

Subject:- History and Civics

Teacher:- Mili Bhutnagar

Chapter 1 Rural Local Self - Government

Good Morning Students!

In this chapter we will study about the local self government in the rural areas. We know that there are three levels of government — Central, State and Local Self Government.

The local self government deals with local problems. People in a particular area know their problems well. So to deal with this they elect their representatives who work for them. The Panchayati Raj system, as it is called has three-tiers

Gram Panchayat — village

Panchayat Samiti — block

Zila Parishad — district.

The Panchayats existed in early times also where Panch took decision on minor village issues. A proper set up was made after independence and Panchayati Raj System became effective from 1993.

At the village level we have three bodies — Gram Sabha, Gram Panchayat and Nyaya Panchayat.

The Gram Sabha consists of all the adults who live in an area covered by a Panchayat. They elect the members of Gram Panchayat. They hold meetings and discuss important issues.

regarding the village. The annual budget is also passed by them. They keep a check on the members of the Gram Panchayat.

When elections are conducted for Panchayats, each Panchayat is divided into wards from where the members of Gram Panchayat are elected. The head of the Panchayat is Sarpanch. Some seats are reserved for members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. One-third seats are reserved for women.

The Gram Panchayat looks after the needs of the village like construction and maintenance of roads, buildings, etc. It helps State Government in implementation of some programmes. Education, health, agriculture are some issues dealt with by Panchayat.

The Gram Panchayat gets funds from the collection of taxes, grants from State government.

The Nyaya Panchayat deals with minor civil and criminal cases. The members are elected by Gram Sabha only. Generally it is combined for two to three villages. The objective is to provide quick and inexpensive justice to the villagers.

Students we will continue with the chapter in the next lecture.

Home assignment - MCQ's, True or False, Fill in the blanks, Short Answer Type Questions.