CORRUPTION: CULTURE AND CONTROL IN DEMOCRATIC INDIA- A REVIEW

CORRUPTION-INTRODUCTION

Corruption in India has become gradually normalized and no one has an idea how this culture has entered into most of the fields in the society. This saturation is because of the support of the people to encourage corruption to make their job done quickly and in shortcuts, bypassing the routes developing a fraudulent system of life and few of the citizens are forced to carry out such life to not live an uneven or shattered life. The wealth and power of a country are determined by the rate of corruption. This is because of the society and social orders which promote and follow the laws. This order is the laws and structure that is observed outside the candidate's life and the order's influence on the candidate for the general life happening. This order includes all the existences and prevalence of the society that are inter linked like groups, businesses or any other institutions.

Corruption is the balance between the corruptive capability between the poor and the rich populace. Demolishing the corruption in India is so tedious task and responsibility which has become so common in practice. This is due to avoid hurdles for the quick completion of the administrative tasks. Though Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India, and few preceding leaders have tried their maximum to eradicate the corruption in India, still this practices which eats up the economy badly.

LAWS AND STEPS FORTH TO ERADICATE CORRUPTION IN INDIA

India has signed the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) in 2005(1) and was also ratified in 2011. Anti-corruption laws other than UNCAC in India was launched at many intervals to prevent the corruption like,

- ➢ Indian Penal Code (IPC), 18606
- ➢ The Prevention of Corruption Act (PCA), 19887
- ➢ The Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 20028
- ➢ The Prohibition of Benami Property Transactions Act, 19889
- ➢ Lokpal and Lokayukta Act (LLC), 201310

All these laws concentrate mostly on the government officials and public servants who undertake corruption activities behind the jobs, which is highly condemned. Though many rules are against corruption, the willingness to eradicate corruption is not shown desperately as the benefits are enjoyed regularly.

TYPES OF CORRUPTION

Types of corruption are political corruption, administrative corruption, corporate corruption, Grand corruption, Petty Corruption and Systemic Corruption and its kinds are bribery, embezzlement, fraud, extortion, and nepotism.

Bribery is the most common type of corruption, that influences the decision of the authority. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) puts forward these offenses as "active" and "passive" corruption. Active bribery is "the act of offering or paying a bribe" whereas passive bribery is the "requesting or receiving of a bribe". Forms of bribes vary at many forms like cash, information, entertainment, sexual favors, employment, company shares, etc., ("United Nations Handbook"). Even the population of India, which ranks second most in the world is also a factor for the increase in corruption and bureaucratic procedures in India which generally requires licenses or permission through government officials for almost everything which makes even the officials demand bribes(Johnson, 2004).

Grand corruption occupies its space when higher-ranking government and elected officials exploit their powers in government and involve in corruption especially in case of infrastructure and construction projects.

Grand and Petty corruption also falls under the category of conventional and unconventional corruption. Government officials play an indirect role by abusing and making to lose the hope on public offices and thus make a flowchart for a private gain. This strategy of bribe falls under conventional corruption but in contrast, if the government officials move in a plan for the personal and specific gain instead of lifting up the public's interest, then this condition falls under the strategy of unconventional corruption. But the highlight is there is no reciprocity due to lacking direct contacts between the active and passive corruption performing parties. This kind of corruption also includes the activities of misappropriation, embezzlement, trust breach etc., (Morris & Stephen D, 2011).

SCAMS AND CONTROVERSIES

The VVIP Chopper Scandal 2013

The VVIP Chopper Scandal 2013 (Indian Helicopter Bribery scandal), a large-scale bribery scam that integrated Agusta Westland, a subsidiary of Finmeccanica – an Italian defense and security company, and the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) with Indian National Congress. 12 AW101 helicopters were planned to be purchased for the Indian Air Force, with the contract with ₹3,600 crores for VVIPs to carry out the official duties. But in order to win the business deal of contract, the CEO of both Finmeccanica and AgustaWestland, Giuseppe Orsi and Bruno Spagnolin respectively have targeted middlemen and high

ranking Indian politicians to alter the terms of the contract ("CBI Seeks Italian Court's Order"). Thus it became a complex bribery finally.

Hawala

There are found many Hawala related corruption cases in India but the term 'Hawala'came to be renowned after its scam in 1991. The 1991 Indian Hawala Scandal was performed by many political leaders of both national and international wide, government officials and middlemen. One thing, whole people community who live in the world knows is, the political corruption cases are usually inter knotted, performing bribery, misusing power, white collar crime activities, theft and bribe to attain the gain of the deal. Though its massiveness, makes us judge Hawala as Grand corruption, we cannot assure it to be so. As because, Hawala was the mode of transfer of money based on trust, between individuals, organizations, governments, immigrants, legitimate companies, traders with inadequate financial systems due to political or economic instability (El Qorchi, et al, 2003).

2G spectrum

Politicians, corporate, Television and media personnel, government officers were accused in *the 2G spectrum* who have charged behind for allocation of network frequency license in the auction. This then led to the high priced subscriptions plans launch by the telephone companies, to the public people, via the allocated government frequencies, finally leading to the scam of about 1.763 trillion rupees as estimated by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. India with 281 zonal licenses and 22 telecom zones, the telecommunication ministry allows the companies to start a spectrum that accounts along with the license provided to the company, and it was provided on a first come first serve basis instead of transparent auction, at the earlier time of 2008(Beri, 2012). This was the reason that made high officials and businessmen enter into the scam for the 2G spectrum. When IT Minister Mr.A. Raja and his associates were accused of the bribe in 2G, and upon investigation by the CBI, the accuse was accepted and the IT Minister Mr.A. Raja resigned his job for the crime of 700 Billion USD (Findlay & Christopher, 2013).

NEUTRALIZATION THEORY AND GRAFT

Greshman Sykes and David Matza's Neutralization theory is the theory which makes the individuals in the official posts or others who support them to lose the hope on the sense of morality and its techniques include irresponsibility, denial of victim and injury, appeal to higher officials, condemnation of condemners ("Neutralization theory"). Corruption is usually neutralized by rationalism, and buying or giving corruption is not a crime and it is not against the moral values but is just a shortcut for the work to be done quickly (Henderson, 2008).

The graft is also one of the techniques for corruption. It is the process of taking advantage of the office and its trust for unfair personal gain and luxury" ("graft"). It is said as the 'enormous tax' on the economy by (Manuel). When this process is corrected, most of the issues regarding that of the corruption can be demolished as this increases the income inequalities, public anger; leading to increasing the gap and bridge between the people and the government(Manuel, 2016). Thus the damage and cracks caused due to corruption have to be rectified to recreate the society with corruption free living.

CONTROL OF CORRUPTION IN INDIA

India is found to be corrupt and in accordance with the Transparency International, it is utilized very less to find the happenings. Most people blame that cause for India's corruption system is because of the business licensing that was on effect from the 1950s through the 1980s, but these people have to note a thing that Pakistan, even without this kind of licensing system ranks in corruption. India's nationalist movement because of Mahatma Gandhi was observed moral for anticorruption drives in 1974–1975 but in 2011 and in later corruption continues due to either government or capitalism losing civic faith.

To eradicate the corruption that spreads all over the country, many preventive measures were taken by many of the leaders but the most notable measure was the demonetization process that was put forward by the Prime minister of India, Narendra Modi by November 2016. This step was taken by him to put an end to the circulating black money in India for centuries, as this money stick to the economy of India as parasites, putting back the social and economic growth scale. So, he replaced the old five hundred and thousand rupees currency notes with the new ones but there prevailed a great challenge in this transition of the system for balancing leading to chaos as preplanned coordination was lacking with the Reserve Bank of India and in distributing the new currency notes to banks and ATMs.

As reported by (Bhatnagar, 2003), a step ahead to control the corruption was taken where, the rural property, and its records are found to be published online, that increased its rate of access and updating, that obviously deduced the bribe demand and acceptation by the local officials. Similarly, the influence of the electronic system played its best role in the electronic land record system of Bhoomi, Karnataka, India. This have rescued the lives of almost 7 million farmers where 806 million rupees was on bribe estimation for several years. During the early stages, rupees 100 was the bribe for an average land transfer but when the system was made online through an electronic system, the fee became rupees 2 as per the reports of (World Bank, 2004).

CHAOS OD DEMONETIZATION

India due to its high population and cash- flow country, to avoid the scarcity of the money, people usually have five hundred and thousand rupees notes at home usually to meet their financial needs. But this

overnight step of demonetization affected the people who rely on the cash other than that of the digital or virtual money who have their livestock on a daily basis of income. Moreover, the main accuse created due to the individual's limit that was drawn for exchange or withdraw from their corresponding bank accounts as the new currency notes were not filled either in the banks nor the ATMs. This resulted in forming long lines and chains for withdrawing money outside banks and ATMs causing irritation of mood and frustration. Petrol and diesel bunks, hospitals, medical shops were given leniency for a particular period of time, for accepting the old notes.

STEP FOR A CHANGE IN THE LIVESTOCK IN INDIA

The whole society in India in terms of corruption is either willing or unwilling participants. A corruption project becomes successful only when there is both active and passive i.e., a seller and buyer of money or any form of corruption. Though the government is responsible for the officials who demand the bribe, it is the citizens; business individuals who are ready to suffice their demands that make them fly the flag for their demands indirectly or directly. So, a single individual change in his/her thought to either provide or require bribe is once abolished, then the chains of corruption become weaker gradually and then the chains can be broken when the fruit ripens.

As studied from Transparency International's Global Corruption Barometer, many people who have the power to speak about corruption and whose words can each much people stay quiet because they are not ready to face consequences form the parties who involve in the concerned corruption. This fear is the target for corruption.

Corruption is bounty found in vast areas like politics and government sectors, educational sectors, private business sectors, health care and development, food, and water, poverty, banking, defense, and security. Though corruption does not have a specific definition but has strong imposing meaning in the living standard of the people. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) scales up corruption by its impression at different areas, where petty corruption that occurs at street level also comes under the list of everyday corruption, where common ordinary citizens deal with the middle-level public officials but grand corruption involves with large sum of money flow but its impact on the country's development is hike(A Users' Guide to Measuring Corruption). UNDP insists that corruption covers the areas of 'public' officials and their duties, but the term should be extended also the private fields even where the corruption dances on each head. For instance, a professor who may accept money or any other favors for providing a higher grade for the students as reported by (Granovetter, 2007). Every citizen knows that 'Integrity' is a term that depicts the morality and its strategical values and it is a positive label and people welcome it but the term 'corruption' is a negative label where it is forced to do so. It is nothing but the deviation of the people from their conduct of being moral (De Graaf, 2007).

CONCLUSION

India is the largest democratic country in the world, has high plaque rates for corruption and when deeply analyzed, the independent causes and factors that encourage this economic deteriorating practice, were found to be due to a) personal b) cultural c) institutional and d) organizational causes. The personal causes include greed, no belief in service and ethical sense, lack of awareness or courage against corruption when the particular candidates are employed in public or private sectors. The cultural causes include the cultural environments that demand corruption and do not show transparency regarding the money dealing mainly at the institution level. The institutional causes include regulations and inefficient controls, lagging judicial procedures. Organisational causes include immorality to demolishing corruption and assault thoughts or downplay regarding these corruption charges (Mele, 2014).

Though we speak in various aspects to wash out corruption, it is not possible to keep our hands in all fields where corruption occurs, but measures that may provide a change in all fields can be followed which is nothing but the tuning of the attitude of the people that show great impact on the culture of the corruption which changes the structure completely. This step may provide change because most of the population just resist or have no way other than tolerating the corruption and have no interest in giving corruption. For instance, if a police officer asks for a bribe to whitewash the incident, the people do not even raise their face against it but instead provides the bribe as this was set as a custom and daily life happenings in the society. This is the common Indian man's mindset and attitude towards bribe. So, there is a necessary shift in the attitude and view of the people for changing the system of corruption as only people are being cheated in this strategy.

REFERENCE

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