

Examining the Role of the General Inspection Organization in Preventing Crimes and Violations by Government Employees

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Abstract

The General Inspection Organization (GIO), as one of the supervisory institutions of the Islamic Republic of Iran, plays a vital role in preventing crimes and violations by government employees. This organization, relying on statutory laws, including the Administrative Violations Investigation Act, the Islamic Penal Code, and the Administrative System Health Promotion Act, seeks to prevent violations by identifying factors influencing the occurrence of administrative offenses and enhancing transparency within the administrative system. Article 576 of the Islamic Penal Code, which addresses the abuse of administrative positions, is one of the key legal tools used by this organization to address violations and promote administrative integrity. This article aims to analyze the role of the GIO in preventing government employees' violations, examining its operational processes, challenges, and strategies for improving its performance. The findings indicate that inter-institutional cooperation, employee training and awareness, and the use of supervisory technologies can contribute to reducing administrative violations and strengthening public trust in the administrative system. Moreover, reforming supervisory structures and enforcing laws more rigorously are crucial steps toward enhancing the integrity of the administrative system.

Keywords: General Inspection Organization, prevention, administrative violations, government employees' crimes, Islamic Penal Code, administrative system integrity, transparency

Received: 12 December 2024

Revised: 01 January 2025

Accepted: 11 January 2025

Published: 27 January 2025



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Citation: Shamseddin Vandi, R., Shahed, B., & Ahadi, F. (2025). Examining the Role of the General Inspection Organization in Preventing Crimes and Violations by Government Employees. *Legal Studies in Digital Age*, 4(1), 1-15.

1. Introduction

The administrative system, as the backbone of any society, plays a crucial role in implementing national policies and strategic programs. The integrity and transparency of this system are among the key factors for sustainable development and public trust in government institutions. However, administrative violations and crimes committed by government employees can lead to decreased efficiency, the spread of corruption, and the erosion of public confidence. Consequently, oversight and

prevention of administrative violations have become one of the primary priorities in the country's governance system. The General Inspection Organization (GIO), as one of the supervisory bodies of the Islamic Republic of Iran, is responsible for preventing and addressing violations and crimes committed by government employees. By utilizing statutory laws such as the Islamic Penal Code, the Administrative Violations Investigation Act, and the Administrative System Health Promotion Act, the GIO seeks to identify weaknesses in the administrative system and propose appropriate solutions to prevent misconduct. One of the key legal instruments in this regard is Article 576 of the Islamic Penal Code, which is dedicated to the abuse of administrative positions and provides a legal framework for combating such violations.

The objective of this article is to examine the role of the General Inspection Organization in preventing administrative violations and crimes committed by government employees. This examination includes an analysis of supervisory processes, challenges, and existing opportunities in this domain. Additionally, strategies such as strengthening inter-institutional cooperation, employee training and awareness, and the utilization of modern technologies to enhance the efficiency of the supervisory system will be proposed. This study can contribute to establishing a more transparent and efficient administrative system and ultimately to enhancing public trust.

2. Concepts

This section first examines the key concepts of the study, followed by an analysis of the major topics under investigation.

2.1. Concept of the General Inspection Organization

The General Inspection Organization is an independent supervisory and inspection institution in the Islamic Republic of Iran, responsible for overseeing the proper implementation of laws, regulations, and public policies within government agencies and public non-governmental institutions. This organization was established to maintain and enhance administrative integrity, prevent corruption and violations, and improve the efficiency of the administrative system. The GIO is one of the country's supervisory pillars, operating under the supervision of the Supreme Leader, and plays a key role in maintaining order and transparency in the executive system.

One of the primary objectives of the General Inspection Organization is to prevent corruption in government agencies. By identifying weaknesses and vulnerabilities in administrative and executive processes, the GIO helps prevent the occurrence of corruption. For instance, through continuous inspections, the organization can detect potential violations and report them to judicial authorities. In this regard, the GIO can implement preventive measures to avert future corruption and misconduct.

The General Inspection Organization also plays a significant role in increasing transparency and accountability within government institutions. One of its tools for enhancing transparency is the preparation of accurate and documented reports on the activities of executive bodies. These reports can serve as the basis for decision-making by high-ranking officials, particularly the Supreme Leader, and may also be made available to the public to strengthen public trust in government institutions. Another responsibility of the GIO is to protect public rights and prevent the infringement of public interests. By monitoring the enforcement of laws and regulations, the organization ensures that citizens' rights are not violated and that public resources are not misused. If a violation is detected, the GIO can take necessary actions either directly or through judicial institutions.

An important function of the General Inspection Organization is to safeguard public rights and promote transparency in administrative processes. The inspections and reports prepared by the GIO can be instrumental in reforming ineffective laws and regulations and clarifying executive activities. Additionally, these reports assist judicial bodies and other supervisory institutions in taking the necessary legal actions to address violations. Besides overseeing government agencies, the GIO is also responsible for monitoring state-owned companies and public non-governmental organizations. These entities manage public resources and must be accountable for their use of such resources within legal frameworks. By supervising these institutions, the GIO can prevent the misallocation of public funds and corruption in these sectors.

Ultimately, in addition to preventing and supervising violations, the General Inspection Organization is also concerned with structural reforms. Through its reports, the GIO can provide executive and judicial authorities with reform recommendations regarding process improvements, structural problem resolution, and enhancement of institutional efficiency. Such reform initiatives can generally contribute to improving government agencies' performance and increasing public satisfaction. To fulfill its objectives, the GIO must operate continuously and systematically to prevent any violations, corruption, and abuse. By

overseeing various institutions and organizations, it plays a vital role in creating a transparent and efficient administrative system and contributes to maintaining the integrity of the administrative system and protecting public rights through preventive and corrective measures.

2.2. *Concept of Prevention*

Prevention refers to a set of actions designed and implemented to avert the occurrence of undesirable phenomena, including crimes, violations, and social harm. The term originates from the words "pre" and "vention," meaning to stop something from happening before it occurs. In its technical sense, prevention is a process that reduces or eliminates risk factors, thereby eliminating conditions conducive to crime or misconduct and contributing to the maintenance of order and security (Mehrvarz et al., 2022).

In the social sciences and legal disciplines, prevention is generally categorized into two types: primary prevention and secondary prevention. Primary prevention refers to measures aimed at altering social, cultural, or economic conditions to prevent the emergence of criminogenic factors, such as public education, improving social welfare, and promoting ethical values. In contrast, secondary prevention focuses on the early identification of risk factors and intervention in situations where crime or misconduct is likely to occur, such as monitoring vulnerable groups or modifying high-risk environments.

From a legal perspective, prevention typically refers to measures that use legal, social, and cultural tools to deter crime. According to the Criminal Procedure Code (2013), prevention is one of the key responsibilities of judicial and law enforcement agencies, implemented through education, supervision, and the protection of citizens' rights. Crime prevention is also a focal point in criminology. In this field, prevention is classified into three types: social prevention, which seeks to alter criminogenic social and cultural structures; situational prevention, which reduces opportunities for crime by modifying the physical or social environment; and legal prevention, which includes establishing legal guarantees and enforcing deterrent punishments.

Recent legislation has also emphasized the importance of prevention. For example, the Law on Reducing Punitive Imprisonment (2020) and the Law on the Protection of Children and Adolescents (2020) have reinforced a preventive approach toward crimes and social harm. These laws emphasize alternatives to imprisonment, rehabilitative education, and continuous supervision to break the cycle of crime. Prevention requires cooperation among various institutions. Judicial, law enforcement, educational, and social agencies must collaborate and coordinate to design comprehensive and long-term programs for reducing criminogenic factors. In this regard, modern technologies also serve as effective tools for prevention. For instance, the use of surveillance systems or online monitoring can play a crucial role in the early detection of violations or crimes (Haghighi, 2021).

Ultimately, the concept of prevention, from an operational perspective, involves identifying and eliminating criminogenic factors and creating conditions that minimize the likelihood of crime or misconduct. This concept holds a significant place in all legal and social systems, and its success depends on the implementation of targeted programs, strengthening institutional coordination, and encouraging public participation.

2.3. *The General Inspection Organization and Situational Prevention*

The General Inspection Organization (GIO), as an independent supervisory institution in the Islamic Republic of Iran, plays a significant role in preventing crimes and violations within government agencies. One of the main tools utilized by the GIO to achieve this objective is situational prevention. Situational prevention refers to a set of measures aimed at minimizing the possibility of crimes and violations by modifying environmental, structural, and procedural conditions. This form of prevention is designed to prevent crimes and violations at the earliest stages, before their occurrence. Accordingly, the GIO employs its legal, supervisory, and executive tools to create a transparent and healthy administrative environment within government agencies (Miri Qaleh Sari et al., 2020).

One of the most important instruments of situational prevention in the legal framework of the Islamic Republic of Iran is the Law on the Establishment of the General Inspection Organization. Under this law, the GIO is authorized to directly or through periodic inspections monitor the performance of government agencies and prevent violations and corruption. Article 2 of this law explicitly outlines the GIO's duty to oversee the proper conduct of affairs and the correct implementation of

administrative and financial laws and regulations within government agencies. Continuous oversight of these entities constitutes a core aspect of situational prevention, as it enhances transparency in governmental operations and identifies weaknesses in administrative processes, thereby significantly reducing the likelihood of violations and corruption (Zareh Banadkouki, 2018).

In line with this, the GIO employs tools such as continuous inspections, reporting, consultation, and performance evaluation to prevent violations and crimes at various levels of government. Article 8 of the Law on the Establishment of the GIO specifically states that the organization may conduct inspections whenever necessary and submit its reports to legal authorities. This process ensures that violations are identified in their early stages and prevented before they escalate.

Another legal provision addressing situational prevention within the GIO is Article 6 of the same law, which explicitly emphasizes the necessity of cooperation between the GIO and other supervisory and regulatory bodies. This article stipulates that the GIO must collaborate with other oversight institutions, such as the Administrative Justice Court, the Judiciary, and security agencies, to safeguard public rights and prevent corruption. These inter-institutional collaborations serve as a fundamental aspect of situational prevention, helping to avert administrative crimes and violations. Additionally, by utilizing information and reports obtained through such collaborations, the GIO can design and implement effective preventive measures (Mazidi & Barzegar, 2016; Taheri & Alizadeh, 2016).

Situational prevention is also reflected in the framework of executive regulations. For instance, under Article 14 of the Law on the Establishment of the GIO, the organization is empowered to provide recommendations for administrative and financial process improvements to government agencies. These recommendations may include modifications to implementation methods, the elimination of complex procedures, and the optimization of oversight systems, all of which indirectly contribute to preventing violations and corruption. Establishing a transparent and efficient governmental structure is one of the most crucial aspects of situational prevention. In reality, situational prevention in the fight against corruption and violations must not only focus on process transparency but also on the control of public resources and their allocation. According to Article 3 of the Law on the Establishment of the GIO, the organization is responsible for overseeing the utilization of public resources and budget allocations within government agencies. By monitoring government expenditures and financial allocations, the GIO can prevent conditions that might foster corruption.

Therefore, by implementing situational preventive measures based on existing legal provisions, the GIO not only prevents violations and corruption within government agencies but also fosters a transparent and accountable environment within the public sector, thereby strengthening public trust in the country's administrative system. These measures directly and indirectly contribute to crime and violation prevention in the future.

2.4. The General Inspection Organization and Criminal Prevention

The General Inspection Organization, as an independent supervisory body under the Judiciary, plays a special role in preventing crimes within government agencies. Criminal prevention, in contrast to situational prevention, which focuses on modifying environmental and structural conditions, is primarily concerned with interventions and actions aimed at directly preventing crimes and violations through criminal laws, penalties, and other legal measures. This type of prevention, which addresses crime and misconduct after their occurrence, functions through continuous supervision and inspections of the behavior and activities of government officials and employees to deter corruption and criminal offenses (Moqareb, 2019; Sardar Nia & Salari Shah Babaki, 2019).

To implement criminal prevention, the GIO monitors and ensures the strict enforcement of administrative, financial, and executive laws and regulations in government agencies. One of the key responsibilities of the GIO is identifying and investigating financial, administrative, and potential corruption-related violations that may lead to criminal offenses. In this regard, whenever the organization detects any form of misconduct or corruption, it takes legal action and submits its reports to judicial authorities for prosecution and the issuance of judicial rulings. Through this process, the GIO plays a significant role in crime prevention by ensuring the investigation and prosecution of offenses (Afrasiabi & Khoyeni, 2022; Alizadeh, 2022; Mehrvarz et al., 2022; Rezaei Tabar, 2021).

Under Article 9 of the Law on the Establishment of the GIO, the organization is mandated to identify and report all potential violations and corruption cases within government agencies. In cases where identified violations have criminal implications, the GIO initiates the criminal prosecution process by submitting reports to judicial authorities. This criminal prevention mechanism serves as an effective tool for combating governmental corruption and offenses, thereby preventing their occurrence and spread. Additionally, the GIO, leveraging its legal authority, conducts regular and detailed inspections of government agencies to identify potential misconduct that could lead to criminal offenses. The organization's examinations, both at the macro and micro levels, can reveal existing deficiencies in executive processes, and by addressing these deficiencies, eliminate the factors contributing to criminal activities. For instance, if the GIO identifies managerial and structural inefficiencies that could result in corruption, it provides corrective recommendations (Haghighi, 2021; Mohammadi Dehghan, 2021).

Ultimately, the GIO utilizes various legal instruments to enhance criminal prevention of governmental offenses and violations. For example, Article 7 of the Law on the Establishment of the GIO explicitly refers to the organization's authority to scrutinize the performance of government officials to protect public rights and prevent violations. Given that many offenses occur at the level of senior officials and high-ranking executives, the GIO effectively prevents corruption and criminal activities by monitoring these individuals and identifying any abuse of power.

In summary, the General Inspection Organization, by employing its supervisory, legal, and criminal enforcement powers, plays a crucial role in preventing crimes and violations within government agencies. Through conducting detailed inspections, preparing analytical reports, providing legal consultations, and overseeing administrative and financial processes, the GIO continuously works to prevent violations and corruption while establishing the necessary legal and judicial frameworks to address corruption cases.

2.5. The General Inspection Organization and Social Prevention

Social prevention refers to a set of measures aimed at reducing the social, cultural, and psychological factors that contribute to crime and misconduct. Unlike direct interventions at the stage of crime commission, social prevention emphasizes creating changes in social, economic, and cultural structures to prevent conditions that may lead to misconduct or corruption. In this regard, the General Inspection Organization (GIO) can play a significant role in promoting a culture of transparency, accountability, and administrative integrity through its supervisory and awareness-raising tools.

In the area of social prevention, the GIO plays a crucial role in education and cultural transformation within government institutions. One of its key initiatives involves organizing training courses and workshops for government officials and employees to increase awareness of the legal and social consequences of corruption and misconduct. These training programs not only provide government employees with essential knowledge about laws and regulations but also foster a positive attitude toward ethical principles and transparency. In reality, education and the promotion of accountability across various administrative levels can prevent misconduct and corruption. Additionally, the GIO strengthens oversight and control at different levels of government, ensuring transparency in administrative and financial processes to prevent misconduct. By improving administrative structures, overseeing financial resources and budgets, and establishing transparent systems, the GIO contributes to reducing the structural conditions that foster corruption at both social and organizational levels. These efforts enhance public trust, improve governance quality, and strengthen government performance, ultimately helping to reduce corruption and administrative violations in society (Khaluyi, 2018; Zareh Banadkouki, 2018).

Regarding social prevention, the GIO can enhance coordination and broaden the implementation of preventive policies by establishing effective communication with other supervisory and judicial institutions. For instance, collaboration with the Administrative Justice Court, the Judiciary, and other oversight bodies can help identify and address structural deficiencies in government systems. Furthermore, these institutions can leverage the GIO's expertise in identifying weaknesses and inefficiencies in government structures, working together to reform corruption-prone processes (Sardar Nia & Salari Shah Babaki, 2019).

Another key social prevention measure undertaken by the GIO is the creation of a fair and ethical working environment for government employees. Ensuring that government officials and employees can fulfill their duties transparently and with accountability is one of the fundamental principles of social prevention.

The GIO's collective efforts in social prevention, including oversight and cultural transformation, contribute to establishing a more transparent and responsible governance system. Promoting an anti-corruption culture and enhancing transparency within government institutions reduces the appeal of corrupt and unlawful actions. Therefore, the GIO not only engages in active supervision but also drives cultural and social change to improve overall administrative integrity and reduce corruption in public institutions (Mazidi & Barzegar, 2016).

In summary, social prevention, as a core component of the GIO's policies, primarily focuses on fostering changes in social, cultural, and administrative structures. By leveraging various supervisory, educational, and advisory tools, the GIO plays a direct and indirect role in mitigating corruption risks and misconduct within government institutions. These measures ultimately reduce violations and crime rates both within government institutions and across society.

3. The Structure of the General Inspection Organization in Preventing Crime and Misconduct in Government Institutions

The General Inspection Organization is composed of several specialized divisions, each responsible for oversight, inspection, and evaluation functions. These divisions cover various areas, including general inspections, performance assessments, legal advisory services, financial and administrative process supervision, and reporting to judicial and executive authorities. This diverse structure enables the GIO to comprehensively monitor the performance of government institutions, particularly in crime and misconduct prevention, and to implement necessary reforms (Delavari, 2016; Niazpour, 2015; Shia et al., 2015).

One of the core structural units of the GIO is the Inspection and Oversight Unit, which is responsible for the continuous and thorough examination of government institutions' operations. By reviewing the performance of public organizations and government entities, this unit identifies deficiencies and shortcomings that may lead to violations and corruption. Reports generated by this unit are submitted to relevant authorities to ensure timely corrective actions. This supervisory function directly prevents crime within governmental systems and mitigates corruption risks (Miri Qaleh Sari et al., 2020).

The GIO also provides advisory services to government institutions to help reform administrative structures and processes. Through legal clarifications and guidance, the organization offers strategic advice on preventing corruption and misconduct. For example, the GIO advises on restructuring management systems, drafting more precise contracts, monitoring resource allocation and budgets, and implementing transparent mechanisms to oversee the conduct of government officials (Afrasiabi & Khoyeni, 2022).

Additionally, the GIO engages in the continuous evaluation of executive policies in government institutions to prevent crime and misconduct. These evaluations help identify and rectify inefficiencies in policy implementation and execution. Specifically, GIO inspectors analyze the implementation of government projects and programs, identifying operational deficiencies and providing recommendations for their improvement. This process enhances the quality of government programs and reduces opportunities for corruption (Haghighi, 2021).

Moreover, the GIO supervises the hiring and appointment of government officials. The selection and appointment of government officials must be conducted transparently and based on professional criteria to prevent misconduct and corruption. By monitoring this process, the GIO can prevent the appointment of individuals who may be involved in corruption or violations, indirectly reducing criminal activities at higher levels of government (Mahdavi & Fallah Hosseini, 2019).

Another key component of the GIO's structure is the Public Complaints Unit, which directly interacts with citizens. This unit reviews public complaints and reports and, if necessary, refers them to relevant authorities. This function effectively prevents misconduct at lower levels of government institutions, as citizens can readily identify and report existing deficiencies and violations (Akbari, 2018).

Beyond monitoring executive processes and implementing structural reforms, the GIO continuously engages in education and awareness-raising initiatives within government institutions. These training programs primarily target government officials, educating them on ethical principles, administrative laws and regulations, and methods for preventing corruption. Educating public employees ensures that they understand the legal and ethical consequences of misconduct and corruption, thereby reducing crime risks within government agencies (Afrasiabi & Khoyeni, 2022).

In the pursuit of crime and misconduct prevention, the GIO also employs artificial intelligence and data-mining systems. These technologies analyze data from government systems to identify potential deficiencies and violations. Utilizing such technologies enables faster and more accurate detection of misconduct and helps prevent complex crimes and institutional corruption.

The GIO also places particular emphasis on combating corruption in large-scale government projects. These projects, particularly those related to infrastructure and economic development, involve substantial financial resources and have far-reaching impacts, making them susceptible to corruption and misconduct. Through strict oversight, the GIO ensures that public funds are allocated appropriately and that financial abuses are prevented. In cases where violations are detected, the GIO promptly submits reports to judicial authorities for legal action.

Ultimately, the GIO's structural framework is designed to effectively prevent crime and misconduct at all levels of government. Through continuous supervision, transparency in government processes, legal advisory services, thorough public complaint investigations, and the use of advanced technologies, the GIO identifies and mitigates corruption risks. These efforts significantly reduce the occurrence of misconduct and corruption within government institutions, ultimately improving public sector performance and strengthening public trust in government entities.

4. Policies of the General Inspection Organization in Crime and Corruption Prevention

The policies of the General Inspection Organization (GIO) in crime and corruption prevention play a vital role in ensuring transparency and governmental efficiency. As a supervisory institution, the GIO is responsible for identifying and addressing violations and corruption to prevent their occurrence and enhance the effectiveness of executive bodies. Its preventive policies primarily focus on financial corruption, administrative violations, and abuse of governmental positions. Through monitoring and oversight of various governmental processes, the GIO identifies vulnerable points within the system.

One of the GIO's primary policies is crime and corruption prevention through continuous supervision of the administrative and financial activities of government institutions. By utilizing tools such as periodic inspections, document reviews, and financial report analysis, the GIO identifies violations and corruption within government agencies and submits the necessary reports to relevant authorities. According to Article 22 of the Law on the Establishment of the GIO, the organization is responsible for overseeing the proper implementation of laws and regulations in government institutions. If any violations are detected, the organization must take action to prevent them.

Another key dimension of the GIO's preventive policies is the use of educational and advisory tools to raise awareness among government employees about laws and regulations. Since many violations and corruption cases arise from employees' lack of awareness regarding their legal rights and duties, the GIO organizes training programs and orientation workshops to enhance knowledge across government institutions. These initiatives, particularly in financial and administrative sectors, help reduce the likelihood of violations and corruption. Another preventive policy of the GIO is the promotion of transparency in government processes. Through transparent reporting and monitoring of government projects and contracts, the organization helps prevent corruption in these areas. Article 35 of the Law on the Establishment of the GIO mandates the organization to continuously and rigorously supervise areas that may lead to corruption. These areas include government tenders, financial contracts, and resource allocation, all of which require meticulous oversight.

Additionally, in its efforts to prevent crime and corruption, the GIO conducts special investigations in high-risk areas. For instance, in sectors related to government resource allocation and budget distribution, special and more detailed inspections are carried out to prevent financial corruption and the misuse of public funds. Article 31 of the Law on the Establishment of the GIO grants the organization the authority to conduct urgent and special investigations when necessary. Another key policy of the GIO is cooperation and coordination with other supervisory and judicial institutions. This collaboration is particularly effective when dealing with complex and widespread violations. By working with the Administrative Justice Court, the Judiciary, and other oversight bodies, the GIO can implement more effective corruption prevention measures across different government levels. Such coordination is especially crucial in supervising high-ranking government officials and executive agencies.

The GIO also pursues corruption prevention by reviewing internal processes within government agencies. To this end, the organization continuously monitors the proper implementation of instructions and regulations in government institutions and

takes corrective action if existing processes contribute to violations or corruption. This type of preventive oversight ensures that internal government systems are constantly improved and updated. In its crime and corruption prevention efforts, the GIO has adopted policies to strengthen internal supervision within government institutions and increase transparency in decision-making and executive processes. This approach includes the creation of internal monitoring and reporting systems that identify and report violations from within government institutions. In this regard, Article 23 of the Law on the Establishment of the GIO stipulates that the organization must maintain effective oversight over government agencies to prevent corruption.

Another major goal of the GIO is to combat corruption in government contracts. By monitoring public procurement processes and government contracts, particularly in major economic and infrastructure sectors, the GIO ensures transparency and prevents financial and administrative misconduct. For example, when there is suspicion of corruption or violations in a government contract, the GIO examines financial reports and conducts investigations to assess the situation and prevent corruption before it occurs. In addition to these measures, the GIO utilizes digital tools and modern technologies in its corruption prevention efforts. Electronic systems can automatically detect instances of violations and corruption, generating immediate reports for relevant authorities. These systems accelerate the oversight process and enhance the early detection of corruption (Alizadeh, 2022). Article 41 of the Law on the Establishment of the GIO mandates the organization to employ modern supervisory and inspection methods.

The GIO's preventive policies for transparency and anti-corruption measures are specifically reflected in the executive directives and regulations of government institutions. By overseeing the implementation of these directives, the GIO ensures that institutions comply with legal requirements and reports any deviations. These policies not only enhance transparency but also promote fairness and justice within government institutions. Additionally, to prevent large-scale corruption, the GIO closely monitors the actions and decision-making processes of government officials. This oversight includes reviewing contracts, resource allocations, and economic decisions that could lead to large-scale corruption. By scrutinizing these matters and reporting violations to the relevant authorities, the GIO helps prevent corruption at different levels of government.

Another dimension of the GIO's preventive policy involves monitoring the performance of public and non-governmental institutions that benefit from government funding. These institutions must operate in accordance with existing laws and regulations, and the GIO ensures their compliance. Supervising these institutions ensures the proper allocation of resources and prevents financial corruption and misuse of public funds. The GIO's preventive policies also include improving executive and legal processes. The organization reviews and proposes amendments to government laws and regulations to prevent future corruption. For example, if the public procurement and contracting processes within an institution have legal deficiencies, the GIO provides reform recommendations to address these issues and prevent corruption in the future.

Ultimately, through its continuous and rigorous oversight, the General Inspection Organization plays a significant role as a key preventive institution in reducing corruption and administrative and financial violations within government agencies. By maintaining continuous supervision, offering corrective consultations, enhancing transparency in processes, and pursuing legal and judicial actions, the GIO effectively contributes to crime and corruption prevention.

4.1. Oversight of Government Procurement and Public Fund Management

Oversight of government procurement and public fund management is a fundamental pillar in ensuring economic integrity and preventing corruption within executive institutions. This oversight is particularly critical in countries with limited financial resources and a high need for transparency. In this regard, supervisory organizations such as the General Inspection Organization (GIO) are responsible for ensuring the proper allocation of resources and government contracts, thereby preventing corruption and misuse in these processes (Barari, 2018; Mehrvarz et al., 2022).

Government procurement oversight primarily depends on ensuring transparency in the bidding and contracting processes. In many countries, government procurement constitutes a significant portion of the national budget, and without effective oversight, it can become a focal point for corruption. The GIO and other supervisory institutions are tasked with ensuring that all procurement processes comply with regulations and maintain the necessary transparency. To this end, the GIO examines all government contracts through periodic and specialized inspections, aiming to detect potential violations in public procurement. These inspections may include financial audits, transparency assessments in bidding processes, contractor performance

evaluations, and scrutiny of fund allocations. Such measures significantly minimize the likelihood of financial misconduct and corruption (Khaluyi, 2018).

Since one of the primary issues in government procurement is the existence of non-transparent and sometimes fraudulent transactions, the GIO, in addition to its routine oversight, identifies vulnerabilities in the system. For instance, if a bidding process lacks transparency or involves conflicts of interest, the GIO issues warnings to the relevant authorities and takes corrective action to address these deficiencies.

A crucial aspect of government procurement oversight involves monitoring the supply of goods and services required for the execution of government projects. This oversight is particularly important in large-scale projects such as infrastructure developments, procurement of medical equipment, and acquisition of raw materials. In such cases, the GIO evaluates contract implementation, assesses the quality of goods and services provided, and ensures their compliance with bidding conditions (Khaluyi, 2018; Taheri & Alizadeh, 2016; Yasayi Meybodi, 2016).

Government procurement oversight also plays a key role in preventing corruption in the allocation of government funds and resources. Many financial violations within government institutions stem from non-compliance with laws governing fund allocation. For this reason, the GIO must continuously monitor budget allocations and financial resources designated for projects and government procurement to prevent any form of misconduct or misappropriation (Marjani & Mirabasi, 2020).

One of the most effective methods of overseeing government procurement is the implementation of digital systems and financial control software. These systems can automatically record information related to government contracts, payment processes, and resource allocations, thereby increasing transparency in procurement procedures. By monitoring the functionality of these systems, the GIO can prevent financial irregularities and corruption in financial transactions (Rezaei Tabar, 2021).

The GIO also conducts oversight of government contracts through financial reports and specialized audits. These reports may include details on fund expenditures, contractor performance, price conformity with actual market values, and project progress rates.

In government procurement processes, one common issue is delays in payments and project completion, which may be linked to corruption in fund allocations. Through strict monitoring of fund flows in government projects, the GIO can identify financial issues and reduce the likelihood of corruption. Such oversight measures help prevent financial and operational problems while facilitating the timely completion of projects. Additionally, by collaborating with the Supreme Audit Court and other supervisory bodies, the GIO ensures that government project expenditures align with allocated budgets. These collaborations are instrumental in identifying and addressing financial irregularities. A key aspect of such oversight is scrutinizing contract details and additional costs, which may indicate corruption in executive processes (Afrasiabi & Khoyeni, 2022).

The GIO is also responsible for ensuring that all government procurement transactions comply with relevant financial regulations and budgetary policies. By conducting thorough evaluations of budget allocation processes and fund expenditures, the organization prevents financial misconduct and corruption in this domain. In this regard, all government contracts must be meticulously reviewed and verified for compliance with legal standards (Delavari, 2016).

Government procurement oversight across various economic sectors, including infrastructure projects, equipment procurement, and service contracts, enables the GIO to mitigate the adverse effects of corruption on the overall economy. Corruption in these areas can lead to decreased project quality, increased costs, and even the suspension of essential projects. By closely monitoring procurement processes and resource allocations, the GIO prevents such detrimental outcomes (Mehrvarz et al., 2022).

Ultimately, the importance of government procurement oversight and public fund management in preventing corruption and enhancing the efficiency of government institutions cannot be overstated. Through effective oversight and the utilization of various tools, the GIO plays a critical role in improving procurement processes and resource allocation while preventing corruption in these areas. Such oversight measures not only contribute to corruption prevention but also foster greater public trust in government institutions.

4.2. *Preventing Corruption in the Private Sector*

One of the key methods for preventing corruption in the private sector is enhancing transparency. Transparency at all levels of business operations, particularly in contracts, financial processes, and reporting, can eliminate opportunities for corruption. To achieve this, companies must adhere to strict auditing, financial reporting, and oversight standards to ensure their operations are easily assessable and traceable. Governmental organizations and regulatory bodies can prevent corruption in the private sector by establishing clear guidelines on transparency requirements and ensuring the publication of relevant information.

The development of internal auditing and inspection systems within the private sector is another effective tool for preventing corruption. Internal inspections and independent audits can identify financial irregularities and misconduct before they occur, thereby preventing large-scale financial losses. In this regard, companies must implement strict policies for regular audits and financial reviews to detect and stop potential violations before they escalate (Mahdavi & Fallah Hosseini, 2019; Sardar Nia & Salari Shah Babaki, 2019).

Education and cultural awareness regarding the risks and consequences of corruption are also of great importance. Raising awareness among employees, managers, and shareholders about the dangers of corruption and introducing preventive methods can help reduce its occurrence. Organizing training programs and specialized workshops to familiarize individuals with ethical principles, the rule of law, and social responsibility in combating corruption can be an effective step in preventing corruption in the private sector. Establishing a culture of accountability among managers and employees is another crucial measure that contributes to reducing corruption (Niazpour, 2015).

Regulatory and legislative bodies also play a crucial role in reducing corruption in the private sector. Effective oversight of business practices and ensuring compliance with laws and regulations through the implementation of enforcement mechanisms can help limit corruption in this sector. With the increasing use of technology and online systems, monitoring commercial transactions and activities must be prioritized to prevent any suspicious activities. Legal and judicial systems must also play a significant role in preventing corruption. Strict anti-corruption laws and legal protections for individuals and entities reporting corruption can have a substantial impact on reducing this phenomenon (Marjani & Mirabasi, 2020; Mehrvarz et al., 2022; Sardar Nia & Salari Shah Babaki, 2019).

Furthermore, establishing transparency in the interactions between the private and public sectors can prevent collusion and related corrupt activities. Rigorous oversight of government contracts with the private sector and monitoring government payments to private companies can help reduce corruption in these areas. These oversight measures should be particularly applied to large-scale and high-impact projects that significantly affect public financial resources.

Ultimately, enhancing transparency and accountability in the private sector not only helps reduce corruption but also promotes sustainable economic growth and increases investor confidence. In various countries, institutions such as anti-corruption organizations, chambers of commerce, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) play a crucial role in fostering a culture of transparency and preventing corruption. These institutions can contribute to corruption prevention in the private sector by implementing awareness programs and educational initiatives, ultimately increasing societal awareness regarding corruption and how to combat it.

4.3. *Establishing Nominal Supervisory and Regulatory Institutions*

Establishing nominal supervisory and regulatory institutions in the private sector refers to creating official organizations or entities that are formally responsible for overseeing the behaviors and economic activities of private entities. These institutions play a key role in enhancing transparency, preventing corruption, and addressing economic misconduct. Their primary objective is to regulate and control unlawful and unethical business practices within the private sector. In cases where government oversight over the private sector is limited, nominal regulatory institutions can serve as essential tools to ensure compliance with laws and regulations.

Nominal regulatory institutions are typically established formally based on specific legal frameworks and regulations. In pursuit of their supervisory and regulatory objectives, they undertake activities such as inspections, reporting, and transparency initiatives in economic activities. These institutions may consist of governmental organizations, chambers of commerce, trade

associations, or even independent and non-governmental organizations. Their most significant feature is that they operate with legal authorization and designated powers and are officially established by governmental or judicial authorities.

One example of a nominal supervisory institution is the General Inspection Organization, which is responsible for overseeing the performance of both governmental organizations and the private sector (Zareh Banadkouki, 2018).

Ultimately, for nominal supervisory institutions to function effectively, they must maintain independence. Ensuring independent decision-making and oversight prevents political or economic interference, thereby strengthening public confidence in the regulatory system and promoting social justice. Additionally, for these institutions to succeed in their oversight roles, they must be equipped with the necessary tools and resources to conduct inspections and enforce regulations. When necessary, they must also be capable of reporting violations and pursuing legal action to uphold accountability in the private sector.

5. Strategies of the General Inspection Organization for Preventing and Combating Corruption and Regulatory Evasion

The strategies of the General Inspection Organization (GIO) for preventing and combating corruption and regulatory evasion in the administrative system play a crucial role in maintaining transparency, efficiency, and public trust. By leveraging its supervisory mechanisms, the GIO aims not only to detect and combat corruption but also to prevent its occurrence. The organization's primary strategy involves proactive and continuous oversight of government agencies' operations. This oversight includes periodic inspections, ad hoc reviews, and analysis of financial and executive documents, all of which help prevent corruption at early stages. By implementing these measures, the GIO can identify irregularities early and implement necessary corrections before corruption takes root (Marjani & Mirabasi, 2020; Sardar Nia & Salari Shah Babaki, 2019).

Another key strategy of the GIO is promoting a culture of transparency and accountability at all administrative levels. This can be achieved through training government employees, institutionalizing ethical principles, and strengthening internal oversight mechanisms within governmental organizations. By fostering professional and educational frameworks, the GIO raises awareness among public employees about the risks of corruption, encouraging them to adopt lawful and transparent behaviors. These measures effectively reduce the tendency for regulatory evasion among government employees and managers.

A further strategic approach of the GIO is intensifying oversight and scrutiny of government contracts and financial transactions. One of the most corruption-prone areas within the public sector involves transactions and contracts between the government and the private sector, as well as those between different governmental entities. Through rigorous examination of these contracts and financial processes, the GIO can prevent corrupt practices such as collusion, bribery, and the misuse of public funds. Additionally, transparent reporting of these findings enhances accountability among officials and discourages corruption.

The development of information technology systems and digital monitoring is also among the organization's effective strategies for combating corruption. By implementing digital platforms, the GIO can conduct real-time oversight of administrative and financial processes, allowing for swift responses to any detected violations. These systems enhance transparency by providing immediate and accurate access to critical information, thereby reducing opportunities for corruption (Barari, 2018; Mazidi & Barzegar, 2016).

The GIO also emphasizes the importance of collaboration with other supervisory and judicial bodies. Through cooperation with the Administrative Justice Court, judicial organizations, ministries, and even non-governmental entities, the GIO has established an extensive network of oversight and inspection, enabling a comprehensive and coordinated approach to combating corruption. International collaboration is also beneficial, particularly in the fight against financial and economic corruption (Sardar Nia & Salari Shah Babaki, 2019).

Another crucial strategy is increasing the GIO's independence from political and economic pressures. The organization must remain free from external influences to perform its supervisory duties impartially and with complete transparency. Protecting the GIO's independence ensures that oversight processes remain objective and unaffected by political or economic interests.

Another key measure implemented by the GIO is enforcing strict oversight of high-ranking government officials. Corruption at the highest levels of management often has widespread negative consequences for the entire country. Therefore, special

monitoring of financial behaviors, decision-making processes, and actions at key levels of government can significantly reduce corruption. The GIO must ensure that no senior government officials are engaged in corrupt activities.

Finally, the GIO also focuses on reviewing and reforming managerial and executive structures as part of its anti-corruption strategies. Many corruption cases arise due to weaknesses in management and administrative frameworks. By identifying existing deficiencies, the GIO proposes structural reforms that improve administrative efficiency and transparency. These reforms help minimize future opportunities for corruption and enhance the overall performance of government agencies.

5.1. Measures Taken by the General Inspection Organization to Implement Modern Oversight Principles and Combat Corruption

The General Inspection Organization (GIO) undertakes diverse and targeted measures to implement modern oversight principles and combat corruption, leading to enhanced transparency, accountability, and efficiency in executive institutions. These measures are designed in response to contemporary societal needs and global developments in oversight and anti-corruption efforts. The following section outlines some of the key initiatives undertaken by the GIO in this regard.

The first fundamental measure of the GIO is the expansion of information technology and digital systems in supervisory processes. By utilizing electronic systems and digital oversight mechanisms, the organization can continuously and in real-time monitor the financial and executive processes of government agencies. These measures include the installation of intelligent monitoring systems to track transactions, contracts, and financial activities, contributing to increased transparency and corruption prevention. Additionally, these systems enable swift and effective tracking, allowing for the early detection and prevention of violations (Mehrvarz et al., 2022).

Another significant initiative of the GIO is strengthening and expanding specialized training programs for inspectors and government employees. Through educational programs and specialized workshops, the organization trains public sector employees on how to identify and address corruption. These training efforts enhance awareness and knowledge regarding legal frameworks and ethical principles, ensuring that employees perform their duties with greater diligence and sensitivity. This approach facilitates the internal detection and prevention of corruption within organizations.

The GIO also implements effective anti-corruption measures by reinforcing transparency mechanisms in governmental processes, particularly in government contracts and transactions. The organization conducts rigorous reviews of government contracts, ensures their compliance with legal and regulatory standards, and follows up on potential corrupt activities. These efforts prevent the misallocation of public resources and deter collusion and financial misconduct in public procurement (Mehrvarz et al., 2022).

Developing public reporting mechanisms is another key initiative of the GIO. By establishing reporting channels and promoting a culture of public participation, the organization encourages citizens to report any suspected violations or corruption cases. These mechanisms enable active public involvement in combating corruption and administrative misconduct, thereby increasing social oversight within society (Ahmadpour Rostami, 2015; Niazpour, 2015).

Another important strategy pursued by the GIO is fostering synergy and international cooperation in the fight against corruption. By collaborating with international organizations, regulatory bodies, and human rights institutions, the organization integrates successful global anti-corruption experiences into the national framework and adopts best practices for enhancing domestic oversight. These collaborations also facilitate information exchange and the tracking of transnational corruption cases.

To implement modern oversight principles and combat corruption effectively, the GIO regularly publishes comprehensive and detailed reports on its supervisory activities for both government officials and the public. These reports provide insights into identified violations, corrective actions taken, and the outcomes of such measures. Transparency in reporting not only strengthens public trust in oversight institutions but also increases accountability within government agencies.

The GIO also emphasizes the development of incentive systems for oversight personnel. Establishing a reward system based on performance, transparency in reporting, and enforcement of violations encourages government employees to fulfill their duties with greater motivation, free from political or economic pressures. Another key initiative involves ensuring strict enforcement of laws and regulations across various administrative, economic, and social sectors. Through various tools, including field investigations and periodic inspections, the GIO ensures that laws are properly implemented in government

agencies. Such oversight helps prevent legal violations and corruption across different domains ([Mahdavi & Fallah Hosseini, 2019](#)).

Additionally, the GIO identifies and addresses inefficiencies in administrative structures. By recognizing weaknesses and deficiencies in governmental management systems, the organization provides reform proposals to improve administrative processes and reduce corruption risks. These structural reforms enhance institutional efficiency and prevent potential abuses of power ([Marjani & Mirabasi, 2020](#)).

To strengthen transparency and prevent corruption, the GIO collaborates with civil society organizations and non-governmental institutions to implement joint oversight programs. These partnerships are particularly effective in large-scale government projects and socio-economic initiatives, improving the effectiveness of regulatory measures. Joint oversight efforts help identify weaknesses in governmental regulatory frameworks and contribute to addressing systemic issues.

Finally, the GIO has established an online reporting and tracking system that allows citizens to anonymously report administrative violations and potential corruption cases. These platforms facilitate greater transparency in oversight processes and reduce social costs associated with corruption, contributing to more effective anti-corruption efforts.

Collectively, these measures enable the GIO not only to combat corruption but also to prioritize its prevention. Through these modern strategies, government oversight is significantly strengthened, fostering a transparent, efficient, and corruption-free governance system.

5.2. *Strategies of the General Inspection Organization for Combating Corruption*

The General Inspection Organization (GIO), as the primary supervisory institution in the Islamic Republic of Iran, employs a range of effective strategies to combat corruption in government agencies. These measures focus on preventing corruption, enhancing transparency in executive processes, and monitoring the performance of government officials at various levels. One of the most significant actions taken by the GIO is the implementation of continuous and random inspections of executive agencies, ministries, state-owned enterprises, and public institutions. These inspections aim to detect administrative and financial violations and potential corruption, covering all processes, including resource allocation, contracts, recruitment, and financial matters. In this regard, the GIO compiles comprehensive and precise reports on the administrative and financial status of institutions and, upon identifying any violations, refers the cases to the relevant authorities ([Mehrvarz et al., 2022](#)).

Additionally, the GIO facilitates the identification of corruption and violations by establishing reporting channels for government employees, citizens, and other institutions. The organization also implements educational and advisory programs to train government employees on recognizing corruption-prone situations and effective strategies for addressing them. These inspections and consultations assist government agencies in reforming their processes more efficiently. As part of its corruption prevention efforts, the GIO has prioritized transparency in governmental procedures, ensuring that all contracts and governmental activities remain accessible to the public ([Alizadeh, 2022](#)).

In parallel with these initiatives, the GIO collaborates with other judicial bodies, such as the Administrative Justice Court, to investigate corruption cases and administrative violations, ensuring legal follow-up and the imposition of appropriate sanctions. Ultimately, by focusing on strengthening transparency and combating corruption, the GIO takes significant steps toward preventing administrative and economic corruption within the public sector, striving to enhance the efficiency and integrity of government institutions in serving the public ([Afrasiabi & Khoyeni, 2022](#); [Rezaei Tabar, 2021](#)).

6. Conclusion

As one of the primary supervisory institutions in the Islamic Republic of Iran, the General Inspection Organization plays a crucial role in preventing crimes and violations committed by government employees. Analyzing the organization's performance reveals that utilizing statutory laws such as the Islamic Penal Code, the Administrative Violations Investigation Act, and the Administrative System Health Promotion Act has provided a legal and executive framework for addressing violations. Specifically, Article 576 of the Islamic Penal Code serves as an effective tool in addressing abuses of administrative authority, and its strict enforcement can have a deterrent effect.

One of the key factors in successfully preventing violations is the collaboration and coordination between the GIO and other supervisory and judicial bodies. Information exchange, monitoring the implementation of laws, and employing modern technologies can lead to the faster detection of violations and a reduction in their occurrence. Additionally, raising awareness among government employees about the legal consequences of violations and emphasizing their accountability can serve as a significant preventive measure.

Ultimately, preventing administrative violations and crimes requires continuous efforts to enhance transparency and the integrity of the administrative system. Reforming supervisory structures, strengthening field inspections, and optimizing the use of legal capacities are among the steps that can improve the performance of the GIO. Achieving these objectives will not only reduce administrative violations but also increase public trust in governmental institutions and contribute to a more effective governance system.

Ethical Considerations

All procedures performed in this study were under the ethical standards.

Acknowledgments

Authors thank all participants who participate in this study.

Conflict of Interest

The authors report no conflict of interest.

Funding/Financial Support

According to the authors, this article has no financial support.

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