INDIA CORRUPTION SURVEY 2018

REPORT
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Transparency International India (TII) is a leading non-political, independent, non-governmental anti-corruption organisation of India. TII has extensive expertise and understanding of issues of corruption in India. From villages in rural India to the corridors of power in Delhi, TII gives voice to the victims and witnesses of corruption. We work in constructive manner in the interest of the country together with Union and State governments, like minded civil society organizations, corporate, academia, media and common citizens. The main aim is to reduce corruption, bribery, create deterrence for abuse of power, promote good governance and the rule of law.

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LocalCircles in collaboration with Transparency International India has recently conducted an Online National Survey to ascertain the level of corruption in the country and check the citizen pulse on it. The data collected from the survey has been compiled in a comprehensive report called the 'India Corruption Survey 2018'.

The survey has been conducted at an opportune time as the new Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Act, 2018 has been passed by the Indian Parliament and it is set to transform the anti-corruption regime in the country.

Countless studies around the world show how corruption can interrupt investment, restrict trade, reduce economic growth and distort the facts and figures associated with government expenditure. But the most alarming form of corruption is one affect daily lives of common citizens, studies confirm direct correlation of level of corruption with increasing levels of poverty and income inequality. Transparency International India and LocalCircles through this survey have tried to gather opinions of the citizens of India on the recent happening like status of day to day corruption encountered by common man and also perception of people about recent changes in the anti-corruption law.

Daily lives of common citizens and the problems they face when it comes to accessing basic services have been the focus of this survey. It does not deal with any aspects of grand corruption as such. However, our results show that common citizens are becoming more and more aware of corruption related issues which is definitely a positive sign. As without being aware of their basic rights and the forms in which corruption is spreading in our country, nothing concrete can be done to save the country from this cancerous problem.

We hope this survey and many more such periodic, educative and purposive surveys are able to empower citizens and enable the government in the fight against corruption and make sure that such a malaise is combated in an effective manner.
India Corruption Survey 2018: 56% citizens say they paid a bribe in the last 1 year

How many times did you have to pay a bribe (directly or indirectly) in the last 12 months?

- Several Times: 27%, 8,733 votes
- Once or Twice: 25%, 7,836 votes
- Always managed to get work done without paying a bribe: 18%, 5,221 votes
- Did not have a need: 14%, 4,165 votes

If you paid a bribe, which authority did you pay the most of it to in the last 1 year?

- Police: 30%, 8,224 votes
- Property Registration and Land issues: 25%, 7,304 votes
- Municipal Corporation: 27%, 7,623 votes
- Others (Electricity Board, Transport Office, Tax Office, etc.): 18%, 5,186 votes

For Government offices which you paid a bribe, how was the working of that office?

- Computerised and functional CCTV in place: 38%, 9,221 votes
- Computerised but non-functional CCTV in place: 18%, 4,921 votes
- All paper office: 13%, 3,241 votes
- Didn’t have the need to pay a bribe: 31%, 7,836 votes

When you did pay a bribe in the last 12 months, what was the reasoning behind it?

- It was the only way to get work done: 36%, 8,514 votes
- It would have taken a long time/significant effort without bribe: 22%, 5,241 votes
- I was in a hurry and needed to get ahead of the queue: 3%, 539 votes
- Not Applicable (Did not have to pay a bribe): 2%, 411 votes

For the bribes you or your business paid in the last 12 months, what was the most common mode of transaction?

- Cash: 58%, 8,649 votes
- Cheque: 32%, 4,836 votes
- Paid indirectly through an agent: 9%, 1,389 votes
- To kind (gifts or other favours): 9%, 1,263 votes
- Did not have to pay a bribe: 1%, 143 votes

Is there a functioning hotline in your state/city for common citizens to report bribery and corruption?

- Yes: 50%, 8,118 votes
- No: 40%, 6,352 votes
- Can’t Say: 10%, 1,480 votes

How have been the steps taken by your State Government or Local Administration in last 12 months to reduce corruption?

- Steps taken and have been effective: 62%, 8,106 votes
- Some steps taken but ineffective: 32%, 4,836 votes
- No steps taken at all: 9%, 1,291 votes
- Can’t Say: 7%, 923 votes

The new anti-corruption law makes bribe giving an offence. Will this lead to an increase in victimisation of the marginalised section by public officials?

- Yes: 63%, 8,106 votes
- No: 28%, 3,921 votes
- Can’t Say: 9%, 1,291 votes

How will the need for approval of an authority (Lokpal/Lokayukta) before a public official can be investigated impact bribery and corruption?

- Increase: 49%, 8,118 votes
- Reduce: 16%, 2,471 votes
- No Impact: 28%, 4,439 votes
- Can’t Say: 7%, 1,071 votes

With recent law changes, giving a bribe is an offence with 7 years of imprisonment, fines or both. Will you continue to give bribes to get work done?

- Yes, because I am confident of poor enforcement: 22%, 3,733 votes
- Yes, because no one comes to know of most bribe transactions: 35%, 5,736 votes
- No: 34%, 5,424 votes
- Can’t Say: 7%, 1,118 votes

These polls were conducted on LocalCircles. Over 160,000 responses were received from over 50,000 unique citizens located in 215 districts of India. Approximately 33% of the respondents were women while 67% were men. 45% of the participants were from Metro/Tier 1 cities, 34% from Tier 2 cities and 21% were from Tier 3 and rural locations.

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According to last year's survey, 45% of the participant admitted paying bribes, whereas this year 56% of the citizens who participated in the survey admitted that they paid bribes.
91% of the participants said either their states had no anti-corruption helpline or they were not aware of the presence of such helpline in their states.

This shows the lack of will from the states to ensure that citizens become aware of corruption issues and get involved in the fight against corruption by reporting cases and instances of bribery and corruption.

Cash is still the primary mode of bribery because around 39% of participants paid cash as bribery followed by bribes through agents (25%) and bribes in kind (1%).
Despite computerisation of government offices, cases of bribery have continued. Although installation of CCTVs cameras has been a deterrent for the offenders, as only 13% of the surveyed citizens paid a bribe to government offices which had CCTVs installed.

Bribe giving has become extremely rampant in the country due to bureaucratic red tapism and incompetence.
Lack of ‘will’ and ‘initiative’ on the part of the state government is brought to the forefront as only 34% of the participants said that states have taken steps to curb corruption but these have not been effective.

The opinion of 41% of the citizens who participated in the survey is that the new amended anti-corruption law will not have much effect.
Around 63% feel that the new amended law will increase the victimization of innocent people by the public officials as the law can become a tool in the hands of the officials to harass even those who are honest.

As many as 49% of the citizens who participated in the survey said that the need for a prior approval of an authority before a public official can be investigated, will lead to increase in bribery and corruption as it will make it all the more difficult to prosecute the corrupt officials swiftly.
If you paid a bribe, which authority did you pay the most of it to in the last 1 year?

- **Police**: 27%
- **Property Registration and Land Issues**: 25%
- **Municipal Corporation**: 18%
- **Others (Electricity Board, Transport Office, Tax Office, etc.)**: 30%

Votes - 7,836

On value basis citizens paid most bribe for Property Registration and Land Issues.

**TOP 3 CORRUPTION PRONE DEPARTMENTS**

- **Property registrations & land issue authorities**: 30%
- **Police**: 25%
- **Municipal Corporations**: 18%
38% of the residents of Andhra Pradesh who participated in the survey admitted to giving bribes to get their work done; out of which 25% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) several times and 13% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) once or twice.

In terms of the authority to which the residents of Andhra Pradesh gave bribes, 50% gave bribes to property registration and land issue authorities, followed by police and others (electricity board, transport office, tax office etc.).
46% of the residents of Delhi who participated in the survey admitted to giving bribes to get their work done; out of which 16% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) several times and 30% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) once or twice.

In terms of the authority to which the residents of Delhi gave bribes, 41% gave bribes to property registration and land issue authorities, followed by municipal corporations, others (electricity board, transport office, tax office etc.) and police.
31% of the residents of Gujarat who participated in the survey admitted to giving bribes to get their work done; out of which 6% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) several times and 25% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) once or twice.

In terms of the authority to which the residents of Gujarat gave bribes, 44% gave bribes to police, followed by others (electricity board, transport office, tax office etc.), property registration and land issue authorities and municipal corporation.
43% of the residents of Karnataka who participated in the survey admitted to giving bribes to get their work done; out of which 20% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) several times and 23% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) once or twice.

In terms of the authority to which the residents of Haryana gave bribes, 43% gave bribes to police, followed by municipal corporations and others (electricity board, transport office, tax office etc.).
47% of the residents of Maharashtra who participated in the survey admitted to giving bribes to get their work done; out of which 27% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) several times and 20% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) once or twice.

In terms of the authority to which the residents of Kerala gave bribes, 75% gave bribes to property registration and land issue authorities, followed by municipal corporations and others (electricity board, transport office, tax office etc.).
47% of the residents of Maharashtra who participated in the survey admitted to giving bribes to get their work done; out of which 27% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) several times and 20% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) once or twice.

In terms of the authority to which the residents of Maharashtra gave bribes, 32% gave bribes to property registration and land issue authorities, followed by municipal corporations, police and others (electricity board, transport office, tax office etc).
50% of the residents of Madhya Pradesh who participated in the survey admitted to giving bribes to get their work done; out of which 20% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) several times and 30% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) once or twice.

In terms of the authority to which the residents of Madhya Pradesh gave bribes, 60% gave bribes to property registration and land issue registration, followed by others (electricity board, transport office, tax office etc.).
56% of the residents of Punjab who participated in the survey admitted to giving bribes to get their work done; out of which 12% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) several times and 44% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) once or twice.

In terms of the authority to which the residents of Punjab gave bribes, 63% gave bribes to police followed by property registration and land issue authorities and others (electricity board, transport office, tax office etc).
39% of the residents of Rajasthan who participated in the survey admitted to giving bribes to get their work done; out of which 31% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) several times and 8% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) once or twice.

In terms of the authority to which the residents of Rajasthan gave bribes, 38% gave bribes to police, followed by property registration and land issue authorities and others (electricity board, transport office, tax office etc.).
52% of the residents of Tamil Nadu who participated in the survey admitted to giving bribes to get their work done; out of which 21% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) several times and 31% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) once or twice.

In terms of the authority to which the residents of Tamil Nadu gave bribes, 44% gave bribes to, property registration and land issue authorities, followed by others (electricity board, transport office, tax office etc.), police and municipal corporations.
43% of the residents of Telangana who participated in the survey admitted to giving bribes to get their work done; out of which 19% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) several times and 24% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) once or twice.

In terms of the authority to which the residents of Telangana gave bribes, 68% gave bribes to property registration and land issue authorities, followed by police and municipal corporations.
59% of the residents of Uttar Pradesh who participated in the survey admitted to giving bribes to get their work done; out of which 21% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) several times and 38% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) once or twice.

In terms of the authority to which the residents of Uttar Pradesh gave bribes, 41% gave bribes to property registration and land issue authorities, followed by others (electricity board, transport office, tax office etc.), police and municipal corporations.
Question 11

43% of the residents of West Bengal who participated in the survey admitted to giving bribes to get their work done; out of which 7% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) several times and 36% gave bribes (directly or indirectly) once or twice.

In terms of the authority to which the residents of West Bengal gave bribes, 46% gave bribes to others (electricity board, transport office, tax office etc.), followed by property registration and land issue authorities, municipal corporations and police.
A comparative perspective of the India Corruption Survey 2017 and India Corruption Survey 2018 shows that the percentage of participants admitting to paying bribes increased from 45% to 56%.
Last year 51% citizens said no steps were taken by their government to reduce corruption, whereas the number stands at 48% this year.
In 2017, 30% paid bribes to police, 27% to municipality and 27% to property registration. This year, 25% paid bribes to police, 18% to municipality and 30% to property registration.

Cases of bribery to police and municipality have shown some reduction from last year, while bribery for property registration has increased.
Cash still remains the primary mode of corruption as the percentage of participants (39%) remains the same in both the surveys of 2017 and 2018.
Last year, 21% citizens said that the government offices where they paid bribes were computerised but had no/defunct CCTVs in place. This number has grown to 31% this year. Corruption in an 'all paper office' has however gone down from 25% to 18%.
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