



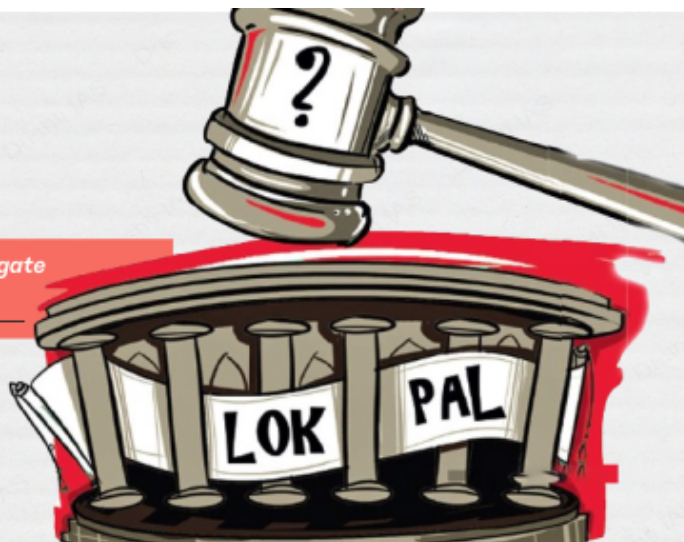
Lokpal

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LOKPAL

It is a statutory body functioning as "Ombudsman" to investigate corruption allegations against specific public officials and related issues.



HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

World

- ↳ 1809: Institution of Ombudsman first created in Sweden

India

- ↳ 1963: Idea of ombudsman first came up in Parliament
- ↳ 1971: First Lokayukta established in Maharashtra
- ↳ 2011: Anna Hazare Movement for Lokpal
- ↳ 2013: Lokpal and Lokayuktas Bill, 2011 passed
- ↳ 2014: Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013 came into force and amended in 2016
- ↳ 2019: Justice (Retd) Pinaki Chandra Ghose as first Lokpal of India

Statutory Provision: Lokpal And Lokayuktas Act (2013)

Seeks to establish institution of Lokpal at Centre and Lokayukta at State

Jurisdiction

- ↳ Includes Prime Minister, Ministers, MPs and Groups A, B, C and D officers, officials of Central Govt
- ↳ Institutions financed fully or partly by Government
- ↳ Entities getting over ₹10 lakhs annually in foreign donations under FCRA

Power

- ↳ Authority to approve public servants' prosecution instead of government or relevant authority
- ↳ Power of superintendence and direction over any investigating agency, including CBI, for cases referred to them by Lokpal
- ↳ Incorporates provisions for attachment and confiscation of property of public servants acquired by corrupt means, even while prosecution pending

Punishment

- ↳ Enhances maximum punishment under Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988

Appointment

- ↳ Selection of Chairperson and members through Selection Committee (PM, Speaker-LS, Leader of largest opp. party, CJI or sitting SC Judge nominated by CJI and an eminent jurist nominated by President)
- ↳ Search Committee assists Selection Committee in process of selection

Structure

- ↳ Chairperson + maximum 8 members
 - ↳ 50% Judicial members
 - ↳ 50% from SCs, STs, OBCs, minorities and women

Term of office

- ↳ 5 yrs or until the age of 70 yrs



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