



**- Corruption -
Anti Corruption laws and Anti Corruption Organisation**

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Now a days corruption is becoming a global phenomenon. It is deep rooted into our blood in such a manner that may not be possible to eradicate it completely. People at large, running after money, wealth dreaming to be reach over night and adopting corrupt means to get their lust. This is due to socio economical disparity, aspiration to run after material world adhering western civilization, ignoring morality, self less life i.e. envisaged in eastern civilization.

Corruption in rural area is the cause of concern which is affecting the common men at large. India as a welfare state is planning to invest a good quantum of revenue for benefit of poor people of rural area and it is being implemented through block level and cooperative system.

Apart from other causes, power is one of the cause to make individual corrupt. It is therefore rightly stated that power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Corruption is an incurable disease that can not be completely cured by any one except the almighty.

Corruption is rampant in rural areas, but the quantum of amount involve in it is negligible and the person involved are small people for which it is losing the sight of Vigilance Wing for instances –Block is the primary unit in the state to ensure the development of rural people for their economical, educational hygienic , welfare activities etc. But the officials posted in the block level abusing their power misappropriating /obtaining pecuniary advantages either for themselves or for others. Out of the fund allocated for rural development for instance the fishery extention officer posted in the block inducing innocent rural people for pisciculture and managing to get them loan on subsidized basis. But due to lack of supervision the beneficiaries are



collecting subsidy amount leaving loan amount and thus not full filling the purpose.

Similarly due to negligence of the Block functionaries, the subsidy money meant for poultry farming, cattle rearing etc. are being swindling away by the beneficiaries by adopting foul means in nexus with block functionaries. So also is happening in case of getting financial assistance for Indira Abas Yojana , Mo Kutira Yojana, Biju Gramajyoti Yojana etc. without implementing the same or by affluent persons who are not eligible for the same.

The Sarpanchs, the lowest unit of Panchayatraj system are also not hesitating to collect illegal gratifications from the poor people of the rural area to recommend their cases for old age pension, financial assistance for Indira Abas Yojana etc. By this process they within their short tenure are amassing huge assets which be disproportionate to their known sources of income.

In cooperative sector, the Secretary of Cooperative Society, a public servant is collecting illegal gratification from the farmers in the event of granting agricultural loan, sale of paddy through sale counters etc.

The Revenue Inspector posted in Rural area is taking bribe openly from the rural people who are approaching him for issue of caste certificate, Income certificate, legal heir certificate.

The primary school headmaster in collusion with the Chairman of the School appropriates the fund received from the Govt. through the block for mid day meal, infrastructure development of the school etc. The Anganwadi Karmis posted in Panchayat levels in the same way selling the food stuff to the broker by preparing false and forged documents to this effect. By this process the corruption in lower ranks in rural areas becoming rampant but it is not fetching the attention of high ups or anti corruption wings. Corruption in urban areas are beyond expectations. Big scams are being carried out daily like land scam, fodder scam, oil scam, mines scam etc. This



is being done by the high officials collaboration with politically influenced people by inducing their lower rank officials to take up the risk on their shoulders. Corruption in Engineering Deptt., Education Deptt is reaching on its apex.

To combat corruption anti corruption law has been enacted by the Govt. of India and prevention of corruption act, 1988 is in prevalent after undergoing modifications. This act is being used by central bureau of investigation and state anti corruption wings. The act mainly deals with habitual corruption committed by public servants/Govt. servants in due discharge of their duties, misappropriation of funds entrusted to them or kept under their dominion taking illegal gratification, abusing their position, obtaining pecuniary advantages either for themselves or for others by illegal and corrupt ways and possessing assets disproportionate to their known sources of income to which they can not satisfactorily account for. This act also penalizes for attempt/abetment of above offences. It provides penalty for private persons who are aiding, advising the public servants to the effect.

Further the economical offences have now trembled the backbone of the public at large. To this effect Govt. have framed Essential Commodities Act to penalize unscrupulous businessman. Different control orders like paddy control order pulses and edible oil order, sugar control order, Kerosene oil control order etc. are being enacted from time to time and violation of any such order are being dealt through Essential Commodities Act.

The Anti-Corruption Wing is vested with power to deal with these offences. To thwart with these corruptions mentioned in the prevention of corruption act, 1989 and to deal with the economical offences anti corruption organisation was created in Odisha for last 50 years. In its primary stage the anti corruption Deptt. was manned by few police officers and civil supply officials taken on deputation basis. It primary concentrates on economical offences. Now this Organisation has grown up to such an extent that it is dealing with various scams and offences committed by high officials



of the state, this organisation is now known as State Vigilance Deptt. and is a branch of General Administration Department (Vigilance) at Cuttack.

The Director of Vigilance is functioning as Special Secretary to GA (Vigilance) Department under Chief Secretary of Odisha. The Vigilance Deptt. has been divided into six Divisions namely, Cuttack Division, Bhubaneswar Division, Balasore Division, Berhampur Division, Koraput Division, Sambalpur Division respectively. Besides to keep on vigil eye on the activities of Vigilance affairs posted in Vigilance under different divisions and to deal with high officials like IAS, IPS, IFS judiciary members and ministers etc. Vigilance Cell Division has been created which is kept under direct control of Director cum DG & IG (Vigilance) and Ex-Officio Special Secretary GA(Vigilance) Deptt., Cuttack. These seven divisions are being manned by one Supdt. of Police each and under them DSsP and Inspectors are working in the prevention of corruption act provisions have been made to investigate /enquire into the offences mentioned therein by an officer not below the rank of DSP. In Odisha however Inspectors of Police have been given power by the State Govt. to investigate into it.

Each Division of Vigilance except Cell is declared as a Police Station and concerned S.P. is posted as Officer-in-Charge of that police station. To deal with the white colored criminals committing crime under P.C. Act, 1989. Steps have been taken to register the case with due approval of Govt. and prosecute the Class-I officer after getting sanction of prosecution under sec. 19 of Prevention of Corruption Act from the Govt.

Sanction for other ranking officers below the rank of Class-I officers are being obtained from concerned appointing authorities having power to remove them of service. Besides the police officers posted in Vigilance , other officials like DFO, Ranger , Forest staffs, Additional Commissioner, Commissioner Commercial Tax, with CTO and other staffs, Superintending Engineer, Executive Engineer, Asst. Engineers and their staffs MVI are being taken to Vigilance and posted into forest Wing, Civil Supplies Wing, Technical Wing, Motor Vehicle Wing of the Vigilance.



The Commercial Tax Wing with assistance of Vigilance officials are conducting raids in different business centres/shops and collecting fines from economical offenders and strengthening the State revenue . Similarly, the forest wing officials are dealing with forest act cases whereas Technical Wing is assisting the Investigating Officers of Vigilance by holding the inspections of the buildings, evaluating the cost of the building of the accused in disproportionate assets case, unearthing the substandard works etc. Similarly, the MVI is helping the IO in the matter of vehicles recovered from the accused is possession in above noted case. Above all to give fair justice the accd. a judge has been posted in Vigilance Deptt. to give legal opinion in important cases handled by Vigilance. The State Vigilance of Odisha is now becoming a full-fledged Organisation and funching to the satisfication of public and the Govt. Public have full faith on Vig. Deptt. and the achievement of the Vigilance is being reflected delay in different publications/newspapers. It is funchining without fear or favour and quite capable to scareantry the white coloured criminals sitting on the hedge of corruption. Vigilance clearance against specific officials posted under Odisha Govt. is being called for by different Deptt. of the Govt. before sending such officers on deputation to abside or places, for consideration of few promotional avenues etc.

Apart from the cases pending to court, the Vigilance Organisation in referring corruption cases of the officers involved to their departments for taking appropriate action as be deem fit against them for their involvement. Honest Directors posted in this organization from beginning to the stage have made the Deptt. a great.

The Organization needs its training centre specialize its officers.
