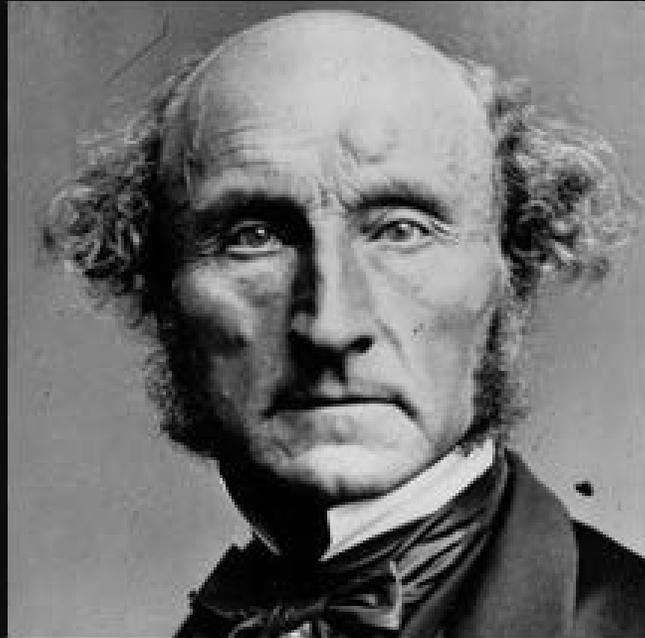




Prof. Dr. Aung Tun Thet
10/12/2020

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION





Any participation, even in the smallest public function, is useful.

~ John Stuart Mill

AZ QUOTES



CITIZEN PARTICIPATION



- **Not new concept**
- Gained **popularity** in *recent decades*
- Citizens have “... *right to **participate** in decisions that affect **public welfare.***”



CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

- **Instrumental engine of democratic and socio-economic change**
- **Fundamental way to empower citizens**



CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

- **Process**
- **Provide** individuals with opportunity to influence **public decisions**
- Component of *democratic* **decision-making process**



CITIZEN PARTICIPATION



- **Direct or indirect**
- **Access to information**
- **Public participation in decision-making**
- **Access to justice**



CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

- **Operationalized in different ways**
- **Bottom-up measures** - grassroots voting, organizing and participation
- **Top-down** mechanisms

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

- **5 reasons** to defend in public decision-making:
 1. *Include **public preferences** in decision-making*
 2. *Improve **decisions** by incorporating local knowledge of citizens*
 3. *Promote **equity and justice**, and **listen to marginalized** voices*

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

4. *Legitimize public decisions*
5. *Comply with requirements of the law*



CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN ANTI-CORRUPTION

- Dynamics and approaches differ from **other** public processes
- State does not always provide citizens with **same access** to space and information



CORRUPTION



- **Violation of democratic inclusion**
- **Bypass *democratically established laws and regulations***
- **Exclude** those who do not participate in corrupt exchanges

CITIZENS

- **Social responsibility**
- **Reporting** corruption to **authority** or through **media**
- **Support** *training programs* and *awareness campaigns* to create **culture of integrity** and **zero tolerance** for corruption
- **Refuse** to engage in **corrupt practices**

CITIZENS

- Use of **crowdsourcing** and **social media**
- *2012 World Bank launched **Integrity App** allows users to make **confidential reports** of fraud and corruption in World Bank projects*
- *India online platform "**I Paid a Bribe**" expose everyday corruption by allowing people to post stories **anonymously***
- **Document** corruption and **raise awareness** among public

CITIZENS

- **Digiwhist** *web portal and mobile application technology* launched in Europe
- **Collection, structuring, analysis and wide dissemination of systematic information** on public procurement
- Increase **accountability** of public officials
- Assessing **fiscal transparency, risk assessment, and impact of good governance** policies

CORRUPTION

- Concrete risk of **'normalization'**
- Decline of **public criticism**
- Necessary **evil**
- **Shortcut** to important assets

CORRUPTION

- **Critical attitude** of citizens towards corruption **weakened** or **completely lost**
- **High levels of corruption, citizen frustration** with public sector corruption, and **poor governance lead to citizen apathy, lack of civic engagement** and **lack of trust in political and democratic process**

CITIZEN APATHY

- Lack of **civic engagement**
- Addressed by **empowering citizens** and introducing **innovative approaches to citizen participation**
- Provide victims and witnesses of corruption with **practical assistance** in filing complaints and handling claims
- Citizens **report** corruption and **participate** in anti-corruption efforts



CITIZENS

- **Recognize** corruption
- *Empowered* to **participate**



CONSEQUENCES OF CORRUPTION

- **Deep inequalities**
- Increase in levels of **private dishonesty**
- **Demoralization** of public
- **Instability** and **violent extremism**

CORRUPTION SYNDROMES

- Citizens and public officials **pursue, use and exchange** wealth and power in *absence of appropriate* **accountability mechanisms**
- **Influence peddling, drug cartels, elite, oligarchs and clans, and official magnates**



INSTRUMENTALIZATION

- Citizens' **anti-corruption** attitudes

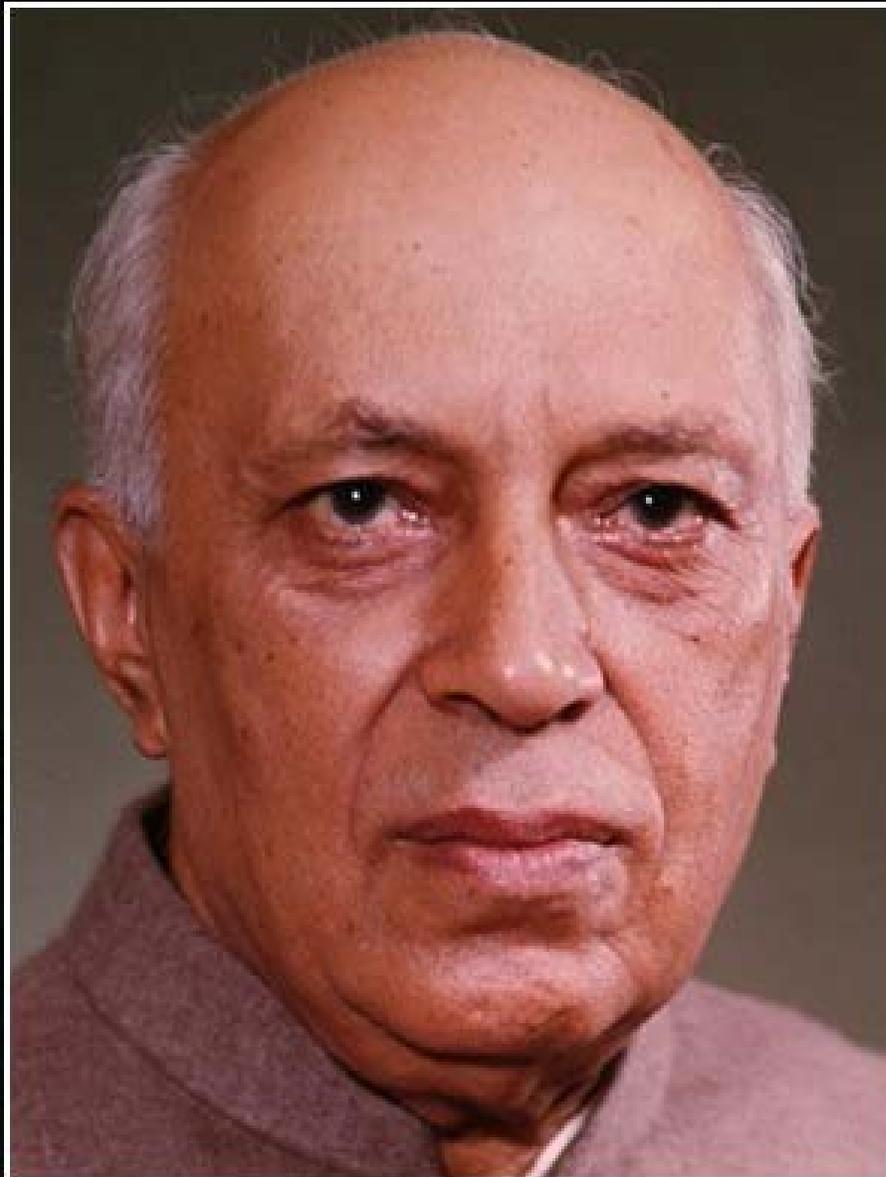
CORRUPTION

- Important element of **populist rhetoric**
- Populist leaders use **public outrage** at corrupt behaviour to punish **political adversaries**
- Populist movements present themselves as **anti-corruption force** based on idea corrupt elites work against **interest of people**



CORRUPTION

- Such movements **not accompanied by real strategy** against corruption
- Facilitate **new forms** of corruption



Citizenship consists in the service of
the country.

— *Jawaharlal Nehru* —

AZ QUOTES