

Unit 3: State Government

1. The Governor

The **Governor** is the head of a state, like how the President is the head of the country. The Governor ensures that the state government works according to the Constitution.

Eligibility to Become Governor

1. Must be a **citizen of India**.
2. Must be at least **35 years old**.
3. Cannot hold any other job that earns money (office of profit).

Appointment and Term

- **Appointed by:** The President of India.
 - **Term:** 5 years but can leave earlier if the President decides.
 - Can be **reappointed** or moved to another state.
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Powers of the Governor

1. Executive Powers:

- Appoints the **Chief Minister** and other ministers.
- Appoints key officials like the **Advocate General** and the **State Election Commissioner**.
- Can ask the Chief Minister for updates about the government's work.

2. Legislative Powers:

- Can **call** or **end** the state legislature sessions.
- Can **approve** or **reject** bills passed by the legislature.
- Gives a speech at the start of the legislature's session.

3. Judicial Powers:

- Can reduce or cancel the punishment of people convicted under state laws.

4. Discretionary Powers (Used without advice):

- Can appoint a Chief Minister if no party has a majority.
- Can recommend **President's Rule** if the state is not functioning properly.

2. The Chief Minister (CM)

The **Chief Minister** is the head of the state government and leads the Council of Ministers.

Eligibility to Become Chief Minister

1. Must be a **citizen of India**.
2. Must be a member of the **State Legislature** (MLA or MLC).
3. Must be at least **25 years old** (for MLA) or **30 years old** (for MLC).

Appointment and Tenure

- The Governor appoints the CM.
 - Usually, the leader of the party with the most seats in the assembly becomes the CM.
 - Serves a **5-year term** but can stay longer if they have the Assembly's support.
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Powers of the Chief Minister

1. **Executive Powers:**
 - Distributes work among ministers.
 - Supervises how the government departments work.
 - Advises the Governor on important appointments.
 2. **Legislative Powers:**
 - Guides the Assembly in passing laws and policies.
 - Represents the government in discussions and debates.
 3. **Other Powers:**
 - Acts as the main spokesperson of the government.
 - Plays a key role in decision-making for the state.
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1. Council of Ministers

The **Council of Ministers** helps the Chief Minister in running the state. It includes:

1. **Cabinet Ministers:** Handle important departments like health, education, and finance.
 2. **Ministers of State:** Assist Cabinet Ministers and may handle some departments independently.
 3. **Deputy Ministers:** Help Cabinet or State Ministers with their work.
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Responsibilities of the Council of Ministers

1. **Collective Responsibility:**
 - All ministers must agree on decisions and support them in the Assembly.
 - If the Assembly passes a **no-confidence motion**, the entire Council must resign.
 2. **Individual Responsibility:**
 - Each minister is responsible for their own department's work and performance.
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4. State Secretariat

The **State Secretariat** is the main office that helps the government make and implement policies. It is like the brain of the state government.

Structure of the Secretariat

1. **Chief Secretary:**
 - The top officer in the state.
 - Acts as a bridge between the Chief Minister and government departments.
2. **Principal Secretaries/Secretaries:**
 - Head specific departments like health, education, and finance.
3. **Deputy Secretaries and Under-Secretaries:**
 - Assist secretaries in managing the work of their departments.

Functions of the Secretariat

- 1. Policy Making:**
 - Drafts new rules and plans for the state.
 - 2. Coordination:**
 - Ensures that different departments work together smoothly.
 - 3. Administrative Work:**
 - Helps implement government decisions.
 - 4. Budget Preparation:**
 - Prepares the state's budget and tracks spending.
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Comparison of Governor and Chief Minister

Aspect	Governor	Chief Minister
Role	Head of the state	Head of the state government
Appointed by	President of India	Governor
Term	5 years	5 years (or as long as Assembly allows)
Main Power	Constitutional head	Executive head
Acts on Advice	Council of Ministers	No one