

## Summary of the Article in English:

The article discusses the centralization of education governance in India, specifically focusing on recent decisions by the central government that may affect state control over school and university education. It highlights two key developments:

### 1. Change in CBSE School Approval Process

- The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has announced that new CBSE schools will no longer require a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from state governments.
- Previously, state governments had to ensure that a new private school was necessary in a given area before granting permission.
- This move could create an imbalance between state-approved private schools and CBSE schools, leading to educational inequality.

### 2. Selection of State University Vice-Chancellors

- The University Grants Commission (UGC) has proposed a new system where state governments will have no representative in the search committee for vice-chancellors of state universities.
- Currently, state government representatives, along with university syndicate and senate members, participate in the selection process.
- Under the new proposal, the committee will consist of representatives from the Governor, the university syndicate, and the UGC.
- The article argues that since state universities operate with state funding, the state government should have a say in selecting their leadership.

Additionally, the article criticizes the Tamil Nadu government for its inconsistency regarding the PM Shri Schools initiative under the National Education Policy (NEP). Initially, the state government accepted it, fearing loss of central funding, but later withdrew, allegedly for political reasons.

The article concludes that while the central government can regulate education, the implementation of educational policies should remain under state control to prevent confusion and maintain educational integrity.

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## Salient Points:

### 1. CBSE School Approval Changes:

- Previously, new CBSE schools needed an NOC from the state government.
- The central government removed this requirement.
- This may lead to an increase in CBSE schools without state oversight, potentially weakening existing state-approved schools.

### 2. State University Vice-Chancellor Appointment:

- UGC has proposed that state government representatives be removed from the search committee.
- The committee will now include representatives from the Governor, UGC, and the university syndicate.
- This reduces state government influence over universities funded by state

budgets.

### 3. **Tamil Nadu's Flip-Flop on PM Shri Schools:**

- Initially, Tamil Nadu approved PM Shri Schools under NEP.
- Later, the state withdrew from the program, citing political concerns.
- The article criticizes this inconsistency, arguing that it affects students and education policy implementation.

### 4. **Need for Balance in Educational Governance:**

- While central oversight is necessary, states should retain control over implementation.
- Any confusion in governance can negatively impact students, institutions, and overall educational development.

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## **Facts & Figures:**

- **40 years** – The NOC requirement for CBSE schools has been in place for four decades.
- **PM Shri Schools** – A national initiative under the National Education Policy (NEP) to upgrade existing schools with central funding.
- **State Universities** – Operate largely on state funds but may lose state government influence in leadership selection.

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## **Persons/Institutions Involved & Their Background:**

### 1. **CBSE (Central Board of Secondary Education)**

- A national education board under the Union Ministry of Education.
- Responsible for standardizing curriculum and conducting board exams.

### 2. **UGC (University Grants Commission)**

- The apex body for higher education in India.
- Sets standards for universities and allocates funds.

### 3. **State Governments (Tamil Nadu Example)**

- Traditionally responsible for regulating private schools and state universities.
- Concerned about the central government reducing their role in education governance.

### 4. **Governor's Office**

- Under the new proposal, the Governor's representatives will play a key role in vice-chancellor appointments, reducing state government influence.

This article essentially argues for maintaining the balance between central regulations and state autonomy in education to prevent confusion and ensure fair governance.