Corruption – Opportunities For Inclusive Development

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"If a Country is to be corruption free and become a Nation of beautiful minds, I strongly feel there are three key societal members who can make a difference. They are the Father, the Mother and the Teacher" ......   **APJ Abdul Kalam.**

ABSTRACT

'Corruption' is unhealthy and unwanted part of the service delivery system which affects the development of the Nation, with poor values and image. The Nation has got resources to cater the needs of the people but not their greed. The greed of a smaller group affects the health and wealth of a larger population. Corruption associated with the generation of black money acts as barrier of development and further results for the marginalization, including isolation, of a larger population struggling for even critical needs under the pressure of violation, crime, hazards and disasters. The service delivery systems of the Government are mostly dominated with top down approaches and thus limit its reach to the targeted groups. Accepting all such challenges as opportunities, gives scope to search for innovative and creative systems. The mission of Digital India supported by Clean India and Make India opens gates for technological revolution with better connectivity, accountability and transparency. The models presented clearly reflect the advantages of moving towards healthy and transparent environments at all the levels. CSOs have got a key role to work with Government and Private agencies on partnership basis with better monitoring and evaluations including social auditing. The need based bottom up approaches with community initiatives minimizes the limitations of top down approaches and further supports the development with better transparency, sustainability and quality. The resultant environments are healthy, friendly, accessible, affordable, accountable, participatory, responsive, transparent and empowered, and improve the reach to people both quantitatively and qualitatively better. It is the power and commitment of the people to create a healthy and wealthy living with improved quality of life.

Key words: *Resources, Greed, Corruption, Violence, Opportunities, Development, Inclusion.*

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Statement of the Problem

The greed of a smaller group leads for corruption and further affect the lives of larger population and acts as a barrier for the development, credibility and values of the people and nation.

Introduction

It is the fact that the nation has got sufficient resources to cater the needs of the people. It has got sufficient Acts, Policies, Schemes and Benefits to cater the needs of the people at all levels. The process of Liberalization, Privatization and Globalization (LPG) has brought development on one side and on the other side this has not been distributed to the needy people over the demogrephy. It means, it has helped to widen the gap between the urbanites/ rich and villagers/poor and further resulted for vulnerabilities leading to abuse, bias, violence, crime, and other unhealthy consequences both to the people and nation. Government has got some limitations in catering to the needs of the targeted groups who are facing challenges both socially and economically. It reflects that the system between the Government and People is not need based or effective to reach its targets.

The Service Delivery System (SDS) between the Government and People along with other components, is shown in Fig. 1.
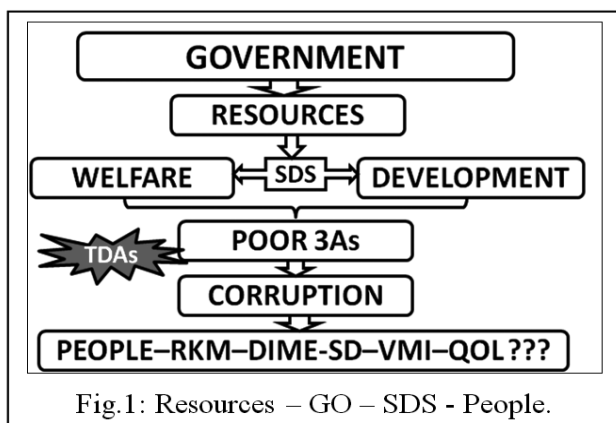

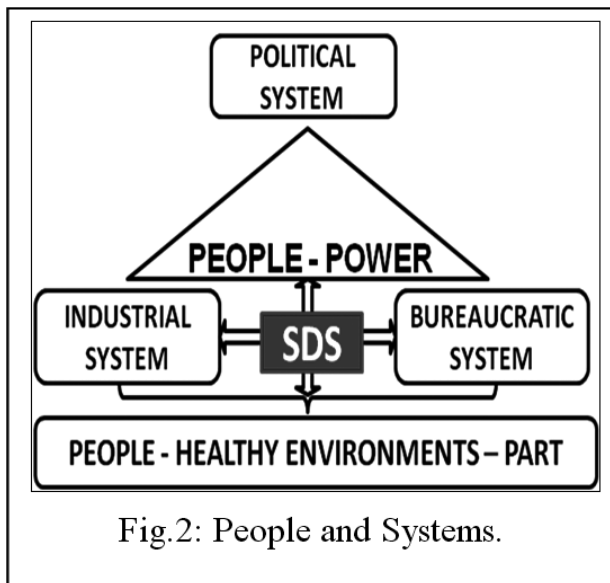Fig.1: Resources – GO – SDS - People.

Some of the reflections on the connectivity among the Resources, Government, SDS, and People include:

1. Availability of Resources at the Government lavel is not the problem.

2. Government plans to reach the people through SDS both for welfare of the people and development of the Villages / Nation.

3. This SDS is mostly dominated by the top down approaches (TDAs) which are in general mismatched with the needs of people.

4. This mismatch in the SDS results for the poor availability, accessibility and affordability (3As) of the resources both in respect of services and supports to the targeted groups. This puts them under stress, pressure, helplessness and other unhealthy consequences.

5. The loopholes or limitations of the SDS and vulnerable circumstances of the people will be exploited by a section of people with the support of the systems operators, protectors as well as the planners.

6. All such unhealthy practices and consequences force the targeted groups either knowingly or unknowingly to go away out of the law which can be described as 'corruption'.

7. This put the people to struggle for: Roti, Kapada and Makhan (RKM); to be with the system of Design, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation (DIME); sustainability of the development; and finally pushes them to lead poor quality of life (QOL).

Systems

India is a Democratic Country and it has got specific systems by Constitution to protect its people and resources with health, education, employment, infrastructure, connectivity, other

services & supports, protection, with better monitoring and evaluation. The people with the systems in a Democratic Country have been shown in Fig.2. In a democratic set up, people have got the power to decide and to be part of governance either directly or indirectly. The selected or elected representatives will control the nature of governance which should be more of people oriented with need based strategies and interventions.

Fig.2: People and Systems.

Broadly, people have been surrounded or controlled by three systems known as: Political System, Bureaucratic System and Industrial System (PBIs). Selected smaller groups of people will be part of any one of these three systems and major population will be out of such systems and will be depending upon the outputs both positive and negative of such systems. The Acts, Policies, and Service Delivery Systems (SDSs) are expected to work for the people. With the support, guidance and protection of such systems of democracy, people are expected to live with healthy environments at all levels so that they can be part of the systems with better participation, accountability, responsibility and transparency (PART). All such systems are expected to run smoothly as per the law and its

guidelines for better health and wealth of the people in an inclusive environment. Any deviation at any level results in negative impact and affect the lives of the larger population who struggle even for critical needs. One such unhealthy practice is corruption.

Corruption and Black Money

'Corruption' is a form of dishonest or unethical conduct by a person entrusted with a position of authority or power, often deviating from law to acquire personal benefit. Corruption is unhealthy and it is like a cancer which spoils the health and wealth of the People and Nation. The misdeeds of a smaller group affect the larger population. The frame of systems and chances of corruption is shown in Fig. 3 & 4. Some of the key reflections on this logical frame include:

1. Corruption is unhealthy and affects the systems and people with several challenges including a barrier for the growth, development and inclusive environment.

2. Majority of the people and systems are controlled by three major groups which include: Political, Bureaucratic and Industrial (who do business) Groups.
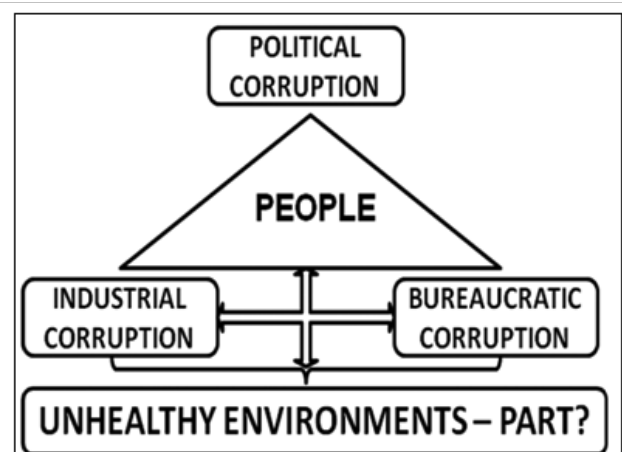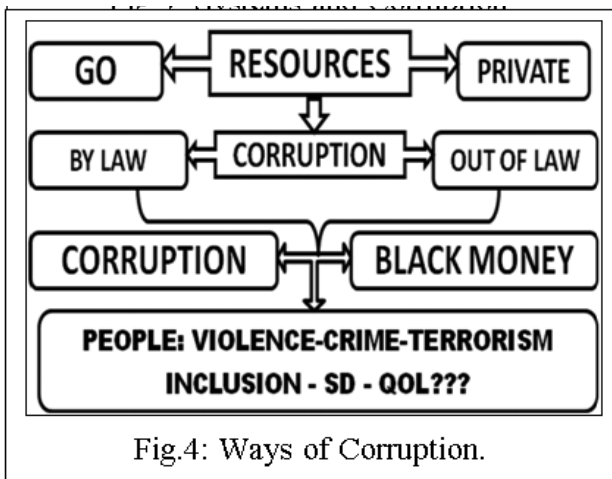

Fig 3: Systems and Corruption

Fig.4: Ways of Corruption.

3. People get affected either directly or indirectly by the business oriented actions of these three groups.

4. Broadly, the ways of corruption come from these three groups as Political Corruption (PC), Bureaucratic Corruption (BC) and Industrial Corruption (IC).

5. All the three groups are well connected and work on business or profit motto and concentrates more on business oriented development (BOD) rather than people oriented development (POD).

6. Cumulatively, the unethical actions of these three groups affect the people & systems and results in the creation of unhealthy environments at all levels with poor participation, accountability, responsibility and transparency (PART).

7. The resources are controlled for acquisition, storage, processing and distribution by the Government and Private- Sector

8. Corruption emerges with one group who follow and other group who deviates or do not follow. In both the cases, people will not show or declare or record their incomes but show a different version in the returns if any.

9. Corruption leads for Black Money, which is not shown or declared or accounted.

10. The corruption generated black money does not come into official circulation and all such resources are stocked or circulated unofficially.

11. Such unhealthy practices and way of hiding the resources affect larger population in the form of violence, crime, terrorism and other such unhealthy consequences. Finally continuation of such illegal ways affects the dynamics of the family, communities and the Nation in respect of inclusiveness, sustainability of development and quality of life.

12. The processes of corruption and consequence of black money mostly done by a smaller group, affects the society at large with poor credibility, image and values.

Challenges: The continuation of corruption, irrespective of size, at any level causes several challenges and some of them are shown in Fig.5.

Fig.5: Challenges with Corruption.

The reflections from such challenges include:

1. The systems are poor in respect of participation, accountability, responsibility and transparency (PART).

2. The service delivery systems (SDSs) are ineffective and poor in respect of availability, accessibility and affordability (3As) of resources and services.

3. The poor quality of education in Government Institutions forces the students to move towards private institutions with business model rather than quality and which are expensive.

4. The poor healthcare and malnutrition in general and particularly among the children and pregnant women, are more alarming with unhealthy consequences.

5. The mismatch in skill developed at educational institutes and needed by industries as employers, is resulting for un-employment for many youth who have completed technical and management courses.

6. The delay in services and supports in general and particularly for the farmers, results for scarcity and thus forces them to accept unhealthy practices. It further affects the Food Security.

7. Denial or delay in justice, put the right people in depression and are exploited, moving towards unhealthy practices.

8. Shortcuts or delay or unhealthy practices all leads for unhealthy working environment which results for poor production and productivity.

9. Uneven distribution of resources and resultant development outcomes / impact over the area and people, widens the gap between the urbanites and ruralites on one side and rich and poor on the other side.

10. The unhealthy consequences of the gap on nutrition, health and other challenges like disability / HIV & AIDS adds the burden on people and deepens the poverty of the majority of the population.

11. The poor transparency and responsiveness from the Government results in the loss of projects and investments to the right people / group.

12. The growth and development of the larger group of population is very poor and a small group enjoys the benefit of the development.

13. Such unhealthy circumstances will be exploited for creating violence, crime and terrorism.

14. This results for the loss of credibility and image of the Company, or the Agency or People or the Nation or all.

15. Continuation of such unhealthy systems / practices leads for the violation of human rights of the people in general and more severe in the case of poor and other marginalized groups.

16. In spite of enhanced standard of living (SOL) of a smaller group, the quality of life (QOL) of the larger population is poor and more vulnerable, leading towards hazards and disasters.

Under the unhealthy practices of corruption, majority of the people get affected even to access their critical human needs and become victims of unhealthy environments at all levels. The need of the hour is to understand and accept all such challenges of corruption and search for better alternatives or ways as a solution.

Opportunities: The challenges of corruption have been accepted here as opportunities and some of them are shown in Fig. 6. A brief reflection on these opportunities in given below:

1. Encourage for education for creating better awareness so that people will be knowing on various do's and do not's.

2. Better access for Acts & Policies and their enforcement for better reach with motivation and guidance.

PEOPLE: OPPORTUNITIES

1. Education-Awareness-Advocacy.
2. Acts and Policies-Enforcement.
3. Effective SDSs with PART.
4. Accessible Governance.
5. Values for Seekers & Providers.
6. Friendly Police & Judiciary System.
7. Effective Grievance - Rights.
8. Effective Research - Lab to Land.
9. Encourage for POD.
10. Supports – Production & Marketing.
11. Community based Initiatives – BUAs.
12. Better Employment-Livelihoods-ME.
13. Use of Technologies: E - connectivity.
14. Online Systems-Services & Payments.
15. Support CSOs on Partnership-DIME.

**PEOPLE: HEALTHY
ENVIRONMENTS-SD - QOL**

Figure - 6

3. Develop or retrack for effective Service Delivery Systems (SDSs) with better Participation, Accountability, Responsibility and Transparency (PART).

4. Develop Governance more accessible with effective participation so that people will feel friendly to know the provisions and utilize in a meaningful way.

5. The system or service delivery channels should have values for providers as well as users / seekers so that people can access the provision of the schemes directly without the use of agencies.

6. The Police and Judicial Systems should be friendly and people should feel happy to enter to these Offices and to interact for grievance in a healthy way.

7. The Rights and other Provisions made available under several Acts, Policies and Schemes should be made accessible for t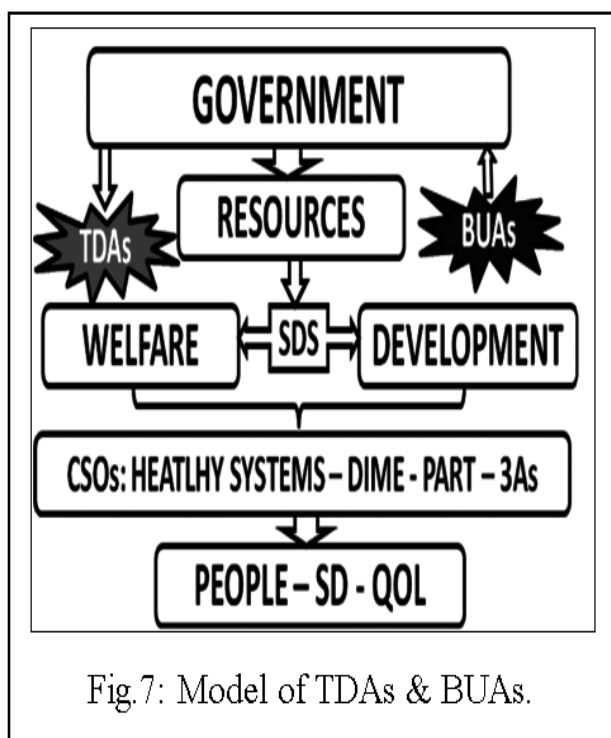he people, to exercise the same with respect and dignity and the system of redressal or grievance should be effective for deviations or violations if any.

8. The Institutions should be supported for doing the need based research with effective transfer of results or technologies from lab to land so that the people at grass root will get the benefit of the same for better utility and production and other resultnt activities.

9. Encouragement for the People Oriented Development (POD) which work by the people for the people so that they will be part of the whole system or processes in an inclusive environment.

10. Support the producers from production to product marketing which enhances the returns for the producers in general and farmers in specific. This supports for healthy farming and food security.

11. Support for designing and developing Community Based Initiatives (CBIs) which acts as Bottom Up Approaches (BUAs), so that people will get ready for better sustainability in general and in particular to work for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).

12. Encourage and create opportunities for better employment both open and self-employment and livelihoods by way of income generation activities (IGPs). Also support for micro-entrepreneurship which supports for shift from a position of employee to employer.

13. In addition to physical connectivity, development of technological connectivity adds its dimension for improved sharing, dissemination, utility, production, productivity and quality, and finally for better marketing with high returns.

14. Develop and utilize online systems for do's, don'ts, services, supports, resources, marketing, and payments so that people can shift towards cashless transactions.

15. Develop and encourage Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to work on partnership basis with Government, Private and Other Agencies with the model of Design, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation (DIME) so that the reach to the targeted population can be effective both quantitatively and qualitatively.

Effective design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation (DIME) of the system matching to the above listed opportunities will certainly enhance people's participation, accountability, responsibility and transparency (PART) on both the sides and thus put a check for corruption and its unhealthy consequences.
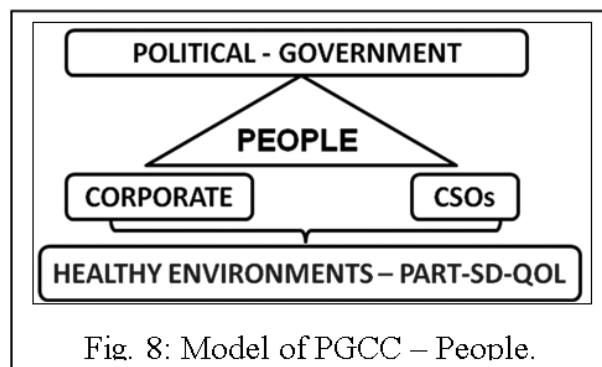
Models and Role of CSOs

The models and the role of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in putting a check to the corruption and its unhealthy consequences are shown in Fig. 7, Fig. 8 and Fig. 9.

Fig.7: Model of TDAs & BUAs.

The models are self explanatory and some of the key reflections are furnished below:

1. Government (Fig. 7) has got resources and plans to distribute to the people for their welfare and development both on short term and long term basis.

2. The Service Delivery System (SDS) mostly followed is of Top Down Approaches (TDAs) and do have some limitations in reaching the people.

3. The other mode of service delivery by Bottom Up Approaches (BUAs) will be more effective compared to that of TDAs and their need based combination is more advantageous.

4. At this stage the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) do support the SDS of Government with the dominant role of BUAs as they are very near to the people and work with community initiatives which are more of participatory and accessible.

Fig. 8: Model of PGCC – People.

5. CSOs work with healthy systems which include Design, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation (DIME), Participatory, Accountable, Responsible and Transparent (PART) and Available, Accessible and affordable (3As).

6. This model at the end results in Sustainable Development (SD) of the people with improved Quality of Life (QOL).

7. The people are surrounded by (Fig. 8) Political Parties, Government, Corporate and CSOs (PGCC) who accept the responsibility of

their welfare and development with better availability, access and affordability (3As).

8. The first three systems work with more of business motto and thus a smaller group gets benefitted such as the investors or power agents. The model of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) still largely works on profit motto giving benefit to the investors or business magnets.

9. All such unhealthy consequences can be minimized by shifting from Business Oriented Development (BOD) to People Oriented Development (POD).

10. At this stage, CSOs play a key role in transforming the model of development as well as to reach people both quantitatively and qualitatively.

11. The Partnership of Government-Private-CSO tuning to the model of Design, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation (DIME) results for creating healthy environments at all the levels.

12. The combination of Political Systems, Government, Corporate and CSOs improves the Service Delivery Systems (SDSs) with better PART, SD and QOL.

Fig. 9: Role of CSOs.

13. The CSOs do play (Fig. 9) a key role in the welfare and development of the people with need based strategies and interventions for inclusiveness.

14. The CSOs add its strength with the dominance of Bottom Up Approaches (BUAs) with better connectivity both for receiving resources and its distribution.

15. CSOs work with several departments and systems at all the levels which include: Political, Government, Judiciary, Police, Private, Corporate, Financial Institutes (FIs), Funding Agencies (FAs) both National and International, Marketing, Auditing including Social Auditing, Documentation, Dissemination, and other associated areas.

16. CSOs support for the effectivenes of DIME, 3As, and PART which further results for creating an inclusive and healthy environment that finally ends up with sustainable and inclusive development, with improved quality of life (QOL).

The models are innovative and CSOs work to check for the corruption and its further unhealthy consequences both on the environment as well as the People and Nation.

Conclusions

The study made has resulted in interesting conclusions for eradicating or minimizing the impact of corruption and some of them include:

1. Corruption is unhealthy and it is like a cancer which spoils the entire system or body and acts as a barrier for the development and inclusiveness.

2. Government has got resources to cater the needs of the people but not their greed.

3. The greed of a smaller group affects the service delivery systems and thus creates scarcity of resources for larger population.
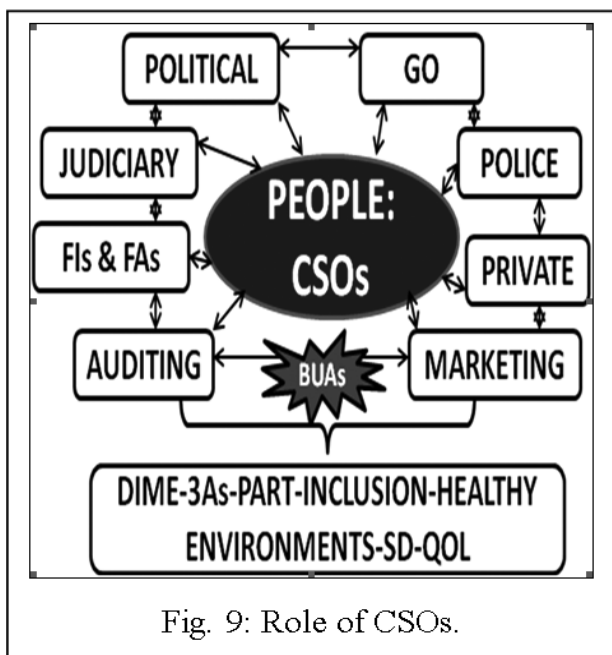
4. The service delivery system supports for the welfare and development of the people both on short term and long term with inclusiveness.

5. The service delivery systems mostly dominated by top down approaches are ineffective and not matching to the needs of the targeted groups.

6. This results for poor availability, accessibility and affordability of resources for catering human critical needs.

7. People have got the rights and can choose or elect people to govern with healthy systems and values. Unfortunately, the systems or people connected with political, industrial and bureaucratic systems are exploiting the common people and mostly pushing them out of the benefits of development.

8. Government and Private sector are working on partnership basis for the development of the People and Nation. Unfortunately, majority of them have deviated from people oriented development and moved towards business oriented development.

9. The benefits of the development are mostly confined to selected region and groups and lacks sustainability and quality.

10. Continuation of such unhealthy activities widens the gap between the urbanites & ruralites and rich & poor.

11. Unhealthy practices lead for corruption and further results in generating black money

12. This leads for violence, crime, terrorism and further affects the inclusiveness, sustainability and quality of life.

13. There exists several ways to eradicate or minimize the impact and generation of corruption and black money.

14. Use of technologies has got the advantage of Online Systems which are more transparent and responsive.

15. It supports for effective transfer of technologies from lab to land with effective research in terms of designing, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

16. Adapting cashless transactions works for better participation, accountability, responsibility and transparency from both the sides.

17. All such positive transactions both at buying and selling, yield higher returns in general and particularly for the farmers (producers) and works for the empowerment of the people. This further supports for Food Security.

18. The models are need based and simple in its implementation as they need only commitment of the people as providers or receivers or both.

19. The CSOs play a key role in working with Government and Private on partnership basis at all levels to improve the reach to the targeted groups both quantitatively and qualitatively.

20. The bottom up approaches developed, based on the needs of the people at grassroots, works with better innovation and creativity.

21. The mission of Digital India added with Clean India and Make India will support for better availability, accessibility and affordability of resources with better accountability and transparency.

22. With healthy systems, the health and wealth of the people and the nation can be protected with better inclusiveness, sustainability and quality.

23. The suggested models and channels are simple, replicable, scalable and sustainable to work for the empowerment of the people with healthy systems and values with inclusive development.

Recommendations

Understanding the need of effective governance with better accountability and transparency, the recommendations made to continue the study include:

1. Develop Educational Systems with quality and values so that they become the Change Makers at all the levels.

2. Strengthen Digital Model of Service Delivery Systems / Channels with Online Transactions which will be more effective with better Responsiveness, Accountability and Transparency.

3. Improve the Connectivity both Physically and Technologically with better Access and Affordability.

4. Develop Simple Systems with better Affordability so that everyone will feel happy to pay the Taxes and other user Payments.

5. Develop Effective Grievance Systems with better Guidance and Facilitation so that people will get attracted to follow the Laws and Rules.

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Integrity

A key component to workplace ethics and behavior is integrity, or being honest and doing the right thing at all times. For example, health care employees who work with mentally or physically challenged patients must possess a high degree of integrity, as they manage and work primarily with money. Workers with integrity also avoid gossip and sneakiness while on the job.

Behaviors

All companies specify what is acceptable behavior, and what is not, when hiring an employee. Many even summarize expected conduct in job descriptions or during the interview process. Behavior guidelines typically address topics, such as harassment, work attire and language. Workers who don't follow codes of conduct may receive written and verbal warnings, and ultimately be fired.