

Keeping bureaucracy under political control

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BUREAUCRACY is a complicated official system which is both necessary and annoying. Bureaucracy is the system of governmental management. Without bureaucracy we cannot run the government. Bureaucracy is annoying and confusing because it has a lot of rules, regulation and process. All these can easily serve as a source of red-tap or red-tapism. Bureaucrats work in the system of bureaucracy and make use of official rules very strictly. Bureaucrats are not elected individuals. Only the politicians are elected by the vote of general people in the national election for a specific period of time. Bureaucrats are not replaced during their tenureship. Bureaucrats continue to perform for the tenure of their job unless they are separated for any exceptional reason.

Elected individuals of political personality and their responsibility is fixed for a particular period. Bureaucrats work as a responsible officer of the government agency for a specific sector. The policy guide of the rules and regulation are the Bible for the bureaucrats. Their prime job is to oversee if the proposed activity of initial or operating stage does match with the relevant clause as mentioned in the content of the Bible of bureaucratic rules and regulation. Red-tapism is an unexpected source of unnecessary bureaucracy. Once again, bureaucrats are employed rather than elected to do the work of government or business. Bureaucrats are those individuals who work in a bureaucracy and make use of official rules very strictly. "Bureaucratic" means to involve a lot of simple and complicated official rules and process. Once the accomplishment of the proposed and specific task is in process of bureaucratic action, we say it will be done bureaucratically.

Title of this article "Bureaucracy: An evil force to takeover democracy". Evil force is bad or a negative action. Evil force conducted by someone is evil deliberately. Evil force does very cruel things to harm the other people. For example, an evil dictator such as the then Hitler was responsible for the death of million of people in the 2nd World War. Application of evil force is immoral. Evil action is morally wrong. The condemn slavery is evil. The evil force and its impact is unpleasant. Devils are provided with evil spirit whose power and action is intended to harm people.

Bureaucracy takes over the democracy. It means that the bureaucratic power takes the control of democratic action by applying the technique of administrative rules and regulation. Bureaucrats are authorized to implement the governmental issues along the policy guide. All kinds of taking over through the bureaucratic action are not expected, nor are wanted. Unexpected or unwanted taking over some bureaucratic action is called hostile takeover. In many developing countries with weak law and order and weak judiciary system, a hostile taking over of bureaucracy is frequent and common. It is more common in the country of communism where governmental people do not care about the sentiment of general people. Communist party does not care about the non-communist view. The party chief of communism does not care about the other members of the party. All segments of the people in communism try to have a hostile takeover of the country or political organisation. Even in the democratic country the bureaucratic individuals are powerful enough to have a hostile takeover or to get a control of a country or political organization by using their evil force of bureaucracy. Therefore, the title of this article is "Bureaucracy: An evil force to takeover democracy."

Democracy is a system of the country in which every citizen can vote to elect its Member of the Parliament (MP) or the electoral body. In the regime of military rule, non-democracy, communism, anarchism, fascism and kingship including the regime of Middle-Eastern countries, there is no democracy in the sense of reality. Election and voting system are not allowed in the above mentioned system of non-democratic political regime. Voting system and democracy did not exist in the historical regime of the Mao-Zedong in China, Lenin and Stalin in Russia and Kral Marx in German and the historical France regime of Friedrich. Common or general people are not happy with the political environment of non-democracy. Everybody would like to share everything of interest. So all Middle-Eastern countries including North Africa, Libya, Egypt, Yemen, Bahrain, Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Sudan, South-Sudan and their people all have been liv-

ing in an environment of war against their government for democracy. Democracy is still absent from two countries of extreme communism namely, North Korea and Cuba.

In a democratic country the leader of the government and the State is elected by the people. For example, in a parliamentary system, the head of the government is the Prime Minister and the head of the State is the President. In the presidential system, the President is both the head of the State and head of the government. The Prime Minister in the Presidential system is a mere head of the government. In the democratic system, everyone is equal in the eye of rules and regulation and the judiciary system. Everybody has the right to vote and make voting decision by himself. Democracy can also have a role-play within the association or the trade-union and the related organization. Democracy is the one which believes in the sense of democracy or in which people work to achieve democracy. In USA, "Democrat" is a member or supporter of the democratic party. Democratic government is a system in which bureaucrats work as an agent to implement the governmental policy and plan of action. Democratic action is controlled by the public representative who are elected by people. Action of interest is organized according to the principle that everyone has a right to be involved in making democratic decision. This is called a democratic management style. In a democratic society, most things are organized according to the principle that everybody in the society is equally important. In the voting system

However, short-coming expected from the democratic government is relatively less. Because democratic government listens to people with an effort to respond to the peoples' need and necessity in life. The democratic government is also obliged to make its policy planning and the plan of action transparent to public

of a democratic society, it does not matter how much money an individual has or what social class he belongs to. 'Democratize' is to change the way in which a government or company etc is organized so that it is more democratic. An effort to democratize the management of some activities is called democratic action. According to the then president of USA Abraham Lincoln. "Democracy is the Government of the people, by the people, for the people." All Government officials from top-to-bottom are not elected individuals. Member of the Parliament (MP) or Congressmen in other countries are elected individuals. They are elected by the people through a system of national election periodically. Public representatives are the law maker. They frame administrative rules and regulation and sectoral policy guide for the greater interest of the people. The common people look for the political agenda of the political party, their socio-economic and political attitude, manifesto or political commitment and their success in the past before they can decide which party and which nominee to vote for. That is why it is said, "Democracy is the Government of the people, by the people, for the people."

A pragmatic description of democracy is the following: Government will disclose its plan and program, plan of action and the overall policy guide for the development before the public or common people for their opinion. A large section of the common people is also interested in the Governmental policy of income distribution and poverty alleviation, which has to be transparent to the people. Government also needs to make a commitment or its manifesto before the election. It is also the responsibility of the government for the post-election performance evaluation for the information of the people in system of bureaucracy. Once again, a democratic government will present its short-and long-run vision and mission, socio-economic policies and the emphasis on democratic political ideology. The democratic government will maximize its tax revenue in such a way that most of the people pay tax and the rate of the taxation is moderately progressive so that the entrepreneurs and the tax payers will not lose their incentive. Democratic government will also ensure the private property right and the ownership right to increase the efficiency in the production sector.

Manufacturing sector in the democratic society will enjoy some kind of advantage from the democratic government such as less tariff or less import duty for the import of essential materials including raw materials. In other cases, tax free import of machineries in the manufacturing sector is expected to be encouraged by the democratic government. In some sector such as fish farm, livestock, dairy, poultry etc substantially receives a long-term tax holiday. The above policies are the peoples' expectation and the government responsibilities to perform in the democratic society.

Common people would like to avail quality goods and services at a fair price. Democratic government will look into it by providing a congenial environment of higher productivity and services at home. The political ideology of the democratic government will also encourage to import goods and services from foreign countries at fair price. People will also expect to have employment creation to increase their placement opportunity and better jobs etc. Democratic government will provide a secured investment in the manufacturing sector through a few mechanism including share market. The democratic government will also perform by ensuring a safe and secured investment policy in the production sector which will, in turn, help alleviate the poverty.

Traditionally people would to avail an environment of quality education and quality health services. But in a large country of 158 million people of Bangladesh with a low level of tax profile, the government cannot provide all these by itself. Therefore, the democratic government will take a liberal policy to help facilitate the establishment of educational institution at all levels and the healthcare center of all size in the private sector. The food and nutrition are among the very few basic needs in life. But the cost of production in agricultural sector has recently become very high because of the higher prices of gas, diesel, irrigation, seed, fertilizer and insecticide. Therefore, it is hard to avoid subsidy in the agricultural sector. However, democratic Government will carry a good sense of responsibility to feed its people at a fair price. Shortly speaking, subsidy in agricultural sector is essential. The democratic Government will do it in a

relatively more equilibrium fashion. Consumer will receive food and nutrition at a fair price. At the same time agricultural producers must receive fair price for their product, which must be higher than their cost of production. For example, many farmers throughout the country including quite a few in the Northern Region in Bangladesh cannot sell their agriculture product or rice in particular because market price is less than their cost of production. Democratic Government will look into this matter of disequilibrium in the agricultural sector in a smart and very intelligent way. It is also an important role of the democratic Government to manage or control the market imperfection or the market failure. Precisely speaking, over-and under production in any sector and in agricultural sector is not expected. In the year of the recent past (2011), total potato production in the Northern region was 83 thousand ton against the consumer demand of 58 thousand ton. Total wastage of the produced potato was 25 thousand ton. The jute sector of Bangladesh is in way of getting dead because of the significantly lower demand for jute and jute product at home and abroad. Many of the above are not the successful story of the democratic Government in Bangladesh. To summarize, the democratic Government has to disclose its plan and program to the public. The democratic Government must listen to the public what people want in life. Once again, this is the definition of real and pragmatic democracy. From the above discussion we have learned the following: The democratic and non-democratic Government may have some problems in their policy planning and in their plan of action. However, short-coming expected from the democratic Government is relatively less. Because democratic Government listens to people with an effort to respond to the peoples' need and necessity in life. The democratic Government is also obliged to make its policy planning and the plan of action transparent to public. Democratic government means a two-way traffic or communication between the public and the Government. Socio-economic problem is expected to be as less as possible in the system of democracy.

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