

Crises of Good Governance in Pakistan

Outline

I. Introduction

II. Understanding Governance and Essential of Governance.

III. Significance of Good Governance in Pakistan

IV. Causes of Crises of Good Governance in Pakistan

Ⓐ Political instability is the foremost cause of governance crises in Pakistan.

Ⓑ Ineffective administration results in governance crises

Ⓒ Poor legal actions and lack of accountability leading cause of governance crises.

Ⓓ Insufficient or absence of social security net stimulates society disruption ultimately resulting governance crises.

Ⓔ Fragile Economy makes government unable to serve people and instigates governance crises in Pakistan.

Ⓕ National disintegration causes deadlock on important issues, so they remained unsolved resulting governance crises.

Ⓖ Security challenges including both traditional and non-traditional threats remain a burden on Pakistan's exchequer reducing efficiency

of institutions and sparking governance crises.

V. Ways to Counter Crises of Governance in Pakistan

- a) By supporting political stability
- b) making judiciary independent and strong
- c) mitigating socio-economic causes
- d) Achieving National integration.
- e) Dealing with Security challenges in more effective way.

VI. Conclusion

Essay

In 2022, when torrential monsoon rains submerged one-third of Pakistan, a parliamentary briefing revealed that several districts lacked disaster response map; as the flood advanced, communication among provinces and districts collapsed. Even province could not issue an evacuation notice on time. This not only shows the Pakistan's vulnerability of climate-induced disasters but also the poor administrative response due to governance crises in Pakistan. Governance can never be ideal in any state either it is developed or developing.

however, the intensity of governance crises is different. Pakistan is one of those countries which are facing governance crises. This crisis may be man-made or sometimes naturally. The factors such as political instability, ineffective administration, insufficient social security nets, fragile economy, lack of national integration, and border issues play an alarming role in instigating governance ^{crises} governance in Pakistan. All of these factors are more or less human-made, and can be resolved by some efforts. However, climate change, which also impacts governance ^{either} directly or indirectly and results natural disasters, requires a unified effort by all over the world. Since all these causes can be resolved, it is possible for Pakistan to combat governance crises and make progress by leaps and bounds. This essay shall discuss all the causes of governance crises including political, socio-economic, legal, and security threats. Furthermore, it will give the suggestions to tackle the governance crises in Pakistan.

Governance, in easy words, is the way of managing state's affairs. According to United Nations, Governance is the process by which authority is exercised in the management of country's social and economic resources for development of people. It also includes a compromise on the divergent points for mutual benefits.

There are some essentials of good governance. In case of absence of these essentials, governance crisis occurs. These are rule of law, responsiveness, effectiveness and efficiency, equity and inclusiveness, transparency, participation, accountability, and consensus orientation. The process or the actions which impact these essentials lead to poor governance in any state, and they should be contained as good governance is very significant in a country.

Good governance is very important for the progress of a country as it plays the role of backbone in the success of any country. The very first benefit obtained from governance is the boost in economy; as far as governance is

is good, foreign direct investment becomes fluent and industrial growth increases. moreover, when people know that they have proper say in policy formulation and framework designs, they participate in them; when public is involved in policy making, policy implementation becomes more effective. As a result, human development is achieved. Thus, for a state good governance is essential.

There are many causes of governance crises in Pakistan.

Political instability is one of many causes of crisis of governance in Pakistan. Political instability is caused by military intervention and opposition parties. furthermore, Election Commission of Pakistan has also failed to conduct a fair and transparent elections. In 2013, when PML-N government came in power, it was accused by PTI for rigging of election; and in 2017, same was done by PML-N. In such a scenario, no government completes its tenure. This inefficiency in governments causes discontinuity in policy formulation

as well as implementation. Since governments cannot work properly for the welfare of people, it results in governance crises.

For instance, Prime Minister's Youth Laptop Scheme is started by PML-N and paused by PTI. Its success or effectiveness of any action lies in continuity, which is missing in Pakistan due to political instability, ~~so~~ it ~~is~~ ^{becomes} a cause of governance crises in Pakistan.

Ineffective administration is the second cause which directly contributes to governance crises in Pakistan by affecting ~~the~~ ^{states} ability to formulate, implement, and evaluate policies. Coordination between different administrative bodies is very important for any project. In case of lack of coordination, it is not possible to proceed project effectively. However, it is missing in case of Pakistan.

As a result, developmental projects ~~use~~ often remain sidelined and government cannot deliver to people what is necessary. For example, the budget for developmental projects ~~are~~ ^{is} prepared by the

planners, while budget of current expenditure is prepared by the Finance Ministry. Due to lack of coordination between them, the projects either cost more than what provided by ^{the} Finance Ministry and are paused before completion or never started at all. Hence, government becomes unable to improve the condition of people and provide facilities. Therefore, governance crisis is caused by ineffective administration.

Poor legal actions and lack of accountability is the third cause which catalyzes the governance crises in Pakistan. Rule of law and accountability are two essentials of governance. Poor accountability and suppressed judiciary result in various crimes, and these crimes especially corruption impacts governance. Since finances are required for the implementation of every project or policy, corruption directly targets these finances and thus, it becomes difficult to implement ~~these~~ ^{projects}. This results in governance crisis. Governance and corruption are interlinked as can be seen by comparing

Pakistan and Singapore. In Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI), Pakistan is ranked 135th out of 180 countries and Singapore is 3rd least corrupt country. The reason of such a difference is conviction rate which is 100% in Singapore. As corruption is least, Singapore is one of those countries with highly good governance, while Pakistan is facing governance crisis due to high corruption. Thus lack of accountability results governance crises in Pakistan.

fragile economy is another cause which makes governments unable to serve people and instigates governance crisis in Pakistan. Since inception, Pakistan's economy has faced setbacks due to lack of innovation, quality additions and technological advancements. This fragility has increased Pakistan's dependence on foreign aids and loans, which restricted the flexibility in responding to developmental works. Due to scarcity of resources, government focuses on debt servicing instead of social services, leaving sectors such as

health, education, and infrastructure under-funded.

Moreover, economic fragility imbalances currency value which increases inflation.

This further erodes public interest in state.

When International Monetary Fund (IMF) provides a loan, it is accompanied by some conditions.

In 2025, these conditions include cutting reliefs and pensions ~~provided~~ earlier. Such

conditions makes governments compelled to adopt non-friendly policies.

~~to follow~~ and thus, fragile economy leads to governance crisis in Pakistan.