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OPEN GOVERNMENT DATA: TYPES, PRINCIPLES AND BENEFITS

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ABSTRACT

In the olden times government collect and preserve data in the form of paper files and books for future references. Now the Open Government Data movement starts and government focusing on making available government data in open access. Open Government Data helps in creation of new business, economic growth, strengthen democracy, more transparency in government functioning. In this paper a detailed study is conducted to discuss the types, principles and Benefits of OGD.

KEYWORDS: *Open Government data, types of OGD, Principles of OGD, Benefits of OGD.*

INTRODUCTION :

Open data is the data that is freely available to everyone without any mechanism of control such as copyright or patent. The main feature of Open Data is it is free to use reuse and redistribute by anyone. In case of Open government Data the data is produced by the government or government agencies and make it in online platforms and must be complete, primary, timely, structured , accessible, machine process able, non-discriminatory, non-proprietary and without any controllable mechanism or licensing.

TYPES OF OPEN GOVERN-MENT DATA

Now the question is how and why the need of open government data arises when US president Barack Obama introduced the memorandum on transparency and open government. For open government open data work as a fuel which plays main role in it. High value datasets are available to use which are arranged, accurate and specific. The government agencies collect the various types of data from national, state and district levels. After collecting the data made available in digital form. Open data is scattered on different government and community websites and available at a single point access. Indian government on it open government data website (Data.gov.in) covers the 33 different sectors ranging from Agriculture, Art and Culture to Science and technology, travel and tourism etc. Data types are categorized broadly as under

1.Business and Financial: Financial and business data plays a major role in the

growth and development of a country. in the financial data various types of data available such as financial, performance of a particular country, state or district, cash transactions reports, financial intelligence unit in the country, currency reports, key financial data of public sector banks and GDP percentage and resources etc. Users can download reports in CSV, XLS or PDF format.

2 Statistical: The data available in statistical form are easy to use and help in knowing the progress of a country. Statistical data are collected by surveys and census and after applying standard techniques, extensive scrutiny and supervision make available. By comparing the statistical data people compare the progress of two different countries. Ex GDP growth of India in last ten years

4. Social: Social data is the main thing which tell us the standard of living of a particular country andis a indicator of growth of a country, state and group. social data present on various concepts such as social welfare services, life expectancy, male female sex ratio, literacy rate, child labor, pucca kutcha houses, electrification in villages.

5. Geographic and Transport: Geographic and transport data are very much important growth indicator of a country. Geographic data provide the web map of a country and its parts and also the geographical demography of different places of a country like what type of the soil, river, plantation, forests etc of a particular place and transport data provide the information about the railways and road projects, total length of roads, railway tracks, types of highways, highways connectivity etc.

6. Environmental and Metrological: Data related to the environmental and metrological are needful for the person who is travelling to different places. Data available on this portal are shows the weather condition, weather forecasting, annual rainfall, water level and forest of the country etc.

PRINCIPLES OF OPEN GOVERNMENT DATA

A government data will be considered as a open data if it accord with the following principles. Various working groups and expert works on the principles of open government data finally following are the main principles;

1. COMPLETE: All public data is made available and the public data is not subject to valid privacy, security or privileges limitations, as governed by other statues. Data are electronically stored information in the form databases, transcripts, documents, audio/visual recording etc.

2. PRIMARY: Data are published as collected from the source not in the form of aggregate or modified. If data is primary people can build applications and synthesizes ideas from that.

3. TIMELY: Data are made available as quickly as possible without any delay to preserve the value of data so that citizens can make the use of data in a right time. Data relate with some ongoing policy or law passed by the government requires higher standard of timeliness.

4. ACCESSIBLE: Data are available to the widest range of users for the widest range of purposes. Data are fully described so that consumers can understand it completely. Digital data must be in easily downloadable form and support all technical features/formats. Data users can understand the abbreviations used in data and sufficient documentation require to describe the data fully. Data are in Multilanguage so that language may be not obstacles in accessing or understanding the data.

5. MACHINE PROCESSABLE: Data are reasonably structured to allow automated processing of it. It is mandatory open data must be maximum technical access. This principles guides the choice of file format. when publishing document it is important to avoid scanned images of printed documents but it can be in PDF format which is recommended for certain types of documents. It defines the quality of data also.

6. NON-DISCRIMINATORY: Data are available to anyone without any registration or application and without requiring the detail of users. Anonymous access to data must be allowed for public data.

7. NON-PROPRIETARY: Data are available in a format over which no entity has exclusive control. There should be no proprietary control over the data in a way that who can use the data how can use the data and who can share the data. It Must be open for all and it depends upon the users where and how he can use this data.

8. LICENSE-FREE: Data are not subject to any copyright, patent, trademark or trade secret regulation. Reasonable privacy, Security and privileges restrictions may be allowed as governed by other statues.

Benefits of Open Government Data

BENEFITS OF OPEN GOVERNMENT DATA

1. Inter Department data sharing:

In a government there are various departments to function and all departments are interconnected with each other for performing their jobs or to execute the various projects. Before the open data movement it was difficult, time consuming and complicated to share data between departments. By this the function and work culture efficiency of governments departments improves.

2. Help in Decision making:

Open government data helps the government and its public administration departments in making the decision making regarding the core area where to implement the new government schemes/ policies/services and or continuing the existing government policies which is based on the facts.

3. Make people understandable:

Always we people question or point out that why government take this decision why not that if government data is open and people can understand in a better way that decision are fact based which restore trust and acceptance in people regarding government decision.

4. Transparency in government:

The government is accountable to citizen of the country regarding their function and work culture. And if government data is open definitely it helps in curbing the corruption and mismanagement in government works.

5. Better government citizen relationship;

Open Government data works as a catalyst for the better citizen government relationship. If the OGD make available to the citizen timely it empowers and supports the citizen and makes them more active voice in society.

6. Collective Practice:

Open Government data helps all citizens, governments, private sectors, academia, NGOs to work collectively to fight and solve the problem of society

7. Direct contact with government:

Citizen can access the government data easily without any control mechanism. Which is very much useful in their relevant field's people of all walk of life such as farmer, businessmen, academician, entrepreneurs, students and researchers to know what is new and informative happening in their field and engaged with government.

8. Authentic, updated and Timely Information:

Earlier to locate any information from the government people have move from one office to another which take a lot of time. After that right to information act passed in India and people files RTI applications to locate the information but if data is open it will reduce the burden of the government offices and also the information receiver hence the information on OGD is authentic and updated. which enables effective use of government resources.
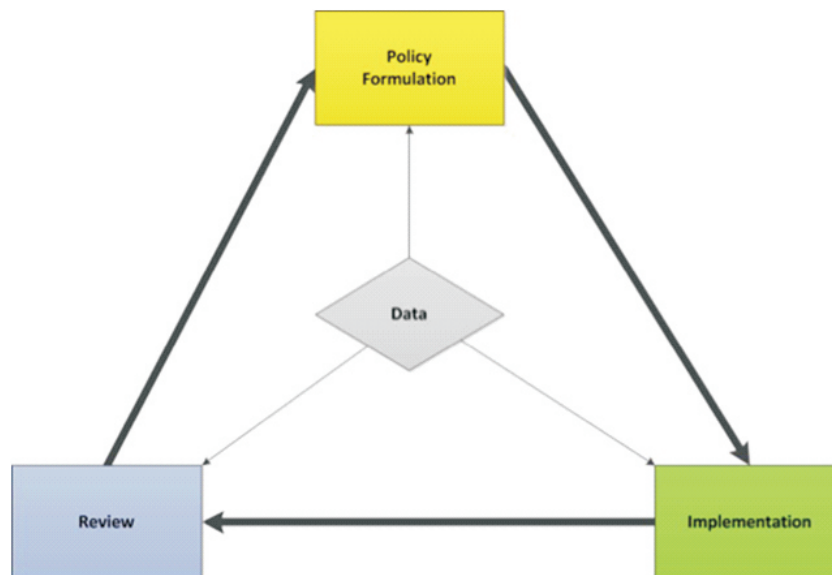
9. Make Citizen Smart:

Citizen of the country are in direct contact with government and its offices. And earlier people have psychological fear that the government official may ask why you need this data in case of OGD any one can get and use for his any purposes.

CONCLUSION

Open Government Data is the key tool in government functioning, decision making, policy making etc. Due to increasingly digitization and digital society open data generate positive effects. Open Government Data increased transparency, participation, collaboration, initiative, and opportunities for the citizen of the country. People are directly monitoring and the functioning of government by OGD and which brings transparency in government functionalism. Open Government Data brings transparency, innovation, efficiency and participation.

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