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CORRUPTION-CAUSES, ANTI-CORRUPTION STRATEGIES TO CONTROL

THE CORRUPTION

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Abstract

For Indians expanding urban middle class, perhaps no issue is more important than addressing corruption in public life that most perceive to be pervasive and debilitating. It could ever be said that for this post liberalization generation, corruption and the fight against corruption has become the predominant theme of the second decade of the 21 Century. The spread of this Concept What Philip Abrams(1988 56-69) Termed the "State idea" has resulted from a decline in the importance and prestige for the middle class of a public sector that often requires bribes to attain employment and key postings and from which corruption is a major source of income. In constant people with private sector jobs receive much less personal benefit from corrupt practices, and unlike landed elites, no longer need influence over local state institutions in order to protect their interests. There was a lot less noise about Corruption where majority of the politicians and bureaucrats who benefited where from upper caste, urban middle class This is perhaps why politicians are after seen as the source of Corruption to the middle class popular imagination

Key Words: Corruption

INTRODUCTION:

For Indians expanding urban middle class, perhaps no issue is more important than addressing corruption in public life that most perceive to be pervasive and debilitating. It could ever be said that for this post liberalization generation, corruption and the fight against corruption has become the predominant theme of the second decade of the 21 Century. The spread of this Concept What Philip Abrams(1988 56-69) Termed the "State idea" has resulted from a decline in the importance and prestige for the middle class of a public sector that often requires bribes to attain employment and key postings and from which corruption is a major source of income. In constant people with private sector jobs receive much less personal benefit from corrupt practices, and unlike landed elites, no longer need influence over local state institutions in order to protect their interests. There was a lot less noise about Corruption where majority of the politicians and bureaucrats

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But what exactly is the role of politics and politicians in the every day functioning of the Indian state and how does this relate to what is commonly called "Corruption" As JaquesRanciere(1999), recalling Marx's once Controversial assertion that governments are simple bussinessagentes for international capital suggests it is now an "obvious facts...the obsolete identification of politics with the management of capital is no longer the shameful secret hidden behind the 'Forms' of democracy; it is the openly declared truth by witch our governments acquire legitimacy".

Poor governance leads to corruption, both pretty and large both of which corrode the moral fabric of the society. Large scale Corruption occurs either because of miss handling of government contracts or because discretionary decision making in some areas is used to the advantage of some Corruption undermines the legitimacy of the system in the eyes of the public and reduces potential for achieving efficiency through completion. Corruption surfaces in many forms, all of which erode the confidence of the citizen in the quality of governance They range from pretty Corruption associated with getting permissions that should be routinely available large scale Corruption associated with faulty procedures for handling large contracts and also Corruption arising from discretionary decision making However public perception of Corruption as a pervasive problem has increased .

Why is it that hardly anyone goes to jail despite over whelming evidence against Corruption in public domain?

Because we have such anti Corruption Laws and agencies which can't work on paper itself at the Center we have C.V.C which though independent is an advisory body predictably, whenever the advice is against a senior officer, it is rarely accepted According to one Former CVC, during his tenure, whenever he felt that the officer ought to go to jail or needed to be dismissed from the job, he was left off with a warning CBI Through independent is completely under the control of the government. Before starting any investigation or before prosecuting any officer or politician, it has to take permission from the governmentWhichoften runs on the support of those who have to be investigated or prosecuted. The anti Corruption machinery at state level is similarly Compromised. They are either in the control of the state government or merely advisory in nature.

Likewise, our anti Corruption laws are highly inadequate you would be shocked to know that even when a person is convicted of Corruption. There is no provision to recover the loss that we caused to the government or to confiscate his ill gotten wealth He can actually come out of jail and enjoying the bribe money. Therefore we need a complete overhaul of our anti-Corruption set up it we are serious about taking Corruption.

There was much worse Corruption in Hong kong in 1970s than we have in India today. Collusion between police and mafia increased and crime rate went up. Lakhs of people came on the streets as a result the government was forced to set up an Independent Commission against Corruption(ICAC), Which was given complete powers. In the first instance ICAC Sacked 119 out of 180 police officers. This sent a strong message to the bureaucracy that Corruption would not be tolerated. Today Hongkong has one of the most honest governance machinery.⁴

Causes of Corruption

1. The absence of rules, regulations, policies and legislation.
2. Weak systems of enforcement
3. Weak systems of over sight(i.e. the absence of a watchdog institution)
4. Lack of accountability
5. Lack of transparency
6. Lack of checks and balances in the system(e.g. institutional weakness in the legislate and judicial systems)
7. Lack of integrity
8. Monopoly of power
9. High degree of discretion
10. Low salaries comparative to risk and
11. High rewards
12. Low detection rate

Anti Corruption Strategies

1. There is an issue of reforming the civil services, including codes of conduct salaries entry and promotions and laws against Corruption that are credible.
2. This implies the existence of independent anti Corruption bodies
3. The monopoly in providing public services can be ended by enabling private sector delivery since many such public goods and services are no longer instances of market failure
4. Public procurement needs to become much more transparent
5. Countervailing pressure must be created by civil society which in turn, requires awareness and dissemination of information only a few of these pre-Conditions have been met so far.

CONCLUSION:

The anti Corruption movement has brought in plain sight the unity between what earlier appeared to be different interests within the 'new' reformed India. The long held ambition of India becoming a global power or what is often believed to be the natural destiny of a civilizational nation such as India is widely shared with in the ruling elite as well as the influential and prosperous middle class this ambition is contingent to the economic growth rates and the attendant global influence they can purchase. It is upon this matrix that the interests of the state, the middle class and the Corporations assemble incomplete harmony. And this is what probably explains the contrasting outcomes for the two non-violent peaceful and democratic protests led by a highly successful Anna Hazare and by the largely forgotten Irom Sharmila.

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