

No. 04/02/2021-6V1  
Haryana Government  
Vigilance Department

Dated Chandigarh the, 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2026

From

The Chief Secretary to Govt. Haryana

To

1. All Administrative Secretaries in Haryana.
2. All Heads of Departments/ CAs/ MDs of Boards/Corporations/ Organizations in Haryana.
3. The Divisional Commissioners of Ambala, Hisar, Rohtak, Gurugram, Karnal & Faridabad Divisions.
4. The Registrar General, Punjab and Haryana High Court, Chandigarh.
5. All Deputy Commissioners in Haryana.

**Subject:- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for processing of cases under Section 17A of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988-regarding.**

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to invite your attention on the subject noted above and to say that this letter is being issued in supersession of this Department's letter of even number dated 07.01.2022 and 26.07.2022.

2. The Govt. of India ( Deptt. of Personnel & Training- Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension) vide its Letter bearing No. 428/07/2021-AVD.IV(B), dated 03.09.2021 addressed to the Chief Secretaries of all of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations had conveyed detailed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on the above mentioned subject. These instructions have been examined in detail by the State Government and it has been decided to implement the same keeping in view its administrative structure.

3. It may be recalled that the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 was amended by the Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Act, 2018 and after the Presidential assent, it has been brought into force from 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2018. The amendments inter alia, include insertion of a new section 17A which reads as follows:

***"17A. Enquiry or Inquiry or Investigation of offences relatable to recommendations made or decision taken by public servant in discharge of official functions or duties:-***

*No police officer shall conduct any enquiry or inquiry or investigation into any offence alleged to have been committed by a public servant under this Act, where the alleged offence is relatable to any recommendation made or decision taken by such public servant in discharge of his official functions or duties, without the previous approval-*

a. *In the case of a person who is or was employed, at the time when the offence was alleged to have been committed, in connection with the affairs of the Union, of that Government;*

b. *In the case of a person who is or was employed, at the time when the offence was alleged to have been committed, in connection with the affairs of State, of that Government;*

c. *In the case of any other person, of the authority competent to remove him from his office, at the time when the offence was alleged to have been committed:*

*Provided that no such approval shall be necessary for cases involving arrest of a person on the spot on the charge of accepting or attempting to accept any undue advantage for himself or for any other person:*

*Provided further that the concerned authority shall convey its decision under this section within a period of three months, which may, for reasons to be recorded in writing by such authority, be extended by a further period of one month".*

4. So as to standardize and operationalise procedures for achieving uniform and effective implementation for prior approval processes under Section 17A of the Act, a set of SOPs was conveyed by the Department of Personnel and Training, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances, Govt. of India enclosed as Appendix with their communication dated 3 September, 2021.

5. The SOPs provide for –

- (i) Stage-wise processing of information received by a Police Officer;
- (ii) Specifying the rank of police officer to seek prior approval under Section 17A in respect of different categories of public servants;
- (iii) Consideration of the proposals under Section 17A of the Act by the Appropriate Government or Authority;
- (iv) Laying down of single window procedure to specify receipt stage of the proposal; and
- (v) Check List for submitting proposals under Section 17A.

6. It is clarified that in case a complaint relating to an Enquiry/Inquiry/Investigation is being dealt with by the State Vigilance & Anti Corruption Bureau, Haryana against a Haryana Government employee, the term "Government" as referred to in Clause (b) of the provisions of Section 17A (ibid) shall be the "Vigilance Department" of the Government of Haryana and in case a complaint relating to an Enquiry/Inquiry/Investigation is being dealt with by an Agency other than State Vigilance & Anti Corruption Bureau, Haryana against the Haryana Government employee, the term "Government" as referred to in Clause (b) of the provision of Section 17A ibid shall be the "Concerned Administrative Department" of the Government of Haryana to which the concerned Public Servant belongs.

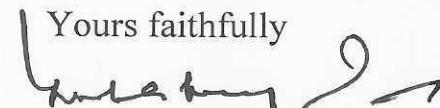
7. The Administrative Department shall be empowered to delegate the powers, as enjoined to them by virtue of instant SOPs, to their subordinate Heads of Departments in terms of Class-III and Class IV employees, as mentioned in detail in the Annexure attached herewith, but the overall responsibility of proper compliance of the instant SOPs shall be of Administrative Departments concerned.

8. It is further clarified that in the matters of an Enquiry/Inquiry/Investigation against the Public Servants other than the Haryana Government employees being dealt with either by the State Vigilance & Anti Corruption Bureau, Haryana and/or by any other Agency, the Authority competent to remove the concerned Public Servant from Service, shall be the competent authority for the purposes of Section 17A (ibid).

9. Needless to emphasize that the investigation Agency shall comply with the provisions of Section 17A without fail before any enquiry/inquiry or investigation. This SOP shall also apply to all pending cases where approval under Section 17A has not been granted.

10. All Administrative Authorities, including Departments of the State Governments, PSUs, Societies, Organizations, Local Bodies, Autonomous Bodies, Statutory Authorities and all of Units, Instrumentalities that are under the administrative control of State Government and the Investigating Agencies are requested to take note of the SOPs, as appended herewith and bring the same to the notice of all concerned under their respective control for strict compliance.

Encl : as above.

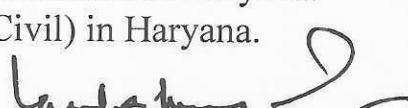
Yours faithfully  
  
Additional Secretary Vigilance  
for the Chief Secretary to Govt. Haryana

Endst. No. 04/02/2021-6V1

Dated Chandigarh the, 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2026

A copy is forwarded to the following for information and necessary action:-

1. All of the Additional Deputy Commissioners in Haryana.
2. All of the Sub Divisional Officers (Civil) in Haryana.

  
Additional Secretary Vigilance  
for the Chief Secretary to Govt. Haryana