



Need for Reforms in CBI

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Why in News?

The [Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee](#) on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice, in its **145th report** recommended significant reforms in the [Central Bureau of Investigation \(CBI\)](#).

What are the Key Reforms Recommended by the Parliamentary Committee?

- **Independent Recruitment Framework:** Establish a **CBI-specific exam via SSC, UPSC**, or an independent body to create a **permanent cadre** with **structured career growth**.
 - Establish an **in-house expert team** to reduce reliance on external specialists.
 - Retain **deputation only for senior positions** that require diverse experience.
- **Lateral Entry:** Introduce [lateral entry](#) for specialists in **cybercrime, forensics, financial fraud**, and **legal domains**.
 - Reduce dependence on external specialists by creating **in-house expertise teams**.
- **Separate Law for CBI:** Enact a **separate law** to grant CBI **wider investigative powers** in cases affecting **national security and integrity** without requiring state consent.
 - The withdrawal of [general consent by 8 states](#) has restricted the CBI from investigating **corruption** and [organized crime](#).
 - Under **Section 6** of the [Delhi Special Police Establishment \(DSPE\) Act, 1946](#) CBI requires **state government consent** to investigate cases within a state unless:
 - The Supreme Court, High Court, or Lokpal orders the investigation.
 - The state has granted general consent for certain categories of cases.

What are Departmental Related Standing Committees?

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What are Key Facts About CBI?

- **Establishment:** Formed in 1963 based on the [Santhanam Committee's](#) recommendations (1962–64).
- **Role:** It investigates cases related to **bribery, government corruption, central law violations**, multi-state crime, and international cases.
 - India's nodal agency for coordinating investigations with [Interpol](#).
- **Legal Framework:** Operates under the [DSPE Act, 1946](#).
- **Administrative Control:** Functions under the **Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions (PMO)**.
- **Supervision:**
 - **Corruption Cases:** [Central Vigilance Commission \(CVC\)](#) oversees investigations under

the [Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988](#).

- **Other Cases:** Supervised by **DoPT** under the **Ministry of Personnel**.
- **CBI Director Appointment:** Recommended by a committee comprising the **PM, Leader of Opposition, and CJI (or SC judge)** under the [Lokpal Act, 2013](#).
- Tenure: **2 years**, extendable up to **5 years** in the public interest.

Drishti Mains Question:

Q.Examine the significance of investigative autonomy for CBI in cases affecting national security and integrity.

UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

Mains:

Q. The jurisdiction of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) regarding lodging an FIR and conducting a probe within a particular state is being questioned by various States. However, the power of the States to withhold consent to the CBI is not absolute. Explain with special reference to the federal character of India. (2021)

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