



# **CIVIL SERVICES ACHIEVERS' POINT**

## **CSAP's SMART BOOK**

# **INDIAN GOVERNANCE**

**HEAD OFFICE: 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Dirang Arcade, Krishna Nagar, Maniram Dewan Rd, Chandmari**

Centres: Chandmari, Beltola, Silchar, Margherita, Cotton University, Sonapur College, JC College, GC College

Call:9127515541/8811877068

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## CHAPTER 1 GOVERNANCE

The **UNDP defined governance** as "the exercise of economic, political, and administrative authority to manage a country's affairs at all levels. "It includes the procedures, processes, and institutions that individuals and groups use to express their interests, exercise their legal rights, perform their duties, and arbitrate their disagreements

**The World Bank defined governance** in 1993 as the means of exercising authority in the administration of a country's political, economic, and social resources for development.

**United Nations (UN):** It is critical to provide broad guidelines for what constitutes acceptable Good Governance characteristics, and **the UN has identified eight of them:** Participatory, consensus-oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive, and adhering to the rule of law.



### DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GOVERNANCE AND GOVERNMENT

Parameter	Government	Governance
<b>Definition</b>	A system or group of individuals responsible for controlling and	Decision-making, policy implementation, and resource management are

	managing a country or state.	crucial processes that impact a community or society.
<b>Focus</b>	Formal structures and institutions that hold political power and exercise authority over a defined territory.	Community involvement refers to the collective responsibility and participation of all members of a society in decision-making and resource management.
<b>Approach</b>	The top-down approach is a system that uses hierarchical structures, rules, and regulations to enforce policies and ensure compliance.	The bottom-up approach emphasizes the importance of inclusivity, participation, and collaboration in decision-making and resource management.
<b>Role</b>	The individual holds political leadership and has authority over the population, including resource allocation and law enforcement.	This refers to the process of involving all members of a community or society in decision-making, resource management, and conflict resolution.
<b>Examples</b>	The United States government, the British government, and the	Participatory governance, cooperative governance, and decentralized governance are

	Chinese government are all involved in this process.	three distinct approaches to governance.
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**GOVERNANCE IN INDIA:**

India's government is a Parliamentary system with a federal framework and unitary traits. It is delegated to a council of ministers, led by the Prime Minister, who proposes steps and advises the President.

The states are managed by a council of ministers, with the Chief Minister serving as the head who proposes steps and advises the Governor.

**The Indian government is organised into three branches, which are as follows:**

1. **The Legislature:** The body that creates laws.
2. **The Executive:** The body that is primarily responsible for the design and implementation of government policies and legislation.
3. **The Judiciary:** The portion of the legal system that primarily examines the operation of the Supreme Court, High Court, District, and Sessions courts.

**ELEMENTS OF GOVERNANCE**

1. **ACCOUNTABILITY:** It involves creating systems and procedures to hold individuals accountable for their actions, choices, and resource usage, requiring transparency in decision-making, financial management, and the ability to investigate and hold organizations accountable for misconduct.
2. **Rule of law:** Governance is based on the rule of law, ensuring consistent and equal implementation of laws by all individuals and organizations, with an independent judiciary, a legal framework safeguarding rights and liberties, and means for conflict resolution.
3. **Efficiency and effectiveness:** Governance aims to achieve goals efficiently and

effectively through logical decision-making, efficient resource utilization, and effective policy execution. Efficiency ensures optimal allocation of resources, while effectiveness evaluates the extent to which governance activities achieve their desired outcomes.

4. **Equity and inclusiveness:** Governance should promote fairness, equal opportunity, and social justice, aiming to alleviate inequities, promote social cohesion, and ensure equitable access to services, resources, and opportunities for marginalized groups, including women, youth, people with disabilities, and minority groups.
5. **Transparency:** Transparent government involves making information, procedures, and choices accessible to the public through open communication, disclosure of relevant information, and availability of public documents and data, which increases trust, reduces corruption, and promotes informed involvement.
6. **Integrity and ethics:** Good government is based on principles of integrity, ethics, and anti-corruption measures, which prevent corruption, nepotism, and power abuse by adhering to ethical norms, codes of conduct, and accountability procedures, fostering a culture of honesty and accountability.
7. **Strategic vision:** Governance involves setting a long-term strategic direction and vision, creating comprehensive plans, policies, and frameworks to guide decision-making and address social issues, foreseeing future demands, recognizing possibilities, and encouraging growth.
8. **Participation:** Governance should foster meaningful involvement and engagement of individuals and groups affected by choices, involving inclusive decision-making processes, public input, and allowing individuals to express ideas, participate in policy creation, and hold authorities accountable.

## VARIANTS OF GOVERNANCE

1. **Presidential system:** In a presidential system, the president serves as both the head of state and government, elected directly by the people, with executive authority and a crucial separation of powers between the executive and legislative branches.
2. **Local Governance:** Local governance refers to subnational governments like municipalities, cities, or regions that address local concerns and provide services and infrastructure tailored to the community's needs, often involving elected authorities and community involvement in decision-making.
3. **Federalism:** Federal governance is the power distribution between a central government and regional or local administrations, allowing joint decisions and autonomy for subnational entities while maintaining a cohesive national framework, accommodating regional interests, and fostering local administration.
4. **Parliamentary system:** Parliamentary government is characterized by a heavily involved legislature that grants executive authority, typically led by a president or prime minister, and often emphasizes collaborative decision-making and coalition building.
5. **Monarchy:** A monarchy is a government where a monarch, typically a hereditary ruler, holds absolute power, ranging from ceremonial to political influence. Monarchies can be constitutional, where a constitution or legislative system limits their authority, or absolute, where the monarch has unrestricted power.
6. **Theocracy:** A theocracy is a government system where religious leaders or institutions hold ultimate power, with religious law dominating the state, and religious doctrine influences policy and decision-making.
7. **Democracy:** Democracy is a government where citizens have authority, participate in decision-making through voting, elections, and political activity, and prioritize

individual liberties, rights preservation, and the rule of law.

8. **Authoritarianism:** Authoritarianism is a system where power is concentrated in a single leader or small group, with centralized decision-making and limited public involvement. This often involves strict laws that limit individual liberties, silence criticism, and maintain control.

## STAKEHOLDERS OF GOVERNANCE

1. **Government:**
  - A. **Executive:** The executive branch of government, comprising the president, prime minister, and cabinet, is responsible for enforcing the government's laws and policies.
  - B. **Legislature:** The legislature is responsible for enacting legislation, which includes both the Parliament and state legislatures.
  - C. **Judiciary:** The court, including the Supreme Court and other courts, is responsible for interpreting laws and ensuring their equitable implementation.
2. **Citizens:**
  - A. **Individuals:** Citizens have the right to participate in politics and hold their government accountable.
  - B. **Groups:** Citizens' interests are represented by various groups such as labor unions, business associations, and civil society organizations.
3. **Businesses:**
  - A. **Individuals:** Citizens have the right to participate in politics and hold their government accountable.
  - B. **Groups:** Citizens' interests are represented by various groups such as labor unions, business associations, and civil society organizations.
4. **Businesses:**
  - A. **Private sector:** Businesses play a crucial role in both the economy and society by generating revenue, creating

employment, and contributing to the tax base.

B. **Public sector:** The public sector comprises state-owned firms and government organizations that offer essential services like healthcare, education, and infrastructure.

5. **Media:**

The media plays a crucial role in informing the public and holding the government accountable through various channels such as newspapers, television, radio, and the internet.

6. **NGOs(Non-Governmental Organizations):** NGOs are non-profit organizations that focus on improving the lives of their local communities through various initiatives such as education, healthcare, poverty reduction, and human rights.

7. **International organizations:**

International organizations like the United Nations significantly contribute to peace, security, and prosperity by providing technical and financial aid to developing nations.

### ETHICAL GOVERNANCE

According to UNDP, Ethical Governance is the practice of conducting governance processes and decision-making in a manner that upholds ethical principles, integrity, and moral values. It involves a commitment to fairness, transparency, accountability, and responsible behaviour while serving the best interests of the stakeholders and society as a whole.



### KEY ELEMENTS OF ETHICAL GOVERNANCE

1. **Ethical Leadership:** Ethical behaviour displayed by decision-makers and leaders. It establishes a culture of ethics and leading an

example by keeping leaders responsible for their deeds.

2. **Rule of Law:** Adherence to legal statutes, rules, and guidelines. Applying the law in a fair and consistent manner upholding due process and individual rights.

3. **Participation:** Involving a variety of stakeholders in the decision-making process. Participation of civil society and citizens in governance processes. encouragement of public dialogue and participation.

4. **Accountability:** It ensures clear lines of responsibility, accountability, and transparent reporting and disclosure of actions and decisions.

5. **Transparency:** The key to effective decision-making is openness, accessibility of information for stakeholders and the public, and clear and understandable communication.

6. **Integrity:** Maintaining high ethical standards and moral values involves acting honestly, ethically, and principledly, while avoiding conflicts of interest and unethical practices.

7. **Fairness and Equity:** The goal is to ensure equal treatment and opportunities for all individuals and groups, address social and economic disparities, and prevent discrimination and favouritism.

8. **Responsiveness:** The focus is on addressing stakeholder needs and concerns, taking timely action on raised issues, incorporating feedback, and adapting policies and practices accordingly.

9. **Sustainability:** The focus is on long-term environmental, social, and economic sustainability, responsible resource use, and balancing present needs with future generations' well-being.

### ETHICAL CONCERNS IN INDIAN GOVERNANCE

1. **Patronage:** After-retirement assignments of top officers to regulatory organizations and other significant offices are primarily based on patronage, without clear rules.

2. **Administrative secrecy:** Administrative secrecy is essential for public interest and

corporate protection, making openness a crucial characteristic of ethical governance.

3. **Nepotism:** The merit principle may be compromised when family or friends are appointed to public jobs without considering the quality of public services.
4. **Indifference to the sentiments of people:** The belief in the inflexible authority of departmental decisions, precedents, arrangements, or forms, regardless of their effectiveness in specific situations.
5. **A Violation of Authority or Rank Position:** Officials who act outside their position, obligations, and rights can harm the interests of the state or specific citizens.
6. **Negligence:** Negligence occurs when a public official fails to fulfil their professional duties or conducts them negligently, causing harm to the state or community.
7. **Bribery:** Corruption and bribery have become socially accepted, enhancing the efficiency of commerce.
8. **Complacency:** Complacent officers, driven by prestige, position, and personal luxury, outperform diligent, committed, and conscientious officers due to their addiction to personal luxury.

### **INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE**

According to the UNDP “**Inclusive governance** is a type of governance that is characterized by the participation of all stakeholders, regardless of their social, economic, or political status. It is a form of governance that is based on the principle of inclusion, which means that all people have a voice in the decision-making process.”

The World Bank defines inclusive governance as "a system of rules and institutions that enables all people to participate in, contribute to, and benefit from economic, social, and political processes."

According to the World Bank, inclusive governance is vital for a variety of reasons, including:

- It has the potential to help decrease poverty and inequality.
- It has the potential to stimulate economic growth.
- It has the potential to improve public services.
- It has the potential to strengthen democracy.
- It has the potential to foster peace and stability.

### **KEY ELEMENTS OF INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE IN INDIA**

<b>Key Elements</b>	<b>Information</b>
Community Participation	The initiative promotes community involvement in local decision-making, encourages the formation of community-based organizations, and supports participatory planning and development initiatives involving community input and ownership.
Empowerment of Marginalized Groups	The initiative aims to empower marginalized communities by providing targeted support, resources, and affirmative action, and encouraging their representation and participation in decision-making processes.
Gender Inclusivity	Promoting gender equality, empowering women in governance, ensuring representation in political and civil services, and addressing gender-based discrimination and violence through legal frameworks and social initiatives.
Social Inclusion	Promoting social cohesion and fostering a sense of belonging for all citizens, ensuring equal opportunities and participation for marginalized and disadvantaged communities, and addressing social discrimination.

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Inclusive Policies and Programs	The policy design and implementation aim to address disparities in education, healthcare, housing, and public services for marginalized populations, while also creating social safety nets and welfare schemes to uplift disadvantaged sections.
Tribal and Indigenous Rights	It emphasizes on the importance of protecting tribal and indigenous communities' rights, culture, and identity, recognizing their land and resource rights, and implementing inclusive policies for their socio-economic development.
Accountability and Transparency	The focus is on ensuring government institutions and officials are accountable to their citizens, promoting transparent governance processes, public information dissemination, and mechanisms for citizen feedback and grievance redressal.
Access to Justice	The goal is to ensure equal access to justice for all citizens, strengthen legal aid systems for marginalized groups, and eliminate biases and barriers in the justice system.

### INDIAN GOVERNMENT SCHEMES AND INITIATIVES TO PROMOTE INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE IN INDIA

Categories Scheme and Initiatives	Scheme and Initiatives
Urban Local Bodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The <b>12th Five Year Plan (2012-2017)</b> emphasized the need to enhance the responsiveness of urban local bodies (ULBs) to the needs of citizens.</li> <li>ii. <b>The Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (2015)</b> aims to enhance the quality of life in 500 cities by enhancing basic amenities like water supply, sewerage, and solid waste management.</li> </ul>
Social Welfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The <b>National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)</b> was established in 1995 to provide financial assistance to the poor, elderly, disabled, and widowed.</li> <li>ii. The <b>Mid-day Meal Scheme (1995)</b> is a government initiative that offers free meals to children in government schools.</li> <li>iii. <b>Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (2001)</b> is a program providing free and compulsory education to children aged 6-14.</li> <li>iv. The <b>National Rural Health Mission (NRHM)</b> was established in 2005 to enhance the quality of healthcare in rural areas.</li> </ul>
Panchayat Raj	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The <b>73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments (1992)</b> granted constitutional status to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and made them mandatory for all states.</li> <li>ii. The <b>National Rural Development Programme (NRDP)</b> was established in 1980 to provide basic amenities like drinking water, sanitation, and roads to rural areas.</li> <li>iii. The <b>Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP)</b> was established in 1978 to provide financial aid to impoverished rural families to initiate income-generating activities.</li> <li>iv. The <b>Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) (2005)</b> ensures 100 days of employment for rural households with adult members who volunteer for unskilled manual work.</li> </ul>



## ISSUES RELATED TO GOVERNANCE IN INDIA

1. **Bribery and corruption:** Corruption and bribery are prevalent in both governmental and commercial sectors, leading to misuse of funds and unethical practices due to insufficient transparency and accountability.
2. **Bureaucracy is inefficient:** Government administration is characterized by slow and bureaucratic processes, leading to delays in decision-making and inefficient policy implementation.
3. **Inadequate Public Service Delivery:** Limited access to education, healthcare, and basic infrastructure is exacerbated by inefficient public service delivery, especially in rural and underserved areas.
4. **Threats to security:** India faces security challenges such as terrorism, separatism, and sectarian violence, which can hinder economic progress, social well-being, and the rule of law.
5. **Inadequate educational opportunities:** UNESCO reports 26 million Indian youths are not attending school, highlighting the significant impact of inadequate access to education on economic opportunities, health, and social development.
6. **Tensions between communities and castes:** Religious and caste-based differences contribute to communal tensions and conflicts, posing challenges in promoting social peace and equality.
7. **Inadequate access to healthcare:** The World Health Organization reports that 40% of India's population lacks basic healthcare, causing potential health issues and highlighting the urgent need for improved healthcare access in the country.
8. **Degradation of the Environment:** Environmental issues such as pollution, deforestation, and climate change are increasing, but enforcement of restrictions is inadequate and sustainability measures are insufficient.
9. **Challenges in Urban Governance:** Rapid urbanization leads to inadequate infrastructure and services, resulting in issues such as poor planning, slum expansion, and traffic congestion.
10. **Political Divisions:** The political landscape is fragmented, with multiple political parties and coalition administrations, making consensus-building and policy formation challenging tasks.
11. **Inequalities in Socioeconomic Status:** Socioeconomic inequities persist across regions and communities, resulting in unequal allocation of resources, opportunities, and development advantages.
12. **Lack of Civic Engagement:** The government's civic participation and engagement are hindered by weak public consultation and feedback systems.
13. **Inadequate Judicial System:** The judicial system is facing a backlog of cases and prolonged legal proceedings, resulting in delayed and ineffective resolution of disputes.

## CHAPTER 2 GOOD GOVERNANCE

According to the World Bank (1992) "Good Governance is central to creating and sustaining an environment which fosters strong and equitable development and it is an essential complement to sound economic policies".

According to UNDP, "Good Governance is, among other things, participatory, transparent and accountable. It is also effective and equitable. And it promotes the rule of law. Good governance ensures that political, social, and economic priorities are based on broad consensus in society and that the voices of the poorest and the most vulnerable are heard in decision making over the allocation of development resources".

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has defined the concept "as a broad concept covering all aspects of how a country is governed, including its economic policies, regulatory framework, and adherence to the rule of law".

### EVOLUTION OF GOOD GOVERNANCE

- 1. Early Development:** Good governance, rooted in ancient philosophy, posits that leaders should act in the best interests of their people, as emphasized by Aristotle, who believed that the primary purpose of government was to promote the common good.
- 2. Modern Development:** In the 20th century, the concept of good governance emerged as a response to the failures of authoritarian regimes, emphasizing democracy, human rights, transparency, and accountability for promoting economic growth and social welfare.
- 3. Good Governance in Developing Countries:** In the 1990s, the World Bank and other international organizations emphasized good governance as a crucial development element, leading to the creation of the "good governance" agenda, emphasizing

democracy, human rights, transparency, and accountability.

- 4. Inclusiveness and Sustainability:** The concept of good governance has been reevaluated to emphasize inclusiveness and sustainability, leading to the development of new approaches like e-governance and citizen-centric governance, which aim to increase citizen participation in decision-making processes and promote transparency and accountability.
- 5. Digital Governance:** The rise of digital technology has led to a shift towards digital governance, where governments utilize technology to enhance service delivery and citizen participation, resulting in the development of new governance forms like open data and open government.

### ELEMENTS OF GOOD GOVERNANCE

Good governance involves capable economic management and state-civil society interaction, as identified by World Bank documents and studies, and eight essential characteristics which are essential for effective governance.



- 1. Participation:** Participation in decision-making is essential for promoting political rights and achieving goals. Direct or indirect participation is acceptable as long as it's planned and informed. The legal system ensures the rule of law, ensuring impartiality in government processes, thus promoting greater societal participation. The Right to Information Act of 2005 permits citizens to access public authorities'