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'Dharna' Against the state: Freedom of speech or a question on the writ of the state

Outline

1. Introduction

'Dharna' is a question on the writ of the state from which numerous issues springs out making the state susceptible and vulnerable. However, 'dharna' > in some cases, exacerbates its effects too; to eschew it, state should address the issues which have caused dissatisfaction through open negotiation and communication.

2. 'Dharna' question on the writ of the state as it:

- a) paralyze the state machinery
(case study of 2014 dharna led by Imran Khan in Pakistan)
- b) prevents the function of the executive
(2019 sit-in in Hong Kong sparked by extradition bill)
- c) undermines the judiciary, eroding public confidence, and reducing institutional

independence

(Indirect effect on judiciary and institutions of Anna Hazare anti-corruption legislation bill 'Jan Lokpal')

d) Brings civilian life to a halt-infringing upon other fundamental rights.

e) calls for mutiny, vigilantism, and assassination

f) Taints image of state, making it appears susceptible and vulnerable (PTDC protests against PM, in Thailand 2013)

g) Encourages mob justice

h) cause harm to country's economy

i) Spread hate speech which worsen the situation

j) Undermines rule of law

3. Dharna, where it gives birth to issues, sometimes exacerbates its effects too as it:

a) pressurize government for just and fair change in policy making

b) serves as democratic participation

c) provides platform for citizen to express their grievances

4. To eschew dharna, state should negotiate and communicate with public to address dissatisfactory issues and overcome public's grievances.

5. conclusion