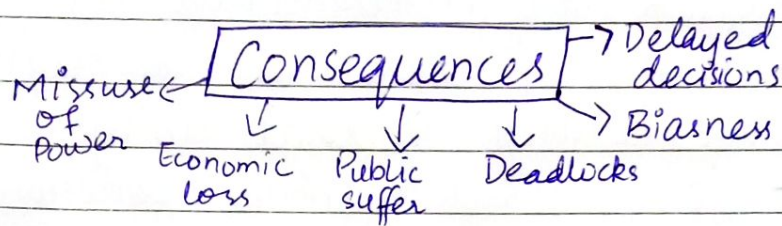


Name: - Laiba Maheen

Batch: - Online - 70

Topic: - The Consequences of Provincial -
- Federation Conflict.

• Brainstorm:-



• Outline:-

1) Introduction:-

- a) Introduction/Hook
- b) Background information
- c) Thesis

2) Main-Body:-

a) Deadlocks

- Pending decisions
- No flexibility among stakeholders

b) Biasness

- Revengefull acts
- Unfavored policies and actions

c) Compromised collective Interest

- Individuality
- Work against each other

d) Economic loss/Fiscal conflicts

- Provincial shares compromised
- Centre's working disturbed

- e) Political stalemate
 - Democratic norms compromised
 - Rigidness
- f) Public sufferings
 - Public service halted or disturbed
 - Resources exhausted
- g) Inefficiency in governance
 - Lack of coordination
 - Lack of resource & capacity
- h) Weakening Federal unity
 - Compromised national cohesion
 - Vulnerable to threats
- i) Rise of anti-state entities:
 - Militias resurgence
 - Security capabilities weakened
- j) Lack of trust
 - Chaotic society
 - Rule of law and order absent

3) ~~Con~~ Conclusion :-

- a) Re-state thesis
- b) Summurize
- c) Way Forward / solutions
- d) End

Essay

Date: _____

"Unity is not uniformity; unity is oneness of purpose" a quote by Tony Evans. Conflicts are a test of cohesion and unity. A federation is a system within which a centre and its sub-units also known as provinces or states exist. Federations can work efficiently and smoothly only when the centre and provinces move in cohesion. It is a complex system of cooperation, coordination and compromise. One of the entity needs to give in alternately for the federation to function efficiently. Centre and provinces are like the parts of a human body which are required to work together for a human body to function. When the centre and provinces donot agree on a decision or donot have consensus on a thing, it leads to conflict. Conflict can lead to undesirable consequences because the impacts of consequences can effect public and masses. greatly. The conflicts between a federation and ~~its~~ ^{its} provinces can have many causes like economic or fiscal

disagreements, welfare and services disagreements or resource share conflicts. These conflicts can be diverse in nature but their consequences are numerous. The consequences of provincial and federation conflicts include political, social and economic repercussions.

Deadlocks between the federation (Centre) and provinces due to conflicts is a situation of stalemate. Neither party of the conflict initiates further activity. Deadlock is a situation where no flexibility is shown from both the parties and rigid opinions are placed forward. The deadlocks impact the decision making on a larger scale. The stakeholders involved get to a point of no negotiations. The negotiations are halted and the conflict remains in its place. It is dangerous as some issues need immediate attention and solving but a deadlock can lead to delay in decision-making affecting every person involved. Moreover, in deadlocks, generally both the parties involved tend to

stick to their grounds and no flexibility is shown. The rigidity leads to no gap on which a debate leading to negotiations can be done. This maintains the deadlock and people remain suffering because of the stationary situation.

Discrimination and biasness is another consequence of provincial federation conflict. Whenever the centre and provinces are in conflict with each other they try to undermine each other through passive means. This includes any bias policy, cut in share of resources or any other budgetary cut. These ways are used to show resentment. These are generally done by centre as resource distribution is a subject of centre. In response provinces can react by inefficiency in administrative tasks etc. All of the retaliatory actions generally affect public the most, as public is the subject to which everything is related. The resource cut for example can have adverse effects on the public service delivery and welfare of people can be compromised. Public is the major entity affected in the conflict.

Date: _____

In a conflict, the centre and the provinces go against each other and give up on collective interest. The individual interest of an entity is prioritised over the collective interest. This is because both see each other as enemies or rivals instead of equal parts of a one big entity. This rivalry leads to working against each other in order to disturb the functioning. The consequences are diverse as the units of a federation are working against each other which leads to collective loss and underdevelopment. In these conflicts, larger public interest is compromised because both the parties prioritise the individual interest. The example can be seen in an instance where Sindh's government opposed the centre's plan to revive the Karachi Circular railway on concerns that land acquisition and provincial autonomy would be compromised. This situation leads to greater loss as it halts a development project of public interest. The province and centre conflicts on smaller disagreements lead to a bigger

public loss as the stakeholders do not take into consideration the advantages of public projects. The masses keep getting effected due to the disagreements between the officials.

Fiscal losses and consequences is one of the major consequence of Centre-provincial conflicts. Whenever the centre and province are in conflict, they try to disturb each other's functioning by fiscal means. Centre has the power of resource distribution. This share can be reduced or even given in prolonged periods to disturb the functioning of provinces. In case of Pakistan, NFC (National finance Commission) Award which determines the distribution of funds of provinces by federal has always been under fire although it has been made under standard criterias to meet provincial needs. But provinces due to discontentment have always seen NFC awards as something controversial. On the other hand the central working can be disturbed by provinces as they can withhold taxes and revenues, ^{effecting federal expenditure} delay implementation of

projects or policies, can protest against policies and projects etc. There are ways through which both centre and provinces can effect each other working through fiscal means, but the impact trickles down to masses and public policy and projects remain incomplete and disturbed.

Political stalemate is another consequences of centre-provincial conflict. Political freeze leads to lack of negotiations, cooperation and participation. The stakeholders donot sit together and the democratic norms are compromised. The policies are made in isolation, and are rejected by the opposition due to lack of consensus. This leads to a cycle of inefficiency as no cooperation is done and political entities just reject each others calls and opinions to counter each other. This leads to lack of representation of public interest as only political fights and counter arguments are going on. The rigidness in the political atmosphere leads to consequences for public as public interest is compromised

and kept least on priority. 18th amendment controversy is an example where the powers of centre were further devolved but the centre has been accused of trying to roll back those powers over the years.

Public sufferings are one of the biggest consequences that is faced due to conflict between centre and provinces. Public is the subject to be governed by the centre and provinces. When both of the governing units are in conflict, it is the public which is in loss. Public policies and projects are under delay, their implementation is done ineffectively. Moreover, the resource management is compromised. The resource is not efficiently used or is exhausted without getting used in the right place. Resource distribution ^{conflicts} leads to public resource loss. Water management disputes are one of the examples where disagreements between government tiers lead to loss of public service efficiency. Public sufferings lead to further discontentment and people move towards other

social evils. People who are deprived find ways to meet their needs. These needs are then met by shortcuts which are illegal. The criminal activities in the society are mainly due to the deprivation of people. People steal when they do not get things they need. The welfare is a way to provide safety nets to the needy, but when this welfare is halted due to conflicts people resort to shortcuts which are not favourable.

Inefficiency in governance is one of the consequences of centre-provincial conflict. When different tiers of government are in conflict, then the governance is compromised. The coordination between parts of government gets weak. It affects the public service delivery and welfare. The governance can only be done in an efficient way when the centre, province and local governments work in sync. The public service delivery is the main job of government, the tiers of government when work in

isolation, it is effected. The projects or task in public service delivery is done in parts. Some parts are done by centre and others are done by provinces. When the coordination between these two is weak the projects & policies are delayed and public service is at loss. The resources and capacity is shared in tiers of government, a project or policy cannot be implemented in isolation to one another.

Weakening federal unity is a another consequence of central-provincial conflict. When centre and its subunits are in conflict with each other the national cohesion is compromised. National cohesion refers to the ability to come on a concensus or be united for greater good. When the units of a federation are in a conflict they donot unite with each other and the national cohesion is compromised. Moreover, this lack of cohesion and unity leads to vulnerability to threats. When a federation or

state lack unity^{it} is vulnerable to internal as well as external threats. The enemies know that a country lacks unity, and this situation leads to easy attack. As the country has ~~dis~~ no unity among the tiers of government the state becomes weak with no consensus and point on which people can stand together. National as well as public interest is compromised.

Rise of anti-state entities is another consequence of centre-provincial conflict. It leads to militias resurgence, because the country lacks cohesion and the anti-state entities start re-organizing themselves. The provinces and centre donot come on a concensus, and nothing is decided to deal the threats. The security and the combat capacity of the state decreases as the smooth decisions are not taken. The delaying in process of decision-making can also lead to further distruction as some situations are to be dealt with

the implementation of the public policy and projects. Thirdly, monitoring and evaluation should be done constantly to identify areas where a problem lies. These could be done to avoid conflicts. There is always a silver lining to every cloud, likewise we can learn from conflicts and make good changes for future.