

# Corruption: greatest obstacle to growth and development of our nation essay



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Honourable judges, Respected principal madam, teachers, academic staff and my dear friends! A very Good Morning to one and all present here. I am present before you today in this Elocution competition on behalf of my House to speak a few lines on the topic— “ Corruption-greatest obstacle for the growth and development of our country. ” Corruption is the abuse of entrusted power for private gain, is the single greatest obstacle to economic and social development around the world.

Political corruption is the use of legislated powers by government officials for illegitimate private gain. Misuse of government power for other purposes, such as repression of political opponents and police brutality, is not considered political corruption. An illegal act by an officeholder constitutes political corruption only if the act is directly related to his official duties. Forms of corruption vary, but include bribery, extortion, cronyism, nepotism, patronage, graft and embezzlement.

While corruption may facilitate the criminal enterprises such as drug trafficking, money laundering and human trafficking, it is not restricted only to these activities. It distorts markets, stifles economic growth, debases democracy and undermines the rule of law. Corruption poses a serious development challenge. In the political realm, it undermines democracy and good governance by flouting or even subverting formal processes.

Corruption in elections and in legislative bodies reduces accountability and distorts representation in policy-making; corruption in the judiciary compromises the rule of law; and corruption in public administration results in the inefficient provision of services. More generally, corruption erodes the

institutional capacity of government as procedures are disregarded, resources are misused, and public offices are bought and sold. At the same time, corruption undermines the legitimacy of government and democratic values such as trust and tolerance. Corruption undermines economic development by generating considerable distortions and inefficiency. Where corruption inflates the cost of business, it also distorts the playing field, shielding firms with connections from competition and thereby sustaining inefficient firms.

Corruption facilitates environmental destruction. Corrupt countries may formally have legislation to protect the environment; it cannot be enforced if officials can easily be bribed. The same also applies to social rights worker protection, unionization prevention, and child labour. Violation of these laws and rights enables corrupt countries to gain illegitimate economic advantage in the international market.

The scale of humanitarian aid to the poor and unstable regions is highly vulnerable to corruption, with food aid, construction and other highly valued assistance as the most at risk. Food aid can be directly and physically diverted from its intended destination, or indirectly through the manipulation of assessments, targeting, registration and distributions to favour certain groups or individuals. Corruption can also affect the various components of sports activities involved in anti-doping controls, members of national sport federation and international committees deciding about the allocation of contracts and competition places. Hence, in overall we find out that corruption not only attacks the moral fibre of our society and the integrity of our markets, but it also conflicts with the core principles on which a <https://assignbuster.com/corruption-greatest-obstacle-to-growth-and-development-of-our-nation-essay/>

democracy is based. Therefore, our commitment to our ethical values and our strategic vision demands that we should not tolerate any form of corruption in our nation and prevent it before it gains a firm grip over the nation.

THANK YOU!