MUMBAI PORT TRUST

Brief Write-up for Vigilance Awareness Week

Mumbai Port Trust:
- The Mumbai Port Trust, established in 1873, is a premier major Sea Port in our country and has long been the principal gateway to India. Mumbai Port has played a pivotal role in the development of the national economy, trade & commerce and prosperity of Mumbai city in particular.
- Mumbai Port Trust provides facilities and services to sea-borne trade and shipping industry. With changing times, Mumbai Port Trust is taking measures to render cost effective and quality services to the maritime trade.
- Mumbai Port Trust is ISO – 9001 : 2008 certified Port

Central Vigilance Commission (CVC):
- Central Vigilance Commission is the apex vigilance and integrity institution of our Country. It endeavours to promote integrity, transparency and accountability and eliminating corruption in public life.
- CVC has the status of an autonomous body, free of control from any executive authority, charged with monitoring all vigilance activity under the Central Government of India, advising various authorities in central Government organizations in planning, executing, reviewing and reforming their vigilance work.

Vigilance Department
- Every government organization has vigilance division which is headed by chief vigilance officer (IPS/IRS/IAS) who works with management to safeguard the organization from erosion of the organization resources and goodwill.
- The Chief Vigilance officer (CVO) of the organization is an external appointee appointed by the CVC who ensures an unbiased approach and is generally from the administrative cadres of IAS /IPS/IRS/IPOS.
- The CVO is assisted by Dy. Chief Vigilance Officer, Sr. Vigilance Officer, Vigilance Officer and Asstt. Vigilance Officer in Vigilance Functioning of Mumbai Port Trust.

Purpose of CVC
- Purpose of CVC is to have a check in the govt. departments where public money is involved; this is to make sure that interest of common public is not harmed. CVC stresses to create an environment of transparency and integrity. It monitors all the govt departments through its Vigilance machinery in place. It addresses various types of complaints and advice the govt. in the related matters.

How CVC benefit common people
- CVC benefit common people by addressing their grievances about government organizations. A common person may not openly oppose the corrupt practices of some officials due to certain reasons. But same person can easily inform CVC about the corrupt activities being done by the officials, thereafter CVC takes a note of it and thus takes necessary action and subsequently benefit common people.
Achievements of CVC
- CVC has been recommending increase in the use of technology to reduce human intervention and increasing transparency.
- Use of website for floating of e-tenders, dissemination of information about the tender bid, award, allocation are being published by the PSUs on their website.
- Implementation of e-payments to the vendors.
- Acceptance of payments by the PSUs from various modes other than the cash mode viz, kiosk, net banking, acceptance of payment in nominated banks.
- E-stamping and franking etc.

Ways by which people can support vigilance activities
- Self-awareness which means people should educate themselves about the systems and mechanisms which are in place for complaints redressal.
- People should never support corrupt practices and should not indulge in giving bribes to get their work done.
- People should spread the awareness about the mechanism by which we can combat corruption.

Vigilance Awareness Week
- Central Vigilance Commission is the apex vigilance and integrity institution of our Country. It endeavours to promote integrity, transparency and accountability and eliminating corruption in public life.
- Observance of Vigilance Awareness Week every year is one such outreach measure by the Central Vigilance Commission wherein all the stakeholders are encouraged to prevent and combat corruption.
- Vigilance Awareness Week is observed in the remembrance of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel (October 31, 1875 – December 15, 1950). He was a political and social leader of India who played a major role in the country's struggle for independence and subsequently guided its integration into a united, independent nation. He was the first Home Minister and Deputy Prime Minister of India. He was called the "Iron Man of India" and also remembered as the "Patron Saint" of India's civil servants for establishing modern all-India services.
- Corruption is serious unethical practice that undermines trust and confidence in public officials. 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 pre-requisites in building an integrity system to sustain the fight against corruption in society.
- In order to attain a corruption free society, all stakeholders 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.
- It is therefore essential that public is aware, active, involved and empowered for 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 individual and the fight against corruption cannot be won without citizen's support, participation and active vigilance by all concerned.

• The Central Vigilance Commission has therefore chosen "Public participation in promoting integrity and eradicating corruption" as a central theme for Vigilance Awareness Week, 2016 which would be observed throughout the country from 31st October to 5th November, 2016.

• As one of the stakeholder for promoting integrity and eradication of corruption, Mumbai Port Trust also actively involved and participates in observance of Vigilance Awareness Week every year.

• As a part of observance of Vigilance Awareness Week this year also, Mumbai Port Trust has planned to conduct various events within the organisation and in schools and colleges as well for creating awareness on the ill-effects of corruption and promoting moral values, ethics, good governance practices, etc.

• Some of the events organised by Mumbai Port Trust for observing Vigilance Awareness Week, 2016 are as under:

  1. Elocution Competitions held in 2 schools and 3 colleges in Mumbai and Navi Mumbai region to encourage the youths for active participation in eradicating corruption.
  2. Street Plays has been arranged at 5 location in Mumbai to create awareness about the initiatives taken for eradicating corruption.
  3. Wide publicity amongst the public and employees of Mumbai Port Trust for creating awareness for promoting integrity and eradication of corruption by way of display of banners / posters at prominent locations; displaying procedures for lodging complaints on Mumbai Port Trust website; use of social media like facebook / twitter;
  4. Holding various competitions like drawings, caricatures, rangoli, and elocution competition on the vigilance theme for the employees and their family members.
  5. A guest lecture by esteemed speaker Smt. V. Radha, IAS, State Excise Commissioner, on the Vigilance theme to encourage Officers of Mumbai Port Trust.
  6. Administering the pledge and Integrity Pledge to the employees of Mumbai Port Trust and also to the students of schools/ colleges and to the stakeholders.
  7. Distribution of pamphlets in the colonies of Mumbai Port Trust for appealing the citizens to take e-Pledge which will be available on Cental Vigilance Commission’s website www.cvc.nic.in
  8. Conducting meeting / workshop for various stakeholders like Customers, port users, contractors, suppliers, vendors, lessees, etc.

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What is Vigilance?
- Oxford English dictionary defines ‘Vigilance’ as keeping careful watch to avoid possible danger or difficulties. For example, parents keep a watch over their young children to avoid any untoward incident or accident.

- In the context of an organization, Vigilance means keeping a watchful eye on the activities of the personnel and taking prompt action to promote ethical practices and ensure integrity and honesty in the official transactions.

Why Vigilance?
- There are individuals who indulge in unethical activities of getting personal gains at the cost of the organization. Such persons not only lead to wastages, losses and economic decline but also infect others and damage the image and goodwill of the organization. Hence, to rein in such persons’ mis-endeavours and promote organizational interest, vigilance is required.

- Vigilance helps in:
  1. Disciplining the wrong doers;
  2. Protecting honest performers;
  3. Increasing transparency and fairness;
  4. Ascertaining accountability;
  5. Reducing wastages/leakages;
  6. Promoting culture of honesty and integrity; and
  7. Reforming systems / simplification of procedures for corruption-free delivery.

- In brief, it helps in striving for zero tolerance for corruption and thereby enhancing the image of the organization.

Where Vigilance?
- Vigilance is essential in every organ of the organization and that is why it is stressed that every officer/employee becomes vigilant.

- However, a focused attention is required in each unit where:
  1. Officials have high discretions;
  2. There is scope for jumping the queue;
  3. Rules and procedures are complex;
  4. Accountability is low;
  5. Delay in decision making is detrimental to the clients’ interest;
  6. Opportunities to negotiate exist; and
  7. Individuals are known to be corrupt.

- Vigilance set up of the organization needs to identify such areas prone to corruption and target their efforts for setting up clean Governance Systems.

What is Vigilance Angle?
- Vigilance Angle is present in the individual’s acts of:
  1. Demanding and/or accepting gratification for an official act or influencing others;
2. Obtaining valuables without consideration/with inadequate consideration from someone in officials dealing directly/indirectly;
3. Receiving himself or for others valuables or pecuniary benefits by corrupt or illegal means or by abusing power;
4. Possessing assets disproportionate to income;
5. Misappropriating, cheating forgery etc.; and
6. Carrying out other irregularities which cast doubt on ones integrity.

- Vigilance Departments takes up such matters for investigation and follow up punitive/corrective actions, which have vigilance angle.

**How Vigilance works?**

Vigilance functions are carried out in mainly three ways:

- Preventive Vigilance that includes, (i) Simplifying rules/procedures; (ii) Curtailing discretions; (iii) Improving transparency; (iv) Bringing in fairness, competitiveness and accountability; (v) Promoting awareness among clients; (vi) Educating/Sensitizing the officials; and (vii) Ensuring posting of officials with clean integrity on sensitive posts;(viii) Periodical rotation of staff in sensitive posts.

- Punitive Vigilance that incorporates, (i) Carrying out investigation; and (ii) assisting Disciplinary Authority in taking punitive action by initiating and following up disciplinary/criminal proceedings against the corrupt officials;

- Surveillance and Detective Vigilance that entails, (i) Conducting surprise inspections; (ii) Scrutinizing Annual Property Returns; and (iii) Cultivating other sources for detecting corruption entrepreneurs, who are masters of social network manipulations and influences to serve their own self interests at the cost of the organization, to ensure clean functioning in the organization.

**How is Vigilance a Management Tool?**

- Vigilance is an integral part of the management.

- It provides important instruments for improving performance of an organization. This includes promoting clean business transactions, professionalism, productivity, promptness and ethical practices.

- It also assists in systemic improvements in curbing opportunities for corruption.

- Therefore, vigilance helps in improving efficiency and effectiveness of the personnel as well as the organization.

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