

---

# Corruption, Great Boast Small Roast

By R. Sargsyan

Hayots Ashkhar Daily - 10/6/2008

---

"Corruption makes up 1-1,5 % according to the statistic data of the crimes in 2006, 2007, 2008. I don't think you trust this statistics. Of course, in essence it is much more. This data testifies to our incomplete activity. This means we don't disclose all the crimes and all the criminals," Prosecutor General Aghvan Hovsepyan announced during the consultation in the topic "Prevention, Disclosure and Examination of Corruption", which took place in Vanadsor on June 7.

In essence the Prosecutor General is right, because beginning from 2003, we have a program on "RA Anticorruption Strategy and the Methods to Implement it", but it has never been exercised.

Why? What is the reason that corruption is not properly disclosed in our country? For example they "catch" one professor who has taken money from the students and they show the same cadre on all the TV channels. As if it was the single example of corruption in the whole Republic.

The Prosecutor General says: "We don't have concrete state bodies to fight corruption in Armenia. But we have anticorruption system working in our country, and in this framework our law enforcers, including the Prosecutors' do this work."

Aghvan Hovsepyan is right. We lack a concrete ministry, agency, committee or administration to fight corruption. But there are departments in almost all the administrations beginning from Tax-Agency, to fight corruption. Which means everyone fights corruption but...

We must remind you that on April 2004 another department has opened in the General Prosecutor's to fight corruption, which in 2007 turned into an administration fighting corruption and organized crimes. This means if the Prosecutor General is dissatisfied with the work, that means firstly he is dissatisfied of the activity of the administration under his own leadership.

By the way, still in February 2005, the Prosecutor General assigned a task to the Procurators heading the territorial subdivisions of the Prosecutors' to sum up the crimes of this nature every six months and end of the year. And the result ...

The result is that for the last 3 years Aghvan Hovsepyan is very concerned about the fact that the disclosure of crimes during those years made up 1-1,5%.

Therefore the Prosecutor General appealed to deputy Head of RA Police and hoped that in future the Police will be more attentive towards corruption.

According to the data of the first six months of 2008, 51 corruption cases have been investigated. There are provinces, such as Aragatsotn, Armavir, Kotayk, etc. where there has been no corruption case found. In Gegharkunik and Tavush, at least 2 cases have been investigated. Can you imagine in whole Yerevan only two cases were found and only one-one cases each, in Shirak and Vayots Dsor.

It turns out that Lory province is a champion in terms of corruption, 11 cases have been investigated here in the first six months of 2008. Which means Lory is the only province where anticorruption program has worked.

What is the reason? Why do we only speak about corruption, but practically we don't do anything? "Great Boast, Small Roast".

According to the Prosecutor General: "What we really need to record good results, is to start from ourselves. We must create mechanisms in our structures to fight corruption. We must show good example, with our morality, strong will and determination. Our people want to see results.

They are not satisfied with what they see, because every day and everywhere they deal with different manifestations of corruption. Of course their assessment to our work is negative."

Of course we welcome the objective assessment and criticism of our Prosecutor General addressed to the law enforcers Let's see to what extent will these consultations contribute to the disclosure of crimes in our country.

---