Subject: Observance of Vigilance Awareness Week, 2016.

Central Vigilance Commission, as the apex integrity institution of the country, endeavours to promote integrity, transparency and accountability in public life. Observance of Vigilance Awareness Week every year is one such outreach measure wherein all the stake holders are encouraged to prevent and combat corruption. The Commission has decided that this year the Vigilance Awareness Week would be observed from 31st October to 5th November, 2016 with the theme "Public participation in promoting Integrity and eradicating Corruption".

2. Corruption is a serious unethical practice that undermines trust and confidence in public officials and public confidence can only be gained by integrity in governance. Economic and social progress, rule of law, democratic values and a strong civil society are some of the basic prerequisites in building an integrity system to sustain the fight against corruption in society. In order to attain a corruption free society, all stake holders including government, citizens and also the private sector must share the responsibility for creation of awareness of corruption as well as refrain from indulging in unethical acts.

3. Aware, active, involved and empowered public is, therefore, essential to any anti-corruption campaign. Anti-corruption strategies are not simply policies that can be planned in advance and isolation, but often a set of subtler insights that can be developed only in conjunction with public participation. Combating corruption is, therefore, not just a matter of making laws and creating institutions, but is deeply rooted in human values and morals of individuals and the fight against corruption cannot be won without citizens’ support, participation and active vigilance by all concerned. The Commission has, therefore, chosen “Public participation in promoting Integrity and eradicating Corruption” as the central theme for Vigilance Awareness Week, 2016.

4. The observance of the Vigilance Awareness Week would commence with the pledge (copy enclosed) by public servants in the Ministries/Departments/CPSEs/Public Sector Banks and all other Organisations on 31st October, 2016 at 11.00 a.m. All the organisations are also advised to consider activities relevant to the theme both within
their organization as well as for outreach for public/citizens during the Vigilance Awareness Week as below:-

**A. Activities to be conducted within the organization:**

A1. Distribute pamphlets, handouts on preventive vigilance activities / whistle blower mechanism and other anti-corruption measures.

A2. Workshops/sensitization programmes for employees and other stakeholders on policies/procedures of the organization and preventive vigilance measures.

A3. Bring out special issue of journals/newsletters on vigilance issues / systemic improvements and good practices adopted for wider dissemination and awareness.

A4. Conduct various competitions such as debates, quiz etc. for the employees and their families on issues relating to anti-corruption;

A5. Use organizational website for dissemination of employees/customer oriented information and avenues available for grievance redressal.

**B. Outreach activities for public/citizens:**

B1. Display of hoardings, banners, posters and distribution of handouts etc. at prominent locations/places in offices/field units and also at places with public interface (eg. Branches of Banks, Petrol Pumps, Railway Stations, Airports etc.).

B2. Organize customer grievance redressal camps for citizens/customers/vendors/contractors, etc. by organisations having customer oriented services/activities. It is expected that such camps are held by the organisations not only at headquarters but also at all appropriate field offices across the country.

B3. Organize debates/elocution/essay writing/cartoon/poster competitions on moral values, ethics, good governance practices etc. amongst the youth/students of schools/colleges including professional colleges/institutions and to distribute prizes. Alternatively, panel discussions or lectures can also be organized with the students.

As in previous year, for creation of awareness on the ill-effects of corruption in college and school students, the Commission desires that special efforts may be made by each field unit/branch of every CPSE/PSB/Organisation to organize activities in at least 2 schools and 3 colleges in every city/town. An action plan with details of cities to be covered will be communicated to the CVOs separately.
B5. Organise "awareness gram sabhas" for dissemination of awareness in Gram Panchayats (in rural and semi-urban areas) to sensitise citizens on ill-effects of corruption. This activity would largely be taken up by the Public Sector Banks which will ask each of their branches to conduct such awareness gram sabhas in atleast two Gram Panchayats. Similar sabhas/meetings could be organized at the district level also by the lead Bank of the district. Detailed action plan for this activity will be communicated separately to the CVOs of the PSBs.

B6. Ensure participation of non-government organisations, corporates in private sector, other institutions, service organisations and public in the local area to participate in the vigilance awareness campaigns particularly by conducting seminars/workshops/skits/street plays/walk/marathon etc. Vigilance Study Circles may also ensure organizing such activities.

B7. Use social media, electronic and print media for spreading awareness etc.

5. The Commission expects all concerned to organize and conduct the various activities with zeal and enthusiasm to achieve the objective of the theme this year for public participation in spreading awareness of corruption, its ill-effects and in the fight against corruption.

6. A report on the observance of the Week may be sent to Central Vigilance Commission by 30th November, 2016 by all Ministries/Departments/Organisations.

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

(Nilam Sawhney)
Secretary

Encl: As stated.

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.
हम, भारत के लोक सेवक, सत्यनिष्ठा से प्रतिज्ञा करते हैं कि हम अपने कार्यकलापों के प्रत्येक क्षेत्र में ईमानदारी और पारदर्शिता बनाए रखने के लिए निरंतर प्रयत्नशील रहेंगे। हम यह प्रतिज्ञा भी करते हैं कि हम जीवन के प्रत्येक क्षेत्र से भ्रष्टाचार उन्मूलन करने के लिए निर्धारित रूप से कार्य करेंगे। हम अपने संगठन के विकास और प्रतिज्ञा के प्रति सचेत रहते हुए कार्य करेंगे। हम अपने सामूहिक प्रयासों के द्वारा अपने संगठनों को गौरवशाली बनाएंगे तथा अपने देशवासियों को सिद्धांतों पर आधारित सेवा प्रदान करेंगे। हम अपने कर्त्तव्य का पालन पूर्ण ईमानदारी से करेंगे और भय अथवा पक्षपात के बिना कार्य करेंगे।

PLEDGE

WE, THE PUBLIC SERVANTS OF INDIA, DO HEREBY SOLEMNLY PLEDGE THAT WE SHALL CONTINUOUSLY STRIVE TO BRING ABOUT INTEGRITY AND TRANSPARENCY IN ALL SPHERES OF OUR ACTIVITIES. WE ALSO PLEDGE THAT WE SHALL WORK UNSTINTINGLY FOR ERADICATION OF CORRUPTION IN ALL SPHERES OF LIFE. WE SHALL REMAIN VIGILANT AND WORK TOWARDS THE GROWTH AND REPUTATION OF OUR ORGANISATION. THROUGH OUR COLLECTIVE EFFORTS, WE SHALL BRING PRIDE TO OUR ORGANISATIONS AND PROVIDE VALUE BASED SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRYMEN. WE SHALL DO OUR DUTY CONSCIENTIOUSLY AND ACT WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOUR.
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.
(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.
Citizens Integrity Pledge

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 the private sector need to work together to eradicate corruption.

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

As a citizen of the country, 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 and be accountable to all my actions;
- To take decisions objectively and impartially;
- 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

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 the 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 commit to good corporate governance based on transparency, accountability and fairness;
- We shall adhere to all relevant laws, rules and compliance mechanisms in the conduct of business;
- We shall not tolerate bribery in any form or engage in any unethical business practices;
- We shall adopt a code of ethics to ensure ethical behaviour of all our employees and take appropriate action for any transgressions of the code;
- We shall sensitise all employees of laws, regulations etc. relevant to their work for effective discharge of their duties;
- We shall provide a proper grievance redressal mechanism to raise their grievances and report suspicious activities;
- We shall aspire for excellence and protecting the rights and interests of all stakeholders and the society at large.