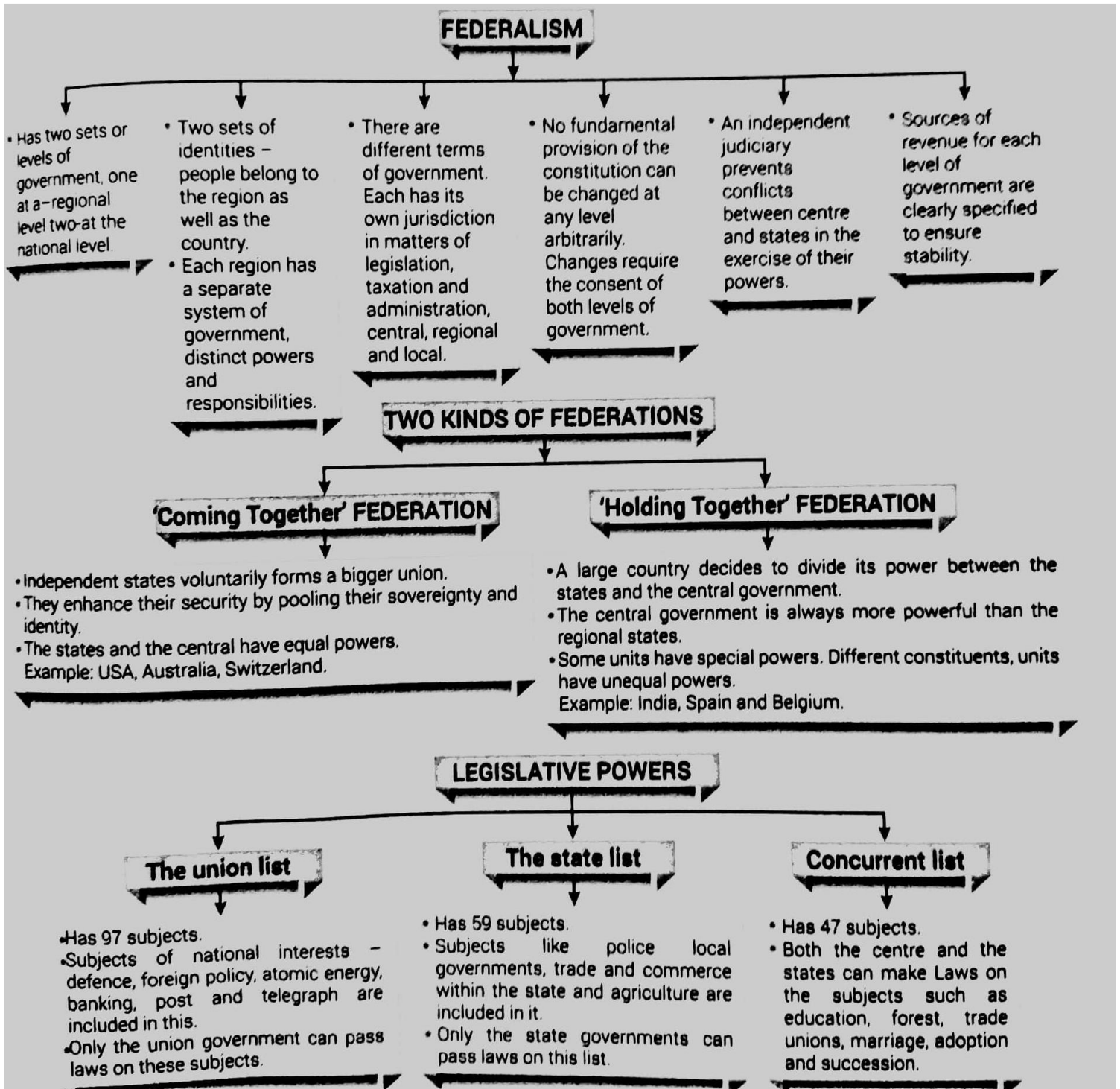


Democratic Politics

Ch -2 Federalism

Key Concepts- A Flow Chart



DECENTRALISATION IN INDIA

Union Government

State Government

Local Government

REASONS FOR DECENTRALISATION

- In a big country like India, it is essential to have an elected government at the local level also.
- Local people have better knowledge of local problems.
- Local people have better ideas of where to spend money and which people to tackle first of low to manage things more effectively.
- Common citizens can be involved in decision-making process, concerning their needs and how to plan development.
- People can approach a local government for solving their problems easily and quickly. The cost is also reduced to the minimum.
- Local governments at grassroots level ensures stability, strength and health of democracy.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

Rural

- Zila Parishad (Cover the entire district).
- Gram Samitis (Intermediary or middle level).
- Gram Panchayats (Village or groups of villages).

Urban

- Municipal Corporations (Large Urban Areas).
- Municipal Councils (smaller urban areas).

IMPORTANT FEATURES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES

Mandatory to hold regular elections to the local government bodies.

- Reservations of seats for scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other backward classes.
- The Right of Adivasis are protected in a special Act passed in 1996.

1/3 of positions reserved for women.

A state finance commission examines the financial position.

29 subjects which were in the state list have been transferred to the Panchayati Raj institutions by the 11th schedule of the Constitution.

A State Election Commission has been created in each state to conduct Panchayat and municipal elections.