



ORISSA STATE VIGILANCE AFTER 55 YEARS

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Shri S.K.Ghosh is regarded as the father figure for conceiving and scaffolding Orissa State Vigilance in the early years. Keeping Vigilance Department directly under General Administration, giving it Secretarial Status, reporting directly to the Chief Minister through the Chief Secretary, thus affording Vigilance Department the confidentiality and access needed for its effectiveness, were part of the original vision which has stood the test of time, and given Orissa Vigilance its unique strength. Many stalwarts have directed the Vigilance Department since then, not the least among them being late Shri Rajendra Mohan Patnaik (after whom the Vigilance Conference Hall has been christened recently) who, under the legendary leadership of the then Chief Minister Shri Biju Patnaik took the Vigilance Department to new heights. Thereafter, the State Vigilance expanded and consolidated its institutional position under successive regimes. Enactment of Special Court Act, Establishment of Vigilance (Special Judge Courts) strategically in all important centres of the State, Vigilance Unit Offices in all the 30 Districts housed in their own buildings, updating of Vigilance handbooks are important milestones in the current dispensation. The conviction rate has steadily climbed to an all time high.

Apart from individual cases of trap and Disproportionate Assets cases, may a scam ranging from the mining scam, the health infrastructure to the present Dal scam, the State Vigilance has traversed vast areas, and acquitted itself creditably, thanks to the professional work of dedicated and industrious team under seasoned and enlightened leadership.

Today Orissa State Vigilance after 55 years has carved out a niche for itself at the National level, and is poised for new break -throughs in the days to come.
