

Que 10. The field of Public Administration is a field of business. Comment.

• Admin is Admin, nothing public about it.

The Founding father of Pub Ad, <sup>Wilson</sup> advocated for a 'business-like approach' to administration. This is primarily because both business and admin are moved by concerns of 'Efficiency, Economy and Effectiveness'.

The two fields have an overlap in the following aspects :

- a) The tools and techniques used are common in both - POSDCORB.
- b) Public Sector Enterprises work for profit too, like business. eg: ONGC Videsh Ltd.
- c) In personnel management, both borrow from each other's practices, be it 'outsourcing' by govt. or security benefits by corporates.
- d) Both the fields have similar type of management systems based on hierarchy.
- e) Technological revolution is affecting the operations of both business and pub ad.
- f) Both ultimately aim to serve the people and place them at the core of their operations.

Thus, both pub and business are similar to each other. This difference between the two have further reduced with the advent of NPM and LPG.

However, it must be remembered that govt or admin is in the 'business of enabling citizen's to lead a life of dignity and choice'.

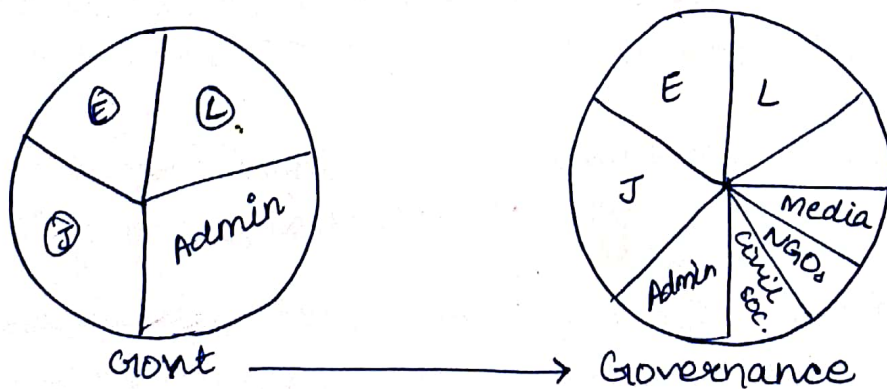
The service motive is what distinguishes the two fields. Otherwise, both pub ad and business admin are two species of the same genus.

Ques II. Elaborate the world Bank's concept of 'Good Governance'

In the backdrop of worsened economic performance and failure of public institutions, the world Bank in the late 1980s pushed an 'Agenda for Governance' which came to be known as Good Governance.

The key attributes emphasised by the world Bank ~~are~~ were: Transparency, Accountability, collaboration, Responsiveness, Equity, Participation and consensus orientation.

The government came to be recognised a major stakeholder (not the sole one) responsible for bringing about sound management and socio-economic changes. The concept started with Sub-Saharan countries soon spread across the globe and impacted the lives of ordinary citizens.



A networking approach was popularised with the result of widening of power base and better addressal of ~~to~~ citizen needs.

The world Bank's concept had a wide impact on developing countries like India where many initiatives have been taken to achieve Good Governance in letter and spirit.

Some of them are RTI Act (2005), citizen Charter, RTPS, Sevottam model, Aadhar, E-governance Lokpal etc. There was equal emphasis on democratic ethos like equality, equity and rule of law.

The WB's concept has thus transformed the nature of govt and the stature of citizens.



Que 12. Democracy and Good Governance are contradictions in terms. Discuss with examples.

Democracy or rule of people is essentially a bottom up concept where power emanates from the citizens.

Good Governance, as per World Bank's conceptualisation is however top-down in nature.

While democracy is 'citizen-centric', Good Gov't is 'customer-oriented' as it brings in economics into the political set up.

Democracy on one hand promotes 'diversity' and 'pluralism' with wide recognition to the needs of interest groups, GG, on the other hand, is an attempt towards 'universalisation' of the problem solving approach.

As against the dialogue, debates and deliberations advocated by Democracy, GG as a practice was unilaterally imposed on the developing world by the West dominated international financial institutions.

It is non-ecological when contrasted to a living-ecological democracy.

Thus, the tools given by GG in the name of accountability, transparency, responsiveness and equity, though may appear to be democratic in nature, they are only instrumental in nature.

Democracy is essentially an intrinsic concept.

Thus, Democracy and GG are contradictory terms and we have instances to substantiate it.

The growth of the South <sup>East</sup> Asian economies or the Asian Tigers is supportive of GG but these countries were not strictly democratic in nature. They were soft-authoritarian instead. The Chinese success story is another testimony to this.

Similarly, Democracy doesn't ensure GG by itself. The rising insurgency in the NE India or a crackdown by the govt. on the people of J&K in the name of fine-tuning the admin of the state is violative of GG's ideas.

But the United Nations view of GG was more intrinsic in nature as it equated GG with a system founded on justice & peace which works to protect human rights & civil liberties. This view is essentially complementary to and conducive for Democracy.