



TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL INDIA

EDITORIAL

Quarterly

End of isms

Francis Fukuyama's *End of History* did not mean that progress shall come to an end and that history would not have anything to record. It only meant, metaphorically, the demise of grand ideas that had swayed the political scene, which demonstrated different notions of power. The various isms had reached their terminal point. The fall of Berlin wall was culmination of the process that started with the demise of fascism, communism and totalitarianism in various manifestations.

But despite the optimistic conclusions of the *End*, there were road blocks in the form of military regimes that indulged in atavistic ritual darkness of cruelty, suppression of dissent, muzzling of voices and repression, till ordinary folks rose up in revolt thus rejecting the tyrannies of rulers. The Arab Spring that started in Tunisia had its reverberations in Egypt (Tahrir Square), Syria, Yemen, and other Middle East countries, and even at unusual theatres at Juccotti Park, New York (Occupy Wall Street), Israel (Tent City at Rothschild Avenue), Moscow (Russia), China, and India (Ram Lila Ground).

One of the features of the Arab Spring and its dominoes is the rise of the ordinary people who demanded accountability from those who governed them. People were not seeking more goods, but asking for good governance so that more goods were available reasonably. The current turmoil is not the outcome of clash of isms, but springs from the innate desire of people for liberation from corrupt, ineffective, closed, solipsistic, and authoritarian regimes. 2011 was the year people bid farewell to fear. They shall get appeased only with a promise and proof of good governance, hassel free delivery of services, effective outcomes, respect for their dignity and

rights that would bring about a perceptible change in their life styles. Surfeit of welfare schemes is not enough. Outcomes and not outputs (statistical satisfaction) are crucial and critical to determine quality of governance.

Pope was prescient in emphasizing 'whatever governed best is best'. And democracy, in spite of its inadequacies, enables people to set the agenda and participate in acts of governance.

Integrity Pact (IP)

Realising that the IP is widely perceived to be an effective tool to help governments, businesses, and civil societies to fight corruption in public contracting and procurement, the State of Uttarakhand has announced the introduction of IP in all its purchases and contracts worth over Rs 25 lakh. Accordingly, a MoU has to be signed between the seller and buyer/purchaser pledging not to give or take bribe for the work to be awarded to bring greater transparency in the government functioning. It also provides for an Independent External Monitor (IEM), comprising of a panel of people with unquestionable integrity, to ensure IP's proper implementation. All this information would be posted on official website to ensure fair and transparent governance. Hence, the Uttarakhand has become the first State to adopt IP officially.

During the quarter, MoUs were signed with Engineers India Limited (7 Nov); Pawan Hans Helicopter Corporation (10 Nov.); and Odisha Power Generation Corporation (20 Dec.) for the Integrity Pact.

Conference of Partnership for Transparency Fund (PTF) was held at Jaipur on 29 Nov. - 1 Dec. It was followed by a meeting at the Constitution Club in Delhi on 5 Dec, to inform PTF's stakeholders of the deliberations and chalk out a road map for future.

Director (IP) made presentations on IP to the CMD, CVO, and Officers of Khadi & Village Industries Commission (Mumbai: 14 Oct.), Indian Institute of Material Management in (Mumbai: 14 Nov.), and IIT, (Delhi: 24 Oct.)

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Project PAHAL

TII's partnership with Nehru Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) resulted in training of hundreds of youths in Ranchi and Giridih (Jharkhand); Samastipur, Araria, and Begusarai (Bihar) on RTI and other tools of good governance in Oct & Nov.

RTI training to college students: Camps were organized to create awareness about anti-corruption tools and other governance policies, including RTI application writing, etc. to the students of Chattisgarh Mahavidyalaya, Raipur, on 21 Nov.; Govt. Higher Middle School, Sakri, Bilaspur, on 26 Nov. Govt Higher Middle School, Dharampura, Mungeli to train class IX and X students and local villagers on 3 Oct. Youth volunteers were selected to participate in further dissemination of information.

ALAC

Ranchi Report Card: 174 complaints have been registered during 15 Sep - 15 Dec. at Ranchi centre from rural as well as urban areas. Majority of complaints were resolved by giving them legal advice and/or co-ordinating the victims with the help of Delhi Office. Category-wise list of complaints is as follows:

1. **Grave Corruption Case in CCL Hospitals:** The medical supply meant for needy Central Coalfields Limited employees are being sold at places such as Chennai on personal basis by the Medical Store Keeper. This issue is being taken up with the DIG, CBI, Ranchi.
2. **Fake job-website racket:** We have been informed that there is a person having a fake website claiming to ensure a job, asking to pay Rs.28,000 and cheating. With the help of Orissa and WB police, we were able to locate him in Kolkata. An FIR was lodged and the complainant received his money back.

There were a few scandalous complaints in the last few months which are being co-ordinated with local police, crime branch and Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

TI India's ALAC Helplines

Delhi - (011) 26-232323

Ranchi (0651) - 6522632 Jaipur (0141) - 2742799

Tamilnadu (044) - 64581444 or 26644774

To Be Launched

Bhubaneswar (Feb. 2012) Patna (Feb. 2012)

January 2012

Board of Management Meeting

The meeting of the Board was held on 17 December 2011 at Balwantray Mehta Vidya Bhawan, G K II.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held in the afternoon on 17 Dec. The meeting started with a condolence resolution on the sad and untimely demise of Shri B. R. Lall. Thereafter, the revised minutes were adopted after due discussions. The Chairman then highlighted TI India's significant activities and achievements as mentioned in the Annual Report. The AGM approved Audited Accounts for 2010-11 and budget for 2012.

Election to the Board of Management

Returning Officer Prof. P B Mangla announced the election of Justice Kamleshwar Nath, Shri U. S. Pandey, Shri P S Bawa, Shri A. C. Talwani and Dr. S. K. Agarwal to the BoM through voting by ballot.

Prof. P B Mangla was re-appointed as the Returning Officer for 2012 also.

Since the appointment of the auditor for 2012 could not be undertaken by oversight, M/s Rajesh B. Mangla & Associates was reappointed as the new Auditor through letter on 'No Objection Basis'.

TI India's Annual Lecture

Shri Jammohan, Former Governor of J&K and Union Cabinet Minister delivered TI India's Third Annual Lecture on 'Developing Social and Cultural Capacities for Corruption - Free Governance' at IIC on November 15.

Vigilance Week

TI India participated in the celebration of the vigilance week, observed by Government of India and the state governments. During the week Chairman spoke at the State Trading Corporation, and Mines and Mineral Trading Corporation in Delhi. He visited ONGC locations and Kakinada and Rajamundry (Andhra Pradesh) and delivered lectures on 'Participative Vigilance' - the theme for the week.

Anti Corruption Day 9th Dec. 2011

TII's representatives participated in Anti-Corruption Day Programme, which was organised by Balwantray Mehta Vidya Bhawan, G K II, New Delhi. 35 schools participated in the anti-corruption debate.

Foreign visits

- Chairman and ED attended TI Annual Meeting at Berlin (13- 16 Oct.)

- ED attended the release of GCB at Nepal on 1st Dec. and participated in 4th High Level Aid Effectiveness Conference at Busan, South Korea (28-30 Nov.)

Lokpal Bill

Chairman made presentation to the Parliamentary Committee on Lokpal at the Parliament Annex.

OBITUARY

Shri B. R. Lal

TI India expresses profound grief at the passing away of Shri B. R. Lal, honorable member of the Board of Management on 25 November 2011.

Shri Lal was an indefatigable crusader in the fight against corruption. He was forthright and firm in his convictions and expressed views openly and boldly. An authority on the illegal money and black economy and a staunch supporter for the freedom of the Central Bureau of Investigation in its functioning, Shri Lal successfully articulated his opinions on the media and campaigned for freedom from corruption in its various manifestations. He was an activist and contested positions legally and authoritatively.

A conscientious objector to all type of wrongs and with a sense of righteous indignation, Shri Lal took up various causes. He had a fulfilled life wherein he contributed a lot to the discourse on integrity and good governance.

TI India shall miss him. His example and the causes dear to him shall continue to inspire us

Corruption Perception Index (CPI)

The Corruption Perception Index-2011 was released on December 1 at the Press Club. There continues to be a decline in India's Integrity Score to 3.1 in 2011 from 3.5 in 2007, 3.4 in 2008 & 2009, 3.3 in 2010. Accordingly, India's rank has also declined further to 95 out of 183 countries surveyed this year, from 87 out of 178 countries in 2010 - indicating a serious corruption problem.

Such a perception about corruption in India seems to have increased primarily due to a series of scandals involving the sale of telecom licenses, alleged corrupt practices in the preparations for the Commonwealth Games, land scam involving high level military officers, improper property loans made by state-owned financial institutions and the WikiLeaks reports.

Bribe Payers Index (BPI) 2011

India ranks 19th out of 28 leading exporting countries on TI's BPI- 2011. China and Russia rank on 27th and 28th position, respectively - indicating that companies from these countries pay bribes in order to get business. Dutch businesses are considered the cleanest, ranking first in the least likely to pay kickbacks among the world's 28 leading exporting countries.

India's score this year is 7.5 against 6.8 in 2008, on a scale of 0-10 (0 being always bribe and 10 being never bribe).

Global Corruption Barometer 2011

According to the survey, the majority of Indians opined that politicians and police were most corrupt institutions in the country, which have to be bribed to speed up paper work, avoid problems with authorities or simply have access to basic services. More than 48 per cent perceived political parties to be the most corrupt institution, 34.2 per cent said parliament and legislature were corrupt bodies and 40.4 per cent perceived police to be corrupt. Among the nine services that were covered, (i) 64 per cent Indians said that they bribed police for one reason or the other, (ii) 63 per cent paid bribes to land service officials, and (iii) 62 per cent paid bribe for registry and permit services.

Lectures/Seminar/Meetings

- Dr. Agarwal, Vice Chairman, visited Dehradun on Dec 4 to make a presentation on IP
- ED addressed Students of IIM, Lucknow on Nov. 4 and IIM, Indore on Nov. 17
- Shri U S Pandey spoke to officers of HPCL, Mumbai, in workshop on Ethics in Business
- CAT exercise was conducted on 31 Oct to assess the commitment of various participants of TI India in order to design strategy.
- Chairman spoke in a seminar 'Caux Initiative on Business' at Asia Plateau, Panchgani (21 November) on 'Communicating ethics and values for sustainable growth'.
- Chairman delivered keynote address in the PTF Conference at Jaipur (29 November)

Activities of State Chapters

Rajasthan

In collaboration with Prakrat Bharti Academy, it organized a discussion on "The Rajasthan Guaranteed Delivery of Public Services Act-2011" on 15th Dec. in Jaipur. The State Govt. representatives,

including Shri M.L. Mehta, former Chief Secretary of Rajasthan, also participated to explain the Act and note suggestions/points emerging out of the discussion. Its details in brief were sent to the concerned authorities for consideration.

Shri Kewal Khanna, member Rajasthan Chapter delivered a talk on RTI Act to students of Kalyan World School and B. Ed. College, Hathoj, a rural area of Jaipur district, on 4 Nov. Shri Ram Vallabh, former IG Police and Dir. of the School, appreciated efforts in spreading the RTI Act and its utility among the villagers who were generally ignorant about such provisions.

Odisha

The State Chapter submitted a memo. to the Chief Minister of Odisha urging for the enactment of "Odisha Right to Public Services Act" as has been done in other States after intense discussion in a workshop in collaboration with CYSD on Oct, 31.

International Anti-Corruption Day was observed on 9 Dec in collaboration with CYSD and Jivan Rekha Parishad by organizing a meeting on "The Effects of Corruption on Good Governance and Human Rights". The speakers expressed concern about large scale corruption prevailing and adversely affecting BPL most.

Uttrakhand

Its main activities were -

1. Discussions with the politicians on a strong Lok Pal Bill . The State has passed a strong Lokayukta Bill.
2. The Cabinet has approved the Citizens' Charter and is also going to introduce IP after the elections.
3. Prof K.K.Pande participated in the first CSR meet held in Dehradun on Nov 4, and a Seminar on the Uttarakhand Lok Pal bill was held at Haldwani on 11 Nov
5. Efforts are being made to create awareness on RTI by introducing a module in the courses of Uttarakhand Open Univ.

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