

Governance & Public Policy

Q. Define public policy and state its significance.

ANS: Introduction

public policy is an effective tool of the governance. It is the specific set of policy rules based on the comprehensive decision making for the well-being of the society.

public policies are made in order to meet with the demands of public or consumers. Moreover, it improves the standard of living of the people through proper planning.

Significance of public policy

There is an English proverb that "It is easier to catch flies with honey than with vinegar".

This quote is very relevant

regarding public policy. As for any kind of programme there is always need of a proper direction or a plan that considers all major aspects of it. The whole planning is thus undertaken in the public policy. Without public policy it's hard to cover up things in a right direction.

Inclusiveness

Different factors that should be considered while planning or the essential elements of the policy making or comes under the planning while making or public policy.

For Example

- Planning in Pakistan is usually done at 3 levels
- State, Planning Commission
 - Provincial, Planning & development
 - Local govt, Tehsil

The working bodies of these respected areas gives the approval status which comes under their jurisdiction

Pluralistic Approach

Public policy's one of the major feature is pluralistic approach of the policies. The policy approved only after setting up the consensus among all the state holders including politicians and the public in order to avoid controversies in the process

Example

- Benazir income support programme
- Karmyab. Kisan Scheme

Pragmatic and Affirmative Policies

An effective public policy enables the local government to enhance public welfare. It ensures the availability and completion of the programs on the grass root level.

Example

— Public policy of United State of America of free education and library

Cost and Benefit Analysis

The proper analysis of certain project made incomplete without the cost and benefit analysis. It is one of the effective tool of public policy. Before going towards certain project, the government made cost and benefit analysis. That means to estimate the cost and also the revenues or wellfare in terms.

Example

- Health cards schemes
- Solar panels installation alternate of Electricity

Free and fair distribution of resources

Every body can avails the opportunity of enjoying the public goods

under the Public Policy.
As Public Policy is specifically made for the public so it ensures the accessibility of it.

Example

- In financial policy, shares of NFC in Pakistan to all provinces

Ensures Efficiency

The proper mechanism of planning ensures the efficiency of the particular project. As it brought under the comprehensive planning, every body found ^{them} himself accountable for his their duty. The public policy ensures efficiency considering the given timeline.

Example: CPEC 1st, 2nd and ongoing phases
- polio vaccination in Pakistan

Conclusion

In a nutshell, Public Policy is made by the people

for the people, and to the people.

In order to achieve the desired

goals in a specific time

span the public policy

formation is inevitable.

past paper: Q = 10 marks