

Abstract

The research study titled as federalism as a viable solution to the ethno – political conflict in Sri Lanka was focused in finding out public attitude towards implementing federal political system with devolution of power among its constituent regional units with high degree of regional autonomy to address its concerns under a central government. Accordingly the research study formulated five objectives which revolved around finding a viable solution for the ethno – political conflict through the means of federalism.

Finding the root causes which attributed the conflict, exploiting a viable solution to the conflict, extent to which power sharing need to be done, identifying the nature and degree of impact, influence of federalism towards equitable societal coexistence and exploitation of implementation barriers of federalism were the defined objectives of the study.

The research was conducted on priory basis where the variables were identified through literature. The researcher used a Judgmental sample procedure where 65 local public members from all ethnic groups in Gampaha region were interviewed to find out public opinions.

Subsequent analysis was carried out through four parts where all five research objectives were addressed. Statistical tests were carried out in order to find the nature of relationship and degree of impact, influence of the independent variable towards the dependent. Findings were consistent and provided reaffirmation on facts presented through the literature review. Positive aspects of the research, its achievements and area for future research were discussed.

In conclusion the analysis revealed that federalism is a viable option for solving the ethno political conflict in Sri Lanka.