



## **Economic Administration and Good Governance in India: An Analytical Study**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Economic administration and good governance constitute the backbone of sustainable development and inclusive growth in India. This paper analytically examines the evolving relationship between economic administration and the principles of good governance in the Indian context. It explores how policy formulation, institutional mechanisms, administrative efficiency, transparency, accountability, and rule of law shape economic performance and public welfare. The study highlights major economic reforms, governance frameworks, and institutional arrangements that have influenced India's administrative capacity, particularly in the post-liberalization era. Emphasis is laid on fiscal management, regulatory governance, digital administration, and public service delivery as key dimensions of economic governance. The paper also identifies persistent challenges such as bureaucratic inefficiency, corruption, policy implementation gaps, and regional disparities that constrain effective economic administration. By analysing these aspects, the study underscores the need for strengthened governance mechanisms, institutional reforms, and participatory administration to ensure efficient resource management and equitable socio-economic development in India.

**Keywords:** Economic Administration, Good Governance, Public Policy, Institutional Reforms, Sustainable Development

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Economic administration and good governance are central to the functioning of the modern state, particularly in a developing economy like India, where the objectives of growth, equity, and social justice must be pursued simultaneously. Economic administration refers to the processes, institutions, and policy mechanisms through which the government plans, regulates, mobilizes, and allocates economic resources for national development. Good governance, on the other hand, emphasizes transparency, accountability, efficiency, participation, and adherence to the rule of law in public administration. In the Indian context, the relationship between economic administration and good governance has evolved significantly over time, especially in response to structural changes, globalization, and rising public expectations. Since independence, India has experimented with different models of economic management, ranging from state-led planning to market-oriented reforms, each demanding corresponding administrative capacities and governance frameworks. The economic reforms initiated in the early 1990s marked a decisive shift in the role of the state from direct control to facilitation and regulation, thereby redefining the nature of economic administration. This transition underscored the importance of governance quality in ensuring policy effectiveness, fiscal discipline, regulatory efficiency, and inclusive development. Effective economic administration supported by good governance is essential for improving public financial management, enhancing service delivery, attracting investment, and reducing socio-economic disparities. However, challenges such as bureaucratic rigidity, corruption, policy implementation gaps, and uneven regional development continue to affect governance outcomes. In this backdrop, an analytical study of economic administration and good governance in India becomes crucial to understand how administrative structures, institutional reforms, and governance practices influence economic performance and development outcomes. Such an analysis not only provides insights into the strengths and weaknesses of India's governance framework but also helps identify pathways for



strengthening administrative efficiency and accountability in pursuit of sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

### **Need Of the Study**

The study of economic administration and good governance in India is essential in view of the country's ongoing efforts to achieve sustainable, inclusive, and equitable development. Rapid economic changes, expanding welfare responsibilities, and increasing public expectations have placed greater demands on administrative efficiency and governance quality. Despite significant economic reforms and institutional restructuring, issues such as policy implementation gaps, fiscal stress, bureaucratic delays, corruption, and regional imbalances continue to challenge effective economic management. A systematic analysis is therefore required to assess how far existing administrative mechanisms adhere to the principles of good governance and how they impact economic outcomes. This study is needed to bridge the gap between policy formulation and execution by identifying structural and institutional constraints within economic administration. It also contributes to academic and policy discourse by offering insights that can support governance reforms, strengthen accountability, and enhance the effectiveness of economic policies in India.

### **Scope Of the Study**

The scope of the present study is confined to an analytical examination of economic administration and good governance in India, with particular emphasis on policy formulation, institutional mechanisms, and administrative practices influencing economic governance. The study covers major dimensions such as public financial management, regulatory administration, fiscal and economic reforms, digital governance, and public service delivery systems. It focuses primarily on the post-liberalization period while drawing relevant references from earlier phases to provide contextual understanding. The analysis is based mainly on secondary data sources, including government reports, policy documents, scholarly articles, and institutional studies. The study does not undertake micro-level field investigations but aims to present a macro-level perspective on governance performance. By identifying key challenges and best practices, the study seeks to evaluate the effectiveness of governance frameworks in economic administration and their role in promoting transparency, efficiency, and inclusive economic development in India.

### **Concept Of Economic Administration**

Economic administration refers to the systematic organization, management, and execution of government policies and programmes aimed at regulating and directing the economic activities of a nation. It encompasses the institutional framework, administrative processes, and policy instruments through which the state mobilizes resources, formulates economic plans, regulates markets, and ensures balanced socio-economic development. In a developing country like India, economic administration plays a pivotal role in translating economic objectives into practical outcomes by coordinating between various governmental departments, regulatory bodies, and public institutions. The concept extends beyond mere policy formulation to include implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and corrective interventions. Key areas of economic administration include fiscal and monetary management, industrial and agricultural policy, trade and investment regulation, public sector management, and welfare administration. Effective economic administration requires administrative efficiency, institutional coordination, transparency, and accountability to ensure optimal utilization of public resources and equitable distribution of benefits. Over time, the nature of economic administration in India has evolved from centralized planning and state control to a more market-oriented and regulatory approach, particularly after economic liberalization. This shift has increased the importance of governance quality, regulatory capacity, and administrative adaptability. Thus, economic administration can be



understood as the operational backbone of economic governance, linking policy intent with developmental outcomes while balancing efficiency, equity, and sustainability in the broader process of national development.

### **Meaning And Dimensions of Good Governance**

Good governance refers to the manner in which authority is exercised in the management of a country's economic, social, and administrative affairs, with an emphasis on ethical conduct, institutional effectiveness, and citizen-centric decision-making. It goes beyond the traditional notion of government to include the processes, structures, and values that ensure accountability, transparency, and responsiveness in public administration. In the context of India, good governance is closely linked to democratic principles, constitutional values, and the pursuit of inclusive and sustainable development. The dimensions of good governance are multifaceted. Transparency ensures openness in decision-making and access to information, enabling citizens to hold authorities accountable. Accountability requires public officials and institutions to be answerable for their actions and performance. The rule of law emphasizes fair legal frameworks, impartial enforcement, and protection of rights. Participation highlights the involvement of citizens, civil society, and stakeholders in policy formulation and implementation. Efficiency and effectiveness focus on the optimal use of public resources to achieve desired outcomes, while equity and inclusiveness ensure that development benefits reach all sections of society, particularly marginalized groups. Together, these dimensions form the normative foundation for evaluating governance performance. In India, strengthening these dimensions is essential for improving policy implementation, reducing corruption, enhancing service delivery, and building public trust, thereby reinforcing the link between good governance and effective economic administration.

## **2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

### **1. New Public Management (NPM)**

New Public Management (NPM) provides an important theoretical lens for understanding reforms in economic administration by emphasizing efficiency, effectiveness, accountability, and performance-oriented management in the public sector. Rooted in private-sector management practices, NPM advocates decentralization of authority, managerial autonomy, competition, and results-based evaluation of public institutions. In the context of India, NPM principles have influenced several administrative and economic reforms, particularly since the post-liberalization period. Initiatives such as outcome-based budgeting, performance audits, public-private partnerships, and the use of digital platforms in service delivery reflect an effort to reduce bureaucratic rigidity and improve administrative efficiency. NPM assumes that efficient economic administration can enhance policy implementation, fiscal discipline, and service quality. However, critics argue that excessive reliance on market-based mechanisms may overlook equity and social justice, which remain critical objectives in India's development agenda.

### **2. Good Governance Theory**

Good Governance Theory broadens the scope of economic administration by integrating ethical, institutional, and participatory dimensions of governance. It emphasizes core principles such as transparency, accountability, rule of law, responsiveness, participation, equity, and inclusiveness. In India, this theory is particularly relevant due to the country's democratic structure, socio-economic diversity, and emphasis on welfare-oriented policies. Good governance theory highlights that effective economic administration depends not only on efficient systems but also on fair and accountable decision-making processes. It provides a framework for evaluating how policies are formulated and implemented, how public



resources are managed, and how citizens are engaged in governance processes. The theory underscores the importance of institutional integrity, anti-corruption mechanisms, and citizen-centric administration in achieving sustainable and inclusive economic development.

### **3. Institutional Economics Perspective**

The Institutional Economics Perspective focuses on the role of formal and informal institutions in shaping economic performance and administrative outcomes. Institutions such as laws, regulatory frameworks, property rights, and enforcement mechanisms significantly influence the effectiveness of economic administration. Applied to India, this perspective helps explain challenges such as regulatory complexity, coordination failures, bureaucratic delays, and regional disparities. It also emphasizes that weak or inefficient institutions can undermine policy effectiveness, regardless of sound economic planning. Institutional economics thus stresses the need for continuous institutional reforms to strengthen governance capacity, reduce transaction costs, and enhance credibility in economic administration.

## **Evolution Of Economic Administration in India**

### **1. Pre-liberalization Period**

In the pre-liberalization period, economic administration in India was largely shaped by a state-led development model aimed at achieving self-reliance, social justice, and planned economic growth. Following independence, the government assumed a dominant role in economic management through centralized planning, extensive regulation, and the expansion of the public sector. The administrative framework was characterized by detailed controls over production, investment, trade, and prices, commonly referred to as the “license-permit-quota raj.” Institutions responsible for economic administration focused on implementing Five-Year Plans, managing public sector enterprises, and regulating private economic activity. While this approach helped build a basic industrial base and address early developmental challenges, it also led to bureaucratic inefficiencies, rigid procedures, slow decision-making, and limited competitiveness. Economic administration during this period emphasized control and compliance rather than efficiency and outcomes.

### **2. Post-liberalization Reforms**

The post-liberalization era, beginning in the early 1990s, marked a fundamental transformation in India’s economic administration. Economic reforms aimed at liberalization, privatization, and globalization significantly reduced state controls and redefined the role of the government from direct intervention to facilitation and regulation. Administrative reforms focused on simplifying procedures, improving regulatory frameworks, encouraging private investment, and integrating the Indian economy with global markets. Economic administration increasingly emphasized efficiency, fiscal discipline, transparency, and accountability. The introduction of market-based mechanisms, regulatory authorities, digital governance initiatives, and performance-oriented public management reflected a shift toward outcome-based administration. However, the transition also posed new challenges related to regulatory capacity, coordination, and inclusive growth.

### **3. Role of Economic Planning and Policy Institutions**

Economic planning and policy institutions have played a crucial role in shaping the evolution of economic administration in India. Central institutions responsible for planning, finance, monetary policy, and sectoral regulation have guided policy formulation and implementation across different phases of development. Over time, these institutions have adapted to changing economic priorities by moving from centralized planning to strategic policy coordination, cooperative federalism, and evidence-based decision-making. Their evolving



role reflects the changing nature of economic administration in India, balancing growth objectives with governance reforms, institutional strengthening, and inclusive development goals.

### **Principles And Indicators of Good Governance**

#### **1. Transparency**

Transparency is a core principle of good governance and refers to openness in decision-making processes, availability of information, and clarity in governmental actions. It enables citizens to access public information, understand policy decisions, and monitor administrative performance. In the context of India, transparency initiatives such as access to information frameworks, open data platforms, and digital disclosure mechanisms have strengthened public scrutiny of economic administration. Transparency acts as a deterrent to corruption and enhances trust between the state and citizens by ensuring that economic policies and resource allocations are conducted in an open and understandable manner.

#### **2. Accountability**

Accountability implies that public officials, institutions, and policymakers are answerable for their decisions and actions and are subject to appropriate oversight and sanctions. It includes administrative, political, legal, and financial accountability mechanisms. In India, accountability is reinforced through legislative oversight, audit institutions, judicial review, and performance evaluation systems. Effective accountability ensures that economic administration aligns with policy objectives, public interest, and ethical standards, thereby improving governance outcomes and administrative credibility.

#### **3. Rule of Law**

The rule of law ensures that governance is conducted within a fair, predictable, and impartial legal framework. It emphasizes equality before the law, protection of rights, and independent enforcement of legal provisions. In economic administration, adherence to the rule of law promotes regulatory certainty, protects property rights, and facilitates economic activity. In India, strengthening legal institutions and regulatory enforcement is essential for improving investor confidence and ensuring equitable economic governance.

#### **4. Efficiency and Effectiveness**

Efficiency and effectiveness focus on the optimal use of resources to achieve desired policy outcomes. Efficient economic administration minimizes waste, delays, and procedural complexity, while effectiveness ensures that policies achieve their intended social and economic goals. Administrative reforms, digital governance, and performance-based management in India aim to enhance these dimensions.

#### **5. Participation and Inclusiveness**

Participation and inclusiveness emphasize the involvement of citizens, stakeholders, and marginalized groups in governance processes. Inclusive governance ensures that economic policies reflect diverse interests and promote equitable development. In India, participatory mechanisms strengthen democratic accountability and improve the legitimacy of economic administration.

### **3. LITERATURE REVIEW**

The literature on economic administration and good governance provides a broad analytical foundation for understanding how governance structures influence economic performance and development outcomes, particularly in developing regions such as India. Ahmed and Ghani (2007) examine growth and regional integration in South Asia, emphasizing the role of effective economic administration in facilitating cross-border cooperation, trade expansion, and policy coordination. Their work highlights that weak governance and administrative



fragmentation often limit the benefits of regional integration, thereby constraining economic growth. The study underscores the importance of institutional capacity, regulatory harmonization, and coordinated economic policies as prerequisites for sustainable development. This perspective is particularly relevant for India, where economic administration must balance national development priorities with regional and global economic integration.

A significant strand of literature focuses on governance reforms and welfare administration. Aiyar and Tillin (2020) analyze India's evolving welfare architecture and its implications for governance, arguing that administrative restructuring and digitization have transformed state-citizen interactions. Their study suggests that governance outcomes depend not only on policy intent but also on implementation capacity, accountability mechanisms, and institutional design. The authors highlight that while new welfare delivery mechanisms have improved efficiency and reduced leakages, they have also introduced challenges related to exclusion, coordination, and administrative overload. This work contributes to understanding how economic administration intersects with governance quality, particularly in the delivery of public services and welfare programmes.

The normative and ethical dimensions of governance are extensively discussed by Dreze and Sen (2013), who critique India's development trajectory by linking economic growth with social justice and institutional accountability. They argue that economic administration cannot be evaluated solely on the basis of growth indicators, but must also be assessed in terms of its impact on health, education, inequality, and human development. Their analysis highlights governance failures in public service delivery and stresses the need for transparent, accountable, and people-centric administration. This perspective reinforces the argument that good governance is central to ensuring that economic policies translate into inclusive and equitable development outcomes.

From a theoretical standpoint, Fukuyama (2013) and Grindle (2004) provide influential frameworks for understanding governance in developing countries. Fukuyama conceptualizes governance as the capacity of the state to design and implement policies effectively, emphasizing institutional quality and administrative competence. Grindle's notion of "good enough governance" challenges idealized governance models and argues for context-specific reforms that prioritize feasibility and poverty reduction. These theoretical insights are complemented by Kapur, Mehta, and Vaishnav (2018), who analyze India's public institutions and highlight structural constraints such as bureaucratic inertia, coordination failures, and political economy factors. Collectively, these studies form a robust literature base that informs the present analysis by linking economic administration, institutional capacity, and good governance within the Indian context.

### **Economic Reforms and Governance Mechanisms**

#### **1. Liberalization, Privatization, and Globalization (LPG)**

The adoption of Liberalization, Privatization, and Globalization (LPG) reforms marked a significant turning point in the economic governance framework of India. Liberalization reduced excessive state controls, deregulated industries, and simplified licensing procedures, thereby enhancing administrative flexibility and market efficiency. Privatization aimed at improving the performance of public sector enterprises by reducing fiscal burdens, encouraging competition, and promoting private participation in economic activities. Globalization integrated the Indian economy with global markets through trade liberalization, foreign direct investment, and financial openness. These reforms reshaped economic administration by shifting the role of the state from direct producer and controller to



facilitator and regulator. Governance mechanisms were redesigned to support competitive markets, regulatory oversight, and policy coordination, though challenges related to equity, regulatory capacity, and social inclusion persisted.

## **2. Fiscal and Monetary Governance**

Fiscal and monetary governance constitute critical pillars of economic administration, ensuring macroeconomic stability and sustainable growth. Fiscal governance focuses on efficient public expenditure management, revenue mobilization, fiscal discipline, and transparency in budgeting processes. Reforms such as fiscal responsibility frameworks, outcome-based budgeting, and strengthened audit mechanisms have enhanced accountability in public finance management. Monetary governance, led by autonomous monetary authorities, emphasizes price stability, financial sector regulation, and monetary policy transmission. In India, improved coordination between fiscal and monetary authorities has strengthened economic governance, though balancing growth objectives with inflation control and fiscal sustainability remains a continuous challenge.

## **3. Digital Governance and E-Administration**

Digital governance and e-administration have emerged as transformative governance mechanisms in India's economic administration. The use of digital platforms for service delivery, financial transactions, taxation, and public procurement has improved transparency, efficiency, and accessibility. E-administration reduces bureaucratic delays, minimizes human discretion, and enhances citizen engagement with economic institutions. Digital governance also supports data-driven policymaking and real-time monitoring of programmes. However, issues such as digital divide, cybersecurity, and institutional capacity highlight the need for inclusive and secure digital governance frameworks to fully realize the benefits of economic reforms.

## **Role Of Institutions in Economic Administration**

### **1. Central and State Governments**

The Central and State Governments play a pivotal role in shaping and implementing economic administration in India. The central government is primarily responsible for macroeconomic policy formulation, national planning priorities, fiscal and monetary coordination, trade policy, and regulatory frameworks, while state governments focus on sectoral development, public service delivery, and regional economic management. Cooperative federalism has strengthened coordination between these levels, enabling more responsive and decentralized economic administration. Effective collaboration between central and state authorities is essential for policy coherence, fiscal balance, and equitable regional development.

### **2. Regulatory Bodies**

Regulatory bodies are critical institutions in economic administration, ensuring fair competition, consumer protection, and market stability. Independent regulators oversee sectors such as finance, telecommunications, energy, and competition, establishing rules, monitoring compliance, and addressing market failures. In India, the growing importance of regulatory institutions reflects the shift from direct state control to rule-based economic governance. Effective regulatory bodies enhance transparency, reduce arbitrariness, and build investor confidence, although challenges related to regulatory capacity, coordination, and autonomy remain.

### **3. Financial Institutions**

Financial institutions form the backbone of economic administration by mobilizing savings, allocating credit, and supporting investment and development. Banks, development financial



institutions, and non-banking financial entities facilitate economic growth through credit delivery, financial inclusion, and risk management. In India, reforms in the financial sector have aimed at strengthening governance, improving prudential regulation, and enhancing transparency. Sound financial institutions contribute to macroeconomic stability and efficient resource allocation, making them integral to effective economic administration.

#### **4. Local Self-Governments**

Local self-governments play an increasingly important role in decentralized economic administration and grassroots governance. By managing local resources, implementing development programmes, and delivering public services, they bring economic administration closer to citizens. Strengthening institutional capacity, fiscal autonomy, and accountability at the local level enhances participatory governance and ensures that economic policies address local needs and priorities.

#### **Assessment Of Good Governance in Economic Administration**

##### **1. Policy Implementation Effectiveness**

Policy implementation effectiveness is a key indicator of good governance in economic administration, as it reflects the ability of institutions to translate policy objectives into tangible outcomes. In India, despite well-formulated economic policies, gaps often arise at the implementation stage due to administrative capacity constraints, inter-departmental coordination issues, and procedural delays. Good governance enhances implementation effectiveness by promoting clear accountability structures, performance monitoring, and feedback mechanisms. The use of outcome-based frameworks, real-time data systems, and decentralized execution has improved policy responsiveness, though variations across sectors and regions persist.

##### **2. Public Financial Management**

Public financial management (PFM) is central to assessing governance quality in economic administration, as it determines how efficiently public resources are mobilized, allocated, and utilized. Sound PFM practices include transparent budgeting, fiscal discipline, effective expenditure control, and robust audit and oversight mechanisms. In India, reforms aimed at strengthening budgetary transparency, fiscal responsibility, and digital financial systems have improved accountability in public finance. Effective public financial management reduces wastage, curbs corruption, and ensures that economic priorities align with developmental goals, thereby reinforcing good governance principles.

##### **3. Service Delivery Systems**

Service delivery systems represent the most visible interface between economic administration and citizens, making them a crucial measure of governance performance. Efficient service delivery ensures timely, accessible, and quality provision of public services such as health, education, welfare schemes, and infrastructure. In India, governance reforms have focused on simplifying procedures, leveraging technology, and improving last-mile delivery to enhance service outcomes. Citizen-centric approaches, grievance redress mechanisms, and performance benchmarking have strengthened service delivery, although challenges related to capacity, inclusiveness, and regional disparities continue to affect overall governance effectiveness.

#### **4. CHALLENGES IN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE**

##### **• Bureaucratic Inefficiency**

Bureaucratic inefficiency remains a persistent challenge in economic administration, affecting policy formulation, implementation, and service delivery in India. Rigid procedures, excessive paperwork, hierarchical decision-making, and limited administrative autonomy



often result in delays and reduced responsiveness. Despite administrative reforms and digital initiatives, procedural complexity and capacity constraints continue to hinder efficient governance. Bureaucratic inefficiency not only increases transaction costs but also weakens public trust in economic institutions and governance systems.

- **Corruption and Rent-Seeking**

Corruption and rent-seeking pose significant obstacles to good governance and effective economic administration. These practices distort policy outcomes, divert public resources, and undermine institutional integrity. In India, corruption can manifest through bribery, favoritism, and misuse of discretionary powers, particularly in areas involving licensing, public procurement, and resource allocation. Rent-seeking behavior reduces economic efficiency, discourages investment, and exacerbates inequality. Although transparency measures, regulatory reforms, and digital governance have reduced some opportunities for corruption, challenges persist due to weak enforcement and accountability mechanisms.

- **Regional Disparities**

Regional disparities in economic development and administrative capacity present a major governance challenge. Differences in infrastructure, human capital, fiscal capacity, and institutional effectiveness across states and regions lead to uneven economic outcomes. In India, economically weaker regions often face greater governance constraints, limiting their ability to effectively implement development policies. These disparities hinder inclusive growth and place additional pressure on economic administration to balance regional equity with national development objectives.

- **Policy Coordination Issues**

Policy coordination issues arise from the complexity of governance structures involving multiple ministries, levels of government, and regulatory agencies. Lack of coordination can lead to policy overlap, conflicting objectives, and inefficient implementation. In India's federal system, effective coordination between central, state, and local governments is essential for coherent economic administration. Weak coordination mechanisms can dilute governance effectiveness and reduce the overall impact of economic policies.

## **5. METHODOLOGY**

The present study adopts a descriptive and analytical research design to examine the relationship between economic administration and good governance in India. The research is primarily based on secondary data, collected from authoritative sources such as government reports, policy documents, economic surveys, publications of international organizations, research journals, and scholarly books related to public administration and governance. Relevant governance and economic indicators were selected to assess administrative performance and governance outcomes over time. Content analysis and comparative analysis techniques were employed to interpret trends in economic reforms, institutional mechanisms, and governance indicators. Tabular presentation of data was used to support analytical interpretation and enhance clarity. The study also draws upon established theoretical frameworks, including New Public Management, Good Governance Theory, and Institutional Economics, to provide a conceptual basis for analysis. Qualitative assessment was undertaken to identify key challenges, reform initiatives, and governance gaps in economic administration. While the study provides a comprehensive macro-level understanding of governance practices, it does not include primary field surveys or interviews. The findings are therefore limited to the scope and reliability of available secondary data, but they offer

valuable insights into the effectiveness of governance mechanisms in India’s economic administration.

**6. RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

**Table 1: Selected Governance Indicators in India (2015–2023)**

Year	Government Effectiveness	Regulatory Quality	Control of Corruption
2015	52.4	55.1	41.8
2017	54.2	56.3	43.5
2019	56.1	58.0	45.9
2021	57.6	59.4	47.2
2023	59.8	61.7	49.6

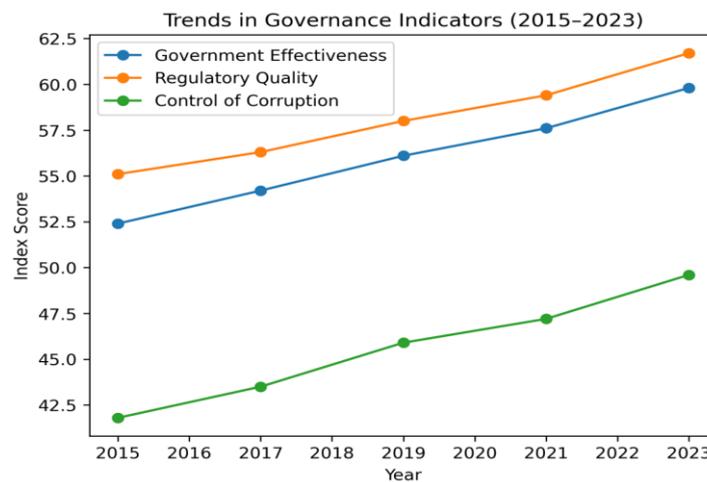


Table 1 presents a trend-based assessment of selected governance indicators in India over the period 2015–2023, highlighting changes in government effectiveness, regulatory quality, and control of corruption. The steady rise in government effectiveness from 52.4 in 2015 to 59.8 in 2023 indicates improvements in the quality of public services, policy formulation, and implementation capacity. Regulatory quality also shows consistent enhancement, reflecting reforms aimed at simplifying regulations, improving ease of compliance, and strengthening market-oriented governance. Although control of corruption records gradual progress, its relatively lower scores compared to other indicators suggest that corruption remains a significant challenge. Overall, the table reflects positive governance momentum, while also underlining the need for stronger accountability and anti-corruption mechanisms within economic administration.

**Table 2: Performance of Economic Administration Outcomes in India**

Indicator	2015	2019	2023
Tax-to-GDP Ratio (%)	16.8	17.4	18.1
Ease of Doing Business Rank*	130	63	40
Digital Public Service Coverage (%)	45	68	82
Public Expenditure Efficiency Index	0.52	0.60	0.67

Table 2 illustrates the outcomes of economic administration reforms in India by examining key performance indicators across 2015, 2019, and 2023. The tax-to-GDP ratio shows a moderate increase, indicating improved revenue mobilization and better tax administration



efficiency. A significant improvement is observed in the Ease of Doing Business rank, moving from 130 in 2015 to 40 in 2023, reflecting regulatory simplification and investor-friendly reforms. The sharp rise in digital public service coverage demonstrates the growing role of e-governance in enhancing transparency, accessibility, and service delivery. Additionally, the improvement in the public expenditure efficiency index suggests better fiscal management and accountability. Collectively, these indicators highlight the positive impact of governance reforms on economic administration, while emphasizing the need for sustained institutional strengthening.

## **7. CONCLUSION**

Economic administration and good governance are inseparably linked in shaping the developmental trajectory of India. The analytical examination undertaken in this study highlights that effective economic administration is not merely a function of sound policy design, but is fundamentally dependent on the quality of governance frameworks, institutional capacity, and administrative integrity. Over time, India's economic administration has evolved from a centrally planned and control-oriented system to a more market-driven, regulatory, and digitally enabled framework. This transformation has underscored the growing importance of transparency, accountability, efficiency, rule of law, and participatory governance in managing economic processes and public resources. While economic reforms and governance mechanisms have improved policy responsiveness, fiscal discipline, and service delivery, persistent challenges such as bureaucratic inefficiency, corruption, regional disparities, and coordination gaps continue to constrain governance effectiveness. The study demonstrates that strengthening institutions, enhancing administrative professionalism, and promoting cooperative federalism are essential for improving governance outcomes. Furthermore, inclusive and citizen-centric approaches, supported by digital governance and institutional reforms, are critical for ensuring that economic growth translates into equitable and sustainable development. In conclusion, the success of economic administration in India ultimately depends on continuous governance reforms that balance efficiency with equity, market orientation with social responsibility, and administrative innovation with institutional accountability, thereby reinforcing good governance as a cornerstone of long-term economic development.

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