

No.98/MS/23
Government of India
Central Vigilance Commission

Satarkata Bhawan, Block 'A',
GPO Complex, INA,
New Delhi-110 023
Dated the 1st August, 2003

OFFICE ORDER NO. 34/7/2003

To

All Chief Vigilance Officers

Subject: Utilising the services of outsiders including retired officers for conducting Departmental inquiries.

Sir/Madam,

Please refer to the Commission's letter of even number dated 25th March 2003 on the above subject.

2. The rules applicable to public sector enterprises generally provide that the disciplinary authority may itself inquire into the truth of any imputation of misconduct against an employee, or appoint any public servant (called as inquiring authority) to inquire into the truth thereof. The term "public servant" has been defined in the CDA rules, which means and includes a person as mentioned in section 21 of the IPC. The retired employees of the public sector undertakings do not fall within the definition of public servants as defined in 21 IPC and therefore cannot be appointed as inquiring authority unless the aforesaid provision is suitably amended. Such public sector undertakings as have not amended the aforesaid provision may take expeditious action to provide for appointment of retired public servants as inquiring authorities.

3. Further, the Commission has also decided that keeping Para 2 above in view **the departments/public sector undertakings/organisations depending upon their need, and if they so desire, may maintain a panel of retired officers from within or outside the department or organization for appointment as inquiring authorities, in consultation with the Chief Vigilance Officer. In case, there is difference of opinion between the Disciplinary Authority and the Chief Vigilance Officer about the inclusion of any name in the panel or appointment of any one out of the panel as IO in any case, the CVO may report the matter to the next higher authority, or the CMD for the resolution of the difference. If still unresolved, the CVO may refer the matter to the CVC. A case of difference of opinion between the CVO and the CMD, if acting as Disciplinary Authority, may be referred to the Commission for its advice.**

Contd./-

4. It however may be ensured that the officer appointed as inquiring authority has no bias or/ and had no occasion to express an opinion at any stage of the preliminary inquiry.

5. CVOs may bring this to the notice of all concerned.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-
(Anjana Dube)
Deputy Secretary