

Q<sub>2</sub> Define Normative and Empirical approaches of Public Administration and their implications to Pakistan's administrative system. 10  
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Ans: Introduction:

Both normative and empirical approaches are critical for improving Pakistan's administrative system. In Normative approach we see what ought to be rather than what actually exists. It focus on ethics, fairness and justice and based on concepts, theories and moral consideration. While Empirical approach focuses on what actually exist in ~~real~~ reality. It relies on data, evidence and real-life observations. Avoids moral judgment and focuses on reality.

### Normative Approach

It focuses on what ought to be rather than what actually exists. It deals with value, principle and ideals of Public administration. It prescribes how administrative system should operate to achieve fairness, justice and efficiency.

### Key Feature of the Normative Approach

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**Value oriented**

→ Focus on ethics  
Fairness and Justice.

**Prescriptive**

→ Provides Principle and  
Guidelines for administrators.

**Idealistic**

→ concerned with how  
thing ought to be.

**Theoretical**

→ Based on concepts,  
theories and moral considerations.

**Example:** Weber's Ideal bureaucracy

Provides a ~~not~~ normative model for  
an efficient and fair administration system.

- Transparency, accountability and  
meritocracy are normative values.

**Implication for Pakistan's**

**1) Meritocracy**



Promotes hiring and promotion base  
on merit rather than nepotism or  
favoritism.

e.g: Pakistan's CSS exam is ~~the~~ step  
toward merit-based recruitment, but  
Political interference weakens its impact.

**2) Accountability:**

Normative Principle emphasize holding  
Public servants accountable for their  
actions.

e.g In Pakistan, Corruption and lack of  
accountability weaken its performance.

### 3) Transparency

Administration should operate openly with clear rules to avoid corruption.

**Example:** Introduction of Right to Information Law Promotes transparency.

### 4) Public welfare:

This approach stresses that Public administration should focus on serving citizens.

**Issue:** Many administrative systems in Pakistan are slow and inaccessible, delaying public services.

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## Empirical Approach

The empirical approach focuses on what is, rather than what should be. It studies public administration as it exists in real life, using facts, observation and evidence to understand system and processes.

### Key features

- 1) Fact Based → Relies on data, evidence and real-life observations.
- 2) Descriptive → Describes how administrative actually work in practice.
- 3) Practical → Focuses on solving real world problems.
- 4) Objective → Avoids moral judgments and focuses on reality.

**Example:** Sharing the Performance of Government Offices through Surveys and Statistics.

→ Analysis of level of corruption, delays and inefficiency in public services.

## Implications for Pakistan's

The approach helps identify weakness and improve the administrative system through evidence based reform.

### 1) Measuring Efficiency:

It highlights the delays and inefficiencies in Public Service delivery.

**Example:** Surveys of land revenue department show how red tape and corruption delay services like land transfers.

### 2) Identifying Corruption:

It shows how corruption impact

governance and economic growth

**Example:** Reports by Transparency International highlight Pakistan's corruption ranking helping identify problem areas.

### 3) Performance Monitoring:

Empirical methods like key performance indicators, measure the performance of government officials and departments.

**Example:** Monitoring systems like Punjab Citizen Portal provide real-time data on complaint resolution.

## 4) Policy Reforms

Empirical research provides evidence for designing practical policies.

~~Example~~ studies on e-governance success in other countries encourage digital reform in Pakistan to reduce ~~red~~ red tape.

### Comparison b/w both

	Normative Approach	Empirical Approach
Focus	What ought to be	What actually exists
Nature	value-based and Prescriptive	Fact-based and descriptive.
Example	Merit-based recruitment and fairness	Surveying corruption in offices
Key contribution	Setting ideal Principle for reform	Identifying <del>practical</del> Practical challenges

**Conclusion:** By balancing both these approaches, Pakistan can develop a public administration system that is efficient, transparent, and citizen focused. For example, reform like digitalization of services and accountability mechanisms align normative values with empirical evidence, ensuring sustainable improvements.