Circular No. 10/09/16-(II)

Subject: - Observance of Vigilance Awareness Week, 2016.

Central Vigilance Commission had through its circular of even number dated 19.09.2016 issued instructions for observance of Vigilance Awareness Week this year, from 31st October to 5th November, 2016. The theme for the Week is “Public participation in promoting Integrity and eradicating Corruption”.

2. In addition to the activities suggested by the Commission to be conducted within the organisations as well as the outreach activities for public/citizens, in line with the theme this year, to create greater awareness and participation of the public at large, the Commission has envisaged a concept of “Integrity Pledge”. As such two Integrity Pledges have been envisaged enlisting support and commitment of the citizens and the other for corporates/entities/firms etc., especially in the private sector to prevent and combat corruption.

3. Both, the “Integrity Pledges” to be taken by individual citizens as well as by corporates, entities, firms etc., affirming their commitment to eradicate corruption and to uphold highest standards of ethical conduct, transparency and good governance would be available as an e-pledge on the Commission’s website http://www.cvc.nic.in. All Ministries/Departments/Organisations may also provide a hyperlink to the Integrity Pledges on their respective websites/intranet to enable wider participation. Citizens and organisations taking the Integrity Pledge would be provided a certificate acknowledging and appreciating their commitment to the cause of anti-corruption. Copies of both the “Integrity Pledges” are enclosed.

4. The Commission requests all Ministries / Departments /Organisations to disseminate and publicise this initiative to elicit wider participation of all stakeholders and also to encourage their customers/public and corporates / entities/firms, etc., to take the Integrity Pledge.

5. This notification is also available on the Commission’s website at http://www.cvc.nic.in.

Encl: As stated.

(Nilam Sawhney)
Secretary
To

(i) The Secretaries of all Ministries/Departments of Government of India.

(ii) The Chief Secretaries of all States/Union Territories

(iii) The Comptroller & Auditor General of India

(iv) The Chairman, Union Public Service Commission

(v) The Chief Election Commissioner, Election Commission

(vi) Chief Executives of all CPSEs/Public Sector Banks/ Public Sector Insurance Companies/Financial Institutions/Autonomous Organisations/Societies.

(vii) All Chief Vigilance Officers in Ministries /Departments /CPSEs / Public Sector Banks/ Public Sector Insurance Companies / Financial Institutions/ Autonomous Organisations/Societies.
**Integrity Pledge for Citizens**

I believe that corruption has been one of the major obstacles to economic, political and social progress of our country. I believe that all stakeholders such as Government, citizens and private sector need to work together to eradicate corruption.

I realise that every citizen should be vigilant and commit to highest standards of honesty and integrity at all times and support the fight against corruption.

I, therefore, pledge:

- To follow probity and rule of law in all walks of life;
- To neither take nor offer bribe;
- To perform all tasks in an honest and transparent manner;
- To act in public interest;
- To lead by example exhibiting integrity in personal behaviour;
- To report any incident of corruption to the appropriate agency.
Integrity Pledge for Organisations

We believe that corruption has been one of the major obstacles to economic, political and social progress of our country. We believe that all stakeholders such as Government, citizens and private sector need to work together to eradicate corruption.

We acknowledge our responsibility to lead by example and the need to put in place safeguards, integrity frameworks and code of ethics to ensure that we are not part of any corrupt practice and we tackle instances of corruption with utmost strictness.

We realize that as an Organisation, we need to lead from the front in eradicating corruption and in maintaining highest standards of integrity, transparency and good governance in all aspects of our operations.

We, therefore, pledge that:

- We shall promote ethical business practices and foster a culture of honesty and integrity;
- We shall not offer or accept bribes;
- We commit to good corporate governance based on transparency, accountability and fairness;
- We shall adhere to relevant laws, rules and compliance mechanisms in the conduct of business;
- We shall adopt a code of ethics for all our employees;
- We shall sensitize our employees of laws, regulations, etc. relevant to their work for honest discharge of their duties;
- We shall provide grievance redressal and Whistle Blower mechanism for reporting grievances and fraudulent activities;
- We shall protect the rights and interests of stakeholders and the society at large.
Dear Shri Sowpari,

As you are aware, the Central Vigilance Commission as the apex integrity institution of the country promotes integrity, transparency and accountability in public life and organises Vigilance Awareness Week every year to coincide with the birthday of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on 31st October. Vigilance Awareness Week is an outreach activity observed every year and this year it is being held from 31st October to 5th November, 2016. The Commission has chosen “Public participation in promoting Integrity and eradicating Corruption” as the main theme.

2. In line with the theme this year, the Commission has envisaged a concept of ‘Integrity Pledge’ for citizens (individuals) and corporates/entities/firms, etc., to pledge to prevent and combat corruption. The Integrity Pledge to be taken affirms the commitment to eradicate corruption and to uphold highest standards of ethical conduct, transparency and good governance, which would be available on the Commission’s website http://www.cvc.nic.in. Citizens and Organisations taking the Integrity Pledge would be provided a certificate acknowledging and appreciating their commitment to the cause of anti-corruption.

3. The Commission had, vide Circular dated 23.09.2016, requested all Ministries/Departments/Organisations to provide a hyperlink to the Integrity Pledges on their respective websites to enable wider participation. Accordingly, NIC is requested to provide a hyperlink on all the websites of all Ministries/Departments/Organisations which are under the domain of NIC.

Regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Salim Haque)

Shri S.N.Sowpari,
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