



## MY EXPERIENCE IN VIGILANCE

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My mother died when she was with me due to various complications. At that time I was serving as Chief Vigilance Officer, OSRTC. I invited all IPS Officers of Orissa Cadre for my Mother's 11<sup>th</sup> Day ceremony. During those days there was warm and affectionate relationship between the officers and men. All officers including DGP, Orissa and Director Vigilance came. Everybody sympathized me for my bereavement. At that time Vigilance Director was Sri Govind Senapati. He suggested me to join vigilance and move away from Cuttack, where my mother died. It was extremely generous and affectionate move, and I agreed. Within few days my notification to post me as SP, Vigilance, Berhampur was published.

This is how I got posted to Vigilance. It was a new experience altogether. Berhampur was a known city for me as I had already served as SDPO and Addl.SP, Ganjam. My quarters was good and my neighbor was a senior Dy.S.P., Vigilance. I mentioned about my neighbor as they were extremely kind and affectionate towards me. Sri Tarafdar who was IIC, Berhampur Town PS when I was Addl. SP, Ganjam also joined as Dy.S.P.. All officers and men were very good and sincere. We lived like a family. My area was vast. Entire undivided Koraput, Kalahandi, Kandhamal and Ganjam were within my jurisdiction. I was boasting that I am equivalent in jurisdiction at par with RDC and DIG. But one senior Police officer reminded me that Armourer Havildar of DIG Range office has the same jurisdiction jocularly. I was SP, Vigilance Berhampur from 01.02.1985 to 21.5.1986. I remember, I was liked and encouraged by all my senior officers in Vigilance Directorate. I had registered 57 cases during my stay. I was regarded as best SP of Division and not only received letters of appreciation from the then Director but also commendation from Government. It was matter of great satisfaction and pride for a young officer like me. I was relieved to join as SP, Dhenkanal on 21.5.1986.



I was again inducted to Vigilance on 19.11.1990 as SP, Vigilance, Central Division. I was picked up by Sri Rajendra Mohan Patnaik who was Director at that time. I was SP of erstwhile Cuttack Rural District when I was posted for second time to Vigilance. It was personal efforts of Director Vigilance that I could come back to Vigilance. The second experience was very illuminating and rather I will say aggressive. Vigilance under Shri R M Pattnaik and Sri N R Das was in its peak. Credibility of Vigilance was very high. High profile cases were registered and number rose to a new height. I was SP, CD, Vigilance from 19.11.1990 to 08.12.1993. At that time, Central Division included Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, undivided Dhenkanal, undivided Cuttack, undivided Puri. It was quite heavy. But it was a pleasure working with Sri R. M. Patnaik and Sri N.R. Das. Sri Patnaik is no more, but we know how great was his contribution to Vigilance. Sri N. R. Das who is presently DGP, CISF was also a very bold and aggressive Vigilance Officer. In those days simultaneous raids and DA cases were given priorities. The Balasore Division was created taking undivided Balasore, Mayurbhanj and Keonjhar districts but officers and men did not like to leave Cuttack. There was a beautiful Division Office Building and excellent colony but none wanted to go. I personally went there and stayed in division office and arranged for transfer of division. It was difficult for me to act both as S.P. Balasore and S.P. Cuttack Division but yet, I shifted the division. It was inaugurated and now fully functional. I have to travel weekly once to Balasore to supervise the Division work as I was in-charge of both Balasore and C.D. The Vigilance Cell Division was very active under Sri N.R.Das and directly being supervised by Sri R.M.Patnaik. But Central Division always registered more cases than Cell during my stay. I remained there from 19.11.90 till 8.12.93. The Central division had registered 102 cases as against 52 cases of Cell in our jurisdiction. Though the cases of Cell were complicated, sophisticated and of high profile, still Director always was in praise for my Division. It may be due to his personal affection to me and he had unflinching confidence in me. We were few officers who entered into Director's Chamber freely and often were summoned by Director when an important raid was to be conducted. It was extremely hectic and knowledgeable experience.



The Vigilance department has been led by many stalwarts. I will name a few which is my own view viz Sri A B Tripathy & Sri Uma Sankar Mishra. Sri Tripathy used to take cool and calculated risk and delegate power so that department always flourishes. Sri Uma Sankar Mishra was a great personality. He brought the best methodologies of CBI to State Vigilance. The State Vigilance is now an excellent combination of professionalism and competency and works smoothly. Shri Mishra's efficiency was rewarded handsomely being made as Director of C.B.I. later. It was during whom the atmosphere of secrecy and confidentiality vanished. There was free and frank discussion with all and he was very good to good officers and confidentially warned those who aberrated from honesty and integrity. Shri Mishra is an excellent human being, an accomplished Police Officer, and also a visionary. During his time the prospective plan was worked out. He was of course helped by many good officers and one of them was outstanding and dedicated and later on took over as Director Vigilance. He was Sri Gopal Nanda. He was my trainer and one of the ideal Police officer, an excellent vigilance sleuth. He implemented some of these prospective plans and brought me back to Vigilance in Addl. DGP rank to groom me to head the organization. He was very systematic and took Vigilance to a new height. The Cell was under him which he gave to me when I joined and I must confess that he not only trained me in Police but also in Vigilance.

I took over as Addl. DGP, Vigilance on 25.5.2007 and continued to work under Sri Nanda's towering personality till I had the confidence of taking over Vigilance from him. He had strengthened and streamlined Vigilance and worked out the prospective plan to a great extent. He has issued a lot of Circular orders to streamline the department. He had two ex -CBI officers to help him like Sri V.Thiagrajan and Sri Abhay. Incentives were announced for the first time to Vigilance officers during Sri Nanda's time and new Vigilance Division offices and unit offices were built. Simultaneously the Vigilance had started investigating into many famous and difficult cases. I am not praising Sri Nanda because he was my trainer, and sponsored and brought me to Vigilance for third time, but the public and officers of Vigilance



will bear me out that I am not out of truth. Sri Nanda was of course called on to head the Police Department due to his excellence and capability. The onerous duty of heading the vigilance fell on my shoulders. All IPS officers posted to Vigilance were either on maternity leave or transferred when Sri Nanda left. Even Sri Abhay went for a foreign assignment and Sri Thiagrajan was promoted and wanted to go out of Vigilance.

I took over as Vigilance Director on 1.10.2007. It was easy to work as 2<sup>nd</sup> in command but leading a department requires extra courage. But I was fortunate to get two extremely competent and hard working IG Vigilance Sri M. Akhaya and Sri Surendra Panwar who gave me excellent support and worked with unflinching integrity. Sri Akhaya was responsible for modernization and implementation of action plan and we could have unit offices with building in each revenue district. Sri Akhaya meticulously followed their construction and brought about beautiful and excellent changes. If any body visits any of these unit office, he will find his work. He was an excellent manager of subordinate staff and sympathetic and compassionate Vigilance officer. But in between he went to State Police Hqrs and was replaced by Sri Santosh Upadhyay who is equally competent, sympathetic and to add he is also a deeply religious person. He helped in beautifying the Vigilance Directorate and also lead 3 divisions with Distinction. Sri Panwar was of course a boon to our Department. He managed 3 Divisions with distinction and always gave excellent suggestions. His reputation as efficient police officer was proved beyond reasonable doubt in Vigilance work. A very quiet, calm officer with firm views on corruption. He scrutinizes each case and divisions with meticulous details. In the last, Sri Amrit Mohan Prasad has joined as IG and I have handed over charge of Cell to him. He is an experienced C.B.I. officer with high reputation. He is a hard task master and has already started his work with excellence. I am grateful to these IGPs mentioned above for my successes and department's enrichment. Besides above, I owe my successes to all Division SsP. Some of them were simply outstanding. They have devoted almost entire life in Vigilance. I may mention some of outstanding SsP of Vigilance during my tenure like Sri A. K. Sahoo,



Sri D.D. Patnaik, Sri P.N.Parida and Sri A. K. Mohanty, Sri Prateek Mohanty joined as lone IPS SP in Vigilance and worked with excellence but he may soon go for foreign assignment.

It is not only the executive staff who helped me in my work. The technical wings attached to Vigilance also helped in achieving our target. The Engineering Wing was headed by Sri B. C. Mishra and Sri Debasis Mohanty, who provided excellent support and gave the best of advice. The Commercial Tax section not only achieved target but brought about innovative and new avenues of tax for State exchequer under the leadership of Sri D. C. Nayak, Addl. CCT. The forest wing got its leader in form of DCF Sri Abhiram Naik. Statistic section was led by a pious and extremely hard working Deputy Director Sri P. K. Dash. The Computerisation and their maintenance and further improvement was due to its able leader Sri K. K. Das, DSP (System Analyst). The head of Coordination and AIG's contribution in form of Sri B. K. Das has been excellent. The newly created prosecution cell brought about a welcome change in prosecution of Vigilance cases under Legal Advisor Sri B. N. Das, a senior District Judge. He was helped by an able DSP Sri TP Sarangi. The Photo Cell was led by Shri J.G. Parija. The Handwriting Cell was led by an excellent hand Sri A. K. Dash who is not only expert in his job but also an outstanding researcher and a prizewinning philately. There was excellent support from office establishment and reserve office. The librarian Smt. Ingita Sen is a competent and efficient lady. Both Link Sections were headed by extremely hardworking and honest workers. The Coordination Section's hidden talents have given excellent support in verification and Assembly duty. My own Confidential Section with Sri Patnaik as P.A. and Sri Padhi are excellent support so also the Confidential Section staff of all Is.G.P. There are numerous excellent Dy. Ss.P, Inspectors and experts who work silently to bring in laurels to Vigilance.

The Vigilance has reached an excellent height. It boasts of Nine Special Courts and newly created two Special Courts and two Authorized officers under Special Court's Act. This state is unique in achieving convictions in all types of cases like D.A., Corruption and Trap. We are fast



moving towards confiscation of property of defaulting accused officers convicted in D.A. cases. We have already passed orders on confiscation in two cases. After convictions the Government is invariably dismissing the accused Government servants and those who have retired are penalized financially as per pension rules. We are arresting all those who are trapped or are involved in cases of disproportionate assets. The Government is very prompt in suspending erring Government servants. Persons involved in vigilance cases are denied promotion and finalization of pension as well.

During my tenure which started in fag end of 2007, we have registered record number of criminal cases and it is steadily increasing. In 2008 we have registered 320 cases, 383 in 2009 and 437 cases in 2010. This is one of the highest in India. We have also increased finalization of cases. We had charge sheeted 224 cases in 2008, 241 in 2009 and 324 in 2010. In 2010 not only we have registered 101 cases against Class-I officers but also charge sheeted 50 Class-I officers which are excellent figures in comparison to other years. We have streamlined investigation, charge sheet, prosecution in Special Courts and authorized officers' Court. We have created "Prosecution Cell" to achieve all these.

We have received appreciation from International authorities for our prompt and wide ranging investigation into Health Department's implementation of a particular plan. We are first in India to investigate smuggling of mineral resources' cases and same has brought in revolutionary changes in the Mining Department. Government was prompt and firm in implementing wide ranging punitive and reformative changes. Theft, smuggling, gangsterism and rampant illegal mining have been checked. We also did an excellent job in detecting embezzlement cases in Orissa Rural Housing Development Corporation. It is quite heartening to get Government support in all our efforts against corruption. We have taken up large number of cases in NREGS Scheme, Indira Awas Yojana, Rice recycling. We have also looked into I.C.D.S. schemes with lot of care and caution. It is needless to tell that old departments like Revenue, Police and Engineering Departments are in our scrutiny. Panchayat Raj of course leads in our adverse view.



The Department has also taken steps for Preventive Vigilance. By the help of Chief Secretary, many departments have posted CVOs. We have tried to publish list of “Suspect officers” and “Agreed List”. Many departments have responded excellently and some are yet to show interest. We are trying to remind them.

We have modernized ourselves by purchasing new and latest instruments in our expert wings. We have computerized the department to some extent but will soon have plan for long term “Computerisation” programme. The Handwriting Bureau has latest and very sophisticated modern instruments. The Sales Tax Wing has not only increased number of cases but also excelled in collecting ever increasing tax for Government. Due to our advice the Government has now brought in new tax avenues like Sponge Iron factories, Big industries, Mining Sector and many other new methods. “Waybill” has been streamlined to a great extent in Sales Tax Department. Hon’ble High Court was generous to appreciate work of Vigilance and to form Special Investigation Team (SIT) which had detected crores of tax evasion. We have proposed to create a new Economic offence wing to look into tax frauds of companies, corporations and big business houses. We hope to get approval of Government at an early date.

I am specially thankful to Shri Ramesh Chandra Mohanty, Shri Chakradhar Moharana, Shri Kamala Kanta Dash, ex-Vigilance Officers alongwith Sri Haribandhu Das and Sri Gouranga Charan Biswal, retired Vigilance Officers who have worked day and night with great determination and interest to compile the new instructional hand books Volume – IV & V which successfully published after 45 years of the first instructional hand book. I feel deeply satisfied and happy due to all round success of vigilance. It was due to Governmental support along with excellent performance of our officers and men. My experience in the Vigilance Department may end in happy note due to my Is.G.P., Ss.P. Dy.Ss.P, Inspectors and all experts. I owe them the success for the laurels the department has earned.

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