

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:

- o All ministers must agree on decisions and support them in the Assembly.
- o If the Assembly passes a **no-confidence motion**, the entire Council must resign.

2. Individual Responsibility:

- o 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:

- o The top officer in the state.
- o Acts as a bridge between the Chief Minister and government departments.

2. Principal Secretaries/Secretaries:

- o Head specific departments like health, education, and finance.

3. Deputy Secretaries and Under-Secretaries:

- o 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.

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