

Centre–State Relations



Constitutional Framework (1–10)

Trap 1

✗ India has a federal constitution like the USA.

✓ India has a **quasi-federal structure** with a **strong Centre (K.C. Wheare)**.

Trap 2

✗ Constitution explicitly uses the term "federation."

✓ The word 'Federation' never appears; India is a **Union of States (Art. 1)**.

Trap 3

✗ Federalism in India is based on compact among States.

✓ Indian Union is **indestructible**; states have **no right to secede**.

Trap 4

✗ States derive their authority from Parliament.

✓ Both Union & States derive powers from the **Constitution** itself.

Trap 5

✗ Centre–State relations are covered in only one part.

✓ Spread across **Parts XI & XII (Arts. 245–293)**.

Trap 6

✗ Parliament can alter the federal scheme anytime.

✓ Only through **constitutional amendment** under **Art. 368**.

Trap 7

✗ States have residuary powers.

✓ **Centre has residuary powers (Art. 248, List I, Entry 97)**.

Trap 8

✗ Distribution of powers is equal.

✓ **Tilted in favour of the Centre**.

Trap 9

✗ Only Parliament legislates for whole country.

✓ **State legislatures** can legislate within their domain (**List II**).

Trap 10

✗ Federal supremacy applies equally to all lists.

✓ Operates only in **conflicts between Union & State laws (Art. 254)**.

Legislative Relations (11–20)

Trap 11

✗ Legislative powers are in Article 368.

✓ Found in Articles 245–255.

Trap 12

✗ Parliament's law can never apply to Jammu & Kashmir.

✓ Post-2019, applies fully like other states.

Trap 13

✗ There are four legislative lists.

✓ Three — Union, State, and Concurrent (Seventh Schedule).

Trap 14

✗ States can legislate on Union List with Governor's permission.

✓ Only if Parliament delegates power (Art. 249, 250, 252).

Trap 15

✗ Both Union and States are co-equal on Concurrent List.

✓ Union law prevails in conflict (Art. 254).

Trap 16

✗ States can legislate on Concurrent List freely even after Union law exists.

✓ Can, but Union law overrides on same subject.

Trap 17

✗ Residuary powers go to States like in the USA.

✓ In India, Centre gets residuary powers.

Trap 18

✗ Parliament cannot legislate on State subjects even with consent.

✓ Can, under Art. 252 (two or more states request).

Trap 19

✗ States can withdraw delegation once given under Art. 252.

✓ Only Parliament can repeal such law.

Trap 20

✗ President's Rule affects only Executive.

✓ Also gives Parliament power to legislate for State (Art. 356).



Legislative Relations Continued (21–35)



Trap 21

✗ Parliament cannot legislate during **National Emergency**.

✓ Can legislate on **State List** during **Emergency** (**Art. 250**).



Trap 22

✗ Parliament's law made during **Emergency** ceases immediately when **Emergency** ends.

✓ Continues for 6 months after cessation.



Trap 23

✗ **Rajya Sabha** has no **legislative power** over **State List**.

✓ Can empower Parliament to legislate in **national interest** (**Art. 249**).



Trap 24

✗ **Governor** can make laws during breakdown.

✓ **President** legislates for State during **President's Rule**.



Trap 25

✗ Parliament can't make **extra-territorial laws**.

✓ Can legislate for Indian citizens abroad (**Art. 245**).



Trap 26

✗ **State laws** prevail in case of **repugnancy**.

✓ **Union law** prevails (**Art. 254**).



Trap 27

✗ Only **Parliament** can make laws for **Union Territories**.

✓ **Legislatures of UTs** (like Delhi, Puducherry) can too, within limits.



Trap 28

✗ Parliament's law requires **Governor's assent** in State matters.

✓ **President's assent** only needed for reserved **State Bills**.



Trap 29

✗ Parliament can legislate for State with consent of Chief Minister.

✓ Only with resolution of **State Legislature** (**Art. 252**).



Trap 30

✗ **State Legislature** can make law with **extra-territorial effect**.

✓ No — **State law** applies only within the State.

Legislative Relations Final (31–35)

Trap 31

✗ **President** cannot direct **Governor** on legislation.

✓ Can — under **Art. 200 Governor** may reserve Bills for **President**.

Trap 34

✗ **State List** originally had 70 subjects.

✓ 66 subjects after changes.

Trap 32

✗ **Parliament** cannot amend **State List** subjects.

✓ Can by **constitutional amendment**.

Trap 35

✗ **Concurrent List** was empty in **1950**.

✓ Had 47 subjects, now 52.

Trap 33

✗ **Union Parliament** has 97 subjects in **Union List** originally.

✓ Correct — now 100 subjects after amendments.

Administrative Relations (36–45)

Trap 36

✗ Union and States work in complete isolation.

✓ **Cooperative federalism** is constitutional ideal (**Art. 256–263**).

Trap 37

✗ States are independent in all executive matters.

✓ Bound to follow **Union laws and directions** (**Art. 256**).

Trap 38

✗ **President** cannot issue directions to States.

✓ Can under **Arts. 256, 257**, for **Union laws implementation**.

Trap 39

✗ States can ignore **Union's executive directions**.

✓ Binding — failure can lead to **Art. 356 action**.

Trap 40

✗ Centre can direct States even on **State List subjects**.

✓ Only to ensure communication, construction, or protection of **national interest** (**Art. 257**).

Trap 41

✗ States can entrust **executive functions** to **Centre** without law.

✓ Yes, by **mutual consent** (**Art. 258**).

Trap 42

✗ **President** can transfer **Union functions** to **States** unilaterally.

✓ Only with **State's consent**.

Trap 43

✗ **Governor** acts as an independent **constitutional head**.

✓ **Governor** acts as **link between Union and State**.

Trap 44

✗ States have control over **All India Services**.

✓ **Joint control** — **Centre makes rules; States supervise**.

Trap 45

✗ States can create their own **All India Services**.

✓ Only **Parliament** can create **AIS** (**Art. 312**).

Administrative Relations Continued (46–60)

Trap 46

✗ Union directions are advisory.

✓ Legally binding under Constitution.

Trap 47

✗ President cannot entrust Union duties to States.

✓ Can under Art. 258(1).

Trap 48

✗ Centre cannot delegate powers to States.

✓ Can by agreement or law.

Trap 49

✗ States can issue executive directions to Centre.

✓ No provision for such power.

Trap 50

✗ Centre and States have separate police jurisdictions without overlap.

✓ Overlap in All India Services, CBI, and central agencies.

Trap 51

✗ Governor has no duty to send reports to President.

✓ Mandatory under Art. 356 when constitutional machinery fails.

Trap 52

✗ States can refuse to implement central schemes.

✓ Only if not mandated by law; otherwise binding.

Trap 53

✗ States can refuse to share information with Centre.

✓ Constitution mandates cooperation (Art. 256).

Trap 54

✗ Central consent needed for State civil service creation.

✓ State Legislature can create services (Art. 309).

Trap 55

✗ Inter-State Council is optional political body.

✓ Constitutional body (Art. 263) established in 1990.

Administrative Relations Final (56–60)



Trap 56

✗ **President** must establish Inter-State Council.

✓ May establish if necessary (discretionary).



Trap 57

✗ Zonal Councils are constitutional.

✓ Statutory, under States Reorganisation Act, 1956.



Trap 58

✗ NITI Aayog replaced Inter-State Council.

✓ No — both exist separately.



Trap 59

✗ **Centre** can take over state administration anytime.

✓ Only under Art. 356 (President's Rule).



Trap 60

✗ **Governor** is the representative of the State in Centre.

✓ Represents the Centre in the State.

Financial Relations (61–75)

1

Trap 61

✗ Financial relations are in **Part XI**.

✓ In **Part XII (Arts. 268–293)**.

2

Trap 62

✗ **States** have equal revenue sources as **Centre**.

✓ **Centre** dominates, collects most major taxes.

3

Trap 63

✗ Only **Parliament** levies taxes.

✓ **States** can levy taxes under **List II** (e.g., excise, land revenue).

4

Trap 64

✗ **States** collect all taxes in their territory.

✓ Some **Union taxes** assigned to **States** (**Art. 268–272**).

5

Trap 65

✗ **GST** removed all **State taxation powers**.

✓ Retains certain taxes (e.g., alcohol, stamp duty, property tax).

6

Trap 66

✗ **GST** is purely central tax.

✓ **Dual structure** — **CGST** + **SGST**.

7

Trap 67

✗ **GST Council** is chaired by the **President**.

✓ **Union Finance Minister** chairs it.

8

Trap 68

✗ **Finance Commission** is statutory.

✓ **Constitutional body** (**Art. 280**).

9

Trap 69

✗ **Finance Commission** is permanent.

✓ Constituted every 5 years.

10

Trap 70

✗ **President** must follow **Finance Commission** recommendations.

✓ **Advisory**, not binding.



Financial Relations Continued (71–85)

Trap 71

✗ States can borrow without limit.

✓ Limits under **Art. 293(3)** — with **Central consent**.

Trap 72

✗ States can borrow abroad directly.

✓ Only with **Centre's consent**.

Trap 73

✗ **Grants-in-aid** are recommended by **NITI Aayog**.

✓ **Finance Commission** recommends (**Art. 275**).

Trap 74

✗ **Art. 275** deals with loans.

✓ Deals with **grants-in-aid** to needy states.

Trap 75

✗ **Art. 280** deals with inter-state disputes.

✓ **Finance Commission** provisions.

Trap 76

✗ **Art. 282** prohibits **discretionary grants**.

✓ Allows **discretionary grants** by both Centre and States.

Trap 77

✗ **Art. 270** abolished after **GST**.

✓ Continues — shares **tax revenues** between Centre & States.

Trap 78

✗ **Finance Commission's recommendations** are implemented by Parliament.

✓ By **President** via **Union Finance Ministry**.

Trap 79

✗ **Cess** and **surcharges** are **shareable** with States.

✓ Not **shareable** unless Parliament provides.

Trap 80

✗ States can levy **income tax**.

✓ Only **Centre** can (except **agricultural income**).



Commissions, Councils & Final Traps (81–100)

Trap 81

- ✗ **Centre** can borrow from **State funds**.
- ✓ No; can lend or grant, not borrow.

Trap 82

- ✗ **Consolidated Fund of India** can be used by **States**.
- ✓ Separate **Consolidated Funds** exist for each.

Trap 83

- ✗ **Public Accounts Committee** works under **Finance Commission**.
- ✓ **Parliamentary committee**, not under **FC**.

Trap 84

- ✗ **States** decide **devolution formula**.
- ✓ **Finance Commission** recommends **devolution**.

Trap 85

- ✗ **GST Council's** decisions are **binding** automatically.
- ✓ **Recommendatory**, but usually followed.

Trap 86

- ✗ **Sarkaria Commission** was on **financial devolution**.
- ✓ On **Centre-State relations** (1983–1988).

Trap 87

- ✗ **Punchhi Commission** preceded **Sarkaria**.
- ✓ Came after (2007–2010).

Trap 88

- ✗ **Inter-State Council** created by **44th Amendment**.
- ✓ Created by **Presidential Order**, 1990 (**Art. 263**).

Trap 89

- ✗ **Rajamannar Committee** was central.
- ✓ **Tamil Nadu State Committee** (1969) on **state autonomy**.

Trap 90

- ✗ **Zonal Councils** are chaired by **President**.
- ✓ **Union Home Minister** chairs them.



Trap 91

- ✗ **Zonal Councils** were formed by **Finance Commission**.
- ✓ By **States Reorganisation Act, 1956**.

Trap 96

- ✗ India follows **competitive federalism** only.
- ✓ Both **cooperative & competitive federalism**.



Trap 92

- ✗ **North Eastern Council** is **constitutional**.
- ✓ **Statutory** (1971 Act).

Trap 97

- ✗ **GST** and **NITI Aayog** reduced **Centre-State cooperation**.
- ✓ Both aim to enhance **cooperative federalism**.



Trap 93

- ✗ **River disputes** are settled by **Inter-State Council**.
- ✓ Settled by **Tribunals** under **Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956**.

Trap 98

- ✗ **"One Nation, One Election"** is **constitutionally mandated**.
- ✓ Not yet adopted — requires **amendment**.

Trap 99

- ✗ **Article 263** mandates creation of **Zonal Councils**.
- ✓ Refers to **Inter-State Council**, not **Zonal Councils**.



Trap 94

- ✗ **Interstate Council** decisions are **binding**.
- ✓ **Advisory** only.

Trap 100

- ✗ **Centre-State disputes** can be referred only to **Parliament**.
- ✓ Can be decided by **Supreme Court** under **Art. 131**.



Trap 95

- ✗ **National Integration Council** is **constitutional**.
- ✓ **Non-statutory, advisory forum**.

