



Central Vigilance Commission

Why in News?

Recently, the Government appointed Suresh N Patel as the new chief of the [Central Vigilance Commission](#).

What is the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)?

▪ About:

- The Central Vigilance Commission was **set up by the Government in 1964 on the recommendations of the Committee on Prevention of Corruption, headed by Shri K. Santhanam**, to advise and guide Central Government agencies in the field of vigilance.
- CVC are conceived to be 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 vigilant work.
- 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 Parliament.
- It submits its report to the President of India.

▪ Members:

- Central Vigilance Commissioner - Chairperson.
- Not more than two Vigilance Commissioners - Members.

▪ Functions:

- 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, Whistle blowers**
- **It is not an investigating agency**. The CVC either gets the investigation done through the [Central Bureau of Investigation\(CBI\)](#) or through chief vigilance officers (CVO) in government offices.
- It is empowered to **inquire into offences** alleged to have been committed under the [Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988](#) by certain categories of public servants.

What are the Service Conditions of the Chief vigilance Commissioner?

▪ Appointment:

- The Central Vigilance Commissioner is to be **appointed by the President of India after** the recommendation of a three-member committee which consist,
 - **Prime Minister**
 - Minister of Home Affairs (MHA)
 - [Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha](#)

▪ Term:

- S/He holds the **office for 4 years**.

▪ Removal:

- S/He can be removed or suspended from the office by the President on the **ground of misbehavior** but only after the [Supreme Court](#) has held an inquiry into his case and

- recommended action against him.
- Further, He can also be removed for proved misbehavior or incapacity if the Supreme Court inquiry finds him guilty.
 - S/He can also resign by writing to the President.

Source: TH

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