

International Scenario-How Corrupt are we Indians??

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Abstract –The problem in India is that Govt. reeks of corruption. No government file moves until official palm is greased. In spite of the fact that corruption has been taken as a high priority for Indian Govt. still it is incurable. The Govt. of Prime Minister, Mr. Manmohan Singh framed a well developed legal and institutional framework, enacted RTI, formulated many anti-corruption/anti-bribery policies but all the efforts failed when it came to implementation and enforcement of these laws. A recent study unveils that in India Political parties which have prime responsibility to enforce anti-corruption laws have 86% of their structure corrupted which is followed by judicial system which is 75% corrupted. Consequentially corruption in India has reached all-time high with rates being exactly double of global prevalence. Globally, 27% people say they paid bribe when accessing public services and institutions in last 12 months while this percentage was 54% in India. While another EY global fraud survey report has given India 2nd position in corruption and bribery after giving Egypt the 1st position. Corruption Perception Index (CPI) of Transparency International has ranked India 94th out of 176 countries. India had scored only 36 on a scale from 0 (most corrupt) to 100 (least corrupt). India has been ranked even below than its neighbor countries Sri Lanka and China. The problem is persisting due to excessive regulations, complicated taxes and licensing systems, numerous govt. departments each with opaque bureaucracy and discretionary powers, monopoly of govt. controlled institutions and lack of transparency in laws and processes. As globalization is increasing, there will be need of consensus laws and policies across the globe which will promote stricter ABAC policies in coming days

Index Terms— Black Money, Globalisation, Governance, Institutions, Public,

1 INTRODUCTION

Do not fear the thorns in your path, for they draw only corrupt blood – Kahlil Gibran

Corruption is often defined as using power or authority to obtain advantages and using public money for one's own interest. Bribery: to accept or to request financial resources to obtain a public service such as traffic tickets removal, biddings that would favor a particular company, tax exemption, etc and to divert public money destined to public enterprises to those who are responsible for it. These major forms of corruption are expanded to everyday life practices and are so deeply incorporated into our country's culture that it gets hard to identify them. Indians always find a way to solve everything and this way we find is most of the times some form of corruption. As a result of this India is ranking at 94th place among 176 countries as declared by Corruption Perceived Indicator (CPI).

Young people have the power to change the social and political dynamics that underlie a resigned acceptance of bribery and other forms of corruption. Connectivity makes it easier for influential voices to popularize a rejection of the status quo, and consequently a space for discussion that can lead to better opportunities to pursue structural changes in the system.

This is the major problem lies with South Asian countries. Corruption in South Asian Countries has ceased to be news and people have begun living with it as if it is a normal practice. Not that they do not resent it but seem to feel that when topmost leaders are a part of it, there is probably no remedy. The CBI always holds enquiry. The Economic Enforcement

Bureau gets into action. Ministers say that guilty will not be spared. Soon it is business as usual. The next time the same exercise begins again – when another scandal rocks the country. But still India tops all of the South Asian countries in its Integrity score. India's integrity score this year is 3.4, same as for the year 2008. With the exception of Bhutan, which has a score of 5.0, India with 3.4 is still at the top of all the South Asian countries. Nearly half out of 180 countries have scored three or even lower points; a clear indication that corruption is perceived to be rampant.

2 INDIA VS. OTHER COUNTRIES

If we give a look to international scenario of corruption then we find that corruption is more dangerous than a viral disease and spread in all the countries of entire world.. There are different areas where corruption is existing in different countries.

In USA, From penny-pinching politicians to Big Bank blunders, corruption input of 100 possible points (with 100 being perfectly pure and 0 being perfectly corrupt) it scored 73 and is ranked as 19th least corrupt country . That puts it just ahead of Ireland, on the same level as Uruguay, and a step behind Japan. It also places the United States solidly above the 50-point mark, meaning that survey respondents generally viewed USA as "less corrupt" than most. The United States is in center stage. During the last few years the public in USA is showing distrust in its Govt. and business houses. No executive of any corporate world is held convict though many scan-

dals take place in corporate world of USA.

Coming to **UK**, It is currently estimated that 38,000 people are involved in organized crime in the UK, and such activities cost the economy anywhere between £20 and £30 billion per year. 48% of construction professionals feel that corruption is commonplace within the UK construction industry the amount of money laundered through the UK each year is estimated to be £48 billion (2% of UK GDP).

China ranks 80 after scoring 40 the main types of corruption in China are tax evasion; rent-seeking behavior; involvement in the underground economy, where the management of the goods is legal, but the income is illegal; involvement in the underground economy, where the management of the goods is illegal; and the abuse of public investment and public expenditures. Corruption is particularly egregious in the railroads, aviation, telecommunications, and electricity production sectors.

Brazil ranks 72th after scoring 42 score in CPI Corruption in Brazil occurs in all levels of society: from politicians to police officers, passing through common citizens who pay extra BRL 50,00 for the cable TV employee to install a plan more expensive than the one they had originally subscribed to. It was inherited by us from the Portuguese people who first came to Brazil and developed throughout the years, surpassing the corruption levels of our colonizers.

Denmark, Finland, Switzerland who topped the CPI index have core values like freedom for the individual, equality, respect, tolerance and a strong sense of mutual trust. This is also reflected in the way they organize their workplaces and educate their youth. Denmark ranks a one of the safest, most democratic and least corrupt countries in the world and tops United Nations Education.

The UN's "My World" survey, which aims to inform the post-2015 international development agenda, shows the importance 16 to 30 year olds place on transparency and accountability: "An honest and responsive government" was one of their top concerns, ranking above other issues you might expect to have more traction among young respondents such as job opportunities, environmental protection and climate change.

3 ROOT CAUSE

Many of we think that corruption is main caused by the politicians and govern departments. It is quite difficult to decide who is responsible for corruption. No country in this world is perfect, corruption is everywhere. Corruption has two forms, corruption at top level and corruption at lower level. In countries like USA and UK corruption exists at top level but still these countries are highly developed. At lower lever there is very low corruption. But in India corruption prevails from top level to low level and the corruption at low level is spoiling the country economy badly. Total number of registered corruption cases was 64,00,000 in 1989, now in year 2010 is 1,64,00,000, Indians perceived political parties to be the most corrupt, ranking them 4.2 on a scale of one to five. Political

parties are followed by Police (4.1), Parliament/legislature (4) and civil servants (3.5). Private sector, NGOs and judiciary are all seen to be similarly corrupt (3.1), with the media enjoying a marginally better rating at 3. Military (2.8) and religious bodies (2.9) enjoy better public confidence.

4 TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL

Transparency International in 2008 reported that about 40% of Indians have paid bribes to get a job done in public offices. This figure was 62% in a study conducted by the same firm in 2005. India is the ninth most corrupt country in the world, in a ranking of 86 countries, with 54% of people reporting having paid a bribe. War-torn Iraq (56%) and Afghanistan (61%) suffer worse levels than India, as do nations such as Liberia (89%), Uganda (86%), Nigeria (63%), Sierra Leone (71%), Senegal (56%) and Cambodia (84%). The world average is 25%, while the Asia Pacific average is 11%. The European Union enjoys an average of 5%, as does North America (Canada is marginally less corrupt than the United States), while Latin America and North Africa reported an average of 36% and Sub Saharan Africa has an average of 56%.

The problem in India is that Govt. reeks of corruption. As per central vigilance commission (CVC) report some estimates show that Govt. loses about Rs 2 lakh Crores annually sue to tax evasion while about Rs 40000 Crores due to delay in projects.. According to one survey

According another estimate, if there is no corruption in India the public sector enterprises would have improved their profit margin by 20%. According to a corruption economist (Mauro) if corruption in India is reduced to the level of Scandinavian countries, the investment would rise by 12% annually and GDP would grow at an additional 1.5%..

5. EFFORTS

India's ranking for corruption worldwide is 87, I personally feel that if we really want to make a change, we should increase our efforts in eradicating this menace from our society. The society as such should try to start to change their thinking because now corruption has become like a classification trait for our country. Our efforts should be reinforced with the efforts of some of the anti-corruption groups since there is very little that our government can do about it as people who are entrusted with making laws are themselves most likely the ones who have broken them. As aforementioned, anti-corruptions Anna Hazare has proved to be an epitome for our country when he went on a hunger strike to exert pressure on the Indian government to enact a stringent anti-corruption law as envisaged in the Jan Lokpal Bill, for the institution of an ombudsman with the power to deal with corruption in public places. Anna Hazare wants to make sure we get rid of this evil from our country. Such actions can bring a change, but not as major as trying to fight this conflict out. The perpetrators de-

serve to be acknowledged for such lowly deeds, transitional justice needs to be brought to suffice the loss of the victims of these crimes- our whole nation. We are all encouraging it by being bystanders of this crime. Even if we can't bring change individually we can support the social activists and anti-corruption groups to bring justice to us. The scenario of a corruption society is worth envisioning because this can mean success and progress of our nation. The following is important consideration for our government to make, after all it concerns the future of not just us, but our society and nation. I hope my recommendations are helpful for the future of our country which has so much potential, we can't afford to just stagnate it's growth because of such a minor obstacle, should we?

6 BLACK MONEY

The black money lying in the Swiss banks is the prominent example of corruption in India and India is ranked first in the case. If we compare India with other countries in its black money position we see that Black money in Swiss banks as per Swiss Banking Association report details bank deposits in the territory of Switzerland by nationals of following countries:-

India – \$1,456 billion
Russia – \$470 billion
UK – \$390 billion
Ukraine – \$100 billion
China – \$96 billion

609 people in India having legal property more than Rs- 100 Crores (Rs- 10 Million). Indian President one day living cost is Rs-8 crore, living in a place where 350 flats. One day Indian Parliament running cost is around 9 crore Rupees. Britishers looted 350 Lakh Crore in 250 years whereas Indian himself looted 330 crore. India has around 450 Billion dollar of coal deposit & 170 billion of iron ore deposit, looted by state politicians According to Indian Government around 1 Lakh place in India where people doing illegal mining. Dishonest persons, scandalous politicians and corrupt IAS, IPS officers have deposited in foreign banks in their illegal personal accounts a sum of about \$ 1500 billion, which have been misappropriated by them. This amount is about 13 times larger than the country's foreign debt. With this amount 45 crore poor people can get Rs 1, 00,000 each. This huge amount has been appropriated from the people of India by exploiting and betraying them. Some 80,000 people travel to Switzerland every year, of whom 25,000 travel very frequently. "Obviously, these people won't be tourists.

USA have settled their Swiss bank Account & their top Billionaires in their countries paid to their country 50% of their Money which includes Gates & Bloomberg. Italy got 6.4 Billion dollar from Swiss Bank, Germany got 5.7 Billion dollar from Swiss Bank & France got 1.7 Billion dollar from Swiss Bank.

According to RBI (Reserve Bank of India) Rupees 17,018,826 crore notes print in India between years 2000-2010. Rupees 10 Lakh Crores money in circulation in India. Generally 2-3 %

of GDP money circulation in other countries. Where the rest of the money does goes? Obviously it goes in the illegal bank accounts and our Indian Government has still allowed four Swiss bank & Eight Bank of Italy in India.

7 ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEM

Administrative Corruption is at its peak in India. Corruption is present in every department though big or small, public or private in India. Nepotism and biasness are involved in appointment of a low paid peon to highly salaried manager of a multinational company. The legal and judiciary system of country is not efficient enough to quick their working as in the case of other countries. In the countries like Denmark, USA, Finland all the organizations though it be railways, courts, police, hospitals etc. are so involved in their duties that public need not to think of giving bribe to expedite their matters. Courts give their verdict timely and public need not to bribe judges or lawyers for quickening. Railway organizations is efficient that public always feel satisfied. The coming generations will feel themselves to be in well of corruption. Corruption is showing increasing trend year by year. Due to corruption prevailing everywhere the young generation wants to migrate to other countries where they find a good system and can live a tension free life.

Corruption is a hydra-headed monster and governments have to make efforts to tackle it from all sides. Not at Govt level but at individual level also, a lot of efforts needed to be done. The only medicine for to reduce the corruption drug is to change the mindset of the people for their selfishness. To control this corruption, we are the people of nation should work together to fight against it. The election procedure should be changed.

Given the appetite among the young for fighting corruption, how can we channel that energy into real change?

Although corruption has wide-ranging deleterious effects on society and governance but its most deadly impact is always on the poor. It undermines democracy, hinders in good governance and weakens the democratic institutions. It hampers the economic growth and sustainable developments. Increase in corruption in any society is inversely proportional to good governance.

8 REMEDY

The only solution to a problem such as corruption, would be a reform of a national policy by the judicial system of the nation which can also be known as the method of reparations. Many people raise questions as to why the government in India does not take effort to fight corruption, but the trouble is that in truth their institutions in the nation are the biggest body of corruption. Social Activists, whistle-blowers, and even citizens are trying to provoke the government to make changes to their policies, such as the most recent one- the passing of the Jan Lokpal Bill also referred to as the Citizen's ombudsman Bill is a draft anti-corruption bill drawn up by prom-

inent civil society activists seeking the appointment of a Jan Lokpal, an independent corruption investigation body. In order to bring to the attention of the Government, the need to enact the Jan Lokpal Bill, a focused campaigning was started in the form of the India against Corruption (IAC) movement. Anna Hazare is heading core members of civil society and India against Corruption (IAC) movement.

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It is with the next generation, however, that the hope rests of a sustainable change in cultural norms. The appetite is for accountable and transparent governance is there; we need to find effective ways to translate it into lasting action.

9 CONCLUSION

Corruption is a wide term and its causes also differ from country to country . India is involved in corruption from root to fruit. All levels, all classes , all organizations use corrupted means . This is not a single man's job to bring the improvement but all need to join hands. If the corruption is cured in India then undoubtedly India will become a super powerful country in the world. It has resources , capable human power, big market but the need is to be sincerity , integrity and a serious and negative attitude towards corruption in everyone.

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