



Initiatives for Good and Vigilant Governance

Why in News

Recently, the **Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG)** has come up with new initiatives for good and vigilant governance on the last day of the **Vigilance Awareness Week 2020**.

Key Points

▪ Launches and Initiatives:

- **“Ideas Box on Good Governance Practices in a Pandemic”** has been launched and operationalised both on the DARPG as well as on the [MyGov platform](#).
 - It will crowdsource ideas related to good governance.
- Social media tweets on the **“Best Practices in e-governance”** have been launched.
- Round table discussion on **“Satark Bharat, Samriddh Bharat”** (Vigilant India, Prosperous India) was held.
 - It focused on key **issues of preventive vigilance in the pursuit of “Naitik Bharat”** (Ethical India) which includes ethics training in public services, a social audit of ethical practices, development of measurable metrics for corruption and disproportionately high impact of corruption on governance.

▪ Vigilance Awareness Week:

- The [Central Vigilance Commission \(CVC\)](#) observes the Week every year during the week in which the **birthday of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel** (31st October) falls.
- **Objective:** It **affirms** India’s commitment to the promotion of integrity and probity in public life through citizen participation and reiterates Government’s resolve to continue the crusade against corruption.
- **Theme for 2020:** In 2020, it was observed from 27th October to 2nd November with the theme of **“Satark Bharat, Samriddh Bharat”**.

▪ Government Initiatives to Prevent and Curb Corruption:

- [Amendments in the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988](#) to make the processes more equitable and reduce opportunities for corruption.
- Introduction of the [Lokpal and Lokayuktas](#).
- Scaled up disposal of cases by the [Central Information Commission \(CIC\)](#) and the DARPG.
- Level playing field for employment opportunities to lower-level jobs by the [National Recruitment Agency \(NRA\)](#).
- Introduction of **e-governance** and **Direct Benefit Scheme**.
- **Other Related Legislations:** [Right to Information Act 2005](#), [Judges \(Inquiry\) Act 1968](#), [Whistleblower Protection Act, 2014](#), [Prevention of Money Laundering Act 2002](#), [Benami Transactions \(Prohibition\) Amendment Act 2016](#), etc.

Central Vigilance Commission

▪ **About:**

- It is an **independent body** which is **only responsible to the Parliament**.
- It is the **apex vigilance institution** monitoring all vigilance activity under the Central Government and advising various authorities in Central Government organisations in planning, executing, reviewing and reforming their vigilance work.

▪ **Background:**

- It was set up by the Government in **February 1964** on the recommendations of the **Committee on Prevention of Corruption**, headed by **K Santhanam**.
- The Parliament enacted the **Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003** conferring **statutory status** on the CVC.

▪ **Composition:**

- It is a **multi-member** commission consisting of a **Central Vigilance Commissioner** (Chairperson) and **not more than 2 Vigilance Commissioners** (members).
- They are **appointed by the President** on the recommendations of a Committee consisting of the Prime Minister (Chairperson), the Minister of Home Affairs (Member) and the Leader of the Opposition in the House of the People (Member).

▪ **Tenure:**

- The term of office of the Central Vigilance Commissioner and the Vigilance Commissioners is **4 years** from the date on which they enter their office or till they attain the **age of 65 years, whichever is earlier**.

[Source: PIB](#)

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