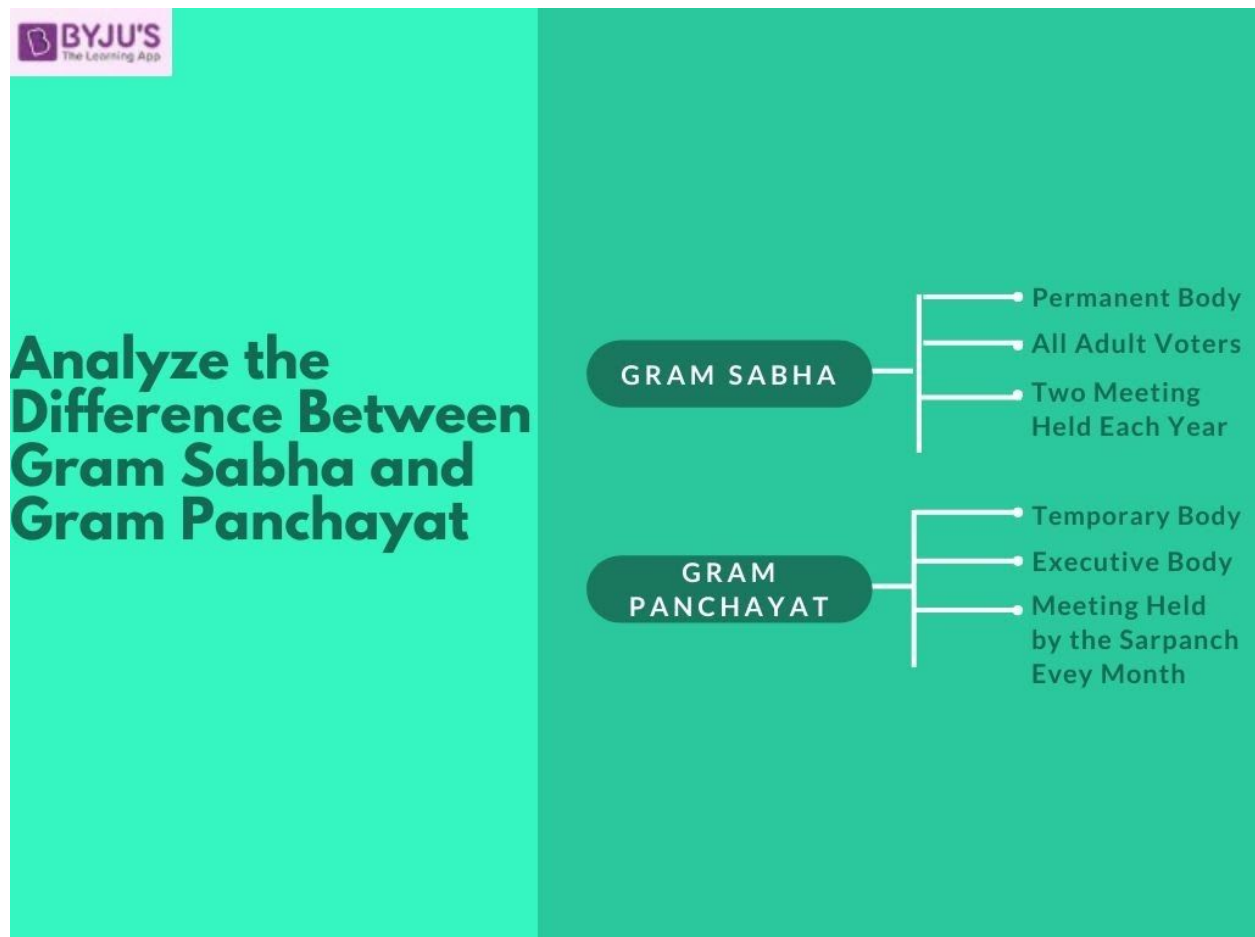


Difference Between Gram Sabha and Gram Panchayat

Panchayati Raj in India signifies the system of rural local self-governance. It is entrusted with rural development. The Panchayati Raj is a three-tier structure consisting of the Zila Parishad, Panchayat Samiti and Gram Panchayat. The Gram Panchayat is further divided into Gram Sabha and Nyaya Panchayat/ The Panchayati Raj System was constitutionalized through the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992 which came into effect on April 24, 1993

Gram Sabha is used to mean a general assembly of all the people of a village, who have attained the age of 18 years and their name is entered in the voter list.

The executive committee of the Gram Sabha is known as Gram Panchayat which consists of the representatives elected by the Sabha.



This article will attempt to further highlight the key differences between the Gram Sabha and Gram Panchayat within the context of the IAS Exam

The differences between a Gram Sabha and Gram Panchayat are given in the table below:

Differences between Gram Panchayat and Gram Sabha	
Gram Panchayat	Gram Sabha
Gram Panchayat is the lower tier of the Panchayati Raj that functions at the village level with the welfare and development of the village in mind	Gram Sabha is the legislative body that operates at the village level and takes into account the annual budget and audit reports of the Gram Panchayat
It is a permanent body	It is a temporary body
The Gram Panchayat consists of ward members and Sarpanch	The Gram Sabha consists of every person whose name is registered in the voter list of the perspective village
The members of the Gram Panchayat are directly elected by the members of the Gram Sabha	The members of Gram Sabha are not elected
Every month a meeting is organized by the gram panchayat. The functions of the Gram Panchayat may bifurcate as obligatory and optional functions. The obligatory functions include civic roles such as sanitation, drains and ponds,	The decisions taken by the Gram Sabha cannot be annulled by any other body. The power to do so rests with the Gram Sabha only

