

# A Theoretical Estimate on Development Administration in the Light of Third World Periphery

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## 1. Introduction

Development administration is one of new areas in modern administration of third world and developed countries. It is a goal oriented approach to nation building process of countries achieved independence from colonial power. Most of third world countries had to face challenges in construction of their nation after getting long expected freedom from imperialism. During colonial rule these countries were run by imperial government and its traditional bureaucracy just for exploiting its resources and masses. They did not have any interest to betterment and welfare of colonised masses. Therefore, no development and welfare projects were taken by them. It hardly thought of socio economic, political, education, health and any infrastructural development for common people. Instead of it, colonial government destroyed the local and indigenous economic system of colonised nation. After having independent government of such countries have made sincere attempt for infrastructural and all round development through long term objectives, projects, policies and planned economy. In this situation, as a protest against traditional administration the concept of development administration emerged in modern administration.

### Objectives of Study

Main objectives of the proposed study are

- 1) To unveil Theoretical Meaning of Development Administration
- 2) To analyse causes of growth of development administration
- 3) To understand distinction between traditional and development administration
- 4) To focus on principles of administration in the light of the third world periphery
- 5) To make a critical estimate on success and failure of it.

## 2. Methodology

The proposed study has been made to unveil basic tenets of Development administration with the help of historical and analytical method. Data used for it from secondary source. Logic used here both deductive and inductive. The proposed study is limited to third world periphery.

### Meaning of development administration.

Before explaining meaning of development administration it is necessary to say that there are two views regarding its meaning. One is narrow meaning and other is broad meaning. Narrow meaning of development administration

holds that development administration is a process of generating existing and new resources and techniques for development of poor or underdeveloped countries. On the other hand, administrative thinker like Lucian Pye, Riggs etc. have defined that "development administration is a broad and comprehensive process of nation building of newly emerged countries on the basis of its historical background"<sup>1</sup>. Similarly Donald Stones analysed the concept of development administration in terms of **4Ps** -- plans, policies, programmes and projects towards the achievement of developmental goals.<sup>2</sup> Hence, Development administration is concerned primarily with the tasks and process of formulating and implementing the four Ps. So, on the basis of such definitions it can be concluded that development administration is an effective process and method over all development of administrative mechanism for bringing long term benefit and progress of nation. It gives importance on increasing strength, capabilities and effectiveness of administrative system.

### Two Points of development administration

Development administration can be understood from two points --- Administration of Development and administrative development. Administration of Development means what kind of development and change is to be applied in administration. And administrative development means the new method and technique of administration.

### Administration of development is concerned with following factors---

- 1) Innovation at all levels of planning.
- 2) Importance to the development at grassroots level.
- 3) Development of human capital as a resource.
- 4) Politics and administration must go hand in hand to establish rapid change in society and bring about just and distinct social order.
- 5) Freedom of administrative machinery to express ideas, views for the most effective and efficient use of natural resources.

So, Development administration is concerned with increasing and improving the capabilities of the administrative system. The developmental goals are to be carried out successfully with efficiency and effectiveness. There is the need of increasing the capacity of those involved in developmental activities.<sup>3</sup>

### Administrative development focuses on following principles

- 1) Increase decision making capacity.

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- 2) Development of skill and problems solving method in difficult situation. issues in the personnel.
- 3) Giving importance to training, effective use of technology like to bring about change in Administrative approach.
- 4) Increasing administrative capacity, capabilities, removing corruption and bringing in more accountability.
- 5) Creating leaders out of bureaucrats for promotion of development initiatives.

This is identified with organizational development—government departments, public enterprises, regulatory agencies, public corporations, cooperative institutions, etc. The government machinery is responsible for achieving the broader socio-economic and political goals.

### **Traditional and development administration**

The above mentioned principles have shown that development administration is totally uncommon and different concept of traditional public administration. However, the differences between traditional public administration and development administration can be viewed from the following heads:

- 1) **Distinction in Ecology:** Administration is as old as the Government. But it is the product of its ecology and environment. We know that old or traditional administration was under colonial environment or ecology. It was run for only colonial system. But development administration was created in new environment and ecology after independence. <sup>4</sup>
- 2) **Distinction in Objective:** Development administration is completely separated from the traditional administration in the objective view. Objectively they are different from each other. Development administration has its own object to be fulfilled for betterment own people and national development .But traditional administration aimed at general law and order situation for own purposes.
- 3) **Distinction in Scope:** The objectives of the administrative systems determined their scopes .Scope of the traditional public administration is very limited. On the other hand, for the multiplicity of the nature of development, the scope of development administration is very wide. It deals with the different dimensions of the society like political economic administration.
- 4) **Distinction in Nature:** Development Administration is Creative and innovative in nature. Development Administration is involved in experimental and creative ideas. It undertakes new programs for the welfare of the people. It prescribes positive thinking and application of policy. Traditional administration is the direct opposite to the development administration; its nature is too mechanical and not concerned with welfare of people. <sup>5</sup>
- 5) **Activities:** Traditional public administration plays reactive or undiplomatic or thoughtless role. Measures are taken when problems arise. On the other hand development administration is positive and dynamic in nature. It thinks of the problem and takes long measures before arising problems.
- 6) **Relation to the people:** Traditional public administration is confined within office. Development Administration is field oriented. That is why;

development administration maintains close relation and contact with people.

- 7) **Static and Dynamic:** One of main differences between development and Traditional public administration is that the later is static and the former is dynamic. Traditional public administration is concerned with the maintenance of stability in the society. But development administration is highly concerned with the changing ecology.
- 8) **Public Accountability:** In the Traditional public administration accountability not necessarily goes to the people. But the civil servants in development administration are always accountable to the people as it is employed for the people.
- 9) **Structures:** Structure of the Traditional public administration is very simple and it displays differentiations. Development Administration has a complex structure.
- 10) **Leadership:** In traditional public administration democratic leadership is avoided. But in Development Administration democratic leadership is exercised for having cooperation from the people.
- 11) **Decision Making:** Decision Making is centralized in traditional public administration almost there is no role of the people in the decision making process. In development administration people plays active role in decision making.
- 12) **Motivation:** The methods of motivation in development administration are indirect and in traditional public administration, it is direct.

### **Characteristics of Development Administration:**

Although the administration system of different countries differs from different countries from one another yet we look upon them from the point of view of the as defined above.

**Elements of Development Administration:** There are four special elements of development administration and they are ---:

- Substantive. (B) Managerial. (C) Elements Relating to Social Change. (D) Political Elements.
- a) **Substantive elements are** - Technical and Socio-Political development in the society is to be created by administration.
  - b) **Managerial Elements:** The main aim of the managerial element is to enforce development plan properly, to mobilize every administrative unite and to make skilled executive system.
  - c) **Elements relating to Social Change:** Social change is an important element of development administration. Social change means mental and characteristically change of people in accordance with the governmental planned goals.<sup>6</sup>
  - d) **Political Elements:** Political element is one of the important elements of development administration. Development in Economic and political administration sector is important for the development administration. The main reason for this is that all the plans and decisions of the government are taken by the administrative elite. So without politics development administration cannot go on.

### 3. Features of Development Administration

It has many features. The main features of development administration are as follows –

- 1) **Planned and Coordinated Efforts-**  
Development administration in operational terms refers to organized efforts to carry out development programmes and projects in the direction of state building and socio-economic progress. Planning and coordination have become important in organizing efforts.
- 2) **Goal-oriented Administration-**  
Development administration is not just public administration in the sense of carrying out activities; it is a goal-oriented administration with emphasis on achieving social and economic goals.
- 3) **Management Capacities**  
Development administration involves creating and enhancing management capacities as a means for achieving development goals.
- 4) **Participation of people in modern techniques**  
Progressive realization of social and economic goals by developing countries has been considered an important task of governments of these countries.
- 5) **Creativity and Innovativeness**  
An important element in development administration is creativity. The term 'creativity' is often understood as the ability and power to develop new ideas. On the other hand, 'innovation' generally means application of these ideas.
- 6) **Responsiveness and Accountability**  
Development administration is required to be responsive and accountable. A top-down/bottom-up flow of communications and initiative is recognized as the main element in accountable administrative capacity.
- 7) **People centred Administration**  
Development administration is essentially a people-centered administration. It aims at serving the people. Development programmes and projects which are drawn up by the planners and administrators aim at benefiting the people.<sup>7</sup>
- 8) **Keeping in Touch with Social Realities**  
In contrast to the traditional administration, development administration is required to keep in touch with realities, including grassroots situations, local problems, etc.

### 4. Critical Evaluation

Undoubtedly development administration is more effective and creative than traditional administration. Its philosophical foundation is positive and outstandingly rich in comparison to old system of administration. But it is not free from limitation. First of all, every nation need capital and financial capacity for running developmental projects and policies. In this situation, third world and developed countries are largely dependent upon first world nation like USA, Britain etc and international organisation like WHO, IMF, WTO etc. As for example, India, Nepal, Pakistan are running many development projects by taking loans, grant from such organisations, nations . Secondly, development administration is not sustainable due to frequent changes of

governments in third world countries. Maximum project, scheme and programmes are politicised in developing countries. Thirdly, though development administration is called as people oriented but in real practice, character of bureaucracy and political elites are not different from colonial system. Fourthly, corruption has polluted administrative system and due to red tapism no development project complete in due time. Fifthly, development and displacement are two sides of administration. Present four lane project in Assam, Normoda dam, Lower Sowansiri Dam etc are burning examples of displacement and development. Lastly, no administration will successful without peoples' participation. But illiterate and poor people can hardly think of participation in administration than their daily livelihood.

But can we ignore relevance of Developmental Administration? It has a long impact upon nation building process. It is highly concerned with all round development of a nation and people in general. Limitation does not affect its importance. Since the earliest inception of development administration third world countries are forwarding steps by steps. It is that branch of public administration which is concerned with the development of a country's economy and society. The System of development administration depends on the socio-political system existing in a country.

### References

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- [4] Niru Hazarika, Loka Prashan , Students' Stores (1999) Pp.391 -392
- [5] Ibid.
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