

Politics in policy

Implications on ICTD

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Variation in ICTD services in India

- Number of ICT services in different states:

Andhra Pradesh (41)

Chhattisgarh (37)

Gujarat (19)

Himachal Pradesh (24)

Kerala (11)

Maharashtra (16)

Punjab (16)

Orissa (7)

West Bengal (10)

Delhi (6)

Haryana (10)

Karnataka (22)

Rajasthan (11)

Tamil Nadu (10)

Uttarakhand (2)

Uttar Pradesh (13)

Availability of high demand services

Reason for Bribe	Est. Annual Bribes (\$ '000)	% of States Offering
Police First Info. Report	458,000	13%
School Fees (exemption)	340,000	0%
Rural Financial Loan	313,000	0%
Register Property	307,000	50%
School Certificate	288,000	0%
Electricity Connection	166,000	13%

Why the variation ?

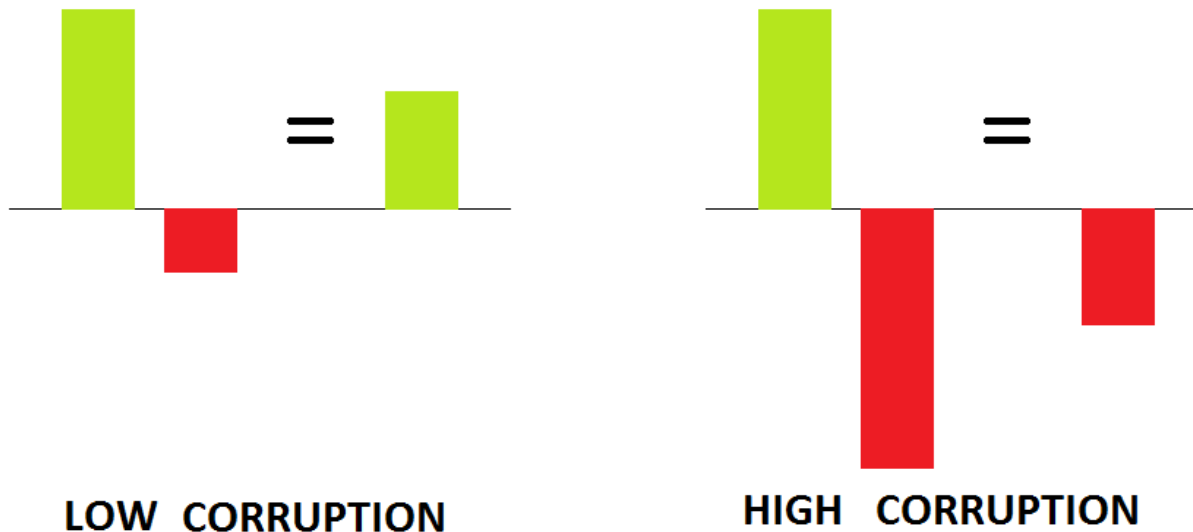
- Politicians weigh expected benefits vs. cost
 - Electoral benefits from satisfied citizen
 - Vs.
 - Electoral costs from decreased corrupt income
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- Variation in incentive => Variation in ICT policy

ICTs curb Corruption

- ICTs remove middle man
- Increase in awareness of laws, access to public documents
- ICTs help generate public opinion

Role of corruption

- More corrupt states tend to have higher losses due to higher decrease in corruption
- Electoral gains due to better governance are similar in both high and low corrupt states



Revisiting previous data

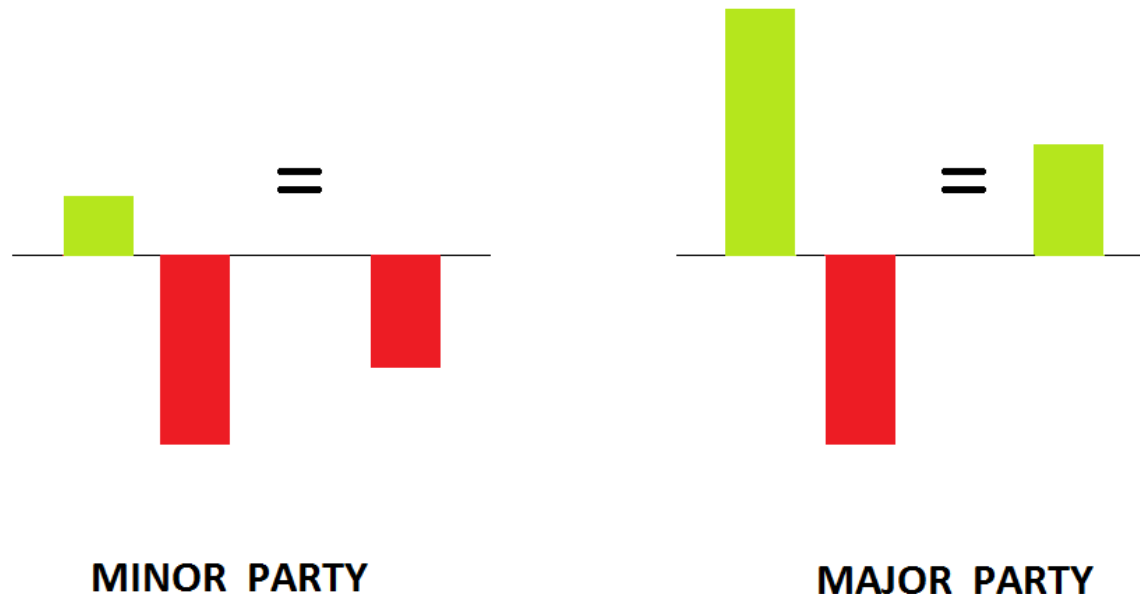
Indian States, Corruption, and Quantity of Services

Corruption	
Below Average	Above Average
Absolute score: 240-478 Scaled score: 0-.523	Absolute score: 479-695 Scaled score: .524-1
Andhra Pradesh (41) Chhattisgarh (37) Gujarat (19) Himachal Pradesh (24) Kerala (11) Maharashtra (16) Punjab (16) Orissa (7) West Bengal (10)	Delhi (6) Haryana (10) Karnataka (22) Rajasthan (11) Tamil Nadu (10) Uttarakhand (2) Uttar Pradesh (13)
Mean services: 20.11	Mean services: 10.57

Reason for Bribe	Est. Annual Bribes (\$ '000)	% of States Offering	< Average Corruption States	> Average Corruption States
Police First Info. Report	458,000	13%	2	0
School Fees (exemption)	340,000	0%	0	0
Rural Financial Loan	313,000	0%	0	0
Register Property	307,000	50%	5	3
School Certificate	288,000	0%	0	0
Electricity Connection	166,000	13%	2	0

The Role of the coalition politics

- Coalition governments diffuse decision-making power
- Increase in transparency of minority ministers imply threats to stability of the ruling coalition



Electoral gain variation in coalition

- Coalition politics has impact on ICT services
 - Coalition partners don't reap much gains from better governance
 - Loss of corrupt money is more important for them

		Ruling Government Cohesion	
		<i>Single Party</i>	<i>Coalition</i>
Corruption	<i>Low</i>	27.4	11.3
	<i>High</i>	10.2	11.5

Other influences

- VOTE BANK



Other influences

- **Political competition** causes the projects initiated by previous government being neglected and similar project getting started from scratch



Other influences

- **Local influences** like honest government officials can also effect the success of a project locally. **Eg.** gyandoot



Conclusion

- Technology-based reforms depend on:
 - Level of corruption
 - Degree of ruling government cohesion
- Reform is likely only in those cases where party leadership anticipates overall electoral benefits and faces no powerful resistance

THANK YOU

References

- Political Incentives and Policy Outcomes: Who Benefits from Technology-Enabled Service Centers? **Jennifer Bussell**
- **Gyandoot**