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DISCOVERING UNTAPPED LEGAL RESOURCES: WHY LAW LIBRARIES NEED DIVERSE COLLECTIONS!

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ABSTRACT
This article explores the essential role of law libraries and the value of their collections. It highlights the diverse range of materials these libraries offer and underscores their importance in the legal landscape. Legal librarians engage in a variety of specialized activities, such as conducting research and analyses, assessing the quality, accuracy, and reliability of sources, teaching and training users, writing, managing library operations, and acquiring and organizing materials. Law libraries not only enhance the professional practice of law by meeting the varied needs of their users, but they also contribute to a more equitable society by providing everyone with the resources necessary to understand and assert their rights.
Keywords
Law libraries, Library professionals, core competencies

INTRODUCTION
A library is not just a building that is enclosed by walls, but it is also a repository of resources, possibilities, information, and learning experiences, as well as a place to reflect. Because it is the backbone of a law school, a good law library has to meet numerous X-factors, such as having a professional staff, providing excellent services, and having a collection that includes both print and digital collections. A collection of legal information resources, which traditionally includes treatises, statutory codes, case reports, and maybe early form books, is referred to as a law library. On the other hand, a legal librarian is responsible for various specialised activities, including conducting research, conducting analyses, and assessing sources' quality, correctness, and validity; teaching and training; writing; managing; and acquiring and categorising library materials. A contemporary law library possesses a hybrid collection of both print and digital resources, facilitating access to case law from national and international courts, legislation from central, local, and international entities, law reform reports from various bodies, bilateral and multilateral treaties, legal journals and scholarly works, including academic journals and repositories, as well as monographs, treaties, and specialised commentaries on specific areas of law.

The Law Library is a 'Community Trust,' which Gilbert Stephenson described as “an ocean liner receiving its cargo partly from living trusts, which are private vessels, and transporting it across successive generations to a distant port for distribution for the common good.” A legal library comprises highly specialised resources, necessitating particular expertise

for management. Legal resources primarily include statutory law and records of adjudicated cases. Both categories of legal information pertain to "authority" and "precedent," respectively. Consequently, no investigation can be deemed complete without the examination of such resources. Every legal library must be well prepared about these matters. Two fundamental materials. These resources may provide the researcher with not just the ability to comprehend the subject matter but also to recognise that society is intricate, governed by complex rules; he may need to resort to secondary materials such as textbooks. Reform literature and articles. He must thoroughly prepare himself to manage the relevant legal literature. He should be aware of where to get research materials and the guidelines and tools that would assist in locating them.

EVOLUTION OF THE INDIAN LAW LIBRARY

There has been a significant amount of progress made by the Indian Law Library from its beginnings as a collection of handwritten texts to its present digital form. It is possible to get significant insights into the history of Indian law and the development of legal studies by following the steps that led to the establishment of the Indian Law Library.

Take a look at the progression of its development:

1. A collection of manuscripts and ancient books that were handed down from one generation to the next was the first version of the Law Library. These manuscripts and texts were passed down from generation to generation. The Indian legal system was built based on these documents, which functioned as the fundamental source of legal expertise and legal knowledge in general.
2. The legal system in India saw a substantial alteration as a result of the entry of the British authorities, which led to the modernisation of the legal system. A new legal framework that was based on English common law was adopted by the British, which resulted in the production of new legal texts and the progression of legal education into a more contemporary form. To make legal research more accessible, the British also created law libraries all across India.
3. In the years after India's attainment of independence, the country's legal system went through more transformations. In order to facilitate access to legal materials and to give assistance with legal research, the government of India built a number of law schools and libraries, one of which is the National Law Library, which is located in Bangalore.
4. The Indian Law Library has seen substantial changes as a result of the introduction of digital technologies brought about by the digital age. The digitisation of legal texts and the establishment of online legal databases have reduced the barriers to entry and increased the convenience of doing legal research. Legal practitioners today can access legal materials from any location in the globe, and new technologies such as artificial intelligence and machine learning are being used to enhance the quality of legal research.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF LEGAL MATERIALS

LEGISLATION

Judges must obey the "legislation" of the legislature for enacting a certain subject matter in case of any uncertainty in interpreting the provision of any law. The following instruments will assist one in determining the legislation of any provision:

5. Objects and Reasons of the Act (published in the bill), Parliamentary debates
6. Law Commission Reports (if the bill has been introduced on the recommendation of the Law Commission)
7. Standing Committee/ Joint/Select Committee Reports
8. Reports of the Committee appointed by the ministries for enacting/reviewing any existing enactments

LAW ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN LAW JOURNALS

Law libraries often have a system for indexing and abstracting articles. A legal library must maintain an indexing system that includes bibliographical information for articles published in each academic publication acquired by the library. A researcher may search these publications by title, author, journal name, topic, and via a combination search in the online public access catalogue. In addition to its in-house database, the library may also subscribe to indexes of journals issued by other sources. Publishers and libraries, such as in India, "Index to Indian Legal Periodicals" (ILI), New Delhi, 2008. The Index to Legal Periodicals, produced by H.W. Wilson, may be used to explore scholarly papers from international periodicals.
The following databases are used for the retrieval of legal articles.

1. Westlaw International
2. JSTOR
3. HeinOnline
4. Social Science Research Network
5. Global Legal Information Network
6. LexisNexis Online

CASE LAW

Law libraries must sustain a robust collection of Reporting Journals at both international and national levels. A legal library must subscribe to at least one reporting journal from each state.

Foreign Law Reports

- Australian Law Reports
- Canadian Supreme Court
- English Reports
- Law Reports Reprint Rainbow Series 1874 onwards
- US Supreme Court Reports
- Weekly Law Reports
- All England Law Reports
- Federal Law Report
- Commonwealth Law Report
- Dominion Law Reports

Indian Law Reports

- Supreme Court Cases (SCC)
- Scale
- Judgments Today
- Law Reports of all States

- Supreme Court Reports
- All India Reporters (AIR)
- Indian Law Reports

CONSTITUTIONS OF DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

A constitution is the framework of essential principles that governs a political entity (state or country). Law libraries include a distinct area dedicated to the constitutional legislation of all nations globally. Constitutions of every nation worldwide may be obtained from numerous websites, such as http://confinder.richmond.edu/.

COMMISSION & COMMITTEE REPORTS

In India, many commissions and committees exist, such as the Women's Commission, the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and the National Human Rights Commission. \Records of such commissions are preserved in the law library collection. Parliamentary Committee Reports serve as significant sources of legal knowledge, accessible via the Parliament of India's website. Annual Reports of the Government departments are also valuable for legal research.

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES AND PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE

A legal library offers a comprehensive collection of Parliamentary Debates from the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha. Parliamentary debates are available for download on the Parliament of India's website, starting with the XI Lok Sabha in 1996. All Parliamentary Committee Reports released by the Parliament of India are accessible online for students inside the library. The electronic versions of Command Papers, including the debates of the House of Lords and House of Commons, are accessible on the UK Parliament's websites. http://www.parliament.uk/parliamentary_publications_and_archives/parliamentary_archives/archives_electronic.cfm

TREATIES AND INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

Law Libraries have many study resources that include international treaties and agreements, such as the Encyclopaedia of the United Nations, the Consolidated Treaty Series, and the League of Nations Treaty Series. Treaties accessible in digital format via different online sources are available to students and end users globally.

SEMINAR REPORTS AND THESIS/DISSERTATIONS

Law libraries, particularly those that serve the university system, keep track of national and international seminar reports that are held both domestically and abroad. These reports may be kept in digital form at the law library. Legal researchers may also find use in research scholars' theses and dissertations.

REFERENCE TOOLS

The Index to Legal Periodicals, Legal Encyclopaedias, Legal Dictionaries, Professional Legal Directories, Legal Bibliographies, Biographies, and other reference materials are kept up to date by law libraries. Subject-based search resources such as Corpus Juris Secundum, American Legal Encyclopaedias, Legal Dictionaries, Professional Legal Directories, Legal

Bibliographies, Biographies, etc., must also be maintained by a law library.

WHY LAW LIBRARIES NEED DIVERSE COLLECTIONS

Supporting legal education, research, and practice depends much on law libraries. There are various reasons why law libraries must have varied holdings.

- Law is not a monolithic discipline; it interacts with many other fields like sociology, economics, history, and politics. Varied collections guarantee that library users have access to a broad spectrum of viewpoints and materials, hence enabling more thorough legal study.
- Legal concerns often affect underprivileged and marginalised groups. A varied collection that includes writings by people from all racial, ethnic, gender, and socioeconomic backgrounds guarantees that the needs and viewpoints of these populations are reflected and addressed in legal discussion.
- Legal professionals and students have to be culturally competent to properly serve a varied customer base. Access to other resources increases knowledge of other cultural settings, customs, and legal standards, all of which are vital for fair and reasonable legal representation.
- Exposure to several points of view and ideas sharpens critical thinking abilities. Engagement with different legal theories and practices by law students and professionals helps them to better grasp the law and its consequences, hence empowering them to more critically consider legal matters.
- Social justice projects may be supported by an inclusive collection. Law libraries may help campaigning and activity meant to solve systemic disparities by offering materials emphasising civil rights, environmental justice, and other social concerns.
- The law always changes to reflect society; hence it is always evolving. A varied collection keeps law libraries up to date with new trends, discussions, and legal changes throughout many different countries and fields of law.
- Many legal issues call for multidisciplinary methods. Diverse collections that contain works from allied disciplines, like public policy, economics, and sociology, inspire cooperative study and scholarship, hence promoting creativity in legal theory and practice.
- Law libraries that provide diversity in their collections a priority show a dedication to fairness and inclusiveness, hence strengthening their standing in the legal community and making the library more available to a larger audience.
- Different users have different learning preferences. A varied assortment of conventional legal books, multimedia tools, and practical instructions may fit the many ways individuals interact with legal content.
- Law libraries may advocate for diversity within the legal profession. Through highlighting many writers and subjects, they inspire the legal sector to reflect on the need for representation and inclusiveness in their publications and practices.

CONCLUSION

An informed, fair, and equitable judicial system is significantly reliant on the numerous resources accessible in law libraries. These institutions are significant reservoirs of legal information, providing a diverse variety of materials to meet the requirements of a broad spectrum of users, including legal professionals, students, and members of the public. Law libraries enable users to confidently and competently traverse the complexity of the legal system by offering access to legislation, case law, legal periodicals, and treatises. Furthermore, their job goes beyond just providing access to information; they encourage legal literacy and informed citizenry, both of which are necessary for a healthy democracy. Law libraries not only improve the professional practice of law by fulfilling the diverse needs of their users, but they also help to create a fairer society by providing everyone with the materials they need to understand and express their rights. This diverse assistance eventually promotes the rule of law and protects the fundamental ideals of justice and fairness that underpin a democratic society.

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CENTRE STATE RELATIONS: A DILEMMA DESPITE 75 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

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Independent India encountered demands for further autonomy and separation from contemporary states, the origins of which were established during the British era. In this situation, the connections between the central and state governments have critical importance. Due to the predominant unitary characteristics in the Indian Constitution, which explicitly

designates India as a union of states rather than a federation of states, the Indian state has developed a 'quasi-federal' structure. This arrangement has generated tension between the dominant central authority and the comparatively weaker states.

With the advent of coalition politics, states have assumed a pivotal role, using their regional parties to exert greater influence in national decision-making. States today function not merely as pressure groups but also lead in trade and commerce, progressively assuming a significant role in foreign policy. This paper seeks to elucidate the evolving connection between the centre and the state. The initial section of the chapter provides a succinct summary of the historical context of centre-state interactions, succeeded by an examination of the constitutional framework governing the two in the subsequent section.

Evolution of Centre-State Relations:

Centre-state interactions have developed over time, with initial insights emerging during the pre-independence era. The centralised administration of India impeded British governance, hence necessitating the establishment of an indigenous administrative division for the country. To enable its implementation, many subordinate divisions were established by Viceroy Lord Ripon (1880-1884), which constituted the initial federal framework for the nation through elected city and rural district boards. These divides strengthened over the years and were further enhanced by the Indian Council Act of 1909, also referred to as the Morley-Minto Reforms, which conferred more responsibility upon central and provincial councils. Some researchers view the reforms as an attempt to subvert the nationalist endeavours of the Indian National Congress and similar organisations, while others regard it as a success narrative, wherein the freedom struggle persuaded the British of the necessity for political reforms.

The British conviction in advancing India's political framework can be ascribed to their aspiration to establish the country as a dominion; a notion reinforced during the First World War, when several Indian soldiers fought for the English alliance. A study was written by Edwin Montagu, the then Secretary of State for India, and Viceroy Lord Chelmsford to solidify India's political growth towards enhanced self-governance. The document presented in 1918 to the Indian Constitution Reform Committee was known as the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms Act, which elucidated the Indian federal model.

According to the report's recommendations, the act established a 'dyarchy' or dual system of governance for the provinces for the subsequent decade. The Dyarchy was federal as it distributed sovereignty at the province level. The act states, “For such an organisation the English language has no word but ‘federal’” (The Government of India Act 1919). Administrative issues were categorised into central and state jurisdictions, with state subjects further classified into transferred and reserved categories. The transferred subjects were to be administered by the governor in collaboration with the ministers of the legislative council. The legislation also authorised provinces to formulate budgets, impose taxes, and incorporate elected representatives in both the Upper and Lower Houses. Notwithstanding this distribution of powers, it was not genuinely federal in essence, as all residual powers resided with the central authority, and those allocated to the states were not constitutionally conferred, but rather bestowed via the benevolence of the central government.

After independence, the constituent assembly, responsible for drafting the nation's constitution, confronted a challenging challenge in addressing the newly established federal organisation.

Having observed the deleterious consequences of partition, the assembly unequivocally favoured the unity and integrity of the nation. Owing to the complexities surrounding the term 'federalism', the constituent assembly characterised India as a 'Union of States' to emphasise its territorial integrity and indissoluble nature, while also delineating the framework of the Union government and the state governments. It further substantiated a unified system by establishing single citizenship for India instead of dual citizenship.

The constitutional provisions legally obligated states to the broader union and prohibited their power to secede. Furthermore, there were no safeguards established for the protection of states' rights, as the states were not sovereign entities before the creation of the Union" (Singh and Misra: 2013). Between 1960 and 1966, five new federal states—Gujarat, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Nagaland, and Haryana—were founded (Pathak). The predominance of the Indian National Congress party across the majority of states, coupled with its central governance, facilitated the implementation of unitary-federalism, aligning both the central and state administrations on administrative issues. In 1967, the quasi-federal structure was tested as the Congress faced defeat in the province elections of Bihar, Haryana, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, and Orissa, among others. This resulted in the dissolution of the peaceful connection between the centre and the states.

Committees and commissions on centre and state relations in India:

1. The Administrative Reforms Commission (1969): It was proposed 22 recommendations to enhance Centre-State relations. It dismissed any constitutional amendment and deemed the current measures adequate to manage federal tensions. The significant recommendations are presented from a total of 22 recommendations as follows:

• Formation of an Inter-state Council pursuant to Article 263 of the Constitution
• Extensive delegation of authority to the states
• Enhancing state financial resources via fiscal transfers from the central government.
• Designating impartial individuals with extensive experience in public service and administration as state Governors.

2.The Rajmannar Commission: It was established by the Tamil Nadu government in 1969 to investigate this matter, and it submitted its report in 1971. It necessitated the modification of the VII schedule and the allocation of residual powers to the states. The subsequent section presents its other significant recommendations:

• The establishment of an Inter-State council without delay
• The finance commission will be established as a permanent entity.
• Repeal of Articles 356, 357, and 365 pertaining to President's rule
• Elimination of All-India Services (IAS, IPS, and IFS)
• Replacement of the Planning Commission with a statutory entity
• The Central government wholly disregarded its recommendations.

3. Sarkaria commission:

R.S. Sarkaria, who had previously served as a judge on the Supreme Court, was invited to serve as the chairman of a committee that was intended to be appointed by the Parliament in the year 1983. As a result of the notification issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs in June of 1983,

the commission was ultimately established. Both Shri B. Sivaraman and Dr. S. R. Sen were given the responsibility of serving as members of the commission. To examine and evaluate the functioning of the present arrangements between the Union and the States in relation to powers, functions, and responsibilities in all areas, as well as to provide recommendations for reforms that would improve the coordination between the centre and the states, the commission was given the responsibility of conducting this investigation.

Sarkaria Commission Recommendations:

The chief recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission are mentioned below.

- The Sarkaria Commission recommended the appointment of individuals with considerable years of experience in public service and who have non-partisan attitudes.
- It is imperative that the states be granted the authority to investigate the progress of the populace and the efficient execution of social programs. In addition to providing support for the concept of cooperative federalism, it made the observation that federalism is more of a functional arrangement for cooperative activity than it is a static institutional construct. It is imperative that the state governments be provided with adequate financial resources in order to lessen their reliance on the central government.
- In order to settle any disagreements that may arise between the states, it is necessary to establish a permanent Inter-State council.
- In its report, the Sarkaria Commission recommended that All-India Services be given more autonomy.
- Concerning issues that are associated with state bills, it is necessary to keep the states informed while the President is exercising his veto power. When there is a requirement to deploy the armed forces in the states, the commission pushes for a consultative procedure between the central government and the states where the deployment is necessary.
- Additionally, it was suggested that the residuary powers to draft legislation in subjects pertaining to taxation should continue to be held by the Parliament. The residuary field must be classified under the concurrent list, with the exception of items pertaining to taxation. the concurrent list According to the report, the rule of the President, which is outlined in Article 356, should only be implemented in exceptional situations, as a measure of last resort, and when it becomes absolutely necessary to prevent the constitutional machinery in the state from breaking down.

4. National Commission for the Review of the Working of the Constitution (NCRWC):

The National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution (NCRWC) presented its recommendations, many of which reiterated the suggestions of the Sarkaria Commission. The subsequent list enumerates several novel recommendations:

• A statutory entity known as the Inter-State Trade and Commerce Commission should be instituted as stipulated in Article 307.

• The Governor should be designated by a committee consisting of the Prime Minister, Home Minister, Speaker of the Lok Sabha, and the Chief Minister of the respective state. Disaster and emergency management should be incorporated into the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule.

• Prior to invoking Article 356 in the event of a political breakdown within a state, the state should be afforded an opportunity to articulate its position and rectify the situation, as far as feasible.
• The 1990 Inter-State Council order should explicitly delineate the issues to be included in the consultations.

5. Punchhi Commission 2007: In 2007, the Central Government established the Punchhi Commission to analyse centre-state relations and to explore the potential for granting extensive powers to the centre for the suo motu deployment of Central forces in states and the investigation of offences impacting national security. The former Chief Justice of India, M.M. Punchhi, presided over the committee. It submitted its recommendation in 2009. Suggestions of the Punchhi Commission The following are some of its significant recommendations:
• It proposed a fixed term of five years for governors, with their removal through impeachment by the State Legislature, akin to the process for the President.
• The governor should possess the authority to authorise the prosecution of a minister contrary to the counsel of the council of ministers.
• It proposed a change to Articles 355 and 356 to allow the central government to impose its authority over certain troubled regions for a designated duration. Consequently, it suggested 'localising emergency laws,' allowing either a district or portions of a district to be placed under central authority rather than the entire state. The emergency should not exceed three months. It is proposed that the Centre be granted the authority to deploy its forces in the event of communal unrest without the state's authorisation for a brief duration of one week.
After extensive and rigorous discussions in the Constituent Assembly, the Constitution of India used the term Union of States to characterise the political organisation and power distribution in Independent India. The Constitutional framework, however, evidently favoured a robust Central authority, prompting certain Constitutional scholars and political analysts to characterise India as a ‘quasi-federal’ or ‘semi-federal’ state. This federation lacked provisions for dual citizenship, the power to secede, and robust legislative and budgetary authority for the States. It established a cohesive judiciary and a consolidated civil service governed by all-India services, along with a constitutional amendment procedure. The Constitution empowers the Centre through legislation, admit a new State, modify the territory of any State, or alter the boundaries or name of any State, irrespective of the State's perspectives (Articles 2 and 3). The number of states in India has more than doubled since 1957.
The centrist orientation of the Indian federation was clearly reflected in the constitutional provisions governing the allocation of legislative, executive, and financial functions between the Centre and the States. The Union, State, and Concurrent Lists in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution delineate subjects for which the Union and the States possess exclusive or concurrent legislative authority. Three These delineate the fiscal obligations of the Centre and States, respectively. Consequently, the Centre possesses exclusive authority over matters enumerated in the Union list, as well as residual issues. States have been granted the authority to legislate on matters specified in the State list and the Concurrent list. In the event of a disagreement, the Centre's law would take precedence if the issue is included in the Concurrent List (Article 254). The Centre's robust legislative authority is reinforced by granting Parliament the right to legislate on certain topics under the State list under certain situations. The Governor

is empowered to reserve any Bill enacted by the State Assembly for the President's consideration, who may hold it indefinitely.

The allocation of executive authority corresponds with the distribution of legislative power between the Centre and the States (Article 73 and 162). Article 257(1) stipulates that the executive authority of the State must be exerted in a manner that does not obstruct or undermine the exercise of executive authority of the Union. The Centre is authorised to provide directives to States about this matter. If the directives are not adhered to, the Centre may implement emergency measures. Article 73(1) grants the Union the ability and competence to exercise executive power concerning any treaty or agreement. The article stipulates that concerning issues in the Concurrent List, States may exercise executive power only if Parliament has not explicitly legislated differently.

The financial authorities conferred by the Constitution exhibit a distinct asymmetry between taxation powers and functional obligations, with the Centre allocated taxes with greater revenue potential and States granted more functional duties. Article 280 of the Constitution establishes the Finance Commission and other provisions to facilitate the transfer of resources from the Centre to mitigate the disparity between the resources and expenditure obligations of States. Six Article 275 (1) stipulates the provision of grants-in-aid to the revenues of States deemed by Parliament to require assistance, with varying amounts designated for various States. Seven According to clause (2) of Article 275, no order concerning grants under clause (1) shall be issued without taking into account the recommendations of the Finance Commission. Article 282 permits the Union or a State to allocate funds for any public purpose, regardless of whether such purpose falls within the legislative jurisdiction of Parliament or the State Legislature. The borrowing authority of the Central and State Governments is governed by Articles 292 and 293, which stipulate that States may borrow from external sources only with the prior approval of the Government of India.

The Constitution allows for the declaration of emergency under Article 352 during war, external aggression, or internal disturbance; under Article 356, when the President, upon the Governor's recommendation, determines a constitutional breakdown of State machinery; and under Article 360, in cases of financial emergency. These provisions possess the capacity to further modify the federal arrangements in favour of the Centre.

Within the constitutional framework, it is evident that, in addition to an unequal distribution of power between the Centre and the States, there was also a distinctive asymmetry among the States themselves. States exhibit considerable diversity in topography, demographics, natural resource endowments, cultural and linguistic assets, and their degree of integration with mainstream India. Certain variations were amplified in the political domain, shown by the disproportionate representation of States in Parliament due to the adoption of population criteria for determining the number of representatives from each State in both Houses. Nevertheless, certain discrepancies were addressed by provisions, such as distinct governance structures for Union territory or the allocation of special status or competences to specific States in acknowledgement of their unique circumstances.

Recent Changes in centre state relations:

1. **15th Finance Commission’s Recommendations**: The Centre executed the 15th Finance Commission's recommendation to decrease the states' contribution in taxes from 42% to 41%. The decrease in the state's allocation recognises the financial

difficulties while accommodating the requirements of Jammu & Kashmir as a Union Territory.

2. **Introduction of GST**: The Goods and Services Tax (GST) has united India's market; nonetheless, it has induced financial hardship on states, hence hurting federal relations. Numerous states have expressed apprehensions regarding delays in GST compensation.

3. **Farm Laws and Agriculture:** The agricultural legislation enacted by the Centre, intended to reform agriculture, incited much discontent, as some states contended that agriculture falls under State jurisdiction. The protestors in Punjab and Haryana asserted that the laws encroached upon their legislative authority.

4. **Establishment of NITI Aayog**: The disbandment of the Planning Commission and the formation of NITI Aayog represented a move towards cooperative federalism; yet, several states contend that decision-making remains excessively centralised in some domains.

5. **Increase in Centrally Sponsored Schemes**: States have experienced a reduction in their financial autonomy as a result of this, as they are frequently forced to contribute monies, which consequently restricts their ability to prioritise local development.

6. **Implementation of the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Scheme**: The state's influence over social assistance programs has been diminished as a result of the centralisation of welfare disbursement through the DBT Centre. This may result in a lack of responsiveness to the conditions that are present in the local community. As an illustration, programs such as the MGNREGA and the LPG subsidy are now dependent on direct transfers from the central government.

7. **One Nation, One Election Proposal**: There has been a lot of discussion about the plan to hold elections for both the Lok Sabha and the State Assemblies at the same time. Several states have argued that this would be detrimental to the federal structure.

Conclusion:

The dynamics of Centre-State relations have been influenced by political party imperatives, economic situations, political mobilisations, and external factors. Consequently, although the dominance of a single party at the national and most state levels resulted in less public conflicts between the two until around the mid-1960s, there has since been a significant increase in public protests and agitations in which the states aligned with the Centre. Numerous instances occurred in which an all-party resolution was adopted in the Assembly to either endorse or oppose a decision concerning the State. The establishment or opposition of industrial enterprises is but one example of this phenomenon. States have consistently opposed the Centre's intention to abolish sales tax, irrespective of the ruling party. The prevailing reality after the emergence of opposition-led states has undoubtedly become more confrontational. This also indicated the importance of other variables, resulting in variations in the nature and patterns of confrontational or autonomy demands. Following the emergence of coalition politics, the prevailing dynamics have shifted, highlighting an increased prominence of regional parties at the national level. This period also witnessed the increasing influence of external influences in policy-making processes, hence aggravating the issue of state autonomy

amid uncertain central autonomy. The diverse stance of States has also been shaped by the supportive or antagonistic actions of the ruling parties at the Centre. Nonetheless, while the necessity for political backing at the Centre provided enhanced prospects for regional allies, this alone could not serve as the decisive factor in their efficacy or lack thereof.

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