

# White Collar Crimes

## Introduction

*“The practitioners of evil, hoarders, the profiteers, the black marketeers, and speculators are the worst enemy of our society. They have to be dealt with sternly. However well placed important and influential they maybe, if we acquiesce in wrongdoing, people will lose faith in us.”*

-Dr. S. Radhakrishnan

The most influential criminologist of the 20th century and also a sociologist, Edwin Hardin Sutherland, for the first time in 1939, defined white collar crimes as *“crimes committed by people who enjoy the high social status, great repute, and respectability in their occupation”*.

The five attributes of the given definition are:

- It is a crime.
- That is committed by an important person of the company.
- Who enjoys a high social status in the company.
- And has committed it in the course of his profession or occupation.
- There may be a violation of trust.

Corruption, fraud, and bribery are some of the most common white collar crimes in India as well as all over the world. The Business Standard on 22.11.2016 published a report titled *‘The changing dynamics of white collar crime in India’* stating that in the last 10 years, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has found a total of 6,533 cases of corruption out of which 517 cases were registered in the past two years.

Statistics showed that 4,000 crores worth of trading was carried out using fake or duplicate PAN cards. Maharashtra showed a rapid increase in the number of online cases with 999 cases being registered. The report also mentioned that around 3.2 million people suffered a loss because of the stealing of their card details from the YES Bank ATMs which were administered by Hitachi Payment Services.