

# Central Administrative Tribunal

As we have mentioned above, CAT was established in 1985 under Article 323A of the Indian Constitution. Central Administrative Tribunal derives its powers, jurisdiction, and authority from this section.

- This tribunal was created via the 42nd Constitutional Amendment of the Constitution.
- The Tribunals under Article 323A can be created only through the Parliament.
- But, Article 323B deals with other tribunals. It enables such tribunals to be formed by both State and Parliament Legislatures.
- The Article 323A is only for tribunals for public service matters.

## Members of Central Administrative Tribunal

Section 4 of the Administrative Act of 1985 lays forth the courts and the bench structure. According to the statute, a Central Administrative Tribunal must have a chairman, vice-chairman, and judicial and administrative members. Besides, having judicial and administrative members in a tribunal is mandatory.

The President of India appoints the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and other Tribunal members. The judicial members are appointed by the President but only after consulting with the Chief Justice of India

## Eligibility of Members of the Central Administrative Tribunal

The table below lists the eligibility qualifications of the various Tribunal Members.

Role	Eligibility
Chairman	A person must be a high-court judge. However, a person holding the position of Vice-Chairman for two years can also be appointed chairman of Central Administrative Tribunal.

Vice-Chairman	<p>A person could be a high-court judge or have held the post of Secretary to the Government of India or any other post with the same pay scale for two years.</p> <p>A person holding the post is an Additional Secretary to the Government of India or any other post with the same pay scale for five years can be vice-chairman of Central Administrative Tribunal.</p>
Judicial Members	<p>A person could be a high court judge or a member of the Indian Legal Service holding a Grade I post for at least three years.</p>
Administrative Members	<p>A person holding the post of Additional Secretary to the Government of India or any post with equivalent pay for at least two years.</p> <p>A person with adequate administrative experience or worked as a Joint Secretary to the Government of India or any other equivalent post.</p>

## Functioning of the Central Administrative Tribunal

The following are the features of the Central Administrative Tribunal's functioning

- The Central Administrative Tribunal has 17 Benches in the country as well as 21 Circuit Benches.
- The Central Administrative Tribunal Principal Bench deals with matters relating to the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi.
- The Central Administrative Tribunal has been granted the power to exercise the same authority and jurisdiction regards to contempt of itself as a High Court.
- A petitioner can appear in person before the Central Administrative Tribunal or take the help of a legal practitioner.

