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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **On the eve of the International Women's Day**

#### **Survey Report on**

#### **“The Gender Dimension of Corruption: Issues and Challenges”**

- **38% Citizens feel more women in position of responsibility/power will lead to less bribery.**
- **54% Women reported that they paid the bribe for obtaining Government services.**
- **33% Women reported that the officials called them repeatedly to harass them.**

**Transparency International India (TII)** is a leading non political, independent, non-governmental anti-corruption organization of India. TII has extensive expertise and understanding of issues of corruption in India.

Corruption is generally defined as the abuse of entrusted power for private gain. In the India, corruption is a major issue that has a negative impact on the political, economic, social and environmental aspects of society. **Sadly, the impact of corruption on women remains least explored and discussed by key developmental and governance actors. Such impact remains least documented in policy and academic narratives and has received less and less advocacy and policy responses.**

Therefore, in light of the International Women's Day, TII is releasing a brief report on **“The Gender Dimension of Corruption: Issues and Challenges”**. TII recognizes that women continue to play a great role in improving governance wherever they find themselves.

Utilizing a methodological approach designed specifically to capture women's voices and experiences of corruption and anti-corruption, the study also conducted a survey on respondents' perceptions through face-to-face interviews in rural area and online survey (in association with LocalCircles) in metro city like Delhi to learn women's experiences with corruption and to obtain a general overview of perceptions around women. Although the main target was women, numbers of men were also included in the sample to serve as a control. The sample comprised a more than 1100 respondents in rural area and over 3500 in urban area.

As per the United Nations, this year, International Women's Day comes on the heels of unprecedented global movement for women's rights, equality and justice. Sexual harassment, violence and discrimination against women has captured headlines and public discourse, propelled by a rising determination for change. India will join the rest of the world in commemorating the International Women's Day on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2018.

Women, in general do not easily approve of corruption and are more likely to be in favour of punishing corrupt behaviour, compared to men. As far as perceptions are concerned, women are less likely to engage in corruption.

The World Bank's Engendering Development report states that a higher level of women's political and economic participation is likely to indicate that a country is more open in general, with more transparent governance and a more democratic approach. This possibly discourages or minimizes opportunities for corruption.

TII sought to build evidence and knowledge around the effects of corruption on women and the role women play or could play in the fight against corruption. **“The Gender Dimension of Corruption: Issues and Challenges”**, the study was conducted to provide empirical data which is crucial to inform TII's advocacy

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strategies on mainstreaming gender in the fight against corruption nationally. The results of the study will, therefore, be used to create public awareness and education and to inform advocacy strategies and campaigns for the strengthening of legal and policy reforms in support of the fight against corruption, particularly aimed at reducing its negative impacts on women.

A strong call to motivate and unite friends, colleagues and whole communities to think, act and be gender inclusive. Once again, on the occasion of International Women's Day and TII calls on all well-meaning Indian to **reject, report and speak out against corruption**. Women's participation in political life was portrayed as a tool to combat corruption and not a goal in and of itself.

## **Survey Result**

*The findings of the study are:*

- The majority of both male and female respondents felt that there was a link between corruption and gender, in their experience of corruption, their gender made a difference.
- Both females and males agree that women are not as susceptible to corruption as men.
- 38% Citizens feel more women in position of responsibility/power will lead to less bribery where as only 5% feel that more bribes were demanded if there were more women in positions of responsibility/power.
- 37% Citizens feel women are prone to corruption then men. 57% Citizens feel that men are more prone / vulnerable to be being asked for bribes. The result suggests urban women are less likely to be asked for bribe.
- 54% Women reported that they paid the bribe for obtaining Government services. 43% Women said that they did not have to pay any bribe for obtaining Government services.
- 35% Women reported that they were asked directly to pay bribe to get benefits under the Government Schemes. 33% Women reported that the officials called them repeatedly to harass them. 15% Women said that officers were not available.
- 93% Women were not aware about the Right to Information Act. Only 4% responded that they were aware about the Right to Information Act where as 9% (more than double) men are aware about Right to Information Act in rural area.
- Among women, who claimed that they are aware about Right to Information Act, said that they never filed RTI applications (except few) for obtaining information.

### **For any press enquiries please contact**

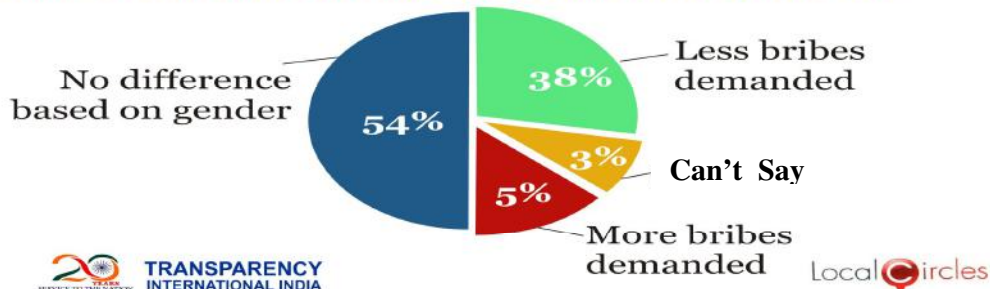
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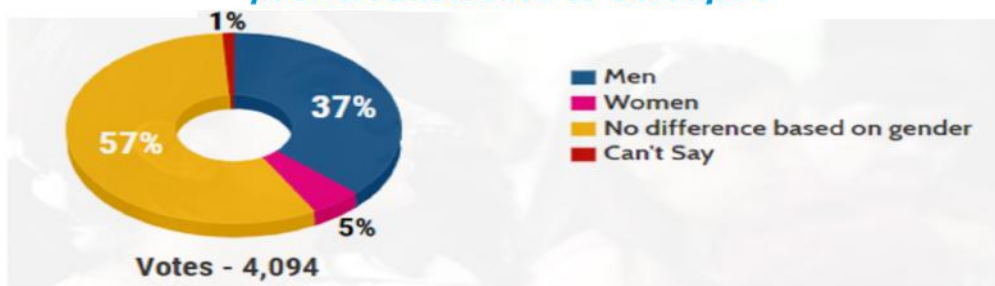
## Findings from Urban Area

**Q.** *In your opinion, do you agree that if there were more women in positions of responsibility/power there would be:*



**38% citizens feel more women in position of responsibility/power will lead to less bribery where as Only 5% feel that more bribes were demanded if there were more women in positions of responsibility/power.**

*In your opinion, who among men or women is more prone/vulnerable to corrupt ?*



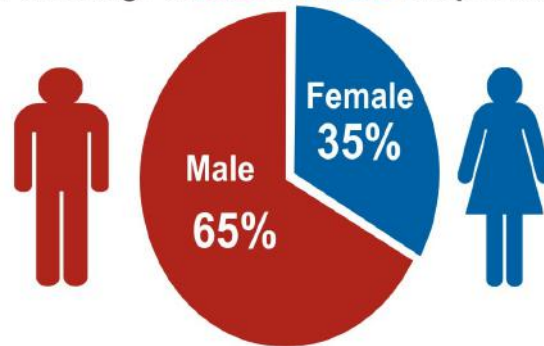
The first question asked citizens who among men or women in their opinion is more vulnerable to corruption. 37% said men and only 5% said women. 57% said there was no difference based on gender and 1% were unsure. This clearly shows gender equality can potentially reduce corruption in public life.

## Findings from Rural Area

**Gender Profile (Female, Male, ) of Rural Respondents**

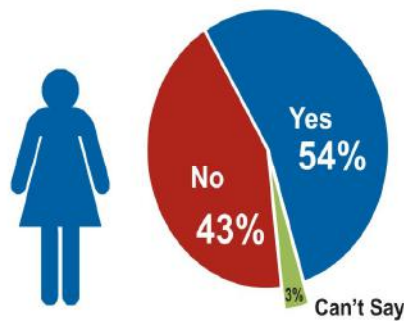


**Percentage of Male & Female Respondents**



**Bribe Paid for Obtaining Government Services**

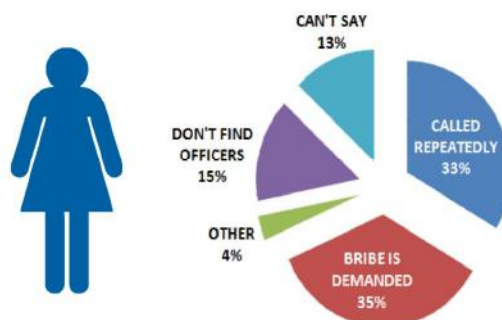
■ Yes ■ No ■ Can't Say



**54% Women reported that they paid the bribe for obtaining Government services.**  
**43% Women said that they did not have to pay any bribe for obtaining Government services.**

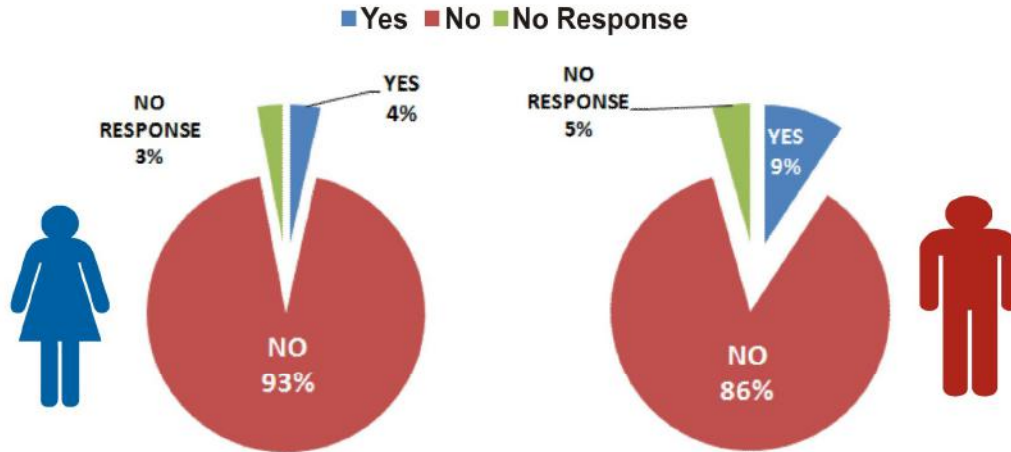
**Problems Faced By the Citizens in Availing Government Services. (More than one Reason)**

■ Called Repeatedly ■ Bribe Demanded  
■ Don't Find Officers ■ Can't Say ■ Other



**35% Women reported that they were asked directly to pay bribe to get benefits under the Government Schemes.**  
**33% Women reported that the officials called them repeatedly to harass them.**  
**15% Women said that officers were not available**

**Awareness/Knowledge about the Right to Information Act (RTI).**

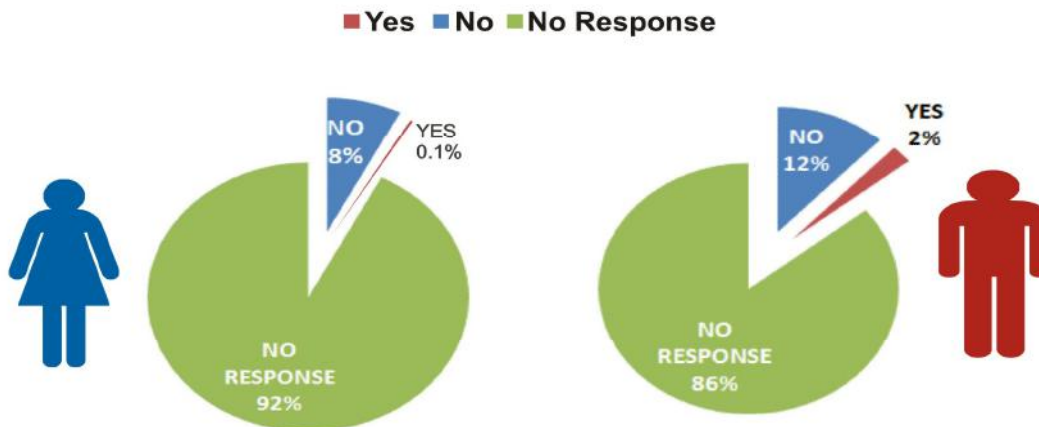


**93% Women were not aware about the Right to Information Act.**

**Only 4% responded that they were aware about the Right to Information Act.**

**Where as 9% (more than double) men are aware about Right to Information Act in rural area.**

**Among informed Citizen (Who knows about RTI), who filed an RTI for obtaining information**



**Among women, who claimed that they are aware about Right to Information Act, said that they never filed RTI applications (except few) for obtaining information.**