



## **PEOPLE’S RESPONSIBILITIES TO PROMOTE GOOD GOVERNANCE - AN INDIAN CONTEXT**

*<sup>1</sup>Aarif Mohd. Waza & <sup>2</sup>Ekambaker P. K.*

1. Aarif Mohd. Waza - Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University, Nanded, Maharashtra.

2. Dr. Prof. Ekambaker P. K. - Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University, Nanded, Maharashtra.

### **Abstract:**

Good governance emerged as a powerful idea when the institutions like world Bank, UNDP, OECD etc. realized that it is citizen friendly, citizen caring and responsive administration. Good governance is measured by eight factors of participation, rule of law, transparency, responsiveness, consensus oriented, equity and inclusiveness, effectiveness and efficiency and accountability. These characteristics are mostly related to government and government organizations but the purpose of this study is to discuss about the role and responsibilities of the people living in the country to promote good governance. Good governance is only possible when both the government and the citizens of the country are loyal and responsible towards building the growth and development of the nation. In this study we will discuss about the responsibilities that lies on the shoulders of the citizens to help the government to promote good governance.

**Key words:** Responsiveness, good governance, characteristics, promote.

### **Introduction:**

The term good governance got significance after 1989 when the world Bank focussed on it and formulated the concept of good governance in 1992 and defined it as the “manner in which power is exercised in management of the country’s economic and social resources for development”. Nowadays good governance is a world wide accepted phenomenon and is measured through out the world. Good governance is measured by how efficient the government of the country is to implement the innovative policies towards the economic development of the country.

<b>CORRESPONDING AUTHOR:</b>	<b>RESEARCH ARTICLE</b>
<b>Aarif Mohd. Waza</b> Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University, Nanded, Maharashtra, India. Email: <a href="mailto:aarifwaza4@gmail.com">aarifwaza4@gmail.com</a>	

In India good governance gained momentum after 1990's when the nature of the administration undergoes a change from traditional bureaucratic to responsive citizen oriented. However it is not only the administration which is responsible for good governance some of the responsibilities also lies on the citizens to promote good governance. In this study we will discuss about those responsibilities of the people which if they carry in proper, loyal and responsible way then good governance will be successful. We have studied and know many factors and characteristics that government must consider in good governance but this paper is all about the parameters that people should consider to promote good governance.

### **Methodology:**

This paper is principally in view of data gathered from different books, diaries, news papers, Magazines, web sources and personal observation. This paper is mainly based on secondary information. The technique for this study is fundamentally descriptive.

People's responsibilities to promote good governance. Some of the responsibilities of the citizens to promote good governance are.

### **1.Participation:**

India has a very long history of people's participation in policy making in the form of local government. The concept of making village as a self sufficient unit is present since ancient times. Modern India (after independence) started initiative of people's participation in development (policy and decision making) through community development programme in 1952 as a programme of aided self help. Community development programme was intended that planning and implementation of the policy will be done by villagers only, government will provide technical and financial assistance. The community development programme failed miserably because of lack of political patronage and bureaucratic lethargy.

After independence India had a centralized governance system up to the 73rd and 74th constitutional amendment acts. The effort to institutionalize the people's participation in planning, management and decision making was made by giving more powers and resources to the grassroots level. However when we look at the grassroots level there is very less participation of people in planning and implementation of policies. There are various reasons or challenges of public participation in policy making and implementation.

Few of them are:

- Not interested in participation:** public usually shows very less interest in participating in public matters. The reason may vary from person to person but problem remains same. To make governance effective it is the responsibility of the people to motivate themselves and each other and to swim their interests to participate in policy making and implementation. Good governance in India is highly underperforming because of lack of interest in participation..

• **Low efficiency:** participation in policy making and implementation is usually not the priority of people. People usually remain busy in work, household and other daily obligations. Some people also feel that public gatherings take more time with less satisfying results which leads to even lower rate of participation. In India people need to increase the efficiency of participation approaches to promote good governance.

The reason to not participate may be many but there is one solid reason to participate which is above all the reasons. With the help of public participation in policy making and implementation government is able to identify and correct the problems that people actually face. Participation enhance and encourages good governance, life become easy, facilities gets provided, obstacles and challenges remains less, both people and government become responsible. An individual should feel it as a person responsibility (towards building the society) to participate in public affairs.

## **2. Ask questions:**

Good governance has key elements such as accountability, transparency, responsiveness, participation, consensus oriented, effective and efficient etc. However analysis of the performance of Indian government shows that they are failing to achieve it. People should ask the questions again and again why government is failing to promote good governance. Asking questions to government about their policies and implementation forms the base of democracy and increase good governance standards. People should develop it as a habit and feel responsible to ask questions whenever they see there is lack of good governance. Asking questions makes government more responsible towards citizens.

## **3. Criticism:**

“People always have a right to criticize the dispensation running the administration of the country, being the government or the executive” (Calcutta high court). No institution in India is free from fair criticism not even the judiciary and the legislature. The intellectual class of the society should criticise the public policies and implementation whenever they see lapse in good governance.

No criticism increases corruption and ineffective implementation where as criticism increases good governance and good governance standards. “In fact, it is criticism which helps in good governance and keeps a leash on public functionaries, providing a touchstone for the executive to test the worth of their public endeavours”. (Calcutta High Court)

## **4. Complaints:**

Complaints is a essential tool for promoting good governance. People should use this mechanism properly for the betterment of the society. Complaints should arise when citizens experience inappropriate or discourteous treatment, mistakes, faults, inconsistencies, misleading guidance, unclear procedures or displayed bias or injustice in public policies and implementation. Complaints make officials more responsible and they tend to review the policies and implementation. Complaints should be made in a positive way and also should be taken in a positive

way to enhance good governance. It is the responsibility of the citizens to make use of this tool to promote good governance.

### **5. Unity and cooperation:**

Promoting national unity is very crucial to develop nation towards progress and prosperity. When the citizens are united they can eliminate minor as well as major problems like corruption, injustice etc. Unity promotes peace and love In a nation. Unity promotes sense of belongingness and gives people sense of security as they know each other and understand each other's problems and support each other in facing and fighting against these problems. Unity promotes cooperation and opens opportunity to achieve excellence in good governance. Unity and good governance are directly proportional to each other. Unity and good governance leads nation towards development and enhancing the pace of country's economic wheel.

All citizens living in a country irrespective of religion, cast, creed, sex, etc. must promote unity and avoid violence for the betterment of the country and for the betterment of good governance in the country.

### **6. Responsible citizen:**

A responsible citizen is one who gives up or limits his interests for the sack of country/community interests. A responsible citizen respects the divinity of other citizen and the unity of nation. He must obey voluntarily the rules and laws of nation mentioned in the Constitution of that nation. A responsible citizen always promotes good governance and stand against unlawful and wrong acts. Government makes policies for the betterment of citizens and it is then the responsibility of people to follow the guidelines and rules and regulations mentioned in the policy statement by government. The more responsible the citizen is towards nation the more good governance is in the nation.

### **7. Selection:**

Last but not the least is the selection while choosing the government to serve the nation. The selection should be wise and based on growth and development of country. The selection should be wise in all the levels of the government be it local, state or centre. People must not choose government to serve the country on the basis of religion, cast, creed etc. but only on the basis of performance and development. The responsibility of the citizen is to choose wisely and treat the government a service providing agency. People should not attach their sentiments towards political parties instead they should attach sentiments towards the good governance of political parties. The government chosen based on growth and development of the country performs better governance as compared to others who were chosen based on other things.

To promote good governance it is the responsibility of the people to choose wisely and only on the basis of good governance and welfare of the country.

**Conclusion:**

It is conclude that it is not always government and government agencies who are responsible for good governance there are some responsibilities on the shoulders of the citizens to promote and enhance good governance. For the betterment of the nation and for the sack of good governance it is mandatory for the citizens to fulfil those responsibilities. Citizens should not take those responsibilities as burden on them instead they should feel proud while fulfilling these responsibilities for the betterment of the nation.

**References:**

- 1) Mohammad Abdul Manan, 10 Aug. 2016, National unity and good governance: keys to economic progress.
- 2) Balmiki Prasad Singh, The challenges of good governance in India: Need for innovative approach.
- 3) Dr. Rahul Tripathi, Nov 2017, Good governance: origin, importance and development in India.
- 4) Khandakar qudrat-i- Elahi , July 2009, UNDP on good governance.
- 5) K. Srinivasan and M. S. Selvan, Sep. 2015, Governance and development in India: A review of studies and suggestions for further research.
- 6) Abdul Rahim, Sep 2019, Governance and good governance: A conceptual perspective.
- 7) Wahed waheduzzaman, Oct 2010, value of people's participation for good governance in developing countries.

