**Abstract**: Corruption is widespread in Indian Civilization and it has caused maximum suffering to the human kind.

The paper discusses issues related to the nature, causes, consequences and possible remedial measures of corruption in Indian Society. It emphasizes that lack of transparency, morality, accountability and consistency as well as institutional weakness provided fertile ground for the growth of corruption in India. It also emphasizes that how corruption related to development issues in India and which kind negative effects are shown in Indian social, political and economic system. The paper also touches that which kind of reforms are necessary to fight against corruption in India.

**CORRUPTION IN INDIA**

**I.INTRODUCTION**

Corruption is an age old phenomenon and can be seen everywhere now a days. It is like a cancer in public life, which has not become to rampant and perpetuated overnight, but is course of time. The word corruption means destruction, ruining or spoiling a society or nation. A corrupt society is characterized by immorality and lack of fear or respect for the law. It is the abuse of public power for private gain. Corruption comes under many different guises like bribery, extortion, fraud, embezzlement. misappropriations of public goods, nepotism (favoring family members for jobs and contracts) cronyism and influence pending.

Corruption has been defined in many different ways, each lacking in some aspect. A few years ago, the question of definition absorbed a large praportion of the time spent on discussion of corruption at conferences and feelings. However like a elephant, even though it may be difficult to describe, it is generally not difficult to recognize when observeed. Unfortunately, the behaviour is often difficult to observe directly because, typically acts of corruption do no t takes place in broad day light.

According to Oxford Dictionary – “perversion of destruction of integrity in discharge of public duties by bribery or favour is called corruption.”

The webster's Dictionary defines corruption as “inducement to wrong by improper or unlawful meansas bribery.”

The most popular and simplest definition of corruption is given by the world bank. According to this definition corruption is that it is the “abuse of public power for private benefit” . From this definition it should not be concluded that corruption cannot exist within private sector activities. Especially in large private enterprises, this phenomenon clearly exists, as for example in procurement or even in hiring. It also exist in private activities regulated by the government.

**II.CORRUPTION IN INDIA:-**

Corruption is widespread in India. India has been ranked 94 th out of 176 countries in Transparency International's 2012 corruption perception index (CPI). Corruption has taken the role of a pervasive aspect of Indian Politics and Bureaucracy.

The economy of India was under socialist. Inspired policies for an entire generation from the 1950 suntil the 1980s. The economy was shackled by extensive regulation protectionism and public ownership, leading to pervasive corruption and slow growth.

Since 1991, economic liberalization in India has reduced red type and bureaucracy, supported the transition towards a market economy and transformed the economy with high growth rate. However, although the Indian economy has become the 4th largest in the world, the growth has been uneven across social and economic groups and poverty is still on issue. Endemic and deep rooted corruption is a major factor for most social and political ills. It is a serious threat not just to sustainable economic growth, but also to the socio-political fabric of the country.

In Indian civilization, corruption have caused maximum suffering to the humankind. In ancient Indian history the great Indian philosopher Kautilya says “just as it is not possible, not to taste honey or poison put on the surface of the tongue, so it is not possible for the government servant dealing with money not to taste it in however small a quantity.”

**NATURE OF CORRUPTION:-**

Under the Indian constitution, the government consists of three branches : the legislative, the executive and the judiciary with clear mandate for independent functioning of each branch. For the good governance it is compulsory that each of these units must function with integrity and efficiency. The legislators are elected representatives of the peoples and responsible for making laws. The executive branch consisting of ministers, bureaucrats and whole government machinery, which is responsible for the implementation of laws made up by legislative assemblies. The judiciary, acts as an impartial watchdog to see if the people are governed as per the law. It lakes the power to frame any law, it can only interpret the laws passed by the law makers under the constitutional framework and give its verdicts. But when corruption invades, governance begins to degrade implying loss of integrity and efficiency both. Now – a – days corruption is widespread in every segment of Indian government system and politics.

The behaviour of India legislators both at the union and in the state leaves a lot to be desired. Every time they act motivated by personal gain. Corruption in the assemblies as seen from this perspective implies floor crossing, case for vote taking money or other benefits to ask questions, framing rules under the influence of big corporate houses at the cost of common people. Criminalization of politics is yet another fact of corruption in the current parliament. These are over a quarter MPs with criminal records. Many with serious charges against them . It also highlights an area where electoral reforms is urgently needed so that criminals don't enter in the parliament or state assemblies.

In the executive branch, ministers are placed at top of the hierarchy. They are responsible for the making policies for the public because the public trust on them and elected by votes to making government. In recent analysis we seen that the level of corruption in ministers is highest. 2 G spectrum scam, coal allotment scam, commonwealth games scam, fodder scam etc. are the best examples of it.

**CAUSES OF CORRUPTION:-**

Corruption is a global phenomenon and it is omnipotent. It has progressively increased and is now rampant in our society. Corruption in India has wings, not wheels. As the nation grows, the corrupt also grow to invent new methods of cheating the government and public. The cause of corruption are many and complex. The following are some other causes of corruption :-

* Emergence of a political elite which believes in interest oriented rather than nation oriented programmes and policies.
* Artificial scarcity created by people with malevolent intention wrecks the fabrics of the

economy.

* Corruption is caused as well as increased because of the change in the value system and ethical qualities of men who administer. The old ideals of morality, services and honesty are regarded as anachronistic.
* Tolerance of people towards corruption, complete lack of intense public outcry against corruption and the absence of a strong public forum to oppose corruption allow corruption to reign our people.
* Vast size of population coupled with widespread illiteracy and the poor economic infrastructure lead to endemic corruption in public life.
* In a highly inflationary economy, low salaries of government officials compel them to resort to corruption. Graduates from Indian institutes of management with no experience draw a far handsome salary than what government secretaries draw.
* Complex laws and procedures deter common people from seeking help from the government.
* Elution time is a time when corruption is at its peak. Big industrialists fund politicians to meet high cost of election and ultimately to seek personal favour. Bribery to politicians buys influences and bribery by politicians buys votes. In order to get elected, politicians bribe poor, illiterate people.

**CONCLUSION:-**

There is a much better grasp today of the extent to which corruption is a symptom of fundamental institutional weaknesses in Indian society. Instead of tackling such a symptom with narrow intervention designed to “eliminate” it, it is increasingly understood that the approach ought to address a broad set of fundamental institutional determinants. However, the challenge of integrating this understanding with participatory process has barely begun. The implementation of institutional reforms can benefit significantly from the participatory process that is being developed for anti-corruption activities. Equally important, any participatory process, however sophisticated, ought to lead to concrete results beyond enhanced participation and heightened awareness. Thus, identifying key institutional reforms in India, and mobilising support for such reforms, needs to be fully integrated into the participatory process from very early on. Such early convergence is likely to promote a better balance between prevention and enforcement measures in addressing corruption. Until recently, the pendulum was firmly in the “enforcement” corner. The gradual swing towards the middle ground has taken place due to recognition of the limitations to expose legalistic enforcement measures, since the law institutions themselves are currently part of the corruption problem in India.