

# Birth of a State, One Eraser at a Time.

Deconstructing the 1950 administrative order that transformed the 'United Provinces' into 'Uttar Pradesh'.

## CRIMINOLOGICAL INSIGHTS

BY DR. MRIDUL SRIVASTAVA

A forensic teardown of Government Order No. 993/III-10(12)-1947, demonstrating how monumental geopolitical shifts are executed at the micro-logistical level.

  
**Government of Uttar Pradesh**

No. 993/III-10(13)-1947

FROM  
SHRI BHAGWAN SAHAY, I.C.S.,  
Chief Secretary to Government,  
UTTAR PRADESH,

To  
ALL HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS, COMMISSIONERS OF DIVISIONS, DISTRICT OFFICERS,  
DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGES AND OTHER PRINCIPAL HEADS OF OFFICES,  
UTTAR PRADESH,  
Lucknow, February 6, 1956.

**Subject :—UTTAR PRADESH—New name of this State.**

Sta,  
Gandhi Nagar,  
Lucknow.

I am directed to say that by the United Provinces (Alteration of Name) Order, 1950 [made by the Governor General under section 390(1) of the Government of India Act, 1950, on January 24, 1950] the name "United Provinces" has been changed to UTTAR PRADESH with effect from January 24, 1950. The Government of India notification publishing this Order in the *Gazette of India Extraordinary*, dated January 24, 1950, has been re-published in the *Uttar Pradesh Gazette Extraordinary* of the same date.

2. The new name will, of course, be used in all official papers, documents and correspondences, etc., and in this connection I am to convey the following orders :

- (1) The old name existing in all forms of stationery and other departmental forms, etc. in stock in the various offices shall be erased and in its place the new name shall be inserted in typescript or manuscript. This change may be made as and when these forms are being put to use.
- (2) As regards the forms of stationery and departmental forms in stock with the Superintendent, Printing and Stationery, Lucknow, that officer will arrange to substitute the new name for the old one by obliterating and overprinting, in so far as this can conveniently be done without involving any appreciable extra expenditure. In cases where it is not possible to do so, he will continue to supply the existing forms to the requisitioning authorities who will make the change as supported in sub-paragraph (1) above. All forms, etc. printed in future will, of course, bear the new name.
- (3) Changes would be necessary in all official seals, badges, insignia, etc. Action to have new seals, etc. prepared should, therefore, be taken immediately by the authorities concerned.
- (4) All official sign boards, notices, etc. containing the old name should be changed to the new name.

Yours faithfully,  
BHAGWAN SAHAY

No. 993/III-10(15)-1947

Copy forwarded for information to—

- (1) the Accountant General, Uttar Pradesh,
- (2) all Departments of the Secretariat (for necessary action. Government will please take action for necessary legislation in the rules and tests of appointments, etc),
- (3) Director of Information (for publicity).
- (4) the Chairmen/Presidents, all Municipal Boards/District Boards, Committees/Notified Area Committees, Uttar Pradesh,
- (5) the District Magistrates, all Districts, Uttar Pradesh,



# From United Provinces to Uttar Pradesh: The 1950 Administrative Transition

## THE LEGAL MANDATE

**Effective Date: 24 January 1950**



### Gazetted Notification

The official date the name "United Provinces" was legally changed to "Uttar Pradesh".

### Legal Order of 1950

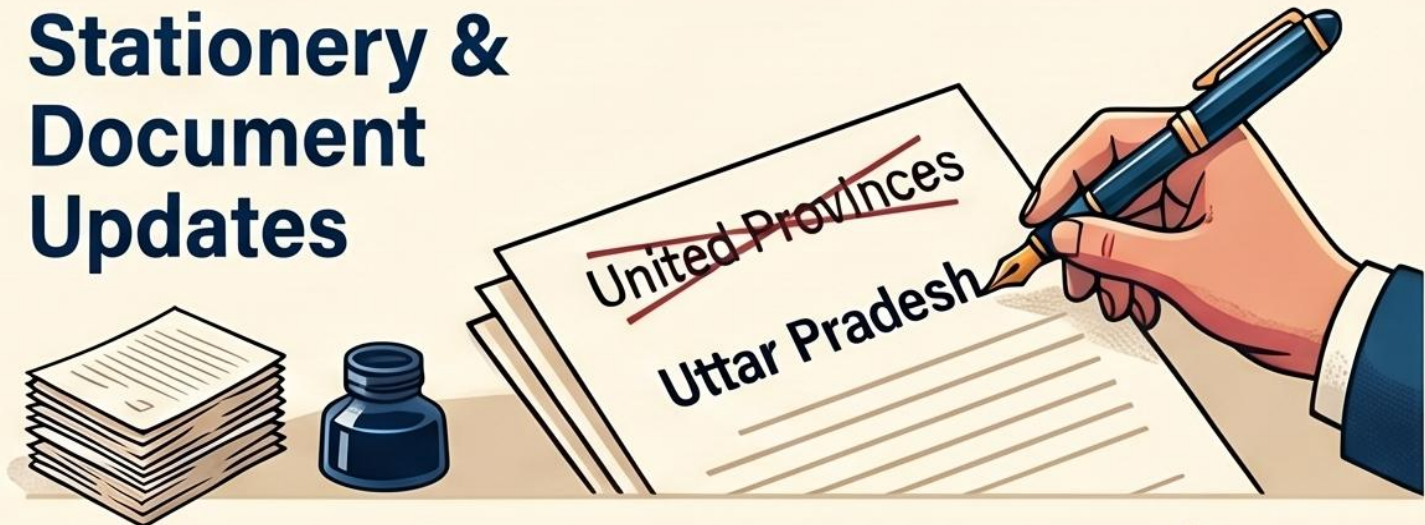
The change was enacted under the United Provinces (Alteration of Name) Order, 1950



| Previous Name    | New Official Name |
|------------------|-------------------|
| United Provinces | Uttar Pradesh     |

## ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLEMENTATION

### Stationery & Document Updates



### Official Seals and Insignia

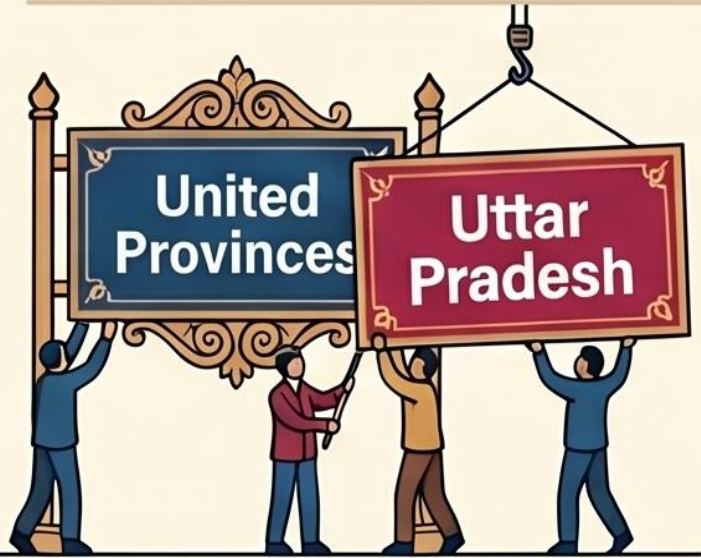
Authorities must take immediate action to prepare and procure new official badges



United Provinces Seal



Uttar Pradesh Seal



### Public Signage & Notices

All official signboards and public notices must be updated to the new name



FROM No. 993/III—10(12)-1947  
SHRI BHAGWAN SAHAY, I.C.S.,  
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,  
UTTAR PRADESH.

TO ALL HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS, COMMISSIONERS OF DIVISIONS, DISTRICT OFFICERS,  
DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGES AND OTHER PRINCIPAL HEADS OF OFFICES,  
UTTAR PRADESH.  
Dated Lucknow, February 6, 1950.

Subject:—UTTAR PRADESH—New name of this State.

Sir,  
I am directed to say that by the United Provinces (Alteration of Name) Order, 1950 (under the Governor General Order No. 201(1) of the Government of India Act, 1950) on January 21, 1950 the name "United Provinces" has been changed to UTTAR PRADESH with effect from January 21, 1950. The Government of India notification published this effect in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, dated January 24, 1950, has been re-published in the Uttar Pradesh Gazette Extraordinary of the same date.

2. The new name will, of course, be used in all official papers, documents and correspondences, etc., and in this connection I am to convey the following orders:

- (1) The old name existing in all forms of stationery and other departmental forms, etc., in stock in the various offices shall be revised and in its place the new name shall be inserted in typescript or manuscript. This change may be made as and when time permits are being put to use.
- (2) As regards the forms of stationery and departmental forms in stock with the Superintendents, Printing and Stationery, Uttar Pradesh, that officer will arrange to substitute the new name for the old one by obliteration and overprinting, in so far as this can conveniently be done without involving any appreciable extra expenditure. In cases where it is not possible to do so, he will continue to supply the existing forms to the requisitioning authorities who will make the change as suggested in sub-paragraph (1) above. All forms, etc., printed in future will, of course, bear the new name.
- (3) Changes would be necessary to all official seals, badges, insignia, etc. Action to have new seals, etc., prepared should, therefore, be taken immediately by the authorities concerned.
- (4) All official sign boards, notices, etc., containing the old name should be changed to the new name.

Yours faithfully  
BHAGWAN SAHAY,  
Chief Secretary.

No. 888(1)/III—10(13)-1947

Copy forwarded for information to—

- (1) the Accountant General, Uttar Pradesh,
- (2) All Departments of the Secretariat (for necessary action. Legislative Department will please take action for necessary legislation to make the change in the rules and tests of enactments, etc.).
- (3) Director of Information (for publicity).
- (4) the Chairmen/Presidents, all Municipal, District Board/Town Area Committees/Notified Area Committees, Uttar Pradesh,
- (5) Chairmen, all Improvement Trusts, Uttar Pradesh,
- (6) the President, Development Board, Kanpur.

No. 6682/III—10(15)-1947

Copy also forwarded for information and such action as may be considered necessary to—

- (1) Chief Secretaries, all State Governments.
- (2) Postmaster General, Uttar Pradesh, Cile, Lucknow.
- (3) the Commander, Uttar Pradesh Area Headquarters,
- (4) the Surveyor General of India.
- (5) Deputy Director of Map Publication, Survey of India, Dehra Dun.
- (6) General Manager—
  - (i) East Indian Railway, Calcutta;
  - (ii) Great Indian Railway, Bombay;
  - (iii) Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway, Bombay, and
  - (iv) Avadh and Tirhut Railway, Gorakhpur.

By order,  
BHAGWAN SAHAY,  
Chief Secretary to Government,  
Uttar Pradesh.

# The Artefact: Order No. 993/III—10(12)-1947

Date: February 6, 1950 (13 days after the Republic of India was formed).

Author: Shri Bhagwan Sahay, I.C.S., Chief Secretary to Government.

Subject: UTTAR PRADESH—New name of this State.

Recipients: All Heads of Departments, Commissioners of Divisions, District Officers, District and Sessions Judges, and other Principal Heads of Offices.

A single sheet of paper tasked with implementing a massive constitutional identity shift across one of India's largest regions.

# *The Legal Mechanics of Renaming a State*

*Dated Lucknow, February 6, 1950.*

I AM directed to say that by the United Provinces (Alteration of Name) Order, 1950 [made by the Governor-General under section 290(1) of the Government of India Act, 1935, on January 24, 1950] the name “United Provinces” has been changed to UTTAR PRADESH with effect from January 24, 1950. The Government of India notification publishing this Order in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, dated January 24, 1950, has been re-published in the Uttar Pradesh Gazette Extraordinary of the same date.

## Timeline of a Transition

The Mandate

Governor-General issues the United Provinces (Alteration of Name) Order, 1950 under section 290(1) of the Government of India Act, 1935.

January 24, 1950

The constitutional effective date. The order is published simultaneously in the Gazette of India Extraordinary and re-published in the Uttar Pradesh Gazette Extraordinary.

February 6, 1950

The Administrative Rollout. Chief Secretary Shri Bhagwan Sahay issues the logistical directives to enforce the new identity across all state machinery.

# Information Architecture of a Government Order

No. 86/H-III—H(13) 1947

From  
**SHRI BHAGWAN SAHAJ, I.R.S.,**  
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,  
UTTAR PRADESH.

To  
ALL HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS, COMMISSIONERS OF DIVISIONS, DISTRICT OFFICERS,  
DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGES AND OTHER PROCVIAL HOUSE OR CRODER,  
DEWER BENDERS.  
*Baid Lucknow, February 6, 1950.*

Subject :—**UTTAR PRADESH—New name of this State.**

Sir,

I am directed to say that by the United Provinces (Alteration of Name) Order, 1950 issued by the Government under section 1 of the Government of India Act, 1935, the name "United Provinces" has been changed to UTTAR PRADESH with effect from January 1, 1950. The Government of India will therefore publishing laws made in the name of the United Provinces, dated January 1, 1950, has been or published in the Press before the change of name.

3. The new name shall not appear in all official papers, documents and correspondence, etc., and in all communication, etc., in which the old name appears.

- (1) The old name existing in all forms of inflections and their derivatives forms, etc., in which the various inflections shall be correct and in the plural the new names shall be inserted in typewritten or manuscript. No change may be made as and when these forms are being put to type.
- (2) As regards the forms of cladding and dopanvannu Gesta to stick with the Sopitendras, Pining and Kasilima, Under Pema, the officer will publish to establish the new name for the old one by challenging and overprinting, so far as this can conveniently be done without burdening any individual with responsibility. In cases where it is not possible to do so, he will continue to report the existing forms in the corresponding portions and will make the change as required in the paragraph (3) above. All forms, etc., printed in line with, or beside, the new name.
- (3) Changes should be necessary in all official maps, books, registers, etc. Action to have new maps, etc., proposed should, therefore, be taken immediately by the authorities concerned.
- (4) All official sign boards, notices, etc. containing the old name should be changed to the new name.

**BLADWAN KARAY,**  
Chief Secretary

No. S801/JITL-4D(15)-4847

Copy forwarded for information to—

- (1) the Assistant General, Dibr Pradesh,
- (2) all Departments of the Secretariat (on necessary notice, Legislative Department will please take action for necessary legislation to make the change in the status and name of municipalities, etc).
- (3) Director of Industries, Ghorakot 0675
- (4) Mr. Quastler, President, of Municipal Boards/District Boards/Town Area Committees/Staffed Area Committees, Ujjain Pradesh,
- (5) Chairman, of Corporation Town and Panchayat,
- (6) the President, Development Board, Kanker.

Ks. 89(5)/III-16419.1967 \*  
 Copy also forwarded for information, and such action as may be considered necessary. See—  
 (1) Chief Secretaries, all State Governments;  
 (2) Stationmaster General, Upper Pradesh, Bile, Lucknow;  
 (3) Gen Secretaries, Uttar Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh,  
 (4) Sir Surgeon General of India,  
 (5) Registrar, Minister of Map Publication, Survey of India, Dehra Dun.  
 (6) General Manager—  
 (i) East Indian Railway, Calcutta;  
 (ii) Great Indian Peninsula Railway, Bombay;  
 (iii) British India and Central India Railway, Bombay, and  
 (iv) Agra and Allahabad Railway, Allahabad.

By order,  
BHAGWAN SAHAY,  
Chief Secretary to Government,  
Cooch Poreh.

## The Legal Mandate

Establishes the authority, timeline, and legal basis for the communication.

## The Logistical Directives

Four numbered points translating the constitutional shift into actionable, physical tasks for civil servants.

# The Circulation Network

The precise routing list required to ensure compliance across independent government ecosystems (from railways to the military).

# The Administrative Action Matrix

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Category                                                               | Target                                                                          | Directive                                                                                    | Governing Principle                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>correspondence, etc., and in this connection. I am</p> <p>(1) The old name existing in all forms of etc., in stock in the various offices name shall be inserted in typescript and in the place the new manuscript. This change may be put to use.</p> <p>(2) As regards the forms of stationery at Superintendent, Printing and Stationery, in so far as this new arrangement appreciable extra expenditure. It will continue to supply the existing who will make the change as an</p> | <p>→</p> <p><b>Paper Assets<br/>(Stationery &amp; Forms)</b></p>       | Existing stock in offices and with the Superintendent, Printing and Stationery. | Erase old name; insert new name in typescript, manuscript, or via obliterating/overprinting. | <b>Frugality.</b> Must be done manually to prevent waste.                           |
| <p>(3) Changes will be necessary in all official, to have new seals, etc., prepared should. Honors, will be required signing authorities who will continue concern, be changed to the new name.</p> <p>(4) Director of Presidents, all Municipal Boards/Districts, all Townships, Town Committees/Notified Area Committees, Uttar Pradesh.</p> <p>(5) Chairman, all Improvement Trusts, Uttar Pradesh, Development, Kanpur.</p>                                                             | <p>→</p> <p><b>Physical Assets<br/>(Seals, Badges, Signboards)</b></p> | Official public/legal facing hardware.                                          | Prepare new seals/insignia immediately; change all official signboards and notices.          | <b>Absolute Necessity.</b> Legal validity requires immediate, complete replacement. |

# The Frugality Equation of a New Republic

made as and when these forms are being put to use.

(2) As regards the forms of stationery and departmental forms in stock with the arrange to substitute the new name for the old one by obliterating officer will printing in so far as this can conveniently to the requisitioning authoritiv-printing, without involving any appreciable extra expenditure. (1) shove. All forms, etc, printed in future will, of coures, bear the new name.

(3) Changes would be necessary in all official seals badges insights etc Action

## Core Insight

Just three years after independence, India's administrative engine was highly resource-constrained. The birth of Uttar Pradesh was not accompanied by an immediate, lavish rebranding.

## The Directives

Instead of discarding obsolete materials, the order explicitly demands manual labour over capital expenditure. Civil servants are ordered to:

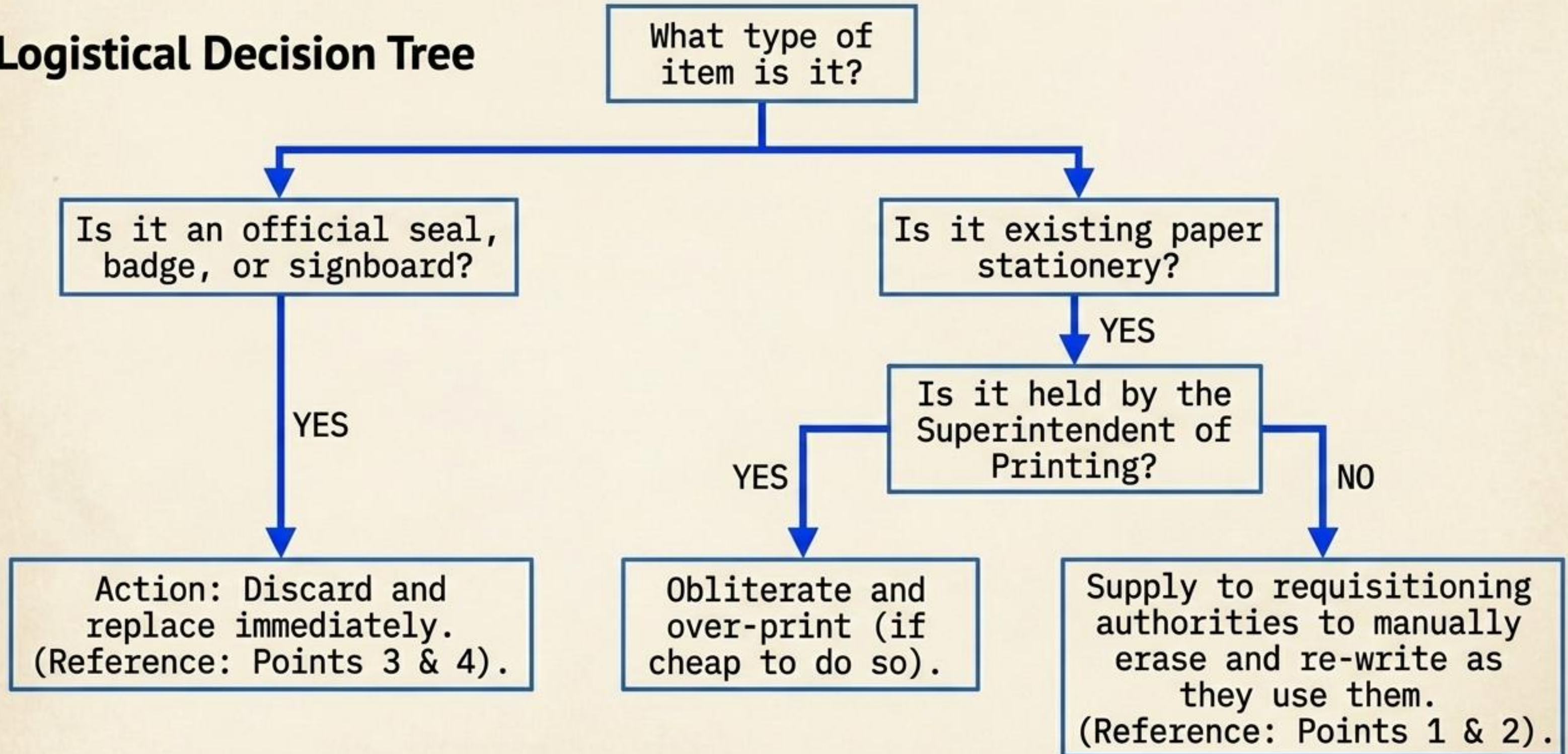
Erase old names  
by hand.

Insert new names  
in manuscript  
(handwriting) or  
typescript.

Obliterate and  
over-print existing  
bulk stocks.

# The Clerk's Protocol: Implementing the Change

## Logistical Decision Tree



# Updating the State's DNA

- (3) All official sign boards, notices, etc. containing the old name should be changed to the new name.

Yours faithfully,  
BHAGWAN SAHAY,  
*Chief Secretary.*

No. 993(1)/III—10(12)-1947

Copy forwarded for information to—

- (1) the Accountant General, Uttar Pradesh,
- (2) all Departments of the Secretariat (for necessary action. Legislative Department will please take action for necessary legislation to make the change in the titles and texts of enactments, etc),
- (3) Director of Information (for publicity).
- (4) the Chairmen/Presidents, all Municipal Boards/District Boards/Town Area Committees/Notified Area Committees, Uttar Pradesh,
- (5) Chairmen, all Improvement Trusts, Uttar Pradesh,
- (6) the President, Development Board, Kanpur.

No. 993(2)/III—10(12)-1947

Copy also forwarded for information and such action as may be considered necessary to—

- (1) Chief Secretaries, all State Governments,
- (2) Postmaster General, Uttar Pradesh, Cirole, Lucknow.
- (3) the Commander, Uttar Pradesh Area Headquarters,
- (4) the Surveyor General of India.
- (5) Deputy Director of Map Publication, Survey of India, Dehra Dun.
- (6) General Manager—
  - (i) East Indian Railway, Calcutta ;
  - (ii) Great Indian Peninsula Railway, Bombay ;
  - (iii) Bombay, Beroda and Central India Railway, Bombay, and
  - (iv) Avadh and Tirhut Railway, Gorakhpur.

Bv order.

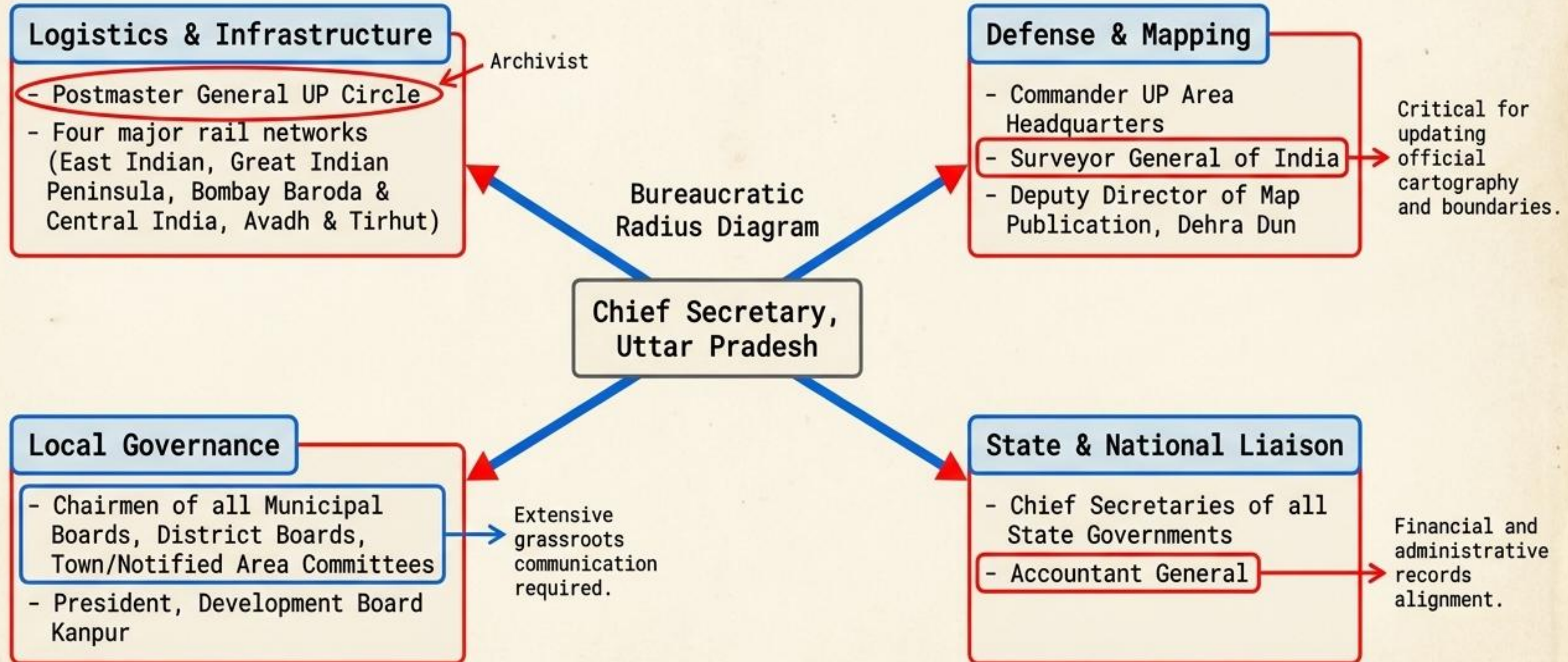
## The Legislative Burden

Point (2) instructs the Legislative Department to 'take action for necessary legislation to make the change in the titles and texts of enactments.' The physical name change was just the surface; decades of existing United Provinces laws required formal legal amendments to reflect the new entity.

## Controlling the Narrative

Point (3) forwards the order directly to the Director of Information (for publicity). The state recognised that administrative changes required active public broadcasting to take root in the citizenry's consciousness.

# The Ripple Effect: Broadcasting the Mandate



# The Duality of Nation-Building

## The Grandeur

On January 24, 1950, a stroke of the Governor-General's pen under the Government of India Act, 1935 rewrote the geopolitical map of the subcontinent, officially birthing Uttar Pradesh.

History is proclaimed in Extraordinary Gazettes, but it is implemented by bureaucrats crossing out old names with a pen to save a newly independent republic 'appreciable extra expenditure'.

(iv) Avadh and Tirhut Railway, Gorakhpur.

## The Grind

By February 6, that sweeping constitutional change became the burden of thousands of clerks, tasked with scraping ink off old stationery, carving new rubber seals, and rewriting train schedules across four regional railway networks.

By order,  
BHAGWAN SAHAY,  
Chief Secretary to Government,  
Uttar Pradesh.

Structure  
fountain-  
pen high  
highlighting

Marginal  
archivist  
notes  
neals

Synthesis  
insight in  
the tri-font  
system