

No.3(v)/99/11
Central Vigilance Commission

Satarkta Bhawan, Block 'A'
GPO Complex, INA,
New Delhi - 110 023
Dated the 23rd June 2000

**SUBJECT: VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK - observance
thereof**

Corruption is anti national, anti poor and anti economic development. According to the UNDP Report on Human Development 1999 on South Asia, if the corruption level in India goes down to that of Scandinavian Countries, the GDP will grow by 1.5% and Foreign Direct Investment will go up by 12%. Corruption is anti poor because nearly 30% of the food grains and sugar meant for the public distribution system disappear in the black market. Corruption literally takes away the food from the mouths of the poor people for whom food security by way of the public distribution systems is devised by the government. Corruption is anti national as revealed by the Bombay blasts of 1993 when the customs officials who were bribed permitted the smuggling of the RDX which resulted in the death of 300 people.

2 M/s Transparency International, a Berlin based non-government organisation has ranked India 73 out of 99 countries in the Corruption Perception Index. This refers to the perception of the degree of corruption as seen by business people, risk analysts and the general public. It ranges from 10 (highly clean) to zero (highly corrupt). Denmark appears at the top of the list with a score of 10 and India figures at 73 with a score of 2.9.

3 War, it is said, is too dangerous to be left to the Generals. Fighting corruption is too important an activity to be left only to the Central Vigilance Commission. The Commission therefore proposes to launch a systematic campaign against corruption by involving all members of the civil society in fighting this social evil. The first step in this campaign is to educate

the people about the dangers of corruption and sensitize them about the evil consequences of corruption.

4 The Central Vigilance Commission, which has a special responsibility under para 3(v) of Government of India Resolution no 371/20/99/AVD-III dated 4.4.1999, declares that the week beginning from 31st October every year should be observed as the Vigilance Awareness Week. The significance of 31st October is that it is the birthday of the Bismarck of India, Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel. He represents the best values in the Indian tradition so far as governance is concerned. He integrated the country and also was a shining example of probity in public life.

5 The Vigilance Awareness Week can be observed keeping in view the spirit of the eminent leaders like Sardar Patel and the need for fighting the social evil of corruption. The measures that could be considered for celebrating the Week may include the following:

- a) It should be a five-day programme beginning from 31st October to 4th November.
- b) The Central Vigilance Commissioner would request the President and the Prime Minister for their messages to the Nation on this occasion. Such messages received would be given wide publicity through the media and also through the CVC web-site <http://cvc.nic.in>
- c) The messages from the President, Prime Minister, the Central Vigilance Commissioner and the Vigilance Commissioner would also be sent in advance to all Chief Executives and Chief Vigilance Officers.
- d) The Vigilance Awareness Programme would begin in all the offices of the Central Government, its subordinate and attached offices, public sector undertakings and banks, autonomous bodies and institutions under the Central Government at 11 00 hrs with a pledge which would be sent separately. The pledge would be taken by all public servants irrespective of their status and would be administered by the head of the department or the senior most officer available on the occasion.

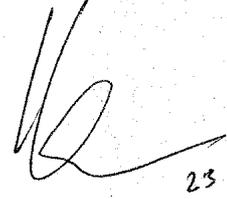
- e) After the pledge, the message from the President, Prime Minister, CVC and VC would be read out to the audience.
- f) The Chief Vigilance Officer may be advised to consider taking following steps depending upon the financial resources -
 - to display banners, posters etc. at prime locations in their office at the corporate centre, regional centre, zonal offices, factories/works etc.
 - to organise seminars at different location on the occasion and to invite prominent faculty from the area to address the participants. The CVC/VC will also address the participants in some of the seminar
 - to organise competitive debates/lectures on anti corruption topics amongst the employees and to distribute prizes
 - to organise competitive lectures/debate on anti corruption methods at the student levels in the colleges/schools in the city and to award prizes to the best participation.
 - to issue special journals during the week; and
 - to request the non government organisations, institutions and service associations in the local area to also participate in the vigilance awareness campaign.

6 The NGOs and all other participants in the programme can also select specific procedures or offices and study them and make suggestions about how corruption can be checked by simplification or improvement of procedure by bringing in greater transparency and speed in the disposal of work.

7 In the State Vigilance Commissioners and Directors of State Anti Corruption Bureaux held on 19th June 2000, it was agreed that the vigilance organisations in the state governments will also organise vigilance awareness week in their respective states.

8 Awareness is the first step towards action. The Vigilance Awareness Week, it is hoped, will help in catalysing action to fight corruption.

9. This notification is also available on the CVC's website <http://cvc.nic.in>



23, 6/2008

(N. VITTAL)

CENTRAL VIGILANCE COMMISSIONER

To

- (i) The Secretaries of all Ministries/Departments of Government of India.
- (ii) The Chief Secretaries to all Union Territories
- (iii) The Comptroller & Auditor General of India
- (iv) The Chairman, Union Public Service Commission
- (v) Chief Executives of All PSUs/Banks/Organisations
- (vi) All Chief Vigilance Officers in the Ministries/ Departments/PSEs/Public Sector Banks/Insurance Companies/ Autonomous Organisations/Societies
- (vii) President's Secretariat/Vice-President's Secretariat/Lok Sabha Secretariat/Rajya Sabha Secretariat/PMO.
- (viii) All Chief Secretaries of State Governments
- (ix) All State Vigilance Commissioners and Chiefs of Anti-corruption Bureaux
- (x) All NGOs/Institutes/Service Associations (which are in the Commission's mailing list)