Governance Class 01
9th February, 2024 at 9:00 AM

TOPICS TO BE COVERED (09:02 AM)

- What is governance
- Good Governance and Bad Governance.   -> Why do we need Governance?
- Corruption
- Secretariat reforms
- Reasons for failure of public policies
- Civil Society organisations
- Self Help groups
- NGOs
- Pressure groups
- Citizen charters
- Social Audits
- E-Governance
- Role of civil services in a democracy.
- Marx Weber 's Bureaucratic theory.   -> Role of Public Administration in the Age of Globalization.
- Civil service reforms
- 2nd ARC reports recommendations
- RTI
- E-Governance
- Ethics in governance
- Citizen centric administration
- Social capital
- Personal administration

GOVERNANCE (09:20 AM)

- **Need of Governance**
- The natural tendency of any society is to move towards entropy i.e. lawlessness, anarchy and destruction.
- Human beings are guided by self-interest. This self-interest can easily transform itself into a selfish interest.
- It can lead to exploitation and manipulation of others. It can ultimately result in the end of civilisation.
- Governance is needed to prevent entropy and to sustain civilisations for longer periods of time.
- It is also needed to protect the interests of weaker sections of society, to promote their welfare and also for strict implementation of the rule of law in both letter and spirit.
- Governance is needed to ensure constitutionalism.

- **What is Governance?**
- In simple terms, governance may be defined as the process of making decisions and ensuring their effective implementations.
- **World Bank has defined Governance as follows:**
- It can be defined as a method through which decisions are made and authority in a country is exercised.
- It is also defined as a method through which power is exercised in the management of a country's economic, social, human and geographical resources for development.
- It is also defined as the exercise of political, economic, and administrative authority to manage a country's activities at all levels.
- Governance comprises at all levels. It comprises institutions and processes through which citizens articulate their rights, meet their obligations and mediate their differences.
- **Administration**
- It is derived from the Latin word 'ad+ministare' which means 'to serve' administrators are expected to serve the interest of organisations.
- In public organisations, like civil services, they are expected to maximise the welfare of people, which is the objective of government in public organisations
- Governance is a neutral term indicating only the process of making decisions and implementing them.
- It does not talk about either good or bad aspects of governance.

BAD GOVERNANCE (10:07 AM)

- It is characterised by many **weaknesses in the process of making decisions and implementing them. They include:**
- An absolute monopoly of the state over resource allocation.
- High levels of secrecy in decision-making and implementation.
- Corruption
- Misuse and abuse of power
- Nepotism and favoritism
- Prejudices and biases in administration
- Complete absence of citizen participation in decision-making and implementation
- Centralisation of power
- Absence of rule of law
- Complete absence of accountability mechanisms within administrations
- Failure of regulatory authorities to prevent the emergence of monopolies
- Inability to resolve conflicts without resorting to violence

GOOD GOVERNANCE (10:22 AM)

- The end of 2nd World War resulted in the decolonisation process wherein the colonies of imperial states were given independence.
- Give to the centuries of exploitation, these colonies had become extremely poor. They were in need of rapid economic growth which is possible only with investment.
- Multilateral institutions like the World Bank and IMF have come into existence to provide financial assistance to member countries.
- World Bank has provided long-term financial assistance in the form of loans to member countries. Due to bad governance, most of these countries have failed to repay the loans. They demanded fresh financial assistance to repay the old debt.
- World Bank has put conditionalities to provide fresh financial assistance in the form of Washington consensus. → came in 1989 and before this World Bank not used to do too much for loan repayment)
- In 1992, the World Bank came out with the concept of Good Governance as part of loan and aid conditionalities.
- It focuses on reforming the functioning of the political and administrative systems of member countries.
- Later, the United Nations ~~developed a~~ development program UNDP defined the features of Good Governance.
- **Good Governance is a value-based term. It has 8 important features:**
- Transparency
- Accountability
- Participation
- Consensus oriented
- Rule of law
- Economy and efficiency
- Inclusiveness and Equity
- Responsiveness

FEATURES OF GOOD GOVERNANCE (11:05 AM)

- **Transparency**
- Secrecy in administration can result in corruption and misuse of power.
- Transparency on the other hand can lead to good governance. It can result in accountability, participation and consensus.
- Transparency can be ensured with the effective implementation of RTI.
- **Accountability**
- In a parliamentary democracy, bureaucracy is not directly accountable to the people.
- Accountability can be ensured through various governance reforms like RTI, E-Governace, Judiciary and so on.
- **Participation**
- In representative democracies, the participation of citizens is restricted only to voting in elections.
- Good Governance emphasizes transforming representative democracy into participatory democracy. on
- Instruments like citizen charter, Gram Sabha, and E-Governance can be used to ensure participation of stakeholders in Governance.
- On the other hand, in a dictatorship, there is no scope for participation by stakeholders in Governance.
- **Consensus oriented**
- Bad governance is characterised by a dictatorial decision-making process wherein the dictator makes all the decisions by himself without consensus.
- Good Governance emphasises upon consensus-oriented decision-making and implementation processes as a part of citizen-centric governance.
- The **implementation of GST** can be an example of a consensus-oriented decision-making process.
- **Rule of law**
- The basic difference between democracy and dictatorship is the concept of the rule of law.
- Dictatorship is characterised by rule by law wherein the dictator frames the law and implements the law unilaterally with the help of the force of the state.
- Colonial administration in India was characterised by Rule by law. On the other hand, democracy is characterised by the Rule of law.
- The essence of the rule of law is equality before the law and separation of power between the three organs of the state.
- Constitutionalism can ensure strict implementation of the Rule of Law in both letter and spirit.
- **Economy and Efficiency**
- A major problem faced by developing countries is the underutilisation of resources and misutilization of resources.
- projects are not completed on time resulting in cost overruns. It is due to red-tapism in the functioning of Bureaucracy, the absence of consensus in implementation processes and also due to the absence of accountability mechanisms.
- This comes in the way of rapid economic growth and development.
- To overcome these problems, the govt has implemented specific governance reforms like Pradhan Mantri Gati Sakti Yojana.

- **Inclusiveness and Equity**
- capitalism can ensure rapid economic growth but can not realise the objectives of inclusive growth.
- Inclusive and equitable growth is possible only by emphasizing the following reforms:
- Agricultural development
- Job led growth
- Labour intensive industries
- Focus on the manufacturing sector and MSMEs
- Balanced regional development
- Gender empowerment
- Emphasis on education, health and skill development
- Sustainable development   else like climate change can affect vulnerable section of society.
- Financial inclusion
- Investment in R&D
- **Responsiveness**
- It is the responsibility of the government to provide solutions to the problems faced by people. E.g. during the coronavirus crisis, the government immediately responded by providing free vaccines, food grains to poor people (PMGKAY), employment to citizens (MGNREGA) and transferring money into the accounts of women (SHGs)
- On the other hand, bad governance is characterised by the complete absence of responsiveness on the part of the state. E.g. Communist China's response to the Corona crisis.

TOPIC OF THE NEXT CLASS- CORRUPTION