

- Settlement of a boundary dispute between India and another country **does not require a constitutional amendment** (Under Art. 368). It can be **done by executive action** as it does **not involve cession** of Indian territory to a foreign country.
- Before 1956, the states were classified into four parts-
 - Part A** – 9 former governor’s provinces
 - Part B** – 9 former princely states
 - Part C** – former princely states + chief commissioners provinces
 - Part D** – Andaman and Nicobar
- By the **States Re-organization Act (1956)** and the **7th Constitutional Amendment Act (1956)**, the four-fold division of state were **abolished**.

7th Constitutional Amendment Act 1956 - Led to creation of **Zonal councils** in India to advise on matters of common interest. They statutory in origin. Total **5** zonal councils exist in India. However, **North-Eastern zonal council** is created by **separate statute** in 1971 (North Eastern Council Act, 1972). The chairman of the Zonal council is **Union Home Minister** and **Chief Ministers of the States included in each zone act as Vice-Chairman** of the Zonal Council for that zone **by rotation**, each holding office for a **period of one year at a time**.

EVOLUTIONARY HISTORY OF STATES AND UTS

INTEGRATION OF PRINCELY STATES (SARDAR VALLABHAI PATEL WAS MAIN FORCE BEHIND)

- India had comprised **two categories** of political units -
 - The **British provinces** (under the direct rule of British government)
 - The **princely states** (under the rule of native princes but subject to the paramountcy of the British Crown).
- The **Indian Independence Act (1947)** created two independent and separate dominions of India and Pakistan and **gave three options** to the princely states –
 - Joining India
 - Joining Pakistan
 - Remaining independent.
- Of the **552 princely states** situated within the geographical boundaries of India, 549 joined India and the remaining **3 (Hyderabad, Junagarh and Kashmir) refused to join India**.
- In course of time, they were also integrated with India–
 - Hyderabad** by means of **police action (Operation POLO)**
 - Junagarh** by means of **referendum**
 - Kashmir** by the **Instrument of Accession**.

DHAR COMMISSION AND JVP COMMITTEE (1948)

- The integration of princely states with the rest of India has **purely an ad hoc arrangement**.
- Government of India appointed the Linguistic Provinces Commission under the chairmanship of **S.K. Dhar in 1948** to examine the feasibility and evolution of an objective criteria.
- Committee recommended the **reorganization of states on the basis of administrative convenience rather than linguistic factor**.
- Disappointment with Dhar committee led to the appointment of another Linguistic Provinces Committee in 1948 consist of **Jawaharlal Nehru, Vallabhai Patel and Pattabhi Sitaramayya**, itself to examine the whole question afresh.
- JVP committee formally **rejected language as the basis for reorganisation** of states.

UT of **Delhi** was redesignated as National Capital Territory (**NCT**) according to **69th Constitutional Amendment Act 1991**.

Andhra State Act, 1953 - Formed the **first linguistic state**, known as the State of Andhra, by taking out the **Telugu speaking** areas from the State of Madras. Kurnool was the **capital of Andhra State** and the **state high court was established at Guntur**.

FAZL ALI COMMISSION (1953)

- The creation of Andhra state in 1953 intensified the demand from other regions for creation of states **on linguistic basis**.
- This forced the Government to appoint a **three- member States Reorganisation Commission** in 1953, under the of to re-examine the whole question.