

Criminality, Illegality and Immorality in Indian Politics

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Abstract: India's father of nation is Mahatma Gandhiji, a saint among politician, if there ever was one. Politics they say is the last refuge of a scoundrel. One would expect Indian politicians to be better than scoundrels, considering that it is the nation of Mahatma Gandhiji. However, Indian politicians with their drastic criminality, illegality and immorality leave one dismayed.

Date of Submission: 19-11-2022

Date of Acceptance: 03-12-2022

I. Introduction

Internationally the stereotype of a politician is that they are greedy and dishonest. Politicians are known to be corrupt, immoral and with significant criminal tentacles. The problem is that the machinery that can correct these is the government, which is run by politicians themselves. This is almost like the scarecrow that feeds on the crop. How do you police policemen who have criminal tendencies? Only active voter intervention can solve problem of immorality, illegality and criminality in politics.

Shouldn't Indian Politicians be at least 10% like Mahatma Gandhiji

Politicians in 200 nations of the world are corrupt, immoral and have criminal tentacles. But India should have been different. After all this is the nation of Mahatma Gandhiji. One doesn't expect every person to be a saint like Mahatma Gandhiji. Yet shouldn't Indians at least be 10% like Mahatma Gandhiji, especially those in Politics.

Yet, politicians in India only pay lip service to Mahatma Gandhiji. And not even that any more. Politicians in India are openly immoral, corrupt and criminal. The choice in Indian politics is not between good and evil, it is between evil and more evil.

Immorality in Indian Politics

Immorality is something that is allowed by law, but goes against conscience and violates ethics of religion, society and humanity. It is difficult to canonize commandments of morality, since morality is individual. However there are certain codes of morality which transcend the individuals in their broad acceptance by religion, society and humanity.

America is a nation that is sexual immoral but expects its politicians to be paragons of sexual morality. India, is relatively more sexual moral, but is lenient towards sexual immorality of its politicians. Case in point being Bill Clinton's flirtations with Monica Lewinsky almost cost him his Presidency, whereas Jawaharlal Nehru's affair with Edwina Mountbatten is not just excused but even proclaimed with pride.

The trouble with identifying sexual immorality is that it happens in secret. While sexual immorality is legal it is secret, whereas corruption is illegal and it is in open. Hence it is difficult to pinpoint sexual immorality, but prima facie the impression one carries is that Indian politicians are largely sexual immoral. However one cannot write any document based on impressions without evidence, hence this paper will largely ignore sexual immorality.

Let us hence discuss non sexual immorality in Indian politics – the financial immorality.

Let us remember that financial immorality is perfectly legal, just that it is unethical.

Let us start with the President of India. Now it is well known that Indian President is a ceremonial figure without any power resembling the queen or king of Britain, and unlike the American President, who has all the power in the nation.

However one is digressing when one is discussing the role of President, when one should be discussing the financial immorality of Indian President. The financial Immorality of Indian President is in his legal house of 360 acres which costs almost 5 lakh crore rupees, annual interest on which is around 60,000 crore rupees or 100,000 times President's pretended salary of 0.60 crore rupees per annum - and this in a nation where 50% of children are malnourished and where 60% of people did not have toilets until recently.

Members of Parliament and Ministers are no better. Their combined houses are spread over an area of 9000 acres costing almost 1 crorecrore rupees. The combined area of houses of governors of states must be over 1000 acres costing lakhs of crore rupees. The grave yards of dead leaders is spread over 260 acre land costing

lakhs of crores of rupees. Prime Minister's aeroplane costs Rs. 9000 crores and almost Rs 600 crores per year is spent on Prime Minister's security. Is that Immoral?

Illegality in Indian Politics

Now Illegality cannot be completely proven, however it is apparent. However government does not take action against apparent illegality. After all you cannot expect people practising illegality to punish illegality.

Take Election expenditures. According to centre for media studies in 2019 general elections almost 50,000 crore rupees was spent. That means almost Rs. 100 crore per constituency. Assuming 3 serious candidates per constituency that means almost Rs. 35 crores per constituency and that is 50 times the permitted upper limit per constituency of just 0.7 crores for general elections.

Then there is the issue of average declared assets of politicians which is around Rs. 16 crores per Member of Parliament and that amount is almost 1000 times the average per capita income of individual in the states they represent. Clearly it is not possible to legally have earned this much income. Hence it has to come from corruption. But then who will check the corruption when the corrupt themselves are responsible for checking corruption.

And then people change political parties to suit their ambitions, clearly due to the lust for power and greed for money. This is done in front of everyone and reported by media. Yet this blatant illegality goes unpunished because the guilty as charged are running the government.

Criminality in Indian Politics

As per declarations almost 50% of politicians have criminal cases against them. These are not criminal cases due to agitations, but these are criminal cases involving murder, extortion, rape, assault and violence. Of course these cases are manipulated so that the verdict does not go against the politicians. But the very fact that 50% of politicians have criminal cases against them proves in no uncertain terms that Indian politicians are by and large with significant criminal record. If rapists, murders and extortionists are in charge of running the government, even God can't save Mahatma Gandhiji's India.

II. Conclusion: Last Gandhian was killed by Godse

Among Christians there is a belief that last Christian died on the Cross. It could be argued after seeing the lot of Indian politicians that the last Gandhian was killed by Godse. Honestly there is not much hope. Voter activism could correct something, but the choice for voter is not so much between evil and less evil but evil and more evil.

References

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Prabhakar Deshpande. "Criminality, Illegality and Immorality in Indian Politics." *IOSR Journal of Humanities and Social Science (IOSR-JHSS)*, 27(11), 2022, pp. 01-02.