

Difference between Public Administration and Private Administration

Introduction

Public Administration is an indispensable aspect of any system, without which the

concept of its construction and functioning remains inconceivable.

Companies, firms, labor

unions, religious institutions, political parties, and other established human organizations require

a set of rules for their smooth functioning, and the realization of these rules is achieved through

the Public Administration

Every organization requires structure and organization, but the nature of the structure and

organization of an entity depends on its inherent characteristics. Therefore, the structure and

organization of private or non-governmental organizations are referred to as 'Private

Administration', while the structure and organization of government organizations are termed as

'Public Administration'

Objectives

The objectives of this Unit are to: understand the definition of public and private administration. study the differences between public and private administration. study the similarities between public and private administration.

Public and Private Administration

In 1887, in his published article 'The Study of Administration,' Woodrow Wilson

introduced the philosophy of the Politics-Administration Dichotomy. Wilson insisted that

politics and administration are distinct realms. Politics pertains to the formation of public policy, legislation, and decision-making, and it is the domain of statesmen. In contrast, administration

involves the execution of laws and the implementation of public policy, and it is the realm of

administrative experts. Woodrow Wilson believed that the government administration in America was suffering from inefficiency and that it needed the rigorous discipline of the 'Science of Administration' to rescue it from all its maladies. Wilson compared government administration to business administration, stating that administration lacked economy, efficiency, and effectiveness, similar to business administration. Woodrow Wilson undoubtedly aimed to improve public administration, aligning it with principles of business administration. However, it is worth noting that he did not overlook the differences between public and private administration. He was well aware that there was a significant difference in structure, functions, and objectives between the two. Now, let us discuss the similarities and differences between public administration and private administration. Thinkers like Paul H. Appleby, Sir Josiah Stamp, Herbert Simon, Peter Drucker, and John Gaus argue that there are distinctions between public administration and private administration. In contrast, Henri Fayol, Mary Parker Follett, and Lyndall Urwick advocate for their similarities.