

1. It is the duty of the Commission to eliminate practices having adverse effect on competition, promote and sustain competition, protect the interests of consumers and ensure freedom of trade in the markets of India.
2. The Commission is also required to give opinion on competition issues on a reference received from a statutory authority established under any law and to undertake competition advocacy, create public awareness and impart training on competition issues.

The Competition Act:

- The Competition Act, 2002, as amended by the Competition (Amendment) Act, 2007, prohibits anti-competitive agreements, abuse of dominant position by enterprises and regulates combinations (acquisition, acquiring of control and M&A), which causes or likely to cause an appreciable adverse effect on competition within India.

8. Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)

CVC is the apex vigilance institution **created via executive resolution** (based on the recommendations of **Santhanam committee**) in **1964** but was **conferred with statutory status in 2003**.

- It **submits its report to the President of India**.
- The CVC is **not controlled by any Ministry/Department**. It is an independent body which is only responsible to the Parliament.

Composition:

Consists of central vigilance commissioner along with 2 vigilance commissioners.

Appointment:

They are appointed by the President of India on the recommendations of a committee consisting of Prime Minister, Union Home Minister and Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha (if there is no LoP then the leader of the single largest Opposition party in the Lok Sabha).

Term:

Their term is 4 years or 65 years, whichever is earlier.

Removal:

The Central Vigilance Commissioner or any Vigilance Commissioner **can be removed from his office only by order of the President on the ground of proved misbehavior or incapacity** after the Supreme Court, on a reference made to it by the President, has, on inquiry, reported that the Central Vigilance Commissioner or any Vigilance Commissioner, as the case may be, ought to be removed.

The **Central Vigilance Commission** has amended the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on adoption of **"Integrity Pact"** in government organisations for procurement activities.

- This order **revises the SOP issued in January 2017**.

As per the amended SOP:

- **For appointment as Integrity External Monitors (IEMs)**, the Ministry, department or organisation concerned has to forward a panel of suitable persons to the CVC, of those persons who are in the panel maintained by the Commission.
- **Maximum tenure of IEMs:** 3 years in an organisation.

What is an integrity pact?

The pact is **to ensure transparency, equity and competitiveness in public procurement**. They were developed as **a tool for preventing corruption in public contracting**.