

UPSC

ROLE OF CIVIL SERVICE IN DEMOCRACY

Conceptually, Bureaucracy & Democracy are polar opposites. Democracy means powers in hands of people, whereas Bureaucracy means powers in hands of permanent officials. Permanent CS has become an inevitable fact of modern & contemporary governance. It is said that bureaucrats have become NEW DESPOTS. It thrives under cloak of ministerial responsibility.

Some have compared Bureaucracy with Frankenstein's Monster which kills its own creator. There are some debatable issues related to permanent officials. ICS once considered to be "steel frame" are now regarded as "cheap alloy". This points towards increasing corruption, politicization, lack of professionalism. It is because of their prominent role that states in India, Pakistan are known as "Over developed state" or "Bureaucratic Oligarchies" rather than Democracy in true sense. It is also due to prevalence in corruption that India earned title of "Soft State". Though in principle we reject committed bureaucracy, but practice there is politicization of bureaucracy & its neutrality is challenged.

PURPOSE

- To have professional public service in country
- To maintain Quality of Administration
- To ensure unbiased recruitment
- To protect interest of persons in these services

First public service Commission was created in 1926. After independence, Constituent Assembly recognised need to give service of autonomous states to public service commissions — State & Union, both.

Article 315, provides for composition of UPSC. It comprises of Chairperson & other members. The no. of other members is not fixed. In case of UPSC & joint public service commission, no. is determined by President, and by Governor at state.

It does not prescribe qualifications for its members except that atleast half of members shall be from services, i.e. those who had held offices under Govt or under any state for atleast 10 yrs.

In order to ensure autonomy & professional integrity there are restrictions on further appointment of Chairperson as well as ordinary members.

FUNCTIONS

- to be consulted by GOI on all matters related to
 - Recruitment to services & post under Union
- to be consulted on principles of Employment, transfer, department & disciplinary matters -
- Article 320 (4) reduces SC's advisory jurisdiction in -
 - giving effect to provisions of Article 16 (4)
 - wrt claims of SC/STs under Art 355 dealing with efficiency of Administration