PRESENTATION
ON
GOOD GOVERNANCE

BY

Dr.JADHAV V.S.

PROFESSOR OF PUBLIC-ADMINISTRATION

GOVERNANCE

- **One of the most widely used concept in contemporary Public Administration**

- **Yet, it has often been misunderstood and/or abused**

  - **`Governance' can be broadly defined as: "the manner in which power is exercised in the management of a country's social and economic resources for development"**

- *Four key components of Governance:*

  1 **Accountability**

     = **holding govt. functionaries and organisations**
        responsible for performance, action and inaction,

  2. **Transparency**

     = **governmental functioning in openness as much as**
        possible;

                              &

     = **citizen's right to information regarding govt.**
        transactions.

3. Predictability

= refers largely to the system of law and justice.

4. Participation

= the process thro' which the public at large can function as a <u>watchdog</u> over governmental activities and the use of public resources;

&

= provide a <u>feedback</u> to the government on the ability and efficiency of public services.

- Concept of ***governance*** is closely linked to the working of the ***nation-state*** or its ***governing*** capacity.

    ▸ For instance:

    Gunar Myrdal's concepts of   ***hard state*** & ***soft state.***

Hard state

- Sets priorities

- Executes them

- Because the actual admn. is based on rational bureaucratic principles

Soft state

- Administrators habitually defy laws & regulations

- Officials & politicians often collude to thwart implementation of public policies

- Corruption is rampant

- Hence, erosion of rule of law & accountability of:
  - the rulers to the people
  - the bureaucrats to the law and the people

GOOD GOVERNANCE

↖ **No standardised recipe for it.**

↖ **It is a result of effective learning by the state to cope with challenges and crises it comes across during its evolution.**

↖ **Elements of good governance:**

1. **Respect for the rule of law**

2. **Special care for the disadvantaged and the weak.**

3. **Tolerance and broad-mindedness which allow people to accept and embrace unity and diversity.**

INDIAN TRADITON OF GOOD GOVERNANCE

- *Ramayana*

- *Mahabharata*

- Kautilya's *Arthasastra*

- Ashoka's Inscription

  ↓All referred to the basic duties of the king towards his subjects.

- **The voluminous reports of the Govt. of India's Administrative Reforms Commission (1967-70) contained many essential components of good governance.** 9

- The discourse on good governance in recent time owes its origin in the 1992 World Bank document- *Governance and Development*- which referred to *seven* specific aspects of *governance.* These were:

  1. Public Sector Management

  2. Accountability

  3. Legal and Regulatory Framework

  4. Transparency and Information

  5. Human Rights

  6. Participatory Approaches

  7. Military Expenditure

- The universally accepted features of good governance are:

  ↓ the exercise of legitimate political power

  ↓ formulation and implementation of policies and programmes that are:

  - equitable

  - transparent

  - non-discriminatory

  - socially sensitive

  - participatory, and

  - accountable to the people.

- Govt. of Andhra Pradesh has conceptualized *good governance* with the acronym: **SMART**

S   = Simple

M = Moral

A = Accountable

R = Responsive

T = Transparent

- **Accountability**
    - **The concept of public accountability applies equally to all levels of government and to public enterprises and other agencies that deliver public services to citizens.**

    - **Implications of:**
        - **Citizen's Charter**
        - **Performance Standards**
        - **Social Audit or External Review of Performance**

- **Transparency & Information**
    - **Sin & Secrecy ; Need for Openness**
    - **Citizen's Right to Information: A Key to transparent and accountable administration**

- **FoI Act 2002**

    evoked controversy on issues of inclusion, exclusion & scope, *viz.,*

    ◆ Very important notion of a ***right*** not acknowledged

    ◆ What types of information to be excluded from the purview of the Act.

    ◆ Private sectors involving in public services not covered.

GOOD GOVERNANCE: AN IMP. DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

- Relising Human Rights (HRs) thro' human Development (HD)- An Agenda of 21st Century

- Convergence of HD & HRs in both concept and action

- Legitimacy of Human Development Index (HDI) constructed every year since 1980 by the UN to measure average achievements of different countries in basic HD in one simple composite index.

•The HDI is calculated using available international data on a wide array of *indicators* such as:

  ↓ **Life expectancy at birth**

  ↓ **Adult Literacy**

  ↓ **Gross primary, secondary & tertiary enrolment ratios,** *i.e.*

$$\div \quad \frac{\text{No. of children enrolled} \qquad \text{(in each level)}}{\text{No. of children in the age group (corresponding to that level)}}$$

  ↓ GDP per capita in terms of PPP in US $

- According to UNDP's *HD Report 2000*__

   " longevity is itself an important means to other capabilities, since one does not have the freedom to do much unless one is alive".

- The HDI reinforced subsequently with:
   ↓Gender-related development index (GDI)
   ↓Gender-empowerment measure (GEM) in *HD Report 1995*
   _(as composite measures reflecting *gender inequalities* in HD in econ. & pol. opportunities)
   ↓ Human poverty index (HPI) in *HD Report 1997*

- Difference between HDI & HPI
  - ↓*HDI* measures *avg. achievements* in basic dimensions of *HD*
  - ↓*HPI* measures *deprivations* in these dimensions.

  –

- Together, HDI & HPI provide a more comprehensive measure of human well-being rather than income or its lack.

- Hence, it is now being increasingly accepted that:

  $\downarrow$ **HD is essential for realizing HRs**

  $\downarrow$ **HRs are essential for full HD.**

  HD = Oyster Shells (OSs)

  HR = Pearls (products of OSs)

- How India is placed in *HDI & GDI* rankings?

  In HDI

  128   among 174 countries (1998)

  115   among 162 countries (2001)

  124   among 173 countries (2002)

  On HDI Value

- **.571 (2001)⟶ .577 (2002)**

- ***In GDI***

    108 among 143 countries (1998)

    105 among 146 countries (2001)

- ***According to HDR 2002***

    ↓India is one of the few countries on track to halve the number of people living in poverty by ***2015.***

    ↓ India's independent judiciary is the cornerstone of her democracy.

    ↓India's vibrant voluntary sector also comes in for particular mention alongwith its role, nationally and internationally for more effective governance and accountability.

- According to the Planning Commission's *National Human Development Report* 2002 & *Tenth Five Year Plan 2002-07 Document:*
  - ↓In India, there are a no. of regions, or states, or even districts, where development outcomes, in terms of social indicators, do not match with the available resources and the inherent potential of the people.
  - ↓Even in States, where development has been relatively better, there are instances of *loose or poor governance.*

➢ **These are Manifested, for example, in:**

- Poor management of economies, persisting fiscal imbalances, disparities in the pace and level of development across regions and districts;

- Denial of basic needs of food, water and shelter to a substantial proportion of the population;

- Threat to life and personal security in the face of inadequate state control on law and order;

- Marginalisation, exclusion or even persecution of people on account of social, religious, castes or even gender affiliations;

- Lack of sensitivity, transparency and accountability in many facets of the working of state machinery;

- Lack of credibility - the gap between the intent and the actions-of some institutions in society;

- Inadequate system of incentives/disincentives for people (particularly for a civil servant), subversion of rules, evasion of taxes and failure in getting timely justice;

- Existence of a significant number of voiceless people with little opportunities for participating even in institutions of local self-governance; and

- Deterioration of physical environment, particularly in urban areas.

ISSUES & STRATEGIES FOR THE TENTH PLAN FOR IMPROVING GOVERNANCE

↓Realising that Govt. can neither have a *completely minimalist role nor* an entirely *proactive* one, the Tenth Plan Document has identified various aspects of governance and the contingent instruments that have to be taken up on priority. Some of these are:

- People's participation at all stages of planning, implementation & monitoring;
- Democratic Decentralisation of governance to accelerate the socio-economic development within a participatory framework at the grass-root level;

- **Right to information;**
- **Reforms of the Revenue System;**
- **Mobilisation of other resources;**
- **Recognising civil society organisations as partners in development;**
- **Civil Service Reforms such as:**
  - **Greater transparency in policies and procedures,**
  - **Minimising discretion,**
  - **Revamping the system of rewards & punishments,**
  - **Induction of professionals/specialists in Admn.,**
  - **Capacity building and training,**
  - **Rightsizing the Govt., and**
  - **Stability of tenure;**

- Procedural Reforms covering all aspects of Govt.'s interface with the public;

- Judicial Reform for speeding up the process of delivering justice; and

- Using IT for improving efficiency, transparency and making interface with Govt. user friendly.

THANK YOU