

The Integrity Pact:

- The Integrity Pact(IP) is a tool developed in the 1990's by Transparency International to help governments, businesses and civil society to fight corruption in the field of public contracting. IP establishes mutual contractual rights and obligations to reduce the high cost and distortionary effects of corruption in public contracting and to build transparency in the public procurement
- IP is a Voluntary Agreement between Purchaser(Bank) and Bidder. The official of the Bank commits that official has not demanded/accepted or will not demand/accept bribe, gift etc. and the Bidder commits that Bidder has not paid or will pay any Bribe to Purchaser/Agent/Individual

Mechanism:

- IP is intended to make public procurement transparent by binding both parties to ethical conduct. It also envisages a monitoring role for civil society who are the ultimate beneficiaries of government action. IP should cover all activities related to the contract from pre-selection of bidders, bidding and contracting, implementation, completion and operation
- The validity of IP shall be from date of its signing and extend for the Vendor 12 months after the last payment under the contract, and for all other Bidders 6 months after the contract has been awarded

Terms of Contract:

■ **The Public Authority commits that:**

- no official will demand or accept any illicit gratification to give any of the parties an advantage at any stage of the project
- all necessary and appropriate technical, legal and administrative information related to the contract will be made public
- none of the officials will make available confidential information to a bidder/contractor to give unfair advantage in the contract
- declaration by all concerned officials any conflict of interest and disclosure of own and family assets
- officials will report to appropriate government authority about any breach/attempt to breach a commitment

Terms of Contract (Contd.):

- **The Bidder commits that:**
 - they will not offer any illicit gratification to obtain unfair advantage
 - they will not collude with other parties to impair transparency and fairness
 - they will not accept any advantage in exchange for unprofessional behavior
 - will disclose all payments made to agents and intermediaries
 - it will demonstrate existence of organization-wide code of conduct forbidding unethical practices

Penalties:

- For failure to implement IP, officials will be subject to penal action and bidders will face cancellation of contract, forfeiture of bond, liquidated damages and blacklisting. Action will not require criminal conviction but be based on “no-contest” after the evidence is made available or there can be no material doubts. Disputes in IP implementation would be resolved by arbitration detailed in IP

Implementation:

- Bidder has to mandatorily submit the IP along with the Technical Bid for IT procurements which are covered under the IP
- Monitoring is a key aspect of IP implementation. Public access of all relevant information is a necessity. CVC has appointed Independent External Monitors Panel for SyndicateBank for review and monitoring of IP Implementation
- Any queries related to IP may be forwarded to ditprocure@syndicatebank.co.in