

CURRENT AFFAIRS

Q. How can corruption be managed in Pakistan? (20 marks)

50 min

Ans

1)

INTRODUCTION

"Corruption is the abuse of entrusted power for private gains."

(Ref; ~~Am~~ Transparency International)

Corruption, as cited above, is the abuse of entrusted power. It is grounded in Pakistan's society and governance. There are various reasons for the proliferating corruption in the country, and it has several negative implications for the country's socio-political, and economic development. Hence, this contaminated diseases should be eradicated from the country through a comprehensive and holistic strategy.

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2)

BACKGROUND

2.1)

Historical Legacy

Pakistan has faced several instances of corruption before the independence and post independence as well. Awan in his book The bureaucracy and development in Pakistan entails that the corruption was enrooted in the country during British times.

2.2)

Economic Factors

There are economic reasons for corruption as well. For instance; the lack of transparency in economic activities particularly of government. Besides, income inequality and poverty are indirect causes of corruption according to Research gate.

2.3)

Weak Governance

Weak governance and its principles such as participation, responsiveness, efficiency, equity, and rule of law are the causes of corruption in Pakistan.

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3)

IMPLICATIONS ; OF CORRUPTION IN PAKISTAN

3.1)

Economic Implications

The economic impacts of corruption on Pakistan include decreased domestic and foreign investment, inequality and poverty, and misallocation of resources for private gains.

3.2)

Social Implications

Increased social unrest due to poverty, and inequality is at peak. Besides, the corruption has led to the normalization of illicit behaviour including tax evasion, bribery for services and others.

3.3;

Implications on Governance

Corruption has weakened the democratic process, eroded the public trust on government, and led to ineffective public services and undermined justice system. For example; the continuous military coup in the history of the country due to weak democracy.

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3.4) International Implications

The corruption in Pakistan has disturbed the international standing of the country as reported by Transparency International.

4) MEASURES TO MANAGE CORRUPTION IN PAKISTAN

4.1) Strengthening Anti-Corruption Institutions

Strengthening anti-corruption institutions such as (NAB) National Accountability Bureau by increasing their independence, efficiency and reducing political interference. Besides, their investigative and prosecutive capacities must be enhanced along with reforming their institutional framework through reducing loopholes. For example, the establishment of a Task Force to overview them as suggested by the Ministry of Law and Justice.

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4.2) Reforming Public Administration and Civil Services

To combat corruption, the merit based allocation and promotion in civil services must be ensured along with encouraging the idea of competitive salaries to enhance efficiency. Moreover, daily ethical training of civil servants should be to build their morals and ethics.

4.3) Enhancing Transparency and Access to Information

Enhancing transparency by opened government initiatives like open budgeting, open contracting and using digital means is the need of hour. Moreover, effective implementation of Right to Information Laws is must to reduce corruption.

4.4) Increasing Accountability

Increasing accountability of government officials by parliamentary committees

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as well as having an independent judiciary to provide impartial justice and sentence culprits is essential to eradicate the corruption.

4.5) Addressing Systemic Issues And Political Will

Tackle political corruption done by political parties is necessary. Furthermore, ensuring rule of law where every citizen is equal before law irrespective of their status. Additionally, political will to combat corruption is very necessary.

4.6) Strengthening Civil Society and Engaging Media

Strengthening civil society organisations that make government accountable for its actions, as well as encouraging independent and investigative journalism to aware public of government decisions is required to decrease and manage corruption in Pakistan.

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Ways To Manage Corruption in Pakistan

Strengthening anti
corruption institutions

Reforming Public
administration and
Civil services.

Increasing transparency
and access to infor-
mation to public
and media

Increasing accountability

Addressing systemic
issues and political
will

Engaging media
and civil society

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5)

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the corruption is a longstanding problem in the governance and society of Pakistan. It affects the country politically, socially, economically and internationally. Thus it must be addressed through a holistic approach that includes all the relevant stakeholders at all levels.

Well this isn't exactly a 20mark question

Add references from books as well

You have got potential
Good luck!