

Role of Civil Society in Administration: A Normative Study

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Abstract : *An attempt has been tried to explore the role of civil society in preventing the growing corruption and role in administration. The civil society of India exists as an underdeveloped form. India like other developing countries is not free from political and administrative corruptions. Indian civil society is a parochial in nature due to lack of socio-political consciousness of the people. We are living in civil society where all administrative institutions, schools, colleges, universities and others public corporations exist. The important point is that these are not free from corruption. On 5 April 2011, anti-corruption activist Anna Hazare began a hunger strike at the Jantar Mantar in New Delhi. The prime aim of the movement was to alleviate corruption in the Indian government through introducing of the Jan Lokpal Bill. Ramdev demonstrated the repatriation of black money from Swiss and other foreign banks.*
Keywords : *Civil, Society, Corruption, Administration, Democracy, Movement, Economic, Parliament, Political.*

Reference to this paper should be made as follows:

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*Role of Civil Society in Administration:
A Normative Study,*

RJPSS 2018, Vol. 43, No.1,
pp.49-55, Article No.7,
Received on 04/02/2018
Approved on 27/02/2018

Online available at:

[http://anubooks.com/
?page_id=442](http://anubooks.com/?page_id=442)

Role of Civil Society

Introduction

Civil society can challenge the abuses of authority of the administration. It can minimise the power of the state. To promotes quality and credibility of the democratic process. It plays as a monitor in election times. It maintains and save the human rights and strengthen the rule of law. Civil society provides education to the citizens about their rights and responsibilities. It imparts training of tolerance and civic involvement. From the outside the state civil society provides alternatives means for their material development. It flow the formations between state and citizens. It may make a building constituency for socio-economic and political development.

1. Civil Society as against Corruption

The administrative system of the countries of South and Southeast Asia are not free from corruption. The civil society movement against corruption in India has started under the leadership of Anna Hazare. He began “fast-unto-death” hunger strike to end corruption through Satyagraha technique for passing anti-corruption Lokpal (ombudsman) bill known as Jan Lokpal Bill (People’s Ombudsman Bill) on 5 April 2011 at Jantar Mantar in Delhi. The Manmohan Singh Government rejected to pass that of bill in the parliament. Hazare said ‘I will fast until Jan Lokpal Bill is passed’. Both printed and electronics medias are focused the attention of the government. Thousands of people like social activists, former IPS officers and person from the society supported his movement. He also demanded to an amendment to electoral law to incorporate the ‘None of the above’ (NOTA) in the Electronic Voting Machines”. It indicates the disapproval by the voters to the listed candidates in the electoral system. The voters should have right to reject the candidates if they have no suitable candidate from the candidates. This demand was supported by the Chief Election Commissioner of India Shahabuddin Yaqoob Quraishi. Hazare started Jantantra Yatra from the city of Amritsart for electoral reforms. Civil society can organise the people against corruption.

The movement was non-violent civil résistance. The very recent in India the civil society movement has been initiated by Team Anna Hazare. It has been observed by Indian people the weak civil society movements against anti-corruption. Before independence India the civil society movements were held on problems of environmental issues which were related with the interests of for all but now we

are observing that the movement has been turned into political issues. The fasting movement of Anna Hazare and Ramdev was hijacked by the political leaders for their political interests. The real motto of civil society movement based on politics may destroy the lust of democracy and it can reduce the spirit of civil society movement against anti-corruption. Due to the involvement of political parties in civil society movement it displaced from its original position. The politicisation of civil society movement is not desirable for healthy society.

2. Civil society in Socio-Economic Development

Civil society organisations play an important role in socio-economic development. Civil society organise and mobilise the people of the country and play a positive role of the socio-economic development through selection of the right leaders or representatives of the people, collecting information about the performance and attitudes of the representatives, criticising underperforming leaders, spreading information among the population, provide information to the leaders about the conditions of the people, propagation for common-good, problems of the people, basic amenities of the citizens like health, education, water, roads, sanitation etc. Civil society can create a healthy atmosphere for the youth and children.

3. Civil society in awakening the people about Government Programmes

Civil society is a direct supervisory power of the people by which it can influence on government and authority of the country. Through the non-violence means the civil society reacts against the plan, policies and programmes of the government. Most of the people of the country are careless or aware less about the shortcoming and benefits of these policies. The civil society comes into front to create awareness the people about the programmes of the government. Civil society raises the awareness in the country. It has an essential in harnessing the power. It promotes the development in the country.

4. Civil society facilitates people's Participation in Administrative Process

Civil society is not an inseparable part from administrative process. It provides citizen control over the administrative process of a country. Civil society maintains responsibility for smooth and effective performance to the administrative machinery. In a democratic style of administrative system the civil society plays as sovereign authority. Civil society participates in the administration on the process of election, recall, pressure groups, advisory committees and public opinion. In

decision making, implementation, monitoring and evaluation process civil society helps administration.

5. Civil society in building Democratic Order

Civil society movements can influence on the government policy and social attitude. It can maintain and strengthen the democracy. Civil society empowers the citizens about their legal rights and duties. The traditional excluded groups like women, dalits and minorities enjoy rights and duties through the civil society. Due to the fear of criticism against the government, political parties do not show to do anything. In this way civil society checks the political abuses and violation of laws. Civil society hold the state responsibility and accountable. Civil society can resolves the conflicts and disagreements in the democratic institutions in ensuring that the policies of the state are best interests of the people. Tolerance, willingness, compromise, respects etc. are the issues of democracy which are promotes through civil society amongst the people. A civil society uses the political parties, organisations, associations, groups as representatives for the interests of the civil society. In this way civil society improves the quality of democracy. Civil society helps to reforms the social-economic, legislature and political phenomena. It may improve a clear pave the way for reconstructions of the society. Before democratic elections the civil society looks the matters of election and plays as monitoring of elections to check the legitimacy of the result. Civil society can keep the transparency and accountability of the government.

6. Civil Society in Good Governance

The core elements of good governance are people's participation, transparency, responsiveness, consensus orientation, equity and inclusiveness, rule of law, effectiveness and efficiency, accountabilities etc. Parliamentary democracy becomes participatory democracy where decisions are made by a small group of elected representatives through the active role of civil society. Taking membership in committees civil society influence through elected representatives to the policies of the government and affects the citizens in the implementation of these policies. To govern the administrative system as governance the civil society plays the under mentioned functions.

- i. As a watchdog civil society tries to preserve the sanctity of human being and protest against violation of human rights and governing deficiencies.
- ii. Civil society plays as an advocate for the interest of the weaker sections of the society.

- iii. On behalf of aggrieved citizens it plays as agitator for the betterment.
- iv. It plays as an educator in providing the rights, entitlement and responsibilities to the citizen.
- v. It performs as a service provider to the areas and people where governmental efforts not reached yet.
- vi. It performs as mobilize of the public opinion about in favour of and against of the governmental policies and programmes.

On 25 December 2014, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced that the government would be observed as 'Good Governance Day' on the occasion of birth day of former Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpaiyee. To him, use of technology would be played as bridge to fill up the gap between government and citizen. The focus areas of government are to use the technology and establish good governance for India. According to Narendra Modi, 'good governance is putting people at the centre of the development process.' Democracy without politics and citizenship without rights are the twin pillars of 'good governance'. Good governance means "authoritarianism with a democratic face". In view of Narendra Modi democracy without politics and citizenship without rights are the twin pillars of good governance. Prime Minister Modi said that good governance must be 'pro-people' and 'pro-active'. India is a country where Christmas celebrates as 'Good Governance Day'.

7. Civil society in Global strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health

The civil society and NGOs have power to influence the individual behavior. Civil society mobilizes the grass-root people campaigning in favour of health diet and physical fitness for the children.

8. As protector for the Interests of the People

Though civil society is not a part of government yet it serves as a protector of the rights, welfare for all and development in economic, social, cultural, moral and other responsibilities. The interest of the people is the interests of the society that may be implemented through the active role of civil society.

9. Strengthen Political Consciousness: Through the participation in the discussion of the political issues the civil society creates political consciousness among the masses. Using several printed and electronics medias civil society propagates the ideologies and ethics of politics and people earn knowledge about politics.

10. Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Role of UNICEF

The civil society organizations and UNICEF have acted some positive role to preserve the children from violence and sexual abuses, improving the health services for mothers and children, ensure pure drinking water and access to education for all. Civil society organizations focus on poverty eradication, climate change, health, gender equality. Through the partnerships UNICEF has been able to create to strengthen child protection, health, nutrition, water and sanitation and education.

Conclusion

Global Integrity 2013 evaluates civil society organisations in India is 'very weak'. There is a hope of light for Indian people are that The Transformation Index 2014 reports that India's civil society is increasing assertive. It has growing positive influence on political agenda and influencing on intra-and inter-ethnic harmony. The Human Report of 2013 reported that the Indian government generally respects the right of freedom of assembly and association. Civil society has a role to represent in legislature for the interests of the voiceless and unorganized communities. Empowerment of local communities is the goal of civil society. As a platform or space it provides equal opportunities to everybody. Civil society opposes the centralizing tendency of the state. It is in favour of decentralized power of the state. Civil society ensure the accountability of the state through the preserving official documents of the concern state and has a monitoring role to hold the law and order of the state. It controls the political parties and electoral process and local bodies.

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