

Paper –Principles and Practice of Management

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Topic- Meaning of Delegation of Authority

It is an important managerial practice of getting things done through others by sharing authority with them. In any typical organisation, the policy and strategic decisions are taken by the Board of Directors and actual implementation of these are entrusted to the chief executive. However, the chief executive alone cannot do the entire work. He can not even supervise the work of all individuals working in different departments. He can pass on some portions of his authority to different departmental managers and commit them to specific tasks of supervision and operation. This process is known as delegation of authority.

"Delegation means in brief the passing on to other of a share in the four elements of the management." E. F. L. Breach

"Delegation means assigning work to others and giving them authority to do it." F. G. Moore

"Delegation is act of conferring authority by some higher source of authority."

"Delegation means conferring authority from one executive or organisational unit to another in order to accomplish particular assignment." George R. Terry.