

## u) Trend of Cooperative federalism

In the last decade an instrumental initiative has been taken by govt. of India to abrogate centralised planning commission & to establish much more responsive NITI Aayog with the purpose to evolve a shared vision of National Development Priorities, Sector & Strategies with active involvement of States & to foster Cooperative federalism through structured supported initiative.

To operationalise this vision of Cooperative federalism.

initiative of  
the A Rationalisation of Centrally  
Sponsored Scheme has been taken  
by Govt. of India from 2015-16 budget.

After 2015-16, the no. of Centrally  
Sponsored schemes have been segregated  
into core & optional schemes.

Funds for the optional schemes would  
be allocated to the states in a  
lump sum manner & the states  
(block)

have the flexibility of portability of  
funds from optional schemes. Apart  
from this by accepting the recommendations  
of 14th Finance Commission the  
devolution to the states was increased  
from 32% to 42%. Subsequently,  
the fiscal space/scale available to  
the Union to fund centrally  
Sponsored Scheme has decreased  
substantially. All these initiatives  
are taken to empower states

in the matter of policy prerogatives,  
setting their priorities & providing space

for their planning endeavour.

The tenets of Cooperative federalism in  
(facts)  
govt. schemes :

Several schemes were started by Govt. of India in the fields like Rural Development, Urban Infrastructure transformation, Capacity building, & providing basic services to the urban & Rural poor. All these schemes are crafted on the lines that states should be equal partners in planning & implementation of these schemes.

In total mission for Revitalisation & Urban Transformation (AMRUT), the annual action plan is sanctioned & approved by the States at their own end. Earlier, under TNU&M, project by project approval is given by Ministry of Urban development, Govt. of India. Similarly, Smart City Mission, which is based on Area based Approach & incorporates strategies of



Retrofitting, Redevelopment, Green field Development & Pan city development provides equal opportunities to the states to identify the potential smart cities. Apart from this under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna states have the flexibility to include any planning under in the mission, to determine the size of house & to identify the beneficiaries.

#### ii) Competitive federalisation

Recently, a new initiative called as Transformation of Aspirational District Programme has been started by Govt. of India. There are 3 broad contours of this programme i.e.

Convergence, collaboration & competition. Under convergence it is required to bring horizontal & vertical convergence of all the schemes at District level. Similarly, in the component of collaboration a type of coordination should be secured between officials of

Central & State Govt. after the convergence of schemes. Finally, every district has to compete for allocation of funds, once they attain the target of convergence & collaboration.

States are the main drivers of this programme, & will focus on the strength of each district ~~to identify~~ with the purpose to identify <sup>the area of</sup> ~~to~~ improvement in the district.

iv) Collaborative federalism with centralising tendencies :

During Covid Pandemic, Union Govt. provide adequate space & autonomy to the States for strengthening their health care service, implementing the social security measures & to mitigate the impact of pandemic. At the same time during this health emergency several reactionary

actions are taken by Govt. of India  
like abrogation of Article 370,  
Enactment of citizenship Act,  
change of domicile rules of J.K. etc.