

GOVERNMENT & GOVERNANCE

Governance and Public Policy

GOVERNMENT



Refers to the institutions that exercise political authority. It has the power to make laws, implement decisions and maintain order in society.



MAIN FEATURES

- Exercises political authority
- Makes and implements laws
- Maintains law and order
- Consists of Legislature, Executive and Judiciary
- Focuses on **who governs**



VS

GOVERNANCE

Refers to the process of making, implementing and monitoring decisions for public welfare. It involves government institutions as well as citizens and other stakeholders.



KEY FEATURES

- Process of decision-making and implementation
- Involves government, citizens and other stakeholders
- Focuses on public welfare
- Includes participation, transparency and accountability
- Focuses on **how governing is carried out**



INSTITUTIONS OF GOVERNMENT

LEGISLATURE



- Makes laws
- Represents the people
- Parliament (LS & RS)

EXECUTIVE



- Implements laws and policies
- Runs the government
- President, Prime Minister, Council of Ministers

JUDICIARY



- Interprets laws
- Ensures justice
- Independent from executive and legislature
- Supreme Court, High Courts, Lower Courts

KEY TAKEAWAY



Government provides institutions and authority, while **governance** focuses on how decisions are made and implemented for public welfare with the participation of citizens and other stakeholders.

AIM OF GOOD GOVERNANCE



To build a fair, inclusive and developed society through effective decision-making and public participation.

GOOD GOVERNANCE

KEY PRINCIPLES



Good governance means making, implementing and monitoring decisions for public welfare in a transparent, accountable, inclusive and effective manner with the participation of citizens and other stakeholders.

1 PARTICIPATION

Involves active participation of citizens in decision-making and policy processes.



2 TRANSPARENCY

Ensures open and clear information about government decisions, policies and processes.



3 ACCOUNTABILITY

Holds government officials and institutions responsible for their actions and decisions.



4 RULE OF LAW

Ensures that all individuals and institutions are equal before the law and follow the law.



PRINCIPLES OF GOOD GOVERNANCE

6 EFFECTIVENESS

Ensures that policies and programmes achieve their intended goals and deliver results.



7 INCLUSIVENESS

Ensures that the needs and interests of all sections of society, including marginalised and vulnerable groups, are considered.



8 CONSENSUS ORIENTED

Encourages dialogue and cooperation among different stakeholders to build agreement on policies.



WHY IS GOOD GOVERNANCE IMPORTANT?

- ✓ Builds a fair and inclusive society
- ✓ Improves public trust in government
- ✓ Ensures better use of resources
- ✓ Promotes social and economic development
- ✓ Helps in achieving the goals of public welfare

REAL-LIFE EXAMPLES

- Right to Information (RTI) – promotes transparency
- Digital services (e.g., UMANG) – improves responsiveness
- Social welfare schemes (e.g., PMAY, Ayushman Bharat) – promotes inclusiveness
- Grievance redressal systems – enhances accountability

E-GOVERNANCE & DIGITAL PUBLIC SERVICES

Using Technology for a Better Tomorrow

What is E-Governance?



- E-Governance means using information and communication technology (ICT) to provide public services, share information, communicate with citizens and improve administrative processes.
- It makes governance more transparent, accountable, efficient and citizen-friendly.

Objectives of E-Governance



- 1 Provide easy and timely public services
- 2 Improve transparency and accountability
- 3 Reduce corruption
- 4 Make government processes more efficient
- 5 Empower and engage citizens

Examples of Digital Public Services



UMANG

Access multiple government services in one app



DigiLocker

Store and access digital documents (e.g. Aadhaar, certificates)



Aadhaar Services

Online verification and basic services



e-Hospital

Online registration and appointment



BHIM UPI

Digital payments for secure and easy transactions



ONDC

Support for digital commerce

Key Features



Use of ICT

Uses digital technology for service delivery



Citizen-Centric

Focuses on citizens' needs and convenience



Transparency

Easy access to information



Accountability

Tracks progress and performance



Efficiency

Reduces time, cost and paperwork



Wide Access

Services available online, anytime, anywhere

Benefits of E-Governance



Saves time and effort



Reduces corruption



Improves service delivery



Increases transparency and accountability



Promotes citizen participation



Supports inclusive and sustainable development



KEY TAKEAWAY

E-Governance and digital public services make government more transparent, accountable, efficient and accessible, and help in building a more inclusive and developed society.

PUBLIC POLICY CYCLE

1 Policy Desirability

Identify public needs and problems.



- Collect information
- Understand people's needs
- Identify the problem

2 Prioritising Policy

Decide which issues need priority.



- Analyse different problems
- Set priorities
- Consider resources and urgency

3 Policy Formulation

Consultation, drafting and financial feasibility.



- Consult stakeholders
- Prepare draft policy
- Assess financial feasibility
- Make necessary changes

4 Policy Adoption

Approval through laws, regulations, rules and guidelines.



- Discuss and review
- Approve the policy
- Issue laws, rules and guidelines
- Officially adopt the policy

5 Policy Implementation

Put the policy into action through institutions and stakeholders.



- Assign roles and responsibilities
- Use government institutions
- Work with stakeholders
- Deliver services to the public

6 Policy Monitoring

Track progress, accountability and shortcomings.



- Collect data
- Track progress
- Ensure accountability
- Identify shortcomings
- Suggest improvements

7 Policy Evaluation

Assess results and impact, generate feedback.



- Analyse outcomes
- Assess impact
- Get feedback from citizens and stakeholders
- Use learnings for future policies

The Public Policy Cycle shows how a problem is identified, a policy is made, implemented, monitored and evaluated to bring positive change in society.

Policy is a cycle!



The process is continuous. Feedback from evaluation helps in identifying new or continuing needs and the cycle starts again.

KEY TAKEAWAY

Public policies are developed, implemented, monitored and evaluated to address public needs and promote welfare.



POLICY STAKEHOLDERS & COORDINATION

Working Together for Better Public Policies

NEW SYLLABUS
2026-27

UNDERSTANDING
SOCIETY:
INDIA AND BEYOND

1 CITIZENS

- Identify problems and needs
- Participate in discussions and consultations
- Give feedback on policies
- Hold government accountable



2 ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

- Represent the people
- Raise issues and demands
- Make laws and policies
- Ensure people's interests are considered



3 GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENTS

- Formulate policies
- Implement policies
- Coordinate between different departments and levels of government
- Monitor progress and ensure effective delivery



4 CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS (NGOs) AND EXPERTS

- Conduct research and provide evidence
- Raise public awareness
- Advise the government
- Monitor implementation
- Represent the interests of marginalised and vulnerable groups



5 MEDIA

- Inform the public about issues and policies
- Raise awareness
- Highlight successes and shortcomings
- Act as a watchdog
- Give a platform for public discussion



6 PRIVATE SECTOR

- Provide expertise, innovation and resources
- Partner with government in policy implementation
- Create opportunities and support development



7 INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

- Provide technical knowledge and financial support
- Share global experience and best practices
- Support long-term development goals
- Collaborate on issues like health, education, environment and sports



WHY COORDINATION MATTERS?

- Brings together different perspectives and expertise
- Helps in better decision-making
- Ensures effective implementation of policies
- Reduces duplication of efforts
- Promotes transparency and accountability
- Leads to inclusive and sustainable development
- Ultimately helps in achieving public welfare and a better society

EXAMPLE: KHELO BHARAT NITI 2025

A coordinated effort to promote sports in India

