

Q Why we need new provinces? what is the constitutional mechanism of it. Write down the hurdles and its short term alternatives.

Answer:.

There are many challenges in the way of new provinces in the country such as politics of political parties on the name of new provinces, economic implications, ethnic and linguistic identities, demand on ethnic grounds by movement of new provinces in the country.

1) Why we need new provinces?

i) Large size of existing units:-

Pakistan consist of four provinces, and most of them are of large territory. So the think tanks have much responsibility regarding management of country. For instance, punjab's population is **120 million**, and if it would have been a seprate country, it would have been ranked as **12th** most popalust country. So

it will be difficult for the state to govern such large entities.

2) Disparity among Units:

There will be disparity among units, population of punjab is higher than bolochistan, so there will be a lot of imbalance in units. i.e. More national seats of punjab.

3) Performance of princely states:

There were 565 princely states recognized in the indian subcontinent, and before partition it is evident that they all were managed successfully because of their separate autonomy.

4) Model of governance is smaller Units in world:

Japan is an established state and its population is similar to pakistan's province (Punjab). But, Japan have further 30 plus provinces. So the management

can be better.

5) Less access of backward/remote areas:

Because of the large population, the access of remote areas to the government executives is difficult. People have to travel a lot to communicate with the government officials.

2) Constitutional mechanism of new provinces:

Stage 1:-

Resolution:

Article 239(4) of the constitution states that, for the establishment of a new province, the resolution of provisional assembly will take place with two third majority in favour.

Stage 2:-

Constitution amendment:

There are only

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Four provinces, in the constitution of Pakistan. To make a new province, there will have to be an amendment in the constitution of Pakistan, and a formal process will have to undergo.

3) Hurdles in Creation of New² provinces:~

1) Difficulty to forge political Consensus:~

The political consensus are a hurdle in the formation of new provinces. It can be linked with political will and vested groups, because every political entity will be interested in a new province if only it is satisfying their political agendas.

2) Financial expenses:~

There will be a mountain of expenses will be required in the process. 8 billion rupees were invested when the name of North West frontier province (NWFP) was changed

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into khyber pakhtunkhwa, and it was only in the investment of name changing. So, financial expenses are a hurdle in new provinces.

3) Fate of national agreements:-

There are only four provinces in the constitution of Pakistan. The national level agreements are situated according to those four provinces. If a new province is created from no-where, it will imbalance the fate of national level agreements. So we have to make meassury precautions.

4) Creation of one province will open a floodgate:-

If a much needed province is created, the demand of other provinces will be in the town. However, we do not possess financial resources for that floodgate of demands. i.e after the processing of NWFP, Hazara was demanded.

5) Vested interest of parties:-

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Another hurdle in the creation of new provinces is the vested interest of political entities. A political entity will only agree for a new province if their political interest is satisfied. For instance, Pakistan people's party (PPP) is a major party in Sindh, so if a new province will be created in that territory (PPP) will also dominate that, i.e. ppl is dominating rural Sindh.

Short term alternatives:-

- 1) Decentralization of power:-
After the 18th amendment, there is decentralization of power to provincial governments. So we can use that in our favour. For example, Lahore is the limelight area in Punjab so its power can be dissolved to other territories for a better governing body.
- 2) Establishment of regional offices:-

Establishment of regional offices of provisional offices are a measure to be taken. For example, At first, FPSC office and examination center was only in Islamabad, but now, it has different centers in different provinces. So now people do not have to come to Islamabad for examination, rather they can opt for their own provinces. So establishment of regional offices of provisional government can be helpful.

3) Strengthening of local government:-

Strengthening local government can be vital, we can have political institutions for a better government, so that political will can be sidelined and a better governing system can be established by local government.

4) Promotion of E Governance:-

The world is a

global hub now, everything is connected by the means of internet, we can use **e governance** as a platform in this regard. i.e., electronic access to the organizations can be fruitful, so that people don't have to come to far places because of only one office in the whole province, rather they can do it online. **Pm portal** is another example of **e governance**.

