

## Role & Functions of Independent External Monitors (IEMs)

- IEMs are nominees of the CVC, appointed by the BDL to monitor implementation of Integrity Pact and scrutiny of High Value Tenders.
- BDL has appointed the following two IEMs who had retired from the level of Secretary to the Govt of India or equivalent (their Profiles can be seen on this website):-

Mr.A.Seshagiri Rao, IRSE, CMD, TCIL (Rtd) Flat 101, Hardhik Platina, 2-2-18/49, Bagh Amberpet, Hyderabad-500013 (Telangana). Cell: 9717644078. seshagiri2@gmail.com	Mr.J.K.Khanna, I.P.S.(Rtd) A-102, Sector-55, Noida-201307 (UP). Cell: 9810940403. jkkhannaips@yahoo.com
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- IEM is envisaged as an alternative mechanism for dispute resolution between the stake holders. This enables a quick resolution of the problems faced by the stake holders and faster award of work, leading to increased productivity and profits. Their presence obviates the need for litigation in regular courts of law.
- The IEM is mandated to review independently and objectively whether and to what extent parties have complied with their obligations under the Integrity Pact (IP).
- IP is an anti-corruption tool developed by Transparency International in the 1990s to help Govts businesses and the civil society to fight corruption in public contracting & procurements. It consists of an agreement between the Govt/ PSU and the bidders. It covers all contract related activities from pre-selection of bidders, bidding and contracting to implementation, completion and operation. It is intended to make public contracting and procurement transparent by binding all the parties to ethical conduct.
- Integrity Pact was introduced in India in 2006. BDL adopted it in Nov, 2011. It does not replace the law and is only an alternative mechanism to resolve disputes. It binds the parties to be honest. It creates a level playing field for all and ensures that all the stake holders behave under the same conditions.
- Signing of the IP is a pre-requisite to participate in the tenders. Its violation by the bidders results in sanctions such as loss or denial of contract, forfeiture of the bid or performance bond, liability for damages and blacklisting for future contracts.
- In case of any grievance, bidders may approach the IEMs who are mandated to look into all types of complaints/grievances concerning tenders including any aspect thereof which may be perceived to restrict competition or display a bias towards certain bidders. IEMs' role lasts till the Integrity Pact lasts, i.e. till final completion of the contract.