

Analysis on the kinds and Causes of corruption in India

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Abstract: The corruption is an often used, but very rarely defined phenomenon of the social life. Corruption or level of corruption is widely used in public discourse and usually hold a two fold common-sense meaning. On one hand it stands for those illegal practices, in which citizens or organizations bribe officials in charge for awarding permissions, contracts, or to escape punishment or fines for offences they committed. In a simpler definition: Corruption is to obtain privileges against law or against the rules of some bureaucracy. This is the narrow definition of corruption. Many scholars argue, however, that corruption is a broader phenomenon, or rather, a hardly definable set of phenomena, including achieving several advances through personal networking; paying gratitude money or giving gifts for usual services, what are already reimbursed from customers or state resources.

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1.Introduction:

Generally attempts to identify with specific legal moral offences are unlikely to succeed. Perhaps the most plausible candidate is bribery; bribery is regarded by some as the quintessential form of corruption [Noonan 1984 and Prichard 1998]. But what of nepotism/ surely it is also a paradigmatic form of corruption, and one that is conceptually distinct from bribery. The person who accepts a bribe is understood as being required to provide a benefit to the briber, otherwise is not bribe; but the person who is the beneficiary of an act of nepotism is not necessarily understood as being required to return the favour.

In fact, corruption is exemplified by a very wide and diverse array of phenomena of which bribery is only one kind, and nepotism another. Paradigm cases of corruption include the following. The commissioner of taxation channels public monies into his personal bank account, thereby corrupting the public financial system. A political party secures a majority vote by arranging for ballot boxes to be stuffed with false voting papers, thereby corrupting electoral process. A police officer fabricates evidence in order to secure conviction, thereby corrupting the judicial process. A number of doctors close ranks and refuse to testify against the colleague who they know has been negligent in relation to an unsuccessful surgical operation leading to lose of life; institutional accountability procedures are thereby undermined. A sports trainer provides the athletes he trains with banned substance in order to enhance their performance, thereby subverting the institutional rules laid down to ensure fair competition. It is self-

evident that none of these corrupt actions are instances of bribery.

As it happens, there is at least one further salient strategy for demarcating the boundaries of corrupt acts. Implicit in much of the literature on corruption is the view that corruption is essentially a legal offence, and essentially a legal offence in the economic sphere. One could seek to identify corruption with economic crime, such as bribery, fraud, and insider trading. To some extent this kind of view reflects the dominance of economically focused material in the corpus of academic literature on corruption. It also reflects the preponderance of proposed economic solutions to the problem of corruption. After all, if corruption is essentially an economic phenomenon, is it not plausible that the remedies for corruption will be economic ones? But many acts of corruption are not unlawful. That paradigm of corruption, bribery, is a case in point. So corruption is not necessary unlawful. This is because corruption is not at bottom simply a matter of law; rather it is fundamentally a matter of morality.

Secondly, Corruption is not necessarily economic in character. An academic who plagiarises the work of others is not committing an economic crime or misdemeanor; and she might be committing plagiarism simply in order to increase her academic status. Academics are more strongly motivated by status, rather than by wealth. Economics is not necessarily involved as an element of the officer's crime or as a motivation. When police do wrong they are often motivated by a misplaced sense of justice, rather than by financial reward. Again, a person in authority motivated by sadistic pleasure who abuses her power by meeting out cruel and unjust treatment

to those subject to her authority is not engaging in an economic crime; and she is not motivated by economic considerations. Many of those who occupy positions of authority are motivated by a desire to exercise power for its own sake, rather than by a desire for financial reward.

Evidence of corruption can be viewed through more than simple cases of unethical government officials taking money from the public purse for their own benefit. It is also seen in dysfunctional government systems, resulting in a loss of public services for ordinary citizens who are often only able to obtain public services in exchange for a bribe, and as a result progress is slowed. For example, if an individual who relies on a drivers' or building license to fulfill his job responsibilities is unable to obtain these documents without paying a bribe, he is unable to do his work, and a portion of economic progress is stalled.

These are examples of public corruption, or the misuse of a public office for personal gain, in which a government official benefits at the expense of ordinary citizens. Public corruption can take place in two manners. The first is the obvious example when officials embezzle public money, like tax dollars or money given by development aid organization, or money that has been earned through public profit making initiatives.

Public corruption also occurs when public systems are dysfunctional and citizens are forced to deliver bribes or other compromises in order to receive public goods or services. If these citizens do not give a bribe, they will not receive the services at all. This type of activity perpetuates poverty, slows economic progress, and international development.

Private corruption, on the other hand, occurs between individuals in the private sector. This includes organized crime, or even the \$20 tip that someone might pay to the busboy to secure the best table in a restaurant. Since this module is designed for parliamentarians, it will focus primarily on the more relevant and greater impact of public corruption.

An important distinction in this regard, is the distinction between human rights violations and corruption. Genocide is a profound moral wrong; but it is not corruption. This is not to say that there is not an important relationship between human rights violations and corruption; on the contrary, there is often a close and mutually reinforcing nexus between them. Consider the endemic corruption and large-scale human rights abuse that have taken place in authoritarian regimes, such as that of Idi Amin in Uganda and that of Suharto in Indonesia. And there is increasing empirical evidence of an admittedly complex casual connection between corruption and

the infringement of subsistence rights; there is evidence, that is, of a casual relation between corruption and poverty. Indeed, some human rights violations are also acts of corruption. For example, wrongfully and unlawfully incarcerating one's political opponent is a human rights violation; but it is also corrupting the political and judicial process. Thus, all different types of corrupt actions have been distinguished from some other types of immoral actions. However, the class of corrupt actions has not been adequately demarcated within the more general class of immoral actions to do so, a definition of corrupt actions is needed, specifically for actions of corrupt institutions.

We can conclude that the various currently influential definitions of corruption, and the recent attempts to circumscribe corruption by listing paradigmatic offences, have failed. They failed in large part because the class of corrupt comprises an extremely diverse array of types of moral and legal offences.

While discussing the different types of corruption, an important distinction must be made between administrative corruption and political corruption. Administrative corruption is corruption that alters the implementation of policies, such as getting a license even if you do not qualify for it. Political corruption, on the other hand, influences the formulation of laws, regulations, and policies such as revoking all licenses and gaining the sole right to operate the beer or gas monopoly. It is also important to distinguish between grand corruption and petty corruption. Grand corruption involves substantial amounts of money and usually high-level officials, while petty corruption involves smaller sums and typically more junior officials. With grand corruption highly placed individuals exploit their positions to extract large bribes from national and transnational corporations, who appropriate significant payoffs from contract scams, or who embezzle large sums of money from the public treasury into private bank accounts. It is also when politicians design legislation to work in their favor. Grand corruption mostly occurs in large procurement projects such as the building of roads, dams, hospitals, airports, mining, oil/gas concessions, construction projects and in arms and defense contracts, in new weapons technology, aircraft purchase, warships, and artillery pieces. Grand corruption involving public officials is referred to as kleptocracy. Petty corruption, on the other hand, is the low level corruption that citizens will face every day in their encounters with corrupt public officials, in the struggle to obtain public services such as health care, education, paying taxes, and obtaining licenses.

This type of corruption is referred to as petty because the amount of money required in petty corruption is lower. However, even though the sums are low in stand-alone cases, petty corruption will often add up to quite a large sum of money. So even in case where there is very little grand corruption with the elite, a large amount of petty corruption in the lower offices of government or outside of government can do just as much harm, if not more.

The primary classifications of corruption include bribery, nepotism, embezzlement, fraud, clientelism, and rent-seeking. All of these shady behaviors can occur among people in government positions, positions of leadership in the private sector, and among ordinary citizens. It is important to understand what these actions and behaviors are and to recognize when they occur so that parliamentarians and parliamentary staff can recognize them as negative and learn how to avoid participating in them.

Bribery is the form of corruption that receives the greatest share of reference. It is the essence of corruption. Bribery is an offer of money or favors to influence a public official and can come in the form of a fixed sum, a certain percentage of a contract, or any other favor in money in kind, usually paid to a state official or business person who can make contracts on behalf of the state or business or otherwise distribute benefits to companies or individuals, businessmen and clients. Sometimes the concept of bribery can be hidden under the guise of other terms such as kickbacks, gratuities, sweeteners, commercial arrangements, hush money, pay-offs, and milking. In all cases, these words explain payments that serve to make things pass more swiftly, smoothly and more favorably between two parties who are, in the case of this module, the government and an outside party. Through bribery corporations and businesspersons can buy political favors, escape the burden of taxes and environmental regulations, and buy protected markets and monopolies, and import/export licenses. Bribery can also be a form of informal taxation when public officials charge additional unofficial payments or expect gifts from clients in order to process a request. Through bribery business interests can also buy political favors and, for example, escape the full burden of taxation and environmental regulations, buy protected markets and monopolies, import and export licenses, and gain access to large state contracts on capital goods or major civil engineering projects. All of these activities compromise free competition and disturb the national economy. (For more information on ethics violations, see the Ethics Module in this series.)

Nepotism is another common form of corruption that occurs when officials favor relatives

or close friends for positions in which they hold some decision-making authority. This type of favoritism is the natural human proclivity to give preferential treatment to friends and families, and occurs in both the public and private sectors. For example, imagine that a student is the headmaster's nephew and his teachers report low marks for his classes. If the headmaster changes the low marks to high marks, he has fallen victim to the temptations of nepotism. Or conceptualize an elected official who comes to office and fills the posts in the executive branch with his under-qualified friends and family rather than qualified people who apply for the posts. The official is also guilty of nepotism. In the case of the young student, he will likely not learn well the content of the lesson put to him by his teacher, will lose a level of academic self-esteem, and learns that you need not work hard to get ahead, but to have connections to people of power. In the case of the political positions granted to under-qualified friends, the fate of the nation is hampered since unqualified people will be guiding policy and national decision-making process.

Furthermore, there is less likely to be a balance of power since the political staff may follow the ideas of the person who gave them the position. As a result, the quality of services provided to the people will be diminished.

Clientelism is at the heart of how corruption is spread through the government. It is characterized by "patron-client" relationships in which relatively powerful and rich "patrons", in the case of parliamentarians, political candidates, promise to provide relatively powerless and poor "clients" with benefits, such as jobs, protection or infrastructure, in exchange for votes. These relations are corrupt because they exploit the poor or disenfranchised to become indebted to the elected, for work that is a part of his job responsibilities. Thus, the democratic principles that define the political process are reduced. The problem is further exaggerated when clients are not only fed promises, but coerced and intimidated so that control is maintained. Furthermore, some politicians fail to deliver on their promises. Obviously, when the criminal behavior of theft is committed by a person of power, they should be convicted just as an ordinary citizen would.

Embezzlement occurs when public officials steal money or other government property, or when disloyal employees steal from their employers in the public and private sectors. When embezzlement occurs in the public sector it affects the innocent citizens because public officials misappropriate resources meant for public services. Embezzlement is not limited to money, but includes all goods that were meant for the people. Sometimes parliamentarians and parliamentary staff, among other public figures,

will participate in embezzlement in subtle or accidental ways. When, for example, they forge receipts, or use government property or personnel for personal, unofficial use. In all cases of embezzlement, the public is deprived. Often, though, citizens do not know they are and do not know their legal rights. Therefore, in order to overcome embezzlement, many governments instill an independent judiciary with the legal capacity to stymie embezzlement. When public embezzlement occurs, it disturbs the balance of the national budget and cheats people of the goods and services to which they are entitled by virtue of their citizenship.

2.Lack of effective management and organization:

Due to mismanagement and de-organization, there is a weak control on various departments and their working. This leads to lack of coordination and control among departments and levels of organization. This uncontrolled and unsupervised administration gives rise to corruption on large scale. Besides, appointment of inefficient and incapable managers and executives on various levels of hierarchy also leads to mismanagement and misorganisation. The only cause of this wrong appointment is corruption. Hence, corruption breeds corruption.

3. Lack of economical stability:

Economical crisis and price hike are major causes of corruption. Economical crisis leads to unemployment and change in standard of living. It develops a feeling of insecurity in the minds of affected people. Most of the people do not have patience and courage to face this situation. In order to regain their employment and to maintain standard of living and status, this affected people engage themselves in illegal and immoral activities. They do not want to work hard again for achieving the same position and post. They use various illegal short cuts.

4.Lack of effective leadership:

Good leaders can only lead people towards growth, development and progress. They play significant role in eradication of social evils. In India, there is tremendous shortage of good leaders. Leaders convey message of citizens to the administration and government. They lead the people against corruption and social evils. A country cannot survive without honest and sincere leaders. There is urgent need of leaders like Mahatma Gandhiji. We need more Anna Hazares and Medha patkars.

5.Lack of support:

There are few good leaders in India. They strive hard to eradicate corruption from the society. But due

to lack of support and cooperation from people, the voice and efforts of these great leaders are often suppressed. People of India are more concerned with their life than the development and protection of their country against social evils. Many citizens have accepted corruption as a part of their life. They think, it is useless and waste of time, to support leaders against corruption.

6.Lack of values:

Home and educational institution play a significant role in character building of citizens. Moral values are only taught in most of these institutions. But, they are not properly inculcated in individual. This is the basic cause of corruption. Many parents and teachers do not practise what they preach. Hence, their preaching does not bring out desired results. Children imitate parents. If parents are corrupt, it is more likely that children will also become corrupt.

7.Lack of love for country:

Due to rapid modernisation and globalisation, people are becoming more and more selfish. They are only concerned with self enrichment and wealth accumulation. The only objective of many Indian is to become rich as soon as possible. They consider themselves as patriotic just by celebrating independence and republic day. They do not know the actual meaning of patriotism. They are not concerned with development of nation and rights of others. Due to this attitude, they easily get involved in corruption and immoral activities. many politically affiliated citizens damage and destroy public property.

8.Lack of proper system:

In India, corruption exists in all levels and areas of system. Very few honest people survive in this corrupt system. Those who raise their voice against corruption are killed or forced to resign. This accelerates the growth of corruption. Most of the people involved in Indian system have take corruption as part and parcel of their duties. They don't have hatred or ill feeling towards corruption. They think that without it, we cannot survive and sustain in this system. Besides, systems are interrelated and interdependent. As a result, corruption spreads like tumour.

9.Lack of satisfaction:

Greed results from non-satisfaction. People are not satisfied with their current status, position and wealth. They want to become millionaire in a short span of time. Growth and richness is not bad. But it is sad to see that the Indian are adopting illegal and

immoral ways to achieve them. Many Indians are engaged in unhealthy competitions of wealth accumulation (with relatives, colleagues).

10.Lack of autonomy:

Establishment and expansion of private and business sector depend on approval of politician. Many politician misuse their authority and power. They have only one criterion for approval "Pay us otherwise you will not get paid". Entrepreneurs consider bribery as tax like other official taxes. Bribery has become necessary for the establishment of organisation. Companies and contractors secure contracts and government projects due to bribe. Good quotations and work of company does not considered to be criteria for securing contracts.

Discussion:

In India, some agencies are working day and night to stop corruption. But some officials of these agencies get tempted towards illegal commissions and leave corrupt people without any penalty and punishment. Corruption breeds corruption. To keep a check on numbers of people, more agencies and more honest officials are required. Hence, there is a tremendous shortage of these agencies and officials.

In private sector, employer decides salary and employment benefits. He has complete freedom and there is no pressure on him from government. Due to this fact, many employers pay less for more work. They exploit employees of their companies. Even the working conditions in most of the establishments are worse. Employee does not have any social security and retirement benefits. Employees get frustrated and adopt illegal means to make their earnings better and future secure. Many unemployed educated youth fall prey to corruption. They are willing to pay huge amount for jobs. Many employer take undue advantage of this situation. They take bribe and give appointment letters. The appointed employee uses all means (legal and illegal) to recover his lost money as early as possible. Hence, Corruption breeds

corruption. When these employees achieve power and authority. They take bribe from candidates for jobs. These tradition of corruption continues from generation to generation without any check and control.

In order to fulfill dreams and ambitions of their children, parents pay huge donation to secure admission for their children. Hence, the basis of admission is not merit but money. Management use maximum utilization of quota granted to them. Every year there is a increase in donation amount. Affluent students who secured less percentage in examinations, easily gets admissions by paying huge donations. Poor students who secured good percentage struggle day and night to get admissions. Many a time their efforts go in vain due to lack of seats and more number of applicants.

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