

**Specialized
Lok Sabha**



JACKRABBIT MUN VII
L.B. POLY - MAY 24th, 2025

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CO-HEAD CHAIR LETTERS

Hi Delegates!

My name is Mackenzie Mathieu, and I am thrilled to be one of your co-chairs in the Lok Sabha room this year! I am currently a senior and joined MUN last year. MUN has allowed me to understand different countries and cultures. I love how every committee helps me learn more about things going on in the world!

I enjoy crocheting, reading, playing water polo, writing in an online newspaper, and being involved in clubs like Speech and Debate, Pace Club and Mentorship, and Female Leadership Academy.

Specialized rooms are always so interesting to me, and I am so excited to see where you take this room. Taking a deep dive into the legislature of India has been fascinating to me in preparation for this room! My advice is to get a thorough understanding of your character's motivations. If everyone commits to their character policy, I know this committee will be super thought-provoking, and we will all have a lot of fun! Good luck, everyone!

Sincerely,

Mackenzie Mathieu

Lok Sabha | Co-Head Chair

mackenziegmathieu@gmail.com



CO-HEAD CHAIR LETTERS

Hello delegates!

My name is Amira Inui, and I am so excited to be a co-chair for this year's room on the Lok-Sabha! I am a freshman at Poly High School, and this is my first year in Model UN, although I did it throughout middle school. Even though I have only been in the MUN club for one year, through various conferences, I have gained valuable experience with public speaking, and it has taught me how to enhance my research abilities!

Outside of MUN, I enjoy reading my favorite manga series (Naruto, of course), partaking in Musicals after school, and honing my art skills for college. I also enjoy playing as an outside receiver on the flag football team at Poly and going to football games with friends.

I am so excited to see all of your ideas, work with all of you, and see all of the effort you put into making this a well-researched room! This is my first time chairing, and it has been a fun behind-the-scenes process that I urge you all to look into in the future. See you all soon!

Sincerely,

Amira Inui

Lok Sabha | Co-Head Chair

amirainui@gmail.com



POSITION PAPER GUIDELINES

- Position Papers are due at 11:59 PM on **Sunday, May 18th**.
- Delegates **must** submit position papers to be eligible for **research AND committee awards**.
- Position Papers will be submitted through a Google form:
 - <https://forms.gle/jkenWafGEAL6hJay9>
- At the top of each paper, include your character/country name, first and last name, school name, and appropriate committee.
 - Om Birla
 - First Last
 - School Name
 - Lok Sabha
- Papers should be submitted as a PDF file
 - Please name the file [Committee_Country]
 - Ex. **Lok Sabha_Narendra Modi**
- Papers should be a minimum 1-2 pages in length with an additional Works Cited page in MLA format
- Papers should be single-spaced in Times New Roman 12 pt. font and include no pictures or graphics
- Please include the following sections for each committee topic:
 - Background & Lok Sabha Involvement
 - Position of your Character
 - Possible Solutions

If you have any questions or concerns, please email one of your chairs.



TOPIC SYNOPSIS

Who really controls India? Democratically elected representatives, or billionaires like Gautam Adani and George Soros who bribe their way through life?

Questions about the influence of the uber-rich in Indian politics began to rise when Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a member of India's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), came to power. Since then, many allegations have been made about the power of the Adani family—the second-richest family in India—over the government. These allegations came to a head when American prosecutors found that the group actually did bribe Indian officials with over \$250 million to obtain solar panel contracts.

Simultaneously, worries about Hungarian-American businessman George Soros' power in the country have also increased. A philanthropist who donates to programs in support of left-wing ideology, he is often disliked by right-wing politicians who feel his financial backing is corrupting the democratic process. The BJP, in particular, has recently been investigating members of the government who have financial and personal ties to Soros.

With these scandals piling up, the role of the Lok Sabha is more important than ever. As the directly elected, 543-person Indian lower house, they have the power to create laws that will change the economic and humanitarian future of India. It will be your job, as Members of Parliament, to decide what India's future holds. Each committee member has differing views of what political parties, economic backers, and external influences—if any—are best for the country.

Will you tolerate—or take advantage of—billionaire influence in Parliament? Will you stand with the BJP, Congress, or another faction? Carefully consider how your choices affect the economy, environment, and the well-being of the Indian people. But if you are a member of the opposition, please note that the Lok Sabha can be dissolved at any time by President Smt. Droupadi Murmu at the direction of Prime Minister Modi, although this may result in political repercussions.



COMMITTEE DESCRIPTION

The Lok Sabha will include 40 members from parties, mostly proportional to representation in the real-life lower house. While in the real Lok Sabha, different issues can be brought to the floor by any member, this room will focus on anti-corruption legislation. Specialized rooms often function as a blend between traditional General Assembly procedure and Crisis procedure, and this is no exception.

This committee will begin **on the present day—May 24th, 2025**. As delegates, you will receive various crisis updates throughout the committee, where our dais or crisis staff will deliver new information pertinent to the events of the committee. Time jumps may occur. When it comes to directives, we **only allow group (also known as joint private) and committee directives. Additionally, there will be no technology allowed in this committee.**

Joint private and committee directives should be written on a notepad (which will be provided) and submitted to the dais, who will, in the case of joint private directives hand them over to Crisis or in the case of committee directives, hold them to be voted on when a delegate makes the appropriate motion.

In addition, on the day of the conference, you will be given a folder with a portfolio power. These portfolio powers are secret—only you will know what your portfolio power is—and include two major things: plots and powers. Plots are secret objectives a delegate is trying to accomplish or secret information that only one delegate or a group of delegates would be privy to. For instance, an example of a plot is how in our past “Red Scare” room, multiple delegates were Communists and plotted with each other to overthrow the United States. Powers are special actions that



delegates can take. These can range from the ability to “OBJECT!” to another delegate’s speech to a secret task force of spies and analysts that a delegate can command to gather intelligence on their adversaries to the ability to call a general strike and cripple key infrastructure.

Please be advised that at JackrabbitMUN, we have a policy of not killing your fellow delegates. Therefore, please do not submit directives attempting to assassinate one another. We also will not entertain directives that involve genocide or nuclear weapons. Thank you so much for signing up, and we look forward to meeting you on the 24th!

BACKGROUND

INDIA'S POLITICAL SYSTEM

India is a multiparty federal state that follows a parliamentary democracy with a bicameral legislature. The government is officially led by the president, Droupadi Murmu, who rules over the 36 states and union territories and acts as the executive and constitutional head of state. The President is elected by the members of an electoral college, which includes members of the Lok Sabha, the Rajya Sabha (the upper house of the Indian parliament), and the legislature of each of the Indian states and territories.

The Prime Minister, currently Narendra Modi of the Bharatiya Janata Party, is the head of government and must be a member of one of the Houses of Parliament. They lead the Council of Ministers, serve as the executive head of the government, and are typically also the leader of one of the political parties. The Prime Minister's term is five years unless a motion of "no confidence", a vote expressing a lack of majority trust in a leader, is passed to remove them from power. While the president is the formal commander-in-chief, the Prime Minister is in control of the executive branch.

The bicameral parliament comprises the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha. The Rajya Sabha has the opportunity to alter and review bills, but the Lok Sabha has a chance to review them before they become law.

The Rajya Sabha is known as the Council of States and is the upper house. There is a maximum of 245 members, 233 of which are elected by the legislators of each state and union territory using the proportionally ranked-choice voting system. The President of India can appoint 12 members to the house for their contributions to culture, specifically art, social service, and the sciences. Parliamentary terms last six



years and are staggered so that about a third of the seats are up for election every two years.

The Lok Sabha, or the lower house, is the “House of the People”, made up of 550 elected members. Of the 550, 530 representatives represent the various Indian states, and 20 represent union territories. They are chosen through universal suffrage and the “first-past-the-post” system. Each member can hold their seat for five years. The Lok Sabha is more powerful than the Rajya Sabha because of its ability to pass laws and reject all decisions made by the Rajya Sabha. For example, financial bills can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha with a recommendation of the President. All monetary decisions are decided within the Lok Sabha. The lower house also holds the power to impeach presidents and judges.

IMPACT OF CORRUPTION

Corruption is often thought of as synonymous with bribery because of how many governmental organizations, nationally and internationally, are working to resolve both issues. However, corruption actually encompasses a wider variety of power abuses, including, but not limited to, embezzlement, insider trading, money laundering, identity theft, nepotism, and extortion. A 2019 survey showed that out of 81,000 Indian citizens, 51% had paid a bribe directly or indirectly to a government department. These payments were made to a variety of groups, including the police, the property registration board, and the tax department.

Economic

On the most simple level, corruption causes major losses in government revenue. When citizens believe there is corruption in their government, they will



invest less in key industries, keeping the economy from growing. The loss of faith in both the government and the systems that maintain federal projects leads people to be less willing to engage with said industries. Similarly, the secrecy that is inherent to a corrupted system often leads a country to refuse to invest in necessary projects, instead choosing activities that will be easier to hide from investigation. In India, many members of the upper-class resort to tax evasion, leading to a major loss of revenue for the government. In 2020 alone, reports showed over \$10 billion was lost thanks to tax evasion by major corporations. Much of this is encouraged by government representatives who participate in this crime and are, therefore, unwilling to regulate it.

It has also been proven that the Corruption Perception Index (CPI) is positively correlated with Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in India. In basic terms, this correlation explains that a high level of corruption in the country, indicated by a low score on the CPI, will lead to a decrease in the economy. Additionally, in a corrupt economy, all federal projects do not compete in the free market. This means the price of these infrastructure programs becomes heightened. In a traditional free market system, these projects are given to the company that can do the best work for the lowest price. In India, it is common for deals to be made with a company with higher prices because of a “quid-pro-quo” bribe. The bribes and higher-than-usual prices are factored into prices for consumers, causing inflation and hampering economic growth.

Cultural

In India, the social gap between the rich and the poor has widened as wealthy political figures reap the benefits of corruption while the poor suffer. Moreover, this



inequality of treatment has denied necessities such as healthcare, education, and infrastructure to Indian citizens who do not possess the resources that those in power do. Ultimately, this tense relationship eroded trust between the citizens of India and the government that sustains this ongoing corruption.

However, it is not just the government that allows corruption to pervade Indian society. Many individuals with minor power, knowing that anti-corruption laws are not enforced, will hold their position over someone else's head to get something in return. For example, a landlord might withhold household amenities from a tenant until the landlord is paid a bonus. While these situations are harmless in the grand scheme of Indian politics, they foster a sense of normalcy around bribery and other forms of corruption, making it more and more unlikely that citizens will investigate government corruption.

In recent years, decreasing public opinions and protests have persisted in groups such as the Aam Aadmi Party, led by activist Arvin Kejriwal, whose platform revolves around fighting corruption. Political activist Kisan Baburao "Anna" Hazare pushed for anti-corruption protections, including the establishment of the Jan Lokpal Bill, which established a governmental institute—the Lokpal—dedicated to prosecuting corrupt individuals. Additionally, the 2005 “Right to Information” Act has allowed citizens to fight this corruption firsthand through public records such as politician stocks and tax records.

International

Many organizations in India involved in corruption schemes are international companies, meaning they are based in other nations. This has created a concern



because the more financial support they have from India, the greater the chance they will expand internationally.

Other countries can become apprehensive when interacting with the Indian government due to the high possibility of corruption. Trading partners want to ensure their capital is safe. Some countries, like the United States of America, have been involved in corruption investigations against international businesses operating in India, leading to high-profile media coverage documenting India's prevalence of deceit.

HISTORICAL CORRUPTION IN INDIA'S POLITICS

The prevalence of corruption in India's economy can partially be blamed on excessive regulations, elaborate tax systems, bureaucracy without transparency, colonization, and the monopoly of government-controlled institutions.

The British Raj, a period of British rule over India, began in 1885. It brought with it the License Raj, a strict system of government that regulated the Indian economy between the 1950s and 1991. This system required all private production decisions to be permitted, providing government officials with control over resources. To gain a license to create new products, corporations needed internal connections with members of the government. This ultimately led to an increase in the use of bribes and favoritism, setting the stage for India's growing political corruption.

During this period, the high-profile Bofors Scandal occurred. In the 1980s, American defense contracts with Pakistan convinced the Indian military that upgrades to their military power were necessary. They became interested in a 155mm Howitzer system, a large truck-towed gun able to fire large shells. The contending sellers were



the Swedish company AB Bofors and the French company Sofma, and when put to the test, the French company's firearm was more effective. Despite this, India notoriously rushed the contract with AB Bofors in a two-day confirmation. In 1987, the Swedish Radio program "Dagens Eko" aired testimony from a former Bofors employee accusing the company of bribing Indian politicians. All investigations into the alleged bribery were obstructed for decades. The decision to go with the more expensive and less effective company not only took money away from other government projects, but also lowered the power of the Indian military. More importantly, it made exceptionally clear how little the Indian people knew about the decisions of their own government and where their tax dollars were being spent. The anxiety over the lack of government transparency sparked an increase in investigative journalism in both Sweden and India. Today, the incident stands as a representation of how a government can conceal information and keep investigations into corruption from succeeding.

A few years later, the Harshad Mehta Scam, also known as the 1992 Stock Market Scam, became the largest incident of financial fraud in Indian history. Stockbroker Harshad Mehta manipulated the relatively new and fragile banking system to alter stock prices for personal gain. He took out fake bank receipts, used at the time as collateral for short-term loans, and diverted the funds into the stock market, effectively embezzling about ₹1,439 crores. This artificially inflated share prices, specifically for Associated Cement Company (ACC), whose price grew 45 times the original price. Mehta then sold his real stocks at inflated prices and profited. When the scam was revealed, there was a major market crash. The scam proved that there were serious loopholes in the Indian banking system and led to more regulation of the stock market. Even after Mehta was imprisoned, many investors remained conservative in



their investments, leading to the Indian economy to grow slowly for the following few years.

Also in 1992, the Telgi Stamp Paper scam cost the Indian government thousands of crores through fake stamp papers. The scam was masterminded by Abdul Karim Telgi, a counterfeiter who made fake passports and later transitioned to counterfeiting stamp papers. Through the Indian Stamp Act of 1899, valid stamp papers act as pre-paid taxes on specific valid paperwork. To obtain a legitimate stamp paper, a citizen must pay the government in advance. Telgi artificially decreased the stamp paper supply while selling his counterfeits: his team bribed Indian Security Press officials to reduce stamp papers while helping Telgi gain counterfeiting machinery and printing material. The scam wasn't uncovered until 2000, when two men were arrested for transporting the counterfeit stamps, and a year later, Telgi was arrested. Eventually, 54 people were arrested for participating in the scam over the decade it was active. This was yet another crisis that exposed the rampant corruption in India.

In 2009, Madhu Koda, the Minister of Mining, was alleged to have been bribed for illegally allotting coal and mining contracts. During an unrelated investigation, investigators discovered suspicious discrepancies within his finances. Koda used his powers as the Chief Minister to recommend a company for a government project, gaining the company massive amounts of money. In exchange, they would pay him between 2 and 80 crore, depending on the project. It is estimated that Koda and his associates amassed about ₹4000 crore throughout their corrupt dealings. The most prominent case brought against Koda was connected to Vini Iron and Steel Udyog Ltd. regarding their wrongful allocation of projects to provide rural communities with electricity. While this corporation was not the cheapest nor the most efficient of the

options, they bribed Koda to give them the contract anyway. Through this bribery, Koda grew richer while the country took a major financial hit.

The next major instance of corruption occurred in 2010 when India held the Commonwealth Games, an international multisport event that occurs every four years. Members of the Commonwealth of Nations, an association of sovereign states including the UK and many of its former colonies, have the opportunity to send athletes to participate in the cross-country competition. In preparation for the competition, only half of the budget allotted for the competition was spent on the athletes. Many of the athletes were forced to move into cheap apartments to cut costs, along with constant over-invoicing. In addition, the Chairman of the Organizing Committee offered a contract to Swiss Timings for their equipment for three times the standard price. Layered on top of the startling amount of money spent by a nation with so many citizens experiencing severe poverty, the Games invoked extreme public backlash towards politicians viewed as misusing their power for personal gain rather than the good of the Games.

A handful of other instances of corruption also occurred in the 2010s. The Ararsh Housing Society Scam came to light in 2010 when it became clear that the housing was not providing a place for war veterans and their families, as was its intended purpose. Instead, politicians and bureaucrats used the system to obtain expensive real estate in Mumbai, resulting in mass investigations into politicians and increased regulations on who could build on coastal property land. Later, the “Coalgate” scandal broke in 2012 when India’s Central Auditing Agency questioned how the Indian government allocated coal. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and various other bureaucrats were found to have been paid to give the coal deal to a more

expensive company. In the end, it was revealed that because the politicians allocated the coal to a company outside of the free market competition, the government lost 1.86 Lakh Crore, or approximately \$24 billion. In 2013, the Madhya Pradesh Vyapam scam occurred, where thousands of young people bribed entrance exam proctors to let these students cheat on or pass the exam. The Vyapam is a standardized exam used for recruitment to government jobs and admission to medical schools and dozens of officials were identified as helping those they knew to cheat on the exams. But the consequences were even greater by the end of the investigation: 42 deaths occurred under suspicious circumstances.

There was a lull in media coverage of corruption in India moving into the 2020s, caused by both a lack of journalistic focus and fewer major scandals than in the past. It seemed that corruption was at an all-time low. This belief shifted as the scandal involving the Adani family came to light.

Gautam Adani

Gautam Adani is the chairman of the Adani Group, a megacorporation with stock in, among other industries, shipping ports, airports, power generation, green energy, cement, and real estate. Born into a modest business-owning family, Adani has become known as one of the richest men in India. Through building his conglomerate, Adani has gotten close to the Bharatiya Janata Party, specifically Prime Minister Narendra Modi. His relationships with the party have earned his group specific trade advantages, including the Adani Special Economic Zone at Mundra Port (although that was eventually ruled illegal by a court). Gautam Adani's relationship with Modi has only strengthened since 2014, when the Prime Minister first flew aboard the Adani private jet, "coincidentally" skyrocketing the Adani Group's stock prices. When the BJP

government forms a project, it is more than likely that the Adani group will get the contract. In 2018, an infrastructure project set out to privatize six airports, and Adani's group obtained all six. Just last year, Adani was indicted in New York for his alleged role in bribing the Indian government. The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission believes that he agreed to pay upwards of \$250 million to Indian officials to win contracts for Adani Green Energy. While there have been few thorough investigations into corruption by the Adani family, many are suspicious about their relations with Modi.

George Soros

Since early 2023, Hungarian-American philanthropist George Soros has been the target of BJP accusations. The leading party is accusing the billionaire of backing critics of Narendra Modi and destabilizing India. This was further exacerbated in the 2024 election when the BJP did not win a Parliamentary majority for the first time in a decade. In late December, Modi's party connected many Congress members — including opposition leader Rahul Gandhi — to Soros, who, in part, funded the newspaper that Gandhi had worked at in his youth. The backlash against Soros expanded more when he commented on the Adani scandal, expressing that he thinks the crisis “will significantly weaken” Modi's power within the Indian government. While no official evidence of corruption has been found, the BJP continues to question the wealthy philanthropist for connections with any organization that might reduce the power Modi has long held over India.

CURRENT POLICY

DOMESTIC POLICY

Throughout Indian history, there have been a variety of domestic policies put in place to combat corruption. In recent years, the number of corruption scandals has decreased, but current policies are not doing enough to fully eliminate corruption.

Indian Penal Code

In 1860, the Indian Penal Code was created, establishing one of India's first official checks on corruption. The code identifies what actions are legal for a public servant and establishes consequences for any illegal actions. Corruption is targeted in a few spots throughout the code.

Section 169: If a public servant unlawfully buys or bids for property, it is punishable by imprisonment of up to 2 years, a fine, or both. If the property has been purchased, it will be confiscated by the government.

Section 409: A criminal breach of trust is defined as any time a public servant misappropriates a piece of property they are entrusted with. If a public servant commits a criminal breach of trust, it is punishable by life imprisonment or 10 years imprisonment and a fine.



Chapter IXA: Details punishments for election-related crimes where bribery and other corrupt activities have occurred.

Prevention of Corruption Act

In 1988, additional punishments were created for any public servant who was found to be corrupt. The Prevention of Corruption Act indicates that if a public servant accepts any gift beyond their legal paycheck to complete an official act, they face incarceration of 6 months to 5 years, along with a fine. In 2008, this was expanded so that the same law applies to any public servant who gives a bribe.

Prevention of Money Laundering Act

Established in 2002, this act focuses on any process that gains proceeds from a crime. Money laundering is penalized by 3-7 years of imprisonment and a fine. If the conviction is also related to drugs and/or narcotics, the term can extend to 10 years. It also lays out the process of forming an appellate tribunal to hear appeals from the original identification of money laundering.

Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act

Passed in 2013, this act forms groups that inquire into corruption allegations against public servants. The Lokpal was created for national or central allegations, while the Lokayuktas was formed for state inquiries. These bodies also have the power to prosecute corruption cases, confiscate assets, and sanction any prosecution against public service members.

Whistleblower Protection Act



The Whistleblower Protection Act established that all whistleblowers' identities shall be protected if they help uncover corruption of any kind. Not all inquiries into corruption are anonymous, but this act made it a crime to uncover the name of the whistleblower. This act was passed to encourage more people to come forward without fear of pushback from corrupt officials.

INTERNATIONAL POLICY

The UN and other bodies have come together to address corruption on a global scale. These policies often have little enforcement but have been pivotal in helping people internationally understand the challenge of corruption in many countries.

Corruption Perception Index (CPI)

The most popular way to track corruption, the Corruption Perception Index, is released annually by the Berlin-based non-governmental organization (NGO) Transparency International. The index ranks every country by corruption levels, comparing data from reputable sources like the World Economic Forum to give each a score out of 100. They currently rank India 96th out of 180 countries and give it a score of 38/100. In comparison, the global average is 43/100, setting the country slightly below the midline. While Transparency International does not express what an objectively “good” score is, we can see that the Indian score has been decreasing since 2019. This numerical value can help countries understand if corruption in their nation is improving or worsening.

United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC)

Convened in 2003, this convention created the only legally binding international treaty against corruption. It identified corruption as including bribery, undue influence, and any other abuse of authority. The treaty acts to ensure information sharing amongst countries and identifies technical assistance for asset recovery, punishment, and techniques to help prevent corruption. India ratified this treaty on May 9, 2011, but it has yet to be put into use within the country.

POLITICAL PARTIES

There are over one hundred political parties in India because party creation is very easily accessible. Any candidate who wins in the first-past-the-post system can claim one of their state's seats in the Lok Sabha, leading to many parties controlling just a single seat. This is an overview of only the parties that currently have 10 or more members or are represented in our character list.

NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE (NDA) - 293 Collective Seats

The NDA is made up of a collection of right-wing political parties and is currently the majority party. The parties are united in their goal to keep the Indian National Congress out of power. Made up of more than 20 national and regional parties, the NDA dealt with much instability in its first five-year term. Despite that, their initial term was characterized by the deregulation of the economy and increased diplomatic relations with the United States and Israel. In the most recent election, the



Bharatiya Janata Party did not reach enough seats for an absolute majority on its own, but through the Alliance, the right-leaning government was still formed. The NDA includes the BJP, TDP, and Janata Dal (United).

Bharatiya Janata Party – 240 Seats

The Bharatiya Janata Party is the largest political party in the world and represented by Narendra Modi, the current Indian Prime Minister. The BJP is committed to Hindu nationalism, capitalism, democracy, and their philosophy of integral humanism (described as the integration of man and nature). Contrasting the growing individualism they see in the West, the BJP believes that by viewing oneself as separate, people turn against their social institutions, family, and caste. Instead, they think that the citizens of India should unite to form a completely communal mindset. The party has been supported widely in Northern India and amongst members of higher castes, though there is a push to attract members of lower classes. Their commitment to Hindutva and willingness to capitalize on anti-Muslim sentiments have also aided their rise to power. During their recent term, they reformed the collection of consumption taxes and appealed to Hindutva values by banning the sale of cows for slaughter, even though that decision was later reversed. Even so, promises of lower unemployment rates and cost of living have yet to be realized, and the BJP has subsequently lost countless local elections, even in stronghold states.

Telugu Desam Party (TDP)– 16 Seats

The second largest member of the NDA, the Telugu Desam Party, is regional, primarily operating in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. It focuses on supporting the Telugu people, an ethno-linguistic group whose language is the fourth most spoken in



India. When it was created, the TDP strayed from any solidified ideology apart from protecting their people and ousting the Indian National Congress. Today, they are known for their populist measures, and the party gained support among farmers, backward castes, and the middle class. In the last three decades, they have followed a consistently pro-business and pro-development policy. In the summer of 2024, there were questions about whether the TDP would stay within the NDA because of their abrupt withdrawal in 2018. In response, senior leaders emphatically confirmed that they plan to stay within the coalition for the near future.

Janata Dal (United) (JD(U)) - 12 Seats

Finding support primarily in Eastern and North-Eastern India, the Janata Dal (United) party is social-democratic and secularist. Their goal is to fight for social justice and aid marginalized people. JD(U) has often shifted between opposing political alliances, leading the party to have a reputation for being unreliable and challenging to work with. While in comparison to the BJP, they have few seats, their twelve members are enough to convince parties to continue allying with them, despite past behavior. When coalitions are trying to form a government, twelve seats can be the difference between who rises to power and who does not. This makes the JD(U) a valuable party for the NDA to work with.

INDIAN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTAL INCLUSIVE ALLIANCE (INDIA) - 237

Collective Seats

Created in July 2023, the Indian National Development Inclusive Alliance's main goal is to deny Modi and the National Democratic Alliance a third term in power. Known by their acronym, INDIA, they intend to boost the economy and employment



opportunities that have diminished under Modi's rule. In addition, they plan to keep Hindu nationalists from attacking minorities, specifically Muslims, and give all Indians the right to free speech. Their efforts collectively support the belief that those currently in power will destroy the multiparty democracy and secular system if they are not stopped. Made up of 28 parties, the group hopes to continue their recent successes in state elections and win enough seats to form a government in the next election. The INDIA alliance includes the INC, Samajwadi Party, All India Trinamool Congress, and DMK.

Indian National Congress (INC) - 99

Colloquially known as the Congress Party, the INC is the second-largest party in India and is the main power behind the INDIA alliance. The Congress Party has existed for longer than its allies, as it was the first nationalist group to advocate for India's independence, founded in the 1880s. Led for years by Mahatma Gandhi, the Congress Party views itself as a more centrist group on the Indian political spectrum. The party supports secular policies and advocates for the rights to health, education, civil liberty, and equal opportunity. They historically have believed in more socialist economic policy but recently have encouraged deregulation of the economy. They express that their goal is to create equal rights for citizens of all castes.

Samajwadi Party - 37 Seats

The Samajwadi is a socialist Indian party that claims a significant number of seats in the Lok Sabha. Based in the Uttar Pradesh state, the Samajwadi Party garners most of its support from the Muslim minority and members of lower castes. In 2012, the party attempted to modernize, bringing in young experts to advise the leaders on

policy. These programs worked temporarily, but many citizens did not continuously support the party. Today, they maintain power by creating a secular socialist democracy run on equality, integrity, and progress for the future. They are determined to develop India without harming members of India's lower castes.

All India Trinamool Congress (AITC)- 28 Seats

Primarily operating in the state of West Bengal, the AITC was founded as a break-away faction of the Congress party in 1998, growing into its own party over the last two decades. The AITC led the Nandigram Movement, a protest group against the evicting of 70,000 people from their homes to make space for a chemical plant. The popularity of the movement and its subsequent support were beneficial to the AITC's success later on. The party has its most support in West Bengal, closely beating out the BJP enough to hold a state majority. The party aims to establish India as a global power while keeping it a multilingual, multi-faceted, multiethnic country.

Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMZ) - 22 Seats

The Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (translated: the Dravidian Progressive Federation) mainly holds power in the state of Tamil Nadu. The party follows a motto of "Duty, Dignity, and Discipline," which espouses protecting democracy and reform. They believe in reviving the Dravidian ideology, belonging to an ancient South Asian ethnolinguistic group. Some of the DMK's main goals are to reform the economy and eliminate poverty while promoting state languages. They believe that individual ethnolinguistic groups within India should be allowed to use their own language without letting other languages dominate. They support decentralization from the

Union government and believe the states should have the autonomy to make their own decisions.

Members of the Lok Sabha

This is a friendly reminder that despite the sometimes colorful language and comments of some Lok Sabha members, at Jackrabbit MUN, we expect professional and respectful language from all delegates. Being well-mannered is much more important than sticking to character policy!

Om Birla

Party: Bharatiya Janata Party

Role: Speaker of the Lok Sabha

State: Rajasthan

Notable Information: Birla was originally elected to Speaker in 2019 and was reelected to his second term last year. He has spoken out in support of an increase in public participation in government. He advocates for citizen-centered policies that ensure the government is answerable to the people. Leader of the BJP, he wants to stop the prevalent corruption but is cautious of speculation about Modi. He knows he must find a way to regulate corruption without bringing attention to recent claims against the prime minister. He is prepared to lead his party to reasonable legislation without causing citizens to turn against his close ally, Modi.

Sanjay Jaiswal

Party: Bharatiya Janata Party

State: Bihar

Notable Information: Sanjay Jaiswal is a member of the Consultative Committee on the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, the Committee on Health and Family



Welfare, and the Committee on Estimates. He is also a member of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS). He focuses on environmental and clean energy initiatives and helped implement the agreement of the 21st session of the United Nations Climate Change Conference. Jaiswal is ready to work with others to create an India free of fossil fuels now.

Jagdambika Pal

Party: Bharatiya Janata Party

State: Uttar Pradesh

Notable Information: Jagdambika Pal started as part of the Indian National Congress. In 2014, he shifted to his current party, the BJP, and quickly reentered the Lok Sabha. He focuses on increasing the development of India, specifically in the healthcare, education, and infrastructure fields. Pal also holds the record for the shortest term as Chief Minister of any Indian state with just one day. Despite this short stint, Pal is ready to show his constituents he can create an environment of stability and support.

Ganesh Singh

Party: Bharatiya Janata Party

State: Madhya Pradesh

Notable Information: Ganesh Singh's social activism started young as the head of a socialist youth group in the Madhya Pradesh State. Before his election to the Lok Sabha, he was known for the development of the Vindhya region and for building up the gram panchayats, the governing institutions of Indian villages. He has also helped support the Panchayats in providing health, sanitation, education, irrigation, and other infrastructure to their towns. With his long commitment and support of local

governments, Singh is trusted to move progress forward on the most important thing: keeping his people safe and healthy.

Rajnath Singh

Party: Bharatiya Janata Party

Role: Minister of Defense

State: Uttar Pradesh

Notable Information: Rajnath Singh was president of the BJP from 2005-2009 and 2013-2014. While in power, he pushed the Anti-Copying Act, which reduced cheating in Indian schools, and Vedic Mathematics, which recommended new techniques to teach students. He advocates for transparency in politics and wants leaders to speak the truth to their constituents. As the BJP National President, he proposed that 33% of the seats should be reserved for women in the party to increase their political participation. His experience and history of cracking down on adolescent cheating causes him to wonder if a similar technique could work for the politicians throughout India's government.

Amit Shah

Party: Bharatiya Janata Party

Role: Minister of Cooperation

State: Gujarat

Notable Information: Amit Shah served as the tenth president of the BJP and was the 32nd Minister of Home Affairs, responsible for internal security and domestic policy. He is a close advisor of Prime Minister Modi, and they have worked together to eliminate the Congress Party in rural areas. Shah supported the unification of India



through a common language, Hindi, but also introduced the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, which granted citizenship to religiously persecuted minority communities. Shah is determined to decrease corruption without villainizing Prime Minister Modi.

Nitin Gadkari

Party: Bharatiya Janata Party

Role: Minister of Road Transport and Highways

State: Maharashtra

Notable Information: A lawyer by profession, Nitin Gadkari has served as a Minister in many departments, including water resources, river development, shipping, and rural development. He also initiated the Mumbai–Pune Expressway, India's first six-lane, paved toll road. He strongly supports the privatization of infrastructure and has also started his own fruit-exporting company on the side. When this corporation was in financial trouble, the construction firm Ideal Road Builders (IRB) bailed him out in return for major contracts on the ambitious highway projects that Gadkari chaired. These actions cost him a second term as President of the BJP. Gadkari isn't sure if the strict regulations some legislators are debating will be good for his finances or the good of his party. If things start to turn in a way that doesn't work for him, he's not afraid to make a ruckus.

Ravi Shankar Prasad

Party: Bharatiya Janata Party

State: Bihar

Notable Information: Ravi Shankar Prasad has been a member of Parliament, first the Rajya Sabha and then the Lok Sabha, since 2000. Of his many titles, he most

prominently worked as Union Minister, repealing 1500 outdated laws and handling the investigation over the Rafale Fighter Plane Scandal. He later spearheaded the Digital India program, an effort to ensure rural areas have access to high-speed internet, build online infrastructure, and develop digital literacy. After focusing more on the countryside during his career, Prasad just wants to ensure the money his constituents deserve isn't being taken by corrupt politicians.

Pralhad Joshi

Party: Bharatiya Janata Party

Role: Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution

State: Karnataka

Notable Information: Pralhad Joshi's rise to power came in part because of his local focus on his constituents as a state legislator. From there, he became a Lok Sabha member known for actively participating in debate. He focuses on development, infrastructure, and education, but has also reformed operations of the coal and mining sectors. He is prepared to stand up for his beliefs during debate, ensuring corruption doesn't come before his infrastructure projects.

Giriraj Singh

Party: Bharatiya Janata Party

Role: Minister of Textiles

State: Bihar

Notable Information: Giriraj Singh is known for his controversial presence and advocacy in Indian politics. He is a strong supporter of the BJP's ideology, and his commitment to those beliefs, along with his organizational skills, have helped his



political career flourish. He is known for bold speeches on anything from rural development to national security. Some have questioned his remarks on sensitive issues like religious conversions and immigration, making him a polarizing member of the Lok Sabha. Singh isn't as worried about schmoozing as some of his peers and is ready to get BJP-supported policies passed.

Gajendra Singh Shekhawat

Party: Bharatiya Janata Party

Role: Minister of Union Tourism and Culture

State: Rajasthan

Notable Information: Gajendra Singh Shekhawat is known for being elected to the Lok Sabha with the highest-ever winning margin in 2014. During his time in office, he has expanded the Jodhpur Airport, a much-needed advancement that has been demanded for over eighteen years. Shekhawat projects the image of a simple, hardworking man through his connection with the community, often on the online question-and-answer site Quora. Viewed as a politician for the people, he is ready to stick up for the people he spends so much time connecting with.

Ravi Kishan

Party: Bharatiya Janata Party

State: Uttar Pradesh

Notable Information: Ravi Kishan is known not only for his politics but also for his Bhojpuri and Hindi movie acting. Because of his high popularity in these films, his initial candidacy was a surprise to many. Even so, he quickly proved himself politically. Reports turned less favorable in 2022 when news broke of Kishan being conned by a



Mumbai Businessman for over three hundred thousand dollars. That same year, there was also backlash following his introduction of a population control bill, despite his fathering four children himself. Holding his personal grief close to his heart, Kishan is ready to set up strong regulations to keep others from being similarly cheated.

Rahul Gandhi

Party: Indian National Congress

Role: Leader of the Opposition

State: Uttar Pradesh

Notable Information: A part of the Nehru–Gandhi political family, Rahul Gandhi is the main challenge to Modi’s continued rule. He recently captured attention when he completed the five-month-long Bharat Jodo Yatra, a mass movement orchestrated by the INC to unite the country. In 2023, he was disqualified from the Lok Sabha and sentenced to two years in prison for criminal defamation against Modi but eventually secured a one-month stay. Gandhi has been vocal about Modi’s relationship with Gautam Adani and others he believes have committed corruption. Gandhi is set on stopping the crimes he strongly believes have been committed and isn’t afraid to take Modi down as corruption comes out.

Mohammad Jawed

Party: Indian National Congress

Role: Party Whip for INC

State: Bihar

Notable Information: As the son of a Congressman, it is no surprise that Mohammad Jawed entered the political world after his years as a doctor. Affiliated with the Indian



National Congress, Jawed has served numerous positions in the government on their behalf, including 3 terms in the Bihar Legislative Assembly, and, currently, the INC's Lok Sabha's Party Whip. He is outspoken about his solidarity with India's minority populations, such as Muslims, supporting their increased welfare, scholarships, and representation in education. Jawed's clashes with the BJP have only served to strengthen his resolve, and he firmly believes that everyone should have equal opportunity to succeed. As the "enforcer" of the INC, Jawed knows that solving corruption will require his party to move as one, coming together for the common good of India, and he will act accordingly to ensure that his party stays in alignment.

Selja Kumari

Party: Indian National Congress

State: Haryana

Notable Information: Selja Kumari grew up with her father, a politician for the Indian National Congress, who strongly supported her education. She earned her master's in philosophy and soon after became the President of the Mahila Congress, the wing of the INC dedicated to the empowerment and welfare of women. She has been involved with the Lok Sabha since 1991, serving as the Minister of Tourism and the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment under Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. For decades, Kumari has worked to increase the status and power of women in India, as well as championing other minorities as the Minister of Social Justice. She is a well-respected figure in the INC and believes that for corruption in India to be eliminated, the government must commit to supporting the plight of marginalized communities.

K.C. Venugopal

Party: Indian National Congress

Role: Chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee

State: Kerala

Notable Information: Hailing from humble beginnings, K.C. Venugopal's journey into politics started at the University of Calicut, where he was active in student organizations. Noted for his passion in his youth, he was elected to the Kerala Legislative Assembly, later serving as the General Secretary for the INC and Union Minister of State for Power. Currently, he is the Chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee, dedicated to ensuring governmental economic transparency and accountability. Since college, Venugopal's fervor has not subsided, and he seeks to combat political corruption by working as a member of the I.N.D.I.A. alliance, determining which campaign issues will be at the forefront of national debate.

Varsha Gaikwad

Party: Indian National Congress

Role: President of Mumbai Regional Congress Committee

State: Maharashtra

Notable Information: Varsha Gaikwad, born in Mumbai, first studied math at Mumbai University. She is also known for lecturing at Siddharth College in Mumbai. Gaikwad has made an effort to give back to her hometown by serving as the President of the Mumbai Regional Congress Committee. She was recently elected to the Lok Sabha and is a member of the Committee on Education, Women, Youth, Children, and Sports, as well as a member of the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit. She is prepared to execute her role on this financial committee by taking action to keep corruption from



sucking their funds away. Using her mathematical prowess and logical problem-solving skills, Gaikwad is confident that her voice will be vital to negating corruption.

Gaurav Gogoi

Party: Indian National Congress

Role: Deputy Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha

State: Assam

Notable Information: Raised by the Chief Minister of Assam, Tarun Gogoi, Gaurav Gogoi spent much of his life with a connection to political service. With an eye on foreign policy and engaging youth, Gaurav Gogoi earned a Master's degree in Public Administration in the US before moving back to India. Gogoi went into the Lok Sabha knowing he would always act in the party's best interest, which led him to file a no-confidence motion against Modi. With a strong commitment to his party, he is not afraid to call out the current government if he does not think they are focusing on an issue enough. He is the current Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the eighteenth Lok Sabha and has been serving in the government since 2014. He believes it is time for India to move away from corruption, even if that means moving away from Modi.

Sanjana Jatav

Party: Indian National Congress

State: Rajasthan

Notable Information: At 26 years old, Sanjana Jatav is among the youngest members of Parliament. While young, she is viewed as the rising star of the Congress party, campaigning to stop crime, inflation, and unemployment while ensuring farmers get

fair prices, fertilizers, and seeds. Jatav knows it is highly important to promote women's empowerment throughout India, and she is amplifying messages of gender equality around the country. She was elected to the eighteenth Lok Sabha and joined the Committee on Water Resources in 2024. Her youthful commitment to engendering change for her constituents leads her to be more ambitious than many seasoned Parliament members. Jatav is prepared to dream for the stars, ready to present an anti-corruption plan that will stop the crime once and for all.

Karti Chidambaram

Party: Indian National Congress

State: Tamil Nadu

Notable Information: Although he is quite new to politics, Karti Chidambaram has made no shortage of waves in Indian politics. The son of a seven-time Parliament member, Chidambaram was educated at the illustrious Cambridge University in England and returned to India to serve as his father's election manager. Chidambaram was then elected to the Lok Sabha in 2019 despite his alleged involvement in the high-profile Aircel-Maxis and Sequoia Capital cases. Currently, Chidambaram represents Sivaganga in the Lok Sabha on behalf of the Indian National Congress. He maintains his innocence to this day and focuses on redirecting attention from his controversies to the real issue- government incompetence!

Harendra Singh Malik

Party: Samajwadi Party

State: Uttar Pradesh



Notable Information: An impassioned socialist, Harendra Singh Malik served in the Rajya Sabha, the upper house of the Indian Parliament, as a member of the now defunct Janata Dal. After the Janata Dal was dissolved, Malik found solace in the socialist Samajwadi Party. Throughout his decades-long career, Malik has advocated for farmers, demonstrating dedication to their support. As one of the few Lok Sabha members of a socialist party, Malik is no stranger to powering through adversity and believes solutions to governmental corruption must include strengthened welfare, agricultural investment, and community ownership of the means of production! But that last part might be more controversial...

Iqra Choudhary

Party: Samajwadi Party

State: Uttar Pradesh

Notable Information: Hailing from a line of politicians, Iqra Choudhary grew up in the limelight and has used her influence to fight for minority protection since entering office. After her education in London, Choudhary returned to India to campaign for her brother, a member of the legislative assembly who was, at the time, jailed. From this, she learned how to intimately navigate the political landscape, going on to win a Lok Sabha seat for the Samajwadi Party. Although she has only been in Parliament for a short time, Choudhary has championed the education of minorities, such as supporting the Maulana Azad Foundation and expressing concerns over the censorship of school textbooks. She seeks to ensure that as the government is overhauled, no group will be left behind, and she will continue to speak out against any injustices she encounters.



Akhilesh Yadav

Party: Samajwadi Party

Role: President of the Samajwadi Party

State: Uttar Pradesh

Notable Information: Born in Saifai, Akhilesh Yadav, oftentimes known as Tipu, is the president of the Samajwadi Party. Yadav was educated at Dholpur Military School in Rajasthan and then continued to earn his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in civil environmental engineering at Australian universities. He later developed a career as an agriculturist, starting in 2000. He is a man who carries a powerful voice and utilizes his position to bring attention to and take action against the ongoing corruption within India and its government. Yadav's time in office has seen a focus on development and local activism. He is ready to take action to protect his constituents from the awful nature of corruption!

Sudip Bandyopadhyay

Party: All India Trinamool Congress

State: West Bengal

Notable Information: Beginning his time in politics as the President of the West Bengal Youth Congress, Bandyopadhyay has more experience than most in the Lok Sabha. Following his resignation from the INC in 1998 based on moral differences, he has been a part of the All India Trinamool Congress. Acting as a Founder Member of the AITC and current spokesperson of the party, he is a pivotal member of the group. One of his main initiatives is ensuring the efficient development and renovation of the river Ganga, freeing the water of pollution. In 2017, Bandyopadhyay was arrested for a lack of cooperation in an investigation into the Ponzi firm Rose Valley Groups, leading some



to question his commitment to removing corruption from India. Will he use his vast experience to limit corrupt dealings or allow the current culture to live on?

Abhishek Banerjee

Party: All India Trinamool Congress

State: West Bengal

Notable Information: Nephew of the West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, Abhishek is part of one of the many families in India with a political legacy. He entered politics with the Trinamool Congress in 2011 after they ousted the Communist Party of India (Marxist) government. When Banerjee entered the Lok Sabha, he was the youngest member in the lower house, a fact that led to his presidency of the West Bengal Trinamool Youth Congress. His connection to young people in his constituency continued when he arranged an M.P. Cup Football Tournament to inspire children to be part of sports and physical education. Banerjee is ready to protect India's economy from corruption while inspiring more young people to become active in political life!

Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar

Party: All India Trinamool Congress

State: West Bengal

Notable Information: Born on November 23, 1959, Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar's family has had connections to West Bengali and Indian politics for 3 generations. She has a medical degree from R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital Kolkata, which is affiliated with the University of Calcutta, and did postgraduate training in obstetric ultrasound from King's College of London. She is now an Indian physician and politician from West Bengal and acts as chairperson of Banga Janani Bahini, a women's wing of the

Trinamool Congress. She was also a member of the 15th, 16th, and 17th Lok Sabha, reelected in 2014 and 2019 in the Indian general elections. Today, she is a member of the Committee on Home Affairs in the Lok Sabha, the People's Chamber of the Indian Parliament. She is ready to dedicate herself to getting rid of corruption with the same vigor as she takes care of her patients!

Mahua Moitra

Party: All India Trinamool Congress

State: West Bengal

Notable Information: Graduating with a degree in economics and mathematics from Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts, Mahua Moitra worked as an investment banker before joining politics. She joined the Lok Sabha as part of the Congress party, working closely with Rahul Gandhi on projects connecting their initiatives to individual people in the country. In 2023, she was disqualified and expelled from Lok Sabha because she shared her login and password for the National Informatics Centre portal, which holds sensitive information. After returning to her position, she pointed out “seven early signs of fascism” in the Indian government, which she believes are threatening the country's constitutional rights. Not afraid to stand up for what she believes in, Moitra plans to use her knowledge of the economy to create a more transparent India.

T. R. Baalu

Party: Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam

Role: Leader of DMK in Lok Sabha

State: Tamil Nadu



Notable Information: Thalikkottai Rajuthevar Baalu, more commonly called T. R. Baalu, is the main leader of the DMK. His time with the party began in 1957 after he listened to a speech by a DMK representative. This helped him meet the DMK President at the time, a connection that served him throughout his career. Baalu has gone to jail over 20 times for participating in protests, one of which led to him being imprisoned for a year. During his time in parliament, he has been a major proponent of the Sethusamudram Shipping Canal Project, linking the Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar between India and Sri Lanka. He believes this will support the Indian economy, especially its international business dealings. Baalu is ready to take his extensive time with the DMK and knowledge of how government projects are allocated to shape the future of corruption in India.

Andimuthu Raja

Party: Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam

State: Tamil Nadu

Notable Information: Despite starting his formal education in mathematics, Andimuthu Raja felt pulled to politics and writing, eventually graduating with a master's in law. In the final year of his undergraduate program, Raja joined the DMK students' wing on campus and rose through the ranks. Once he graduated, he was recommended as a possible lower house member representing his native region of Tamil Nadu. Since joining the organization, Raja has been outspoken about his distaste for Narendra Modi, similar to the rest of his party, and in recent months has shifted to be increasingly critical. After leading the DMK attack on Modi with the slogan "Get out Modi," Raja went further to introduce "Shut up Modi" as a new and improved rallying

cry. He is excited to make it clear that Modi is at the forefront of corruption allegations, just another reason he is unfit to lead.

Kanimozhi Karunanidhi

Party: Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam

State: Tamil Nadu

Notable Information: Beginning her working career as a journalist, including acting as editor-in-chief of Kungumam (a Tamil weekly publication), Kanimozhi Karunanidhi shifted to a life in politics in 2007. Karunanidhi began her public service in the Rajya Sabha before transitioning to the Lok Sabha. While a member of the Rajya Sabha, she co-founded an online program supporting free speech in India. She focuses specifically on pan-Tamil issues and has been part of organizing women empowerment programs. In recent years, she has supported the bolstering of welfare for disabled and transgender people in the country. She has also been part of the DMK effort to organize job fairs in rural areas to find employment for young people in her region. On top of her valuable work, Karunanidhi happens to be the first woman representative elected to represent her constituency of Thoothukudi. She is here to support the people, not corruption efforts she knows are taking funds from her valued constituents.

Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu

Party: Telugu Desam Party

Role: Leader of the Telugu Desam Parliamentary Party

State: Andhra Pradesh



Notable Information: Despite being the current leader of the Telugu Desam Parliamentary Party, Devarayalu is a relatively new member of the TDP. On January 23, 2024, Devarayalu resigned as a representative of the Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party (YCP). During his time with his previous party, he was a member of the Human Resources Development Standing Committee; the Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth, and Sports; and other committees. His activity in Parliament has been focused on legislation like The Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, permitting Indian widows, divorcees, and married couples living abroad to become parents through surrogacy, along with speaking on the National Medical Commission Bill. While he hasn't made much commentary on corruption in the past, he knows his leadership position will influence his party's view going forward.

Mathukumilli Sri Bharat

Party: Telugu Desam Party

State: Andhra Pradesh

Notable Information: Mathukumilli Sribharat is one of the few members of the Indian Parliament who was educated in the United States, obtaining a joint MBA/MA Education degree from Stanford University. Outside of politics, he serves as the President of the Gandhi Institute of Technology and Management, a private Indian university. He also founded the Kautilya School of Public Policy, which offers master's and doctoral programs. He has supported reforms throughout the country, including improvements in renewable energy. There has also been a noticeable focus on increasing job opportunities in Visakhapatnam, specifically those related to IT, tourism, and industry. Sribharat is committed to promoting education throughout

India and hopes that by teaching students how to combat corruption in schools, they can eliminate the problem at the root!

Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu

Party: Telugu Desam Party

State: Andhra Pradesh

Notable Information: As the 33rd Minister of Civil Aviation, Kinjarpu oversees civil air transportation, ensuring India has access to safe air travel. He is also a member of the Telugu Desam Party, using his opinionated voice to fight issues relating to corruption in the government. He has openly criticized the ruling party's handling of infrastructure projects, protesting incidents like the Delhi Airport canopy collapse, which he believes was a primary example of India's tendency to ignore criminal behavior. Kinjarpu believes in transparency and strict investigation laws so that criminal activity within the government can be stopped at its root.

Chandra S. Pemmasani

Party: Telugu Desam Party

Role: Union Minister of State for Communications and Rural Development

State: Andhra Pradesh

Notable Information: Chandra S. Pemmasani is a professional physician currently serving as the 28th Union Minister of State for Communications and Rural Development representing the TDP. He is involved in many social support systems, such as providing free potable water to residents of the Palnadu region and funding educational support for children and adults. Pemmasani also contributes to charities in local communities, which supports his belief that people in more rural areas should



have equal opportunities to thrive. He believes in leveraging technology to raise public awareness of corruption within the Indian government. It is time to move India further into the digital era while keeping corruption at bay.

Giridhari Yadav

Party: Janata Del (United)

State: Bihar

Notable Information: One of seven children, Giridhari Yadav is no stranger to collaborating with others. These techniques, along with his time as a history student, started his political career as a youth coordinator for the Indian Youth Congress. In the present day, he is a 4-time electee, meaning he is very experienced in dealing with Lok Sabha debate. His political stance aligns with the principles of the Janata Dal (United), and he primarily focuses on fostering social justice and prolonging fair economic development. He has a strong voice that advocates for forgotten communities and understands the importance of job equality. He is committed to fighting corruption and ensuring transparency in government operations.

Dileshwar Kamait

Party: Janata Del (United)

State: Bihar

Notable Information: Dileshwar Kamait began his political career in 2008, prior to which he was an officer for Indian Railways. He was first elected to the Bihar Legislative Assembly and then won a Parliamentary seat in 2019, representing Supaul on behalf of the Janata Dal. He is a prominent advocate for the Other Backward Classes (OBC), a term used by the Indian government to describe disadvantaged groups.

Kamait knows that to combat government disorder, inequality (especially between castes) must not be tolerated. Kamait knows the working class experience and thus believes that proper education, support systems, and welfare for OBCs must be a priority. After all, how can India root out corruption while many groups are still marginalized?

Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi

Party: Jammu and Kashmir National Conference

State: Jammu and Kashmir

Notable Information: Born into a political and religious family, Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi has deep roots in the Shia Muslim community. His political life started soon after the untimely death of his father. In Parliament, he has raised the issue of equitable health access regarding the Indian National Health Mission (NHM) and paramedical services to ensure accessibility to proper healthcare for Indian people. He also initiated a movement to install CT scans in all district hospitals throughout the country. Outside of his medical advocacy, Mehdi has helped hundreds of prisoners held in Jammu and Kashmir get a trial. Supporting the prosperity of his constituents, he is worried that money lost through corruption could keep money from aiding the people who need it most.

Shrikant Eknath Shinde

Party: Shiv Sena

State: Maharashtra

Notable Information: A qualified medical practitioner, Shiv Sena got a master's degree in surgery when he was 27. This makes it unsurprising that his main focus within the



Lok Sabha is on promoting health and safety for his constituents. He was the main proponent of the Kalyan Ring Road Project, making the rural area more accessible from the cities. Not only is this a major development for commuters, but it also cuts down on the response time of medical professionals to the region. Sena has also championed the renovation of hospitals in his constituency and took the initiative to increase access to COVID-19 treatment. He also happens to be the youngest parliament member from the Maratha caste to date. Sena is determined to keep corruption from getting in the way of proper healthcare for the people of India!

H. D. Kumaraswamy

Party: Janata Dal (Secular)

Role: Union Minister of Heavy Industries and Steel

State: Karnataka

Notable Information: Haradanahalli Devegowda Kumaraswamy, aka H. D.

Kumaraswamy, is the son of the former Prime Minister of India, Karnataka H. D. Deve Gowda. Since entering the Lok Sabha, Kumaraswamy has been a major leader of the JD(S) party, influencing many of his peers' choices about what coalition to support.

This was explicitly seen in 2004 when his choice to pull the party from a coalition with the Congress party led to a government collapse. In 2015, Kumaraswamy was accused of pressuring a senior bureaucrat to renew Janthakal Enterprise's lease on ore mining rights based on forged documents in exchange for a bribe. Many wonder if he will use his influence to decrease corruption or continue giving different corporations advantages in exchange for payment.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. What laws should be put in place to prevent corruption?
2. Whose responsibility is it to combat corruption?
3. What has led to India's pattern of corruption scandals throughout its history?
4. Do wealthy investors cause more harm or good when in relationships with members of the government?
5. Will you tolerate or take advantage of billionaire influence in Parliament?
6. How will you compromise with other members to eliminate corruption when you are from different parties and states?
7. How do we prevent corruption from harming the citizens of India?



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