Sub: Thrust areas for the year 2018.
Ref: This office letter of even no. dated 30.01.2017

The Thrust Areas of the Vigilance Organization being issued separately for Zonal Railways and PU/ RDSO/CORE this year, should focus on pursuing measures related to:

(i) Improving systems and procedures aimed at eliminating scope for corruption.
(ii) Identifying complex rules and procedures and simplifying the same.
(iii) Reviewing discretionary powers.
(iv) Ensuring accountability
(v) Sensitizing officials, and
(vi) Facilitating a culture of integrity by promoting ethical practices.

2. Successful steps taken in this regard are to be documented for sharing of best practices and a quarterly report is to be sent to the Board’s Office highlighting achievements under these Heads, linking them to better governance and growth for the Indian Railways.

3. While the areas for preventive checks has been identified in Annexure XII of IRVM and checks may be done in accordance, the following Thrust Areas have been approved by PED (Vigilance) for the year 2018:

3.1 Scrutiny of expenditure contracts covering all Engineering Departments viz. Engineering, Electrical, S&T and Mechanical for each of the following categories:-

(i) Quality check of safety items on coaches, locos & wagons.
(ii) Irregularities in Eligibility criterion – Special condition restrictive in nature
(iii) Duplicity/Unrealistic assessment of work in Estimates and Tender schedule.

3.2 In order to cover large value works/Machinery & Plants/procurement, the following Plan Heads have been identified for conducting preventive checks, including proper accountability of stores:-

(i) Action on Cartelisation relevant for Stores as well as Engg. Departments in procurement of material.
(ii) Irregularities in Inspection of Materials by consignee and RITES
(iii) Proper documents checking while supplying the materials (Third Party Challan).

3.3 Accounts Department:

(i) Failed NEFT transactions and bankers cheques
(ii) The CPC arrears and allowances
(iii) Memorandum of differences for salary payment

4. The frequency of the above checks should be at least one per quarter.
5. Detailed report on preventive checks conducted in Thrust Areas is to be sent on Quarterly basis to Railway Board. The report may include suggestions made to executive department to preventive repetition of irregularities.

6. Apart from above thrust areas, CVOs are also advised to:-
   (i) Monitor early finalization of tenders (Works, Stores & Commercial)
   (ii) Renew focus on promoting transparency, simplification of procedures and reduction in discretionary powers
   (iii) Improve internal Vigilance, sealing corruption opportunities
   (iv) Pursue quality – in Works and Procurement contracts
   (v) Organize training programmes for SMEs and contractors on their rights, responsibilities in Tenders and Contracts.

7. Integrity Pledge may be encouraged by system of mass pledge or online e-pledge to stakeholders, citizens and staff. The link must be permanently displayed on home page of websites.

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Railway Board