

Comparing Monitoring and Inspection Systems in Iran and America

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Abstract

One of the inevitable necessities and requirements of healthy and efficient management in administrative system is the existence of full and accurate monitoring and inspection system. Strengths and abilities are identified in monitoring as well as weaknesses and deficiencies. Identifying talents and abilities has a significant role in increasing the efficiency of organization and sensible and more accurate decisions can be made through that very identification by management and as result it will help staffs' development and progress. After conceptualization financial corruption and its causes, inspection and monitoring system introducing the international institution of fight against administrative corruption, DOI, inspection organization and its working method in Islamic republic of Iran and The United States of America will be studied and compared as the main approach of article.

Keywords: inspection, monitoring, administrative corruption, judicial inspection, DOI, international organization of TI

1. Introduction

Since monitoring is an action where predicted operations are compared with performed ones and they are removed and modified in case of existing difference between what it is and what it should be. (Feyzi, 1993: 179) therefore the process of monitoring in each administrative system can lead the system in correct path toward realizing missions, goals, policies and programs.

Therefore whatever monitoring system acts stronger, administrative system and executive organs will have more guarantee and better performance for achieving predicted goals. In another word, inspection will be considered as a strong arm for each governmental system. (Mirmohammadi, 2004: 6)

2. Defining Monitoring

Monitoring has been defined in various ways in terms of expression such as "an effort which is taken by manager in order to match operation with program to get the rate of activities accuracy" (Mirmohammadi, 2004: 95), and based on another definition, monitoring means caring and monitoring human resources and activities in order to maintain the health of human resources and activities ideality (Mirmohammadi, 2004: 12).

Monitoring is generally a research process and has to use scientific principles to enable us match obtained results based on research scientific principles and increase its certainty and fluency. Lack of common perception of management and monitoring system about this concept and high position of monitoring and giving each department its own originality and lack of attention to interaction of these two positions convert monitoring system to inconsistent and uncoordinated system.

So it can be concluded that monitoring means information about what actually occurs (organization performance) compared to what has been determined before (organization goal). The main aim of controlling management is that manager gets aware of what is being doing before it turns to a serious problem. (Qasemaddeh, davood19blogfa.com)

3. The Quality and Method of Doing Inspection

Basically, there are two types of monitoring in different systems of government:

- a) Obvious monitoring
- b) Hidden monitoring

Obvious monitoring is inspection with notice that although have many positive effects but it can never reveal deficiencies and disadvantages of the system and possible violations same as hidden monitoring because in obvious monitoring, inspected systems have usually adequate opportunity as soon as being aware of inspection possibility to hide disadvantages and modifying deficiencies so provide organization for inspecting through fitting appearance but in hidden monitoring, organization sees itself exposing to inspection permanently and because of that a kind of permanent self-monitoring will be created in organization and expecting shift controls stops disorder and deficiency in system.

4. Conceptualization of Administrative Corruption

Corruption is defined as destruction, disruption and barred from achieving a goal and in Latin corruption has been taken out of corrupter root and means breaking or gainsaying and may be moral behavior or legal method and often administrative regulations (Kiani manesh, 2007: 3).

Goner Myrdal, Swedish economist, sociologist and politicians (Note 1) has defined corruption in wider range. According to him, corruption can be applied to various kinds of deviation or personal exercise of power and illegitimate use of authority and job positions. (Abbaszadegan, 2004: 14). According to Webster dictionary, corruption means an illegitimate reward which is given to person for making him violate the duty. (Sardrai, 2001: 134)

British Council has considered corruption as a key political subject in Europe and has emphasized the relationship between corruption and organized crimes one hand and economic crimes on the other hand (Council of Europe, September, 2005: 4)

Therefore it can be said that European and non-European governments have found the symbolic, moral and emotional value of fighting against corruption. This case can be better clarified through analogizing an illness to a social phenomenon that threatens social combination in a wider range. For example in Lima declaration, corruption is analogized to a cancer which should be profoundly eliminated. (The Lima Declaration Against Corruption, 1997)

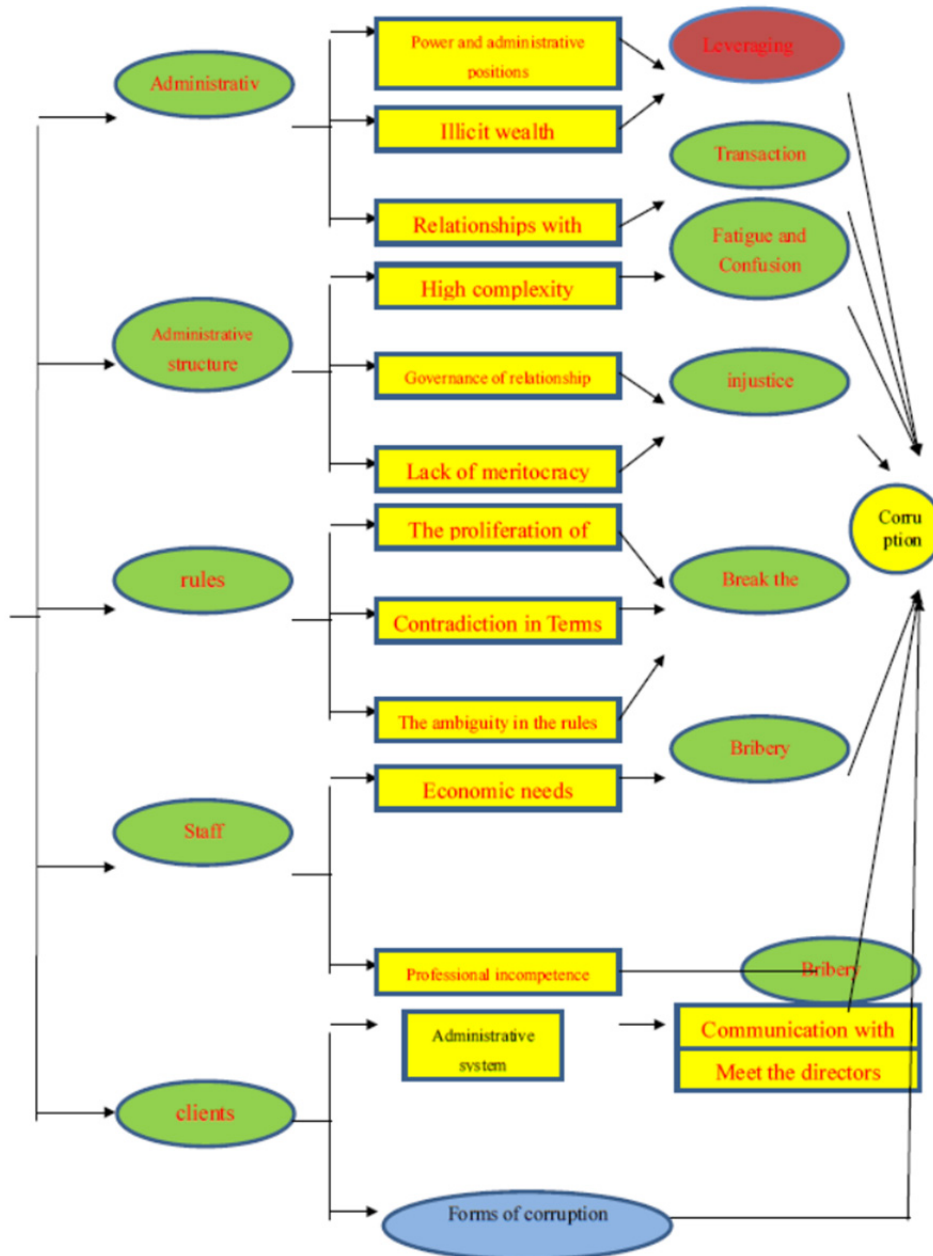
Since corruption is related to organized and transnational crimes particularly so some people consider corruption as attacking governments' heart. Controlling corruption not only can be one of strategies of fighting against organized crimes but also strengthens existing efforts in order to expand preventive and suppressive policies of corruption. (Jörg Albrecht, corruption and controlling corruption, 2009: 170)

Figure

5. Causes of Administrative Corruption

Many countries around the world seem to have adequate rules which are specifies of corruption and dealing with it but the main problem in actual implementing of these rules is existing corrupt government officials and independent inspection organizations and the governmental inspection bodies in most countries represent their dependency. (Annual report, 2006, no 69)

An important point in fighting against administrative corruption is that developing democracy and facilitating the monitoring of all citizens on municipality are significantly important for fighting against administrative corruption. Democracy naturally decreases corruption actions because there is free stream of information in it and its collectivism feature helps better monitoring of society on municipality staffs, meanwhile politicians and authorities in municipality cannot give people false promises so the opportunity of corruption behaviors will be decreased (UMIC.ir).



6. Monitoring Systems in Iran

More than 22 monitoring systems monitor and inspect payments and actions in Iran directly and indirectly. The most important ones of these references that monitor and inspect financially, operationally and judicially are ministry of economic affairs and finance, management and Planning Organization, the Supreme Audit Court, Audit Organization and general inspection office and administrative court of justice. Other sources such as information service ministry, inspection and prosecuting compliments units, article 90 of parliamentary commission, security, judicial bodies and the government suspended also monitor the activities of different systems somehow. In today world, fewer countries can be found that have the multiplicity of regulatory agencies with administrative performance in this extent. In most of countries only one monitoring system and source is responsible for inspection and audit operation of all public and governmental systems. This monitoring system is qualified independent legal personality and does some of its inspecting and monitoring duties through private section as well (such as China, Australia, Canada and Switzerland) (davod19.blogfa.com)

General inspection office in Iran which works under the supervision of the Judiciary is exclusive among similar organizations in the world in terms of many aspects. This organization plays a dual role in terms of function. It

means that on one hand the role of **Ombudsman** in prosecuting people complaints from governmental systems on the other hand are responsible for inspecting administrative systems.

7. Monitoring and Inspection in the USA

Political system of the USA has been federal republic and legislative or congressional of America consist of two parliaments which are responsible for legislative completely. Judiciary which has crystallized in Federal Supreme Court of America acts completely independent and none of executive or the legislature can affect its decision making (fa.m.wikipedia.org).

Among this, the council of each city which is formed in municipality is responsible for managing the city and is similar to governmental parliament and mayor or city manager is like governor or boss.

City Council in America which is the city management core is responsible for managing city profoundly. Municipality can take taxes directly in order to provide the costs. Meanwhile some of costs are provided by government and loan receiving permission has been given to municipality as well. Municipality institution in Iran is only responsible for managing and organizing city affairs and in many cases is obedient for the orders of central authority and cannot investigate the things which are beneficiary naturally and provides a part of costs in dominant bureaucracy on administrative system (Vista.ir).

City Council considering its legal position has also the possibility of policy making, coordinating affairs with governmental rules and setting local and urban problems through approving regulations (verdinejad.com).

8. Department Office of Inspector (DOI)

Department Office of Inspector (DOI) is one of the oldest executive organizations in FBI with more than half a century history whose responsibility is inspecting and investigating administrative corruptions of municipalities. The goal of DOI is helping governmental institutions in showing, perceiving and investigating administrative corruption damages and preventing future administrative corruptions (home2.nyc.gov)

DOI can inspect all managers and staffs of city administrations as well as managers and employed staffs in private section who receives money from city or municipality. Therefore it can inspect all of people who are accused of fraud and giving bribes to administrative staffs. For example:

A businessman which gives bribe to a municipality worker in order to avoid reporting making the sidewalks dirty

An office which provides required goods of governmental organizations

Land or construction owner who gives bribe to the inspector of municipality in order to false report while he is visiting mentioned building

A salesperson who gives abnormal discount to municipality worker while he is buying something there (nyc.gov/html)

9. Discovering Administrative Corruption by DOI

DOI does some inspections using very experienced inspectors, lawyers, judicial officers, police, financial audits and the experts of preventing corruption and IT experts. This organization often uses secret and clandestine activities.

The points which are noticed in DOI in archiving and handling reports of corruption:

- 1) Protecting request of the complainant and non-disclosure of their name
- 2) Providing a guarantee to municipal staff based on the lack of declaring any personal information of reporting corruption person to municipal officials (nyc.gov/DOI)

10. Scientific Ideas and Attitudes about Administrative Corruption

There is a formula or equation as corruption formula for corruption that was first discussed by guard totality. This formula states that: Monopolization+ Discretion and expediency- accountability = corruption (This monopoly can be monopoly of resources or monopolize decision-making capacity) (Khabaronline.ir)

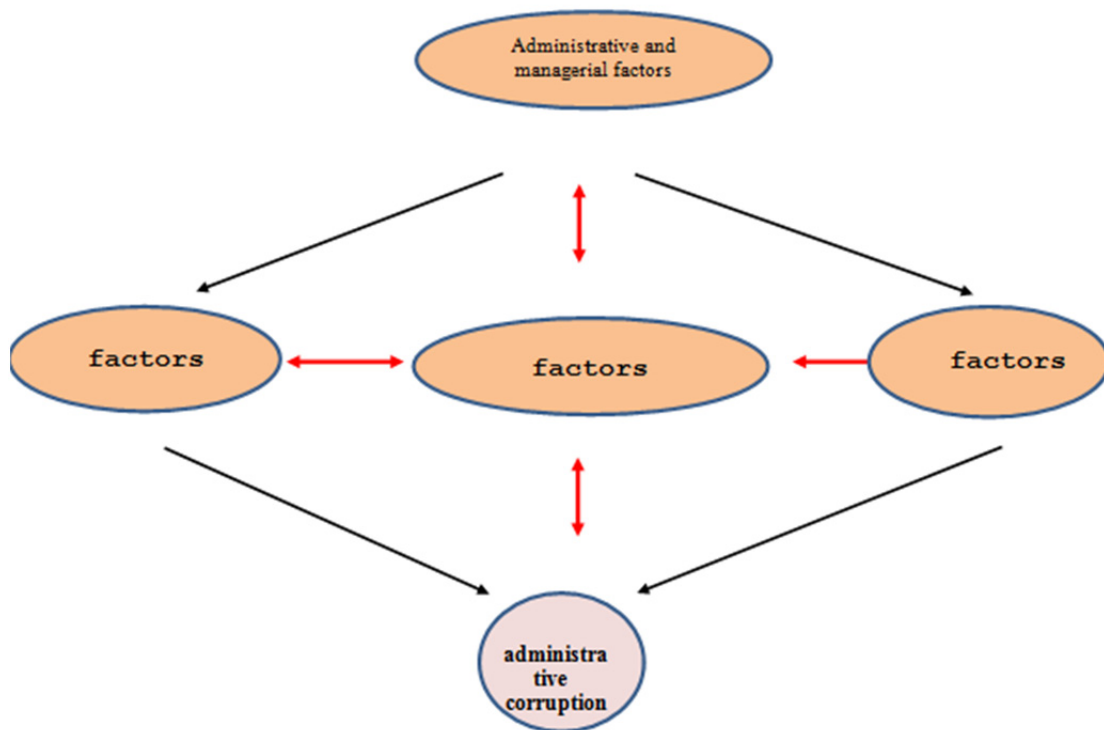


Based on done studies, monopolism, lack of accountability, lack of meritocracy in the selections, lack of social responsibility in citizens and lack of transparency in administrative system are bottleneck factors of it (Hasani,

Shams; 2012: 81)

Based on this, administrative corruption has positive relationship with power monopoly and covering up and negative relationship with accountability, meritocracy, social responsibility and transparency. It means that whatever monopoly power of governmental official and their secrecy gets more in decision making, corruption will be more as well.

On the contrary, whatever accountability and social responsibility are more in citizens and whatever administrative system, rules and work relationships of staffs and clients are more transparent the rate of corruption will be more. therefore for decreasing corruption in society, it should be tried to decrease the rate of power monopoly in production and distributing goods and services and also the power of decision makers should be decreased and audit system should be improved (YousifKhalifa, 2003: 695)



11. Independent and Permanent Institutions for Fighting Against Corruption in Some Countries

Many countries have created separated offices which most of them are independent from government in order to discover and prosecute and fight administrative corruption. In some countries these offices haven't had any financial and administrative dependencies to executive and even police office and work completely independently and in some countries also the offices of fighting with corruption have been formed inside police office or municipalities.

As an example in a research which was done about the index of corruption perception, 11 countries including Singapore, Denmark, Malaysia, China, America, England, France, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, South Korea and Pakistan were selected. (Various criteria were considered for selecting countries such as related indexes to health or administrative corruption that low rank countries and high rank ones were selected, cultural position in terms of west or being Islamic and development or lack of development can be mentioned)

The result of research acknowledges independency of most of monitoring organizations in these countries. If monitoring organization of Denmark works under the supervision of the country's parliament through rank 1 in the world health administration, meanwhile Pakistan monitoring system is under the supervision of president as inspector consensus department through rank 126 in the world health administration.

Among these, only two countries of France and South Korea had independent monitoring system (Haghshenas; 2015, 67). Government accountability office of America (GAO) also getting rank 17 in world health administration, works under the supervision of congress and its duty is doing legal duties and improving the

performance and guaranteeing government accountability due to benefits of American people (gao.gov.html).

The responsibilities and goals of anti-corruption departments are different from one country to the other. In American municipalities, these centers investigate weaknesses of administrative systems in terms of purifying as well as investigation activities and discovering corruption and annually evaluates the hazard of various corruptions considering existing administrative methods. Trapping methods are also used in this country for government staffs and politicians more than other countries.

After revealing Watergate scandal and a number of financial abuses in municipality of big cities in America, many governmental departments especially federal bureau of investigation (FBI) are involved in identification and fighting with administrative corruption activities. In New York municipality and many other cities (a particular office namely investigations sector have been established which is very used in monitoring government clerks' behavior which are offered bribes). (Mehnat fat, Shafiei, 2004: 13-14)

12. Judicial Monitoring

The other type of monitoring in America is judicial one. This is monitoring administrative activities and its history refers to the late 18th century. Based on this and because of meeting principles of separation of powers, the courts of judiciary in the US only can monitor office performance from a legal perspective. Therefore investigating the appropriateness and competency of administrative action such as Australia and England will be done by the authorities of executive power. America's judiciary power only has some authorities that have been received from constitution so the scope of federal jurisdiction limits only to certain kinds of disputes (asipress.ir).

In United States of America and in 2012, a news channel called Fox News reported 25 administrative violations of Barak Obama, America's president and his cabinet. These violations include health insurance and illegal immigrants that about second one, discussed complaint refers to Obama's governmental verdict that FOX channel claims that it wasn't due to constitute law and most of America's states have complained against this verdict by arguing that immigration policies should be proved by congress not supporting presidential but White House spokesman considered this verdict as the authorities of president (foxnews.com). The weakness of critical policies out of private sections and social media of course in an effective way is completely tangible in Iran.

13. Fighting with Administrative Corruption

International Transparency organization which is a non-governmental organization (TI) was established in 1993 and its main office is located in Berlin, Germany. The goal of this organization which has 100 branches around the world is try to fight with corruption and increase awareness about that. Through publishing annual reports based on corruption perception index, this organization ranks the countries around the world in terms of their corruption. (Isna.ir) assessing corruption is using indexes such as corruption, embezzlement, bribery, buying and selling government posts, bribery of the judiciary, financial corruption among politicians and public officials and failure to adequately deal with inefficiency in fighting against drug dealing (transparency.org). International transparency organization has ranked the countries based on the rate of existing corruption among governmental authorities and their politicians since 1993 using corruption perception index. In another word this criterion is an index that shows the rank of corruption in public part of one country among other countries around the world. Based on this scale, the best countries which have the least financial corruptions among their politicians have scored 100 in this scale and the countries with the most financial corruptions among their politicians have scored zero.

In report of this institution which was published in January 27th 2016, various countries of the world considering calculating corruption index are classified in ranks of 1 to 167. Iran with 27 scores out of 100 is in 130th rank.

Cameroon, Nepal, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Ukraine also are in rank 130 with the same index.

In a report by this institute last year, world countries were classified in 174 ranks that Iran with 27 scores was placed again in rank 136 with Cameroon, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Nigeria and Russia. Iran position last year rather than previous year (2013) has been better and its index from 25 has reached to 27. In report of 2015 and years before that, no countries have gained zero or a hundred. In table of 2015, Denmark with index of 91 percent is on the top of the table and has the healthiest section of government. Finland (90) Sweden (89), New Zealand (87th), Norway (87), Switzerland (86), Singapore (85), Canada (83) and Germany (81) will be placed after that. From other countries Great Britain ranked 10th with 81 points, the United States ranked 16th with 76 points.

In low levels of table, Syria, along with Eritrea, Turkmenistan and Yemen are ranked 154 and after them respectively Haiti, Guinea-Bissau and Venezuela are ranked 158, Iraq and Libya are ranked 161, Angola and South Sudan are ranked 165. In bottom of table Afghanistan ranked 166 with 11 points, and North Korea and

Somalia shared with 8 points ranked 167th, have the lowest ranking (bbcpersian.com).

Table 1. The table of corruption perception index in some selected countries

| Country | Rank in indexes of corruption perception | Monitoring organization | Governmental position | Scope of activity |
|-------------|--|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Denmark | 1 | Parliamentary Ombudsman | Parliament | Governmental section |
| Singapore | 8 | Bureau of Corruption CPI | Prime ministry | Governmental and private section |
| America | 16 | Government Accountability Office GAO | Congress | Governmental section |
| South Korea | 38 | Commission on Human Rights and the fight against corruption ACRC | Independent | Governmental section |
| Arabia | 48 | National commission of fighting with corruption Nazaha | Under the supervision of king | Governmental section |
| Pakistan | 117 | consensus muhtasib The | Presidential | Governmental section |
| Iran | 130 | GIO | Judiciary | Governmental section |

Table 2. Inspection institutions and their missions in selected countries

| No | Mission | Perspective | Fundamental values |
|-------------|--|--|---|
| Denmark | Complain against the state institutions | | |
| Singapore | Combat is fast, reliable, firm and fair with corruption | Leading anti-corruption organization in order to achieve a society free of corruption and governance are well protected from health-slow | Integrity, teamwork, dedication |
| America | Helping congress in doing duties and improving performance and guarantee of accountability of federal due to American's benefits | | Accountability, integrity, trust |
| South Korea | Prosecuting people complaint is offered to institutions | Trying to create a clean and transparent society | |
| Arabia | Health care, improving transparency and combating corruption in its various forms | Outstanding among similar international organizations in maintaining health and fighting corruption | Moral commitment, transparency and fairness, confidentiality, performance excellence, the collective spirit |
| | Prosecuting people | Promoting high | Fairness, integrity, |

| | | | |
|----------|--|---|---|
| Pakistan | Complaints ways a fair, speedy and transparent | standards of governance, accountability and efficiency through fair Services Office | continuous improvement, transparency, independence, speed and reliability |
| Iran | Inspection and monitoring of public and private institutions | Improvement of Health Systems Administration | Monitors system health, moral behavior |

Point: the emptiness of some of cells in this table is because lack of information and related documents.

14. Conclusion

Undoubtedly for preventing administrative corruption, the existence of monitoring organizations is very vital but forming monitoring organizations in government body can be a barrier for freely and independently inspection. These organizations should be out of government set and independent to inspect governmental or non-governmental institutions freely without standing any pressures and free from any political considerations and report violations in this case meanwhile modifying the structure of administrative and economic system seems to be one of necessities.

Bribery and corruption aren't equal in all sections of economy. For example the section of construction has allocated the most cases of corruption and bribery and some sections such as emo and energy industries are ranked after that. it seems that the existence of one or several monitoring systems cannot solve the problem because the type of guarantee which is considered for monitoring system security from corruption has not been cleared so how these monitoring systems can be secure from getting stuck in administrative corruptions.

Long experience of Iran's new bureaucracy shows that partial and spread actions cannot be a treatment for chronic diseases of administrative corruption and inefficiency of the bureaucracy at all and won't be solved unless through modifying affluent existing problems such as administrative corruption. For eliminating or decreasing administrative corruption in administrative system and society, some main and comprehensive programs are required that through influencing society public culture and its aspects such as organizational culture as a phenomenon which is directly affected from society culture, aims preventing administrative corruption, instead of fighting that through designing and punishment trends and after its occurrence (Salimipur, 2015) that Iran hasn't been that much successful in spite of numerous systems and the report of transparency organization confirms that.

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Note

Note 1. Nobel laureate in economics in 1974.

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