



## Corruption in India and its combating

■ Mahesh N. Patil

Department of Electronics Technology, Multimedia Centre, Karanataka University, DHARWAD (KARNATAKA) INDIA

### ARTICLE INFO :

Received : 24.09.2012

Accepted : 01.11.2012

### KEY WORDS :

Corruption, Combating, Corrupt practices

### HOW TO CITE THIS ARTICLE :

Patil, Mahesh N. (2012). Corruption in India and its combating, *Adv. Res. J. Soc. Sci.*, 3 (2) : 279 - 281.

### ABSTRACT

Corruption is dishonest behaviour that violates the trust placed in a public official. It involves the use of a public position for private gain. If such violations are not appropriately checked and penalized with enough seriousness, a nation fails, brings shame upon itself, and its growth and economy is at extreme risk.

## INTRODUCTION

Corruption has been defined variously by scholars. But the simple meaning of it is that corruption implies perversion of morality, integrity, character or duty out of mercenary motives, *i.e.* bribery, without any regard to honour, right and justice. In other words, undue favour for any one for some monetary or other gains is corruption. Simultaneously, depriving the genuinely deserving from their right or privilege is also a corrupt practice. Shrinking from one's duty or dereliction of duty are also forms of corruption. Besides, thefts, wastage of public property constitute varieties of corruption. Dishonesty, exploitation, malpractices, scams and scandals are various manifestations of corruption

### Meaning of corruption:

Corruption is defined by the World Bank and Transparency International (TI) as "the misuse of public office for private gain". As such, it involves the improper and unlawful behaviour of public-service officials, both politicians and civil servants, whose positions create opportunities for the diversion of money and assets from government to themselves and their accomplices.

Corruption distorts resource allocation and government performance. The causes of its development are many and vary from one country to the next. Among the contributing

factors are policies, programmes and activities that are poorly conceived and managed, failing institutions, poverty, income disparities, inadequate civil servants' remuneration, and a lack of accountability and transparency. Evidence of corruption becoming "accepted behaviour" can be found in the comments of an elderly lady from Mbale, Uganda during the National Integrity Survey conducted in 1998:

In fact, this is a common, daily and open practice, so that we think government has legalised the payment of bribes in the country.

Public servants, lacking a service mentality, become more interested in serving themselves than serving the public, as pointed out by a layman: Public servants should realize that they are there to serve the public. That can only be done when government listens and implements community decisions.

### Types of corruption:

Depending on the gravity of corruption it, can be classified as under

– Petty corruption practiced by public servants who may be basically decent and honest individuals but who are grossly underpaid and depend on small bribes from the public to feed and educate their families:

– Grand corruption high-level public officials and politicians make decisions involving large public contracts or projects financed by external donors. *This corruption is*