



**Speech of**  
**Hon'ble Governor of Andhra Pradesh**  
**Sri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan**  
**at**  
**The occasion of "Vigilance Awareness Week - 2019"**  
**organised by Central Employees Welfare Coordination**  
**Committee at 11 AM on October 28,2019 at Thummalapalli**  
**Kalakshetram, Vijayawada.**

Sri M. Bhupal Reddy, Principal Commissioner of Income Tax, distinguished guests on the dais, off the dais, SODARA, SADAREEMANULU ANDARIKI NAMASKARAM.

I am happy to be here amongst you all on the occasion of the Vigilance Awareness Week – 2019. As you are all aware, the Vigilance Awareness Week is being organized every year in order to bring out systemic improvement in governance and to create awareness amongst the common man especially the youth towards the policy of achieving transparency, accountability and corruption free governance.

The key strategy behind this initiative is to encourage all stakeholders to collectively participate in the prevention of, and the fight against corruption and to raise public awareness regarding the existence, causes and gravity of and the threat posed by corruption.

This year it is being organized with the theme of “Integrity – A Way of Life”.

Transparency is one of the basic principles of good governance. Transparency plays a key role in public administration in the fight against corruption.

There are two types of transparency in public administration. The first is proactive transparency, which involves the publication of information of public importance before the public seeks them. The second type is reactive transparency. It is also about the public's right to know, but in this case it is made available to citizens on demand.

The RTI Act has brought about revolutionary changes in Indian Administration as it empowered the people of India against corruption, irregularities and irresponsive attitude of administrative machinery. The RTI Act promoted transparency and accountability in the working of every public authority. In other words through this act, the citizens of India have been

empowered to question, audit, review, examine and assess the government acts and decisions so as to ensure that they are consistent with the principle of public interest, good governance and justice.

India always took pride in being the largest democracy, but with the passing of the Right to Information Act 2005, it has also become an accountable, transparent and participatory democracy.

Democracy means meaningful participation by the people in the public affairs and a democratic government must be sensitive to the public opinion.

People in public administration should be aware that democracy is the rule of the people and the elected representatives are accountable to citizens for all their actions.

As Lord Buddha said, *"Thee things cannot be long hidden : the sun, the moon and the truth."*

Ethics and integrity have to come from within one-self and cannot be superimposed. To help a person to behave ethically we have laws, codes of conduct, systems of checks, but all these by themselves cannot create morality, uprightness, honesty or ethical behaviour. That has to come from within the individual.

Ultimately integrity and ethics come from motivation and if an officer is motivated to serve the people, then he is bound to be honest and ethical.

Finally, as Mahatma Gandhiji said:

*"Facts mean truth, and once we adhere to truth, the law comes to our aid naturally."*

VENKATESWARA SWAMY, KANAKADURGA AMMA VARI AASEESSULU MEE  
ANDARIKI ELLAPPUDU UNDALANI KORUKUNTUNNANU. DHANYA VADALU.  
Jai Hind