Foreword

The constitutional power to take over the administration of a State by the President, by the very fact that it is found under the Emergency chapter of the Constitution, was meant to be exercised sparingly. Subsequent events have proved otherwise as amply demonstrated by the use of the power at least 50 times so far. This has given rise to tensions in the Centre-State relationship. In view of the abiding interest of the Indian Law Institute to study the operation of federalism in India, we decided to take up the present specialised study in the area.

The project was undertaken in 1974-75. Its slightly chequered career has been given in the preface of Dr. Rajeev Dhavan. Our regret is that we could not publish the original work of Dr. Hari Chand which contained useful information. By the time the draft of his study was ready and under the condsideration of the Institute, a few other works came out, necessitating complete rewriting of the monograph from a new perspective.

Our thanks are due to Dr. Rajeev Dhaván, Visiting Associate Research Professor at the Institute, for working with the zeal of a crusader. Dr. Dhavan left for England soon after the manuscript was ready. It was left to Kusum, Research Associate of the Institute, to edit the manuscript in the final form for publication, and see it through the press. We are grateful to her for working on the book with devotion.

S.N. JAIN Director