MESSAGE

The Central Vigilance Commission is observing Vigilance Awareness Week from 3rd to 7th November, 2009.

This annual observance aims to reaffirm the commitment of the Government to eradicate corruption from the Indian society. Ethics in Governance is an issue on which public servants as well as civil society need constant introspection. Corruption needs to be recognised as a social evil and those indulging in corrupt practices should be identified, shunned and punished.

The Commission has, over a period of time, been engaged in the task of identifying and propagating good governance practices in public procurement and public dealing areas, vulnerable to corrupt practices. The Commission has issued a number of guidelines to bring about transparency in the functioning of government bodies by making extensive use of technology. E-governance is the key to minimising public contact with the government functionaries, and a tool for minimising the scope for indulging in irregular practices. During this week a conscious effort is required to be made on the part of all Heads of Departments and Organisations to make the citizens aware of the various initiatives taken in this direction.

Vigilance Awareness Week should also be used as an opportunity for devising innovative strategies for bringing about systemic improvements. Preventive vigilance should necessarily precede punitive vigilance. Government should endeavour to make the public a stakeholder in governance, inviting suggestions for delivery of services in a more efficient and transparent manner.

Inviting citizens to report instances of malpractices by Government Officials, or any gaps in the prevailing systems is being encouraged by the Commission. The ‘Public Interest Disclosure and Protection of Informers’ Resolution’ is a major step taken by the Government in this direction. Vigilance Awareness Week should be taken as an occasion to reach out to the citizens with a message to make good use of these opportunities. Simultaneously, public servants should ensure implementation of sound and good practices.

The Commission trusts that Vigilance Awareness Week would be observed with required enthusiasm and zeal and would take the country closer to the realisation of its aim of a corruption free society.

(Sudhir Kumar)
Vigilance Commissioner

(Ranjana Kumar)
Vigilance Commissioner

(Pratyush Sinha)
Central Vigilance Commissioner