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GOVERNANCE AND THE ETHICS A CLARION CALL OF THE HOUR

Jayanta Kumar Ghosh

Assistant Professor , Department of Commerce , Berhampore College , Berhampore, Murshidabad.

Abstract:-The phase through which our country and as well as the whole world is passing is under constant threats and violence. Matter of world peace is much talked about. There are wide spread corporate as well as other scams, frauds and failures. The economy is at unrest. We are talking about Governance afresh. We are enacting laws and imposing restrictions without going to the roots of the problems. Governance without Ethics is like a flow without a source.

The very objective of my paper is to pin point the crux of the various crises. In my opinion Ethics can only solve the problems. Only an ethical person can do constant good for the society.

And the Ethics can be inculcated within us only through ethical education. Lesson on Ethics should be imparted from the very childhood. Not only ethical education but we have to practice the same in real life. We all know about various ethical stories of the long past, we have to learn from it and cherish the same in our life. Ethical education is the first and the most effective source of producing and making ethical people. This will amply take care of all the problems and whatever crisis arises. It will not only solve problems but also prevent occurrence of the same. And the peace will prevail.

Keywords:Governance, Ethics, Ethical education, Ethical stories, Fraud, Scam, Failure, crisis, Ethical practice, Good self-governance, Religious scriptures,

INTRODUCTION

Today the whole world is passing through the various crises. The every sphere of life whether it is Economic, Financial, Social, Cultural, Corporate, Political, Environmental or Educational is under different and constant threats. We have enacted various Laws and Regulations, also the code of conduct to resolve various problems. But the effect of the same has been blown away beyond reality. We have to go to the roots of the problems right now and we have to find out a permanent solution of the same, otherwise the disaster will be invited. Towards good self-governance and Ethics can provide real answer to the problems. For good self-governance good ethical education is a must.

GOVERNANCE

Governance is a process. It is not a point of time concept. It is to be achieved over time. By the word Govern we mean and understand "to be go vernal by a body". But here I want to mean "Governance - towards self and good governance". That is self-imposed governance. Therefore it is a journey from Body imposed governance towards Self imposed (realized) governance. Until and unless it is self-imposed good social governess will be a far cry. It is a process of inculcating within through education, discipline, perseverance and practice.

ETHICS

Self-governance and Ethics are two interrelated concepts. Ethics is the stock and the Governance is the flow. Ethics is the GANGOTRI and the governance is the GANGA. When we are to be ethical we are to be self-

governed. Ethics are the rules of internal or mental or rather moral code of conduct.

Those who are ethical, obey the rules and regulations. The very objective of Enactments is certainly the obedience of the same. The law makers should not remain cheerful with the fact that if there be any disobedience it is punished, rather they should concentrate more on the non-occurrence of the same. The moral standard of the people must be uplifted so that non-compliance is minimized or prevented. Morality, Honesty and Perseverance are three pillars of ethics.

SOURCE OF ETHICS

Generally the sources of ethics are the various religious scriptures. The ancient religious scriptures tried to impart education on ethics and morality. The teachings of great men are also the ample source of ethics.

GOVERNANCE AND ETHICS EVERYWHERE:

Economic and financial life

It is the very important sphere of day to day life. The occurrence of the crime in this sector affects highest number of people. The common crimes which are still happening are Black marketing, Hoarding, Forward trading, Scams, Fake notes etc. Numerous laws are operating to provide justice to the people but the result is far reaching. Therefore the more important is the ethical standard of the role players. It is only the high moral, ethical and honesty standard of the role players can ensure providing justice to the common people. The environment of ethical social responsibility of role players is inevitable.

Social life

If we go back to time immemorial when the society was borne the very objectives and expectations behind the creation of the same were to provide the safe and peaceful life to the members. But, now a day in the society we came across huge amount of hue and cry. It is also vividly reflected in the writings of the social thinkers and reformists. I think it requires no further elaborations to understand the grave situation of the society as we all are in some way or the other the victims of the same.

Here also we the common people should be uplifted and enlightened within.

We have to improve our moral standard everywhere. When we all speak the truth, then the lies will automatically vanish. When all of us act ethically then we can succeed in the journey to provide justice to all.

Corporate life

This is the age of corporations, that is, our life is more characterized by corporations. We are now also dependent on the functions of the corporations. The advent of corporations has also brought mischief and harm to the society. They are not only affecting shareholders but also the common people adversely. We may not be wrong to say that some of them are simply cheating people like Enron in US and Satyam in India. Though there were imposition of corporate governance and corporate social responsibility yet they are behaving what they have done before imposition of the same. Hence the point of imposition of corporate governance organism failed. We the people in the corporate role should be ethically enlightened so that unethical actions can be prevented. We require ETHICALLY HIGH STANDARD corporate governors.

Political life

Health of the political world is self-explanatory. This is the area where there is the greatest scope of improvement of ethics. Here it is crystal clear that a same event is being narrated by some people by some way and in a quite reverse way by the others. We fail to smell ethics here. There is a general saying that if you want to know the health of an economy, you have to go to the stock market. Similarly if you want to know the health of the society, you have to go to the political world. If it is the precondition that society should be good enough, then the political world should be good enough first. The good political health is the result of only the ethical politics. Hence ethics is the emergency in politics.

Educational life

This sector is also not free from hue and cry. There is also much scope of improvement of ethics, besides ethical education of the learners.

Government

The ethical standard of the governmental activities is also not above questions. It will be clearer from the following:

We all know that the consumption of tobacco is very much dangerous to health. Present research shows that it is even cancerous. The government is not imposing a ban on the production of tobacco as there will be loss of revenue through duties, rather it is giving statutory warning only. It is not an ethical action on the part of the government.

Government is to be more and more pro-active and ethical in action.

CONCLUSION AND WAYOUT

Need based and not greed based: Mahatma Gandhi said that, "There is enough things in the world for everyone's need but not everyone's greed".

Therefore need is ethical but greed is unethical. We all should be guided by the need only and not by the greed. Ethical use of resources and opportunities are inevitable.

Enlightenment and upliftment within: we have to uplift and enlighten ourselves within. We should not spare the ethics for anything.

Course curriculum: ethics as a course curriculum should be introduced and included in every levels of education. This is most important and perhaps most effective .

Publicity, Lectures and Seminars:

Seminar and workshops can be arranged intensively throughout. Publicity and lectures are also effective.

A call from all spheres: it needs a call from every sectors of life. Like liberalization and globalization there should be ethicalization. Without ethicalisation not only liberalization and globalization but nothing can be achieved.

I end remembering the words of Rabindranath Tagore in Bengali which will help us much in the process of becoming more ethical:

"Sei tuku tor anek aachhe je tuku tor aachhe khanti Tar cheye lobh koris jodi sakali tor hobe mati."

When transformed into English it means:

What you have pure in you is much and sufficient, if you go beyond with greed, Everything of you will be spoiled. So spare the greed and practice ethics all through.



Jayanta Kumar Ghosh.

Assistant Professor , Department of Commerce , Berhampore College , Berhampore, Murshidabad.

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Golden Research Thoughts
258/34 Raviwar Peth Solapur-413005, Maharashtra
Contact-9595359435
E-Mail-ayisrj@yahoo.in/ayisrj2011@gmail.com
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