

S. O. 542 dated the 6th July, 1987.—In exercise of powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 13 of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 read with sub-section (3) thereof and in supersession of all previous orders issued in this regard, the Governor of Bihar is pleased to constitute Sub-divisional Level Vigilance Committees for all sub-divisions of the State in the following manner—

(1) Sub-divisional Magistrate—*Chairman*

*Members*

- (2) Three persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and/or Scheduled Tribes and residing in the subdivision to be nominated by the Sub-divisional Magistrate.
- (3) Two social workers, resident in the subdivision to be nominated by the Subdivisional Magistrate.
- (4) Not more than three persons to represent the official or non-official agencies of the subdivision connected with rural development to be nominated by the District Magistrate.
- (5) One representative of Central Co-operative Bank or Rural Bank or Commercial Bank to be nominated by the Subdivisional Magistrate.
- (6) Deputy Collector Incharge Land Reforms in the subdivision.

2. The Vigilance Committee shall regulate its own procedure and secretarial assistance, as may be necessary, shall be provided by the Subdivisional Magistrate.

3. The functions of Vigilance Committee shall be—

- (a) to advise the Subdivisional Magistrate as to the efforts made and action taken, to ensure that the provisions of the aforesaid Act are properly implemented;

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**Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976.**

- (b) to provide for the economic and social rehabilitation of the freed bonded labourers;
- (c) to co-ordinate the functions of Rural Banks, Co-operative Banks and Commercial Banks, as may be necessary, with a view to canalising adequate credit facilities to the freed bonded labourers;
- (d) to keep an eye on the number of cases filed and disposed of in regard to the offences under this Act;
- (e) to make a survey-as to whether there is any offence of which cognizance ought to be taken under this Act;
- (f) to defend any suit instituted against a freed bonded labourer or a member of his family or any other person dependent on him for the recovery of the whole or part of any bonded debt or any other debt which is claimed by such person to be bonded debt.

4. The Vigilance Committee shall meet as often as necessary but at least once in a quarter for the discharge of its functions