BPAG-172: GOVERNANCE: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

Tutor Marked Assignment

Course Code: BPAG-172
Assignment Code: ASST/TMA/July-2026 & January-2027
Total Marks:100

Assignment -A

Answer the following questions in about 500 words each.

1. Discuss the significance of stakeholders involvement in governance citing suitable examples. 20
2. Examine the role of participatory structures and tools in ensuring good governance. 20

Assignment -B

Answer the following questions in about 250 words each.

3. Explain the concept and forms of governance. 10
4. Examine the concept and theories of development. 10
5. Write a brief note on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) initiatives in India. 10

Assignment -C

Answer the following questions in about 100 words each.

6. Describe the functioning of Panchayati Raj Institutions. 6
7. Write a note on Governance Indicators. 6
8. Describe the Millennium Development and Sustainable Development Goals. 6
9. Discuss the principles of corporate governance. 6
10. Write a note on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). 6

1. Discuss the significance of stakeholders involvement in governance citing suitable examples. 20

Answer

Governance is the process through which public decisions are made, implemented and reviewed. It involves much more than the work of government departments. People affected by a decision, as well as organisations capable of influencing it, are called stakeholders. They may include elected representatives, civil servants, citizens, local bodies, businesses, voluntary organisations, experts, the media and community groups. Their involvement makes governance more informed, responsive and legitimate.

Better identification of public needs. Citizens possess practical knowledge about local problems which officials may not fully understand. For example, people in a drought-prone village can identify drinking-water sources, broken hand pumps and the needs of distant hamlets. If they participate in the Gram Sabha, the panchayat can select suitable works rather than spending its funds on less urgent projects. Consultation is especially useful when different neighbourhoods experience a policy differently.

Democratic legitimacy and public trust. Elections provide representative authority, but democracy also requires dialogue between elections. Public hearings, consultations and representation of community groups allow affected people to explain their views. Decisions become easier to accept when the reasons and trade-offs are openly discussed. Inclusion of women, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, persons with disabilities and poorer households is particularly important. Without their voice, the most influential groups may dominate a meeting and describe their own interests as the public interest.

Improved quality of policy and implementation. Different stakeholders bring different resources. Administrators contribute legal authority and coordination; professionals contribute technical knowledge; communities contribute local experience; civil society organisations mobilise people; and firms may supply skills or services. In a public-health vaccination programme, health workers manage vaccines and safety, local volunteers explain the programme, school authorities help reach families and community leaders counter rumours. Cooperation can increase coverage while keeping medical decisions in professional hands.

Transparency and accountability. Participation enables people to question expenditure and compare promises with actual delivery. Social audits of public works, access to records under the Right to Information Act and discussions in local meetings can reveal unpaid wages, missing facilities or poor-quality construction. Community monitoring of schools may identify teacher shortages or unusable toilets. This helps prevent the misuse of public resources and gives