



Panel Constituted in Rajasthan

Why in News?

Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma has promised a **probe into the alleged [corruption](#)** under the previous government.

Key Points

- A Cabinet sub-committee has been constituted to **review decisions and schemes** of the previous administration in Rajasthan and recommend whether they should be continued.
 - Free mobile phones for women, distribution of ration kits, and formation of new districts are among the matters to be reviewed.
- The government has also **ordered a probe into question paper leaks** during the previous government.

Legal and Regulatory Frameworks for Fighting Corruption in India

- **Legal Framework:**
 - **Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988** provides for penalties in relation to corruption by public servants and also for those who are involved in the abetment of an act of corruption.
 - **Amendment of 2018** criminalised both bribe-taking by public servants as well as bribe-giving by any person.
 - **Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002** aims to prevent instances of money laundering and prohibits use of the 'proceeds of crime' in India.
 - **The Companies Act, 2013** provides for corporate governance and prevention of corruption and fraud in the corporate sector. The term 'fraud' has been given a broad definition and is a criminal offence under the Companies Act.
 - **The Indian Penal Code, 1860** sets out provisions which can be interpreted to cover bribery and fraud matters, including offences relating to criminal breach of trust and cheating.
 - **The Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act, 1988** the Act precludes the person who acquired the property in the name of another person from claiming it as his own.
- **Regulatory Framework:**
 - **Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013:** It provides for an establishment of a Lokpal (centre) and Lokayuktas (state).
 - They perform the function of an "ombudsman" and inquire into allegations of corruption against certain public functionaries and for related matters.
 - **Central Vigilance Commission:** Its mandate is to oversee the vigilance administration and to advise and assist the executive in matters relating to corruption.
 - **Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 1952:** The punishment specified under Section 165 of IPC was enhanced to three years instead of the existing two years.
 - **Amendments in 1964:** The definition of 'Public Servant' under the IPC was expanded. The definition of 'criminal misconduct' was expanded and possession of assets disproportionate to the known sources of income of a public servant was made an offence.

