

IMMEDIATE

No.8(1)(h)/98(3)

CENTRAL VIGILANCE COMMISSION

Jaisalmer House, Man Singh Road
New Delhi – 110 011

Dated the 27th November 98.

Sub: Sanction of Prosecution

The Central Vigilance Commission, while reviewing the overall functioning of the vigilance administration of the Departments/Organisations has observed that one of the methods of improving the vigilance functions is to give prompt clearance for sanction for Prosecution under the Prevention of Corruption Act. The Supreme Court has also in the case of Vineet Narain and others Vs. Government of India directed that **a time limit of 3 months in grant of sanction for prosecution must be strictly adhered to. However, additional time of one month may be allowed where consultation is required with the Attorney General or any other Law Officer in the AG's Office.** Subsequently, the Commission had also issued instructions vide its letter No.98/VGL/7 dated the 12th March,1998,directing all Ministries/Departments / Organisations to furnish their comments on CBI reports within 30 days of the receipt of CBI reports in respect of prosecution and disciplinary cases. Notwithstanding these directions/instructions, delays on the part of the disciplinary/administrative authorities in the cases of sanction of prosecution continue to exist.

2. The Central Vigilance Commission Ordinance 1998 under Section 8(1)(f) directs that the power and function of the CVC will be:

“to review the progress of applications pending with the competent authorities for sanction of prosecution under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988”

3. Therefore, in exercise of powers conferred on CVC under Section 8(1)(f) in conjunction with Section 8(1)(h) of the CVC Ordinance 1998, it is hereby directed that:

(i) In respect of CBI reports/cases in which the Commission's advice is not necessary, the competent authorities may exercise their mind and give or refuse sanction for prosecution under the PC Act, within the time limit of 30 days from the date of receipt of request from CBI; and

(ii) In respect of the cases of Presidential appointees, in which the Commission's advice is required, the competent authorities may furnish their comments within 30 days to the Commission and give the sanction of prosecution or otherwise, within a period of 60 days from the date of receipt of request from CBI.

4. If at the end of the above said time limits no decision had been given by the competent authorities, then the CVC will take an adverse view and deem it as a case of misconduct on the part of the competent authority.

5. This comes into force with immediate effect.



27.11.98

(N.VITTAL)

CENTRAL VIGILANCE COMMISSIONER

To

- (i) The Secretaries of All Ministries/Deptts. of Government of India.
- (ii) The Chief Secretaries to all Union Territories.
- (iii) The Comptroller & Auditor General of India.
- (iv) The Chairman, Union Public Service Commission.
- (v) The Director, CBI
- (vi) All Chief Vigilance Officers in the Ministries/ Departments/PSEs/ Public Sector Banks/ Insurance Companies/ Autonomous Organisations/Societies.
- (vii) President's Secretariat/Vice-President's Secretariat/Lok Sabha Secretariat/Rajya Sabha Secretariat/PMO.