

“THE VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK”

(28th October to 2nd November-2019)

As per UGC (University Grants Commission) guidelines and CVC (Central Vigilance Commission), the vigilance awareness week 2019 was observed at the Vignan’s Foundation for Science Technology & Research to spread awareness against corruption. CVC’s theme for this year’s Vigilance Awareness Week is “Integrity A Way of Life” with emphasis on spreading awareness in fight against corruption to all sections of Society. In line with the spirit of the theme and in accordance with the directives of CVC, several activities were organized covering a wide spectrum of Students and staff in the university, with the aim of spreading awareness and sensitising the students and staff about ways and means of living a life with integrity and to fight against corruption.



Activities conducted relevant to the theme in the campus:

1. Vigilance awareness week commenced with Integrity Pledge with faculty, students and senior most functionary.



2. Followed by E-pledge from the entire faculty, staff and their family members and students.



3. Special competitions and cultural programs are conducted on anti-corruption theme to the students through Gandhian Philosophy
4. Special issue is released on systematic improvements and good practices adopted at VFSTR
5. Awareness sessions to the students on the ethical and good practices of VFSTR by involving them in various university academic and administrative body meetings.
6. Involvement of all students in the field of cultural development, National integration, co-curricular and extracurricular activities through optional clubs of the students activities counsel (SAC) on regular basis.
7. Invitation of Eminent persons and students to conduct sensitization programme on Anti-Corruption at VFSTR during this week to give awareness on this theme.
8. Celebration of National Unity Day (Rashtriya Ekta Diwas) on 31st, October, 2019



Integrity A Way of Life

Systematic improvements and good practices adopted at VFSTR, - Special article by Wiggins Bakka Trainer for Civil Services

Integrity is the practice of being consistently honest and showing an uncompromising adherence to strong moral ethical principles. It is unwavering adherence to honesty, truthfulness and accuracy to one's actions. Thus, it is a concept of consistency of methods, processes, measures, values, actions, expectations and outcomes. This consistency is same regardless of the situation.

At Vignan's group of institutions, integrity is a way of life. It is one of the foundational values of the organization. Under the visionary leadership of the Chairman Dr L Rathaiah, VFSTR strives to promote academic excellence consistently. This has not only brought laurels to the organization, staff and students but also won the hearts and minds of the people in the region and this has built an everlasting trust on the organization.

Integrity is reflected not only in the work culture of the VFSTR but also in the systems and processes devised to mould the character of the students.

The work culture at VFSTR reflects a deep sense of reverence and consistency in upholding honesty, dedication, discipline and maintaining cordial social relations. From admissions to publication of results, from academics to research and publication—integrity is reflected in all the methods, processes and systems of our institution. Some of the best practices adopted are as follows:

(i) Ethical Practices in admissions:

The admission system at VFSTR is impeccable. From time to time ethical challenges and dilemmas regarding which prospective students will gain entry into which academic institutions are recognized and addressed. This has helped us to evolve a consistent and transparent admission process. Ethical Practices in admissions are:

1. Fair advertisement process.
2. Consistent principle and transparent admission process.
3. Standard criteria for scholarships.
4. Equal opportunities are provided for socially disadvantaged sections of the society.
5. Staff involved in the admission process is adequately trained in the best practices.

(ii) Academic Integrity

Once the students are admitted, key initiatives have been devised to impart the right knowledge in the right way with an aim to promote academic integrity.

Students are provided with academic calendar at the beginning of the each academic year, which also contain the details of class and examination schedule. All the staff members, both teaching and non-teaching stick to the schedule and ensure that classes and examinations are held successfully as per the schedule.

Honesty is the foundation of good academic work. While working on a problem set, lab report, project or paper, students are advised to avoid engaging in plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, cheating, or facilitating academic dishonesty.

(iii) Research and Publications

Not only the students but the faculty also adheres to the principles of academic integrity while doing research and publication of the same because "for individuals research integrity is an aspect of moral character and experience. It involves above all a commitment to intellectual honesty and personal responsibility for ones actions and to a range of practices that characterize responsible research conduct." These practices include:

1. Honesty and fairness in proposing, performing, and reporting research;
2. Accuracy and fairness in representing contributions to research proposals and reports;
3. Proficiency and fairness in peer review;

4. Collegiality in scientific interactions, communications and sharing of resources;
5. Disclosure of conflicts of interest;
6. Protection of human subjects in the conduct of research;
7. Humane care of animals in the conduct of research;
8. Adherence to the mutual responsibilities of mentors and trainees

(iii) Examination, Evaluation and Results

Integrity in examinations, evaluation and publication of the result is critical not only for the students but also for the organization because the future of the students and organization depends on fair process of examination and evaluation and timely publication of the results. The entire process of examination reflects the strong fundamental principles of the organization. Recognizing this, systems are devised to prevent and detect cheating, in order to protect the vast majority of students who are honest, hardworking and committed to their studies, and to ensure the continued integrity of VFSTR University degrees. Following are the measures to promote integrity in examination process:

1. Ensure that students understand all the rules of the examination.
2. A zero tolerance policy towards cheating.
3. Examination questions should be prepared by the eminent professors from various institutions across India.
4. Pre-assigned seating order.
5. Checking the identifications of students before the examination begins.
6. If a student is seen, or suspected of, cheating handling the situation quietly and calmly.
7. Seize and secure the student's examination booklet/s at the end of the examination and tell the student.
8. Making arrangements to meet with the student to discuss the academic dishonesty following which VFSTR may decide upon a penalty.

Conclusion:

All the statements which are quoted above shows that the integrity is a way of life at VFSTR. All these measures are adopted, followed, reviewed and strengthened to mould the character of the students. According to Gandhiji, science without humanity is one of the 7 social sins. This idea is reflected in the motto of VFSTR- "technology with human face" and this is imbibed in the teaching methods by delivering value based education. Ultimately, all the measures discussed above are adopted in the pursuit of building young India with a strong moral character.

Ethical practices in Finance and Accounts

-Article by

Mr. Neethipudi Satyanarayana Murthy.
Finance Officer, VFSTR



Ethics in general is concerned with human behavior that is acceptable or "right" and that is not acceptable or "wrong" based on conventional morality. General ethical norms encompass truthfulness, honesty, integrity, respect for others, fairness, and justice. They relate to all aspects of life, including business and finance. Financial ethics is, therefore, a subset of general ethics.

Accounting is a business field in which accuracy and interpretation are both very important. Small discrepancies can displace large sums of money, especially in large scale companies. Ethics are the practice of behavior that does not allow for intentionally inaccurate or false accounting practices, it pertains not only to following the law but also to interpreting financial data or clearly and honestly as possible in all situations.

Ethical norms are essential for maintaining stability and harmony in social life where people interact with one another. A professional code of ethics is important for an organization, without this, the employees have no set of policies for interpreting values that are not always clear. Integrity, competence, credibility and confidentiality are of utmost needed in accounting ethics. Accountants disclose the information of the entity only at the supervisor's discretion and communicate accounting information fairly and objectively to all the business users. Some of the ethical practices of VFSTR are as follows

- Making good transparency while making the payments to vendors and suppliers.
- Timely generation and payment of salaries to staff in time.
- Integrity and transparency while making scholarship payments to the students.

- Compliance of statutory requirements and making timely and accurate payment for statutory requirements like EPF, ESI, TDS and Professional Tax.

We Can't Achieve A Free India, Unless the Cancer of Corruption is eradicated...

**-Article by Adrangi.Durga Naga Anjali ,
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As you are well aware, that there is an increasing concern about corruption that is eroding the basic values of life. It has not only a negative effect on society but also erodes the value system established in the country. It is important for us. We, the younger generation who has to play a vital role in the development of a country, for which, it needs to get educated with urgency to fight against such unethical practices...

CORRUPTION...in INDIA... is literally taking away the food from the mouths of poor people. For example....

If we want to get a driving license, it literally takes 2 months to complete all the formalities of RTO. But when we give any kind of bribe to the officers of RTO then it takes only 2-3 days for getting a driving license. But for a poor person it will be like a hell to pay for those officers.

Another difficult task in India, is to find the corrupts...as they are hidden behind the cover or support of politicians. So, each and every individual need to take the responsibility of CLEAN INDIA i.e, "A CORRUPTION FREE INDIA".

Before eradicating the so called social evil corruption we need to know the root causes which pave a way for such unethical practice. They are...

1. Lack of transparency and accountability in dealings
2. Monopolistic concentration of power
3. Discretion adopted in the society
4. Low level salaries
5. Lenience for people as well as officers regards rules against corruption...

The effect of above causes are as follows...

1. Lack of trust among common people towards society
2. Feeling of discrimination
3. Leads to unemployment
4. Prudent people are neglected....when they can't bribe the officials

5. Effect on future generations.

Unless the above causes are eliminated we can't dream for a corrupt free India. "But we can't achieve CLEAN INDIA by making 300 or 400 people sitting in a CVC and preaching them the ill effects of corruption---instead we need to try to change the mind sets of people who are addicted to corruption up to now".

So, in order to protect our country and to eradicate corruption we need to adopt "TEAM" principle...in which...

T.....refers to....transparency in dealings

E.....refers to...elimination of inequality among people

A.....refers to... accountability

M.....refers to...monetary control...

For achieving the "TEAM" principle, our government has been taking various steps. One of such steps is VAW i.e, VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK. The main theme of starting this VAW was to create awareness about the ill effects of corruption among the individuals. Every year a week is allotted for this purpose which coincides with the birth anniversary of—SARDHAR VALLABHAI PATEL--- who is popularly known as... "The man of Integrity".

Not only this Vigilance Awareness Week programme government also adopted online registration of IRCTC, land holdings, pension and payment schemes, etc.

By making each and every transaction online we can know up to what extent an individual is earning and how much he is spending.

Finally, apart from the above said implementations if the punishments imposed to corrupted are made severe, then the people who had a thought of adopting corruption will have a chance to stay a step back and change their decision.

A tribute to the 'Iron Man' of India- National Unity Day

National Unity Day is an initiative celebrated at VFSTR to commemorate Sardar Vallabhbai Patel's birth anniversary on 31-10-2019. A floral tribute is given to Sardar Patel to increase awareness about RashtriyaEktaDiwas and to remember the great person. Various programmes are organized on this day, to mark the occasion such as run for unity, pledge taking ceremony and March past.

Celebration of this occasion helps youth to be aware of and provides an opportunity to everyone to maintain the integral strength of the nation. It makes Indian citizens to realize that how a national integrity helps in defeating the actual and potential threats for unity, integrity and

security of the nation. The main objective of organizing variety of programmes at this day is to promote national integration among citizens of the India as well as maintain the unity and integrity of the country.

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas has been organised in the Vignan's Foundation for Science Technology & Research on 31st October 2019 at Sangamam Seminar hall to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhai Patel. On this occasion, Honourable Vice Chancellor of the vasrsity Dr. MYS Prasad have addressed the gathering and enlightened the students on the Significance of the Unity day and on how to inculcate the philosophies of legendary personalities in the present day situations. Pledge taking ceremony has been organised by all the Students and Faculty participants which was followed by the March past by NCC Cadets. A total of 400 students have participated in the event along with university officials.



“Your habits will decide your future”:B.V. Ramana Kumar on Vigilance Awareness Week

Andhra Pradesh State Information Commissioner And retired IPS Officer B.V. Ramana Kumar visited Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology & Research on the occasion of Vigilance awareness week that has been conducting from the 28th of October to the 2nd of November. Ramana Kumar received a warm welcome from the students and the staff of VFSTR on 1st November 2019. B.V.Ramana Kumar was known for cracking the sensational Gold Dollar scam in the world renowned TTD. He also worked as the chief vigilance and security officer of TTD besides working as SP of various districts, DIG (CID and Krunool range) and Joint Commissioner of Police Vijayawada.

On his visit, B.V.Ramana Kumar stated that normally these types of vigilance awareness weeks are generally conducted in government sectors and some private companies, but now UGC is asking to conduct the Vigilance Awareness Week in education institutions also. He also said that the observance of Vigilance Awareness Week renews our commitment to achieve the goals of promoting integrity, transparency and accountability in public life. He then addressed and interacted with the students and gave noteworthy advices. He recommended students to aim high and set goals to the highest level possible like becoming the CEO of a company and suggested the students to know their power and never get disappointed by the people who try to pull you down. He also stated that goal setting is very important while you grow and suggested students to plan while studying itself. “Time management, planning, practical knowledge, innovative thinking, thinking out of the box, communication skills, and spot analysis will be the climbing stones for your success” he added.Ramana Kumar quoted by saying “Do not decide the future, decide your habits, your habits will decide your future, and your habits will gain trust and integrity.”

Ramana kumar also shared some of his experiences while he was working in Guntur which gained him lot of integrity and trust among the public and suggested students to make good habits and in the end he suggested students to make following quote as a motto “I was born on this world to achieve and I shall achieve”. Honorable Vice Chancellor, Registrar, Dr. M.S.S. Rukmini and Prof. B.M. Rao(Dep. Of M.B.A) felicitated B.V.Ramana Kumar.



**Corruption “A Weed in the Society that is ruining the System and Lives of Common Man”
Lets demolish it.**

-Special article by Dr.Gouthami Paltai- Asst Professor Dept of English.

Promise of integrity needs to be revisited beyond just as a thought but as a practical phenomenon. On the eve of celebrating the Vigilance awareness week with promise of Integrity a way of life, one needs to choose thoughts and actions based on values rather than personal gain. Corruption refers to an act performed by an individual or a group, which seriously compromises the rights and privileges of someone else or the public in general. "Corruption" includes a significant number of illegal and immoral activities from different arenas of governance and administration.

Corruption is not only limited to the government and its agencies, but, it also includes private businesses and organizations. Corruption severely hampers the growth and development of a society and a nation as a whole. A corrupt system makes people loose general trust in the government, resulting in an environment of fear and chaos. A corrupted country can never grow; and always remains as a poor or developing nation only, **"destroy corruption before it destroys you"** is the oath that everyone should take on this occasion for which Integrity plays a crucial role. In every individual's life Integrity is an inherent part that stimulates towards corruption free society to achieve. If you are integrated, than you can able to kick out the corruption, and in turn development will kiss your feet, thus making the future secure and complacent. So one should take a slogan of ending corruption as a vision rather than as a week days of awareness, for which every piece part of society needs more awareness on the weed that is crouching the fruits of growing India and making the nation hollow from within. So let's fight for eradicating corruption to bring progression.