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GS-4

Corruption is a reflection of crisis in ethics and moral values of public servants in the country. Discuss

India ranked 51/180 on the Corruption Perception Index. As Joseph Nye quoted: corruption is a behaviour that deviates from the formal duties of public role.

Reflection of ethical crisis

Corruption undermines good governance, distorts public policy and results in misallocation of resources. Corruption persists because it is beneficial both the parties involved in the corruption.

It is resulted from erosion of integrity, trust and humility. It manifests as systematic abuse of power for private gain which grossly affects the poor.

Measures to Counter Corruption

Corruption cannot be eliminated but contained.

① Legislations such as Prevention of Corruption Act (amendment) 2018, says that giving bribe is also punishable.

② Digitization - can greatly reduce corruption.
Direct benefit transfer - for subsidies payment,
e-tender for approval of public procurements
of and GeM - Government e-marketplace for selling goods and services.

③ Integrity Pact by Central Vigilance Commission in major procurements to ensure effective investigation in case of irregularities

④ Lokpal has been constituted at the centre and many states have established Lok Ayuktha.

The public sector - demand side along with private - supply side which pays the bribe must be taken. Signing Anti Bribery Conventions can bring effective frameworks in combating corruption.