

Levels of Government in India

Chapter 10: Grassroots Democracy – Part 1: Governance · Topic 2

Key Concept

The central government manages national matters like defence, foreign affairs, and currency, and is led by the Prime Minister and Parliament.

State governments manage regional matters like state police, agriculture, and state highways, led by a Chief Minister and state legislature.

Local governments, like Panchayats (rural) and Municipalities (urban), manage local matters like sanitation, local roads, and community services.

This three-tier system ensures that governance happens at the appropriate level, allowing decisions to be made close to the people they affect while maintaining national unity.

Quick Revision Notes

- India has three levels of government: central, state, local.
- The central government handles defence and foreign affairs.
- The central government is led by the Prime Minister and Parliament.
- State governments handle state police and agriculture.
- State governments are led by a Chief Minister.
- Local governments include Panchayats and Municipalities.
- Local governments manage sanitation and local roads.
- This system balances local decision-making with national unity.

Practice Questions

- 1 Name the three levels of government in India.
- 2 Research one responsibility of the central government.
- 3 Research one responsibility of your state government.
- 4 Research one responsibility of your local government.
- 5 Discuss why different levels of government are needed.
- 6 Create a chart showing the three levels and their roles.