

CHAPTER – XII

VIGILANCE

MINISTRY OF STEEL

The Vigilance unit of this Ministry is headed by a Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO) of the rank of Joint Secretary appointed on the advice of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC). The CVO with one Director and one Under Secretary and supporting staff, functions as the nodal point in the vigilance set-up of the Ministry. The vigilance unit is, inter-alia, responsible for the following in respect of the Ministry of Steel and the PSUs under its administrative control.

- (i) identification of sensitive areas prone to malpractices/ temptations and taking preventive measures to ensure integrity/ efficiency in Government functioning;
- (ii) taking suitable action to achieve the targets fixed by the Deptt. of Personnel and Training on anti-corruption measures;
- (iii) scrutiny of complaints and initiation of appropriate investigation measures;
- (iv) inspections and follow-up action on the same;
- (v) furnishing the comments of the Ministry to the Central Vigilance Commission on the investigation reports of the Central Bureau of Investigation;
- (vi) taking appropriate action in respect of departmental proceedings on the advice of the CVC or otherwise;
- (vii) obtaining first and second stage advice of the CVC, wherever necessary;
- (viii) obtaining advice of the Union Public Service Commission in regard to the nature and quantum of penalty to be imposed, wherever necessary;
- (ix) appointment of CVOs in the PSUs in consultation with CVC and Deptt. of Personnel & Training;
- (x) examination of complaints regarding allegations against the officials / officers of the PSUs under the Ministry for appropriate action.
- (xi) maintenance and scrutiny of immovable property returns of officers and staff working in the Ministry.

2. Ten PSUs and one Attached Office, namely Office of Development Commissioner of Iron & Steel, Calcutta are functioning under the administrative control of this Ministry. The Vigilance Unit in each of the PSUs and the DCI&S is headed by a CVO appointed by this Ministry in consultation with CVC and DOPT.

3. During the year 2002 (upto December, 2002) in all 45 complaints were received in the Ministry. Out of these, 29 complaints have been disposed off after examining them in consultation with the CVC wherever necessary. The remaining 16 complaints are under various stages of investigation/ examination.

STEEL AUTHORITY OF INDIA LIMITED

Position in the sensitive departments were identified and transfers as per the rotation policy effected during the year. Surprise checks and investigation of the complaints were carried out for continuous improvement in the existing systems. Continuous efforts have been made to streamline the system and provide flexibility to perform as per business requirement in the present competitive scenario. Clearance for 'Reverse Auction' was obtained from CVC for purchases to keep pace with recent trend of e-commerce.

Regular interactions were organised between the Vigilance Department and the line managers of Plants/Units in a structured manner to sensitize the managers about the importance of vigilance administration.

RASHTRIYA ISPAT NIGAM LIMITED

Vigilance at RINL, proved to be an effective management tool with emphasis on preventive vigilance. The Vigilance Department took a number of measures like formulation / review of the procedures; identification of sensitive posts and possible places and points of corruption in the organization, conducting regular checks of quality sampling and rail/road weighments; creating awareness amongst non-vigilance personnel and circulation of directives received from CVC and MOS from time to time.

The vigilance observations were brought to the notice of the concerned for taking corrective action/improvement of the existing procedures/systems, wherever required.

Vigilance awareness week was observed during the week 31st October 2001 to 6th November, 2001. On the preventive vigilance front, greater thrust was laid on examination of tenders at the processing stage with a view to modifying certain restrictive tender clauses to increase competition.

Proactive vigilance work in the areas of estimation, award and execution of contracts pertaining to operation, maintenance, procurement, marketing and mining areas and the positive attitude of management towards the suggestions of the vigilance department brought tangible financial benefits to the company to the tune of Rs.1221 lakhs during the year and is expected to have continued impact in reducing expenditure in future.

Close interaction was maintained with CBI. Pending cases were reviewed periodically and full cooperation was extended to them. All the periodical statistical returns/ reports were submitted to MOS, CVC, CBI and DOPT in time. The highlights for 2001-02 and 2002-03 (Apr-Sept) are given below :

Vigilance Highlights

Item	2001-02	2002-03 (Apr-Sept)
Procedure orders formulated / reviewed	5	3
Study of high value purchase tenders / works contracts cases	21	8
Suggestions for improvement of existing procedures	15	11
Regular / surprise inspections made	538	70
Quality checks conducted	50	9
Re-weighments (rake and road) conducted	144	12
Vigilance awareness/sensitiation sessions	13	5
Complaints handled	26	13
Cases investigated & disposed	26	13
Disciplinary inquiries disposed	5	1
No.of employees against whom administrative action taken	4	1
No.of Agencies / parties against whom administrative action	-	1

taken		
Interaction Meetings with DAs/IQs/POs for speedy completion of disciplinary inquiries	12	6
Interaction meeting with CBI	4	3

KUDREMU KH IRON ORE COMPANY LIMITED (KIOCL)

Plan of Action for the Vigilance Wing for the year 2002-2003 was drawn up and circulated. This laid down the essential parameters on the basis of which Vigilance activity for the year would be carried out. The plan of action, inter alia, identified areas where greater thrust and emphasis would need to be devoted while carrying out scrutiny of files, surprise checks and inspections etc. Two areas viz., (a) utilisation of materials, and (b) emergency purchases, were identified as the "sensitive areas" warranting closer scrutiny.

The accent during the year has been on preventive vigilance. A total of 22 surprise checks and 23 inspections were carried out in different areas. Based on the reports received, appropriate action was initiated. Cases have also been registered based on the outcome of the surprise checks and inspections.

Property returns were obtained from all executives. The process of scrutiny was undertaken. By the end of March 2003, twenty percent of the property returns would be subjected to scrutiny, as per guidelines laid down by the CVC.

Vigilance Awareness Week was observed from October 31, 2002 to November 06, 2002 at all the locations of the Company as per the directive of the Central Vigilance Commission.

BHARAT REFRACTORIES LIMITED (BRL)

During the year, Vigilance Department functioned as an effective part of Management and greater emphasis was laid on preventive vigilance.

