

official language of India, is the sole official language of four states. Two states are bilingual, Bombay (Marathi and Gujarati) and the Punjab (Punjabi and Hindi). In seven of the new states, one of the number of languages recognized by the constitution is the mother tongue of the large majority of the people and the official language of the state.

Reorganization—First Stage

The Indian Government created these tidy compartments of administration in two stages. The first steps were taken at the time of and shortly after the partition of India in August 1947, with the accession of princely states to the Indian Union and their integration into the framework of the new country. Although most of the Indian States acceded shortly after Independence, integration was not completed until 1950, when Hyderabad came into the Union. Some princely states merged with former provinces of British India; others, such as the states which became Rajasthan and Travancore-Cochin, united to form a larger unit; still others—Hyderabad, Mysore, Bhopal and Coorg—remained as separate entities.

The complicated process of accession and integration was carried through under the direct and vigorous leadership of the late Sardar Patel, then Deputy Prime Minister of India. The resulting twenty-eight states were divided into four categories, "A", "B", "C" and "D". The "A" states were the old governors' provinces of the pre-independence period. The "B" states were composed of territories ruled at the time of partition by the Indian princes, who now performed the functions of governors with the title of "Rajpramukhs". (For example, the Maharaja of Patiala became the Rajpramukh of PEPSU—Patiala and East Punjab States Union—an amalgam of princely states scattered like a picturesque ink blot across the Punjab plains). The "B" states had popular government, with local cabinets and elected legislatures. The "C" states were placed under the direct control of the central government represented in each state by a chief commissioner. The capital city of Delhi and a few miles surrounding it became one of these part "C" states, with a state government and legislature of limited scope. There was one "D" state, also under the direct control of the central government.

State governments were given responsibility for the administration of justice, public order, police, health and sanitation, prisons, education and forests and fisheries, and the power to tax agricultural incomes, professions, trades, luxuries and entertainment. The state governments also share with the central government responsibility for criminal law and procedure, marriage and divorce, contracts, pure food laws, trade unions, labour, social security, electricity, economic and social planning, price control, factories, newspapers, books and printing presses. The central government is responsible for defense, foreign affairs, transportation, posts and telegraphs, currency, coinage and external trade and commerce, and also has residuary powers in fields not specifically allocated to the states.

Reorganization—Second Stage

The second stage of reorganization began with the creation on October 1, 1953 of the new state of Andhra, which was formed out of the north-eastern segment of Madras State and has a largely Telugu-speaking population. At the