



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR LEGAL RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

Open Access, Refereed Journal Multi Disciplinary
Peer Reviewed Edition :

www.ijlra.com

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INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR LEGAL RESEARCH & ANALYSIS
ISSN

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ABSTRACT:

The National Development Council (NDC) plays a critical role in India's system of policymaking. As a platform for collaboration and coordination between the federal and state governments, it was formed in 1952. The NDC develops strategies for a range of industries, including infrastructure, manufacturing, and agriculture. It seeks to advance the nation's balanced economic development. The Council is presided over by the Indian Prime Minister. The NDC serves as a platform for the discussion of important development-related problems. It is essential to India's economic and social progress. It demonstrates the nation's dedication to sustainable development and inclusive progress. The National Development Council (NDC), which represents a federal planning approach and ensures a comprehensive national view, is essential to India's planning system. Political factors, backing from the federal government, state pressure, and effectiveness have all played a role in the ups and downs of the NDC's journey. The National Development Council, also known as Rashtriya Vikas Parishad, is India's primary decision-making and policy-making body for development-related matters. It is currently presided over by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. This organization was established on August 6, 1952. The Planning Commission emphasized the NDC's significance in the Draft First Five Year Plan after recognizing the potential benefits. The creation of a committee for recurring planning evaluations by the Prime Minister and Chief Ministers was thought essential given the size of India and the constitutional sovereignty of its states. So, as a result of a Cabinet Secretariat recommendation by the Government of India, the NDC was born in August 1952.

Keywords: Rashtriya Vikas Parishad , NDC National Development Council

INTRODUCTION:

The Prime Minister has served as the head of the National Development Council. The major tasks of the NDC are to advance shared economic policies, ensure balance and rapid development throughout the nation, and advance the effort and resources of the nation in support of the planning commission's five-year plan. The Prime Minister, members of the Union Cabinet, NITI Aayog members, representatives of their Union Territories, and the Chief Ministers of the states make up the NDC. Although it has been suggested that NDC be wound up as well, no decision has yet been made to abolish it. Since Narendra Modi established NITI Aayog, the NDC has been idle, without any work to do, and without holding any meetings. The Planning Commission was a central planning agency of India that was established in 1950. It was responsible for formulating five-year plans and allocating resources for various developmental activities in the country. However, it was criticized for its top-down approach and lack of flexibility. In 2014, the Planning Commission was replaced by the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog, which is a policy think tank that provides strategic and technical advice to the government.

NDC BACKGROUND:

- The NDC's fortunes have fluctuated greatly over the years. Its position has been determined by the present political climate, the central government's support for it, and the potency of state government pressure.
- Despite the highs and lows it has endured over the past 60 years, its influence on the top-level policy structure has never been insignificant.
- In 1946, under the leadership of KC Neogi, the Planning Advisory Board promoted the creation of an advisory committee made up of delegates from the provinces, princely realms, and other interests. Although this proposal was not carried out before independence, its reasoning was well welcomed.
- Since its founding, the Planning Commission of the Government of India has recognized the potential value of such a coordinating organization.
- The Planning Commission emphasized in the "Draft First Five Year Plan" that there was a need for a body like the National Development Council to facilitate the Prime Minister and state Chief Ministers' periodic evaluation of planning and its various aspects. States in a large country like India enjoy autonomy in the performance of their constitutionally mandated duties.

NEW ROLE OF NDC:

- The larger national goals of socioeconomic rehabilitation are sometimes disregarded when there is a lack of agreement. Therefore, it is still necessary to create a "national agenda" for the overall growth of the nation, to which the NDC may significantly contribute.
- Without such a "national agenda," a coordinated planning strategy is impossible. According to the Sarkaria Commission, the NDC needs to be strengthened so that it may become the leading institution at the political level for organizing ties between the federal government and the states.
- In accordance with Article 263 of the constitution, it has also suggested that the National Development Council (NDC) be renamed and rebuilt as the National Economic and Development Council (NEDC).
- Following that, the Sarkaria Commission suggested the creation of a NEDC Standing Committee, which would be composed of the Prime Minister, Finance Minister, Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, and six Chief Ministers, one from each zone, who would be selected by rotation or consensus.

STRUCTURE OF NDC:

Since its inception, the National Development Council has been composed of high-ranking officials from the federal and state governments as well as members of the Planning Commission. The NDC was reorganized in 1967 by the First Administrative Reforms Commission.

The commission recommended that the NDC be rebuilt in report on the Machinery for Planning (Interim) as follows:

- The Prime Minister
- The Deputy Prime Minister (if any)
- (i) Finance; (ii) Food and Agriculture; (iii) Industrial Development and Company Affairs; (iv) Commerce; (v) Railways; (vi) Transport and Shipping; (vii) Education; (viii) Labor, Employment, and Rehabilitation; (ix) Home Affairs; and (x) Irrigation and Power
- The Chief Ministers of all states
- Members of the Commission on Planning

It was also suggested that the Planning Commission Secretary serve as secretary and that the Prime Minister, who is also known as the chairman of the National Development Council, serve as chairman of the NDC.

POWER, FUNCTION AND RESPONSIBILITY OF NDC:

The Council was formed in October 1967, following the recommendations of the Administrative Reforms Commission, and its powers were redefined to include:

- Establishing guidelines for the National Plan's creation, such as resource analyses, and taking into account the National Plan as it was created by the National Development Council significant social and economic policy concerns that affect national development are taken into account.
- Review the Plan's operation from time to time and suggest any actions required to achieve its goals and objectives. These actions may include ensuring the public's active cooperation and participation, enhancing the effectiveness of administrative services, ensuring the fullest development of the community's less developed regions and sections, and enlisting the equal sacrifice of all citizens.
- The job of providing advice and policy recommendations to the state and federal governments fell to the National Development Council.
- The main responsibility of the National Development Council's chairman or the Council is to act as a liaison between the Union government, the Planning Commission, and state governments.
- It helps with the coordination of many matters of national importance, in addition to policies and programs. It offers a suitable setting for debate and the unrestricted exchange of ideas.

OBJECTIVES:

The NDC was established to accomplish the following goals:

- To provide vigor and utilise the nation's resources and efforts in upholding the plan
- To promote shared economic policy in important domains
- To provide assurance for the balancing and quick development in various regions of the nation.

- To provide every citizen of the nation with social amenities like healthcare, education, and other services.
- To effect change and raise people's levels of living.

CONCLUSION:

The nation's prime minister chairs the national development council, which also includes union ministers, each state's chief minister, the head of each union territory, and members of the planning commission. All ministers of state are given independent authority, and they are also invited to the council's deliberations.

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