

Management Theory & Practice

WITH CASE STUDIES



Dr. Vandana Jain

PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION

I am very proud to bring out the first edition of this book for readers. The book attempts to provide balanced coverage of all the key elements comprising the basics of management, in a style that is informative and interesting. The book will serve the purpose of a companion because it has theoretical principles and case studies to sharpen the analytical and decision making skills. For the convenience of the readers, I have tried to contain the length of main text of the book to around 350 pages.

The book is not solely about theories, but about using theory to better explain the concepts of management. The book has been written in a highly readable style, balancing theory with practical application and offering clarity of presentation. It covers the essential body of knowledge in the area of management, so that it can be used for introductory courses in colleges and universities. The book will also prove useful to a wide variety of readers. It will be understandable to the lay person who has had no formal education in management. It will be helpful to students in various management courses who feel the need for a concise integration of topics covered in other books. It will be particularly helpful to students who need some references to concepts and techniques of analysis to apply in specific situations.

A case study has been added at the end of each chapter to stimulate the students' thought processes regarding real life business situations where some of management principles and practices are applied. The cases are presented in a manner so that reality can be easily visualized.

It is hoped that the book will be a stimulating experience for the readers and will prompt further study in order to secure a more comprehensive knowledge of the field of management. With this end in view, references have been included at the end of each chapter. The readers will find in these books, a more elaborate treatment of the subjects and more extensive bibliographies for further study.

I gratefully acknowledge the guidance provided by Dr. G S Tuteja, Deputy Dean-Student Welfare, Delhi University, who gave a face to my dream of writing a book on management. I am very thankful to Mr. Vikram Behl, Regional Manager, Delhi Branch, IBH and Mr. Sanjeev Gupta, Director, IBH, I am also thankful for the constant support of my husband and daughter in this endeavour. I would also like to express my gratitude towards my teachers and management authors, but for the knowledge imparted by whom, I would not have been able to pen down this book.

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NATURE OF MANAGEMENT

McDonald's is an example of success and fast growth. It has created a unique place in the pages of history of business. Consistently high quality of food is the hallmark of the MNC. It shows that for any enterprise to succeed, a good management team is highly essential. The main pillars of McDonald's success are well trained management team, family oriented concept, high quality food and clean surroundings.

INTRODUCTION

The very word 'Management' brings to our mind a big enterprise where large number of people work towards the attainment of economic objective.

But actually it is not so. Management is confined neither to group efforts, nor to attainment of economic objectives. It begins with individuals and extends upto conglomerates taking into its arena: multifaceted, multidimensional objectives including social, political, emotional etc.

Management is as old as human civilization, though it came into limelight only with industrialization and F. W. Taylor's experiment. Peter F Drucker gave management, the status of a profession by laying down various new philosophies.

If we go by the dictionary meaning of the word management, it is the process or instance of managing or doing. The Concise Oxford Dictionary defines the word 'manage' as organize, regulate, be in charge of (a business, household, team, a person's career).

This means that every individual is a manager. If we go back to the Stone Age, we will find that even at that time also, in order to survive, early man had to manipulate the environment, which was irrelevant to his existence. Every individual tries to make the best use of resources at his/her disposal. In other words, every individual manages his resources to the best of his efforts in order to get the maximum benefit. Take the example of a housewife. Although she does not have a formal knowledge of management, but unconsciously she plans her activities in order to put various resources viz money, material, time etc. to the best use so that at the end of the month she is able to save the maximum without compromising on the quality of results.

ABOUT THE BOOK

The book, Management Theory & Practice (with case studies), exhaustively covers the concepts, functions and principles of management. In addition to these basic fundamentals, the book also deals with some topics which a Manager should be aware of. These are morale, organizational development, transactional analysis, to name a few. The book has been written in a simple and easily understandable language. The unique feature of the book is the inclusion of summary, self test questions, short answer questions and long answer questions at the end of each chapter to help the student in various stages of the study. To make the text more comprehendible, diagrams, charts & tables have also been incorporated. This is a must-read book for undergraduate and postgraduate students of Business Administration/Management.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

The author, **Dr. Vandana Jain**, did her Ph.D. from CCS University, Meerut and MBA with specialization in HR Management from Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra. She had a brilliant academic career since beginning which brought her many accolades including scholarships and certificates of merit. Just to get herself abreast of the emerging Capital Markets, she did a Diploma Course in Merchant Banking from Indian Institute of Merchant Banking, New Delhi. As part of professional enhancement, she also did a certificate course in Financial Markets from NSE.

She has held various assignments including, Lecturer in Faculty of Management Studies, Kurukshetra University; Senior Research Associate with Indian Society for Training & Development (ISTD); Education Officer, Directorate of Studies in the Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI); Resource faculty for study material in Indian Institute of Merchant Banking (IIMB); Visiting faculty in Northern India Regional Council of ICSI.

Presently, she is working as an Asstt. Professor in a private institution affiliated to Punjab Technical University and is teaching MBA and BBA students.

Her experience of interacting with her students and understanding of the problems faced by them motivated her to write a book on this topic and she has tried her best to provide solutions to their practical problems.



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