

Minutes of the Annual Zonal/ Sectoral Review Meeting with the CVOs of Telecom Sector and Urban Dev. held in Sakarkta Bhawan, CVC, New Delhi on 15.06.2012.

Shri Pradeep Kumar, Central Vigilance Commissioner (CVC), chaired the meeting. Shri R. Sri Kumar & Shri J M Garg, Vigilance Commissioners also addressed the participants.

List of participants is at Annex.

(A) Introductory Remarks

Shri Pradeep Kumar, Central Vigilance Commissioner while welcoming the participants emphasized that rules and procedures should be simple and updated. He further stated that system improvement is very important especially in local bodies having large public interface. He further, emphasised that tainted officers/officials should not be posted in sensitive posts. CVO, being the head of the vigilance unit of organisation must monitor these areas. He asked all participating departments/ organisations to adhere to the guidelines prescribed by the Commission.

Shri J.M. Garg, Vigilance Commissioner, [VC(G)], emphasised on scrutiny of Annual Property Returns (APRs) and advised the participant CVOs to take up issue on priority basis. He further emphasised that CVOs should focus on structured meetings with Chief Executives of the organisations regularly and minutes should be drawn. He observed that number of CTE type inspection carried out by the CVOs of participating organisation, specially MCD, were very less and therefore, advised all CVOs to do such inspections in a structured manner and in case any assistance is required the CTEs of the Commission are available.

Shri R. Sri Kumar, Vigilance Commissioner, [VC(S)], emphasised on importance of technology as a lot of things could be done through technology. He stated that at present vigilance is viewed in negative context whereas it should be viewed as an aid to the management as ultimately it results in profits to the organisation. He further stated that focus of vigilance administration should be more on the proactive and predictive side, in addition to preventive and punitive vigilance.

Shri Anil Singhal, CTE, made a presentation on tendering process and related issues. He cited specific examples through some case studies of certain organisations adopting restrictive eligibility criteria resulting in uncompetitive rates. He also mentioned about problem of preparation of improper estimates. On a query raised by CVO, CPWD on issue of guidelines by CVC on estimates and justification, Shri Singhal responded that Rules cannot be framed for each and every issue. It is the responsibility of the organisation concerned to look into such matters in fair and transparent manner. Responding to a query, CVC emphasised that since technology keeps changing, DSR should be modified/updated regularly to match international standards.

(B) Organisation Specific

(1) Department of Posts

Smt. Anju Nigam, CVO, D/o Posts informed that areas vulnerable to corruption have been identified and remedial measures are being taken. She further stated that computerisation in the department has been taken as a pilot project and within two years all post offices will be computerized. VC(G) expressed concern over delay in settlement of claims and indicated that

any delay in such matters could be a cause of corruption. He advised the CVO that system and procedures prescribed should be customer friendly to ensure speedy settlement of claims.

(2) MTNL

CVC observed inordinate delays in submission of investigation reports and large scale pendency of cases in MTNL, specially cases pending under category “Further Information/Clarification” called for by the Commission. He emphasised that delay in such matters is neither in favour of organisation nor for delinquent officers. Shri Khushi Ram, CVO, MTNL assured, to liquidate such pendencies within a month. CVC also pointed out non-scrutiny of APRs at required level in MTNL.

(3) BSNL

Shri A N Sharan, CVO, BSNL informed that a total of 18 training centres across the country are operational and training programme on disciplinary matters, tendency process, vigilance awareness are organised regularly through structured programmes. VC(G) advised the CVO to ensure rotation of staff to prevent frauds and to take up this issue in the structured meeting with Chief Executive.

(4) Department of Telecommunication (DoT)

Commission has observed prolonged delays in disposal of complaints and case and advised CVO to liquidate such pendency as early as possible. Shri Pankaj Kumar, CVO, DoT responded that in order to clear old pending cases, regular meetings are conducted to ensure effective monitoring. He further ensured that by the end of this year, DOT will be able to bring down all old pending departmental inquiries. CVC emphasised on need to adopt reverse auction in the organisation. In case DoT require any assistance in this regard, CTEs would organise a training programme. CVO, DoT further informed that requisite data has been collected for implementing Commission’s guidelines on rotation of officers posted on sensitive posts.

Shri Alok Bhatnagar, Addl. Secretary, AS(AB), CVC pointed out that during the last meeting with CVOs of DoT, MTNL, BSNL the organisation concerned had furnished a list of old pending cases but did not indicate anything about their disposal. On this CVO, DoT indicated that non availability of required documents is one of the main reasons for delay in finalizing disciplinary proceedings. AS(AB) further, pointed out that DoT is sending repeated reconsideration proposals to the Commission in a routine manner. In this context CVO, DoT was advised that re-consideration proposals should be made at a stage prior to the final decision and should be made only once and such proposals should not be made unless new additional facts have come to light which would have the effect of altering the seriousness of the allegation/charges levelled against an officer.

(5) CPWD

Shri Nikhilesh Jha, CVO, CPWD informed that complaint management and investigation management have been systemised in CPWD through training of vigilance officers and development of appropriate formats. He further indicated about devising a mechanism to revise schedule of rates frequently to check the deviation between estimated cost and justified rates which are differing from one unit to other. Responding to a query on estimated cost, CVC stated that in tendering procedure the problems are generic in nature, therefore, market survey/study could be a better option to tackle such issues.

(6) HUDCO

Shri Anil Mukim, CVO, HUDCO informed that basic function of the organisation is to provide long term finance for construction of houses for residential purposes as well as to finance or to undertake housing and urban development programmes in the country. HUDCO has endeavoured to take major initiatives for ensuring greater level of transparency and increased level of e-governance in the organisation. He further stated that during the year 2011, a total of 24 APRs have been scrutinized and 4 surprise inspections carried out which also resulted in vigilance cases.

(7) DDA

CVC expressed his concern over old pending complaints of which some were as old as from the year 2008. Shri S.K Gulati, CVO, DDA responded that most of such complaints pertained to encroachments of land and different land owning agencies like MCD, GNCTD etc are involved. CVC directed the CVO that all pending complaints/cases must be analyzed and finalized in a time bound manner. He further emphasized that in order to bring in transparency and accountability in the functioning of the organisation, leveraging of technology should adequately be adopted which would also be helpful in reducing corruption. He further advised the CVO for undertaking indepth study of the prevailing procedures in operational areas and evolve system improvements so as to reduce opportunities of corruption and enhance the overall efficiency of the organization. VC(S) emphasised on implementation of assets management system in the DDA.

(8) M/o of Urban Development (MoUD)

Smt. B P Sridevi, Deputy Secretary, MoUD informed that most of the complaints received in the organisation pertained to subletting of accommodation, irregularities in allotment of government accommodations etc., which has now been streamlined. Automated system of allotment of accommodation in Directorate of Estates have been adopted.

(9) NDMC

Shri A. Hanif, Director(Vigilance) informed that no full time CVO has been posted in the organisation since December,2011. He further indicated that most of the complaints pertained to building plan, unauthorised constructions etc. On a query by the CVC as to whether land record of NDMC area were computerized, response of Shri Hanif was negative, however, he indicated that digitization of NDMC area, buildings, records etc., were in progress. CVC further stressed on computerisation of land records and advised the Ministry of Urban Development to take interest and provide all possible support to the NDMC.

(10) MCD

Shri M.S.A. Khan, Director(Vig.), MCD informed that biometric attendance system has been successfully implemented. E-tendering, online systems of Property Tax and online Factory Licensing are being successfully implemented. CVC observed that nature of problems in all three MCD areas are more or less similar. He further expressed his serious concern over prolonged delay in disposal of complaints and cases. Dir.(Vig.) indicated that lack of knowledge on the part of vigilance officials as one of the reasons for delays in investigation. CVC advised MCD to organise more training programmes to address the problem and also asked GNCTD to extend all support in this regard. GNCTD was also asked to design training modules based on the specific needs of MCD and NDMC. CVC further stressed to increase the visits in the field units and preventive vigilance inspections/CTE type inspection etc. to detect and prevent leakage of revenue and advised MCD to get support from the CTE specially on tendering procedures.

(11) Govt. NCT of Delhi (GNCTD)

Shri C P Tripathi, Secretary(Vigilance) informed that online monitoring system to facilitate the citizen to keep track of applications has been introduced. Public delivery system has been made more transparent, responsive and time bound after introducing Delhi Right of Citizen to Time Bound Delivery of Services Act, 2011. VC(S) emphasised on undertaking indepth study on public service delivery as much more system improvement in these areas are needed.

(C) Concluding Remarks

Shri Anil Sinha, Addl. Secretary, CVC concluded the discussion and emphasised on capacity building of vigilance officials and advised all CVO to organise training programmes in a time bound manner. More concentrated efforts were needed in the adoption of leveraging of technology particularly in tendering procedures. Delay in submission of investigation reports and conclusion of departmental proceedings should be cut down. Surprise visits and CTE type inspections should be taken up seriously.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair and the participants.

List of participants for the meeting dated 15.06.2011

1. Shri Sunil K. Gulati, CVO, DDA
2. Shri Nikhilesh Jha, CVO, CPWD
3. Shri Anil Mukim, CVO, HUDCO
4. Shri C P Tripathi, Secretary(Vig.), Govt. of NCT of India
5. Shri M. S. A. Khan, Director(Vig.), MCD
6. Shri Manoj Sethi, Financial Advisor & CVO, NDMC
7. Shri Akhtarul Hanif, Director (Vig.), NDMC
8. Smt. Anju Nigam, CVO, D/o Posts
9. Shri Pankaj Kumar, CVO, D/o Telecommunications Services
10. Shri Khushi Ram, CVO, MTNL
11. Shri A N Sharan, CVO, BSNL
12. Smt. B P Sridevi, Dy. CVO, M/o Urban Development

CVC officials

1. Shri K.D Tripathi, Secretary
2. Shri Anil Sinha, Addl. Secretary
3. Shri Alok Bhatnagar, Addl. Secretary
4. Shri Anil Singhal, CTE
5. Shri Ramesh Chandra, CTE
6. Shri Surendra Mohan. Director
7. Shri Rakesh Goyal, Director
8. Shri R P Tripathi, Director
9. Shri K Subramaniam, OSD to CVC
10. Shri M.A. Khan, Under Secretary
11. Shri Prashant Kumar, Research Officer