to have been committed under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (49 of 1988) and to give directions to the CBI for discharging responsibility entrusted to CBI under sub-section 1 of Section 4 of the DSPE Act, 1946. The Commission is also empowered to review the progress of investigations conducted by the CBI and the progress of applications pending with the competent Authorities for grant of sanction for prosecution for

offences alleged to have been committed under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. The Commission also exercises superintendence over the vigilance administration of the various Ministries/Departments/Public Sector Enterprises/Public Sector Banks and autonomous organizations under the central government.

The emphasis of the Commission has been to have in place effective preventive measures to fight corruption and also to increase transparency and accountability in the functioning of the Government. In tune with the emphasis on good governance, the Commission closely looks at the prevailing systems and procedures of the Government departments and its organisations and recommends system strengthening and improvements. The Commission has also been continuously emphasizing on Leveraging technology by adopting e-procurement, e-payment, reverse auction etc., for reducing scope for corruption and improving transparency, equity and competitiveness in public procurements.

The Commission has been engaging with various international anti-corruption agencies/organizations, as a measure of international co-operation. Creating a Knowledge Management System for International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (IAACA) has been one of the recent collaborative initiatives.

A national seminar is being organized to mark its Golden Jubilee. The Golden Jubilee Celebrations will be inaugurated by Hon'ble Pranab Mukherjee, President of India on 11th February 2014 at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi and presided over by Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of India. A commemorative stamp is being released on the occasion.

Eminent personalities and dignitaries from different walks of life, contributing directly or indirectly to the good governance of the country, are taking part in the panel discussions which are drawn as part of the national seminar on the topic "**Combating corruption: Role of Accountability Institutions, Investigating Agencies, Civil Society and Media**". There are three plenary sessions and four breakout sessions spread out during the two days Seminar.

Hon'ble Justice P. Sathasivam, Chief Justice of Supreme Court of India will preside over the valedictory function on 12th February 2014 at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi.