

Past Risk and Return Verification Agency (PaRRVA)

Prelims - Regulatory Bodies (SEBI), Recent initiatives in financial market regulation.

Mains (GS III) - *Indian Economy - Mobilization of resources, Government Budgeting, SEBI reforms and investor protection mechanisms.*

Why in news?

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) issued the operational framework for Past Risk and Return Verification Agency (PaRRVA).

- **Purpose** It is the main verification agency that will <u>validate past performance claims</u> <u>made by investment advisors, research analysts, and algo providers.</u>
- Investment advisors They are SEBI-registered professionals offering *personalized financial advice* to clients.
- **Research analysts** They are also SEBI-registered research and provoide recommendations on financial instruments such as stocks and mutual funds.
- **Algo providers** They provide trading services through <u>computerized trading using</u> <u>proprietary algorithm</u>.
- **Need for verification** It prevents misleading performance claims and ensures transparency for investors.
- It also standardizes risk-return calculations and protects against cherry-picking or exaggeration.
- Eligibility:
 - Must be a Credit Rating Agency (CRA).
 - Minimum **15 years** of existence.
 - Minimum Rs.100 crore net worth.
 - Must have rated at least 250 issuers of debt securities.
 - \circ Must have an investor grievance redressal system, including online dispute resolution.
 - Must enter an agreement with the PaRRVA Data Centre (PDC).
 - Following approval from SEBI, the CRA would have to develop the infrastructure within 3 months.
- The number of PaRRVA isn't fixed any eligible Credit Rating Agency can become a PaRRVA on approval of SEBI.
- Responsibilities Creates Rules for Fair Comparison PaRRVA will <u>set the</u> <u>standard method for how risk and return are calculated.</u>
- No Cherry-Picking Allowed Investment advisors and algo providers can't pick the best time periods to show their results.
- They must present a full, fair picture not just the "good parts".
- No Highlighting Only One Product They also can't only show the best-performing product or service and hide the rest. All data must be transparent.

- All Claims Must Link to Verified Data Every claim whether in a PDF, email, brochure, or website must include a link or QR code.
- That code will take investors to PaRRVA's website, where they can see the full summary of how the performance numbers were verified.
- **Parrva Data Centre (PDC)** This will be the <u>data repository and infrastructure</u> <u>provider</u> that supplies all required data for verification.
- Eligibility A stock exchange will be designated by SEBI as the PDC.
- Responsible for providing secure and verified market data to PaRRVA.
- Must maintain infrastructure for data sharing, grievance handling, and QR code generation for performance summaries.

Reference

Business Standard | PaRRVA

