

COUNTERING CORRUPTION

India's Ongoing Battle...



Introduction

Corruption has been a pervasive and deeply entrenched issue in India which has prevailed from time immemorial in one form or the other. This pervasive problem touches every facet of public life and governance and poses a significant obstacle to India's progress, undermining its institutions, eroding trust, and hindering socio-economic development. Since Independence, India has made large strides in the fight against corruption. However, as per Corruption Perceptions Index 2022, **India ranks at 85th among 180 countries.** As such, India still has a long way from being a corruption free country.

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SIKAR

I. What does the term “corruption” mean and to what extent it prevails in India?

The word “corrupt” is derived from the Latin word “corruptus” which means to abuse or destroy. Corruption is a global phenomenon and is defined as **misuse of public position or power for personal gains**. As per United Nations Development Programme,

Corruption = (monopoly + discretion) – (accountability + integrity + transparency)




➤ There are **different forms of corruption** including bribery, embezzlement, extortion, networking, under-the-table transactions, manipulation of the election result, money laundering, and more.

➤ According to the latest Corruption Perceptions Index by Transparency International (TI), **India has one of the**

highest incidences of bribery and use of personal connections to access key public services such as health and education.

➤ While the country’s score has remained stagnant over the past decade, some of the mechanisms that could help reign in corruption are weakening.

I.1. What are the different forms of corruption?

<p>Grand Corruption</p> <p>Grand or Political corruption occurs at highest levels of government in a way that requires significant subversion of political, legal, and economic systems.</p> <p>Commonly found in countries without adequate policing of corruption or with authoritarian or dictatorial governments.</p> 	<p>Petty Corruption</p> <p>Petty, Bureaucratic, or Administrative corruption takes place at the implementation end of politics, where the public meets public officials.</p> <p>For example, registration offices, police stations, etc.</p>  <p>Systematic corruption</p> <p>Systematic or Endemic Corruption occurs primarily due to the weaknesses of an organization or process.</p> <p>It can be contrasted with individual officials or agents who act corruptly within the system.</p> 
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I.2. What are the root causes that sustain corruption in India?


The root causes of corruption are **multifaceted and complex**, spanning structural, societal, and political factors. These factors **shape the individual reasoning** leading to corrupt practices among individuals both in public and private sector and thereby contributing to the continuing presence of corruption in the country.

➤ Institutional Factors

➤ **Systemic issues:** The process of decision making coupled with **discretion, official secrecy, rigid bureaucratic structures** and processes breeds corruption. **Lack of public action and absence of a strong public forum** to oppose corruption allows it to reign in the country.

» For example - Major corruption cases like **Bofors scam, 1986, Fodder scam, 1996 and Telgi’s counterfeit stamp paper scam, 2002** exploited bureaucratic inefficiencies, a lack of transparency and oversight mechanism.

“
Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely. - Lord Acton
”



➤ **Elections:** During election time, corruption is at its peak to meet high cost of election and to seek personal favour. **Bribery to politicians buys influences and bribery by politicians buys votes.**

» In **Cash for Votes Scandal, 2008**, during a trust vote in the Lok Sabha, several MPs were caught on camera accepting cash in exchange for their votes.

➤ **Public procurement:** According to World Bank estimate, the average bribe to obtain a public contract in India is estimated at 15% of the contract value.

➤ **Lack of Independent agency:** The existing agencies for example CBI are under the control of either the government or the bureaucrats are **not free to investigate corruption cases.**

➤ Norms and Values

➤ **Lack of values: Focus on rote learning and lack of emphasis on value education** can breed dishonesty and corruption.

➤ **Social Acceptance:** Over the years, **social stigma attached to corruption has reduced** and there is now growing social acceptance and tolerance for corruption.

➤ Collective action problem

➤ **Low remuneration: Below average or low remuneration in a highly inflationary economy** drive government officials to use unlawful and illegal means of deriving income.

» **Instances of bribery and corruption among**

police officers are often attributed to inadequate salaries.

▷ **Competition:** The competition in the market **with respect to power, position, jobs, and education** keeps the bug of corruption alive in society.

▷ **Functional issues**

▷ **Poor implementation:** There exists strong governance structure, oversight institutions (CVC, CAG etc.), legal framework (Prevention of corruption Act) and policies in India. However, there is a **huge gap between the policies and practice.**

» The **2010 Commonwealth Games scam** exposed poor oversight and implementation of anti-corruption measures within the organizing committee.

▷ **Opaque System: Lack of access to information publicly hampers scrutiny, accountability** and it becomes easier for corruption to occur behind closed doors.

» The **public distribution system (PDS) is vulnerable to corruption** when beneficiaries lack access to information about their entitlements and supplies.

Box 1.1. Root causes shaping individual reasoning for corruption

Driver	Individual reasoning
Institutional/Principal-Agent problems	I have a chance to do something corrupt. I probably will not get caught, and if I do, I probably will not be punished.
Collective action problems	The system is not going to change, so why bother trying? It is futile and illogical to resist. Why should I be the only one who does not benefit from the opportunities that exist?
Justifying norms and values	This is how things work. I have my family, community, colleagues, boss, and political party to think about, and they are counting on me.
Functionality issues	The system is broken. Corruption is the logical- and perhaps the only - way to get things done, or to stop things from getting worse.

2. What are the implications of widespread corruption for India's development and progress?

There are significant impacts of corruption in society, spanning across social, economic, political and environmental dimensions.

▷ **Economic cost**

▷ **Reduced economic growth:** Corruption promotes inefficiencies in utilisation of resources, distorts the markets, compromises quality which adversely affects the country's economic development.

» Estimates show that in India, government loses about Rs. 2 lakh crores annually due to tax evasion while about Rs. 40,000 crores is lost due to delay in projects.

▷ **Unfavourable business environment:** High levels of corruption can discourage foreign and domestic investments.

▷ **Social cost**

▷ **Erosion of Public Trust:** Corruption leads to a loss of public trust in government and undermines the credibility of government institutions.

» For instance, alleged corruption cases like **2G Spectrum Scam, 2007** and **Coal**

Scam or Coalgate, 2012 played against the incumbent government.

▷ **Access to Services:** Corruption can **hinder access to essential services** like healthcare, education, and clean water, particularly for vulnerable populations.

» **Corruption in healthcare** was seen **during COVID-19** as embezzlement of health care funds, using expired vaccines, fraudulent health contracts, etc.


▷ **Exacerbating Poverty:** Corruption leads to **poor re-distribution of wealth** thus supplements poverty and inequality.

▷ **Freedom of Speech:** Corruption can **hamper the freedom of speech provided under Article 19.**

» Collusion among the media house, politicians, lobbyists can lead to dissemination of fake news, augment paid news culture and hamper free and fair news coverage.

▷ **Human Rights:** Corruption decreases public trust in justice and **weakens the capacity of judicial systems** to guarantee the protection of human rights.

“
Public confidence in the integrity of the Government is indispensable to faith in democracy.
- Adlai Stevenson



”

- ▶ **Gender inequality:** Corruption **restricts women's access to opportunities** and public resources. It disproportionately affects those with less power, often **through gender-specific forms like sexual bribery**, perpetuating social, cultural, and political discrimination.
 - » As per Transparency International study, number of mothers dying during childbirth increases exponentially in countries where there is a higher incidence of bribery.
- ▶ **Political cost**
 - ▶ **Undermine principles of democracy:** Corruption distorts political processes, and influences election outcomes.
 - ▶ **Impaired Rule of Law:** Corruption can lead to selective enforcement of laws and a lack of accountability for those in power.
- ▶ **Environmental cost:** Corrupt officials may grant permits to illegal environmental activities, such as poaching, illegal logging, or toxic waste dumping.
 - ▶ For instance, **illegal rhino horn trade persists due to corruption** among officials and dealers.
- ▶ **Implications for National Security**
 - ▶ **Links between Organized crime and corruption:** Criminal, bureaucrat and political nexus can support illegal activities such as money laundering, drug trafficking, kidnapping etc.
 - ▶ **Conflict and social unrest:** Corruption leads to unequal distribution of resources and opportunities thereby creating conditions in which conflict is more likely to occur by **fostering division between different groups** and eating away at the rule of law.
 - » It also make a country vulnerable to **undue influence from foreign actors**.

Box 2.1. Why is corruption unethical?

- ▶ **According to Deontological theory:** Associated with philosopher Immanuel Kant and **emphasizes the intrinsic moral worth of actions**. An action is considered morally right or wrong based on whether it conforms to these moral duties, **regardless of the consequences**.
 - ▶ Corruption involves unethical actions such as bribery, embezzlement, fraud, and abuse of power. These actions are generally considered morally wrong because they involve dishonesty, exploitation, and violations of ethical principles and duties.
- ▶ **According to Consequentialist theories:** Consequentialist ethical theories, such as Utilitarianism, **judge the morality of actions based on their outcomes or consequences**. An action is considered morally right if it leads to the best overall outcome or maximizes the greatest good for the greatest number.
 - ▶ Corruption generally tends to have negative consequences such as economic inefficiency, unequal distribution of resources, a breakdown of trust in institutions, and a distortion of fair competition.
- ▶ **According to Virtue ethics:** It **emphasizes the role of character and virtue in moral philosophy** rather than just doing one's duty or acting in order to bring about good consequences. Most virtue ethics theories take their inspiration from Aristotle who declared that a virtuous person is someone who has ideal character traits.
 - ▶ Corruption contradicts the virtue of honesty, integrity, trust, fairness and inhibits the development of moral excellence among individuals.

3. What is India doing to prevent and combat corruption within its systems and institutions?

Given the magnitude and pernicious nature of corruption affecting every aspect of society and economy, various concerted efforts have been made to reduce level of corruption.

Table 3.1. India's efforts to prevent and combat corruption

Regulatory framework	
Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013	Establishment of a body of Lokpal for the Union and Lokayukta for States to inquire into allegations of corruption against certain public functionaries including Prime Minister and other Union Ministers, Member of Parliament, and others.
Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)	It aims to bring about transparency, fair-play, objectivity, accountability and responsiveness in public administration.
Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Ministry of Personnel, Pension & Public Grievances	It is the premier investigating police agency for combating corruption in public life.
Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Ministry of Finance	Cases related to money laundering by public servants are investigated and prosecuted by the ED and Financial Intelligence Unit.
Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG)	Supreme audit institution which assist in identifying areas of financial mismanagement, corruption, or fraud.
Election Commission of India (ECI)	Issues Model Code of Conduct before every election , regulates political parties, prescribes limits of campaign expenditure by candidates and parties and monitors the spending.

Legal framework	
Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Act (PCA), 2018	Provides that any public servant who accepts or attempts to accept from any person any undue advantage in lieu of performance of a public duty shall be punishable with imprisonment for a minimum term of 3 years and maximum of 7 years.
Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018	Covers cases of benami transactions, corporate fraud, evasion of income tax, PCA and PMLA , etc.
Whistle Blowers Protection Act 2014	Provide a framework to investigate alleged corruption and misuse of power by public servants and to protect persons who allege any wrongdoings.
Companies Act, 2013	Provides for corporate governance and prevention of corruption and fraud in the corporate sector. ▶ Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) , was established under the act for detecting and prosecuting white-collar crimes/frauds.
Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), 2010	To prohibit the foreign dealings and regulating the foreign contributions in the country.
Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005	Provides for the smoother and greater access to information to Indian citizens through a citizen-centric approach. ▶ Scams relating to Commonwealth Games were unearthed by an RTI applicant.
Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) 2002	It aims to prevent money-laundering and provide for confiscation of property derived from money-laundering.
Indian Penal code - 1860	Section 169 pertains to a public servant unlawfully buying or bidding for property. ▶ Section 409 pertains to criminal breach of trust by a public servant.

Supreme Court verdict

Struck down section 6A of Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act 1946.

DSPE Act was brought into force to investigate cases of bribery and corruption by Central Government employees.

- ▶ **Section 6A of DSPE Act** (inserted in 2003) required CBI to obtain approval of the Centre to proceed in corruption cases against officers of the rank of joint secretary and above.
- ▶ This provision was struck down as unconstitutional by SC in Subramanian Swamy v. Union of India case (2014).

Recently, Supreme Court ruled that its **2014 decision applies retrospectively from 2003** thus removing the immunity to central government employees.

Digitalisation Initiatives

Digital India Programme, MeitY

Under it, initiatives like DigiLocker, e-Hospital, e-Sign, MyGov, Digital Village etc. have helped in **delivery of substantial services directly to the beneficiary** in a transparent and corruption free manner.

Government E-Marketplace (GeM), Ministry of Commerce and Industry

It enables government for **online procurement of goods and services** thereby ensuring transparency and **reduced corruption risk through API-integrated user authentication.**

Innovative initiatives by Civil Society Organisations

'I Paid a Bribe' online platform

It is a citizen driven mechanism created **by Janaagraha** for tracking bribe payment activity, as also instances of when people resisted bribe payments or did not have to pay bribes because of good government systems.

Zero Rupee Note

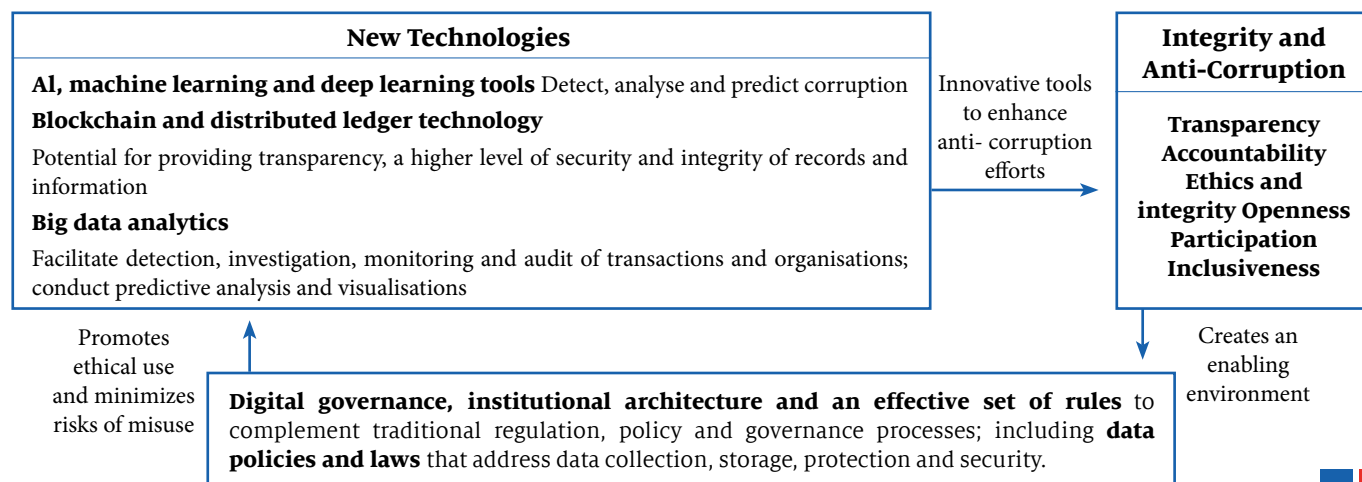
It was created **by 5th Pillar (Tamil Nadu-based NGO)** to raise awareness about bribery and reminding the public of their rights and alternative solutions that are available.

- ▶ Notes are identical to Indian banknotes but carry the slogan, "Eliminate corruption at all levels".

Box 3.1. Technology: Tool to enhance Anti-corruption Efforts

In the area of anti-corruption, technology – from ICTs to new technologies – has become one of the greatest allies. Digital technologies could contribute to preventing and tackling corruption, both **directly via Digital tools to detect, analyse, investigate, predict, and monitor corruption and indirectly via Access to information** (e.g. open data for monitoring),

The linkages between new technologies and integrity and anti-corruption



3.I. What measures have been taken at the global level to combat corruption?

Table 3.2. Measures taken globally to combat corruption

United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC)	<p>The only legally binding universal anti-corruption instrument. India ratified UNCAC in 2011.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Convention covers five main areas i.e preventive measures, criminalization and law enforcement, international cooperation, asset recovery, and technical assistance and information exchange.
G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG)	<p>Under India's G20 presidency, G 20 members reaffirm commitment to zero tolerance for corruption and endorse three G20 High-Level Principles on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Strengthening Law Enforcement and Information Sharing for Combating Corruption. ▶ Strengthening Asset Recovery Mechanisms for Combating Corruption. ▶ Promoting Integrity and Effectiveness of Public Bodies and Authorities responsible for Preventing and Combating Corruption.
Financial Action Task Force (FATF)	<p>To aid the fight against corruption through strengthening FATF Standards on beneficial ownership, to prevent the corrupt from hiding funds.</p>
World Bank's Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI)	<p>To help analysts assess broad patterns in perceptions of governance across countries and over time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ It provides a ranking for over 200 countries territories based on six dimensions of governance including 'Voice and Accountability'; 'Regulatory Quality'; and 'Control of Corruption.'
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	<p>SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) acknowledges the importance of anti-corruption as an institutional principle.</p>
Other innovative initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Australia: Australia's Integrity Commission seeks to unify the country's various federal integrity agencies under one umbrella. ▶ Indonesia: Initiative called 'I am a woman against corruption' through which over 2,000 women have been trained to be anti-corruption champions and then become internal reformers within their agencies.

4. What hinders India's efforts to combat corruption effectively?

India's recent economic successes have been unable to reduce the systemic corruption amongst the country's corporate, bureaucratic and political class due to multiple challenges. These include:

- ▶ **Delayed investigation:** Specialised agencies investigating corruption charges tend to **take longer time due to technical nature of crimes**, such as financial fraud. Also, gathering and analysing large volumes of documentation is time consuming leading to delays in filing of charge sheet.
- ▶ **Lack of Coordination:** Multiple agencies including the **CBI, state anti-corruption bureaus, and vigilance departments, often have overlapping jurisdiction.** This can lead to inefficiencies and delays in corruption investigations.
- ▶ **Lack of Technical expertise:** To investigate highly technical nature of fraudulent transactions agencies need adequate technical support, such as auditors, lawyers, scientists, to discern the nature of the transaction and whether there is any violation of law.
- ▶ **Overburdened Judiciary:** Indian judiciary is overburdened with almost **3 crore pending cases, also the process is long drawn and complicated.**
 - ▶ As per annual report of CVC, nearly 6,841 corruption cases probed by the CBI were pending trials in different courts, 313 of them are pending for more than 20 years.
- ▶ **Implementation Issues:** Corruption cases involving high-ranking officials can influence the outcome of cases. The **lack of political will to tackle corruption has led to a weak implementation of the law**, with many corrupt officials going unpunished.
- ▶ **Lack of coordination in internal audit:** It leads to **ineffective use of limited resources, variation in reports and limit the oversight.** Lack of independent

audits and involvement of NGOs also raises question on the authenticity of the report.

➤ **Vacancy and Performance:** Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013 provided for establishing a body i.e. the Lokpal to be headed by a Chairperson. However, the first chairperson was appointed in 2019, making the body defunct for nearly 6 years.

➤ Also, performance of the Anti-corruption ombudsman Lokpal has been questioned as it has not prosecuted a single person accused of graft to date.

Box 4.1. In Conversation! Lobbying and Corruption in India

Hey Vinay, I was reading about lobbying and corruption in India. It's quite a complex issue, isn't it?

Absolutely, Vini. Lobbying can play a legitimate role in democracy, as it provides governments with valuable policy-related information and expertise. But it becomes problematic when it blurs the lines with corruption.

I agree. India currently doesn't have a law to regulate lobbying. But recent corruption scandals in India involving lobbying by big businesses have increased public pressure for a law to regulate the activity.

Yes. Did you know, some countries like the US, Canada, and Australia regulate lobbying to enhance transparency. They see it as a legitimate right of citizens to influence policymakers.

I believe the challenge is defining what constitutes lobbying without legitimizing corrupt practices.

Indeed. Universal access to information on lobbying expenses and policymakers' interactions can be a significant step toward a more transparent and participative democracy.

True, it's about striking the right balance between influence and integrity in policymaking.

Vinay

Vini

5. In what ways can India strengthen its fight against corruption?

The last two decades have witnessed an unprecedented anticorruption activity, however, further steps are needed to address the issue of corruption in India. These include-

➤ Institutional Measures

➤ **Strengthening law enforcement agencies:** Government should **provide adequate resources and capacity building to law enforcement agencies** and strengthening the independence of judiciary.

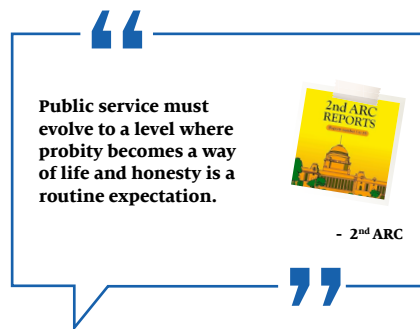
➤ **Strengthening Media:** **Strengthening regulatory framework** such as Press Council of India, promoting self-regulation and developing mechanisms to hold media accountable for spreading false information.

➤ ARC recommendations:

» **Anti-Corruption Bureaus** should be brought under the control of the State Vigilance Commission.

» The **economic offences unit of states need to be strengthened** to effectively investigate cases and there should be better coordination amongst existing agencies.

» **Development of a code of ethics** for public officials and employees to promote ethical behaviour.



➤ Policy Measures

➤ **Governance:** India needs to clamp down on corporate secrecy, foreign bribery and complicit professional enablers, such as bankers and lawyers.

» **National Anti-Corruption Strategy (NACS)** (refer Box 5.1) **can be formulated** on the lines of South Africa to improve the governance and tackle corruption cases effectively.

➤ **Engaging stakeholders:** A broad-based action, trust, and commitment should be built by mobilising stakeholder and coordinating actions of government institutions, public servants, citizens and the business community.

➤ **Transparency:** Ensure the public receives accessible, timely and meaningful information, including on public spending and resource distribution.

➤ Economic Measures

➤ **Political Financing Reforms:** There is an urgent need **to regulate political party financing to**

increase transparency, capping campaign expenditure and disclose funding sources.

» **State funding of elections** can be explored to address the increased use of money and muscle power in the elections.

➤ **International collaboration:** There is need to **enhance global efforts to seize, confiscate and return criminal proceeds to victims and states**, in line with international obligations and domestic legal frameworks, including through support to the FATF and operationalization of the GloBE (Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities) Network.

➤ Social Measures

➤ **Public engagement:** Encourage public by **creating awareness campaigns and providing protection to whistle blowers.**

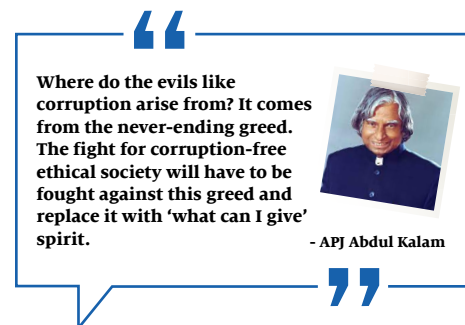
» Measures such as establishing mandatory public registers of lobbyists, enabling public scrutiny of lobbying interactions and

enforcing strong conflict of interest regulations are essential.







➤ **Education and Awareness: Integrating digital education and literacy into school curriculum** along with promoting ethical values like honesty, integrity etc. from an early age.

➤ **Women empowerment:** More women representatives in positions of power can lead to **break apart entrenched networks of invisible forms of corruption** like sexual bribery, and improve delivery of public and social services etc.

» **Women's Reservation Bill 2023** is a step in the right direction.



Box 5.1. NACS Strategic pillars

-  **Promote and encourage** active citizenry, whistleblowing, integrity and transparency in all spheres of society.
-  **Advance the professionalisation of employees** in all sectors to optimise their contribution to create corrupt-free workplaces.
-  **Enhance governance** oversight and consequence management in organisations.
-  **Improve the integrity and credibility** of the public procurement system.
-  **Strengthen** the resourcing, coordination, transnational cooperation, performance, accountability and independence of dedicated anti-corruption agencies.
-  **Protect vulnerable sectors** that are most prone to corruption and unethical practices with effective risk management

Conclusion

Corruption remains a complex and multifaceted challenge in India, affecting every aspect of society and governance. It may not be possible to root out corruption completely at all levels but it is possible to contain it within tolerable limits. A multi-faceted approach addressing the root causes, fostering transparency, and promoting a culture of integrity are pivotal in creating a corruption-free society as India aims to emerge as a responsible global actor.

TOPIC AT A GLANCE

Countering Corruption: India's Ongoing Battle

Corruption is defined as **misuse of public position or power for personal gains**. As per UNDP, **Corruption = (monopoly + discretion) – (accountability + integrity + transparency)**. As per Corruption Perceptions Index 2022, **India ranks at 85th among 180 countries**.



Root causes that sustain corruption in India

- ⊖ **Institutional Factors**
 - **Systemic issues like official secrecy and lack of strong public forum** to oppose corruption.
 - **In elections** to meet high cost of election and to seek personal favour.
 - **Lack of Independent agency** to investigate corruption cases.
- ⊖ **Norms and Values: Lack of emphasis on value education and Social acceptance** to corruption.
- ⊖ **Collective action problem: Low remuneration and Competition in market** with respect to power, position, jobs, and education.
- ⊖ **Functional issues such as Poor implementation** of legal framework and policies and **Lack of access to information**.



India's efforts to prevent and combat corruption

- ⊖ **Regulatory framework:** Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013, CVC; CBI; ECI; Directorate of Enforcement (ED); CAG.
- ⊖ **Legal framework:** Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Act, Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, Whistle Blowers Protection Act, etc.
- ⊖ **Supreme Court struck down section 6A of Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act 1946.**
- ⊖ **Digitalisation Initiatives:** Digital India Programme, Government E-Marketplace (GeM).
- ⊖ **CSO initiatives:** 'I Paid a Bribe' online platform; Zero Rupee Note etc.



Way forward

- ⊖ **Strengthening law enforcement agencies and media.**
- ⊖ **Bring Anti-Corruption Bureaus** under control of State Vigilance Commission.
- ⊖ **Engaging stakeholders** and coordinating actions of government institutions, public servants, citizens and business community.
- ⊖ **Regulate political party financing to increase transparency, capping campaign expenditure** and disclose funding sources.
- ⊖ **Enhance global efforts** in line with international obligations.
- ⊖ **Integrating digital education and literacy into school curriculum** along with promoting ethical values.
- ⊖ **More women representatives in positions of power.**



Implications of corruption for India's development and progress

- ⊖ **Economic cost:** Corruption promotes inefficiencies in resources utilisation, distorts markets, and discourage foreign and domestic investments.
- ⊖ **Social cost:** Corruption erodes public trust, Hinders access to essential services, Hampers freedom of speech, Affects women through gender-specific forms like sexual bribery.
- ⊖ **Political cost:** Corruption undermines principles of democracy, distorts political processes, and influences election outcomes.
- ⊖ **Environmental cost:** Corruption encourages illegal environmental activities like poaching, illegal logging.
- ⊖ **Implications for National Security:** Corruption supports the ongoing existence of organized crime and creates **conflict conditions**.



Challenges in India's efforts to combat corruption

- ⊖ **Delayed investigation** due to technical nature of crimes.
- ⊖ **Lack of Coordination** among agencies and **Lack of Technical expertise**.
- ⊖ **Overburdened Judiciary:** 3 crore pending cases.
- ⊖ **Lack of political will** led to weak implementation of law.
- ⊖ **Vacancy and poor performance:** First chairperson for Lokpal appointed in 2019, making Lokpal defunct for nearly 6 years.

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AIR
ISHITA KISHORE



2
AIR
GARIMA LOHIA



3
AIR
UMA HARATHI N

39 in Top 50 Selection in CSE 2022

8 in Top 10 Selection in CSE 2021



2
AIR
ANKITA AGARWAL



3
AIR
GAMINI SINGLA



4
AIR
AISHWARYA VERMA



5
AIR
UTKARSH DWIVEDI



6
AIR
YAKSH CHAUDHARY



7
AIR
SAMYAK S JAIN



8
AIR
ISHITA RATHI



9
AIR
PREETAM KUMAR



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Karol Bagh Metro
Station, Delhi

MUKHERJEE NAGAR CENTRE
Plot No. 857, Ground Floor,
Mukherjee Nagar, Opposite
Punjab & Sindh Bank,
Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi

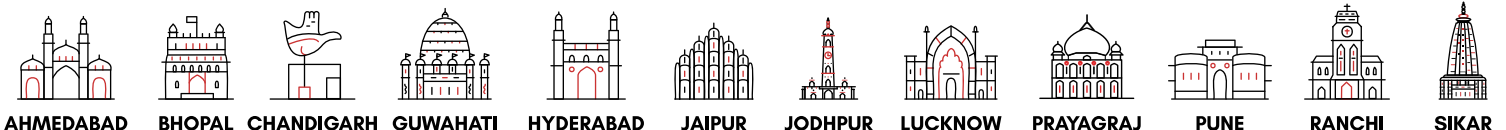
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