

Central Vigilance Commission

Minutes of the Annual Zonal/ Sectoral Review Meeting with Ministries/ Departments/Organisations held on 19.07.2011 in Satarkta Bhawan, CVC, New Delhi.

Shri Pradeep Kumar, Central Vigilance Commissioner chaired the meeting.

List of the participants is at annex.

A. Introductory Remarks

1. While welcoming the participants, the Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC) observed that expectation of people at large from institutions like Central Vigilance Commission have increased enormously in the present environment. The Commission's policy is that the honest would be protected by the corrupt would not be spared. He advised the participating CVOs to identify areas vulnerable to corruption so that loopholes could be plugged. Further, CVOs should also keep a close watch on those disciplinary cases having serious implications from vigilance point of view. CVC emphasized that vigilance is a management function which only benefits the organization.
2. Shri J.M. Garg, Vigilance Commissioner, [VC(G)], expressed concern over functioning of vigilance set up of certain organisations, which affects their performance. He suggested that moral science should be taught in schools as regular curriculum and initiatives should start from school level itself. VC (G) noted many Ministries and PSUs do not have their own full time CVOs and use of technology & transparency have to be encouraged for greater vigilance awareness. He was also of the view that discretion at each level should be minimized.
3. Shri R. Sri Kumar, Vigilance Commissioner, [VC(S)], emphasized on increasing transparency through use of technology and also made a presentation on how technology can help in increasing transparency leading to efficiency and empowerment. He further added that Commission's focus is now gradually shifting from punitive vigilance to participatory vigilance. While mentioning details about the use of VIGEYE GPMS, he informed that a new number 51964 has been launched for sending SMSs under VIGEYE. He also emphasized the increased use of audit trails and accountability in vigilance.

B. Organization specific

1. M/o Information & Broadcasting:

Shri D.P. Reddy, JS & CVO, M/o I&B informed that Prasar Bharti has its full-time CVO and they work on rotational transfer policy. All their senior officials have filed their property returns and they are working for *leveraging of technology* for increasing the use of information technology in various units for greater efficiency, economy and transparency so as to curb corruption. Phase I of the task has been completed and within next 2-3 months, phase II would be

taken up. He also informed that e-procurement has been introduced in Prasar Bharti.

CVC pointed out that often CVC's advices are not fully complied with by the M/o I&B and thus, close monitoring is required to see that advices are fully complied with. CVC also inquired about how procurement is undertaken in various projects initiated by the Ministry. VC (S) emphasized on need to work out action plan according to the metrics prepared for the purpose.

2. M/o Water Resources

Shri Sudhir Garg, JS&CVO, M/o Water Resources, informed that due to fear of complaints, Central Ware Housing Corporation (CWC) has not purchased any new rings since 2004. To this, CVC advised him to tone up the purchase system in the CWC/Ministry. He further suggested that a separate meeting would be held after 3 months with M/o Water Resources to review the vigilance functioning. Secretary, CVC remarked that complaint against top level employees should not be kept pending for long.

3. M/o Environment & Forest

Shri R.R. Rashmi, CVO, M/o E&F informed that there are six Regional Officers for forest related issues and one consultant has been appointed in vigilance set up of the Ministry. As regards, nature of complaints being received in the Ministry, CVO informed the Commission that most of the complaints are related to misuse of power by Forest Officers. CVC advised him to identify the areas which need to be streamlined and addressed from vigilance point of view. He also noted that two second stage advice cases are pending in M/o E&F and advised CVO to look into them for early disposal.

4. M/o Health & Family Welfare

Dr. R.S. Shukla, CVO, M/o H&FW informed the Commission that procurement, quality of drugs and services are important areas where greater monitoring is required. He further mentioned that funds transferred under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) are disbursed to States and from States to Societies at district level where funds are withdrawn by smart cards issued for the purpose. Funds are transferred to States through electronic system. CVO further informed that they are also working for creating a Central Procurement Agency for various procurements, which will be an autonomous body under the Ministry. Further, it was informed that licensing & control part have been computerized by Controller General of Drugs (India).

VC (G) noted that if no medicines are issued by any Govt. hospital, how can one know if the medicine is available or not? He inquired about how this menace can be stopped and what action and against whom is required to be taken in this regard. He also advised CVO to use the platform provided by Doordarshan to educate people in this regard. He also asked CVO to make the rules, systems and procedures simpler as it is a subject of larger public interest. CVC pointed out that transfer/release of funds is a major area of corruption and technology should be leveraged to reduce such all interventions.

CVC asked CVO, M/o H&FW to give a note on the steps taken by the Ministry to plug the loopholes. He also emphasized on need to take effective measures to streamline the systems and procedures to enable the reach of services to all the needy.

5. Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)

Shri Vineet Joshi, Chairman, CBSE briefed the Commission on working of the CBSE which conducts secondary and senior secondary school examinations including newly introduced Central Teachers Eligibility Test (CTET) on the lines of National Eligibility Test (NET). Further, CBSE grants affiliations to various schools across the country. He informed that mobile phone technology has been aptly utilized by CBSE by declaring the examination results on the mobile phone. Further various forms including those for rechecking answer sheets have been removed and all this can now be done online. Gradually, CBSE is aiming to work towards conducting online examinations for various entrance tests though it will be optional for the students. Chairman, CBSE informed that presently they are working on a pilot project to curb the menace of fake mark sheets and Govt. will soon bring a bill on this issue. He also informed that mostly CBSE receives complaints against the management of private schools and basic issues related to affiliation and less payment of salary by private affiliated schools etc. To this, VC (S) advised the use of technology to curb these issues.

VC (S) also suggested the use of mobile technology for making complaints (VIGEYE) through mobile phones. Chairman, CBSE further informed that they have started working on the project for online registration for affiliation. CVC desired that CBEC should fix its time schedule in this regard. CVC also suggested that text books should be so designed that the values of honesty and integrity are taught through appropriate lessons and role models.

6. M/o Tourism

Shri Devesh Chaturvedi, CVO, M/o Tourism gave a brief introduction of the Ministry and various initiatives taken by the Ministry for promoting tourism in the country.

7. ITDC

Dr. Lalit K. Panwar, CMD, India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) informed that ITDC is a Miniratna PSU which has diversified its activities. He informed that corruption is prevalent mostly in the business of banquets and parties. Sometimes, the staff works in collusion with contractors. Non-booking of rooms in ITDC hotels is also another area of corruption by staff. Further, contractors pay less salary to contractual employees giving rise to discontentment. ITDC's Vigilance Section undertakes surprise inspection to check corrupt practices. He informed that online booking of rooms and online payment has been introduced in ITDC.

