**National Seminar**

**On**

**“GOOD GOVERNANCE IN PRACTICE IN THE 21ST CENTURY”**

**(Date 12th February, 2020)**

**Organized by:** Department of Public Administration, Pachhunga University College, Aizawl, Mizoram

In the last twenty years, the concepts of “governance” and “good governance” have become widely used in both the academic and donor communities. These two traditions have dissimilar conceptualisations. First, there is the academic approach, which focuses mainly on the study of the different ways in which power and authority relations are structured in a given society. Second, there is the donor community’s approach, which puts emphasis on the role state structures play in ensuring social, economic and policy equity and accountability through open policy processes.

According to the academic approach, the generic understanding of governance is the management of resources and policy-making by means of exercising authority (power). Thus, it entails all instruments through which different policy stakeholders exercise legal rights with the aim to achieve political, economic, cultural and social objectives. In this sense, the term “governance” appears to be more and more used in order to denote a complex set of structures and processes (at the public as well as at the private level), which are generally associated with national administration.

“Good governance” is a normative conception of the values according to which the act of governance is realized, and the method by which groups of social actors interact in a certain social context. The lack of a generally accepted definition of the concept is compensated by the identification of principles that strengthen good governance in any society. The most often enlisted principles include: participation, rule of law, transparency of decision making or openness, accountability, predictability or coherence, and effectiveness. The international donor community generally shares the view that these principles stand at the foundation of sustainable development. The first characteristic refers to equal participation by all members of society as the key element of good governance, with everyone having a role in the process of decision-making. Secondly, good governance implies the rule of law maintained through the impartiality and effectiveness of the legal system. Rule of law also means the protection of human rights (particularly those of minorities), independent judiciary and impartial and incorruptible law enforcement agencies. The rule of law involves a variety of conditions, being strongly connected to good administration of justice, good legal framework, verified dispute mechanisms, equal access to justice, and the independence of judiciary workers (lawyers, judges).

Good governance is also based on the transparency of the decision-making process, which ensures that information is freely available and accessible to those involved or affected by the decisions taken. Transparency therefore means free access to information. Last, but not least, accountability and responsibility (of the institutions, just as much as of the civil society) are key requirements of good governance, with all of the participants in the political and economic processes being accountable for their decisions to each other. The concept of good governance emerged mainly because practices of bad governance, characterized by corruption, unaccountable governments and lack of respect for human rights, had become increasingly dangerous, and the need to intervene in such cases had become urgent. Good governance has become an important element of the political and economic agendas, and has meanwhile been better specified along with the proliferation of good practices that take the concept into consideration. Beyond entailing just multiparty elections, a judiciary and a parliament, which have been identified as primary components of Western-style democracies, good governance goes on to address several other central issues.

Thus, Good Governance is being recognized as an important goal by countries across the world. Several nations have taken up specific initiatives for open government. Take for example the present NDA government at the centre, which talks about bringing good governance in the society. In a more profound manner, which were hardly seen before in the Indian Political System. As a result, there is a conscious effort to put the citizen as the point of focus in governance.

**The objectives of the seminar are the following:**

1. Determining the features of appropriate governance in public and private principle.
2. To understand the role of Good Governance in the Public Sectorin encouraging better service delivery and improved accountability by establishing a benchmark for good governance in the public sector.
3. The role of Good governance in engaging stakeholders and making accountability real.
4. Transparency in Government transactions.
5. Addressing the problems due to lack of good governance and exploring alternatives
6. Participatory Governance - at local levels & people’s Participation.
7. Help the organization/development practitioners to improve partnership mode with civic society and build better corporate responsibility through good governance.

**The issues/subthemes to be covered in this seminar will be:**

1. Good Governance and Peoples’ Participation.
2. Legislature and Good Governance.
3. Good Governance and Development.
4. Good Governance in the Public Sector.
5. Good Governance and Accountability.
6. Good Governance and the Role of Civil Societies.
7. Use of Technology and Innovations in Promoting Good Governance.
8. Good Governance approaches
9. Various issues and challenges in front of Good Governance in our society.

**Registration and Call for Papers:**

Papers are invited on the sub-themes of the Seminar.Extended abstract and papers to be presented should be sent through Email with a hard copy (A-4 Size). The text should be double-spaced throughout and with a minimum of 3cm for left and right hand margins of 5cm at head and foot. Text should be in Times New Roman 12 point. Abstracts should be in 250-300 words.Full papers of accepted abstracts in APA format may be submitted in MS word format only. Selected papers presented during seminar will be published as edited volume with ISBN Number. However, the decision of the jury will be final for selection of the papers to be published.

The Registration form and the Abstract/Paper should reach the Department of Public Administration Pachhunga University College, Aizawl on or before the dates cited below.

**Receipt of Abstracts : 6th January, 2020**

**Receipt of Full Papers : 27th January, 2020**

Please send Abstracts/Papers to

Dr. Lalropari Renthlei

Co-cordinator

Phone : 9862210233

Email : **parteirenthlei21@gmail.com**

**TA/DA/Boarding and Lodging**

The participants will have to bear their TA/DA. Deparment of Public Administration, PUC, may be contacted for accommodation,(on twin-sharing basis), breakfast and dinner.

**Registration fee**

i) Participants : Rs. 200.00

ii) Paper Presenters : Rs. 500.00

The Registration fee is non refundable.

**Venue**

Seminar Hall

Pachhunga University College

1. Aizawl