

## Understanding Consumer Rights: Insights from the Consumer Protection Act 2019

The <u>Consumer Protection Act 2019</u> in India provides extensive rights to consumers, ensuring they are protected and empowered. Here are the key aspects:

- 1. **Right to Information**: Consumers have the right to complete information regarding the quality, quantity, potency, purity, standard, and price of goods or services. This enables them to make informed decisions.
- 2. **Right to Safety**: Consumers are protected against the marketing of goods and services that are hazardous to life and property. This includes products that do not meet safety standards.
- 3. **Right to Choose**: Consumers should have access to a variety of goods and services at competitive prices. This prevents monopolistic practices and ensures consumers can select from a range of options.
- 4. **Right to be Heard**: This right ensures that consumer interests receive due consideration at appropriate forums. Consumers can voice their complaints and concerns about goods and services.
- 5. **Right to Redress**: Consumers are entitled to seek redressal against unfair trade practices or restrictive trade practices. They can approach consumer courts for quick and effective solutions.
- 6. **Right to Consumer Education**: This right ensures that consumers are educated about their rights and responsibilities. It includes awareness programs and information dissemination on consumer issues.
- 7. **Establishment of Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA)**: The CCPA is empowered to regulate matters related to violation of consumer rights, unfair trade practices, and misleading advertisements.

- 8. **Product Liability**: Manufacturers and service providers are held accountable for any harm caused by defective products or services. This includes compensation for harm caused to consumers.
- 9. **Misleading Advertisements**: The Act provides strict measures against misleading advertisements. Endorsers can also be held accountable for promoting false claims.
- 10. **E-Commerce Regulation**: The Act includes provisions to protect consumers in e-commerce transactions, ensuring fair and transparent practices in online sales.

The Consumer Protection Act 2019 has significantly strengthened consumer rights in India. By knowing and exercising these rights, consumers can ensure they are treated fairly and can seek redressal when wronged. This Act promotes a fair marketplace, enhancing consumer confidence and trust.