

CORRUPTION IN INDIA

Anna Hazare

Kisan Baburao Hazare (Marathi: किसन बाबुराव हजारे) (born 15 January 1940), popularly known as Anna Hazare (Marathi: अण्णा हजारे), is a pre-eminent Indian social activist who is especially recognized for his contribution to the development of Ralegan Siddhi, a village in Parner taluka of Ahmednagar district, Maharashtra, India and his efforts for establishing it as a model village, for which he was awarded the Padma Bhushan by the government of India in 1992.

On 5 April 2011, Hazare started a 'fast unto death' to exert pressure on the government of India to enact a strong anti-corruption act as envisaged in the Jan Lokpal Bill, a law that will establish a Lokpal (ombudsman) that will have the power to deal with corruption in public offices. The fast led to nation wide protests in support of Hazare. The fast ended on 9 April 2011, the day after all of Hazare's demands were agreed by the government of India and the government issued a gazette notification on the formation of a joint committee (of government and civil society representatives) to draft an effective Lokpal Bill

Corruption free India-sound-click u-tube:

"<http://www.youtube.com/embed/tv2K5pR5EJQ>

Corruption starts at home

It's easy to slam politicians for corruption but also inaccurate. Like tennis or the tango, corruption takes two. Together, we make a system work or break. Each time you or I pay a bribe for a traffic offence, or grease someone's palm for a railway ticket, we are being corrupt. Of course there's a quantum of difference between those in power, with the ability to withhold what's needed, and the applicant before them. In that scenario, money sometimes seems the quickest way to avoid hassles, ensure services, escape questioning on why a 13-year-old is driving a car or an unqualified person helming a plane. This is our way of 'getting around' a system that denies us fair opportunities, we argue. But each time we pay a bribe, we break our system a little more.

Politicians are simply a reflection of our own tendencies. They too emerge from everyday India; many must raise large sums to fight their first election. Ideals stripped away at early stages of the electoral process, they pad their way to the top with larger bundles of cash. This is not to absolve politicians but understand why they act the way they do. It's because of us. Despite moaning about corruption, we don't hesitate to vote back the same tainted

representatives. At times, we vote for cash, TVs or freebies. And sometimes, we don't vote at all.

It is our fault that corruption has become the monster it is today. The politician is an integral part of this problem but not the whole of it. Treating politicians with 'disdain' won't provide a silver bullet to cleanse the system miraculously. Until we fix our tendencies to slip cash and use 'contacts' for licenses, degrees and connections, we will never be rid of corruption. We may be rid of politicians though, but find ourselves in deeper trouble.

CORRUPTION--A BRITISH LEGACY?

Here is an article from TIMES OF INDIA which I had kept and which I chanced to come across today. It is from TOI dated 9th Sept 2004, in the column "CONVERSATIONS WITH READERS" on pg 14. In fact, it is from timesofindia.com mailed to the paper by a reader V P Kajaria. It sets us thinking and realising the price we are paying for the base and mean attitude of the colonial rulers. They bragged--"The sun never sets over the British Empire" and when it started setting this is what they did!

"According to the Official Secrets Act of the United Kingdom, whose records are kept in the British Library,(after 60 years it has come to light) that Jinnah was paid Rs 30 lakh a year from 1935 onwards by the British Government under its DIVIDE AND RULE policy. In today's times this amounts to a whopping Rs 90 crore per annum.

The news of this payment appeared in TOI in 1996.

In sum, I would like to say that Jinnah did not serve the interests of even the Muslims of Pakistan or India, let aside undivided India which was his motherland."

This probably explains the changed attitude of Jinnah towards Gandhi and the British Govt. after 1935!

Must Read ! Very Powerful Worded

LETTER OF EDITOR OF TIMES OF INDIA TO PRIME MINISTER

Dear Mr. Prime minister

I am a typical mouse from Mumbai. In the local train compartment which has capacity of 100 persons, I travel with 500 more mouse. Mouse at least squeak but we don't even do that.

Today I heard your speech. In which you said 'NO BODY WOULD BE SPARED'. I would like to remind you that fourteen years has passed since serial bomb blast in Mumbai took place.

Dawood was the main conspirator. Till today he is not caught. All our bollywood actors, our builders, our Gutka king meets him but your Government can not catch him. Reason is simple; all your ministers are hand in glove with him. If any attempt is made to catch him everybody will be exposed. Your statement 'NOBODY WOULD BE SPARED' is nothing but a cruel joke on this unfortunate people of India .

Enough is enough. As such after seeing terrorist attack carried out by about a dozen young boys I realize that if same thing continues days are not away when terrorist will attack by air, destroy our nuclear reactor and there will be one more Hiroshima .

We the people are left with only one mantra. Womb to Bomb to Tomb. You promised Mumbaikar Shanghai what you have given us is Jalianwala Baug.

Today only your home minister resigned. What took you so long to kick out this joker? Only reason was that he was loyal to Gandhi family. Loyalty to Gandhi family is more important than blood of innocent people, isn't it?

I am born and brought up in Mumbai for last fifty eight years. Believe me corruption in Maharashtra is worse than that in Bihar . Look at all the politician, Sharad Pawar, Chagan Bhujbal, Narayan Rane, Bal Thackray , Gopinath Munde, Raj Thackray, Vilasrao Deshmukh all are rolling in money. Vilasrao Deshmukh is one of the worst Chief minister I have seen. His only business is to increase the FSI every other day, make money and send it to Delhi so Congress can fight next election. Now the clown has found new way and will increase FSI for fisherman so they can build concrete house right on sea shore. Next time terrorist can comfortably live in those house , enjoy the beauty of sea and then attack the Mumbai at their will.

Recently I had to purchase house in Mumbai. I met about two dozen builders. Everybody wanted about 30% in black. A common person like me knows this and with all your intelligent agency & CBI you and your finance minister are not aware of it. Where all the black money goes? To the underworld isn't it? Our politicians take help of these goondas to vacate people by force. I myself was victim of it. If you have time please come to me, I will tell you everything.

If this has been land of fools, idiots then I would not have ever cared to write you this letter. Just see the tragedy, on one side we are reaching moon, people are so intelligent and on other side you politician has converted nectar into deadly poison. I am everything Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Schedule caste, OBC, Muslim OBC, Christian Schedule caste, Creamy Schedule caste only what I am not is INDIAN. You politician have raped every part of mother India by your policy of divide and rule.

Take example of former president Abdul Kalam. Such a intelligent person, such a fine human being. You politician didn't even spare him. Your party along with opposition joined the hands, because politician feels they are supreme and there is no place for good person.

Dear Mr Prime minister you are one of the most intelligent person, most learned person. Just wake up, be a real SARDAR. First and foremost expose all selfish politician. Ask Swiss bank to give name of all Indian account holders. Give reins of CBI to independent agency. Let them find wolf among us. There will be political upheaval but that will better than dance of death which we are witnessing every day. Just give us ambient where we can work honestly and without fear. Let there be rule of law. Everything else will be taken care of.

Choice is yours Mr. Prime Minister. Do you want to be lead by one person or you want to lead the nation of 100 Crore people?

Prakash B. Bajaj - Editor Mumbai-Times of India

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