F. No. C-35/8/2019-Vig.
Government of India
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
Vigilance Section

Dated: 19th October, 2020

**Office Memorandum**

Integrity is the practice of being honest and showing uncompromising adherence to strong moral and ethical principles and values. To act with integrity is to ensure that every decision made is based on thorough transparency and moral principles. Maintaining integrity at work is crucial for employees as it fosters a positive work environment. In order to ensure transparency and ethical practices, instructions & guidelines have been issued from time to time. As a preventive measure, the following are reiterated for compliance:

1. Identify sensitive post/seats and ensure the Rotational Transfer of officials continuing at such seats/posts beyond 3 years (Order no.18/MISC/02/392171 dated 23/08/2018 is enclosed herewith for ready reference)

2. To diligently follow the laid down procedure for procurement, as per the guidelines of CVC, DoPT [Vigilance Manual [Chapter-IX (9.9)] of CVC].

3. Manuals on important subject such as purchase, contracts etc should be periodically updated and placed on the website.

4. Prepare a panel of Inquiry officers for conducting Preliminary Enquiry(PE) and Departmental Enquiries and review the same from time to time.

5. Create a page on the website dedicated for Vigilance awareness, which may include departmental mechanism to handle complaints, name of vigilance officers, protection of whistleblowers, etc.

6. Prepare an agreed list and doubtful integrity list of officers/officials and provide the same to the Vigilance Wing of the Ministry for tracking their activities and issuing vigilance status of officers/officials (O.M. No. 105/1/66.AVD-I dated 28/10/1969 is enclosed for ready reference).

(Sumitra Singh)
Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel:-011-23386226

To,

All Administrative Sections of the Ministry and Media Units.

☑ Copy to:-

NIC Cell, Main Secretariat, M/o I&B with a request to upload on Ministry’s website.
OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Rotation of officers working in sensitive posts - regarding.

Ref: CVC’s circular No. 03/09/13 dated 11-9-2013 (copy enclosed).

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In reiteration of the instructions issued vide circular referred above and other related circulars issued, the Commission vide letter No. 18/Misc/02/378043 dated 1-5-2018 had issued an OM advising all Public Sector Banks, and vide letter No. 18/Misc/02/378044 dated 1-5-2018 advising all Public Sector Insurance Companies to effect rotational transfers in respect of those officers in sensitive posts who are continuing beyond 3 years and also to report compliance within 3 months.

2. Analysis of frauds that have taken place in Public Sector Banks as well as other organizations show that one of the reasons for such frauds was non-implementation of the rotational policy.

3. It is once again reiterated that rotational transfers of officers continuing beyond 3 years may be strictly carried out from the sensitive seats/posts. It is clarified that the Commission’s advice is for change from the sensitive seat/post, and not necessarily from the station, which is to be governed by the policy of the respective organizations.

4. Heads/CVOs of all departments/organizations are requested to strictly ensure that the rotational policy is implemented in their respective organizations. CVOs may report on the compliance in this regard in their quarterly reports.

Contd.2/-
Circular No. 09/09/13

Subject: Rotation of officials working in sensitive posts—regarding.

Central Vigilance Commission and the Department of Personnel and Training have issued instructions for effecting rotational transfers of officials posted on sensitive posts. As per Commission’s instructions issued vide letter Nos. 98/VGL/60 dated 15.4.1999, 02.11.2001 and 004/VGL/90 dated 01.5.2008 and 04.01.2012 (for public sector banks) on this issue, it was prescribed that Ministries/Departments/Organisations and CVOs are to identify the sensitive posts and staff working in these posts and also ensure that they are strictly rotated after every two/three years to avoid developing vested interests.

2. The Commission in the superintendence of vigilance administration over the years has observed that such rotational transfers are not effected in many organisations due to which officials continue to remain in the same posts for long periods. Such overstay and continuous postings afford scope for indulging in corrupt activities, developing vested interests etc. which may not be in the interest of the organisation. The Commission would therefore, emphasise that periodical rotation of officials holding sensitive posts/jobs needs to be ensured. As such, officials should not be retained in the same place/position for long by the Ministries/Departments/PSUs/Banks/Organisations etc.

3. Heads/CVOs of all Departments/Organisations are advised to ensure strict compliance of the Commission’s guidelines and implement the same in letter and spirit. Further, the CVOs should specifically report the action taken indicating the number of officials rotated/transferred in the respective organisations in the Monthly Report of CVOs submitted to the Commission.

1. All Secretaries of Ministries/Departments.
2. All CMDs/Heads of CPSUs/Public Sector Banks/Organisations
3. All CVOs of Ministries/Departments/ CPSUs/Public Sector Banks/Organisations.

(K D Tripathi)
Secretary
No: 105/1/66-AVD-I
Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs

New Delhi- 1, the 28th October, 1969
6th Kartika, 1891

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject:- Scheme for preparation, maintenance and custody of lists of public servants of gazetted status of doubtful integrity.

The undersigned is directed to enclose a copy of the scheme mentioned above with the request that appropriate action may kindly be taken as indicated therein.

2. The revised lists prepared in accordance with the enclosed scheme will supersede the lists circulated to Secretariat by the Director, Central Bureau of Investigation on with his D.O. letter No. 21/7/63-GD, dated the 7th May, 1964.

3. The revised lists prepared in accordance with the enclosed scheme will not affect the continuance of the annual agreed lists of suspected officers which are being prepared in accordance with para 6 to 10 of the programme for vigilance and anti-corruption work during 1966 circulated with this Ministry's O.M. No. 130/1/66-AVD, dated the 19th May 1966 (as continued from time to time).

4. Receipt of this communication may kindly be acknowledged.

Sd/- R.C.Joshi
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India

To

All Chief Vigilance Officers
of Ministries/Departments.

No. 105/1/66-AVD, dated the 28th October, 1969.

Copy with a copy of the scheme forwarded to:

1. Chief Secretarics of all Union Territories for similar action in so far as they are concerned; and

2. Director, Central Bureau of Investigation(Shri D.Sen, Joint Director, Special IGP), New Delhi.

Sd/- R.C.Joshi
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India
SCHEME FOR PREPARATION, MAINTENANCE AND CUSTODY OF LIST OF PUBLIC SERVANTS OF GAZETTED STATUS OF DOUBTFUL INTEGRITY

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the recommendation made in the statement laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on the 10th August, 1961, and the Rajya Sabha on the 24th August, 1961 measures are to be taken to locate officials against whom suspicions exist regarding their integrity amount to moral conviction. It has already been decided that Secretaries to the Ministries and the Heads of the Departments have the duty of locating and suitably dealing with corrupt officials. As a further step in this direction, it has been decided to prepare lists of public servants of gazetted status of doubtful integrity. This scheme gives in detail the purpose of these lists and procedure for their preparation and maintenance.

NOMENCLATURE & CRITERIA FOR ENTRY IN THE LISTS

2. The lists will be termed as the ‘list of Public Servants of Gazetted status of Doubtful Integrity’. It will include names of those officers only who, after enquiry or during the course of enquiry, have been found to be lacking in integrity. It will thus include the names of the officers, with certain exceptions mentioned below, falling under one of the following categories:

i) Convicted in a court of law on a charge of lack of integrity or for an offence involving moral turpitude but on whom, in view of exceptional circumstances, a penalty other than dismissal, removal or compulsory retirement is imposed.

ii) Awarded departmentally a major penalty.
   a) on charges of lack of integrity
   b) on charges of gross dereliction of duty in protecting the interests of Government although the corrupt motive may not be capable of proof.

iii) Against whom proceedings for a major penalty or a court trial are in progress for alleged acts involving lack of integrity or moral turpitude.

iv) Who were prosecuted but acquitted on technical grounds, and in whose case on the basis of evidence during the trial there remained a reasonable suspicion against their integrity.

The names of the officers of the following categories should not be included in this list.
(a) Officers who have been cleared or honourably acquitted as a result of disciplinary proceedings or court trial.

(b) Officers against whom an enquiry or investigation has not brought forth sufficient evidence for recommending even a disciplinary case.

(c) Officers who have been convicted of offences not involving lack of integrity or moral turpitude.

(d) Officers against whom disciplinary proceedings have been completed or are in progress in respect of administrative lapses, minor violation of Conduct Rules and the like.

PURPOSE OF THE LISTS

3. These lists are intended to keep the Ministries/Departments/Undertakings concerned informed about such officers of doubtful integrity to ensure that they are not posted to 'sensitive' assignments and that this fact is given due consideration when deciding administrative matters affecting the service of these officers. These lists would also help the Ministries to know about the officers whose work and conduct need both special attention and closer supervisory scrutiny.

PROCEDURE FOR PREPARATION OF THE LISTS

4. (i) Vigilance Organisation of Ministries/Departments/Undertakings will prepare a list of public servants of Gazetted status against whom any disciplinary proceedings for a major penalty are in progress or who have been punished in disciplinary proceedings on a charge involving lack of integrity. A copy of these lists will be sent by the vigilance Organisation to the Central Bureau of Investigation every year in the last week of February.

(ii) As soon as an adverse report against an officer of the nature mentioned in the scheme is received, the Vigilance Officer should bring it to the notice of the Secretary/Head of the Ministry/Department concerned immediately. A decision in regard to the inclusion of the name of such officer in the list should be taken as soon as possible.

(iii) The Central Bureau of Investigation will suggest addition or deletion of names on the basis of information available with them and return the lists to Secretaries/Heads of Departments concerned.
(iv) If the Ministry/Department/Public Undertakings concerned does not agree to the inclusion or deletion of any particular name or names, it will be settled by mutual discussion. The decision of the Secretary/Head of the Ministry/Department would be final.

5. The purpose of maintenance of these lists is to also enable the Ministries/Departments to take such administrative action as is necessary and feasible. The following courses of administrative action are open:-

(1) Withholding Certificate of integrity;
(2) Transfer from a ‘sensitive’ posts;
(3) Non-promotion, after consideration of his case, to a service, grade or post to which he is eligible for promotion.
(4) Compulsory retirement in the public interest (otherwise than as penalty) in accordance with the orders issued by the Government. This is now permissible on completion of the age of 50 with certain exceptions.
(5) Refusal of extension of service or re-employment either under Government or in a Public Sector Undertakings.
(6) Non-sponsoring of names for foreign assignment/deputation.
(7) Refusal of permission for commercial re-employment after retirement.

6. The orders of Government that provide for these administrative measures under certain conditions are:-

(i) Papers on measures for strengthening of administration, particularly paragraph 3 (11) of the statement laid in the Lok Sabha on 10 August, 1961 that corrupt officials should be located and action taken to improve them or retire them.

(ii) Note 1 under article 465-A, Civil Services Regulations, under which Government retain an absolute right to retire certain officers after they have completed 25 years, qualifying service without assigning any reasons.

(iii) Rule 2(2), Liberalised Pension Rules, permits retirement of an officer who has completed 30 years of qualifying service.

(iv) M.H.A. O.M. No. 33/18/62-Ests.(A), dated 30-11-62 raising the age of compulsory retirement from 55 years to 58 years which provided that officers who have reached the age of 55 years may be retired after giving three months notice without assigning any reason.
(v) M.H.A. O.M. No. 41/2/55 (II) Ests.(A) dated April, 23, 1965 provides that officers who do not have a reputation for honesty should not be placed in position where there is considerable scope for discretion.

(vi) M.H.A. O.M. No. 1/7/64-Ests (D), dt. July 30, 1964 provides that particular attention should be given to integrity when considering officers for promotion. It also provides for the recording of a certificate of integrity when sponsoring a name for promotion.

(vii) M.H.A. O.M. NO. 33/11/64-Ests (A), dt. September 11, 1964 requires that an officer, who does not have a good reputation for integrity, should not be considered eligible for grant of extension/re-employment in service.


(ix) M.H.A. O.M. NO. 20/22/68-Ests (A) dt. 6-5-69 and O.M. No. 33/13/61-Ests (A) dt. 23-6-69.

(x) M.H.A. O.M. No. 39/17/63-Ests (A), dt. 6-9-69.

7. When the name of an officer has been entered in the list for good and adequate reasons, it will not be removed until a period of three years has elapsed. The period of three years for which the name will be current on the list will count from the date of punishment in disciplinary proceedings or from the date of conviction in a court trial. On the conclusion of this period the cases of such officers may be reviewed by the Ministry/Department concerned in consultation with the Central Bureau of Investigation and if during the intervening period there has been no further complaint or information against the officer touching on his integrity, the name may be removed from the list. If at the time of review, it is proposed to continue the name of an officer on the list, cogent reason for doing so should exist.

TRANSFER OF SUCH OFFICERS

8. In the event of the officers being transferred to another Ministry/Department/Undertakings, the Vigilance Officer concerned should intimate to his opposite number in the Ministry/Department/ Undertaking the fact of the officer's name being on the list, endorsing a copy to the Central Bureau of Investigation.

PERIODICITY OF CIRCULATION BY THE C.B.I.

9. Lists of such officers consolidated by the Central Bureau of Investigation will be circulated to Ministries once every year i.e. in June. While communicating the name of the officer the material
against him should be briefly indicated by the Central Bureau of Investigation. Five copies of the list covering all Ministries/Departments/Undertakings will be sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs(AVD), four copies for the use of E.O., J.S(E), J.S.(P), J.S.(AIS) and one for record on the AVD communication and references should be directly between the Central Bureau of Investigation and the Ministry concerned.

MAINTENANCE & CUSTODY OF THE LISTS

10. It will be the duty of the Chief Vigilance Officer/Vigilance Officer of the Ministry/Department/Undertaking to maintain these lists uptodate, The list will be treated as ‘SECRET’ and the Head of the Ministry/Department/Undertaking will be responsible for its safe custody.

11. The lists cannot be and are not meant to be fully exhaustive and these will not fetter the discretion of the Government in any way.