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
(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.