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**A.K.K. NEW LAW ACADEMY &
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THE NEED OF PROACTIVE ROLE OF OMBUDSMAN IN INDIA FOR THE GOOD GOVERNANCE AND CURBING CORRUPTION : A CONCEPTUAL STUDY

Dr. Mahesh Jaiwantrao Patil

Introduction

Ombudsman institution has close association with democracy, democratic development, governance and public administration. It is said that there should be easy mechanism of grievance redressal against misuse of discretionary power by the Government and the bureaucracy that operationalize policies and programmes of the Government.

Development of democracy and its values gave rise to aspirations of the people. This obviously led to their high expectations towards representatives and the Government. Similarly, the adoption of 'welfare concept' as inbuilt character of the governance placed heavy burden on Government to take care of their citizen which gives more discretionary powers to administrative system. This leads to corruption.

When common man comes in contact with the Government and administration to get his day-to-day work done; may be about added tax, street lights or anything else, it gives rise to more grievances than the work done.

The main problem before the modern administrative system is how to provide good democratic framework in which people enjoy confidence. They can have easy access to redress off their grievances. It is equally important that such a system should be cheap, easily accessible, quick, impartial objective and independent.

The appointment of Ombudsman is to meet this purpose. Many countries worldwide have adopted the institution of Ombudsman. The institution had its roots in the Swedish Constitution in 1809 (Dhawan; 1981: 169). Later, it was adopted by many countries and in recent years more countries are adopting this institution on their own. It has been also recommended by the International institutions like United Nation, the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and Asian Development Bank as a means of ensuring good governance and better service delivery to the consumers.