

# Principles of Good Governance



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**The speed of decision making is the essence  
of good governance.**

Piyush Goyal

# PRINCIPLES OF GOOD GOVERNANCE

- Tightly **linked** to fight against **corruption**
- Principles of **anti-corruption**

# PRINCIPLES OF GOOD GOVERNANCE





# 1. PARTICIPATION

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- **Active involvement** by all sectors of society in **decision-making process**
- Fostered by **enabling environment**
- Pertinent **information** appropriately disseminated in timely fashion
- All **concerned people** voice opinion in **unconstrained manner**

# ARTICLE 13 UNCAC

- All States parties "*to promote the **active participation** of individuals and groups outside the public sector,*
- *such as **civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations,***
- *in the **prevention** of and the **fight** against corruption".*

## 2) RULE OF LAW

- Exercise of **state power** using and guided by **published standards** that embody widely supported **social values**, **avoid particularism** and enjoy **broad-based public support**
- **Legal frameworks**
- **Law and order**

## 2) RULE OF LAW

- Justice system **independent** and **effective**
- **Property rights** and **contracts** enforced
- **Human rights** norms implemented
- **Constitutional constraints** on *power of the executive*

## 2) RULE OF LAW

- Laws **responsive** to needs of society, **fair** and **impartially enforced**
- **Cooperation** of state and society
- *Complex and deeply* rooted **social processes**

## 2) RULE OF LAW

- Fukuyama (2013) distinguish between **"rule of law"** and **"rule by law"**
- **"Rule by law"**: executive **use** of law and bureaucracy as **instrument of power**
- **"Rule of law"**: executive **constrained** by same laws that apply to everyone else

## 2) RULE OF LAW (UN)

- Principle of **governance**
- All persons, institutions and entities, public and private, including State itself **accountable** to laws publicly promulgated
- ***Equally*** enforced
- ***Independently*** adjudicated

## 2) RULE OF LAW (UN)

- **Consistent** with **international *human rights norms and standards***
- **Adherence** to principles of **supremacy of law**
- **Equality** before **law**

## 2) RULE OF LAW (UN)

- **Accountability** to law
- **Fairness** in application of law
- **Separation** of powers
- **Participation** in decision-making

## 2) RULE OF LAW (UN)

- **Legal certainty**
- **Avoidance of arbitrariness**
- **Procedural and legal transparency**

# 3) TRANSPARENCY

- Process of **decision-making** by those in power **scrutinized** by concerned members of society
- **Partnership: officials** make *information available* and **people** and **groups** with reasons and opportunities to put *information to use*

# 3) TRANSPARENCY

- *Independent* **judiciary**
- *Free, competitive, responsible* **press**
- *Active critical* **civil society**

# 3) TRANSPARENCY

- Rules and procedures **open to scrutiny**
- **Comprehensible:** transparent government makes it clear **what** being done, **how** and **why** actions take place, **who** involved, and by **what** standards decisions made

# 3) TRANSPARENCY

- **Article 10 of UNCAC**
- State parties take **necessary measures** to enhance transparency in **public institutions**
- Require **significant resources**

# 3) TRANSPARENCY

- **Free flow of relevant and easily *accessible information***
- **Understandable**
- **Decisions and implementation easily monitored**

# 4) RESPONSIVENESS

- Institutions and processes readily **serve** all stakeholders in **prompt** and **appropriate manner**
- **Interests** of all citizens **protected**

# 4) RESPONSIVENESS

- Identify and address built-in **discriminatory practices** affecting ethnic or minority groups
- **Gender responsiveness**

# 4) RESPONSIVENESS

- **Selective decentralization**
- **Citizens' charters and facilitation laws**
- Frontline services, hotlines and staff dedicated to receiving and attending to **complaints** and **grievances** promptly

# 5) CONSENSUS ORIENTATION

- Existing systems serve **best interests** of society
- Most **difficult** principle
- **Different viewpoints** taken into account

# 5) CONSENSUS ORIENTATION

- **Compromise**
- **Strong, impartial and flexible** mediation structure
- **Best interests** of whole community served

# 5) CONSENSUS ORIENTATION

- **Public hearings, referendums, forums for debate, citizens' legal right**
- **Petition** leaders about policy
- **Consultation** mechanisms

## 6) EQUITY AND INCLUSIVE

- Everyone has **opportunities** to improve or maintain **well-being**
- **All members of society**, *especially most vulnerable*, taken into consideration in **policymaking**
- No one feels **alienated, disenfranchised** or **left behind**

## 6) EQUITY AND INCLUSIVE

- **Preferential attention** given to plight of **poor, marginalized and needy**
- **Worst-off** in society receive **fair deal**
- **Progressive taxation, free medical care and subsidized housing**

# 7) EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT

- **Processes** and **institutions** make best use of resources
- Produce **results** meet needs of society
- Enhancement of **quality** and standardization of **public service delivery**

# 7) EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT

- **Professionalization of bureaucracy**
- Focus government efforts on **vital functions**
- **Elimination** of redundancies or overlaps in functions and operations

# 7) EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT

- Agencies of **public service delivery** promptly and adequately cater to **needs of citizens**
- Simplify **government procedures**
- Reduce **red tape**
- Use **appropriate technology** when feasible

# 7) EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT

- **Coordinating processes** among various government agencies to eliminate **redundant** information requirements
- Demonstrate **integrity**
- **Maximize** public values and public goods

# 7) EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT

- Individual performance goals **aligned** with programmes and objectives of agency
- Adequate **remuneration** and **non-monetary compensation** necessary to **sustain competence** and **boost morale**

# 8) ACCOUNTABILITY

- Every person or group responsible for actions affecting **public interest**
- **Answerability** or **responsibility** for one's actions
- Government, private sector and civil society organizations **answer** to public and institutional stakeholders

# 8) ACCOUNTABILITY

- **Institutional design**
- Formal **checks and balances** built into **constitutional architecture**
- Important for **corruption prevention**
- Main purpose of **United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC)**

# 8) ACCOUNTABILITY

- **Horizontal** (*checks and balances within public sector*)
- **Vertical** (*accountability of governments towards citizens*)

# 8) ACCOUNTABILITY

- **Code of ethics or code of conduct**
- **Essential tools** for promoting **integrity, honesty** and **responsibility**



Good governance needs self-discipline. Only discipline within can ensure discipline without.

Narendra Modi

