Bureaucracy in India

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Abstract

India's present administration is a specimen of ancient administrative system and prehistoric regimes. Although in its present form it is fully influenced by the development of British rule, its ancient remains can be seen in the Indus valley civilization and in the political and administrative structures of the oldest empires. Keeping in view the simplicity of the study in this research paper, the development of bureaucracy in India has been cited under separate points.
1. Bureaucracy in Ancient India.
2. Bureaucracy in Medical
3. Bureaucracy in British Colonial Era
4. Bureaucracy after Independence
Keywords: *Bureaucracy, Retain Amatya, Sutradhar, Diwan-e-Insha*e

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1. INTRODUCTION

India's present administration is a specimen of ancient administrative system and prehistoric regimes. Although in its present form it is fully influenced by the development of British rule, its ancient remains can be seen in the Indus valley civilization and in the political and administrative structures of the oldest empires. Keeping in view the simplicity of the study in this research paper, the development of bureaucracy in India has been cited under separate points.

2. BUREAUCRACY IN ANCIENT INDIA

Evidence of Bureaucracy in India's oldest history is found in the Indus Valley civilization. In view of the systematic structure of most of the cities of Indus Civilization, standard and planned construction of measurable weights, many scholars believe that entire Sindhu region was organized under the same vast empire, whose administration was in the hands of a huge Bureaucracy. After the Indus Valley Civilization, due to the prevalence of small states in the Rig Vedaic era, there was presence of only a few officers in the administrative system. But in the post vedic period when the change of 'Jan' was happening in 'Janpad', there was an increase in the number of administrative officers. In terms of administrative facilities, many departments have been formed in the states. During this period, the government used to operate the administration with the help of 'Ratnin'(minister and administrative staff).

There was also a major role of Bureaucracy in the republics of Buddhist era. Although in the republics of Buddhist era the actual power was contained in the sabha (assembly), whose member were often all rich and poor citizens, but the description of *Mahamatya , Voharik, Sutradhar, Atthakul, Senapati and Upraja* put considerable light on the importance of bureaucracy in that time of republics.

In this order, there are many detailed descriptions about the important role of bureaucracy in Maurya administration. Since a completely autocratic-centralize government was established in the Maurya Empire, so the well-structured system of the huge bureaucracy was a great need of that time **(Deva 1984)**. In Maurya period, 18 departments were created in terms of the convenience of the administration, which was called the *'Tirtha'*. There was a president for the operation and inspection of each department, which was called *Amatya (*Gautam, Mishra and Gupta, 2016). In fact *Amatya* refers to the bureaucrats, administration and judiciary. Since they actually administer the state, their importance is next to the sovereign ruler. Kautilya gave detailed explanations of the appointment and work of these *Amatyas* in his *Arthshastra.* Administration was controlled by the elites. This led to recruitment in administration on the basis of caste, heredity etc. **(Chand, 1961:152)**.

This arrangement of the ancient bureaucracy continued with the slightest change in the era of Gupta, Satvahana, Chola and Pallava dynasties of the post Mauryan era and continued to perform basic work like bureaucratic administration and system maintenance as a powerful medium of administrative base **(Panda,1978:05)**.

3. BUREAUCRACY IN MEDIEVAL INDIA

In the medieval (sultanate) India there was a fundamental structural change in the central power and the foreigner Muslims were ruling as a new ruling class. These rulers intervened in India's traditional education-initiation, ethics, social traditions, religious beliefs and governmental practices. In fact, administration of the Sultanate was originally a military administration. Sultans

of Delhi had make managements for a systematic arrangement of officers from the beginning of their rule. Sultan's position was supreme arrangement of officers from the beginning of their rule. Sultan's position was supreme in governance. The government was divided into several departments such as *Vajrat, Diwan-e-Arij, Diwan-e-Rasalat and Diwan-e-Insha* etc. These departments were placed in the control of different officers who used to provide assistance to Sultan in governing his governance. It is also worth mentioning here that there were many similarities in the administration system in Delhi Sultanate and in the earlier governance system of country. In both systems, the ruler was head of the executive and armies and was considered the source of justice. There was no change at the lower levels to government; the person who collected revenue was also almost identical.

In this order, the system of strong bureaucracy continued to be firmly established during the Mughal period. Although the Mughals attempted to introduce some new methods in the administrative system by introducing the system of *Mansabdari,* the basic element of this administrative system were those which were initially adopted by the Mauryas, which were developed by the Sultanate rulers and the British colonial rulers, provided them lasting pattern in the governance system.

4. BUREAUCRACY IN BRITISH COLONIAL ERA

It is important that the establishment of British East India Company's rule in India was not sudden. In fact, establishment of British role was progressively completed in several stages from 1757 AD. The establishment of British State under the company in India laid the foundation for unprecedented development of public services in India. The bureaucracy represented the state as against the native people who enjoyed only second class status in their own country **(Khanna, 1984: 160-163)**. The structure and function of the Indian bureaucracy during the British regime was highly conditioned by the politics and economics of colonialism. The process of industrialization was not allowed to flourish in India by the British rulers and the pace of modernization of the Indian society and economy was considerably slowed down **(Prasad, 1974: 109-110).**

Lord Cornwallis was the first governor in the British governor generals who felt the need for a strong and cohesive bureaucracy in terms of administrative convenience. According to the centrally sponsored scheme of year 1781, the revenue board was formed. Six year later, in 1787, the work of district was established East Indian college was established in the year 1806 in Hailey bury, England, in which bi-annual course of civil service officers stated. Haileybury imbued its young graduates with the ideals of honesty and performance and created traditions spirit of public service **(O'Malley, 1965:18)**. But along with this the trend of Europeanization of civil services continued.

The trend of Europeanization of civil services could eventually be terminated in the time of Lord William Bentinck's tenure. Lord William Bentinck's arranged for appointment of Indians on upper administrative positions. As a result, Indians also got an opportunity to participate in the administration. By this time, two types of services, namely, the covenanted and uncovenanted were born in the colonial administration of India, in which European citizens had a monopoly on the covenanted services. In the year 1854, covenanted Services were opened for the Competition by Sir Charles Wood based on the recommendations of the committee formed under the chairmanship of Lord Macaulay. Thus, arrangements of competition examinations were made for appointment in the Indian Civil Service (ICS).

In the year 1858, after the end of the company rule and establishment of the government of British crown, the administration system became the owners of India and was liable to the public, they began to consider themselves to be liable to each other. In fact, the demand for improvement in the administration came in rapid progress. In this background, three Royal Commissions were appointed from 1886 to 1923, whose recommendations made significant contributions to the development and history of Indian Public Services.

In this regard, the first commission **(Echis on commission 1886)** advised the government to end the Statutory Civil Service System and set up the Provincial Public Service Commission. Although the commission rejected the proposal for conducting simultaneous examination in England and India for recruitment in the Covenanted Service, however, on the basis of other recommendations of the commission, the government ended the separation of the covenanted and uncovenanted services which was being run in the company services. Two new cadres of public services called imperial and provincial were formed.

The second commission (Islington commission 1912) gave its approval to the proposal for simultaneous examination in England and India for recruitment in administrative services. The commission also recommended that 25 percent posts in Indian higher services be kept safe for Indian and those selected for these safe positions should be taken by the Indian direct recruitment system and the rest should be promoted from the provincial public services. Apart from this, the commission also recommended the establishment of Central Service Class First and Central Service Class II below Imperial Services in the Government of India.

In the same sequence, the third commission, which is known as Lee commission 1923, recommended the removal of some all-India services, especially those services which were related to the matter, where as the commission recommended Indian Civil Service, Indian Police Service, Indian Forest Service and Indian Medical Service etc. to keep running.

Based on the recommendations of the above commission, the structure of the bureaucracy was created; India received its legacy in 1947 after its independence. In the article 312 of Indian Constitution, two all Indian Services, called Indian Administrative Service and Indian Police Service, have been mentioned (The constitution of India, 2015:211). In the year 1966, the third all India Service was formed in the name of the Indian Forest Service. In addition to presently in various provinces, there is also a large and powerful structure of provincial civil Service.

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