The Vigilance unit of this Ministry is headed by a Chief Vigilance officer (CVO) of the rank of Joint Secretary appointed on the advice of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC). The CVO with one Deputy Secretary and one Under Secretary and supporting staff, functions as the nodal point in the vigilance set-up of the Ministry. The vigilance unit is inter-alia responsible for the following in respect of the Ministry of Steel and the PSUs under its administrative control.

(i) identification of sensitive areas prone to malpractice’s/ temptation and taking preventive measures to ensure integrity/ efficiency in Government functioning;

(ii) taking suitable action to achieve the targets fixed by the Dept. of personnel & Training on anti-corruption measures;

(iii) scrutiny of complaints and initiation of appropriate investigation measures;

(iv) inspections and follow-up action on the same;

(v) furnishing the comments of the Ministry of the Central Vigilance Commission on the investigation reports of the Central Bureau of Investigation;

(vi) taking appropriate action in respect of departmental proceedings on the advice of the CVC or otherwise;

(vii) obtaining first and second stage of the CVC, wherever necessary;

(viii) obtaining advice of the Union Public Service Commission in regard to the nature and quantum of penalty to be imposed, wherever necessary;

(ix) appointment of CVOs in the PSUs in consultation with CVC and Deptt. of Personnel & Training;

(x) examination of complaints regarding allegations against the officials / officers of the PSUs under this Ministry for appropriate action.

(xi) maintenance and scrutiny of immovable property returns of officers and staff working in this Ministry.

Ten PSUs and one Attached Office, namely Office of Development Commissioner of Iron & Steel, Calcutta function under the administrative control of the Ministry of Steel. The Vigilance Unit in all PSUs and DCI&S is headed by a CVO appointed by this Ministry in consultation with CVC and DOPT.

During the year 2001-02 (upto November, 2001) in all 68 complaints were received in the Ministry. Out of these 23 Complaints have been disposed off after examining them in consultation with the CVC wherever necessary. The remaining 45 Complaints are under various stages of investigation/ examination.