

PART-II

Q.7

Digital Transformation of government is often viewed as a remedy for inefficiency and corruption. E-governance initiatives in Pakistan have not achieved their full potential. Digital monitoring and evaluation are weak links in Pakistan's policy cycle. Reforms to strengthen evidence-based policy-making and performance management.

1- Introduction: Digital Transformation and its contour.

Digital transformation is a great initiative ~~but~~ because it is the remedy for inefficiency and corruption. Digital governance has many fruits if it is employed well based on pragmatic approach - It should be focused based on adaptability and capacity-building - In parallel, it should also focus on the incremental change through coordination approach -

Thus, it can bring an immense benefits like digital monitoring and evaluation in Pakistan's public policy.

2- How digital transformation of government is often viewed as remedy for inefficiency and corruption

(A) - Plugging the financial leakages that shrink the space of corrupt officials.

Digital transformation is a key to block the financial leakage because the digital-oversight makes it more hard and difficult for loopholes.

Lot of indiscrepancies occur in the manual mechanism whereas the digital platform is the best mechanism to stop the ~~financial~~ financial losses.

(B) - Biometric Attendance System for employees bring regulation.

Biometric Attendance System (BAS) ensures the regularity of employees bringing more productive and utility of their services for customers or end users. It can eliminate the culture of absentism in Pakistan due to digital transformation.

(C) Online - Oversight to bring strict check and balance.

Digital transformation has also brought an ease to regulate various objectives through online - oversight like video call and pictorial glimpses update in respective folders.

(D) Systematic evaluation and assessment mechanism

Digital transformation also led a systematic evaluation and assessment mechanism that brings a way out to evaluate data based on it pragmatic approaches like cost and benefit analysis - Risk identifications — it also tells that which area is lacking behind and what needs to be done -

3) Reasons behind the failure of e-Governance in Pakistan

(A) Lack of adaptability among the end-users

One of the reasons behind the failure of e-governance in Pakistan is that it lacks the adaptability elements in it - The end-users feel hard and difficult to incorporate the digital platforms - It maybe the lethargic attitude culminating the failure in e-governance -

(B) Absence of capacity-building for its true implementation : Resource-deficit is truly a hurdle behind its success.

Another factor in the failure of e-governance

in Pakistan is the lack of capacity of all employees. Inclusive approach is of dire need in the e-governance. Every employee is the part of governance. Therefore, inclusion of everyone in capacity building is also needed.

(C) Digital Divide between Urban and Rural: A daunting challenge to its pragmatic aspects.

A prevailing digital divide between urban and rural areas impedes the applicability of e-governance. Comprehensive policy cannot be drafted owing to the ground reality that majority of rural is deprived of internet connections.

(D) Absence of well-equipped resources and ~~technical~~ prevalent of technical glitch in its operationalization.

Well-equipped resources foster the essence of e-governance. Due to lack of resource, it cannot fully go for operationalization as prevailing technical glitch is at play. It is the biggest hurdle in its practicality.

4) Rationale behind the weak Links between Monitoring and Evaluation

A visible weak link is ~~not~~ crafted between monitoring and

evaluation factor.

(A) - Resultant of poor and vague coordination between monitoring and evaluation.

For the application of any initiative in e-governance - coordination plays a central role. If the monitoring and evaluation looms around vague and obscure coordination between the key-factors - it seems to fail oftenly weakening the chain between them.

(B) - Rigid and tough monitoring principle weaken the chain due to abrupt enforcement.

Tighter and rigid monitoring principle largely weaken the chain - As it emphasizes on the full-scale implementation which majorly goes to the failure part. Abrupt implementation of any e-governance policy largely fail due to its rigid nature and tough parameters.

(C) - Absence of consideration of ground realities - bring fragility in the policy's cycle.

Another dimension that bring fragility in the policy cycle is the ignorance of ground realities. Largely, ground realities shape the policy - what is to be said and what is to

done have a huge gap in it.

5) Reforms to Strengthen evidence-based policy making and performance management.

(A) Consideration of all data in policy-making through coordination and consultation of all stakeholders.

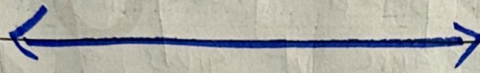
Data's consideration play an important role in strengthening the evidence-based policy making and performance because it gives a pragmatic ideas about any initiatives. Raw-form survey should be conducted at length to craft a realistic-based policy that should address the real problem of the public.

(B) Focus need to be gathered on incremental change rather preferring to institutional reform.

Any reform that is intended to bring that on abrupt pace, it seems to fail at large. Therefore, pragmatism approach argues that small but coordinated reform should be focused. There must be a small changing - adjust within itself - It can be more fruitful and goal-oriented in the longer-run. Therefore, focus should be inculcated/invested on incremental change.

6) Conclusion:

In essence, the above discussion collectively reveal that digital transformation of government is a viable option in the right direction but focus should be made on coordination, capacity building and provision of resources to truly implement any reform agenda - under the umbrella of e-governance.



Q.6

Public Participation and social accountability are vital for democratic governance.

Effectiveness of citizen-led accountability mechanisms in Pakistan. Despite public participation in multiple health and education policies - Pakistan's social indicators remain weak - Analysis of the governance failures responsible for this abysmal outcome -

1- Introduction

Public participation and social accountability are vital for democratic governance as public is considered as an important actor in the governance. Effectiveness of citizen-led accountability can be made through general education.

and local bodies election. Lack of data in health sector, absence of policy implementation and weak safety net due to financial losses — indicates the governance failures in Pakistan. Thus, it is pragmatic to bring out reforms like civil society mobilization committee —

2) How Public Participation and Social accountability are vital for democratic governance.

(A) Public — An Important stakeholder for democratic governance through General election and Local Bodies election:

Public participation is an important practice that improves democratic governance through voting. This is the most powerful weapon which is an important agent of social change. Local bodies and general election is the best accountability mechanism.

(B) Civil society: A key actor in the problem identification that later shapes policy — agenda:

Civil society of a country play an important role in problem identification phase. Problem identification is largely shaped the agenda of policy-makers. It highlights the public issue that target/ affects the larger public —

3) Analysis the Governance failures behind fragile Pakistan's social Indicators.

(A) Pathetic health condition due to poor assessment in public priority and problem identification.

Short-lived and poor assessment in public health often takes a backseat in governance.

The deteriorating health condition is due to poor and pathetic assessment data — that mainly contribute to poor health facilities provision.

(B) Education's downfall is due to policy implementation failure —

In Education sector, largely failure accumulate due to the result of absence of implementation in letter and spirit. Education plays a important role to shape for social change — Thus, 26.3 Million children are out of school.

(C) — Social Safety net's ineffectiveness due to financial leakages: Utility Store Corporation — a Case in Point —

Inadequate social safety net often happens at the expense of poor social protection. Financial losses in social safety net due to

to corruption and mismanagement lead to its closure. Utility Store Corporation incurred both financial losses and mismanagement leading to exit -

(D) - Depleting Women Empowerment and lack of pragmatism in policy implementation -

Women empowerment is the key area that is pushed by public for better good of vulnerable women. But, due to pragmatism issues like lack of realization and actualization also lead to poor indicator in women uplifting socio-economically.

4) Policy Recommendations to improve citizen-led accountability mechanisms in Pakistan

(A) - Arranging monthly meetup of civil society with decision-making power-holder.

There is a need to arrange a monthly - meetup of the members of civil society that contribute to citizen-led accountability and this meeting should be convened at the public place so people share their miseries with policy makers.

(B) - Quarterly Assessment of Issues resolution based on Public heard committee for better results -

A public-led committee namely grievance resolution committee that assesses the prevalent issues and its implementation phases after quarter to bring more effective governance. Therefore, it is imperative to coordinate with the public in its resolution.

(C) - Imparting civic-responsibility through seminars and awareness session for effective governance.

Civic responsibility bring social cohesion and better governance model. For this purpose, there is need to bring awareness sessions and sensitising the issue at community level.

5) - Conclusion In essence, it is understood that public participation social accountability can be strengthened through the inclusion of civil-society and public