

CH 3 HOW THE STATE GOVERNMENT WORKS

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1. INTRODUCTION

2. WHO IS AN MLA?

3. A DEBATE IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



4. LETS UNDERSTAND AN EXAMPLE

THROUGH THE HELP OF A DISCUSSION.

5. WORKING OF THE GOVERNMENT



INTRODUCTION

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LAST YEAR, we discussed the fact that government works at three levels – **LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL** – and looked at the work of local government in some detail. In this chapter, we examine the work of the government at the state level.



**WHAT STATE
GOVERNMENT CONSIST
OF ?**

THE CABINET OF MINISTERS



GOVERNOR

Anil
Baijal



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CHIEF MINISTER



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CHART



MAKING OF A PARTY



A LEADER IS CHOSEN BY THE PEOPLE FROM THE PARTY



BECOMES MEMBER OF LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



EACH MLA COMES FROM A AREA (CONSTITUENCY)



**PARTY WHO
WINS MAJORITY
OF AREAS
CALLED AS THE
RULING PARTY**



**OTHERS
CALLED THE
OPPOSITION**



**2ND MAJORITY
PARTY IS CALLED
AS MAJOR
OPPOSITION PART**



How does this take place in a **DEMOCRACY?**

What is the role of a Member of the **LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (MLA)** and **MINISTERS?** How do people **EXPRESS** their views or demand action from government? We look at these questions through the example of health.



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Hey, look at this...it says that there is a water shortage in our state, and people are falling sick!

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"...In many villages, people were found to be drinking unclean water. Streams have dried up, and so have tanks. In the worst-affected areas, villagers have been carrying water across great distances."



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"People at the district HQ Patalpuram receive water supply once in three days. The District Hospital here is overflowing with patients – a large number of whom are children with acute diarrhoea..."



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On the TV news, they said ten people have died from diarrhoea! Is that possible? Can one really die from it?

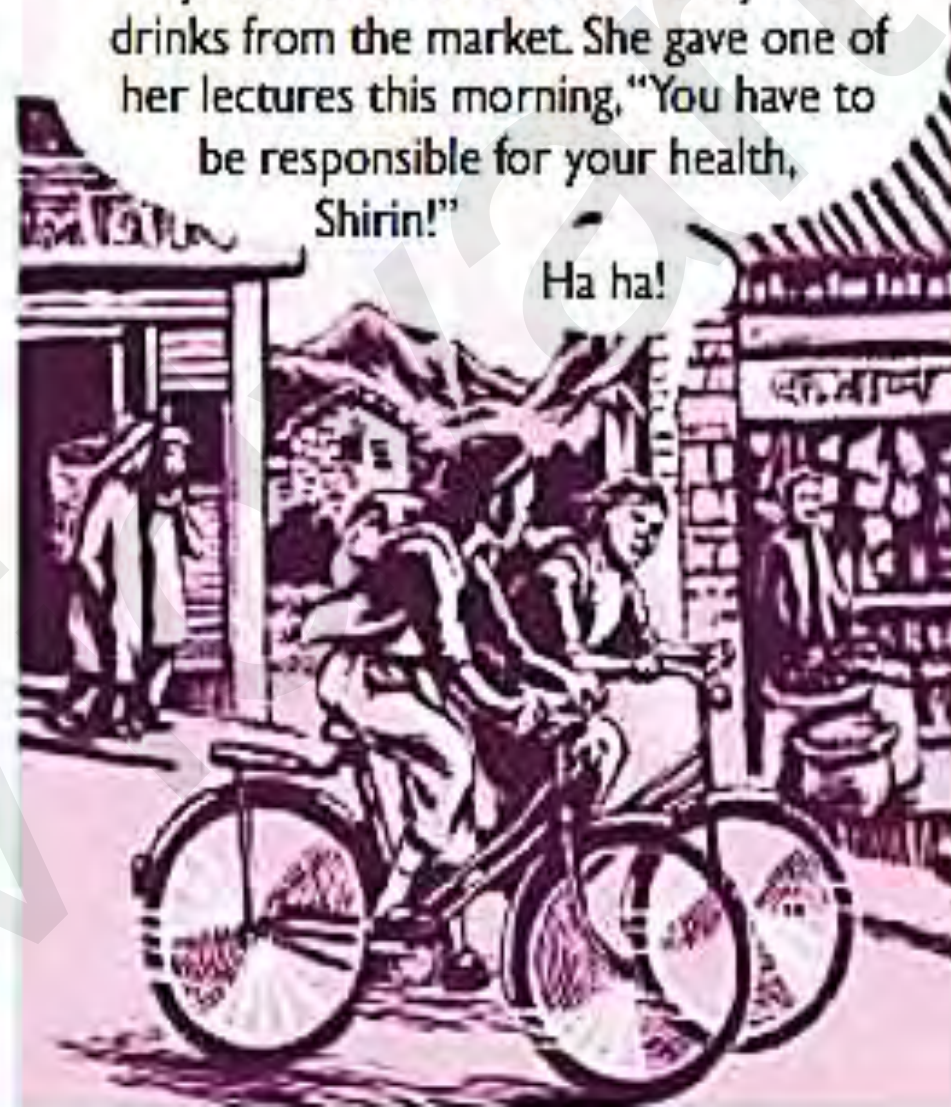
Who knows? Just hope I don't get it!



That afternoon...

My mother said not to have any iced drinks from the market. She gave one of her lectures this morning, "You have to be responsible for your health, Shirin!"

Ha ha!



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Suddenly...



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This road is blocked due to the rally.
They have gheraoed the MLA's residence.

Really! Why? Has
he done something?

Ha ha – they
seem more angry
about what he
hasn't done!



...and we demand that the
authorities take immediate action to
bring the public health situation
under control! Our MLA must take
the responsibility for this!



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What a loud voice he has...he must be
a leader or something...

Shh...I saw him on TV
too. He is a member of
the Opposition!

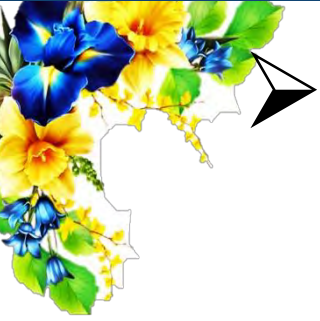


WHO IS AN MLA?

- Government works at three levels- NATIONAL, STATE AND LOCAL.
- **IN STATES**, it is the MLA (Member of Legislature Assembly) who **REPRESENTS THE PEOPLE**. The MLAs enter the assembly and form the government.

MR. MLA





➤ Every MLA is **ELECTED** from one area. This area is known as his **CONSTITUENCY**.



➤ A political party whose MLA's win more than **HALF THE NUMBER OF CONSTITUENCIES** in the state get the **MAJORITY**. The political party is called the **RULING PARTY**.



CHANDNI CHAWK



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- All the **OTHER MEMBERS** are called **OPPOSITION.**
- An MLA is a member of the Legislative Assembly. He is elected **BY THE PEOPLE. IN THIS WAY,** he **REPRESENTS PEOPLE.**

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CONGRESS



CPI





- Every state in India has a Legislative Assembly.
- Each state is **DIVIDED** into **CONSTITUENCIES**.
- A constituency is an area from which all the voters living there choose their **REPRESENTATIVES**, who then **BECOME** Members of the Legislative Assembly (**MLA'S**).



Results of the Assembly Elections in Himachal Pradesh in 2017

Political party	Number of MLAs elected
Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)	44
Indian National Congress (INC)	21
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	1
Independents (who don't belong to any party)	2
Total	68

RULING PARTY



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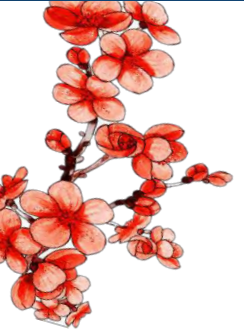
**MAJOR
OPPOSITION**



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- These **MLA'S** belong to **DIFFERENT POLITICAL PARTIES.**
 - After the elections, the MLAs belonging to the ruling party elect their **LEADER** who becomes the **CHIEF MINISTER.**





The **CHIEF MINISTER** then selects other people as **MINISTERS**.

➤ The **GOVERNOR** of the state **APPOINTS** the **CHIEF MINISTER AND OTHER MINISTERS**.



- **CHIEF MINISTER** and other ministers have the responsibility of running various government **DEPARTMENTS OR MINISTRIES.**
- In Legislative Assembly every MLAs, whether from the **RULING PARTY** or from the **OPPOSITION** meet to discuss various things.



A DEBATE IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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AFREEN, SUJATA and many other **STUDENTS** from their school travelled to the state capital to **VISIT** the **LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY** which was housed in an **IMPRESSIVE BUILDING.**



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DELHI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY





After **SECURITY CHECKS**, they were taken upstairs. There was a gallery from where they could see the large hall below. There were **ROWS AND ROWS OF DESKS**.





➤ The Legislative Assembly is building situated in the **CAPITAL** of the **STATE** where all the **MLA'S** from ruling and opposition parties meet to **DISCUSS** and **DEBATE ISSUES.**



TOH KER NA !! KERO FIR !! www.evidyarthi.in



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➤ During **DEBATE TIME** in the assembly, MLA's can **EXPRESS** their opinions and **ASK QUESTIONS** related to the issue or **GIVE SUGGESTIONS** about what should be done by the **GOVERNMENT**.



- Those who wish to, can respond to this.
- The **MINISTER** then replies to the questions and tries to **ASSURE** the Assembly that **ADEQUATE STEPS** are **BEING TAKEN.**





➤ The **CHIEF MINISTER** and other ministers have to take **DECISIONS** and run the **GOVERNMENT**.

➤ Whatever decisions are being taken have to be **APPROVED** by the members of the **LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**.



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RAM NIWAS GOEL



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LETS UNDERSTAND AN EXAMPLE THROUGH THE HELP OF A DISCUSSION.

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MLA 1: In my constituency of Akhandagaon, during the last three weeks, there were **15 DEATHS** because of **DIARRHEA**. I think it is a shame that this government has not been able to **CHECK THE SITUATION** of a simple problem



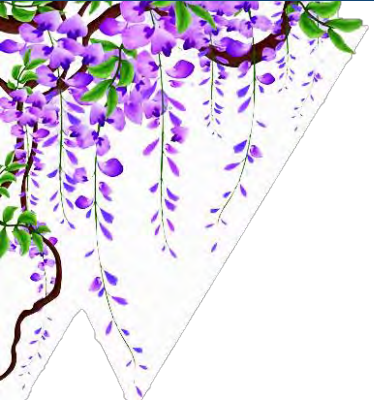


like **DIARRHEA** while
proclaiming itself to be a
champion of technology. I
would call the attention of
the **MINISTER IN
CHARGE OF HEALTH** to
take immediate measures
to control the situation.



MLA 2: My question is why are **GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS** in such a **BAD SITUATION?** Why is the government not **APPOINTING** proper **DOCTORS** and other **MEDICAL STAFF** in the district? I would also like to know how





the government plans to deal with this situation 34
Social and Political Life
2020-21 which is affecting a large number of people and is also spreading. This is an epidemic.



MLA 3: My constituency of Tolpatti too has a serious **SHORTAGE OF WATER**. Women travel up to 3 or 4 kilometers to collect water. How many **TANKERS** have been put into service to **SUPPLY WATER**? How many **WELLS** and **PONDS** have been **CLEANED AND DISINFECTED**?



MLA 4: I think my colleagues are exaggerating the problem. The **GOVERNMENT** has **TAKEN STEPS** to control the **SITUATION**. Water tankers have been put into service. ORS packets are being distributed. The government is doing **EVERYTHING** possible to help **PEOPLE**.



MLA 5: We have **VERY POOR FACILITIES** in our **HOSPITALS**.

There are hospitals that do not have a **DOCTOR** and no **MEDICAL STAFF** has been appointed for the **LAST FEW YEARS**. In another hospital, the doctor has gone on a long leave.



This is a shame. I think
the **SITUATION IS GOING**
from **BAD** to **WORSE.**
How are we going to
ensure that ORS packets
reach all families in the
affected areas?

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MLA 6: The opposition members are **UNNECESSARILY BLAMING** the **GOVERNMENT.**

The previous government did not pay any attention to **SANITATION.** We have now taken up a drive to clear the garbage that has been lying around for **YEARS.**





In the **EARLIER SECTION** you have read that The members were **DEBATING** the action taken or not taken by **THE GOVERNMENT**. This is because the **MLA'S** are **TOGETHER RESPONSIBLE** for the work of the **GOVERNMENT**.

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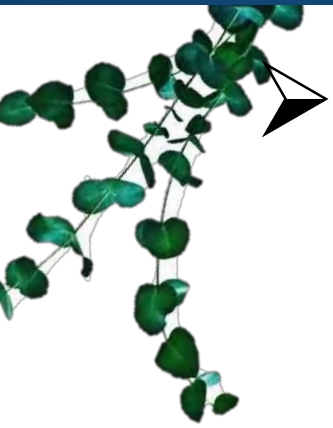




In common usage the word **'GOVERNMENT'** refers to **GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS** and **VARIOUS MINISTERS** who head them. The overall head is the **CHIEF MINISTER**. More correctly, this is called the **EXECUTIVE PART** of the government.



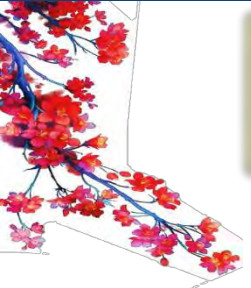
➤ All the **MLA'S** who gather together (assemble) in the legislative assembly are called the **LEGISLATURE**. They are the ones who **AUTHORIZE** and **SUPERVISE** their work.



WORKING OF THE GOVERNMENT

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- The **LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY** is not the only place where opinions and action of the government is demanded. **NEWSPAPERS, TV CHANNELS** and **OTHER ORGANIZATIONS** regularly talking



NEWSPAPER



MEDIA



TV



about the government.

- various ways through which people **EXPRESS** their views and also take action in a various ways.
- Soon **AFTER THE DISCUSSION** in the assembly, there was a **PRESS CONFERENCE** organized

PRESS CONFERENCE

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by the health minister.

- **PEOPLE** from **DIFFERENT NEWSPAPERS** were present. The minister, government officials were also present.
- The minister **EXPLAINED** the steps the government had taken.

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These **DISCUSSIONS** were then reported in different **NEWSPAPERS**. The following page has one such report.

- During the **NEXT WEEK**, the **CHIEF MINISTER** and the **MINISTER FOR HEALTH** visited Patalpuram district.





They went to visit the families who had lost their relatives and also **VISITED** people in the hospitals. **THE GOVERNMENT** announced a **COMPENSATION** for these families.



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- The **CHIEF MINISTER** also said that the problem was not only one of **SANITATION** but also of a lack of **CLEAN DRINKING WATER**.







➤ He said that a **HIGH LEVEL ENQUIRY COMMITTEE** will be asked to look into the needs of the **DISTRICT** to provide **SANITATION FACILITIES** and requested **THE MINISTER** for Public Works to take care of proper **WATER SUPPLY**



ENQUIRY



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- The **PEOPLE** in power like the **CHIEF MINISTER** and the **MINISTER** have to take action. They do so through **VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS** like the public works department, agriculture department, health department,
- 
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HEALTH DEPART.



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AGRICULTURAL DEPART.



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education department and
so on.

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- **AT THE SAME TIME,** newspapers and the media widely **DISCUSS** the issue and the government has to **RESPOND**, for example, by holding the **PRESS CONFERENCES.**



➤ The **GOVERNMENT** also make new laws for **SANITATION** and **HEALTH FACILITIES**. For example, it is compulsory for **MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS** to ensure that there are **ADEQUATE TOILETS** in **EVERY** urban area.





It ensures that a **HEALTH WORKER** is appointed in **EVERY VILLAGE**. Law making is done in every **STATE'S LEGISLATURE ASSEMBLY**.



The various government departments then **IMPLEMENT** these laws.






Laws for the **ENTIRE COUNTRY** are made in the **PARLIAMENT**. You will read more about the Parliament **NEXT YEAR**.

- It is the **PEOPLE** who elect their representatives as members of the





LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (mla's) and, thus, it is the people who have the main **AUTHORITY**.

- The **RULING PARTY MEMBERS** then form the government and some members are appointed **MINISTERS**.





These **MINISTERS** are in charge of **VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS** of the government such as health in the above example. Whatever work is done by these departments has to be approved by the members of the **LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**.

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