

→ Public Administration as a practice includes all the activities of the government to provide service to People. (2)

→ Since, administration exists at every level - individual, family, civil societies, political organizations, social orgs, cultural organizations, religious organizations etc. So, Public Admⁿ has many layers and many contexts including management of affairs, manipulative efforts to achieve certain goals.

* The Public Admⁿ ^{has} no Unanimous definition but it has as many definitions as the numbers of name of scholars and theorists.

In this regard Dwight Waldo mentioned —
‘Percepts flow from theory and theory flows from the percepts’, the govt. administration is ever evolving and today Pub. Admⁿ is all encompassing’.

→ The theories & Principles are constrained by time and surroundings (environment).

Since the environment is ever changing and dynamic, the practice is ever evolving. As a result, the definition

suffers from limitations in future.

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there exist some school of thought, which tried to define Pub. Adm. They are as follows —

- (i) narrow & Broad views
- (ii) Political school of thought
- (iii) Legalistic view
- (iv) Public weal
- (v) Process view
- (vi) Subject-Matter view
- (v) Market view

(i) narrow & Broad view :

Acco. to narrow view PA is the study of executive branch of the government, which is responsible for enforcement and implementation of law.

Herbert Simon, Smithburg, Thompson, Gyert and EN bladder believed in this view.

Acco. to broad view, the government in action does not mean executive branch only but it should include executive, legislature, judiciary and their interdependence.

Woodrow Wilson, John Pfiffner, Marshall Simock, Willoghby, Nigro believe in this view.

(ii) Political School of thought:

Acco. to this school Pub. Ad. should not be studied only for the state.

Robert Dahl & David Easton believed Pub. Admⁿ should deal with the allocation of resources.

As per this school Pub. Admⁿ is the study of state & non-state institutions and may ~~be~~ extend to anti-state institution. This is because the governance in narals-affected or insurgent prone areas will be different from the governance in relatively peaceful areas.

Legalistic View:

Acco. to Marshall Dimock, L.D. White, Woodrow Wilson etc. PA is a discipline which deals with the study of enforcement of law.

Further it is about ensuring fulfillment of the public policy.

Wilson remarked, Pub. Ad. is about systematic and detailed implementation of public law.

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The legalistic view was challenged on the ground that PA should not confine to legal aspects of the state but should encompass both legal & non-legal aspects of the state. The study may extend to illegal aspects of the state/govt.

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For example-

overthrowing a govt., laws which deter from the Constitution & normal legislation.

Public Weal: (welfare)

Acco. to this PA is the study about the welfare related to the govt., it deals with those activities which bring about 'welfare of the people'.

This view was criticized for only talking about welfare activities and excluding others, which also comes under the state like - overthrowing govt., a new law etc. which may look democratic but it may not like that.

Process View:

Acco. to this PA is all about the study of tools and techniques and processes of administration.

Luther Gullick and Lyndall Urwick are two pioneers in process school of thought. They are well-known for their 'POSDCORB'. ⑥

Acco. to them 'Administration is Administration' whether public, non-public, religious or cultural.

This view was challenged by Subject-matter view.

Subject-matter view:

Also called as Substantive or Content view. This view believed that PA is not mere study of tools, techniques and processes. but it also deals with the studies of policies and subject-matter.

This view broadened the scope of Public Administration, it became ~~the~~ multi-disciplinary in nature.

For example: Health policies should consider issues of health problems, medical science, population, demography etc.

Market View:

Acco. to this view PA deals with the activities which are financed out of tax-payers money. Also as per this view the state faced a no. of limitations in attaining the collective goals. And there are many institutions

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which are outside the state but bring about welfare of the people.

Therefore, the state should work with such institutions (non-state institutions) to attain the collective goals.

For example: To provide education to all private & NRO's are playing a major role.

-The PA has gone beyond the realm of the state & govt.. The single-actor paradigm is being replaced by multi-actor paradigm.

Now PA includes all the institutions which are financed out of tax-payers money.

there is no Unanimous definition of PA. Every view on PA is constrained by time & circumstances as 'State' is ever evolving & changing.

So, ultimately the study of Pub. Admⁿ is ever evolving and escapes Unanimity.

Dwight Waldo once remarked "every single sentence or paragraph on definition of Pub. Admⁿ is a mental paralysis rather than enlightenment and stimulation"

Administration is affected by social, political and cultural environment and the environment is never static, So 'Administration' is never static rather 'ever changing and evolving'. (8)

Definition of PA given by various scholars

Woodrow Wilson:

PA is detailed & systematic application of law.

Luther Gulick:

PA is that part of ~~govt.~~ the science of Adminⁿ, which has to do with the govt.

J. M. Pfiffner:

Pub. Admⁿ consist of getting the work of govt. done by coordinating the efforts of people so that they can work together to accomplish their set tasks.

Scope of Public Administration:

Since the meaning of public Admⁿ is not well-defined, the scope of the Pub. Ad. is also not well-defined.

There is a dilemma in defining the scope of the PA i.e. what all are to be included and what all are to be excluded.

Dwight Waldo said the scope of Public Administration is based on government in action.

once the govt. in action is well-established then the scope of Pub. Admⁿ can be well-defined. But the govt. in action is vacillating and ever evolving, thus the scope of PA is also ever evolving & changing.

The scholars like - Willoughby, McQueen, Pfiffner and walker had defined the scope of PA in different ways.

Acco. to Willoughby, the scope of Admⁿ includes the major aspects of orgn - ~~orgn~~

(i) Overhead Administration

- Managerial Functions
- POSDCORB
- Tools & Techniques

(ii) organization

- the structure of the orgn such as hierarchy, span of control.

(iii) Material and Supply

- Building
- Procurement

(v) Finance

- Accounting, Auditing and Budgeting.

(iv) Personnel Management

- Recruitment, selection and Transfer
- Promotion and Posting

According to McQueen, the scope of Public Administration should include 3M's

- Men
- Materials
- Methods

John Pfiffner divided the scope of PA into two major heads - Principles and Spheres.

The Principles of PA include orgn, mgmt of personnel, method and procedure, materials and supply, public finance and administrative responsibility.

The Sphere of administration, includes the study of various levels of orgn. it includes central and state govt., its regional and local authorities and also public corporations.

Walker came up with very similar ideas with that of Pfiffner.

He divided the scope of Public Administration into two parts

- Administrative theory
- Applied Administration.

includes

- Concepts
- Theories
- Verified generalization relating to structure
- organization
- functions
- methods of all types of public authorities.

includes

✓ Study of specific administrative system and their problems like - Hospital admin