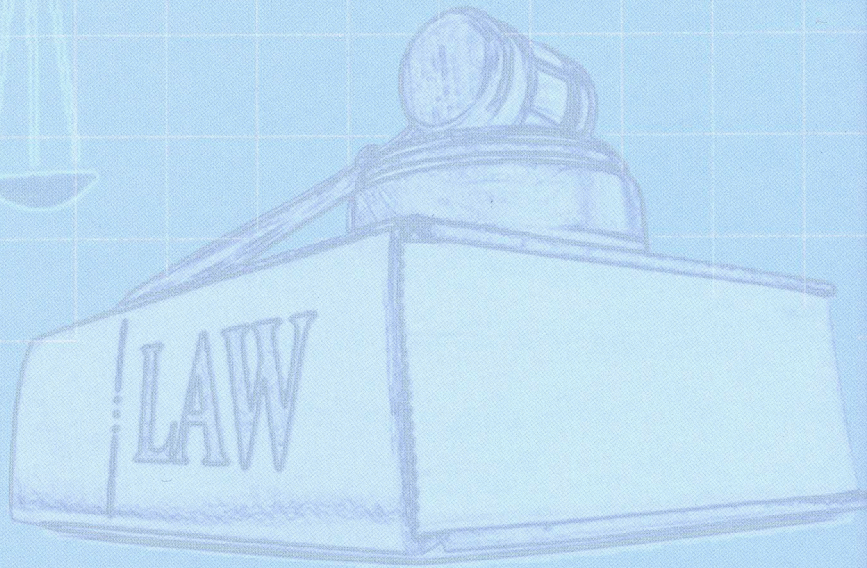




CORRUPTION *in* **GOVERNANCE**



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Corruption in Governance

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Centre for Transparency and Accountability in Governance
National Law University, Delhi

Published by

Centre for Transparency and Accountability in Governance,
National Law University, Delhi.
Sector 14, Dwarka, New Delhi-110078

First Edition, 2015

Rs. 350

ISBN 978-93-84272-00-5

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ISBN 978-93-84272-00-5



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PREFACE

“Success at any cost, means are irrelevant” is the main contributor to corruption in society. Majority of people want to get benefits, even if they are not eligible or entitled to it, invariably without following due process. Similarly, public servants, in majority, strongly believe in that they are the proprietors of public offices or owners of public offices, where as they hold these offices in fiduciary relationship and are supposed to use public resources for the protection of interests of public.

It is also seen that people maneuver for different means to avoid queue and systematic process of administration. People offer bribe to public servants for out of term favor from them. Later, we blame the system that public servants are highly corrupt. They are corrupt because of corruption created or generated by people for mending the administrative system. We the people generate/create demand for corruption and then supply unlawful consideration for the undue demands.

We promote and imbibe corruption for the sake of our own benefits. Majority of us has strong faith in “*Apni Jeb Bharo Baki Sab Maro*” (let others go to hell, I should get everything). There is no standard and static behavior, but it is also poignant to notice that the conduct of persons in society is determined according to the psychology of administrative authorities and people occupying public offices.

There is a wide gap between preaching and practicing. People preach something, do something else and ensued by something else. People act according to the convenience of others only in their self-interest to achieve desirable results. Moreover, it is also observed that majority of people are averse to their criticism on any issue. Even if they are wrong, they do not have any courage to face their criticism, so they try to suppress such activities at all times, and doing so they lose a golden opportunity for their perfection. People have to overcome hypocritical behavior and conduct in public life. Cheating someone or hypocritical conduct may allow people to get some short term benefits, but in long term, moral values and hard work, done with commitment will sail anywhere in the world. It is submitted that

the wide gap can be bridged provided, we follow the norms of Dharma in public life.

It is seen that majority of people are under impression that government at any level has failed to check corruption at every level of administration. Whenever some instances of malpractice are reported, people simply blame the State, that the state has not done anything to check corruption, but we ignore our duties and responsibilities in countering corruption and ensuring transparency and accountability in governance. The next question that comes into our minds is that what is state, and who represents the state? It is very clear that state is an artificial legal person, which functions through its employees, trustees, and citizens, who are natural persons. It is pertinent to note that characteristics, such as, ethical values, integrity, sincerity, honesty and commitment, of people have an in-depth impact on the functioning of the state in every sphere of organs of the state like judiciary, executive and the legislature.

Corruption has affected every nation of the globe. No nation or human being is immune from the impact of corruption. The menace of corruption has numerous faces which has posed assorted challenges to the world. The moot question that is bothering everyone, is, how to command this giant of corruption. What should be the modes or techniques to eliminate corruption? India is struggling hard to control corruption. It is pretty sure that merely enacting legislations such as Lokpal, Judicial accountability and standards, and citizens charters, will not eliminate corruption from India, unless that is enforced from the root levels, in ethics of human beings, determined to shun corruption in every field of life.

At the very outset, I place on record the deep debt of gratitude to the Vice Chancellor, Professor (Dr.) Ranbir Singh, for supporting and encouraging the endeavours of the centre for transparency and accountability in governance.

I am also highly indebted to the authors such as, Shri P.S. Bawa, Chairperson, Transparency International India, Shri M L Sharma, former Central Information Commissioner, New Delhi, Shri Subhash Chandra Agrawal, RTI Activist, Professor Teng Hongqing, Professor M A Sridhar, Central Information Commissioner, Professor AS Dalal, Shri Shailesh Gandhi, former Central Information Commissioner and other distinguished

authors, for subscribing their valuable research papers for the special book on corruption in governance.

In accomplishing this task, I am also thankful to members of the Editorial Committee of the CTAG, namely, *Parul Sharma, Tanvee Agarwal, Vaishali Singh, Anuradha Godrey, Sanya Sud, Yashasvi Tripathi Surabhi Lal, Yashasvi Tripathi, Devenashi Saxsena* and other members who have assisted me in editing, compiling and proof reading of the book. We are also thankful to those people who directly or indirectly contributed in this endeavour of special book.

May 1, 2015

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