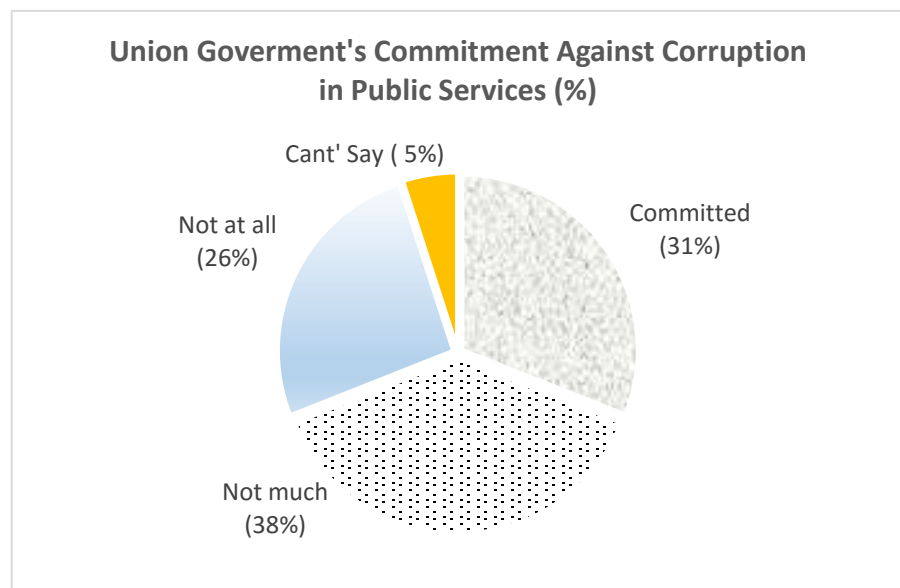


Modi Government's fight against corruption not 'visible' to citizens

On the eve of the completion of 4-year of the government at the centre and a year to go for next Parliamentary election, the dissatisfaction among people about the government's commitment to curb corruption should be a matter of concern.

A recent study by CMS (Centre for Media Studies), an independent research think tank, across 13 states brings out disturbing figures for the Union government.

Around two-third of the households feel that the Union Government or Modi-Government, as popularly known, is 'not much' or

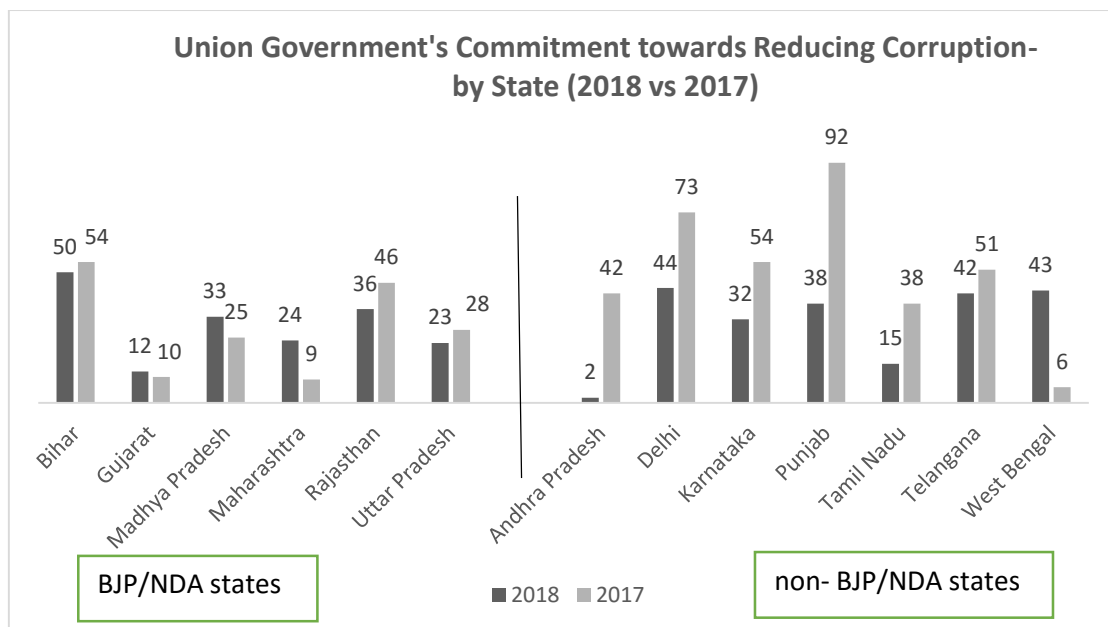


'not at all' committed towards reducing corruption in public services. For citizens, measures taken at policy level does not mean much unless it is reflected in their experience while interacting with public services to avail one or the other services. People's opinion reflects to a large extent their own experience or experience of people in their neighbourhood or known to them. To add to peoples' perception, media (TV, newspaper) along with social media (twitter, Facebook) play a major role. Vacant Lokayukta's (Ombudsman) position at the national level in spite of being in power for around 4 years, or recent cases related to non-performing assets (NPAs) in banking sector (infamous cases of Mallaya and Nirav Modi), accusations of Rafale fighter plane deal, among other political accusations, could be the factors contributing in building people's

perception that government at the national level is not committed to curb corruption.

Alok Srivastava, Director, CMS Social shared, “Irrespective of the states, ruled by BJP & NDA partners or non-BJP parties, in almost all states, 50% or more households have an adverse opinion on Union government’s commitment to curb corruption in public services.”

A year back data shows that in 2017, the percentage who feel Union government is committed to reduce corruption was 41%, which came down to 31% in this round (2018).



During last Parliamentary (Lok Sabha) elections in 2014, eliminating corruption from public services was one of the major promises made by BJP and its leaders. However, since then till date, in spite of measures claimed to have been taken to fight corruption such as demonetization, GST, direct benefit transfer, linking Aadhaar with bank accounts, it seems people are not convinced with the seriousness of the efforts made by Modi government to curb corruption in public services. With BJP/NDA ruled 21 states across country covering 70% of the population, visible action at the lowest administrative level is demand of the hour to have a positive impression on the common citizens of the country.

For further information, pl. contact **Mr Alok Srivastava**, alok@cmsindia.org / 9899979152