

VIGEYE VANI

Monthly Newsletter of
Central Vigilance Commission
DECEMBER 2011



Fifth Annual Conference of the International Association of Anti-corruption Authorities (IAACA)

1. The Central Vigilance Commissioner of India has been a member of the Executive Committee of the IAACA since its inception in 2006.

2. The 5th Annual Conference and General Meeting of the Association was held in Marrakech (Morocco) on 22nd and 23rd Oct., 2011. The theme of the Conference was 'Asset Recovery'. Shri Pradeep Kumar, addressed the Conference during the 1st Plenary Session. In his address, he reiterated the commitment and support of the Central Vigilance Commission and the Indian anti-corruption authorities to the Association in its fight against global corruption.



3. While highlighting the systems in place in India for detecting and recovering of illegal assets, he expressed hope that the Association would be able to find effective ways of managing the challenging task of tracing, freezing, confiscation and repatriation of stolen assets.

4. Shri Pradeep Kumar reiterated the offer of the Central Vigilance Commission to lead a Task Force on Knowledge Management as part of IAACA's work plan. CVC has proposed to set up and operate a Knowledge Management System which would consist of (a) compilation of the terms of reference and procedures of anti-corruption authorities across the globe (b) a searchable digest of concluded cases (c) a directory of anti-corruption agencies across the world along with details of contact and nodal officers (d) a digest of good practices. This is aimed at adding value to the anti-corruption initiatives of different countries through collection and analysis of experience and lessons learnt. The Task Force to be headed by CVC would consist of 10 members representing the various regions of the world. A formal proposal in this regard is being worked out.

5. CVC also took the opportunity to call on the President of IAACA – Prof. Chao Jianming who is also the Prosecutor General of the People's Republic of China. He also called on Dato Sri Haji Kassim Bin Mohamed, Chief Commissioner, Anti-Corruption Commission, Malaysia.



An Indonesian delegation led by Mr. Bibit Samad Rianto, Vice Chairman of the Indonesian Corruption Eradication Commission, met CVC in Sept, 2011.

From The Editor's Desk



Corruption slows economic progress, reduces infrastructure development and diverts investments in social services. It leads to declining moral values and disrespect for constitutional institutions and authority. The deleterious effect of Corruption is seizing the attention of the Corporate/Industrial Sector as well as Ministries and Departments.

The Confederation of Indian Industry(CII), India's Premier Business Association in its bid to minimise corruption, has recently brought out a Code of Business Ethics developed by a task force set up by it on Integrity and Transparency in

Governance, with the objective of serving as a guide to each employee of CII member companies on fair and transparent business practices and to strengthen the institutional framework that would help drive ethical practices in organisations. The CII Code of Business Ethics has 8 sections dealing with:- a) National Interest, b) Ethics & Integrity, c) Adherence to Values, d) Transparency & Openness, e) Avoiding Corrupt Practices, f) Encouraging Competition & Competitors, g) Following & Respecting the Code , h) Encouraging Whistleblowers.

The Ministry of Steel recognizing the need to bring transparency in procurement procedures has recently announced the setting up of a task force of CVOs of the Public Sector Undertakings under it, to look into systems and procedures for a common approach to the extent possible.

The Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance organised a Conference of Chief Vigilance Officers of all Public Sectors Banks and Insurance Companies at New Delhi on 02.11.2011



Shri Pradeep Kumar, Central Vigilance Commissioner lighting the lamp. Shri JM Garg, Vigilance Commissioner, CVC; Balwinder Singh, Addl. Director, CBI; Shri DK Mittal, Secretary DFS and Shri Anurag Jain, Joint Secretary & CVO, DFS are seen.



Left to right: Shri Anurag Jain, Joint Secretary & CVO, DFS; Shri DK Mittal, Secretary DFS; Shri Pradeep Kumar, Central Vigilance Commissioner; Shri JM Garg, Vigilance Commissioner, CVC and Shri Balwinder Singh, Addl. Director, CBI.

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Designed By : Savreet Singh Khurana, Engineer

“ The accomplice to the crime of corruption is frequently our own indifference.”

-Bess Myerson

“Among a people generally corrupt, liberty cannot long exist.”

- Edmund Burke

Visit of the Indian Delegation to China

Anil Singhal, Chief Technical Examiner, CVC

1. A delegation of senior officers from CVC and CBI led by Mr. J.M. Garg, Vigilance Commissioner, CVC visited China in October 2011 at the invitation of the National Bureau of Corruption Prevention (NBCP), China. The delegation held meetings with a number of dignitaries in China including Minister of Supervision and Director of NBCP, Prosecutor General of China and top officials of Municipal Bureau of Corruption Prevention and Supervision Bureau of Shanghai Municipality.
2. Both India and China are signatories to the United Nation's Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC). Since its establishment in 2007, the NBCP of China, which is a state level corruption prevention organization, has taken an active role in international exchanges and cooperation within the framework of the Convention. The NBCP formulates policy on corruption prevention, offers guidance to corruption prevention pilot projects in localities and government departments, oversees specialised projects aimed at tackling corruption at the fountainhead, organises examinations on corruption prevention work, establishes an information sharing mechanism by organising the collection and analysis of information on corruption prevention, pushes for the establishment of anti corruption warning mechanisms and the index system that reflects the status quo of corruption, etc.
3. Mr. Garg, Vigilance Commissioner, highlighted the fact that economic activities were no longer limited to domestic boundaries and hence, there was a greater need for information exchange and mutual cooperation in order to combat international corrupt practices. He indicated that the following initiatives had been taken in India as part of its strategy to combat corruption, namely :-
 - a) India recently hosted a conference on "The ADB/OECD Anti Corruption Initiative" in New Delhi in September 2011.
 - b) During the task force meeting of the International Association of Anti Corruption Authorities (IAACA) held in Singapore in January 2011, the Commission offered to host a Knowledge Management Portal for use of its Members, which would facilitate closer interaction between the members.
 - c) CVC has formulated a National Anti Corruption Strategy paper for the consideration of the Government.
4. The visit provided an excellent opportunity to both sides in understanding the working of various anti-corruption authorities in India and China and in identifying areas for enhancing mutual cooperation in future. Various initiatives taken to combat corruption in the two countries were deliberated upon. NBCP, China, was keen to send a Chinese delegation to India in the near future. It is expected that the process of interaction and cooperation between the anti corruption bodies of the two countries would be carried further.



Commission's Annual Zonal/Sectoral Review Meeting of the Defence Sector

Lt. Col (Retd.) Pradeep Khare, DGIT (Tech-Vig), HAL



2. Job Rotation of personnel occupying sensitive posts along with the activities of personnel featuring in the Agreed List & ODI List should be monitored periodically.

3. The focus of Vigilance activity should be on proactive, predictive and participative work. CVC held that emphasis must be on skill development of vigilance functionaries and raising the awareness levels through regular interactions using diverse methods. According to CVC, PRAYAS – A Compendium of Vigilance Cases & V2 a Fortnightly communication issued by HAL Vigilance Department were good initiatives, worthy of being emulated.

4. Shri R. Sri Kumar, Vigilance Commissioner emphasized that E-payment and E-procurement needed to be taken to their logical conclusion. Vendor development was also a critical activity. Shri J.M. Garg, Vigilance Commissioner, stated that structural meetings between CMDs and CVOs should take place regularly. Also the outcome of CTE type inspections needed to be shared with the Commission. Further there was ample scope for improvement in implementing HR policies.

1. The Central Vigilance Commission held the Annual Zonal/Sectoral meet with CMDs/CEOs & CVOs of the Defence Sector on 23rd Nov 2011 in Bangalore. The event was hosted by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. CVC, Inter alia stated that the criteria for defining any tender requirement should be so framed so as to enable wide participation. Emphasis should be on equity, fairness and a level playing field. Leveraging of technology was vital with e-procurement to be implemented at the earliest. Development of vendors and their management should be based on fair and equitable terms.



Commission's Annual Zonal/Sectoral Review Meeting of the Banking Sector

N.K.Jain, Advisor,CVC

1. The Commission's review meeting of the financial sector was held at Bangalore on 24.11.2011. CVC in his inaugural remarks said that despite the global melt-down the Indian Banking System was found to be healthy. He said that Vigilance was an aid to the Management and in fact contributed to the growth of the Bank..



2. Vigilance Commissioner Shri J.M. Garg talked of preventive and punitive vigilance. He cautioned the Banks about the slow-down of 2008 still having some contamination left. He emphasized on good Corporate Governance. Vigilance Commissioner, Shri Sri Kumar wanted Banks to be more transparent and insisted on inclusive growth. He also underlined the need of IT.



3. The CMDs and the CVOs of the Banks present gave a presentation with respect to their experiences. CVC appreciated the practice of allotting bio-metric passwords to the employees of IOB and Indian Bank, since the practice would ensure a fullstop on fraud taking place with the help of passwords of other officers/employees. He desired that the same may be explored for being implemented in other Banks too. It was decided that best practices should be shared between Banks at formal and informal platforms.



Online Vigilance Clearance System

K. Rajeswara Rao, CVO, Container Corporation of India Ltd.

Vigilance Clearance (VC) is required by the officers/staff for various purposes such as posting on deputation, foreign trainings/seminars/visits, issue of NOCs for private visits abroad/passport, promotions, appointment on absorption in CONCOR, confirmation, forwarding of applications for deputations to other organizations, grant of award, superannuation/resignation/extension/re-employment etc.

Launch of Online Vigilance Clearance (OVC) by CVC:

“Online Vigilance Clearance” was formally launched by Sh. R. Sri Kumar, Vigilance Commissioner and Sh. J.M. Garg, Vigilance Commissioner, Central Vigilance Commission on 18th May 2011 at Corporate Office/ CONCOR. The facility has been initiated in selected 10 major Terminals.

Basic Features:

The basic features of Online Vigilance Clearance in CONCOR are:-

Data i.e. notes, comments written are stored in encrypted format so as to have maximum security.

Vigilance clearance certificate (Report) has digital signature of respective persons.

The application login is validated by Digital signature of logins.

Employee master data flows from Ramco e.application batch-wise.

Confidentiality and Security:

This is a major concern as CONCOR offices are in 61 locations spread over in 08 Regions. To maintain the confidentiality and security of the Online Vigilance Clearances, the following features have been incorporated:-

Digital tokens are required to login and sign with PKI validation at all levels.

Employees are mapped with digital tokens.

All vigilance clearance digitally signed by competent authorities.

Employee's complete data is populated from Ramco HR and Payroll system.

It is based on the Internet Explorer version 8 & above.

Unique system generated number for each request.

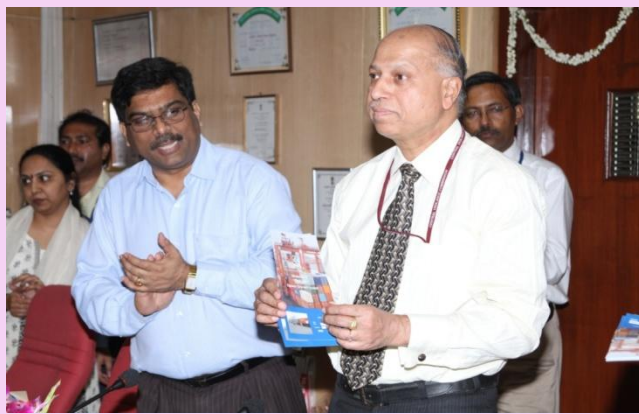
Various Search options i.e. on date, for a period, employee no., name, request Id and status etc. are available.

Auto E-Mail facility to key officers to know status at each stage.

Conclusion: A Brochure was published on the initiative, giving basic details. The initiative has been hugely successful as is evident from general responses of field officials and feedback from regional interactive sessions. There were also enquiries from several PSUs for adoption/replication of the initiative.



*Launch of Online Vigilance Clearance
by Vigilance Commissioners*



*Release of Information Brochure by Sh. J.M.
Garg, Vigilance Commissioner, CVC*

Transparency for Sustainable Growth

Joint session between the World Economic Forum and the Confederation of Indian Industries

Summary Report from Carolina de Jong, Senior Team Coordinator, Partnering Against Corruption Initiative (PACI) – World Economic Forum

1. A joint session between the World Economic Forum and the Confederation of Indian Industries on Transparency for Sustainable Growth was held in Mumbai on 12.11.2011. Shri R. Sri Kumar, Vigilance Commissioner, CVC was one of the five Discussion leaders. Huguette Labelle, Chair of Transparency International and B. Muthuraman, President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), noted in their opening remarks as co-chairs of the event that a) lack of transparency hampered growth, distorted decision making processes b) the private sector should have a greater role in increasing transparency c) private and public sectors must cooperate in setting benchmarks d) it was essential to invest in oversight organizations to independently monitor key sectors and should be independent and well-resourced.

2. One way in which the private sector can move forward and increase transparency was through the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), which provides stakeholders a way to access the economic, environmental and social performance of reporting companies and thus strengthen relationships between report users and creators. Firms can also complete the anonymous benchmark survey created by the International Business Leaders Forum in which they can compare their results with the average and then participate in workshops and high-level dialogues on corruption with government and regulators. There were clear business incentives for allowing greater transparency. As stated by one participant, “prosperity requires investment; investment requires trust and confidence, which in turn require transparency, accountability and responsibility.”

3. Transparency needs to be achieved through partnerships among all stakeholders. Numerous opportunities for the public and private sectors to cooperate were discussed. The UNCAC holds peer-level review meetings in which the parties assess their implementation of the Convention, and the private sector could participate with state parties in the Indian peer-level review coming up in 2013-2014. Together, the private and public sectors in India could also set benchmarks for other countries, especially neighbouring states looking to India for guidance in this area.



*Aditi Haldar, Director, Global Reporting Initiative Focal Point India,
Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), Netherlands*



Shri R. Sri Kumar, Vigilance Commissioner, CVC (Centre) at the event.

4. The World Economic Forum Partnership Against Corruption Initiative is holding its Spring 2012 Task Force Meeting in India. This will provide a platform for follow-up on the two concrete proposals made at the end of the session and supported by the World Economic Forum and UN Office of Drugs and Crime:

a) The development of training material for businesses to help them deal with India-specific situations related to corruption.

b) The exploration of engaging the private sector with the public sector in the UNCAC peer-level review in 2013-2014.

Commission's Annual Zonal/Sectoral Review Meeting of the Coal Sector

Keshav Rao, Director, CVC



1. The Annual Zonal/Sectoral Review Meeting of the Coal Sector was held in the Commission on 9.11.2011. In his inaugural address, CVC emphasised the importance of the coal sector for the economy. He signified the importance of the use of e-procurement, e-tendering and proper codification of procurement procedures. It was necessary to take swift decisions in respect of vigilance related matters to ensure speedy justice to the affected persons.

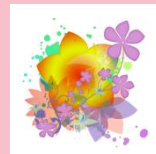
2. While addressing the meeting Shri R. Sri Kumar, Vigilance Commissioner observed that perception of vigilance as an activity being seen as a hindrance to work, was changing. In his address to the gathering, Shri J.M. Garg, Vigilance Commissioner stressed on the need to adopt e-governance and to enhance efforts towards preventive vigilance.

3. While making his presentation, Shri N.C. Jha, Chairman, Coal India Ltd. outlined the role of CIL as the holding company of the coal subsidiaries. Shri Jha highlighted the success of E-auction and of the Integrity Pact in the company. He also informed the Commission about GPS based monitoring of trucks. Brief presentations were made by the CMDs and CVOs of the Coal subsidiaries also.

4. Shri A.K. Bhalla, Joint Secretary and CVO, M/o Coal highlighted the achievements of the Ministry. He stated that transparency had been brought into the allocation of coal blocks through the electronic bidding process.



**“Your beliefs become your thoughts,
Your thoughts become your words,
Your words become your actions,
Your actions become your habits,
Your habits become your values,
Your values become your destiny.”**



--Mahatma Gandhi

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