

What is Governance?

Chapter 10: Grassroots Democracy – Part 1: Governance · Topic 1

Key Concept

Governance involves making laws, maintaining order, providing public services (like schools and hospitals), and resolving disputes fairly among people.

Good governance is characterised by transparency, accountability, and responsiveness to the needs of the people being governed.

Governance happens at different levels - local (like a village or city), state, and national - each responsible for different areas of decision-making and services.

Understanding governance helps citizens know their rights, responsibilities, and how to engage with the systems that manage their community and country.

Quick Revision Notes

- Governance means managing and making decisions for a community or country.
- Governance involves laws, order and public services.
- Governance also resolves disputes fairly.
- Good governance is transparent and accountable.
- Good governance is responsive to people's needs.
- Governance happens at local, state and national levels.
- Each level handles different responsibilities.
- Understanding governance helps citizens engage with their community.

Practice Questions

- 1 Discuss what governance means in your own words.
- 2 Research the different levels of governance in India.
- 3 Discuss an example of a public service provided by governance.
- 4 Explain what transparency in governance means.
- 5 Discuss why accountability matters in governance.
- 6 Research how citizens can engage with local governance.