

# What Is Management?

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The business environment in the traditional organization was almost stable with monopoly of companies. Whereas, in the contemporary business environment, the business itself the business environment is highly dynamic. Dynamic, because the rate of change is very fast there are too many competitors, and there is complexity in the business environment, caused by external factors like political, economic, social demographic factors, legal factors, technology, changing technology, which has resulted in changes changing preferences of customers.

So, the business environment is highly dynamic and there are changes in the roles of managers. Of course, the fundamental principles of managers management and the roles of managers still remain the same with a little change in focus. What are characteristics of contemporary business environment? Contemporary business environment as discussed now, is turbulent and demand for continuous change. Because, in order to maintain continuity and rigor the organizations need to make some minor modifications in their in their business processes, in their structure and it has to be in conformance with the changing business environment. Uncertainty and unexpected events, there are sudden crisis which emerge in the environment or which results in organizations failing in their initiatives. So, as a result there are some unexpected events which need to be managed and which results the unexpected events or uncertainty, or the turbulence in business environment causes crisis like situations which need to be properly managed at regular intervals of time, otherwise the management will otherwise the organization will face turmoil. Technological advancement. In order to catch up with competition the organizations also need to make some minor modifications or a complete change in their technology. Global economic, political and social shift. Similarly because of economic factors, because of political issues and social demographical shift, there is a change in the business environment. Finding alternative ways of working is the role of a manager. Manager has to find out alternative solutions or methods of decision making in order to maintain sustainability or in order to have a sustainable business. Lifelong learning opportunities for employees; an organization will always continue to grow, if it has a focus on lifelong learning opportunities for employees as well as when there is a overall development of organization.

Fostering creativity and innovation at workplace, no organization can sustain and survive in a turbulent business environment or in a dynamic business environment unless and until there is a focus on creativity and innovation. Creating a collaborative and productive workforce. So, organizations can sustain and survive if there is competition through collaboration. Unlike the traditional business organizations, where there was monopoly and dominance of few organizations. So, in a clutter of competition if there is collaboration, partnership or then the organization collaboration with organizations, collaboration with competitors, suppliers, then the organization can have a competitive or can be more competitive and sustainable. So, there is a shifting focus in management from mainstream orientation to multi stream orientation. Mainstream approach focuses on profit maximization whereas, multi stream orientation emphasizes on responsibility towards all stakeholders. The definition of management nature and purpose. Management involves coordinating and overseeing the work activities of others other employees. So, that their activities are completed efficiently and effectively. The process of designing and maintaining an environment in which individuals, working together in groups efficiently accomplish their goals and objectives. So, ultimately the management emphasizes on creating an environment a conducive environment for all employees, who are working as independently or who are working in groups or teams so, that they can collectively accomplish desired objectives of organizations. Basic definition of management; as managers people carry out managerial functions. The basic functions of management are planning, organizing, staffing, leading and controlling. Management applies to all kinds of organizations, be it a profit centered organization or a nonprofit organization.

Profit centered organizations are the business organizations with an ultimate objective of earning huge amount of profit. Nonprofit organizations their emphasis is on providing better services, need satisfaction of people. It applies to all managers at all organizational levels. The aim of managers is the same to create surplus, managing is concerned with productivity which implies effectiveness and efficiency. Next we discuss on the objectives of management that is efficiency and effectiveness. What is efficiency? The main prime concern of managers is always to have efficiency and effectiveness. Efficiency emphasizes on doing things right, getting the most output for the least input; that means, efficiency emphasizes on optimum utilization of resources. Resources for organizations can be physical or can be the physical resources like land capital machinery, and there could be the resources like, intangible resources, like customer satisfaction or could be quality and so on. Efficiency emphasizes on getting those things right and effectiveness emphasizes on doing things right. Efficiency emphasizes on means and effectiveness emphasizes on the end results. Doing things in a right manner, effectiveness means attaining the desired objectives or goals; that means, getting the goals done on a timely manner, achieving the satisfaction level of customers, employees and so on. Objectives of management, efficiency emphasizes on resource utilization and effectiveness emphasizes on goal attainment. So, their focus is different the efficiencies focus is on low wastage or optimum utilization of resources effectiveness emphasizes on attainment of goals. So, both of them together they get management the low resource waste or high efficiency high goal attainment or high effectiveness. Next we discuss who are managers? Managers are someone who can

coordinate and oversee the work of other employees. So, that organizational goals can be accomplished.

The goals could be qualitative goals quantitative goals in terms of productivity, profit so quantitative goals can be attained. Similarly, qualitative goals which are very subjective in nature like satisfaction; satisfaction of employees, satisfaction of customers, and then quality attainment of excellence or quality in the products and services. A managers have status they tell others, what to do? They attain power or they have they exercise power, they earn more money than the workers, they influence or have a chance to make difference in other people's lives. The managers are classified as first line managers, middle managers and top managers. First line managers are individuals, who manage the work of non managerial employees or the workers. They supervise the work of workers or non managerial employees or the staff. Middle managers are individuals who manage the work of first line managers. Top managers are individuals responsible for making organization wide decisions and establishing plans and goals, to influence the entire performance of organizations. Where managers work; managers work for organizations and organizations are defined as, a deliberate arrangement of people to accomplish some specific purpose that individuals independently could not accomplish. So, organization is defined as a collection of individuals or a group of individuals, working for a well defined purpose or distinct purpose in a deliberate structure. Common characteristics of organizations, they have a distinct purpose composed of people and have a deliberate structures. So, with complexity the organizations nature and the business environment has changed, and the structure does not remain intact. The structure changes from taller hierarchical structure to a flatter structure. Tall hierarchical structures have decision making bestowed with the top management, flatter structures have decisions being given to decision making power bestowed to people at different hierarchical levels.

So, there is more of empowerment in a new structure or in contemporary organizational structures. Whereas, contemporary in the traditional organizations the structure is more power at the top management. So, this has changed the structure of organization, the nature of organization. The purpose of organization also does not remain the same. With the passage of time, as we have seen the organizations move towards more complexity. So, the purpose in the beginning of when the organization starts, there is the organization is in the initiation stage. As it moves towards growth phase, their purpose changes and when it moves towards stability there is a different purpose. And when the organization faces crisis like situation, the organizations purpose or goal changes and its focus is towards reorganization or restructuring. Managerial levels; there are three different levels of managers organizational generally have levels of top managers, middle managers and first line managers. The three approaches to define what managers do. The functions they perform, roles they play, skills they need. First approach functions that managers perform; planning, organizing, directing and controlling. Planning means, defining goals, goals and objectives; goals has already defined goals goals of an organization could be qualitative and quantitative goals. Quantitative goals are objective goals of organizations. Qualitative goals are basically subjective in nature, subjective in nature. Establishing strategies quantitative goals are profit, productivity, turnover and so on. Qualitative goals are quality, products

quality in the products and services, quality of products and services, satisfaction of needs and so on. So, planning basically deals with its goal directed defining goals, establishing strategies, to achieve those goals, developing plans to integrate and coordinate activities. To attain these goals objective and subjective goals, there are certain strategies or plans of actions.

Strategies are otherwise the plans of actions, plans of actions developed by managers. How they can attain these goals? Next is, developing plans to integrate and coordinate activities. The plans of actions like how to attain those goals. Organizing basically deals with deliberating structures. Arrangement the structures as discussed earlier whether the organization will have a tall hierarchical structure. Tall hierarchical structure or a flatter structure will be decided by the managers. Arrangement of tasks, who should be given what type of responsibility and based on the skills and competencies levels of expertise of an individual will be decided in the organizing function. To accomplish organizational goals; leading function deals with people, dealing with or motivating people to act as per the goals of organizations. Working with and through people to accomplish those goals. Basically leading function discusses about how managers can motivate subordinates, through communication by motivating them through rewards and punishments structure and allocating constantly giving them some kind of training so, that they can work as per the plans. Controlling function focuses on achieving desired results, monitoring activities to ensure that they the goals are the the managers the subordinates accomplish the goals as planned. So, monitoring function basically deals with the control over people and information. The information, management functions basically planning and decision making, emphasizes on setting the organizations goals and deciding how best to achieve them. What is the best possible way through which we can attain objectives? Organizing determines, how the best group activities and resources can how how to attain, the group activities and resources. Leading function motivating members of the organization to work in best interest of the organization. Controlling emphasizes on monitoring and concerning correcting ongoing activities to facilitate goals.

There is a feedback control and a feed forward control. So, control mechanism emphasizes on the corrective the plans, or the giving a feedback to each method or each manager or subordinate regarding the methods, regarding how to correct to the ongoing activities. So, management involves basically planning and decision making, organizing, leading and controlling. Solid arrows show a basic sequence of activities. Dotted arrow show that most managers engage in more than one activity at a time and often move back and forth between the activities in unpredictable ways. So, though this planning organizing directing and controlling, they are sequential; however, the managers can move backward and forward in any of these management functions. Planning function basically, identifying organizational goals and strategies at the time of strategic change or fine tuning. As we know that an organization taking an example, say as an organization moves through various phases of lifecycle stages. So, if I plotted like when an organization starts a new organization. So, initiation stage or initiation stage is the stage one. And the second stage you can call it as a growth stage, growth stage. The third stage is basically maturity or saturation, maturity stage or saturation and next is decline. So, in the initiation stage there

is a different goal goal is to venture new market, venture in a market which is new. With the strategy the goal is to have to be known in the market goal is to be known to be known in the market. The next goal is as the organization does well and grows in new market, growth stage with more products and services more products and new and the services offered to customers, venturing in expanding in different different businesses expand in different businesses. Maturity stage when the market is almost to mature here, there are many competitors. More competitors, no variety, no variety in products and services or so, almost its a mature or there is a so, the the company is in a mature state and then it declines.

In the decline stage the company faces crisis like situation crisis. So, there are several issues crisis can be due to external factors due to external factors sudden emergence of say some sudden emergency like situation, or can be result of internal issues internal issues like leadership change, changing a technology, change in technology and so on. So, the reasons of crisis could be different in all these cases. So, what I wanted to discuss? Planning function identifying organizational goals. So, manager need to identify what is the goal of organization in each stage of growth. And strategies are decide accordingly, at the time of strategic change and fine tuning. When there is a change when the ompany is venturing in a new market at that time the company has to develop new strategies. The strategy is should be to be known in the market. So, the product there should be more emphasis on, the product the products, attributes as well as the features to be known to the customers to be known in the market. Fine tuning, when the company is in mature state. When it has already been established, the company has acquired a brand name, a brand loyal customers so, there the emphasis should not be. The emphasis here if the customers the company has acquired brand name, there is the corporate identity is established corporate identity as well as its customer base is well known. So, here the emphasis should be to the the plans or strategies would be completely different. There should be more focus on innovation; innovation should be focused innovation or cost minimization should be the focus, there is more investment in research and development. The strategy should be strategy should be innovation and emphasis should be on R and D the emphasis should be on market research. So, that is how the company need to always, the planning function changes with period of time. Identifying goals and strategies at the time of strategic change, when the company faces sudden there is sudden emergency or like situation or sudden emergence of crisis.

Like what has happened? In case of the crisis could be due to the product failure like, in case of Nestles Maggie in India there was an issue of MSG content in the product, MSG content in the product. So, as a result there was a huge decline in demand of the product. The product was unfit for consumption. So, there was a massive rejection and people could not take a people did not buy the product. So, there was a crisis like situation the company had a different plan, the first plan was the the strategy was to communicate to the customers that the product is good enough to be bought, the product need to be the product is fit and without any MSG content. So, this the emphasis is not on research and development, but emphasis is on communication. So, the planning changes as per the change in goals, as per the change in goals and change in the strategy of an organization. Strategic change, fine tuning, when the company is in a mature stage the company is facing challenges from other competitors. The competitors are coming up with innovations. So, therefore, they have to to

catch up with competition, they have to innovate or invest in research and development so, that they can offer new products new services in order to gain attention of customers. Managers called meetings and set agendas. And while in order to attain these goals so, managers call meetings and set agendas. Regarding what will be discussed? In order to attain these goals and in order to meet with these strategies or plans of actions, managers called meetings set agendas with their subordinates regarding what will be discussed. Communicate departmental goals, they need to because any plan in order to accomplish any goal or the plans, it has to be the discussed with the departmental the other employees of the department to the subordinates. So, communication is very important.

Communicate departmental goals or the work unit goals, to the people who are working with them strategies to the people or the employees who interact with the customers and suppliers. So, the departmental goals or the work unit goals need to be communicated to the those employees, who have been interacting with the customers, the suppliers in order to make them to in order to convey the message to the employees to the customers and the suppliers. Designing and encouraging change and innovation. So, encouraging change and innovation is also one of the goals of managers. Negotiating and making incremental changes or fine tuning, fine tuning to ongoing plans and resources. So, concludingly planning function is making goals and objectives clearer to all employees, making strategies or plans which so, as to match with strategic change, to catch up with competition, fine tuning or making incremental changes to ongoing plans and resources. Sometimes it is also all these goals need to be communicated to managers. Designing and encouraging change and innovation, communicating departmental goals and strategies to people, who interact with customers and negotiating and conflict resolution, making incremental changes to ongoing plans and resources. Next we discuss about organizing functions. Organizing basically is arrangement of tasks within a well defined structure. So, here the emphasis is on structure, authority relationship, departmentalization, technology used, physical layout, office space, budgets, policies resource allocation. Structure is can be as discussed, structure can be a tall hierarchical structure with power center power at the center or the flatter structure will have power bestowed it at different hierarchical levels. So, structures are basically alignment of tasks or arrangement of tasks. Authority is the power given to people based on the positions. Departmentalization is division based on the principle of division of labor. Technology used as per the goals, physical layout office space budgets policies and resource allocation.

Leading function emphasizes on; interpersonal relationship, communicate with members or interpersonal communication. Encouraging and motivating members, resolve interpersonal conflicts. Face to face interaction, staff training, liasioning and establishing network of relationship with competitors, suppliers, and customers. Leading is basically when group of people working under a supervisor. In order to make them or to motivate them to work according to the goals which have been as planned in the planning function. So, people need to be communicated about the goals. A group of people will have several issues, the issues related to their egos and personality clashes. So, they need to have to in order to motivate them to work for a common goal. They need to be resolved of all kinds of personal issues. The interpersonal communication plays a massive role, developing a trust or an

environment of camaraderie is required. So, leaders role lies with how to motivate people communicate about the work units goal, resolving conflicts within members. Through face to face interaction, encouraging face to face interaction, staffing, allocating tasks, and training to the employees to improve their efficiency and effectiveness, liasioning and establishing or developing a kind of network of relationship with the competitors, suppliers, and customers is the major emphasis of leading function. Controlling ensures members actions are consistent, they are consistent with organizations values and standards. They are also consistent with the organizations purpose, purpose or goal. And controlling function emphasizes on controlling the behavior of people and monitoring information. Use of rules there are several rules and regulations policies and procedures, which are used to control the behavior of or control or monitor the function of managers to control the behavior of managers. Control over internal and external informations.

There are several informations which creep into organizations through various media. So, information reaching getting the right information to the right person is the job of the manager who is exercising controlling function. Organizations are moving from bureaucratic to less of bureaucracy or more of say participation participative approach. So bureaucratic functions, there is more of emphasis on control managers exercising control over the subordinates. And in a participative culture participation, there is a equal equal weightage given to all employees or consensus based culture. Market control market control is observation interaction questioning, clan control is shared values norms and beliefs. So, controlling function ensures that members actions are consistent with the values norms of organizations. The standard set by the organizations, and the basic purpose is to control information and people. Use of through use of rules regulations policies and procedures, controlling internal and external information using bureaucratic control, market control, through observation, interaction, questioning and clan control by having a culture of shared values, norms and beliefs.

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