

UNION GOVERNMENT

The **Union Government** of India, also known as the **Central Government**, is the national government of the Republic of India, headquartered in **New Delhi**. It is composed of three main branches:

1. Legislative Branch – Parliament of India

Responsible for making laws.

- **Bicameral structure:**
 - **Rajya Sabha (Council of States)** – Upper House
 - **Lok Sabha (House of the People)** – Lower House
- **Presided over by:**
 - **President of India** (part of the Parliament)
- Powers include:
 - Making laws
 - Approving budgets
 - Discussing national issues
 - Holding the executive accountable

2. Executive Branch

Responsible for implementing laws and policies.

- **President of India** – Constitutional Head of State
- **Prime Minister of India** – Head of Government
- **Council of Ministers** – Assists the Prime Minister in administration
- **Cabinet Ministers, Ministers of State, Deputy Ministers**

Ministries and departments are headed by ministers and controlled by civil servants (IAS officers, etc.).

3. Judicial Branch

Ensures justice and interprets the Constitution.

- **Supreme Court of India** – Apex court
- **High Courts** – In each state/union territory
- **District and Subordinate Courts**
- **Chief Justice of India (CJI)** heads the judiciary

Key Features of Union Government:

- **Federal in structure**, but **unitary in spirit** (strong central authority)

- **Division of powers** between Union and State governments via:
 - Union List
 - State List
 - Concurrent List
- **Emergency powers** with the Union Government
- **Single Constitution** for the entire country (except Jammu & Kashmir until 2019)