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(भारत सरकार का एक उपक्रम, रेल मंत्रालय)

RailTel Corporation of India Ltd.
(A Government of India Undertaking, Ministry of Railways)



सतर्कता बुलेटिन
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सत्यमेव जयते

राष्ट्रपति

भारत गणतंत्र

PRESIDENT

REPUBLIC OF INDIA



MESSAGE

I am happy to know that Vigilance Awareness Week is being observed by the Central Vigilance Commission from 31st October to 5th November, 2016 on the theme "Public participation in promoting integrity and eradicating corruption".

Anti-corruption efforts cannot be successful without the active participation of all stakeholders, especially the public at large. It is, therefore imperative that public be made aware of the need for their involvement in such efforts. The observance of such events helps in generating greater awareness among the citizens about the cancer of corruption and the need to make greater efforts to combat it. Public participation in eradicating corruption would go a long way in ensuring integrity, transparency and accountability in public life.

I call upon all citizens to join and actively participate in the movement against corruption. I wish the activities being organized in connection with the Vigilance Awareness Week all success.

(Pranab Mukherjee)

New Delhi
October 14, 2016



सत्यमेव जयते

प्रधान मंत्री

Prime Minister

MESSAGE

I am happy to learn that Vigilance Awareness Week is being observed this year from the 31st October to 5th November.

I am also pleased to note that the Central Vigilance Commission has chosen "Public participation in promoting integrity and eradicating corruption," as this year's theme. I am sure, the observance of Vigilance Awareness Week on this theme shall help highlight the importance of public alertness and awareness in curbing administrative malpractices, and providing good governance.

On this occasion, I convey my best wishes for the success of Vigilance Awareness Week.

(Narendra Modi)

New Delhi

10 October, 2016

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सत्यमेव जयते



केन्द्रीय सतर्कता आयोग
CENTRAL VIGILANCE COMMISSION

सतर्कता भवन, जी.पी.ओ. कॉम्प्लेक्स,
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फ./No.....016/VGL/030.....

दिनांक / Dated.....10th October, 2016

MESSAGE


Vigilance Awareness Week 31st October to 5th November, 2016


Central Vigilance Commission, as part of its efforts for probity in public life and to achieve a corruption free society, observes Vigilance Awareness Week every year. The observance of Vigilance Awareness Week renews our commitment to achieve the goals of promoting integrity, transparency and accountability in public life. The Commission, therefore, lays greater emphasis on generation of awareness among the public as a more effective and sustainable means of fighting corruption.

'Public participation in promoting Integrity and eradicating Corruption' has been chosen as the theme for Vigilance Awareness Week this year by the Commission. We need to have zero tolerance to corruption for taking the economic growth to needy sections of the society. Although various anti-corruption agencies strive to address the problem of corruption, their efforts cannot be accomplished without the active participation of all the stakeholders. It is, therefore, imperative that an aware, active and empowered public is involved in any anti-corruption campaign.

The Commission believes that creation of greater awareness among public and their participation in anti-corruption efforts would strengthen the resolve to eliminate corruption from society. The Commission appeals to all stakeholders for wide participation and all around generation of awareness among all sections of society.


(Dr. J. M. Bhasin)
Vigilance Commissioner


(Rajiv)
Vigilance Commissioner


(K. V. Chowdary)
Central Vigilance Commissioner



सत्यमेव जयते



१९९१ सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार
रेल मंत्रालय, (रिलवे बोर्ड)
रेल भवन, नई दिल्ली-110001
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)
RAIL BHAVAN, NEW DELHI-110001

Message

I am happy to know that RailTel Corporation is bringing out the 9th issue of its Vigilance bulletin during the Vigilance Awareness Week 2016, the theme of which is **“Public participation in promoting integrity and eradicating corruption”**. Participation and awareness of public shall help in curbing malpractices and shall provide good governance.

I am glad to know that RailTel has provided CCTV cameras on all the floors of its Corporate Office building which will certainly help in improving the transparency of the system.

Publication of the vigilance bulletin comprising of articles on various aspects of vigilance shall create awareness amongst public as well as staff. I am both hopeful and confident that this effort of RailTel Vigilance will contribute in eradicating corruption.

(Sunil Mathur)
Adviser(Vigilance)

Message



I am glad to know that Vigilance cell of RaiTel is bringing out 5th issue of its Vigilance bulletin on the occasion of Vigilance Awareness Week being observed on 31st Oct. 2016 to 5th Nov, 2016.

This year the theme is "Public participation in promoting integrity and eradicating corruption". The main purpose of the Vigilance Awareness Week is to spread awareness against the harmful effect of corruption. As per the theme, we are organizing various events not only in the organization but also in the schools/colleges for public awareness and public participation in promoting integrity.

RaiTel has young workforce who are good and transparent in their work. Regular interaction among employees helps to bring clarity and confidence in right decision making.

This issue of Vigilance bulletin, comprising number of articles on various aspects of vigilance, awareness messages, innovative suggestions etc will help in spreading awareness amongst the officers and staff and will make the system more transparent and protective.

I convey my good wishes to the Vigilance cell for bringing out Vigilance bulletin and hope that the bulletin will create interest and discussion among the employees.

A handwritten signature in Hindi script, which reads "राजेश बाहुगुणा". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

(R. K. Bahuguna)

Chairman & Managing Director

Message



CVC has decided that this year Vigilance Awareness Week would be observed on 31st Oct, 2016 to 5th Nov, 2016 and the theme is "Public participation in promoting integrity and eradicating corruption". During the week, RailTel is organizing various events like debate, quiz, poster competition which will generate greater awareness among the officials. Various articles, messages in the vigilance bulletin will also educate the officials in improving the transparency.

During the past one year, certain steps have been taken for bringing in the transparency like CCTV cameras at all the floors of Corporate Office building, issue of rotation transfer policy and other system improvements.

Use of website, social media for conveying theme and various messages will certainly promote the participation of public in combating corruption.

Every individual in the organization has to play role of a vigilance official. We look forward to effective synergy between vigilance initiative and other functional units of RailTel which is very important for a transparent and efficient system. It is also hoped that it will make us more conscious and vigilant.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arun Jain', written in a cursive style.

(Arun Kumar Jain)
Chief Vigilance Officer

PLEDGE

WE THE PUBLIC SERVANTS OF INDIA, DO HEREBY SOLEMNLY PLEDGE THAT WE SHALL CONTINUOUSLY STRIVE TO BRING ABOUT INTEGRITY AND TRANSPARENCY IN ALL SPHERES OF OUR ACTIVITIES. WE ALSO PLEDGE THAT WE SHALL WORK UNSTINTINGLY FOR ERADICATION OF CORRUPTION IN ALL SPHERES OF LIFE. WE SHALL REMAIN VIGILANT AND WORK TOWARDS THE GROWTH AND REPUTATION OF OUR ORGANIZATION. THROUGH OUR COLLECTIVE EFFORTS, WE SHALL BRING PRIDE TO OUR ORGANIZATIONS AND PROVIDE VALUE BASED SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRYMEN. WE SHALL DO OUR DUTY CONSCIENTIOUSLY AND ACT WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOUR.



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Integrity Pledge for Citizens

I believe that corruption has been one of the major obstacles to economic, political and social progress of our country. I believe that all stakeholders such as Government, citizens and private sector need to work together to eradicate corruption.

I realise that every citizen should be vigilant and commit to highest standards of honesty and integrity at all times and support the fight against corruption.

I, therefore, pledge:

- To follow probity and rule of law in all walks of life;
- To neither take nor offer bribe;
- To perform all tasks in an honest and transparent manner;
- To act in public interest;
- To lead by example exhibiting integrity in personal behaviour;
- To report any incident of corruption to the appropriate agency.





Integrity Pledge for Organisations

We believe that corruption has been one of the major obstacles to economic, political and social progress of our country. We believe that all stakeholders such as Government, citizens and private sector need to work together to eradicate corruption.

We acknowledge our responsibility to lead by example and the need to put in place safeguards, integrity frameworks and code of ethics to ensure that we are not part of any corrupt practice and we tackle instances of corruption with utmost strictness.

We realize that as an Organisation, we need to lead from the front in eradicating corruption and in maintaining highest standards of integrity, transparency and good governance in all aspects of our operations.

We, therefore, pledge that:

- We shall promote ethical business practices and foster a culture of honesty and integrity;
- We shall not offer or accept bribes;
- We commit to good corporate governance based on transparency, accountability and fairness;
- We shall adhere to relevant laws, rules and compliance mechanisms in the conduct of business;
- We shall adopt a code of ethics for all our employees;
- We shall sensitise our employees of laws, regulations, etc. relevant to their work for honest discharge of their duties;
- We shall provide grievance redressal and Whistle Blower mechanism for reporting grievances and fraudulent activities;
- We shall protect the rights and interests of stakeholders and the society at large.

PROMOTE INTEGRITY TO CURB CORRUPTION

Arun Kumar Jain
Chief Vigilance Officer

A very simple meaning of vigilance is watchfulness or to bring awareness. But here when we are talking about vigilance, it means we are talking about how to fight against corruption. Corruption includes misuse of power, money and misuse of government property etc. we want to bring corruption at zero level. This can be ensured by watchfulness, caution and vigilance.

Today the Public Sector Undertakings in the country play a significant role in the economic as well as social development of the country. Today these undertakings are no longer regarded as large commercial concerns judged on their commercial results but have in varying degrees wider objectives than commercial concerns in private sector. They deal with tax payers' money and are therefore accountable to Parliament. They are subject to public criticisms and criticisms in the press. Unlike the private commercial organization where individuals count more, in these public undertakings, the systems have to work more than individuals. Under such circumstances, there is a need for a strong vigilance organization in the PSUs with a set of rules to regulate the conduct of the employees of these undertakings.

Vigilance has to be looked upon as one of the essential components of management. It is as important a segment in an organization like Finance, Personnel, Technical and Marketing. If the vigilance set up is effective in an organization, it will certainly ensure the functioning of the other segment like Finance, Personnel, Technical and Marketing in an efficient way. It has therefore to be given a rightful place in the management.

Though the work 'vigilance' is liked neither by an honest officer nor a dishonest officer, yet its absence will be harmful to the organization. It is like a Bitter Pill. For the health of the organization, the Bitter Bill has to be administered. Like a Bitter Pill, the administration of vigilance will taste sour. But in the long run, it will be in the good health of an organization.

The role of vigilance is not to be considered as limited to Vigilance Organization only, it is the responsibility of each & every individual in the organization to play the role of vigilance by demonstrating highest level of integrity.

There are rules, procedures, systems etc. framed to ensure that no scope is left for corruption. Time to time, based on the experience, amendments are also issued to curb corruption. Organizations have also brought in IT to automate the process like e-tendering, ERP for HR, Finance, Procurement, inventory, project monitoring etc. to curb corruption & improve transparency. But, it may be said that

all these procedures could work well only if there is a total commitment and honesty on the part of management in implementing them.

There is a need to promote integrity. Promoting integrity means developing and maintaining an organisational culture or environment that supports ethical conduct. It involves making expectations about individual conduct clear and ensuring the public authority has robust systems, policies and processes in place to support ethical behaviour. Importantly, public authorities need to focus on both the ethical conduct of individual employees and good organisational governance (i.e. performance and accountability).

A comprehensive accountability framework of legislation and policy guides the operations of public authorities and sets standards for employee conduct. As a result, public authorities already have in place many of the governance systems, processes and controls which contribute to promoting integrity and preventing misconduct.

However, building and sustaining good governance and employee integrity requires ongoing attention and effort. Effective leadership and positive organisational cultures enable the implementation of good governance systems and foster employee integrity. CEOs, managers and employees each have a role to play in promoting integrity.

Let us therefore dedicate out selves to be honest to implement the vigilant procedures effectively to make the organization function in an effective way so that it could reach the commanding heights in the economic and social development of the country.

POSITIVE THINKING BEAT THE FEAR OF VIGILANCE BEST GIFT OF NATURE TO US

Yog Raj

Genral Manager/NTP/CO

Positive thinking can be defined as approaching unpleasantness being encountered in life in a more positive and productive manner. Positive thinking is an Optimistic state of mind, which sees the clear side of existence & your actions in life. It strengthens our driving force, and increases our energy levels in Life. A positive frame of brain brings more synchronization and happiness, improves relationships, and attracts success into one's life. We should think the best is going to happen, not the worst. Positive thinking brings inner peace, success, improved relationships, better health, happiness and satisfaction. It also helps the life to move on more smoothly, and makes life look bright and promising.

Effective positive thinking brings much more results than just repeating a few positive words or telling others that everything is going to be all right. Positive thinking may provide the following Health benefits:

- Lower rates of depression
- Lower levels of distress
- Reduced risk of death from cardiovascular disease
- Increased life span
- Greater resistance to the common cold
- Better psychological and physical well-being

Negative thoughts, words and attitude bring up negative and unhappy moods and actions. When the mind is negative, poisons are released into the blood, which cause more unhappiness and negativity. This is the way which leads to failure, frustration and disappointment. If the thoughts that run through the head are mostly negative, the outlook towards life is more likely to be more pessimistic.

On the contrary, if the thoughts are positive, outlook towards life is more likely to be optimistic. Everything we say affects our climate... Good or Bad. Our state of mind determines our behavior. We are the seeds that give birth to the atmosphere surrounding ourselves. It should be the motto of every human being to "Think in a positive way, Talk in a positive manner and Read positive things". We may try to surround our self with posters and cards bearing positive messages, keep them on our working table, hang them on the walls, paste them near the bathroom mirror as well as on the doors, keep them on the refrigerator, have them on the dashboard of the car, slip them under the glass of the table in front of you and slide them in the inner side of the briefcase we carry. We may find other suitable places, where we are bound to look at every day.

Here are a few actions and tips which help us to develop the power of positive thinking:

- Always use only positive words while thinking and while talking. Use words such as, 'I can', 'I am able', 'it is possible', 'it can be done', etc. Allow into your awareness only feelings of happiness, strength and success.
- Try to disregard and ignore negative thoughts. Refuse to think such thoughts and substitute them with constructive happy thoughts.
- In your conversation use words that evoke feelings and mental images of strength, happiness and success.
- Before starting with any plan or action, visualize clearly in your mind its successful outcome. If you visualize with concentration & faith, you will be amazed at the results.
- Read at least one page of inspiring book every day.
- Watch movies that make you feel happy.
- Minimize the time for listening to the news and read the papers.
- Associate yourself with people who think positively.
- Always sit & walk with your back straight. This will strengthen your confidence & inner strength.
- Walk, swim or engage in some other physical activity. This helps to develop a more positive attitude.

Positive thoughts in life results in positive things happening in our life and those around us. Introducing positives into our life is the only way we will be able to counter act these forces and begin to acquire what we really desire in life. The brightest future will always be based on a forgotten past, we can't go on well in life until we let go of our past failures and heartaches. Last but not the least things in our lives to be happy which everyone is looking for especially in this day and time with all the turmoil and confusion going around, we should give priority to our relationship with God, whose presence brings peace and stability in our lives and causes people to share with us and be a part of our life.

Finally, positive thinking also plays a very important role in overcoming the fear of vigilance or for that matter responding to any query from Vigilance. Any action which is a result of positive thinking is normally full of conviction and accordingly is very easy to convince anybody / everybody including Vigilance of the action taken. Therefore, it would be noticed that normally actions / decisions of positive thinking people are not taken up by Vigilance as they also get convinced of the decision / action taken. It is only in the case of action / decision of negative thinking people which lacks conviction that Vigilance normally takes up for further punitive action.

Thus, Think Negative and Beware of Vigilance and Think Positive and beat the Fear of Vigilance.

VARIOUS PROVISIONS IN INDIAN PENAL CODE AND PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION ACT, 1988 FOR BETTER VIGILANCE ADMINISTRATION

Alok Sinha,
Manager / Vigilance / CO

1.0 INDIAN PENAL CODE

1.1 Public Servant unlawfully engaging in trade (Sec. 168)

Whoever, being a public servant, and being legally bound as public servant not to engage in trade, engages in trade, shall be punished with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both. (Non-Cognizable and bailable).

1.2 Public Servant unlawfully buying or bidding for property (Sec. 169)

Whoever, being a public servant, and being legally bound as such public servant, not to purchase or bid for certain property, purchases or bids for that property, either in his own name or in the name of another, or jointly, or in shares with others, shall be punished with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both; and the property, if purchased, shall be confiscated. (Non-cognizable and bailable).

1.3 Issuing or Signing false certificate (Sec. 197)

Whoever, issues or signs any certificate required by law to be given or signed, or relating to any fact of which such certificate is by law admissible in evidence, knowing or believing that such certificate is false in any material point, shall be punished in the same manner as if he gave false evidence (Sec. 197).

1.4 Criminal Breach of Trust by Public Servant, or by Banker, merchant or agent (Sec. 409)

Whoever, being in any manner entrusted with property, or any dominion over property in his capacity of a Public Servant or in the way of his business as a banker, merchant, factor, broker, attorney or agent, commits criminal breach of trust in respect of that property shall be punished with imprisonment for life, or with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to ten years, and shall also be liable to fine (Cognizable and non-bailable).

1.5 Making a false document (Sec. 464)

A person is said to make a false document:

Who dishonestly or fraudulently makes, signs, seals or executes a document or part of a document, or makes any mark denoting the execution of a document, with the intention of causing it to be believed that such document

or part of a document was made, signed, sealed or executed by or by the authority of a person by whom or by whose authority he knows that it was not made, signed, sealed or executed, or at a time at which he knows that it was not made, signed, sealed or executed; or

Who, without lawful authority, dishonestly or fraudulently, by cancellation or otherwise, alters a document in any material part thereof, after it has been made or executed either by himself or by any other person, whether such person be living or dead at the time of such alteration; or Who dishonestly or fraudulently causes any person to sign, seal, execute or alter a document, knowing that such person by reason of unsoundness of mind or intoxication cannot, or that by reason of deception practiced upon him, he does not know the contents of the document or the nature of the alteration.

1.6 Using as genuine a forged document (Sec. 471)

Whoever, fraudulently or dishonestly uses as genuine any document which he knows or has reason to believe to be forged document, shall be treated as if he had forged such document, shall be treated as if he had forged such document.

1.7 Falsification of accounts (Sec. 477 A)

Whoever, being a clerk, officer or servant, or employed or acting in the capacity of a clerk, officer or servant, willfully, and with intent to defraud, destroys, alters, mutilates or falsifies any book, paper, writing, valuable security or account which belongs to or is in the possession of his employer, or has been received by him for or on behalf of his employer, or willfully, and with intent to defraud, makes or abets the making of any false entry in, or omits or alters or abets the omission or alteration of any material particular from or in, any such book, paper, writing, valuable security or account, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to seven years, or with fine, or with both.

Explanation :-

It shall be sufficient in any charge under this section to allege a general intent to defraud without naming any particular person intended to be defrauded or specifying any particular person intended to be defrauded or specifying any particular sum of money intended to be the subject of the fraud, or any particular day on which the offence was committed.

1.8 Property in possession of wife (Sec. 27)

When property is in the possession of a person's wife, clerk or servant, on account of that person, it is in that person's possession within the meaning of this code.

2.0 PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION ACT, 1988

The Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 has come into force w.e.f. 9th September, 1988. Prevention of Corruption Act, 1947, the Criminal Law Amendment Act 1952 and Sec. 161 to Sec. 165A of IPC stand deleted.

2.1 Public Servant taking gratification other than legal remuneration in respect of an official act (Sec. 7)

Whoever, being or expecting to be a Public Servant, accepts or obtains or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain from any person, for himself or for any other person, any gratification whatever, other than legal remuneration, as a motive or reward for doing or forbearing to do any official act or for showing or forbearing to show, in the exercise of his official functions, favour or disfavor to any person or for rendering or attempting to render any service or disservice to any person with the Central Government or any State Government or Parliament or the Legislature of any State or with any Local Authority, Corporation or Government Company referred to in clause (c) of Section 2, or with any public servant whether named or otherwise, shall be punishable with imprisonment, which shall be not less than six months but which may extend to five years and shall also be liable to fine.

Explanations: -

- (a) "Expecting to be a Public Servant". If a person not expecting to be in office obtains a gratification by deceiving others into a belief that he is about to be in office, and that he will then serve them, he may be guilty of cheating, but he is not guilty of the offence defined in this section.
- a. "Gratification". The word "gratification" is not restricted to pecuniary gratifications or to gratification estimable in money.
- b. "Legal remuneration". The words "Legal remuneration" are not restricted to remuneration which a public servant can lawfully demand, but include all remuneration which he is permitted by the Government or the Organization, which he serves, to accept.
- c. "A motive or reward for doing". A person who receives a gratification as a motive or reward for doing what he does not intend or is not in a position to do or has not done comes within this expression.
- d. Where a public servant induces a person erroneously to believe that his influence with the Government has obtained a title for that person and thus induces that person to give the public servant, money or any other gratification as a reward for this service, the public servant has committed an offence under this section.

2.2 Taking gratification, in order, by corrupt or illegal means, to influence public servant (Sec. 8)

Whoever, accepts or obtains, or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain, from any person, for himself or for any other person, any gratification whatever as a motive or reward for inducing, by corrupt or illegal means, any public servant, whether named or otherwise, to do or to forbear to do any official act, or in the exercise of the official functions of such public servant to show favour or disfavor to any person, or to render or attempt to render any service or disservice to any person, with the Central Government or any State Government or Parliament or the Legislature of any State or with any local authority, Corporation or Government Company referred to in Clause (c) of Section 2, or with any public servant, whether named or otherwise, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall be not less than six months but which may extend to five years and shall also be liable to fine.

2.3 Taking gratification for exercise of personal influence with public servant (Sec. 9)

Whoever accept or obtains or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain, from any person, for himself or for any other person, any gratification, whatever, as a motive or reward for inducing, by the exercise of personal influence, any public servant whether named or otherwise to do or to forbear to do any official act, or in the exercise of the official functions of such public servant to show favour or disfavor to any person, or to render or attempt to render any service or disservice to any person with the Central Government or any State Government or Parliament or the Legislature of any State or with any local authority, corporation or Government company referred to in clause (c) of Section 2, or with any public servant, whether named or otherwise, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall be not less than six months, but which may extend to five years and shall also be liable to fine.

2.4 Punishment for abetment by public servant of offences defined in Section 8 or 9 (Sec. 10)

Whoever, being a public servant, in respect of whom either of the offences defined in Section 8 or Section 9 is committed, abets the offence, whether or not that offence, is committed in consequence of that abetment, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall be not less than six months but which may extend to five years and shall also be liable to fine.

2.5 Public Servant obtaining valuable things, without consideration from person concerned in proceeding or business transacted by such public servant (Sec. 11)

Whoever being a public servant, accepts or obtains or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain for himself, or for any other person, any valuable thing without consideration, or for a consideration which he knows to be, inadequate, from any person whom he knows to have been, or to be, or to be likely to be concerned in any proceeding or business transacted or about to be transacted by such public servant, or having any connection with the

official functions of himself or of any public servant to whom he is subordinate, or from any person whom he knows to be interested is related to the person so concerned shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall be not less than six months but which may extend to five years and shall also be liable to fine.

2.6 Criminal misconduct by a public servant (Sec. 13)

A public servant is said to commit the offence of criminal misconduct: -

- (a) If he habitually accepts or obtains or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain from any person for himself or for any other person any gratification other than legal remuneration as a motive or reward such as is mentioned in Section 7; or
- (b) If he habitually accepts or obtains or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain for himself or for any other person, any valuable thing without consideration or for a consideration which he knows to be inadequate from any person whom he knows to have been or to be, or to be likely to be concerned in any proceeding or business transacted or about to be transacted by him, or having any connection with the official functions of himself or of any public servant to whom he is subordinate or from any person whom he knows to be interested in or related to the person so concerned; or
- (c) If he dishonestly or fraudulently misappropriates or otherwise converts for his own use any property entrusted to him or under his control as a public servant or allows any other person so to do; or
- (d) If he,
 - (i) By corrupt or illegal means, obtains for himself or for any other person any valuable thing or pecuniary advantage; or
 - (ii) By abusing his position as a public servant, obtains for himself or for any other person any valuable thing or pecuniary advantage; or
 - (iii) While holding office as a public servant, obtains for any person any valuable thing or pecuniary advantage without any public interest; or
- (e) If he or any person on his behalf, is in possession or has, at any time during the period of his offence, been in possession for which the public servant cannot satisfactorily account, or pecuniary resources or property disproportionate to his known sources of income.

Explanation:

For the purpose of this section, “known sources of income” means income received from any lawful source and such receipt has been intimated in accordance with the provisions of any law, rules or orders for the time being applicable to a public servant.

2.7 Act to be in addition to any other law (Sec. 28)

The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to, and not in derogation of any other law for the time being in force, and nothing contained herein shall exempt any public servant from any proceeding which might, apart from this Act, be instituted against him.

3.0 VIGILANCE MATTERS: IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

3.1 Movable Property : The words “Movable Property” are intended to include corporeal property of every description except land and things attached to the earth or permanently fastened to any thing which is attached to the earth (Sec. 22)

3.2 Wrongful gain : is gain by unlawful means of property to which the person gaining is not legally entitled (Sec. 23)

3.3 Wrongful loss : is the loss by unlawful means of property to which the person losing it is legally entitled (Sec. 23)

3.4 Dishonestly : Whoever does anything with the intention of causing wrongful gain to one person or wrongful loss to another person is said to do that thing dishonestly (Sec. 24)

3.5 Fraudulently : A person is said to do a thing ‘fraudulently’ if he does that thing with intent to defraud but not otherwise (Sec. 25)

3.6 Valuable Security : It denote a document which is, or purports to be, a document whereby any legal right is created, extended, transferred, restricted, extinguished or released or whereby any person acknowledged that he lies under legal liability, or has not a certain legal right (Sec. 30)

3.7 Good faith : Nothing is said to be done or believed in “Good faith” which is done or believed without due care and attention (Sec. 52)

3.8 Abetment : A person abets the doing of a thing, who

- (i) Instigates any person to do that thing; or
- (ii) Engages with one or more other person or persons in any conspiracy for

the doing of that thing, if an act or illegal omission takes place in pursuance of that conspiracy, and in order to the doing of that thing; or
(iii) Intentionally aids, by any act or illegal omission, the doing of that thing.

Explanation 1 :

A person who, by willful misrepresentation, or by willful concealment of a material fact which he is bound to disclose, voluntarily causes or procures, or attempts to cause or procure, a thing to be done, is said to instigate the doing of that thing.

Explanation 2 :

Whoever, either prior to or at the time of the commission of an act, does anything in order to facilitate the commission of that act, and thereby facilitates the commission thereof is said to act the doing of that act (Sec. 107)

3.9 Attempt : Attempt to commit an offence can be said to begin when the preparations are complete and the culprit commences to do something with the intention of committing the offence the moment he commences to do an act with the necessary intention, he commences his attempt to commit the offence (Sec. 511)

3.10 Forgery : Whoever makes any false document or part of a document with intent to cause damage or injury, to the public or to any person, or to support any claim or title, or to cause any person to part with property or to enter into any express or implied contract, or with intent to commit fraud or that fraud may be committed, commits forgery.

3.11 Public Duty : means a duty in the discharge of which the State, the public or the community at large has an interest. State includes a corporation established by or under a Central, Provincial or State Act or an authority or a body owned or controlled or aided by the government or a Government Company as defined in Sec. 617 of the Companies Act, 1956 {Sec. 2(b)}

3.12 Public Servant :

- (i) any person in the service or pay of a corporation established by or under a Central, provincial or State Act, or an authority or a body owned or controlled or aided by the Government or a Government Company as defined in Sec. 617 of the Companies Act, 1956 {Sec. 2(c)(iii)}.
- (ii) Any person who is an office-bearer or an employee of an educational, scientific, social, cultural or other institution, in whatever manner established, receiving or having received any financial assistance from the Central Govt. Or any State govt. or local or other public authority {Sec. 2(a)(i)}.

3.13 Criminal Misconduct : A public servant is said to commit the offence of

criminal misconduct –

- (a) If he habitually accepts or obtains or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain from any person for himself or for any other person, any gratification (other than legal remuneration) as a motive or reward such as is mentioned in Section 161 of the Indian Penal Code, or If he habitually accepts or obtains or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain for himself or for any other person, any valuable thing without consideration or for a consideration which he knows to be inadequate, from any person whom he knows to have been, or to be, or to be likely to be concerned in any proceedings or business transacted or about to be transacted by him, or having any connection with the official functions or himself or of any public servant to whom he is subordinate, or from any person whom he knows to be interested in or related to the person so concerned, or
- (b) If he dishonestly or fraudulently misappropriates or otherwise converts for his own use any property entrusted to him or under his control as a public servant or allows any other person so to do, or
- (c) If he, by corrupt or illegal means or by otherwise abusing his position as public servant, obtains for himself or for any other person any valuable thing or pecuniary advantage, or

If he or any person on his behalf is in possession or has, any time during the period of his office, been in possession, for which the public servant cannot satisfactorily account, of pecuniary resources or property disproportionate to his known sources of income.

*“Fighting corruption is not just good governance.
It’s self defense. It’s patriotism.”
Joe Biden*

*“The duty of youth is to challenge corruption.”
Kurt Cobain.*

*“It is not the Young people that degenerate;
they are not spoiled till those of mature age
are already sunk into corruption.”
Charles De Montesquieu.*

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN PROMOTING INTEGRITY AND ERADICATING CORRUPTION

Ankur Mittal

Manager/Tech/NOC/SC

Probity is the key to achievement and growth. Nature itself signifies the importance of modesty. A tree without leaves stands erect, incapable of providing anything but, a tree loaded with fruits is humble and down to earth.

Importance of Public Participation

Greed is an endemic and epidemic malaise. Corruption is the manifestation of greed. It is pervasive and stifles development. Public participation is required to resist and desist. In today's world of modernization and globalization, active public participation is imperative to fight this menace. As a vision is useless without implementation, mere policy making cannot solve the problem. Policies are important. However, individuals have to come forward to eradicate corruption. Preventing corruption in the first place should be the priority. When people are mired in corruption, solution has to emerge from within the public only. Evil should be nipped in the bud, obviating a wrong doer from becoming a regular offender.

It is well said that "If foundation is weak, the edifice cannot survive". A strong foundation can only be built through integrity. Moral & ethical values should be profound. These could again be inculcated through cultural renaissance. In this era of cut-throat competition, it's easy to lose motivation to work hard. It's important to shun away personal greed and remain steadfast to ethical values.

Awareness and counselling may sound cliché, but indeed is the most effective and powerful tool to bring back hoodwinked individuals. This should be achieved on a massive scale. Gandhism which was forgotten in the rat race is emerging again and needs to be preserved. People should be empowered to work honestly and efficiently. When desires overpower values, we are tempted to cheat. Avoid complacency, work consistently, outfight greed are a few virtues to enrich. It's more important the way we handle success than the success itself.

Active public participation is the most effective and sustainable way in promoting integrity and eradicating corruption.

Innovation is the way

"Innovation is the only way to win", claimed Steve Jobs. Impunity is conspicuous as technology is still to impregnate and reach masses. Existing technologies are tailor-made to distribute conventional resources but to mine the unconventional ones we need novel technology. Humans will constantly evolve both on the biological and the technological scale; therefore, in the global as well as national

context we need to innovate. Preventive and participative approach is always more effective than punitive.

ICT holds the future and the competence to transform. It could be leveraged for India's Digital uprising. Digital India has tremendous potential to capacitate and equip people. ICT should not become hegemony of metropolis or the super nations of the world, only when it is accessible to all, the need for innovation would be fulfilled. ICT for society should be the driving idea of future innovation. Digitisation shall enhance transparency and visibility. Usage of ICT should be incentivised.

For a densely populated, developing country like India, easy access to internet can tap the potential of common man. RailTel has been instrumental to transform citizens to netizens and improve access to internet, also for far-flung and remote areas. It strives to explore newer and innovative ways to enrich the knowledge economy. New verticals like Railwire has been able to dispense high quality & cost-effective broadband solution.

E-governance is the key to accelerate sustainable development and eradicate corruption. Framework of rules & procedures should advance fair play to nurture an egalitarian society.

Small Steps for a Big Change

Tax payer should seek accountability of his money. People should make judicial use of "Right to Information Act". Accessibility has increased by making RTI online. Enormous participation on websites like "ipaidabribe.com" shall assist circumvent the vicious circle of bribery. Web portals to discuss graft and raise awareness need to be created. Colleagues be encouraged to act moral and also criticize wrong doings.

OTT services like e-complaint & e-forums could bring significant positive changes. ICT harnessed in the right form is truly an asset to humans. Platforms to voice opinions should be developed to encourage righteousness and deter malpractices. This shall consequently foster increased participation. Companies & communities should organize seminars, quizzes, skits & exhibitions to promote integrity and eradicate corruption.

Intelligence of our people and large number of youth in India shall spur active public participation. It shall help to find indigenous, affordable and easy to access technology to challenge corruption. To realize the dream of a prosperous nation, rectitude is the virtue and active public participation a tool to accomplish it.

ROLE OF CITIZENS IN ANTI-CORRUPTION

Chaitnya Raj Sharma

Manager/Vigilance/CO

Success in the battle against corruption hinges upon citizen participation in ushering in transparency and accountability. Citizens have a tremendous potential to participate directly and contribute at bringing about change using tools such as moral appeals, exposure and embarrassment, appeals to pride, standing and responsibility besides standing up and playing a key role in exposing wrong doing and non compliances.

An anti-corruption strategy can be successful only if it makes it an obligation for any member of Society who sees corrupt practice being perpetrated to immediately report such a practice. Failure to do so should be tantamount to an offence itself. By virtue of this, there would be an obligation on citizens to actively take part in preventative measures against corruption. Raising awareness on corruption is a duty of every citizen of this country.

Prevention is the best weapon against corruption. While agencies like CVC and ACB etc. are leading the fight against corruption by virtue of their mandates, their success would greatly depend on the complementary mass participation of society as a whole. As large segments of citizens depend on basic services where the government has a strong monopoly, watchful and assertive citizens can exert the right pressure on the government to render these services with high levels of integrity and report instances of corruption. .

The following successful examples of citizen participation in anti corruption efforts are worthy of mention:

- 1) Awareness and building capacity for mobilization through community radio programme called Panchayat Waves in Karnataka.
- 2) Voicing concern through citizens initiative like Research for advocacy like the Report Cards Survey started by the Public Affairs Centre, Bangalore
- 3) Citizen based monitoring and evaluation like budget analysis initiative of Bangalore, peoples charter of Lok Satta, Hyderabad etc
- 4) Joint civil society public sector initiatives in implementation of programmes like low cost housing in urban communities by SPARC, Mumbai,
- 5) Auditing like Jan Sunvai of Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangatan, Rajasthan

- 6) Joint management of sectoral programmes like education guaranty scheme of Madhya Pradesh, forest protection committees of West Bengal, Joint Forest Management of Andhra Pradesh etc.
- 7) Government frameworks for participatory planning like peoples Planning Campaign of Kerala Citizen voice and responsiveness initiatives could position citizens as independent watchdogs.

Some examples are :

1. Citizen oversight committees like committees for works inspection, school committees, hospital advisory boards
2. Open public documents and right to information, publication of procurement prices, tax assessments, arrear lists, list of successful bidders, discretionary grants, successful bids in major contracts, public disclosure of assets and liabilities, criminal record of politicians, election expenditure, government stationery requirements, books short listed for purchase for libraries, tax exemptions, details of works, schemes sanctioned etc,

Citizens' awareness of their rights and responsibilities need to be strengthened substantially.

In order to ensure greater participation of citizens in anti corruption efforts the following should be considered:

Constitution of citizen advisory committees to advise the CVC, ACB and the DG Vigilance and Enforcement;

- Advisory committee of citizens attached to systemic corruption prone departments with persons of absolute integrity and standing without political leanings;
- Citizen committees at the service delivery points like hospitals, schools, hostels etc;
- Citizen committees for inspection of quality of works;
- Periodic survey of service provision and corruption perception through civil society bodies;
- Expert committees for review and evaluation of programmes with the association of Universities, professional agencies etc; and
- Association of citizen groups in the formulation of the anti corruption action plans of departments and their participation in publicizing and implementing it.

CHECKLIST FOR PROCUREMENT CASES

Chaitnya Raj Sharma

Manager/Vigilance/CO

Every Organization should utilize updated 'Procurement Manual' and the tendering process should strictly adhere to provisions of 'Procurement Manual'.

Procurement should be done by keeping in view the various guidelines of the Commission (CVC) on transparency, equity and fairness (available on http://cvc.nic.in/proc_works.htm).

- ✓ Need assessment should be verified. Over-requirement /under-requirement should not be done.
- ✓ Cost estimate should be prepared in realistic & scientific manner after proper market survey and on the basis of Last Purchase Price, if any.
- ✓ Adequate time for bid preparation (at least 3-4 weeks) should be given to bidders.
- ✓ Cost of tender should not be high. Price of the tender document should take care of the preparation and delivering charges only.
- ✓ Open Tendering process should be utilized for high value tenders. Website publicity should be utilized along with press publicity. Tender document in downloadable form should be made available on the website.
- ✓ The enlistment of vendors for Limited Tendering enquiries, if required, should be done through Open Tendering process.
- ✓ It is advisable that tendering is done through Single Stage Two Envelope system. (Single Stage – Technical and Commercial bids are submitted simultaneously).
- ✓ Two Envelope system – Technical and Commercial bids are submitted separately in sealed envelopes). In case of e-procurement also Single Stage Two Envelope system should be utilized.
- ✓ Pre bid conference should be conducted before submission of bids so that queries of bidders are adequately addressed and ambiguities in tender conditions are resolved. Clear cut clarifications on bidder's queries should be given.
- ✓ Various Committees like Bid Opening Committee, Bid Evaluation Committee

etc. comprising of officers from different sections/departments/fields as per 'Delegation of Power' should be constituted.

- ✓ In case of manual collection of bids, the place for submission of bids should be clearly mentioned in tender document and access to this place should be unhindered.
- ✓ Checklist for Procurement Cases, basic eligibility criteria may be verified and recorded.
- ✓ Bid evaluation should be done as per tender conditions. Evaluation should be objective rather than subjective. The credentials of bidders should be properly verified. If possible, feedback from the clients of bidders should be taken for ascertaining the genuineness of their claim.
- ✓ Tender conditions should not be modified after opening of bids as all issues are suppose to be addressed during Pre-bid conference.
- ✓ Post tender negotiation should not be done. In case successful bidder backs out, retendering should be done and EMD of the defaulting entity should be forfeited. As per organizational policy, administrative action (like banning, holiday listing, etc) may be taken against the defaulting bidder.
- ✓ Price bids should be carefully evaluated as per tender conditions.
- ✓ Price bids should be opened in the presence of bidder's representatives. During opening of price bids, overall price quoted by bidders should be encircled, signed by Bid Opening Committee. The price comparative statement should be prepared during the time of price bids opening and shared with the bidders.
- ✓ Tender condition should specifically ask for prices in both WORDS and FIGURES. In case of ambiguity in quoted price, the precedence for consideration should be mentioned in tender document.
- ✓ If bidders are explicitly instructed to quote 'price exclusive of tax', tax component and 'price inclusive of all' separately, then they are supposed to quote all components. The tender condition should handle those cases where the values of 'price exclusive of tax' and 'price inclusive of all' are same in bidder's price bid.
- ✓ The applicability of inter-state / intra-state taxes may be verified with respect to proposed source and destination for supplies.
- ✓ Splitting of tendered quantity among multiple bidders may be utilized, but it

should be ensured that distribution ratio is disclosed upfront in the tender document and is done transparently. Splitting of quantity among all available bidders may be avoided for minimizing the possibility of cartelization.

- ✓ Contract should be finalized within reasonable time period. There should not be delay on flimsy grounds.
- ✓ EMDs of unsuccessful bidders should be returned after conclusion of tendering process within reasonable time.
- ✓ Performance Bank Guarantee or any other Guarantee to be submitted by the contractor/ supplier should be taken as per contract conditions.
- ✓ Technical bids should be opened in the presence of bidder's representatives.
- ✓ The authenticity of and validity should be checked from the issuing bank by calling confirmation from the bank. The Bank Guarantee conditions should be properly verified with respect to tender conditions.
- ✓ Insurance, if any, to be taken from the contractor as per tender conditions, should be verified.
- ✓ Before release of payments, the effect of delay(s), defaults by the supplier, OEM's invoice, inspection report, dispatch note, packing list, etc. should be properly verified.
- ✓ After successful completion of contractual period, the performance related security tool should be timely released.

*“I will not let anyone walk through
my mind with their dirty feet.”*

Mahatma Gandhi

*“If a country is to be corruption free and become a nation
of beautiful minds, I strongly feel there are three
key social members who can make a difference,
The are the father, mother and the teacher.”*

A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Azad.

ARTICLE ON CORRUPTION, POLITICS AND DEMOCRACY

Chetan Sharma
RO/NR

For centuries saints and sages have urged the people to eliminate graft and corruption from private as well as public life; there have been countless sermons against this deep-rooted menace that has eaten into the vitals of society, distorted all values and made mincemeat of morality, truth and virtue. But the evil has grown to gigantic proportions and there is hardly any sphere of social, economic, political and even religious activity that is free from graft, deception and corruption of some kind. Like the air we breathe, it has become all-pervasive and entered every aspect of life to such an extent that it is now regarded as a fact of life and an evil we have to live with. In fact, a time has come when very few eyebrows are raised when we are informed of a case of blatant bribery; it is so common, so usual and all too familiar. We give and take bribes in the sphere of education, government and private service, all branches of administration, trade and commerce, industrial activity; scrupulous honesty is rare; even temples and other places of worship are not free of it. Most of our politicians and legislators indulge in it without any qualms of conscience. Corrupt influence, which is itself the perennial spring of all prodigality and of all disorder; which loads us, more than millions of debt; which takes away vigor from our arms, wisdom from our councils and every shadow of authority and credit from the most vulnerable parts of our Constitution is a fast growing evil. Corruption has continued, and even increased beyond measure, even as democracy has spread and civilisation has advanced; so it can no longer be asserted that democracy and corruption are incompatible; both are developing fast, and simultaneously, and as far as human vision can go this duality will continue. Consequently, the types of corruption have increased a thousand fold; the panorama is vast and baffling and beyond control however loud the talk of anti-corruption measures, stringent laws and of deterrent sentences. Every few years there is much discussion of this problem which is described as the foremost issue in the country; corruption is condemned as a cancer in society, but then there is silence; the flush of enthusiasm fades away and life goes on in the same way. Perhaps, the most ironic comment on the modern channels and type of corruption was by Mr K. Santhanam, Chairman of the Committee for Prevention of Corruption, appointed by the government of India some years ago. The ultimate sources of corruption, according to him, are (a) Ministers, (b) legislators, (c) political parties and (d) industrialists and

merchants who seek favours from these three and are willing to pay for them". This was an indirect admission that bribery and corruption were indeed flourishing among public servants and also the general public.

The observations made by the Committee in this connection are significant, because they stress one of the main sources of graft in the country, and also the fact that this source has not been tackled by the government. There is a large consensus of opinion, said the Committee, that a new tradition of integrity can be established only if the example is set by those who have the ultimate responsibility for the governance of India, namely the ministers of the Central and State governments.

“Corruption, embezzlement, fraud, these are all characteristics which exist everywhere. It is regrettably the way human nature functions, whether we like it or not. What successful economies do is keep it to a minimum. No one has ever eliminated any of that stuff.”

Alan Greenspan.

PROMOTING GOOD GOVERNANCE : POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION OF VIGILANCE

Hemant Yadav
Sr. Manager/Mkt/NR

Governance is the process of taking decision and implementing them for the betterment of the masses and hence the nation as a whole. Good Governance ensures that the entire process of through which citizens receive their services must be of impeccable integrity, fully accountable and hundred percent transparent.

Vigilance is the most important way to ensure good governance as it involves keeping a watchful eye on personnel and promoting integrity and honesty in them. Government employee and bureaucrats besides all other class of citizens, require vigilance because:

- a) Decision making process in public department is slow
- b) There is scope for jumping queues.
- c) Possibilities of negotiations emits
- d) Delay in providing services is detrimental to client as they are very crucial

Hence vigilance can easily deal with corrupt and dishonest personnel so that common man can get speedy delivery of services.

Vigilance in itself is not a process but rather a philosophy that provides:

- a) Accountability and transparency to all works
- b) Reforms decision making process to make it simple
- c) Ensure transparency and open information system (on lines of RTI act)
- d) Punitive action to dishonest officials
- e) Promote and encourage honest personnel.
- f) Create an atmosphere of trust between organization and client which promotes good will.

Vigilance can be a more set of words hung upon the wall.it should be embodied in both play and practice. Vigilance must involve

a) Preventive Vigilance:

- I. Reforming system to ensure faster delivery.
- II. Regular disclosure of all assets and sources of income.
- III. Publication of minutes of all meeting that are directly responsible for any wrong doing.

b) Reactive vigilance :

- I. Punishing corrupt individuals who have abused their authority and through undue influence earned gratification and benefit and hence

provide a loss to the exchequer.

- II. Starting and following criminal proceeding against such dishonest individuals under prevention of corruption act.

c) Suggestive Vigilance:

- I. Making surprise inspection in departments and checking relevant documents to ascertain no wrong doing
- II. Creating a network of whistle blower that have highest state protection, to impose any intra-departmental misconduct.

Good governance is an utopian concept that is difficult to achieve in reality and practice. But then also it should not dissuade us from striving for a finding the loopholes in our system and plugging them to prevent any kind of misconduct.

We must remember that vigilance is the only price that freedom asks. When a single person refuses to give or take bribe,

It must be taken as example .These small gestures are the only means by which the poorest of the poor can get rid of the pitiful state they live in and banish the anguish and poignancy that they deal in demanding their basic rights. In the end the following quote sums up the importance of vigilance

"But democracy isn't a state of perfection. It has to be improved, and that means constant vigilance."

“If you look at great human civilizations, from Roman Empire to the Soviet Union, you will see that most do not fail simply due to external threats but because of internal weakness, corruption, or a failure to manifest the values and ideals they espouse.”

Cory Booker.

INDIA IS STILL A POOR COUNTRY : CORRUPTION TO BLAME

Vipin Kumar Dass

Sr. Manager / DN / CO

International poverty line is US\$ 1.25 per day (PPP) and as per the World Bank report 32.7% of the population in India lives below the poverty line whereas 68.7% survive on less than US\$ 2 per day. 45% of children in India are malnourished. India has the worst infant mortality rate and it is even worse than Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. Although Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is showing an impressive growth over a period of time but because of poverty regional, economical and social disparity has increased to manifold. These are few of the daunting and much talked about facts related to poverty in India. Number of poor are declining but not evenly across length and breadth of the country.

Despite all the efforts and schemes to eradicate poverty, India is still a poor country-why? Why India continues to be poor after 66 years of independence? Corruption, lack of education, distribution of wealth, population explosion, caste system, mentality, mismanagement are some of the widespread causes of poverty in India. For an example, India has the largest public food distribution system for the poor in the world. Yet 21% of adults and half of India's children under five are malnourished. With inflation, price of all the essential commodities such as fruits and vegetables is increasing that is also increasing the number of people relying on subsidized food. Because of prevalent corruption, quantity of food grains recommended to be subsidized never reaches the needy and poor completely. According to an Asian Development Bank study, "A sustained 10% increase in domestic food prices could push an additional 64 million people, or almost 2% of Asia's 3.3 billion people, below the poverty line of \$1.25 a day".

India, if not completely but is almost synonymous with the word corruption. Corruption in India sometimes looks like a civil servants' favorite contest nationwide. Numerous scams in the recent years explain the saga of corruption. Almost all the government departments are affected from it. Corruption is regarded as one of the biggest reasons of poverty in India. Corruption's connections to poverty are far more numerous and pervasive. Corruption delays, distorts and diverts economic growth and it comes in a variety of forms. The links between corruption and poverty affect both individuals and businesses, and they run in both directions: poverty invites corruption, while corruption deepens poverty.

Corruption in the Public Distribution System (PDS) is the worst of its kind. The leading source of corruption in India is entitlement programmes and social spending schemes that are meant for the welfare of our society. For an example -

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA), a \$9 billion program planned to offer 100 days of employment annually for the rural poor. But MNREGA failed because of corruption and mismanagement. Just like MNREGA, the National Rural Livelihood Mission met the same fate. It was planned to empower.

Though government is putting efforts to have an “inclusive growth” but corruption is playing its role. So all such programs designed for poor and needy failed to impress and help them. Instead poor are even denied of their basic right and needs. Corruption is just like an endemic in India. It leads to social inequalities and hit economy of our nation. Funds granted to uplift the poor are misused. Poverty is further worsen by the administrative corruption. Even the simplest of the task is not performed without a bribe.

Every country has corruption to some scale, even developed countries and no one has all the answers regarding corruption. For controlling corruption, we have to focus on law, procedure and administration. Laws and rules pertaining to the organization and behaviour of persons in specific situations with specific status are essential. In a democratic country like India, will people ever realize that they have to play a crucial role in combating evils like corruption? In fact, much of the corruption exists because of peoples' tolerance or complete lack of public outcry against it, as well as the absence of a strong public forum to oppose it. Ultimately, A concerted effort by the responsible and enlightened citizens can surely make a serious dent in the corruption level.

*“The world is very good as if we do good deeds
then we will get its fruits.
World is bitter for those who are live
their life with corruption or sins.”
Rahman Baba.*

WORLD'S MOST CORRUPT COUNTRIES

Pradeep Sharma

AGM to DF/CO

Corruption is a form of dishonest unethical conduct by a person entrusted with a position of authority, often to acquire personal benefits. Government or political corruption occurs when an office bearer or other government employee acts in an official capacity for personal gains. The corruption can also be defined as illegitimate use of public power to benefit a private interest. The corruption is an action to secretly provide a good or a service to a third party so that he or she can influence certain actions which benefit the corrupt, a third party, or both in which the corrupt agent has authority.

Different scales of corruption:-

Corruption can occur on the following different scales:-

1. Petty Corruption: The corruption that occurs on a smaller scale and takes place at the implementation end of public services when public officials meet the public;
2. Grand Corruption: the corruption occurring at the highest level of government in a way that requires significant subversion of the political, legal and economic systems.
3. Systematic Corruption: The corruption which is primarily due to the weaknesses of an organization or process. It can be contrasted with individual officials or agents who act corruptly within the system.

There is no denying the fact that almost all the nations of the World are facing the ill-effects of the Corruption. It is surprising to note that the corruption in nearly half the world's nations is getting much worse in many countries is intensifying and affecting virtually every aspect of life among people.

The Transparency International, the international watchdog, last year surveyed and classified some 72 out of 158 nations as "corrupt,". However, now 74 of 163 countries fall into this category. It is, however, worth mentioning that whereas India barely managed to bootstrap themselves out of the truly corrupt group, Iran, dug themselves more firmly into the corrupt countries camp.

Transparent International has developed an index from 0 to 10 comprised of surveys of specialists, opinion leaders, business officials and human rights monitors who live, work or travel extensively in each of the countries. The higher the score, the less corrupt the country. Tied for No. 1 this year, with a CPI are Finland, Iceland and New Zealand. At the bottom, with a score of 1.8 is Haiti.

Clearly, as those who monitor the ebb and flow of corruption around the world confess, the rankings are heavily subjective, and the nature of the corruption, particularly in the most severely corrupt nations, can differ markedly. But all share one particular characteristic. “You are dealing with societies where corruption filters into everyday life,” says Laurence Cockroft, a senior TI official. “Most of us don’t experience it in our daily life. My guess is that when the TI Index drops below 5, certainly below 3, you get into a different kind of territory.”

Below 5, you have 119 countries out of 163, including Italy, Greece, South Africa, Brazil and China. Below 3 on the TI scale, some 47 nations drop off, though many are very close to the line.

Corruption can take on a host of different forms. It can, and often does, involve the police and judicial systems, including questionable enforcement of business contracts and other commercial litigation. It frequently involves diversion of a percentage of funds from critical projects into the pockets of senior government officials or their families—often in systematic skimming operations.

Unfortunately, most of the corruption occurs in countries whose populations are least equipped to deal with the consequences—the world’s most deprived nations. In Cambodia, where two-thirds of the population earns less than \$2 a month and one-third earns less than \$1, a “substantial portion” of the \$500 million to \$600 million in donor aid each year is “lost to unofficial fees, an informal system of patronage, illicit ‘facilitation’ payments by businesses and individuals,” one Transparency official said.

Such under-the-counter payments for everything from the simplest municipal services to appointments to many of the nation’s highest offices, particularly those where there is the greatest access to illicit profits, are the effective rule of law in most of the nations surveyed—especially in Africa, Central Asia, and Latin America.

In general, the most corrupt nations are those with “an extremely weak institutional setting,” according to Transparency officials. In Haiti, for instance, President Jean-Bertrand Aristide fled in the face of an internal uprising and international pressure after he sought to move a number of his political allies into the highest positions within the justice system. However, a corrupt police force is still almost ubiquitous there, helping to cement the country’s place alone at the top of the most corrupt list.

The former Central Asian republics of the Soviet Union are grouped near the top of the list of most-corrupt nations. The U.S. State Department reports that “Turkmenistan has laws to combat corruption, but they are ineffective, and corruption is rampant.” At the same time, nearby Tajikistan is subsisting largely on a narco economy. Another State Department report noted that “rampant illicit

trafficking of Afghan opium and heroin through Tajikistan remains a serious long-term threat to Tajikistan's stability and development, fostering corruption, violent crime, HIV/AIDS and economic distortions."

Venezuela President Hugo Chavez, who repeatedly locks horns with the United States, has helped establish his country's presence on the most-corrupt roster by turning the national police force from a once professional body of crime fighters into an institution that is used largely for political issues, according to a Transparency official. The result is a collapse of control mechanisms that is a broad feature of administrations in many of the nations on the most-corrupt list. Moreover, in Venezuela, substantial income from the nation's vast oil wealth goes directly into the pocket of the chief executive according to TI.

"That's almost like pocket money," says the TI official. "There is a large share of the income, and we are talking many millions, used in a non-controlled fashion."

Among the least corrupt nations, the United States has slipped to No. 20 this year from No. 17 last year, while France, Belgium, Ireland and Japan leap-frogged over the U.S. in the rankings. The top 10—the world's least corrupt countries—has remained virtually unchanged with Finland, Iceland and New Zealand tied for the lead, followed closely by Denmark, Singapore and Sweden.

Furthermore, there does seem to have been some improvement in anti-corruption mechanisms in many nations, particularly the more developed countries. In the past year, such nations as Indonesia, China, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Australia have ratified the United Nations Convention Against Corruption. Ironically, Japan, the 17th least corrupt country in the world, and South Korea, the 42nd least corrupt, have failed to ratify the U.N. document.

One Transparency official observed that some countries like Japan have failed to ratify the convention because "that means you have sorted out your whole legal system by which you can enact all provisions of the convention," while others with more questionable records in stamping out corruption "perceive more as a standard of achievement."

*"Corrupt governments are run by corrupt politicians
that run corrupt law enforcement agencies."*

Steven Magee

JAPAN'S CORRUPTION REPORT

Rajeev Saroha

Sr. Manager / PR / CO

Japan ranks among the least corrupt countries in the world. Companies face very low risks of corruption in Japan. However, there is a traditional practice (known as amakudari) of assigning retired government officials to top positions within Japanese companies. Amakudari employees are particularly common in the financial, construction, transportation and pharmaceutical industries. Key Japanese anti-corruption legislation includes the Penal Code and the Unfair Competition Prevention Act. The Penal Code forbids facilitation payments. The Ethics Act sets limitations for gifts, which need to be registered and require mid- and senior-level public officials to disclose them if exceeding JPY 5,000. Gifts and facilitation payments are not common in practice. Japan has signed but has not yet ratified the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

Judicial System

There is a very low risk of corruption in the Japanese judicial system. Judicial independence is respected in practice, courts operate fairly, and the rule of law is well-established. Companies report that informal payments to obtain favourable judgements in court rarely occur. Businesses find that the legal system is efficient in settling disputes and challenging regulations. Enforcing a contract takes 360 days on average, which is less than in other OECD countries.

Police

There are no reported cases of corruption in Japan's police force. The government has effective mechanisms to investigate and punish abuse and corruption, minimising risks of police impunity. However, local public safety commissions allegedly suffer from a lack of independence or adequate authority over police agencies. Surveyed companies find the police force is reliable in protecting business from crime.

Public Services

There is a very low risk of corruption and bribery for companies when acquiring licences and other public services in Japan. Japan is ranked among the countries where informal payments and bribes in connection with public utilities occur the least. Companies should note that Japan has many regulations out of which business costs can arise. Starting a business in Japan takes slightly longer than in other OECD countries and includes more procedures and costs. Foreign and national investors can consult the government website for information on setting up a business in Japan.

Land Administration

There are no reported cases of corruption in Japan's land administration.

Property rights are among most well protected in the world. Registering property takes on average 13 days, while dealing with construction permits takes slightly longer than the OECD average but is less costly.

Tax Administration

Corruption is a very low risk when dealing with the Japanese tax administration. Irregular payments and bribes very rarely occur when companies make tax payments. Business executives spend 330 hours per year on preparing, filing and paying taxes, almost twice the OECD average.

Customs Administration

There is a very low risk of corruption at Japan's border when importing and exporting goods. The border administration is transparent and efficient; tariffs and non-tariff barriers and burdensome import procedures are the most problematic factors for importing goods.

Public Procurement

Corruption, especially bid-rigging (known as kansei dango), is a risk in Japanese public procurement. Japanese companies, politicians, government, organisations and universities are often closely connected, and preferential treatment between local stakeholders can be a disadvantage to foreign companies. This phenomenon manifests itself most frequently and seriously in Japan through the rigging of bids on government public works projects. A tradition of assigning retired government officials to top positions within Japanese companies (known as amakudari) is a further obstacle for foreign companies competing for government contracts. Nevertheless, businesses do not report favouritism in the decisions of government officials being a major concern.

The Act on Elimination and Prevention of Involvement in Bid-Rigging aims to reduce official bid-rigging and authorises the Japan Fair Trade Commission (JFTC) to demand central and local commissioning agencies to take corrective measures to inhibit official complicity in bid-rigging.

Legislation

Japan's Penal Code and Unfair Competition Prevention Act are its principal pieces of anti-corruption legislation. The legislative framework is strong and generally well enforced. However, the OECD has expressed concerns of Japan not actively detecting and investigating foreign bribery cases. The Penal Code applies to public sector offences and prohibits active and passive bribery of public officials, including facilitation payments. The Unfair Competition Prevention Act criminalises bribery of foreign public officials and companies as well as individuals can be held liable. There are no explicit laws on private sector bribery, but special laws apply when a private company is closely linked to public interest (e.g., Act on Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation). The Companies Act applies to the private sector and provides penalties for the active or passive

bribery of a director or similar officers of stock corporations. The Ethics Act applies only to individuals and serves as a reference for gifts and requires mid- and senior-level public officials to disclose and register gifts exceeding JPY 5,000. The maximum sanction is five years of imprisonment or a JPY 300 million fine, and up to 20 years for public officials demanding a bribe. The Whistle-Blower Protection Act provides protection to private- and public-sector whistleblowers. The Act on Elimination and Prevention of Involvement in Bid-Rigging addresses corruption in public procurement. Japan is a party to the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention and has signed but not ratified the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

Civil Society

Freedom of the press is guaranteed by Japanese law and is respected in practice. However, recent events have highlighted weaknesses in the country's press environment: In December 2014, the restrictive Protection of Specially Designated Secrets Act went into effect, under which whistleblowers who leak vaguely defined "state secrets" can face up to ten years' imprisonment, while journalists who publish leaked information can face up to five years in prison.

Civil society enjoys constitutionally protected freedoms of assembly and association, which are protected in practice; civil society groups play an active role in environmental, human rights and social welfare discussions. NGOs highlight issues of corruption, especially in regards to the practice of retired senior public servants taking high-paying jobs with private firms that rely on government contracts.

*“What saddens me is the corruption of youth
and beauty, and the loss of soul,
which is only replaced by money.”
Lisa Bonet.*

ROLE OF EDUCATION IN ERADICATING CORRUPTION

Rajendra Kumar

Manager / Finance / CO

People have allowed corruption to run through their minds with their dirty feet, degrading morals and ethics, eroding human values and destroying society. It is now spreading like an epidemic affecting people of all ages and is gradually turning into a monster, threatening to destroy our country.

But, what is corruption?

Corruption can be defined as dishonest and fraudulent conduct by those in power, especially involving money the definition is yet wider than before. It involves the wastage and misuse of precious office/working time which abates the efficiency and production for which one is paid.

To elaborate, it is the misuse of power or money to obtain resources or services through illegal means. It is one of the most debated topics in the society as it has widened the gap between the rich and the poor. Corruption leads to concentration of resources in the hands of the rich and powerful, leaving the poor hopeless and helpless.

The advent of industrialisation and urbanization has led to the outbreak in mass production causing concentration of power in hands of a few, leading to exploitation of the masses.

The wide range of corruption, from cases of petty bribery to large mega scams have degraded our resources and made India one of the most corrupt nations today.

The poor are the ones who are often mercilessly exploited by the corrupt and powerful. One of the prime reasons for this is the lack of education. The poor have very little or at times no access to education, thus making them easy targets of exploitation. Therefore, education is one of the primary weapons against corruption. Educating the poor would make them realize their rights and provide them opportunity to improve their conditions. It would make them independent and also unite them in the war against corruption.

Kerala is probably the least corrupt state in India, thanks to its high literacy rate i.e. 97%.

Besides the above, special emphasis should be laid on moral education which has to be provided to one and all. Moral education is something our current education system lacks and it could be instrumental in eradicating corruption by

instilling people with human values.

Spiritual education could also be used to curb corruption. It would at least make the corrupt God-fearing and would also make them realize their duties towards the society and the country. The power of education is something which is known but efforts are required to unleash its untapped potential. The government is making constant efforts to create awareness to eliminate corruption from our land.

We, being the citizens of this wonderful land, have a duty of eradicating corruption and clean our nation. If a country is to be made corruption free and a land of beautiful minds, then three members of the society have an important role in this effort. They are mothers, fathers and teachers. Among the three, the role of the teacher is pivotal in eradicating corruption from our country. Here, we can take the live example of our neighbor country "China" who had upgraded the values and prestige of their teachers and in turn teachers had transformed the fate of Chinese students making them ahead of developed European and western countries.

Therefore, the power of education is vital and can become the sword to slay down the monster of corruption, freeing our land and society from its tyranny.

A SPIRITUAL SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF CORRUPTION

To eradicate corruption we require individuals who are incorruptible and, undoubtedly, what produces such individuals is spirituality. There is a saying that violence begins in the mind. This is true also for corruption: corruption begins in the mind. If we can alter our thinking, we can safely say that we shall have eradicated corruption by at least 50%. What changes the heart and mind for the better is spirituality. When an airplane takes off, it leaves behind everything and reaches a higher plane, at which point it is capable of flying towards its destination without any hurdles. Similarly, a spiritual seeker is able to fly to a higher plane where he is free of negative influences.

There are two aspects to spirituality: theory and practice. Basically, spirituality is a non-materialistic approach to life's issues as opposed to the other approach that is based on materialistic interest. The root cause of corruption is the materialistic approach.

Applied spirituality enables one to infuse daily life with spiritual values and those who do so are able to distance themselves from all kinds of corrupt practices. One aspect of applied spirituality is the duty-consciousness which it induces. A rights-conscious person can see only what is in his own interest, while the duty-conscious person looks to the well-being of others and, in doing so, can never

stoop to corrupt practices.

How to inculcate spirituality among people? Basically, it is a part of education, both formal and informal. Education means mind training, with special emphasis on inculcating high values. To spread spiritual values in society, we need value-based education, especially during schooling, which is a preparatory period for life, and if we want to build a spiritual society, we must adopt a value-based education.

A spiritual perspective makes one evaluate actions in terms of their results — a major factor in having a sense of responsibility. One who cultivates such a perspective is able to see things in terms of value. He is able to differentiate between right and wrong.

There is a saying: "A wise man is one who knows the relative value of things." A wise person is one who has a predictable character. All these qualities stem from spiritual training. It is the responsibility of reformers, therefore, to train people to become duty-conscious — for a duty-conscious person can never involve himself in any negative activity such as corruption.

Spirituality helps keep emotions under control and brings peace of mind. An education system that includes spiritual values in instruction will help students imbibe eternal values and truths that enable them to not only develop their intellectual capacity but also to fulfil their role as responsible human beings in society.

A materialistic person is more concerned with material than with spiritual goals or values. Corruption is a phenomenon of a materialistic society while spirituality is a phenomenon of evolved persons. It is only such persons who can build a non-corrupt society. Spirituality and corruption cannot go together.

If a society is to be free of corruption, it has to be made up of evolved or, at least, evolving individuals who have a fairly strong sense of what is right and what is wrong. This is the only solution to the problem of corruption. This is the right beginning and only the right beginning can make it possible to reach the desired goal.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN PROMOTING INTEGRITY AND ERADICATING CORRUPTION

Sachinder Kumar
OSD to CMD

History teaches us that corruption is not just a case of public officials abusing their positions of power for private gain. Business managers, heads of families, religious leaders, and the list goes on and on, have taken opportunities to abuse the power given to them for private game. Despite a global movement to combat corruption, wise reformers would argue that the fight against corruption should not be an end in itself, but that the goal should be to create more effective, fair and efficient societies led by democratic governments to the benefits of all citizens. The need of the hour is to build integrity. Have a higher success rate in terms of systematic designing out corruption. There is considerable evidence on the active role civil societies have played over the years in promoting participatory government and holding government account. The impact of public participation in promoting integrity is increasingly recognized and there is growing evidence based on the impact that civil society led anti corruption efforts have had on indirectly reducing corruption and increasing government responsiveness. Therefore, a strong partnership and sense of collective responsibility between civil society and government is vital to build strong democracies and reverse the negative effects of corruption.

There is a saying:

“WHEN PUBLIC MONEY IS STOLEN FOR PRIVATE GAME IT MEANS FEWER RESOURCES TO BUILD SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS, ROADS AND WATER TREATMENT FACILITIES. THE VULNERABLE SUFFER FIRST AND WORST.”

By focusing on building integrity at scale, multi stake holder groups can now contribute to a culture change where a critical mass of citizens within a country can effectively act with and demand integrity in their work place, communities and within government ministries/government offices. The OECD is one of the main international organizations to recognize the importance of public integrity as the foundation for any long term anti corruption form. The institutions, whether they be governments, business or civil societies cannot combat corruption alone but that combined input from institutions and citizens is crucial for affective and sustainable solutions that led to democratic societies free of corruption. Rather than trying to reduce corruption, the focus is starting to shift towards building more effective, fair and efficient societies where human right and civic responsibilities are realized.

Public can play a vital role in promoting integrity and eradicating corruption from

the society in all areas. The curbing corruption largely depends upon the social attitudes. In particular, the political parties should not only take the blame for the current situation, they should also play an active role in connecting the pernicious practice of corruption. Several leading indicators of corruption point to a serious problem in India on the whole. The estimates of the empirical models show that the level of development- Measured both the economic and education term and the level of fiscal decentralization are significant and negatively related with the levels of corruption. Factors such as income, inequality, religious fractionalizations, media exposure are statistically insignificant.

The promotion of national integrity is an integral part of the process since corruption inhibits the performance of public institutions and the optimal use of resources. The level of national integrity needs to be enhanced and corruption reduced, if efforts to promote sustainable and equitable are not to be undermined. Corruption engenders wrong choices. It encourages completion in bribery, rather than in quality and price of goods and services. It inhabits the development of the healthy market place. It distorts economic and social development and nowhere with greater damage than in developing countries. If corruption is not contained, it will grow. Once a pattern of successful bribes is institutionalized, corrupt officials have an incentive to demand larger bribes, engendering a culture of illegality that in turn breeds market in efficiency. The promotion of national integrity is an integral process in successfully implementing public sector reforms, especially those targeted at minimizing corruption.

There is an onus on anti corruption activists to ensure that all levels of society are engaged in the process. But more than engagement, the activists have a responsibility alongside other actors to change the status quo. In this way, anti corruption initiatives where civil society works collaboratively with government and private sector have a higher success rate in terms of systematically designing out eradicating corruption by promoting integrity.

Therefore, a strong public participation in promoting integrity having s strong partnership and sense of collective responsibility between civil society and government is vital to build strong democracies and win the fight against corruption and eradicating it completely.

CORRUPTION AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Mukesh Gautam

Sr. Manager / Marketing

Corruption in general terms is “the abuse of entrusted power for private gain”. Corruption can be classified as grand, petty and political, depending on the amounts of money lost and the sector where it occurs. Grand corruption consists of acts committed at a high level of government that distort policies or the central functioning of the state, enabling leaders to gain. Petty corruption refers to everyday abuse of entrusted power by low- and mid-level public officials in their interactions with ordinary citizens, who often are trying to access basic goods or services in places like hospitals, schools, police departments and other agencies. Political corruption is a manipulation of policies, institutions and rules of procedure in the allocation of resources and financing by political decision makers, who abuse their position to sustain their power, status and wealth.

Corruption in India is a major issue that adversely affects its economy. A study conducted by Transparency International in 2005 found that more than 62% of Indians had a first-hand experience of paying bribes or influence peddling to get jobs done in public offices successfully. In 2016, India was ranked 76th along with Thailand, Brazil, Tunisia, Zambia and Burkina Faso out of 168 countries in Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index, compared to its neighbors Bhutan (27th), Bangladesh (139th), China (83rd), Pakistan (117th) and Sri Lanka (83rd). of the largest sources of corruption in India are entitlement programmes and social spending schemes enacted by the Indian government. Examples include Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act and National Rural Health Mission. Other daily sources of corruption include India's trucking industry which is forced to pay billions in bribes annually to numerous regulatory and police stops on its interstate highways

Transparency, accountability, and disclosure: powerful concepts but also practical and implementable solutions to countering corruption in both the public and private sectors.

A central mechanism accounting for the quality and sustainability of a free and fair business environment, as well as a proven effective anti-corruption tool, is corporate governance. Corporate governance not only sets up a system of institutions that govern the relationship between owners, investors, creditors, and managers, but also serves as a reform incentive towards global best practices of legal and regulatory frameworks. As an anti-corruption tool, corporate governance introduces standards and mechanisms of transparency, accountability, and compliance with laws and regulations, which over the long run exposes bribery and illegal behavior that makes corporate corruption unsustainable.

Another dimension of corporate governance is - business ethics, ethical behavior on the part of individuals, especially company leaders and decision makers, underlies much of what companies do and don't do in establishing good governance mechanisms and combating corruption. Ethics, in this regard, has to be thought of as a set of principles and values by which a company defines the very nature of its mission and operations, guiding the behavior of its board members, management, and employees at all staff levels. It is about leadership and organization-wide commitment to adapt and embody a company's ethical values in all decisions and operations, rather than to attempt to prescribe top-down rigid rules that will have no bearing on how a company functions on a day-to-day basis. What companies need now are the working solutions that build around the idea of ethics and tie together corporate governance reforms and anti-corruption initiatives.

The private sector alone cannot build economic prosperity or national development that is crucial to poverty alleviation. It must continue and expand its engagement with governments and NGOs in developing solutions and reforming company- level as well as country-level institutions. The triad of business, civil society, and governments will have to work together to devise and implement solutions that carry significant benefits for all of us.

Rightly Said by Douglas Minge Brown in a business magazine that "a truly corrupt outfit diverts, distracts, and demoralizes. When the wrong things are being done, the right things don't get done."

भ्रष्टाचार एक परिचय :- भ्रष्टाचार हमारे लिए कोई नया शब्द नहीं है। भारत में भ्रष्टाचार पर चर्चा और आन्दोलनों का एक प्रमुख विषय रहा है। आजादी के एक दशक बाद से ही भारत भ्रष्टाचार के दलदल में धंसा नज़र आने लगा था और उस समय भी संसद में इस बात पर बहस भी होती थी। वैसे भ्रष्टाचार का शाब्दिक अर्थ है भ्रष्ट + आचार अर्थात् भ्रष्ट यानि बुरा या बिगड़ा हुआ तथा आचार का अर्थ आचरण. वह आचरण जो किसी भी प्रकार से अनैतिक और अनुचित हो. भ्रष्टाचार एक कैसर की भांति है जो कि शरीर की समस्त कोशिकाओं को जकड़कर उन्हें नष्ट कर देता है. आज भारतदेश में भ्रष्टाचार तेजी से फैल रहा है. यदि समय रहते इसे न रोका गया तो पूरे देश को अपनी चपेट में ले लेगा. ट्रांसपेरेंसरी इंटरनेशनल संस्था नामक संस्था द्वारा किए गए नवीनतम अध्ययन में पाया गया कि भारत दुनिया के 168 देशों में 'करप्शन परसेप्शन इंडेक्स' में 76वें स्थान पर है. यह एक चिन्ता का विषय है जिस पर हम सबको गहन चिन्तन व इसके रोकथाम के व्यापक उपाय करने हैं. जीवन का कोई क्षेत्र इसके प्रभाव से मुक्त नहीं है. इसके उदाहरण देखे जा सकते हैं जैसे कि अाइपीएल में खिलाड़ियों को स्पार्ट फिक्सिंग , नौकरियों में कई लोग रिश्वत देने से भी नहीं चूकते हैं. यह कटु सत्य है कि भ्रष्टाचार नीचे से लेकर ऊपर तक व्याप्त है चाहे वह नगर-निगम कार्यालय को, पुलिस विभाग, खेल जगत हो या अन्य को महकमा जहां पर आम आदमी भी मानकर चलता है कि किसी भी सरकारी महकमें में बगैर पैसे िकए गाड़ी नहीं चलती है. यहां तक मीडिया एवं न्यायपालिका भी इस भ्रष्टाचार से अछूती नहीं रह गई हैं. अब करें तो क्या करें. इस विकट परिस्थिति के लिए इम सरकार को ही क्यों कोसते हैं. सरकार ने तो इसकी रोकथाम के लिए बहुत सारी ऐजेन्सियां नियुक्त कर रखीं है और साथ ही कड़े कानून भी बनाए हैं जैसे कि भ्रष्टाचार निरोधी अधिनियम, 1988, सिटीजन चार्टरख् सूचना का अधिाकार अधिनियम, 2005, कमीशन आफ इनक्वारी एक्ट , सी.वी.सी., सी.आई.सी., सी.बी.आई एवं अन्य भ्रष्टाचार निरोधक सतर्कता विभाग आदि आदि. बावजूद इसके भ्रष्टाचार थमने का नाम नहीं ले रहा है बल्कि फैलता ही चला जा रहा है. ये सभी ऐजेन्सियां अथवा इकाईयां अपना-2 कार्य भी कर रहीं हैं परन्तु फिर भी वही ढाक के तीन पात. अब सवाल उठता है इनकी सत्यनिष्ठा पर. देश के पास इतना इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर होते हुए भी इस बीमारी का इलाज़ नहीं हो पा रहा है जिससे समाज का हर तबका ग्रस्त है.

भ्रष्टाचार के रूप :- भ्रष्टाचार के कई रंग-रूप होते हैं जैसे रिश्वत, काला-बाजारी, सस्ता सामान लाकर मंहगा बेचना, जान बूझकर दाम बढ़ाना, पैसा लेकर काम करना आदि. भ्रष्टाचार पिछड़ेपन का द्योतक है. भ्रष्टाचार का बोलबाला यह दर्शाता है कि जिसे जो करना है वह कुछ ले-देकर अपना काम चला लेता है और लोगों को कानों-कान खबर नहीं होती है अगर होती भी है तो यहां सब व्यक्ति खरीदे जाने के लिए तैयार हैं. इस के अतिरिक्त न्यायाधिक ऐजेन्सियों अथवा अन्य भ्रष्टाचार निरोधक ऐजेन्सियों द्वारा समय से मामलों का निपटारा न करना, शासकों द्वारा आने विवेकाधिकार को इस्तेमाल वस्तुपरक न कर दूसरे कारणों के आधार पर किया जाता है, वह भी भ्रष्टाचार की श्रेणी में ही आता है.

आखिर इसका समाधान क्या है? इन सभी को देखकर लगता है कि इम सबकी जिम्मेदारी है कि हम भ्रष्टाचार का डटकर मुकाबला करें. सरकार का भी कर्तव्य बन जाता है कि वह इसका समाधान उपरोक्त ऐजेन्सियों के साथ-साथ लोकशाही को भी इसमें टूल नहीं बनाया जाएगा तब तक दुनियां का कोई भी कानून-कायदा भ्रष्टाचार को खत्म करने का हल प्रदान करने में सक्षम नहीं है. इसी सोच विचार के साथ भारत सरकार ने भ्रष्टाचार उन्मूलन की मुहिम में लोगों की भागीदारी को अति महत्वपूर्ण बिन्दु बनाया है.

लोक भागीदारी :- भ्रष्टाचार एक अनैतिक कार्य है जिससे लोक सेवकों के प्रति लोगों का विश्वास क्षीण हो जाता है और इसे प्राप्त करने के लिए शासन में सत्यनिष्ठा/ईमानदारी अनिवार्य है. भ्रष्टाचार निरोधक रणनीति का प्रभावी ढंग से कार्यान्वयन तो आम आदमी के साथ मिलकर ही किया जा सकता है. लोगों को इसके प्रति जागरूक करने के उपाय किए जाने चाहिए.

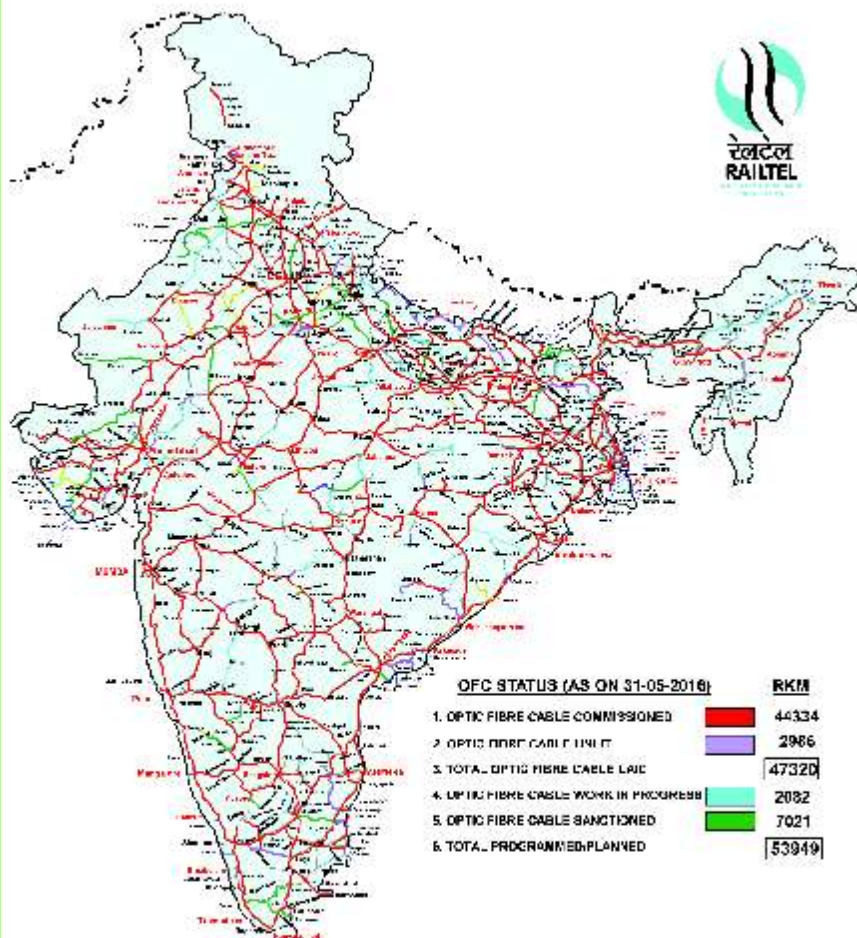
सरकारी संगठनों में आयोजित किए जाने वाले क्रियाकलाप :- लोगों को भ्रष्टाचार उन्मूलन की दिशा में किए जा रहे प्रयासों से अवगत कराएं एवं जागरूकता फैलाएं.

- जन-संपर्क के क्षेत्रों में जहां पर सरकारी तंत्र का सीधा जनता से संपर्क होता है जैसे कि रेलवे स्टेशन, बैंक, हवाई अड्डे, पेट्रोल पंप आदि व अन्य महत्वपूर्ण स्थानों पर बड़े-बड़े होर्डिंग्स, बैनर, पोस्टर व हैन्डआउट का वितरण करें.
- नैतिम मूल्यां, कुशल शासकिय कार्य आदि के बारे में लोगों को अवगत कराएं विशेषकर युवकों को जो कि हमारे देश के कर्णधार हैं. इस श्रंखला में वाद-विवाद, नुक्कड नाटक के माध्यम से जागरूकता का प्रसार किया जा सकता है.

- ग्राहक शिकायत निवारक कैंपों का समय-समय पर आोजन किया जाए. इसकी सुविधा ग्राहकों की सुगमता के अनुसार किया जाना चाहिए ताकि अधिक से अधिक उपभोक्ता व ग्राहक अपनी समस्याएं रख सकें. यह कदम भ्रष्टाचार रोकथाम में प्रभावी सिद्ध हो सकता है.
- देखा गया है कि आज की शिक्षा प्रणाली में नैतिक मूल्यों को कोई प्रमुख स्थान नहीं है जिसके चलते स्कूलों में प्राप्त कर रहे प्राथमिक शिक्षा से हमारे बच्चों को सच्चा नागरिक नहीं बनाया जा रहा है. उन्हें मात्र मार्किट में रोजगार हासिल करने के मकसद से पढ़ाया जा रहा है. परिणामस्वरूप उन्हें नैतिक व अनैतिक में अन्तर करना नहीं आता है. इसी विचार को ध्यान में रखकर सरकार ने प्रत्येक शहर/कस्बे में चल रहे स्कूलों में भ्रष्टाचार निरोधक क्रियाकलाप कराएं और उन्हें इसके दुष्परिणामों के बारे में अवगत कराएं.
- इसके अतिरिक्त ग्राम सभाओं को भी सचेत करने के कार्यक्रम भी आयोजित किए जाएं ताकि वे आगे अपने स्तर पर जागरूकता फैला सकें. सही मायनों में ग्राम सभा शासन को अन्तिम इकाई होती है जिसे भ्रष्टाचार की भारी मार सहन करनी पड़ती है. इस मुहिम में बैंक अच्छी भूमिका अदा कर सकते हैं क्योंकि उनकी पहुंच दूर-दराज के ग्राम्य इलाकों तक होती है.
- सतर्कता जागरूकता अभियान में सरकारी संगठन के साथ-साथ गैर-सरकारी संगठन, निजी सैक्टर में कार्पोरेट व अन्य संस्थाएं खुलकर शामिल हों क्योंकि कार्पोरेट जगत भी भ्रष्टाचार से अछूता नहीं है. 2जी स्पैक्ट्रम, कोयला आबंटन, कामनवैलथ घोटाला इसके उदाहरण हैं.
- इस जागरूकता अभियान में मीडिया, इलैक्ट्रानिक अथवा प्रिंट मीडिया का उपयोग किया जाना श्रेयस्कर होगा.

उपसंहार:- भ्रष्टाचार उन्मूलन में सरकार द्वारा किए जा रहे इस प्रकार के प्रयास सराहनीय हैं. कुछ अनुचित कार्य तो जागरूकता के अभाव में ही होते हैं. यह संदेश जब एन्ड यूजर तक पहुंचेगा, निश्चित तौर पर वह अपनी आवाज उठाएगा और भ्रष्टाचार निरोधक मशीनरी का लाभ उठा सकेगा. जन सहयोग के बगैर कोई भी कानून सफल नहीं हो सकता है. अतः जन भागीदारी अनिवार्य है और उन्हीं की सुविधानुसार राजकीय नीति निर्माण होना अपेक्षित है.

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