THE BRIGHT SIDES AND DOWNSIDES OF BEING A PUBLIC SERVANT

by:
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Public service could be one of the most fulfilling jobs and a humanitarian work because public servants give service for the people for a public good. It gives self-satisfaction because you are giving service for the sake of your fellow men and for the community as well. But, it is not easy because public servants also experience conflicts and it is never easy to provide a convenient service because you are not only serving a single person but a group of people.

Being a public servant includes many variety of job offerings in different fields that is why there are more choices of jobs provided for the employees. There is also a more work-life balance because of sick or annual leave and having free time even on holidays, yet, still receiving the same amount of their regular salary monthly, which employees from private sectors don't usually get.

According to Ben Davies (2017), as someone whose salary is being funded by taxpayers, a sense of responsibility to the community is instilled in public sector workers. He also added that job stability is often referenced as a major perk in this sector. The public sector is relatively stable, and whilst profit-based companies are prone to closure, public sector organisations have the stability of government-backing.

Being a government employee also comes with many benefits unlike those who work in private sectors and several years of working could be a springboard for a secured future. There are pension and other aids that the government is providing for the public servants as a payback for their long years of service for the people.
However, there are downsides of all these advantages. Robert Lavigna (2014) said that there are constraints on the use of financial incentives because government agencies usually can’t provide performance incentives like large pay raises for the public servants and what just they are providing is non-financial recognition that sometimes means simply saying “thank you” and praising good performance.

There are also stereotypes that being a public servant is more prone into being corrupt since other people believe that there are politics in different public sectors. Also, there are misconceptions that public servants are lazy, incompetent and lack integrity and they are getting more than what they worked for.

All the advantages of being a public servant come with demerits. No matter how you performed well in your job, people would always have something to tell against you. It can be considered as a tough job, but what is more important is the integrity and the dedication to work in order to provide quality service to people and accomplishing duties in the best possible ways.

References:
