

Minutes of the Annual Zonal Review Meeting with the CVOs held on 29-4-09 at New Delhi.

The list of participants is at Annexure-A.

2. CVC in the Chair. The meeting started with introductory remarks by CVC. This was followed by presentations by CTEs on the inadequacies observed in the CTE examination of the works and procurement contracts of the organizations present in the meeting. Copy of the CTE presentation was circulated during the meeting. The Commission made some observations during discussions with the CVOs. **The observations needing follow up action are indicated in the minutes later.**

3.0 Introductory Remarks:

CVC:

3.01 Vigilance is a key area of governance. It is observed that part time CVOs in the ministry are not taking their work seriously. CVO was the nerve centre for effective governance and non performance by the CVOs reflected poorly on the organization. Commission had been rather indulgent in the past with the ministries, but, henceforth any delays would be seen adversely, because the delays could be deliberate. This is borne out by the fact that when the Commission invoked the process of Direct Inquiry, the reports had invariably been submitted immediately by the CVO to the Commission. This tendency did not reflect well on the organizations.

3.02 A pattern generally observed was that preliminary investigation was frequently delayed for long and things were rushed close to the date of retirement of officials concerned rendering the whole process ineffective. In such cases, the officers responsible for delay could attract disciplinary action.

3.03 The monthly reports especially from the ministries are not being received on time. These reports were important communication tools between the Commission and the CVO and these should be sent regularly without fail.

3.04 E-governance was the new vehicle for transparent and responsive governance. Ministries had been showing least regard to this key area. It was incumbent upon the CVOs to emphasize their importance and non implementation should be immediately brought to the notice of the management.

4.0

VC (S)

4.01 In order that the CVOs could be effective, the vigilance structure should be in place in the organizations. There was a need to pay attention to quality of investigations and the vigilance personnel carrying out these inspections should be effective. The Commission was ready to lend support, if any help required by the CVOs. It was necessary that CVOs should not treat vigilance functions as part time function.

4.02 Quality of reporting is an important aspect. It is seen that the communications of the Commission did not elicit timely response and it is often the case that the response received is not logical and reasoned.

4.03 On the issue of the implementation of technology, the Commission in future would view undue delays as an effort at undermining the initiatives and scuttling the process of

transparency and good governance. The Commission would then insist on identifying the officials responsible for taking action.

5.0

VC (R)

5.01 Complaint handling system is important. It is necessary that all the complaints having vigilance angle should reach the CVO.

5.02 The disciplinary proceedings should be completed within a specific time frame.

5.03 At the first stage, the investigation report indicated serious issues, but, at the time of second stage advice the charges were diluted, that reflecting adversely on the quality of the work of the CVO. Moreover, it was important that CVOs should give specific recommendations in the cases.

5.04 Quality of audit in the ministries important, whether internal audit system were in place and also the necessity of examining C&AG reports with the objective of identifying vigilance angle.

5.05 A transfer policy to be in place in respect to sensitive posts in the organizations.

PRESENTATION ON AGENDA POINTS:

6.01 Leveraging of technology

It has been noted that apart from M/o Fertilizers, other organizations had not implemented both phases of the circular completely.

6.02 Access of CVOs to complaints:

In most of the organizations, the complaints handling mechanism required improvement. CVOs did not have access to all the complaints. It was advised that the CVOs should go through all the complaints to ensure that complaints with vigilance angle were attended to properly.

6.03 Structured meetings with CVOs and the CMDs:

During last year's annual zonal meetings, the Commission had directed the CVOs to have monthly or quarterly structured meetings with their CMDs as per their requirement with a proper agenda and minutes of the meetings. It was observed that this was not being followed in many of the organizations. The Commission directed the CVOs to immediately commence the practice and report compliance in the monthly reports immediately.

6.04 PIDPI Complaints:

It was noted that the status of the 'Whistle Blower' complaints needed reconciliation in the case of D/o Secondary and Higher Education.

6.05 Agreed List:

It was noted that Agreed List was not available in many organizations. The Commission directed that the Agreed List in these organizations should be prepared in a months time without fail.

7.0 ACTION POINTS:

7.01 CVO, D/o Posts was directed by the Commission to concentrate on implementation of IT guidelines, especially with respect to savings deposits in the post offices expeditiously. It was desired by the Commission that CVO should discuss the matter with the management and report to the Commission. CTE was also asked to conduct audit of the implementation of these guidelines.

(Action: CVO-D/o Posts and CTE-VR)

7.02 It was observed that the structured meeting with agenda points and recorded minutes were not taking place.. The Commission desired that this should be immediately commenced.

(Action: CVOs:D/o Posts, M/o Labour, M/o Health, RC&FL, AIIMS, EPFO)

7.03 CVO, M/o Labour assured the Commission that agreed list would be ready by the end of May 2009.

(Action: CVO-M/o Labour)

7.04 The Commission observed that there was a need for full fledged vigilance set up in M/o Health and there was also a need for full time CVO.

(Action: CVO, M/o Health)

7.05 The Commission (VC-S) observed that there was a need for bring clarity in procurement system of medicines. A detailed note may be sent by the CVO.

(Action: CVO, M/o Health)

7.06 The Commission desired that a complaint tracking system may be evolved by CBI.

(Action: JD (P), CBI)

7.07 The Commission directed that DoPT should immediately initiate the process of preparation of Agreed List.

(Action: JS &CVO, DoPT)

7.08 The Commission directed that complete review of first and second stage cases pending in DoPT may be done and status may be apprised to the Commission.

(Action: JS &CVO, DoPT)

7.09 The Commission desired that a detailed report on the implementation of guidelines on leveraging of technology may be submitted within a month's time.

(Action: CVOs: NFL, FACT, RC&FL, AIIMS)

7.10 The Commission noted that the CDA rules were not amended by FACT. CVO indicted that a reference in this regard has been sent to the Commission. The commission desired that the same may be submitted to the Commission.

(Action: Dir,Coord.1, CVC FACT)

7.11 CVO, EPFO assured that all pending cases will be cleared by June end. The Commission desired that CVO, EPFO should hold a meeting with Branch officers of the Commission for complete review of first and second stage pending cases.

(Action: CVO, EPFO)

7.12 The Commission desired that the analysis of settlement of complaints done by EPFO in last two years may be submitted to the Commission.

(Action: CVO, EPFO)

Annexure-A

List of the participants for the meeting dated 29/4/09:

- 1 Sh Ashutosh Tripathi, Sr DDG(Vig), D/o Posts
- 2 Shri Debashish Panda, JS & CVO, M/o H&FW
- 3 Shri S.K.Yadav, DY. Dir & CVO, AIIMS
- 4 Shri S.K.Dev Varma, JS & CVO, M/o Labour & Employment
- 5 Shri A.K.Singh, CVO, ESIC
- 6 Shri V.P.Ramiah, CVO, EPFO
- 7 Shri Satish Chandra, JS & CVO, D/o Fertilizers
- 8 Shri Ajoy Kumar, CVO, NFL
- 9 Shri A.K.Gupta, CVO, KRIBHCO
- 10 Shri Dilip Ranade, Dir(Vig), RC&FL
- 11 Shri V.K.Vellukutty, DS(Vig), DOPT
- 12 Shri S.K.Saxena, JD(P)/CVO, CBI
- 13 Dr R.Kannan, CVO, MFL & FACT

Commission's officers

1. Shri K.S. Ramasubban, Secretary
2. Shri Vineet Kumar Gupta, Addl. Secretary
3. Smt Jaya Balachandran, Addl. Secretary
4. Shri Alok Bhatnagar, Addl Secretary
5. Shri V. Ramachandran, CTE
6. Shri V.K.Gupta, CTE
7. Smt Shalini Darbari, Director
8. Shri Ranveer Singh, Director
9. Smt. S.Saraswathy, Director
10. Shri Rohit Tiwari, Director
11. Shri Prabhat Kumar, DS
12. Shri P.S.Gupta, Advisor
13. Shri K.Subramaniam, OSD
14. Shri J.Vinod Kumar, Under Secretary