

Lesson-3

Government

Introduction

All regions in a country need proper administration to develop. The Government of a country is the group of people who are responsible for governing it. A government determines the way in which a country, state, city or village is administered. At each level, the government formulates laws that the citizens have to follow and creates policies about everything connected with the daily life in a community. The government has to provide those conditions, which will help citizens of the country to make the best of their potential and realize their dreams. This means that the task of making and implementing laws and providing the city, state or nation with the proper facilities to function and develop, is the responsibility of the government.

Functions of Government

a government performs many functions and develops an elaborate system to do. The functions of the government are :-

- maintaining law and order.
- Protection international boundaries of a country.
- Conducting foreign policy for peaceful relations with the rest of the world.
- Providing facilities like railways, postal services, housing, healthcare and education to all its citizens.
- Collecting taxes and revenue.
- Protecting citizens from natural disasters and managing disasters.
- Resolving interstate conflicts in case of federal structure.

Parliament of India



Organs of Government

In order to ensure smooth and systematic working of the government. It has been divided into various organs such as the **executive**, **legislative** and **judiciary**. They are all placed equally but work on a system of checks and balances. This is from preventing any one organ to become more powerful. The legislature in India is called the **Parliament** and it makes laws for the entire country. The task of the legislature is to carry out discussions and debates to make laws. Laws are made by the elected representatives of the people and they can also change the laws made by them.

Organs of a government

after the laws are made, they need to be put into practice. The executive organ of the government helps to implement the laws. The elected representatives make laws in the parliament and those laws are implemented by the ministries and their departments. The ministry of Human Resource Development and the Department of Education., which comes under it are some examples. When the word 'government' is used, it usually refers to the executive because it is through this organ that the laws impact the lives of the people. The role of the third organ is to punish the law breakers. Punishments can range from simple fines to rigorous imprisonment. There is an elaborate system of courts in our country so that justice can be insured for all citizens. The Supreme Court in New Delhi is the highest court of law in India.

Supreme Court of India



Levels of Government

India is a vast and diverse nation. One government alone cannot manage all this work so it divides its power and responsibilities among different levels. These levels are hierarchical in nature and are— the Union or central government, the state government and the local government.

The Central Government looks after the affairs of the whole nation, for example foreign affairs, external security, finances and defense. The state government looks after the affairs of the state. In this manner, specific issues related to the state are taken care of within the state. Even a state can be a large unit for only one government to manage because every street, alley, and corner of the state has to be administered.

Continued from Levels of Government

Therefore, the third level of government called the local government has been created to share the burden of administration with the state government. All levels of government are formed through the same procedure of **elections**. They carry out the same functions only their scale of work is different. The union government governs the country, the state government looks into the affairs of the respective state and the local government looks into localities like a city or town inside a state.