

# A Study on the role of Authority in Good Governance

Manju Katarya

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## ABSTRACT

The concept of "good governance" plays a very important role in the modern governmental system. Today people are very conscious and they always aware about the day today functioning of the Government. Good governance often refers to the task of running the Government in an effective manner. It is qualitatively and conceptual superior to a mere good government. A socially and economically equitable society that is inclusive in nature or all within the concept of good management is guaranteed by the right to a legitimate and accountable government and the promotion of a society which is in keeping with the rule of law and fundamental human rights. A number of factors depend on good governance. A government has many constitutional obligations to fulfill in carrying out its sovereign duties, and should be able to enable, enhance and deploy State power for sustainable human development in fulfilling those obligations. It is essentially a package aimed at strengthening government institution and civil society with the goal of making governments more accountable, open, transparent, democratic and participatory. The government therefore also tries to satisfy people in general, where good governance creates an environment which promotes strong and fair developments. Our current Prime Minister Narendra Modi is also working to achieve good governance both in the center and in the countries. The term 'governance' applies to both government and non-governmental bodies, including families, governing procedures. It is a processor that has the power, act or function, to govern human affairs in a certain territory. Maybe participatory and democratic governance. While the former has attached importance to citizens' contribution to the governance process, while the normative concept of governance is a "value loaded" term in which the idea of "good governance" is given importance. This paper aims at exploring the idea of good governance and its implementation in the country's current administrative structure.

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## 1. Introduction

Good governance provides a platform that enable government functionaries to operate efficiently, effectively and transparently and be accountable to the public for their actions. It aims to put an end to inconsistent government practices and helps in establishing a responsive State. Only if the right to information is applied in the right way can public participation in government, respect for the rule of law, freedom of expression and association, openness and accountability, legitimacy of government, and the like, which are the core values of good governance, be realized. Good governance is characterized by the right to information. The world of today is evolving very rapidly which affects a great deal in the government's functioning today. As science and technology evolve, culture has changed, affecting the concept of governance. Today, the world's developed countries stress the idea of good governance. Because modern peoples are very conscious of the day, the government also aims to increase the openness and accountability of its structure, thereby meeting the wishes of modern democratic systems. Good governance provides a climate that promotes stable and equitable development and complements sound economic policies. Many countries around the world are now attempting to enforce their government's idea of good governance, but can not succeed due to various challenges faced by the Government.

A government that is stable and genuinely represents the majority of the population and which accelerates economic growth and development and ensures the welfare of all sections of society should be in place for good governance. In this context, we must not neglect the fact that accountability is also a core element of good governance. As a fundamental concept of good governance, transparency and the chance for

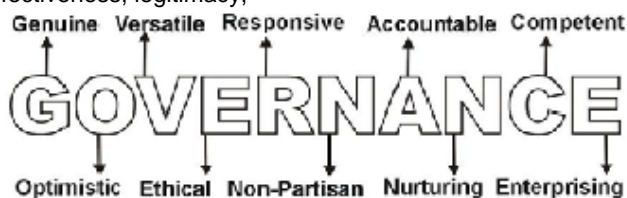
public participation has arisen. In order to provide them with the knowledge they need to advance their ideas in policy-making, the interested party should give them the opportunity to observe and participate in the policy making of that country. Around the same time, though, there is always a danger that special interest groups may use transparent decision taking to manipulate policy. What is important is not to speak to everyone, but to effectively say and hear all that is worth saying. The true facts of many things are not known to common men as their information sources are very small. The functioning of the democratic government is necessary for freedom of speech, freedom of dissemination of ideas and access to information. The knowledge that represents and captures public activities and processes, is important for healthy democracy and good governance.

Access to information facilitates active people's participation in the process of democratic governance, but also promotes transparency, openness, accountability and governance. The right to information can therefore become a powerful weapon for the promotion of good governance and for every person to have access to information collected by or under the control of public authorities. The main features of good administration or involvement, the rule of law, openness, obligations, fairness and inclusion, performance, accountability, strategic vision and consensus orientation. Openness means that decisions are taken openly and enforced in accordance with regulations and rules. It requires information to be available freely and directly to those affected by and enforceable by those decisions. Accountability means public institutions and officials or those responsible to the individuals and their stakeholders. In general, an organization or an institution should be held accountable to those whose

decisions or actions will be affected. Unless a system of transparency, accountability can not be enforced. The Right to Information, informed citizenship and good governance are directly related. The right to knowledge offers people the chance to learn what the government is doing, how and why for them.

## 2. Meaning of good governance

In the 1989 World Bank study on "sub-Saharan Africa-from crisis to sustainable growth" a first word was used in Sub-Saharan countries as a summary of the need for institutional reforms and an improved and effective public sector. Governance was described as "the exercise of political power to manage nation matters." However, the connotation "nice" was not explicitly stated. In 1992's 'Governance and Development' the concept of governance was further developed in a book published by the Bank. The first term used, former World Bank President Barber Conable (1986-1991) was 'good governance' and referred to as a 'efficient public service, reliable and accountable to the public.' The Bank later confirmed this concept in 1994: 'Governance is characterized by stable, open and knowledgeable politicians, that is, transparent processes; a bureaucracy with a professional ethos; a management architecture. This paper is a description of the way governance is exercised in the management of the economic and social capital of a country for growth.' The Annual Governance of Asia report of the World Bank subsequently submitted a more cogent concept of good governance in 1998, "From crisis to opportunity." The report deals with four main good governance components: accountability, openness, predictability and participation. The OECD defines governance as 'the use of political and control power in a community as a mechanism for controlling its social and economic growth tools.' UN Growth Program defines governance as 'the exercise of political, economic and administrative power in country management' Governance involves the frameworks, structures and institutions by which individuals and groups express their desires, exercise their political rights, perform their duties and mediate their differences. "Good governance, therefore, implies the involvement of a accountable, accountable and open way of managing the functions based on the principles of effectiveness, legitimacy,



## 3. Concept of governance and good governance

Within the recent technology literature, the words "governance" and "good governance" are used more and more. Increasingly poor governance in our societies is perceived to be one of the root causes. Large donors and international financial institutions, including the World Bank and IMF, increasingly base their funding and credit on the condition that "good governance" reforms are enforced. This study attempts to explain the definition of "governance" and "good management" as simply as possible. There is nothing new

about the idea of "governance." She is as old as a human race. "Governance" is actually the decision-making mechanism and the decision-making process. The standard of government primarily depends on the complacency of individuals. For several competitions governance can be used, including corporate governance, international governance, regional governance and local administration. Governance shall be defined as "action, manner or fact of governance;" and "method or power of government while governing;" among other words, "ruling over authority conduct a policy, operation and affairs of a State subject to the rule of law, constitutionally or dissolutely." Good governance ..... is synonymous with good governance. "3 "Any element of the administration of a nation, including economic policies and the regulatory framework of a country, is commonly used as Governance. Corruption is a broader term, sometimes defined as the misuse of government or private trust. These principles are closely related: a poor governance environment provides more opportunities and room for corruption. Many of the causes of corruption are economic and have consequences – poor governance clearly prejudices economic activity and welfare. "2 "Good governance means fair regulation of, fair enforcement of legislation and contracts, rights of man and property, and combating co-government" Encouraging economic freedom means removing trade barriers with neighbors and the world, opening the economy to foreign and domestic investments and competitiveness, implementing sound fiscal and monetary policies and dividing the Government from business. "Furthermore, economic liberty means recognizing that prosperity is generated by the private sector, not by central planning or bureaucracies. Good governance-" Administering the country's business at all levels is an exercise of economic , political and administrative power. In this context, good governance describes a situation in which the system and instruments for decision-making and intervention promote greater engagement through participation in and It undermines mechanisms and structures by which people and groups are articulating their interest in exercising their legal rights, fulfilling their responsibilities and mediating their differences.' Good governance means how the government improves its social members' living conditions by creating and making the basic amenities of life available; providing its people with security, providing them with the opportunity to improve their lot; giving their people hope to a promising future in their hearts and offering equal and equitable access to personal growth opportunities; The UN Human Rights Commission says that openness, accountability, engagement and sensitivity to the needs of the people are the main characteristics of good governance. Good governance is thus linked to a sustainable human development and growth environment which contributes to the exercise of human rights.

## 4. Good governance in India: ancient and modern

The State is responsible for creating a conducive political, legal and economic environment for building individual capabilities and encouraging private initiative. The market is expected to create opportunities for people. Civil society facilitates the mobilization of public opinion and peoples' participation in economic, social and political activities." It further added that "The universally accepted features of good governance are the exercise of legitimate political power; and

formulation and implementation of policies and programmes that are equitable, transparent, non-discriminatory, socially sensitive, participatory, and above all accountable to the people at large." The Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012) signifies that the vision of inclusive growth, reducing poverty and bridging the various divides that continue to fragment our society can only be achieved if there is a significant improvement in the quality of governance. There are many different definitions of good governance but it is generally agreed that good governance must be broadly defined to cover all aspects of the interface between individuals and businesses on the one hand and government on the other. The twelfth five year plan (2012-2017) defines good governance as an essential element of any well-functioning society. It ensures effective use of resources and deliverance of services to citizens and also provides social legitimacy to the system.

## 5. Essentials of good governance

**1. Developing National Outlook:** The need to establish and retain a regional perspective is a fundamental prerequisite for promoting good governance. The desire to consider and be respectful of different views, cultural norms and various work practices on the part of the political and civil service is involved. It also means that people from all countries, religions and cultures are able to work without discrimination or prejudice. It involves conduct of the highest kind, and judgment and restrictions in all forms of opinion, public or private, which must be scrupulously prevented from being expressed that could be interpreted as prejudicial or unbearable, particularly with regard to the regional interest or the political issue facing the organization.

**2. Need to Narrow the Gap between Theory and Practice:** In theory, the Government at the Union and State level have promised to provide them all essentials of life through constitutional provisions, enactment and administrative orders but in practice there is hardly much achievement.

**3. Need of Impartiality among Politico-Administrative Leadership:** For Good Governance foremost characteristics required among the civil servants or impartially and consistency in the transaction of public business. Civil servants are required to be completely impartial to avoid corruption and favouritism; civil servants must maintain the dignity and authority of the public office. They must meticulously implement the policies and programmes as laid down in laws, regulations and rules.

**4. Need of Ethics among Politico-Administrative Leadership:** Good governance ethics are one of the most essential conditions for a country's stability and development and its citizens' well-being. The history of many countries indicates that a severe deterioration of morality has led to violence, poverty and even disintegration. The laws regulating the conduct of the civil service allow public officials to be totally integral in performing their functions. Project management requires a new mentality, a new way of behaving, full of

human values. You don't have a table or a chair, but you are dealing with a person. He or she's got problems. You must solve them there. The chairman you are sitting on is not a comfort chair. It's your head chair with a lot of personal responsibility. Increase to the chair's degree of accountability. Our mental consciousness needs to achieve this level.

**5. Need of Protecting the Interests of the People:** Good Governance can help in accelerating welfare of the people provided it is run in the interest of the people. The contents of Good Administration for Good Governance are:

- (i) Openness in the sense of having wide contact with the people administered;
- (ii) A sense of justice, fair play and impartiality in dealing with men and matters;
- (iii) Sensitivity and responsiveness to the urges, feelings and aspirations of the common people;
- (iv) Securing the honour and dignity of the human being, however humble he or she might be;
- (v) Humility and simplicity in the persons manning the administrative machinery and their easy accessibility.
- (vi) Creating and sustaining an atmosphere conducive to development, growth and social change; and
- (vii) Honesty and integrity in thought and action.

**6. Need to Promote and follow Rule of Law:** Good governance means that the rule of law must be respected. The definition of rule of law implies that society must be regulated by law or by dharma and not by a monarch or by influential persons. This has evolved from ancient times in this country. Manu expresses strongly the importance of scrupulous Dharma practice: "Dharma protects all who uphold it. The destruction of the Dharma. Dharma, therefore, should not be killed to keep us from being killed. The citizens of the government should agree on a basis that can make people's lives happy. They will protect people's interests and ensure that they are supported on the basis of dharma. People in the government should nurture the mind and keep calm, calm and silent, so that with honesty, sincerity and reason people can appreciate their glittering acts. No matter how unhappy, depressed, and unbearable, they are in the peaceful mind as the darkness of the sun is lost.

**7. Need to follow Transparency and Public Interest:** Management must be clear. Nothing secretly needs to be done. Secrecy is raising evil. For us to see, the reasons for making a decision have to be remembered. It also aims to eliminate near-universal corruption in politics and government today. Public officials should leave their own homes behind their caste, culture and faith and language. When they go to work, they do not bear these rates. A public servant in the workplace is only an employee who represents the public interest.

**8. Need to Developed Good Character of Persons in Government:** For those entrusted with public duties to be good governance character must be above

board. If we do not have enough character, there is more struggle and fighting in society, restlessness and uneasiness, corruption and nepotism than peace and harmony. In order to make money through the sale of products which would mingle their low and vulgar tastes, if we don't have enough character, we are corrupting our own children's taste. In case of not being sufficiently characteristic, religion is reduced to soulless ritualism, the ethical code is perverted into sophistry, altruism has become social work in itself, morally our secularism, secularism, hedonism into ruin, surer than death.

"Use your brain in practice, but use your heart to treat others. You and your own weakness and follies are strictly and intelligently critical. However, be critical to manage others, but mix your words and attitude with love. "Action plan for an effective, responsive Government quite correctly highlights the need for good governance. Love is the greatest persuasive power in life. Required corrective measures must be taken to arrest government and public services' personal drift and administration capacity.

## 6. Implications of Good Governance

Governance and successful public sector management are based on sustainable growth, social stability and environmental governance. Good governance therefore represents a successful program of public sector reform that promotes equity and sustainable development. The control of powerful groups of interests biases policies, schemes and investments, the scarcity of property and freedoms, the security of police and legal services, damages the vulnerable and impedes the securing of their homes and other properties and businesses. Poor governance generates and reinforces efforts to reduce this, while bad governance serves both domestic and foreign direct investment as a barrier to economic growth and leads to the collapse of the nation state.

## 7. Creating the conditions for good governance

Given the characteristics of good governance, its implications and the relevance to public sector reform within small developing nations, governments must create and sustain the conditions necessary for good governance within their respective territories.

1. Create and adapt basic legislation and institutions that guarantee political and economic freedoms as well as strive to meet a broader range of basic human needs (food, housing, health and Medicare, education, etc.).
2. Relax regulations in order to remove obstacles to economic participation.
3. Improve financial management.
4. Build infrastructure to ensure that organizational capacity is available to handle the growing needs for services, increasing demands for better and more responsive services, and creating conditions for economic progress and social cohesion.
5. Train public officers, business people and entrepreneurs. With the improvements in access to education brings the challenge of rapid changes in many knowledge areas therefore government must institute an ongoing development programme for its

human resources to ensure that they are equipped with the necessary skills.

6. Reform public management practices to address issues such as budget deficits, external pressures on competitiveness (globalization), antiquated work procedures, excessive centralization, and inflexibility, lack of efficiency and perceived lack of public confidence in government.
7. Freedom from distortionary incentives – through corruption, nepotism, patronage or capture by narrow private interest groups.

Accountability of politicians and civil servants to ensure that the power given to them through the laws and regulations they implement, resources they control and the organizations they manage is used appropriately and in accordance with the public interest.

## 8. Right to information and good governance

'Right to Information' (RTI) refers to the right of every citizen to access information held by or under the control of public authorities. Data, which represents and captures government activities and processes, is crucial to good governance. The oxygen of democracy is said to be knowledge. When people don't know what happens in their culture, when their actions are concealed from those who control them, then they can't make a positive contribution to society's affairs. Access to information not only encourages transparency, accessibility and administration responsibility, but it also enables active involvement by individuals in the process of democratic governance. The right to transparency should be seen as a valuable weapon for creating a good governance system. Effective governance's key features include: strategic vision and direction of consensus, engagement, rule of law, accountability, sensitivity, justice and inclusiveness, effectiveness, productivity and obligation. Transparency ensures decision-making is taken freely and implemented in a manner that complies with laws and regulations. It ensures that information is available publicly and is accessible directly to those affected by and implemented by these decisions. This also ensures that all stakeholders have ample knowledge in easily comprehensible media formats. Public transparency means that public agencies are responsible to the public and their stakeholders. An agency or entity is usually liable to those impacted by its decisions or actions. Accountability can not be implemented without accountability. In the sense above, the right to information may be an tool for the work of public institutions and good governance to contribute to transparency and accountability. The right to transparency has been an crucial factor of the fight for good governance globally. The right to transparency and good governance have a strong connection. The public should have free access to government information in order to achieve RTI Act 's aim. This helps them to know what the government is doing, why it is doing and how it is doing it. Good governance provides an performance, efficiency, openness and public accountability mechanism for governments. It aims to end the government's contradictory policies and to help create a reactive state. And when the right to information is exercised in the right way can democratic engagement in government, respect for the rule of law, freedom of speech and association, democratic openness, accountability, policy

credibility and the like be achieved. Good governance principles strongly stress the need for governments to include civil society in the governance process. However, when the governments do not, Civil Society should immediately hold the government accountable for policies and programmes, in particular those concerning citizens' fundamental rights, as the prerogative of the broad political socio-economic issues. Civil society should use knowledge rights as a mechanism to increase the transparency and accountability of governments.

### 9. Challenges of good governance in India

During the moment of independence, our leaders wanted good governance in India through different goals like swaraj, ahimsa. Following freedom, the preamble to India's Constitution focuses on the spiritual and human principles and inclusion of everyone within the country's governance. Aside from these state policy orders, there are also numerous clauses on justice and inclusivity in the sixth and seventh constitution schedules. The Constitution Amendment No 73 and Amendment No 74 changes the trends by ensuring the constitutional status for democracy at the grassroots level and by making significant changes, including the reservation of women's seats. The second Committee on Administrative Reform emphasized the development of an ombudsman type of organization that would improve the transparency of public administration. On 15 June 2005, the parliament adopted the landmark Access to Information Act to improve accountability and transparency in administration. Our new Prime Minister, Mr Modi, has also stressed inclusiveness, openness and good governance responsiveness. However, the cycle of modernisation and socio-economic changes have created a new array of public policy and administration problems over the past few decades. These are:

- a) Women empowerment
- b) Empowerment of socially and economically backward people.
- c) Growing incidence of violence
- d) Environmental security, sustainable development
- e) Challenges of globalization, liberalisation and market economy
- f) Changes in science and technology.

Corrupt officials, needless delay in delivery of justice, people's mentality, and complex government, rigidity, and sophistication, have made even the strongest schema ineffective. The generator of good governance is called bureaucracy. The Government has adopted a number of policies, which have a significant effect on good governance, including PDS, NRHM, MGNREGA, JAN DHAN JOJONA, Premier, etc. However, our government can not succeed in implementing those programs due to its corruption among our bureaucrats.

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### Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation (PRAGATI):-

PRAGATI was launched on 25 March 2015. This is a multi-functional forum designed to answer concerns from ordinary citizens. This also seeks to track and review major projects and programs of the union government and projects led by governmental authorities. It's an ambitious e-governance and governance project with the participation and sharing of information between the main stakeholders in real time.

### Digital India: -

It is a vision set by the government of India to ensure government services are made available by improving online infrastructure and increasing internet connectivity to people in electronic form, even in remote areas. The definition is based on the creation of a participatory, open and responsive structure. The government initiative to celebrate 25 December as the Good Governance Day is to make people aware of the determination of the government to provide country-specific transparency and accountability. Although on 25 December 2016, following Good Governance Day, the government agreed to launch a 100-day good governance program in the country where ministers will be participating. Empowering women is one of the necessary conditions for ensuring good governance. The government seems to be actively engaged in resolving this issue. The various programs such as BetiBachaoBetiParhao, Janani Suraksha Yojana and UJJAWALLA have been introduced. The Government took the decision in November 2016 to demonetize Rupee 500 and 1000 notes. The principal aim of the Government was to eradicate the counterfeit currency, to prevent tax evasion and to kill black money and terrorist funding and move the nation towards a less economical cash market.

### 10. Conclusion

Proper application of various governance qualities such as accounting, impartiality, openness, accountability, rule of law, etc. Enhance governance standard. Governmental efforts are often necessary for a thorough review and enhancement of their work whenever needed. The "good governance engine" must be bureaucracy and it must be a person-driven task, without which good governance can not be established in a real sense. Corruption from the bottom to the top levels of government, without which good governance is meaningless, should be removed. The government ought to be under pressure to solve the state's burning problems, otherwise the insurgency problems which constitute a great hurdle on good governance can not be resolved.

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