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Three pillars of democracy are as follows:

1. Parliament ⇒ Where policies are made.
2. President’s Office/Executive ⇒ Who executes or implements the policies throughout the country. (District Collectors, SPs, etc.)
3. Judiciary ⇒ Who monitors policies being made and getting implemented.

Often, the media is called the Fourth pillar of democracy.

Some people also say that education is the Fourth pillar of democracy. Because, with education other three pillars can be strong.

##############################################################################Parliament has two houses:

1. Rajya Sabha (Upper House)
2. Lok Sabha (Lower House)

The President is the head of both houses.

A policy made by Parliament will come into existence only if the president signs it.

President ⇒ Article 52

Parliament ⇒ Article 79 (Leadership of Prime Minister)

Rajya Sabha ⇒ Article 80

Lok Sabha ⇒ Article 81

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The structure for state government is very similar to the structure mentioned above.

Governor

State Legislature (Leadership of Chief Minister)

Legislature Council

Legislative Assembly

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The maximum tenure of Lok Sabha is 5 years. After 5 years, it gets dissolved. Sometimes, it can also get dissolved within 5 years. That is why Lok Sabha is called Temporary House.

Unlike Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha is called Permanent House as it never gets dissolved.

There are three slots in Rajya Sabha:

1. Freshers
2. Middlemen
3. Veterans

Each slot gets shifted every two years.

i.e. Freshers will become Middlemen after 2 years, Middlemen will become Veterans after 2 years, Veterans will retire (get out of Rajya Sabha) after 2 years.

New people will get nominated to the Freshers slot that gets emptied.

This is a chaining system and continues forever. So, Rajya Sabha is called Permanent House.

Also, notice that the tenure of a member of Rajya Sabha is 6 years.

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Total Members of Rajya Sabha = 250

238 ⇒ MLAs of different states who have been nominated to Rajya Sabha

12 ⇒ Directly nominated by president

Total Members of Lok Sabha = 552

550 ⇒ Elected from 550 different constitution

2 ⇒ Earlier it was reserved for Anglo Indians. As there are only a few Anglo Indians when compared to their count at the time of independence, the Government of India thought to reserve these 2 seats for SC/STs instead of Anglo Indians. By the 104th amendment made on 10th December, 2019, these 2 seats were reserved for SC/STs.

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The Speaker is one among 550 elected. The Speaker is selected by a voting process in Parliament. The Election Commission of India (EIC) doesn’t interfere in it.

But the vice president is not one among 238 nominated. He is elected by an election conducted by Election Commission of India (EIC).

The vice president by default becomes the chairperson of Rajya Sabha.

The salary for the chairperson of Rajya Sabha is RS. 4 Lakh per month. Hence, the Vice President gets RS. 4 Lakh per month.

The Vice President gets RS. 4 Lakh per month not because he is Vice President but because he is chairperson of Rajya Sabha.

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Lok Sabha ⇒ House of People ⇒ Because directly elected from people.

Rajya Sabha ⇒ Council of State ⇒ Because nominated by state legislative assemblies.

Legislative Councils ⇒ Nominated by Panchayat Rajs of the state.

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Initially, 10 states were given provision to have legislative councils. 10 states were selected based on their size (population). Then there were 7 states having legislative councils:

[Jammu and Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka]

Then Jammu and Kashmir legislative council was dissolved.

Now there are legislative councils only in 6 states:

[Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka]

There are discussions going on to remove legislative councils of Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh.

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