

Qs! The creation of more provinces is a persistent demand from some circles in Pakistan. How do you see the creation of more provinces in Pakistan: as beneficial or harmful to the people? Explain your views with solid justification.

1. INTRODUCTION:

Pakistan is the 5th largest country in the world with respect to population. Recently, its population had crossed over 240 million people. Although the population is too large, still Pakistan has only four provinces. There is a federal form of government and provinces enjoys autonomy to a greater extent. The power is devolved, but still not completely decentralised due to which there is a need for creation of more provinces. This will ensure devolution of power and more efficient governance structure.

2. BACKGROUND:

When Pakistan was created and when it got independence, there were abt 6 princely states

that also joined Pakistan. Some of them like Bahawalpur was being declared a province. But, due to unitary system, they were recombined to a single whole. When this unitary system was abolished by Yahya Khan, the princely state of Bahawalpur was not given the provincial status, rather it was merged in Punjab. Since then it had been pleading to regain its previous status again. Similarly, the name of NWFP was replaced with KPK which added fuel to the sentiments of Hazara people and they started demanding for a separate province based on ethnicity. In the same manner, Muhajirs of Karachi and some separatist ethnicities of Balochistan are also demanding for separate provinces.

3. Benefits of Creation of New Provinces:

There are several benefits of the creation of new provinces

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in Pakistan. They include:

3.1 Easy access to provincial governments for citizens:

In case of more provinces, the citizens won't have to travel longer distances and could reach high courts and other institutions while traveling lesser distance. Currently, in every province, people farther from the capital of the province had to travel alot to get access to any administrative institution.

Add and highlight references/example s against these arguments

3.2 Efficient and faster administrative setups are ^{more} ~~overburdened~~ because of greater population to be dealt by a few staff only. If the power is devolved, more administrative setups would be created and will ultimately result in better service providence.

3.3 The issues of the locals would be heard.

Currently alot of voices are not being addressed. People spend miserable lives in far-flung areas. When power is devolved

and more provinces are created, it will help in addressing their issues as well.

2.4 Trickle down effect in economic well beings

More provinces will lead to distribution of economy and resources further, which will help in development and progress of all. Currently, a lot of citizens are disheartened from the state and are of the view that the funds are being allocated to a few areas or provinces or parts of provinces; this issue will also be resolved with the creation of new provinces.

3.5 Ethnic conflicts would also come to an end:

Currently, the under speaking muhajirs and other sindhis have some issues with each other. Similarly, the issue of Hazaras and southern punjabis will also be addressed. It will bring a bit peace in Balochistan as well.

3.6 Social issues will also be addressed,

In smaller provinces, people will hold their political leaders

accountable and will make sure that due focus is given to education and health improvement as well.

3.7 local crimes would also be controlled, local crimes including mobile snatching, kidnapping and several others would also be controlled due to better administration in smaller areas with lesser population.

4. Critical Analysis:

Add more arguments

Creation of new provinces is going to benefit Pakistan in many ways. A lot of other countries like Afghanistan and several others had a lot of provinces, although they had relatively lesser population as well. But currently, Pakistan cannot afford creation of new provinces because it requires a lot of budget for new administrative setup and Pakistan is already lack of funds. Further, it can aggravate the ethnic conflicts as well if provinces are made on ethnicity bases rather than administrative bases.

Seeing all the above, currently Pakistan can move out of the crisis by improving and strengthening its local government system and when it becomes a bit stable, then it may move towards creation of new provinces.

A 20 marks answer should have around 15 subheadings

I. Conclusion:

In sum, Pakistan has been facing the persistent demands for creation of new provinces especially by the Hazaras, Saraiki speaking people, people of Bahawalpur, people of southern Punjab, Muhajirs of Sindh, and others by other separatists of Balochistan. Seeing the background history, it becomes evident that only the creation of more provinces on basis of administrative setup rather than ethnicity can solve the issues of the people of Pakistan. The creation of new provinces will benefit the people of Pakistan in several ways. But still, currently Pakistan needs to focus on other major crisis and address this temporarily by strengthening the local government system and devolving more and more powers.

Ghazi Paper

Improve the references and the paper presentation part