
LINGUISTIC REORGANIZATION OF STATES: IMPACT ON PUNJAB AND HARYANA

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INTRODUCTION

India became free from British with the passing of independence Act 1947, this act divided country in to two independent states India and Pakistan. However, criteria about princely state act lay down under section 7(1) (B). After the transfer of powers to Indian hands some of the princely states demanded their independence under section 7(1) (B) and refused to unite to India. This act of princely states was not acceptable to the congress leaders. Out of 562, 556 princely states decided to join with Indian Union on the pretext their interest will be safe in the Indian union. Three states like Junagarh, Hyderabad and Jammu and Kashmir, opted to remain independent. Junagarh join the Indian Union after plebiscite, whereas Hyderabad forced to join the Indian Union. Third princely state of Jammu and Kashmir joined the Indian Union after a treaty between Maharaja Hari Singh and Jawaharlal Nehru, when it was attack by Pakistani guerrillas.

The accession of the state to the Indian Union was partial solution to the problem as these states joined India only to three matters of defence, external affairs and communication. The new look of India after independence merged 216 states designated as part (A) states, 275 states designated as part (B) states and 6 states categories as (C) states. The island Andaman and Nicobar placed in part (D). States under the constitution:

1. Part A states-: Assam, Bihar, Bombay, Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Orissa, Punjab, Utter Pradesh, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh.
2. Part B states-: Hyderabad, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Bharat, Mysore, PEPSU, Rajasthan, Saurashtra and Travancore-Cochin.
3. Part C states-: Ajmer, Bilaspur, Bhopal, Coorg, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Kutch, Manipur, Tripura and Vindya Pradesh.
4. Part D state-: Andaman and Nicobar Island.

In the perspective of demand from various section of the society, the government of India has set up a state reorganization commission on December 22, 1953 under the chairmanship of Fazal Ali including Sardar K.M. Pannikar and Pandit H.N. Kanungo. Commissions examined the issue carefully and submitted its report to Indian Government with the provisions of equal status for all states of A, B, C and D Categories. The demand of Punjabi Suba, Haryana, Jharkhand, Maru Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat was rejected. The all 28 states may be further reorganized in to 16 states and 3 centrally administered territories-: Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Bombay, Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Orissa, Punjab, Utter Pradesh, West Bengal, Hyderabad, Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Kerala and Vidharbha. Centrally administered territories were Delhi, Manipur and Andaman and Nicobar Island.

The Government of India accepted the recommendations with partial modifications. The state reorganization bill introduced to parliament in April, 1956 and finally passed in July 1956. The act became operational in November 1956 with new look states i.e. Assam, Bihar, Bombay, Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Orissa, Punjab, Utter Pradesh, West Bengal, Jammu and Kashmir, Mysore, Rajasthan, Kerala and Andhra

Pradesh. Six union territories including Andaman and Nicobar Island, Delhi, Manipur, Himachal Pradesh, Lakshadweep Minicoy Amindeva Islands and Tripura.

Even with this reorganization most of the states were not satisfied as they were not considered on the basis of language. People continued their agitation for linguistic states in the various part of the country. First, such agitation was Bombay on the demand of Maharashtra and Gujarat. Hence, the demand was accepted by Indian government and the states of Maharashtra and Gujarat came in to existence. After the creation of these two new states demand for Punjabi Suba consisting of Punjabi speaking areas under the Akali Leadership Master Tara Singh agitation gain momentum. Since the people of Haryana as part of Punjab had the feeling that culturally they were being dominated, economically exploited and remained politically under represented, they like Sikhs also wanted reorganization of the then bi-lingual state of Punjab on linguistic basis. Ultimately central Government agreed to demand and appointed a Parliamentary committee under the chairmanship of Sardar Hukam Singh. The formation of this committee was announced in the Parliament on 23 September 1965. On 23 April, 1966, acting on the recommendation of the Hukam Singh Committee, the then Indian government set up the Shah Commission under the chairmanship of Justice J. C. Shah, to divide and set up the boundaries of Punjab and Haryana.

THE PUNJAB STATE REORGANIZATION ACT, 1966

After this reorganization Punjab divided in to three states Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and a Union territory of Chandigarh. It has made following provisions:

I) STATE OF PUNJAB AND TERRITORIAL DIVISIONS:

(a) On and from the appointed day, the State of Punjab shall comprise the territories of the existing State of Punjab other than those specified in sub-section (1) of section 3, section 4 and sub-section (1) of section 5. (b) The territories which immediately before the appointed day were part of Ambala district in the existing state of Punjab, but are not transferred by virtue of section, 3, 4 and 5, shall together with the territories which immediately before that day were part of the Una tehsil of Hoshiarpur district in the existing State of Punjab but are not transferred by virtue of section 5, form a separate district known as the Ropar district in the State of Punjab and in that district- (i) the territories which immediately before the appointed day were part of Manimaja kanungo circle of Kharar tehsil of Ambala district but are not transferred by virtue of sections 3 and 4, shall form in that tehsil a separate kanungo circle called the Mullanpur kanungo circle; (ii) the territories which immediately before the appointed day were part of Una tehsil of Hoshiarpur district but are not transferred by virtue of section 5, shall form a separate tehsil known as Anandpur Sahib tehsil, and in that tehsil the territories which immediately before the appointed day were part of Santokhgarh kanungo circle of Una tehsil of Hoshiarpur district but are not transferred by virtue of section 5, shall be included in, and form part of Nurpur Bedi, Kanungo circle.

II) CREATION OF NEW STATE OF HARYANA:

There shall be formed a new State to be known as the State of Haryana comprising the following territories of the existing State of Punjab, namely:

- (a) Hissar, Rohtak, Gurgaon, Karnal and Mahendragarh districts;
- (b) Narwana and Jind tehsils of Sangrur district;
- (c) Ambala, Jagadhari and Naraingarh tehsils of Ambala district;
- (d) Pinjore kanungo circle of Kharar tehsil of Ambala district; and
- (e) The territories in Manimajra kanungo circle of Kharar tehsil of Ambala district specified in the First Schedule, and thereupon the said territories shall cease to form part of the existing State of Punjab. The territories referred to in clause (b) of sub-section (1) shall form a separate district known as the district in the State of Haryana.

III) CREATED A NEW STATE HIMACHAL PRADESH AND TERRITORY TRANSFER FROM PUNJAB:

(I) On and from the appointed day, there shall be added to the Union territory of Himachal Pradesh the territories in the existing State of Punjab comprised in- (a) Simla, Kangra, Kulu and Lahul and Spiti districts; (b) Nalagarh tehsil of Ambala district; (c) Lohara, Amb and Una kanungo circles of Una tehsil of Hoshiarpur district; (d) the territories in Santokhgarh kanungo circle of Una tehsil of Hoshiarpur district specified in Part I of the Third Schedule; (e) the territories in Una tehsil of Hoshiarpur district specified in part II of the Third Schedule; and (f) the territories of Dhar Kalan Kanungo circle of Pathankot tehsil of Gurdaspur district specified in Part III of the Third Schedule, and thereupon the said territories shall cease to form part of the existing State of Punjab.

(II) The territories referred to in clause (b) of sub section (1) shall be included in, and form part of Simla district.

(III) The territories referred to in clauses (c), and (d) and (e) of sub-section (1) shall be included in and form part of Kangra district, and (i) the territories referred to in clauses (c) and (d) shall form a separate tehsil known as Una tehsil in that district and in that tehsil the territories referred to in clause (d) shall form a separate kanungo circle known as the Santokhgarh kanungo circle; and (ii) the territories referred to in clause (e) shall form part of the Hamirpur tehsil in the said district.

(IV) The territories referred to in clause (f) of sub-section (1) shall be included in, and form part of the Bhattiyat tehsil of Chamba district in the Union territory of Himachal Pradesh and in that tehsil, the villages Dalhousie and Balun shall be included in, and form part of Banikhet kanungo circle and the village Bakloh shall form part of Chowari kanungo circle.

IV) FORMATION OF UNION TERRITORY OF CHANDIGARH:

On and from the appointed day, there shall be formed a new Union Territory to be known as the Union Territory of Chandigarh comprising such of the territories of Manimajra and Manauli kanungo circles of Kharar tehsil of Ambala district in the existing State of Punjab as are specified in the Second Schedule and thereupon the territories so specified shall cease to form part of the existing State of Punjab.

IMPACT OF LINGUISTIC REORGANIZATION ON PUNJAB STATE:

The reorganization of Punjab state in 1966 was outcome of the Sikhs demand for Punjabi Suba (a separate state comprising of Punjabi speaking areas of Punjab). The new Punjab was much smaller than the united Punjab. Now it was having just 41% of the total area and 55% population. Punjab forms the border of India with Pakistan in the west, Haryana and Rajasthan in the south, Himachal Pradesh in the east and Jammu and Kashmir in the north. Its area is 50376 sq. km. According to 1971 census its population was 13472972 with a density of 267 persons per sq. km. The state was having 11 districts in comprising of Ferozpur, Amritsar, Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur, Kapurthala, Jullundur, Ludhiana, Ropar, Patiala, Bhatinda and Sangrur.

The reorganization of Punjab brought far reaching impact in the demography and political structure of Punjab. The first and most important impact was that now the Punjab became Sikh majority state with 60.22% Sikh population. The distribution of the Hindu and Sikh population in the state has important social and political implication. The Hindu population remained mostly in the urban areas where as Sikh comprises most of the rural population. So the differences of outlook and interest between urban and rural population sharpened due to religious differences. In rural areas the clash of interests between the land lords and land less laborers were on forefront.

Second impact has on political leadership and party politics influenced by the communal outlook. Akali Dal who spearheaded the movement for state reorganization was the main gainer. Analysis of the election result from 1966 onwards, it shows that generally the numerical strength of the Sikhs in the Punjab

Legislative Assembly remained about 70%. The communist parties like CPI and CPI (M) also benefitted as they were having base in Punjabi speaking areas. Congress was the major loser as they lose both Hindu and Sikhs support. Sikhs move away from Congress for keeping Chandigarh and some other Punjabi speaking areas out of Punjab; however Hindu blamed it for accepting the claim of the Akalis. Jan Sangh was the major loser at that time as it was just confined to the urban areas and was not in a position to spread its support base.

Third impact was the agitational politics of the Akali's. On 1st November 1966 at Amritsar Sant Akali Dal passed number of resolutions regretting exclusion of Chandigarh and other Punjabi speaking areas from the new state and authorized Sant Fateh Singh to chalk out further programme. 20th November, 1966 a Jatha of 75 Akalis under the leadership of Mohan Singh Tur set out on a march toward Chandigarh to press for its demand. But the impact of this march was not much. On 5th December, 1966 Sant announced his plan to burn himself alive if demand were not conceded. The demands were:

- a) Common link between Punjab and Haryana should be snapped.
- b) The two states should have separate Governor and High court.
- c) Chandigarh and other Punjabi speaking areas should be given to Punjab.
- d) Bhakhra and Beas project should be handed over to Punjab.

In the mean time Akali Dal on 11th Dec 1966 in Ludhiana passed a resolution demanding 'Sikh Home Land' should be given an autonomous constitutional status like Jammu and Kashmir. On 17th December 1966 Sant Fateh Singh started his fast. Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafir and Hukum Singh the then Lok Sabha speaker made efforts to resolve the crises and made an appeal to the Sant abandon his fast. On 26th December Sant gave up his plan of self immolation on the assurance that Prime Minister would arbitrate on the issue of Chandigarh and Bhakhra Dam and a commission would be appointed to settle the other disputed issues. However the Government of India was reluctant on the promise given by the Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafir. On the contrary Chief Minister of Haryana Pandit Bhawat Dayal Sharma opposed the move of Musafir. But the main outcome was the fast of Sant came to end.

The fourth impact was politics of coalition and instability. First United Front Ministry under the Chief Minister ship of Sardar Gurnam Singh lasted from 8th March 1967 to 7th November 1967 with the support of RPI, CPI, CPI (M), Jan Sangh and Akali Dal (Musafir). On 22nd November 1967 L.S. Gill defected from United Front Government and took over as Chief Minister on 25th November 1967 with 21 members with an extended support to Gill ministry from outside. On 20th August 1968 Congress withdrew its support to Gill's ministry and President Rule was in power. In February 1969 midterm elections Akali Dal (after merger both Akali Dal) and Jansangh fought together and got favorable result to retain power under the leadership of Sardar Gurnam Singh. Even then this Government did not last long and fell on 27th March 1970 giving way to Sardar Prakash Singh Badal.

Other impact was absence of natural resources in new Punjab. As in the award of reorganization hilly areas of Kangra and Shimla district were given to Himachal Pradesh. Hence now Punjab has no hilly area, no forest wealth and no mineral resources at all. Most of the mineral rich areas either went to Himachal Pradesh and Haryana. And even the industrial position was not good. The industries of Amritsar, Batala, Ludhiana started shifting to closer to Delhi such as Panipat, Sonapat, Faridabad and Ballabgarh. Later Punjab government introduced new industrial policy to revive its position and created focal points in various areas.

Another, Green Revolution in Punjab brought far reaching impact on the agrarian society. Green Revolution increased the agriculture output with the help of new variety of seeds. Use of machines, weedicides and pesticide in the agriculture sector increased per hectare production many folds, which resulted in the shape of increased per capita income at the national level?

IMPACT OF LINGUISTIC REORGANIZATION ON HARYANA STATE:

Haryana was created out of the Indian state of Punjab on 1st November 1966, as the 17th and one of the smallest states in Indian Union on account of the linguistic reorganization. This state was formed on the recommendation of the Sardar Hukam Singh Parliamentary Committee. Since the people of Haryana as part of Punjab had the feeling that culturally they were being dominated, economically exploited and remained politically under represented, they like Sikhs also wanted reorganization of the then bi-lingual state of Punjab on linguistic basis. Ultimately central Government agreed to demand and appointed a Parliamentary committee under the chairmanship of Sardar Hukam Singh. The formation of this committee was announced in the Parliament on 23 September 1965. On 23 April, 1966, acting on the recommendation of the Hukam Singh Committee, the Indian government set up the Shah Commission under the chairmanship of Justice J. C. Shah, to divide and set up the boundaries of Panjab and Haryana.

The commission gave its report on 31 May, 1966. According to this report the districts of Hissar, Mahendergarh, Gurgaon, Rohtak, and Karnal were to be a part of the new state of Haryana. Further the Tehsils of Jind (district Sangrur), Narwana (district Sangrur) Naraingarh, Ambala and Jagadhari were also included. The commission recommended that Tehsil Kharar (including Chandigarh) should also be a part of Haryana. After receiving the report of the Shah Commission, the Indian government passed Panjab reorganization bill, 1966 on 18 September, 1966. According to this bill, the boundary of the Haryana was to be as follows:

- The districts of Hissar, Rohtak, Gurgaon, Karnal and Mahendergarh
- The Jind and Narwana tehsils of Sangrur district
- The Ambala, Jagadhari and Naraingarh tehsils of Ambala district
- The Pinjore circle of Kharar tehsil (district Ambala)
- Part of the Mani Majra circle of Kharar tehsil

It was also decided that the two states of Haryana and Punjab would have a common High Court called the 'Panjab & Haryana High Court'. The other parts of the bill dealt with issues like division of the Parliament seats in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

Haryana's Area & Population in 1966					
Districts	Area (sq. km)	Males	Females	Population	Density (people/km)
Hissar	13,891	8,27,658	7,12,850	15,40,508	111
Rohtak	6,040	7,51,225	6,69,166	14,20,391	235
Gurgaon	6,086	6,59,432	5,81,274	12,40,760	204
Karnal	7,964	8,04,769	6,85,661	14,90,430	187
Ambala	3,702	4,85,110	4,00,675	8,85,785	231
Jind	2,712	2,50,653	2,14,220	4,64,873	164
Mahendergarh	3,474	2,83,950	2,63,900	5,47,850	158

The reorganization of Punjab brought far reaching impact in the demography and political structure of Haryana. The first and most important impact was that now the Haryana became Hindu majority state more than 90% Hindu population, though Muslim, Sikhs, Christians, Jains and Buddhists are also there. The caste considerations are very strong among the majority community like Brahmins, Jats, Vaishyas, Ahirs, Gujjars, Rajputs, Bishnois, Sainis and Dalits. The general election of 1967 provided an interim Government in the state. The first Congress Ministry formed by Pandit Bhagwat Dayal Sharma. He had to face a strong rival in the form of Rao Birender Singh, who enjoyed great popularity in the Ahir belt. He demanded Vishal Haryana, including certain part of Rajasthan, Meerut and Agra divisions of Uttar Pradesh. The election of 1967 the Congress secured 48 seats in an Assembly of 81, which constituted a clear cut majority. The other parties like Swatantra 3, Jan Sangh 12, Republican 2 and independents 26 seats. As results, a ministry was formed under the leadership of Pandit Bhagwat Dayal Sharma, which did well for some time. But immediately defections crept in his ministry. Caste consideration over powered the party loyalty and his government fell down. Pandit Bhagwat Dayal Sharma remained Chief Minister after the general election of 1967 held his post just for 13 days.

The second impact was the politics of defection. After the fall of Pandit Bhagwat Dayal Sharma Ministry Rao Birender Singh leader of United Front Government, framed Ministry which stayed in office for nearly 4 months. Soon the practice of defections led to political instability in the state and the government could not work properly. About 50% of total memberships of Legislature Assembly were defected. Of these one defected five times, two four times, three thrice, four twice and 34 once. In the light of these developments the Governor recommended the imposition of President Rule in the state and dissolution of the Assembly. The State of Haryana was administered by Governor Birender Narayan from 22 November, 1967 to 20 May 1968. This practice even continued in the years to come. Bhajan Lal considered as main conspirator of the factionalism, when whole of the ruling Janta Party joined the Congress Party to remain in power in 1980.

The third impact was rise of new leadership emerged in Haryana. The midterm poll held from 12-14 May 1968. The Congress secured 48 seats. The Swatantra Party secured only 2 seats, the Jan Sangh got 7, the Republican Party got only 1 seat, Vishal Haryana secured 16 seats Kranti Dal secured 1 seat and the independents declined to 6 seats. Mr. Bansi Lal was unanimously elected the leader and became the youngest Chief Minister of Haryana. He remains the Chief Minister of Haryana till 1975, when he joined the Union Cabinet as Defense Minister.

Other impact on Haryana was swift urbanization and industrialization. Haryana being near to national Capital Delhi gained some industrial location of Sonapat, Panipat, Faridabad, Gurgaon and Ballabgarh as strong industrial hub of the state. It also led to the urbanization of these areas. The urban cities like Faridabad and Gurgaon got significance place not only in Haryana but also at the national map. The main industries of the area are auto mobile, agriculture industries, cotton based industries, heavy industries etc.

In the rural areas also the effective planned development work was carried out, because almost 82% of its population lives in villages and depends on agriculture. The electrification of villages, spread of road links, provision of rural health facilities, supply of drinking water and spread of education made Haryana to lead at the national level. Green Revolution in Haryana brought far reaching impact on the agrarian society. Green Revolution increased the agriculture output with the help of new variety of seeds. Use of machines and pesticide in the agriculture sector increased per hectare production many fold. This resulted in the shape of increased per capita income in the state of Haryana.

CONCLUSION

This is an established fact that after the reorganization both the states emerged stronger. They were able to satisfy their demand which they raised during the reorganization of the states. Both the states are growing in the field of agriculture, education, culture, health, economy and politics. There have been some persisting trends in Punjab and Haryana politics which have been carried over from the pre organized Punjab, such as the continued use of direct action technique, the inflow of religion in politics, the growing maturity of electorate, the rising trend of agriculture production and of consistent support to agriculture by all the political parties irrespective of their political complexions and the growth of literacy and education. Now Punjabi in Gurumukhi Script is the main and official language of Punjab which justified the reorganization of the state on the basis of language. Similarly, in Haryana the Haryanvi language and culture also developed and gained its due place, which Haryanvi people demanding before the reorganization. At present both the states are adopting the modal of economic development and they counting the most prosper states in India.

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