

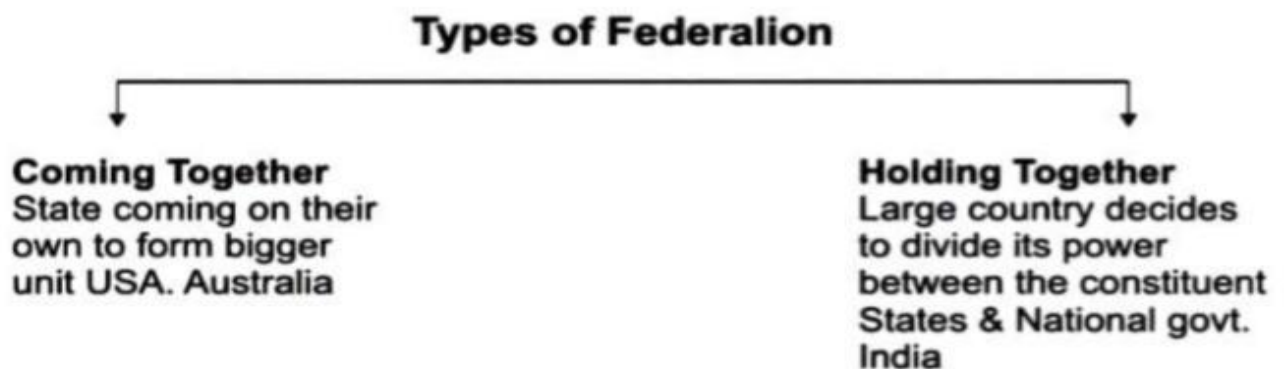
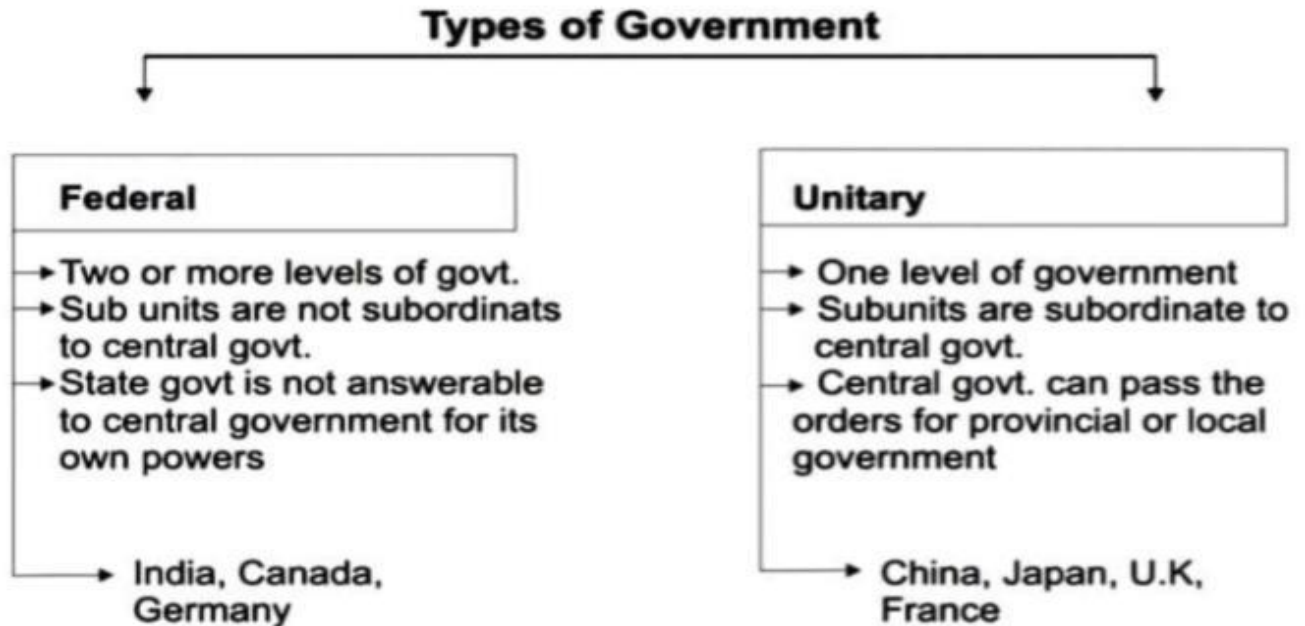
**St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School**

**9th Avenue, I.P. Extension, Patparganj, Delhi-110092**

**Class: X**

**Subject: Political Science**

**Topic: Federalism**



**Parliament** Loksabha + Rajyasabha + President

**Prime Minister** Elected member of majority party of Loksabha

**Chief Minister** Elected representative of majority party of vidhan sabha

3 fold distribution of Legislative powers

**Union List:-** Defence, Foreign Affairs, banking, currency and so on.

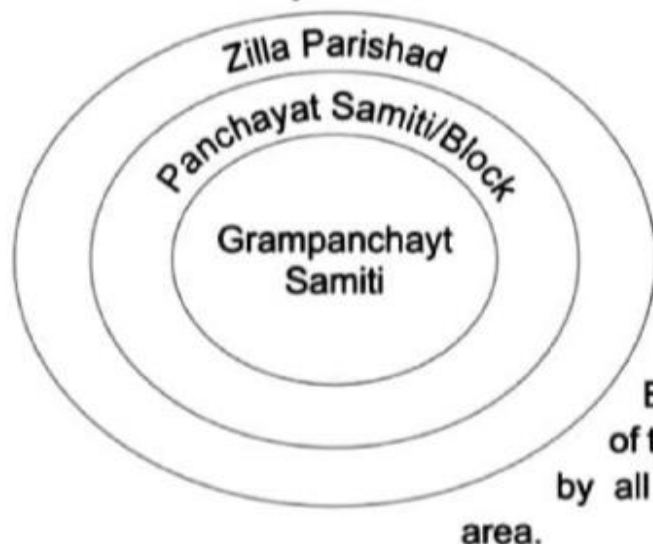
**State List:-** Police, Trade, Commerce, Agriculture and so on.

**Concurrent List:-** Education, forest, trade union, marriage and so on.

The Local Government Structure or Village Level.

Gram Panchayat- Each village or group of village in some states has a gram Panchayat. This is a council consisting of several members often

called Panch and a president or sarpanch. They are directly elected by the adult population of ward.



**Panchayat Samiti / Block Samiti:-** A few Gram Panchayat are grouped together to form what is usually called a Panchayat or Block or Mandat Samiti the member of this representative body are elected by all the panchayat members in that

area.

**Zila Parishad:-** All the Panchayat Samiti and Mandals in a district together constitute the Zila Parishad. Most of the members of Zila Parishad are elected.

**Zila Parishad:-** Members of lok Sabha + MLA's of that district & some other officials of other district level.

Chairperson is the political head of **Zila Parishad**

## **Memorable Facts:-**

1. Horizontal distribution of power - Distribution of power among different organs of government such as the legislature, executive and judiciary.
2. Vertical distribution of power — Distribution of power among government at different levels such as central government, Provincial Government, Local Government etc.
3. System of check and balance — The system in which judges are appointed by the executive but they can check the functioning of executive or laws made by the legislators.
4. Federalism: A system of government in which the power is divided between central authority and its various constituent units.
5. In a federal system, the jurisdiction of the government of each level is clearly mentioned in the constitution.
6. The fundamental provisions of the constitution cannot be unilaterally changed by one level of government in federalism.
7. The objectives of federalism are not only to safeguard and promote unity of the country but also accommodate regional diversity.
8. Coming together federations — When independent states come together on their own to form a bigger unit Ex- USA, Australia, Switzerland etc.
9. Holding together federation — When a large country divides its power between the constituent states and the national government Ex- India, Spain, Belgium etc.
10. Jurisdiction — The area over which someone has legal authority.
11. In India, the legislative powers have been divided into three lists.
  - ★ Union List — Subjects of national importance ex. foreign affairs banking, currency etc.

- ★ State List — Subjects of state and local importance ex. - Police, trade, agriculture.
  - ★ Concurrent List — Subjects of common interests of both the union Govt. as well as the state Govt.
12. Residuary Subjects — The subjects which are not mentioned in Union, state or concurrent list come under the power of federal or union govt. and are called residuary subjects.
  13. Coalition Government — When two or more political parties come together to form a government.
  14. Hindi is the mother tongue of about 40% of Indians.
  15. Scheduled Languages : Such languages that come under eighth schedule of the Indian constitution.
  16. In 1992, a major step towards decentralization was taken by making the third-tier of democracy powerful and effective.

## **1 MARK QUESTIONS**

- Q.1 What is decentralization of power ?
- Q.2 Name the only state of India which has its own constitution ?
- Q.3 Who plays an important role in overseeing the implementation of constitutional provisions and procedures ?
- Q.4 According to our constitution, who has the power to legislate on 'residuary' subjects ?
- Q.5 Name the institutions of local government work in urban areas.
- Q.6 How 'Panchayat Samiti' is constituted ?
- Q.7 What is called the head of municipal corporation ?
- Q.8 Who is the political head of Zila Parishad ?
- Q.9 Give an example of a country which is an example of coming together federation ?

**Q.10** Who can make laws relating to the subjects mentioned in the concurrent list ?

**Q.11** How many countries have federal political system in the world ?

**Answers :**

1. To divide powers among different levels of Governments.
2. Jammu & Kashmir
3. Judiciary
4. Union Government.
5. Municipalities and Municipal corporation.
6. Panchayat Samiti is constituted by a few gram Panchayats grouped together.
7. Mayor
8. Zila Parishad Chairperson
9. USA
10. Both Union Govt. and State Govt.
11. 25

**3/5 Marks Questions :-**

- Q1.** What is the difference between a federal form of government and a unitary one ? Explain with examples ?
- Q2.** Describe importance of local government in present day democracy?
- Q3.** What other factors besides politics keep the federations united ?
- Q4.** Compare the federations of coming together type and holding together type ?

- Q5.** Which five provisions of Indian constitution make India a full-fledged federation ?
- Q6.** Explain five changes towards decentralization brought in the constitution after the amendments made in 1992.
- Q7.** The creation of linguistic states was the first and the major test of democratic politics in our country. Justify the statement.
- Q8.** What is Gram Sabha ? Describe any four functions of a Gram Sabha.
- Q9.** How have the centre-state relations been restructured to strengthen federalism ?

### **Answer of 3/5 Marks Questions**

**Ans1.** (i) In a federal system, power is divided at different levels. For example at the government level among the Executive, Legislature and Judiciary. At the government level among the central Government, state Government and Local Government. Each level of Government and its organs are free to work in their jurisdiction.

(ii) On the other hand in the unitary form of Government, all the powers are rested in the hands of national government. In this system either there is one level of government or the sub-units are subordinate of central government. The central government can pass on orders to the provincial or local government. For example, Sri Lanka, China etc.

**Ans2.** The importance of local government.

- (i) Various problems are sorted out at local level.
- (ii) It helps the people to directly participate in decision making.
- (iii) It reduces the burden of central Government.
- (iv) Local government is according to decentralization of power.

**Ans3.** (i) Power sharing arrangement between the central and state government.

(ii) Independent role of judiciary.

(iii) Language ethnicity.

(iv) Response to conflicting claims.

(v) Active participates of the people.

**Ans4.**

Coming Together Federation	Holding Together Federation
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Under this, independent states come together on their own to form a bigger unit.</li><li>2. All constituents states usually have equal powers and the states enjoy certain amount of autonomy.</li><li>3. The main aim of the federation is to pool their sovereignty and maintain their separate identity to increase their security.</li><li>4. Some examples are USA, Australia, and Switzerland.</li></ol>	<p>Under this, a large country decides to divide its powers between the constituent units and the national government. Under this, central government tends to be more powerful.</p> <p>In this type of federation, there is an absence of pooling sovereignty and maintaining identity.</p> <p>Some examples are India, Belgium and Spain.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>2.</li><li>3.</li><li>4.</li></ol>

**Ans5.** A federation is a country in which the powers are divided between the union and its constituents.

(i) Two or more levels of government:

Union Government, State Government and Local Government.

(ii) Three Lists : Union List, State List & Concurrent List.

(iii) Rigid Constitution

(iv) Bicameral Legislature.

Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha

(v) Financial Autonomy : The revenue sources of both the centre and states have been clearly defined.

(vi) Independent Judiciary

**Ans6.** The following steps were taken towards decentralization after 1992.

(i) It was made constitutionally mandatory to hold regular elections to local government bodies.

(ii) Seats were reserved for scheduled castes (SCs) Scheduled Tribes (STs) and OBCs.

(iii) Women were given one-third representation.

(iv) An independent institution called state election commission, was created to conduct local body elections.

(v) State governments were required to share their power and revenue with local bodies.

**Ans7.** i) After 1947, the boundaries of several old states of India were proposed to be changed to ensure that people who spoke the same language lived in the same state.

(ii) Some states like Nagaland were not created on the basis of language but because of their distinct culture, ethnicity and geography.

(iii) When the demand for the formation of linguistic states rose, some leaders feared that it would again lead to disintegration.



(iv) But when the actual creation of states was done on the basis of language, it so proved that the country was more united. This process did away with all fears and tension.

(v) Thus, the framing of the language policy was the test for Indian federation. It inspired the confidence in different language speaking people that no language will be imposed on them.

In a way language policy has strengthened the unity and integrity of India.

**Ans8.** Gram Sabha includes all the adult people of the village.

Functions :-

- (i) It elects the members of the gram panchayat.
- (ii) It reviews the performance of gram panchayat.
- (iii) It supervises the work of the gram panchayat.

**Ans9.** Centre state relations have been restructured to strengthen federalism in the following ways.

(i) **Linguistic States** : After independence, in 1950 the boundaries of several old states were changed in order to create new states. This was done to ensure that the people who spoke the same language, share the same culture, ethnicity could live in the same state.

(ii) **Language Policy** : Besides Hindi, 21 other languages were in the eighth schedule of the Indian constitution. Though Hindi was identified as the optional language but the central Government did not impose Hindi on states where people spoke a different language.

(iii) Centre – State Relations : It is the care of federalism and they are regulated by the provisions of the constitution. Indian constitution has demarcated the powers of the union and the state governments but still the Union Government can have influence over the state in many ways.



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