



## Central Vigilance Commission

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- There are 3 principal actors at the national level in the **fight against corruption**: the **Lokpal**, the **Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)**, and the **Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)**.
- Central Vigilance Commission is the apex vigilance institution, **free of control from any executive authority, monitoring all vigilance activity under the Central Government** and advising various authorities in Central Government organizations in planning, executing, reviewing and reforming their vigilance work.
- **Background:** The CVC was set up by the Government in February, 1964 on the recommendations of the Committee on Prevention of Corruption, headed by **K. Santhanam**.
- The Parliament enacted **Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003 (CVC Act)** conferring **statutory status** on the CVC.
- It is an **independent** body which is **only responsible to the Parliament**.
- **Composition:** It is a **multi-member Commission** consisting of a Central Vigilance Commissioner (Chairperson) and not more than 2 Vigilance Commissioners (Member).  
The Central Vigilance Commissioner and the Vigilance Commissioners are **appointed by the President** on the **recommendations of a Committee** consisting of the Prime Minister (Chairperson), the Minister of Home Affairs (Member) and the Leader of the Opposition in the House of the People (Member).
- **Tenure:** The term of office of the Central Vigilance Commissioner and the Vigilance Commissioners is **4 years** from the date on which they enter their office or till they attain the **age of 65 years**, whichever is earlier.
- **Role and Functions:** Exercise **superintendence** over the functioning of the **Delhi Special Police Establishment (CBI)** insofar as it relates to the investigation of offences under the **Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988**.  
The CVC **receives complaints** on corruption or misuse of office and **recommends appropriate action**. Following institutions, bodies, or a person can approach CVC: **Central government, Lokpal** and **Whistle blowers**.

- CVC has **no investigation wing of its own** as it **depends on the CBI and the Chief Vigilance Officers (CVO) of central organizations**, while CBI has its own investigation wing drawing its powers from Delhi Special Police Establishment Act.

**Source: TH**