INTEGRITY PACT IN MUMBAI PORT AUTHORITY

1. The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has been promoting integrity, transparency, equity and competitiveness in transactions by various organizations of the Government of India. Public procurement is an area of concern for the CVC, and many steps have been taken to put proper systems in place. In this context, Integrity Pact (IP), a tool conceptualized and promoted by Transparency International, an international NGO, aimed at preventing corruption in public contracting, has been found useful.

2. It has been decided by Ministry of Port, Shipping and Waterways that all organizations under the Ministry will implement IP. IP should cover every tender / procurement above a specified threshold value. As per the Procurement Manual of Mumbai Port Authority, the threshold value of contracts / procurements / transactions incorporating IP would be such that it covers 80-90% by value of all contracts / procurements / transactions of the organization in the last 3 years. Accordingly, the Board vide BR No. No.107 of 25.08.2025, accorded approval for considering all the tenders above threshold value of Rs. 1.50 Cr under the ambit of Integrity Pact.

3. IP essentially envisages an agreement between prospective vendors / bidders, and Mumbai Port Authority (MbPA), committing the persons / officials of both sides not to resort to any corrupt practice in any aspect of the contract at any stage. Only those vendors / bidders, who commit themselves to IP with MbPA, would be considered competent to participate in the bid process. Any violation would entail disqualification of the bidders and exclusion from future business dealings. IP, in respect of a particular contract should cover all phases of the contract, from the stage of Notice inviting Tender (NIT) / pre-bid stage, till the conclusion of the contract, i.e. final payment or the warranty / guarantee period.

4. IP is being implemented through Independent External Monitors (IEMs), who are eminent persons appointed by the organization, as recommended by CVC. As per revised SOP dated 14.06.2023 issued by CVC, two IEMs have been appointed for the tenure of 3 years. Names of the IEM are being mentioned in Tender document.

5. The IEMs would review independently and objectively assess, as to whether and to what extent parties have complied with their obligations under the IP. IEMs would have access to all contract documents, whenever required. The bidders may raise disputes / complaints if any, with the IEMs. The IEMs would examine complaints received by them and give their recommendations / views to the Chairman of Port Authority.

6. Shri Divya Prakash Sinha, IPS (Retd.) and Shri Girraj Prasad Gupta, ICAS (Retd.) have been appointed as IEMs by MbPA from Feb 2025 for the period of 3 years.

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