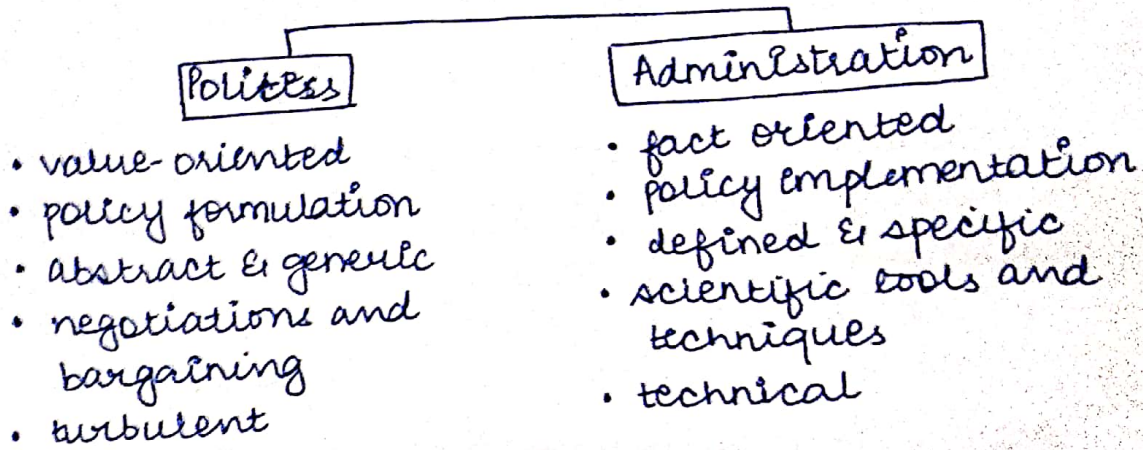


Q.ue 1. "Administrative questions are not political questions." Discuss.

Administration as a field of study borrowed heavily from sciences like Political Science and Management Science.

However, at the very onset of the study of the discipline, Woodrow Wilson in his essay of 1887 talked about 'Politics-Administration Dichotomy'.

Administrative questions are distinguished from political ones on the basis of nature of the two domains :



Thus, owing to different orientations and methodologies, politics and administrations are distinct and do not deal with overlapping questions.

For example, to raise health expenditure to around 6% of GDP is a political question and how to achieve it is an administrative question.

The two are distinct, but related.

This relatedness was also highlighted by scholars like John Gaus who believed that "administrative theory in our times was political theory" and Nicholas Henry's 6th Paradigm where he classified Pub Ad as Political Science or 'Mother Science'.

But the present dynamics of public administration present a blurring of boundary between the two.

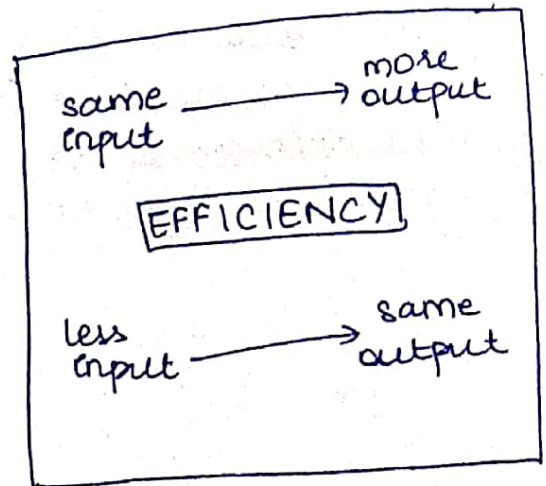
The skill, expertise and field knowledge of bureaucrats on one hand the political interference in the work of bureaucracy on the other, has brought them closer to each other.

The phenomenon of 'Delegated legislation' and 'Administrative law' is widely being practised in Indian administration.

Thus, politics and administration are very much intertwined and cannot be separated, as later accepted by the staunchest proponent of the dichotomy - Woodrow Wilson.

Que 2. In the science of administration, whether public or private, the basic good is efficiency. Comment

Administration as an activity is as old as state/organisation and in developing the science of administration, 'Efficiency' has always been the central concern.



Right from the classical era, Administrative science has been directed towards efficiency.

While Wilson wanted to improve the efficiency of the US Administration, Taylor wanted to bring efficiency to his production unit.

All the proponents of science of administration preached the 'Gospel of Efficiency', though in different forms. Be it the 'one best way' or introduction of 'informal organisation', the motive or the basic good has always been efficiency.

Even the private Management Experts like Peter Drucker were moved by concerns of efficiency. In organisational efficiency lies greater profits and in greater profits lies the greater wealth of the shareholders.

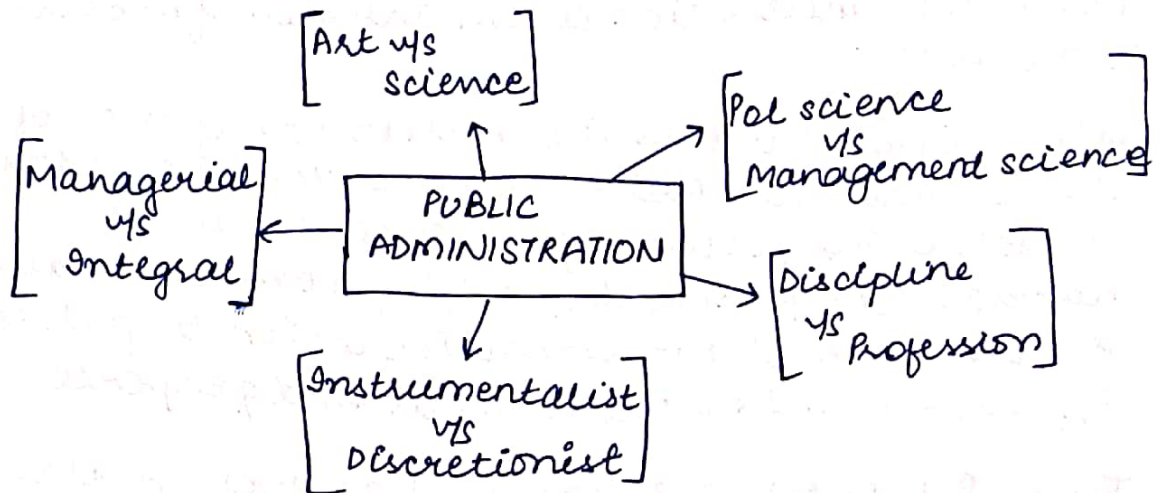
This obsession with efficiency continues till date and is visible in Government efforts to promote lateral entry in civil services or mergers of PSBs to increase their operational efficiency. The Ministries and Department are being streamlined (Jal Shakti Mantralaya) so as to enhance efficiency and performance.

Efficiency is also driving private sector as they

promote 'gig economy' to promote cost-efficiency
or hire experts to tap knowledge efficiency.

This leads us to a conclusion that 'Administration
is administration, nothing public about it' and
the science of administration, even in private
sector is concerned with Efficiency.

Que 3. The status of Public Administration as a discipline remains in a state of quandary. Critically Examine.



Public Administration, a young discipline has suffered a crisis of identity and is often surrounded by questions regarding its true status.

Public Administration is an art as it requires solving problems using personalised skill and acumen but it also makes use of scientific tools & techniques, principles and theories.

Similarly, Political science is often regarded as the mother science and Management science as a sister science of public administration. However it is now widely recognised that pub ad is both philosophical & technical and has established its own area of study - distinct from both the sciences.

As a discipline, public administration is taught in schools & college and has an organised body of knowledge. But lack of professionalised degree and training to become an Administrator robs it of the status of a profession.

However, 2nd ARC in its reports have emphasised on the need for specialised course in pub ad for civil servants in India.

The Integral view concerns itself with all the functions of administration while the Managerial view restricts itself to POSDCORB. No doubt, Public Administration is an Integral function of the state.

Often considered as the implementing arm of the government, pub ad is considered as instrumental in achieving policy objectives of the state. However, the present day highly complex nature of their work allows some discretion to public officials, based on their skills and expertise.

Thus, Public Administration has evolved itself as a 'scientific art' using professional means to and at times discretion to further the integral aims of the state. It is a well-recognised discipline today, forming an indispensable part of everyday life of the common man as well as the state.