

eF.No. 11013/17/2023-PP-A.III
Government of India
Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
Department of Personnel and Training
(Personnel Policy Division)

North Block, New Delhi
Dated 14 July, 2023

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Instructions on Timely submission of Annual Immovable Property Return by the members of Central Civil Service/Posts

Department of Personnel and Training has been issuing instructions on filing of Annual Immovable Property Return of the previous year latest by **31st January** of the following year, by the members of Central Civil Services/Posts, as required under Rule 18 of CCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964. Sub-rule 1(ii) of Rule 18 of the CCS(Conduct) Rules, 1964 stipulates that *"Every Government servant belonging to any service or holding any post included in Group 'A' and Group 'B' shall submit an annual return in such form as may be prescribed by the Government in this regard giving full particulars regarding the immovable property inherited by him or owned or acquired by him or held by him on lease or mortgage either in his own name or in the name of any member of his family or in the name of any other person"*.

2. Accordingly, all Group 'A' and Group 'B' Government servants are required to file Annual Immovable Property Return of the previous year latest by 31st January of the following year invariably. The need for obtaining these returns regularly and making careful scrutiny of the same was reiterated from time to time.

3. Attention, in this regard, is invited to DOPT OM No. 11012/11/2007 dated 14.12.2007 and 27.09.2011 as per which, vigilance clearance, for the purpose of (a) empanelment (b) any deputation for which clearance is necessary, (c) appointments to sensitive posts and assignments to training programmes (except mandatory training), shall be denied to an officer, if he fails to submit his annual immovable property return of the previous year by 31st January of the following year.

4. Attention is also invited to DOPT OM No. 11013/3/2011-Estt.(A) dated 23.09.2013 requesting all Cadre Controlling authorities that the IPRs (to be submitted by 31st January each year) may be placed in public domain by 31st March of that year.

5. Ministries/Departments are, therefore, requested to ensure that these returns are submitted by all Group A and B Officers under their control in respect of every calendar year by 31st January of the next year. It may be impressed upon them that failure on the part of a Government servant to comply with the requirement of the aforesaid rule can form good and sufficient reasons for instituting disciplinary proceedings against him.

6. Further, Ministries/Departments may also ensure that these returns are placed in public domain within the prescribed period of time. Internal Audit may also be conducted by the Ministries/Departments to ensure that these instructions are being followed in letter and spirit.


14/7/23
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To

All Ministries/Departments (as per standard list)

No. 11012/11/2007-Estt. (A)
Government of India
Ministry of Personnel & Public Grievances & Pensions
(Department of Personnel & Training)

New Delhi,
Dated the 14th December, 2007

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject:- Guidelines regarding grant of vigilance clearance to members of the Central Civil Services/Central Civil posts.

The undersigned is directed to say that the matter regarding guidelines for giving vigilance clearance to members of the Central Civil Services/ Central Civil posts has been reviewed by the Department of Personnel & Training and it has been decided that the following guidelines for the grant of vigilance clearance to the Government servants belonging to the Central Civil Services/ Central Civil posts shall be applicable with immediate effect:

1. These orders regarding accordance of vigilance clearance to members of the Central Civil Services/posts shall be applicable with respect to (a) empanelment (b) any deputation for which clearance is necessary, (c) appointments to sensitive posts and assignments to training programmes (except mandatory training). In all these cases, the vigilance status may be placed before and considered by the Competent Authority before a decision is taken.
2. The circumstances under which vigilance clearance shall not be withheld shall be as under:
 - a) Vigilance clearance shall not be withheld due to the filing of a complaint, unless it is established on the basis of at least a preliminary inquiry or on the basis of any information that the concerned Department may already have in its possession, that there is, prima facie, substance to verifiable allegations regarding (i) corruption (ii) possession of assets disproportionate to known sources of income (iii) moral turpitude (iv) violation of the Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.
 - b) Vigilance clearance shall not be withheld if a preliminary inquiry mentioned in 2(a) above takes more than three months to be completed.

- c) Vigilance clearance shall not be withheld unless (i) the officer is under suspension (ii) a chargesheet has been issued against the officer in a disciplinary proceeding and the proceeding is pending (iii) orders for instituting disciplinary proceeding against the officer have been issued by the Disciplinary Authority provided that the chargesheet is served within three months from the date of passing such order (iv) chargesheet has been filed in a Court by the Investigating Agency in a criminal case and the case is pending (v) orders for instituting a criminal case against the officer have been issued by the Disciplinary Authority provided that the chargesheet is served within three months from the date of initiating proceedings (vi) sanction for investigation or prosecution has been granted by the Competent Authority in a case under the PC Act or any other criminal matter (vii) an FIR has been filed or a case registered by the concerned Department against the officer provided that the charge sheet is served within three months from the date of filing/registering the FIR/case and (viii) The officer is involved in a trap/raid case on charges of corruption and investigation is pending.
 - d) Vigilance clearance shall not be withheld due to an FIR filed on the basis of a private complaint unless a chargesheet has been filed by the investigating agency provided that there are no directions to the contrary by a competent court of law.
 - e) Vigilance clearance shall not be withheld even after sanction for prosecution if the investigating agency has not been able to complete its investigations and file charges within a period of two years. However, such vigilance clearance will entitle the officer to be considered only to be appointed to non-sensitive posts and premature repatriation to the parent cadre in case he is on deputation and not for any other dispensation listed in para 1 of this O.M..
3. In cases where complaints have been referred to the administrative authority concerned, and no substantive response has been received from such administrative authority concerned within three months from the date on which the reference was made, the Disciplinary Authority may provide a copy of the complaint to the officer concerned to seek his comments. If the comments are found to be prima facie satisfactory by the Competent Authority, vigilance clearance shall be accorded.
4. Vigilance clearance shall be decided on a case-by-case basis by the Competent Authority keeping in view the sensitivity of the purpose, the gravity

of the charges and the facts and circumstances, in the following situations:

- a) where the investigating agency has found no substance in the allegation but the Court refuses to permit closure of the FIR.; and
- b) where the investigating agency/inquiry officer holds the charges as proved but the competent administrative authority differs, or the converse,

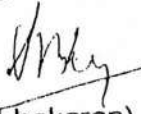
5. While considering cases for grant of vigilance clearance for the purpose of empanelment of members of the Central Civil Services/Central Civil posts of a particular batch, the vigilance clearance/status will continue to be ascertained from the respective Cadre Authority. In all such cases, the comments of the Central Vigilance Commission will be obtained. However, if no comments are received within a period of three months, it will be presumed that there is nothing adverse against the officer on the records of the body concerned.

6. Vigilance clearance will be issued in all cases with the approval of the Head of Vigilance Division for officers upto one level below their seniority in service. In the case of officers of the level of Additional Secretary/Secretary, this will be issued with the approval of the Secretary. In case of doubt, orders of the Secretary will be obtained keeping in view the purpose for which the vigilance clearance is required by the indenting authority.

7. Vigilance clearance will not normally be granted for a period of three years after the currency of the punishment, if a minor penalty has been imposed on an officer. In case of imposition of a major penalty, vigilance clearance will not normally be granted for a period of five years, after the currency of punishment. During the period, the performance of the officer should be closely watched.

8. Insofar as the personnel serving in the Indian audit and accounts Department are concerned, these instructions have been issued after consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

9 All the Ministries/Departments are requested to bring the above guidelines for the notice of all concerned for information and compliance.


(P. Prabhakaran)
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

Copy forwarded to :

1. Prime Minister's Office (with reference to their I.D. No. 600/68/13/07-ESII, dated 24.10.2007).
2. Cabinet Secretariat.
3. Ministries/Departments of the Government of India.
4. Secretary, Central Vigilance Commission.
5. Central Bureau of Investigation, New Delhi
6. Union Public Service Commission, New Delhi
7. Comptroller and Auditor General of India, New Delhi

Copy to:

- (i) PS to MOS(PP)
- (ii) PPS to Secretary(P)
- (iii) PPS to AS(S&V)
- (iv) PPS to EO & AS
- (v) PS to JS(E)
- (vi) PS to JS(V) (w.r.t. AVD Division's O.M. No. 104/33/2005-AVD-I dated 31.10.2007).



(P. Prabhakaran)
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

No. 11012/11/2007-Estt.A
Government of India
Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions
Department of Personnel & Training

New Delhi, Dated 27th September, 2011

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Guidelines regarding grant of 'Vigilance Clearance' to members of Central Civil Services / Posts.

The undersigned is directed to say that it has been decided by the Government that officers who have not submitted the Annual Immovable Property Returns by the prescribed time would be denied vigilance clearance and will not be considered for empanelment for senior level posts in Government of India.

2. Accordingly, in this Department's OM No. 11012/11/2007-Estt.A dated 14.12.2007, laying down guidelines regarding grant of vigilance clearance to members of Central Civil Services / Posts, in para 2 a new sub-para (f) will be inserted as under:

(f) Vigilance clearance shall be denied to an officer if he fails to submit his annual immovable property return of the previous year by 31st January of the following year, as required under Government of India decisions under Rule 18 of the Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rule, 1964.


(U.S. Chattopadhyay)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

All Ministries / Departments

Copy to:

1. Prime Minister's Office (w.r.t. their I.D. No. 600/31/C/33/2011-ES2, dated 15.03.2011)
2. Cabinet Secretariat
3. Secretary, CVC
4. UPSC
5. C&AG
6. NIC (DOP&T Cell) with the request to upload this O.M. on the website of DOP&T.

F.No. 11013/3/2011-Estt.(A)
Ministry of Personnel, P.G. & Pensions
Department of Personnel & Training
Estt.(A)-III Desk

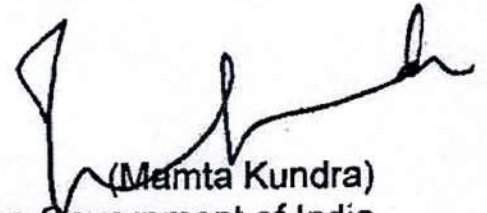
North Block, New Delhi
Dated 23rd September, 2013

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Submission of Immovable Property Returns (IPRs) by officers of Group A Central Services for each year and placing the same in public domain.

The undersigned is directed to refer to this Department's O.M of even no. dated 11/04/2011 requesting all Cadre Controlling authorities to place in public domain the IPRs of Group 'A' Officer for the year 2010 by 31.05.2011.

2. In this connection, it is clarified that this was not intended to be a one-time measure but will be a continuous process. All Cadre Controlling authorities are requested that the IPRs (to be submitted by 31st January each year) may be placed in public domain by 31st March of that year. A report in respect of Group 'A' Service controlled by the Ministry/Department and offices belonging to General Central Service Group 'A' under the Ministry /Department may be sent to this Department by 30th April every year.



(Mamta Kundra)
Joint Secretary to the Government of India

- To
1. All Ministries/Departments of the Government of India
 2. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India
 - ✓ 3. NIC (DOP&T) for placing the circular in website.