

Harsha's Administration:

- Harsha followed the same line of administration as Gupta's but gradually gave way to make his administration feudal and decentralised.
- He started the tradition of giving land grants to the officers by issuing charters.
- Harsha had a council of ministers to aid and advise him called 'Sachiv' or 'Amatya'.
- The chief Sachiv of Harsha was 'Bhandi' and 'Avanti' was his Sandhi Vighrahak (Foreign Minister).
- The king was just in his administration and punctual in discharging his duties.
- The chief officers used to directly receive instructions from the king.
- Besides these, there were Commander-in-Chief, Chief of the Cavalry Forces and the Chief Commandant of the Elephant Force.
- Harsha's army consisted of the traditional four divisions- foot, horse, chariot and elephant.
- The empire was divided into several provinces known as 'Bhukti' and the head of the province known as 'Uparika'.
- The Bhuktis were further divided into 'Visayas (Districts)' and its head known as 'Visayapati'.
- Visayas were divided into 'Pathakas (Tehsils)' and the smallest unit of administration was village.
- Some other officials like 'Dandika', 'Chaurodvaranika', 'Dandapasika' etc. were to help the heads of provinces and districts.
- The head of the village was called 'Gramika' and official called 'Mahattar' was appointed to look after the village.
- Banbhatta has referred to an officer called 'Agraharika' who probably looked after the lands given in charity.
- 'Akshapatalika' was official like the modern patavari.
- However, Gramika and 'Asthakula Adhikari' were the chief officers of the village administration.
- Cruel punishments of the Mauryan period continued in the times of Harsha.
- Hieun Tsang condemned the trials as barbarous and superstitious.
- The archive(record of good and bad events) of Harsha period was known as 'Nilopitu' and it was under the control of special officers.

➤ Important Officials:

Baladhikrita – Senapati or Commander

Mahabaladhikrita – Commander-in-chief

Rajsthaniya – Foreign Secretary

Kumar Amatya – Councillor of the prince

Mahaprathika – Chief Warden

Mimansak - Justice