



POLITY
- Part 9

Zilla Parishad

- To get money from the government for various development programmes in the block
- To make the villagers aware of the need of immunization for their children which will protect them against many diseases
- To establish and maintain institutions like schools and industrial training institutes to educate the children

Zilla Parishad

- To register births and deaths and to cremate unclaimed bodies.
- The BDO works in close cooperation with Block Samiti. He is the administrative head of Block Samiti. He ensures the implementation of the plans prepared by the Block Samiti. He is the link between a block and the concerned Zilla Parishad
- The main sources of the income of a Block Samiti are the grants and financial assistance given by the state government.

Zilla Parishad

- The members of the Zilla Parishad comprise of all the Block Pramukhs of the Block Samitis, MLAs and MPs of the Area.
- The Zilla Parishad should have one representative of each co-operative society of the district
- It should also have adequate representation of women, SC and Tribes
- The members of the Zilla Parishad elect a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson from among its members.
- The Chairman presides over the meetings of the Zilla Parishad.
- The tenure of Zilla Parishad is 5 years
- The State government appoints a Secretary to assist in the working.
- Zilla Parishad provides assistance to the Village Panchayats and Block Samitis in their work. It approves the budgets of Block Samitis.

Functions of Zilla Parishad

- It prepares development plans for the district
- It looks after the construction and maintenance of minor irrigation schemes
- It maintains educational institutions and promotes technical and vocational education
- It encourages the development of cottage industries in the area and imparts training to farmers
- It provides relief in times of drought and scarcity
- The work of Zilla Parishad is supervised by District Collector
- **SOURCES OF FUNDS:** Taxes, license fees and market fees. It levies taxes on fairs, shops, land and houses etc.
- Financial grants from the state government
- Income from renting out its property and houses
- Funds allotted by the central government under centrally sponsored schemes.

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Presidential form of Government

- America is having Presidential form of Government
- The American President is both the head of the State and the head of government. As the head of State, he occupies a ceremonial position. As the head of government, he heads the executive organ of government
- The President governs with the help of a cabinet. It is only advisory body and consists of non-elected departmental secretaries
- The President and his secretaries are not responsible to the Congress nor attend its sessions. The Legislative, executive and Judicial powers of the government are separated and vested in three independent organs of the government
- The president cannot dissolve the House of Representatives - the lower house of the Congress.

Lok Sabha Adjournment

- "Adjournment" is a postponement of the sitting or proceedings of the House from one time to another specified for the reassembling of the House.
- During the course of a Session, the Lok Sabha may be adjourned from day to day or for more than a day.
- It may also be adjourned *sine die* which means the termination of a sitting of the House without any definite date being fixed for its next sitting.

Lok Sabha Prorogation

- "Prorogation" means the termination of a Session of the House by an order made by the President under article 85(2)(a) of the Constitution.
- The Prorogation of the House may take place any time, even while the House is sitting.
- However, usually, prorogation follows the adjournment of the sitting of the House *sine die*.

Lok Sabha Dissolution

- "Dissolution" of the House means the end of the life of the Lok Sabha either by an order made by the President under article 85 (2) (b) of the Constitution or on the expiration of the period of five years from the date appointed for its first meeting.
- Dissolution puts an end to the representative character of the individuals who at the time compose the Lok Sabha.

Lok Sabha Business

- On adjournment of the Lok Sabha or its adjournment *sine die*, the pending business does not lapse. Bills pending before either House or Select/Joint Committee, Motions, Resolutions, and amendments which have already been moved and pending in the House, and business pending before a Parliamentary Committee do not lapse on prorogation whereas all business pending before the House or any of its Committee lapse on dissolution.
- Prorogation terminates a Session and does not constitute an interruption in the continuity of life of the Lok Sabha which is brought to an end only by dissolution.

Lok Sabha Question Hour

- Rule 32 of the “Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha” provides that unless the Speaker otherwise directs, the first hour of every sitting of the House shall be available for the asking and answering of Questions. Thus, it is taken up from 1100hrs to 1200 hrs in every sitting.
- Normally, there is no Question Hour during the first Session of the new Lok Sabha and also on the day when the President addresses both houses assembled together
- on the day when General Budget is presented in Lok Sabha and on the sittings held during the extended period of session or on Saturdays/Sundays and Holidays.

Lok Sabha Parliamentary Questions

- Question is one of the important Parliamentary devices available to the Members to seek information on a matter of urgent public importance
- A Member may ask question for the purpose of obtaining information on a subject matter of public importance within the special cognizance of the minister to whom it is addressed.
- The right to ask a question is governed by certain conditions like it should be pointed, specific and confined to one issue only. It should not contain arguments, inferences, ironical expressions, imputations, epithets or defamatory statements.

Different Types of Questions

- Starred: A Member who desires an oral answer to his question is required to distinguish it by an Asterix. Maximum 20 Questions are included in the list of Starred Questions for a particular day.
- This is printed on green paper. Minimum of 15 clear days notice is required for tabling Starred Questions.
- The Questions not orally answered in the Starred list of questions are treated as Un-starred Questions and their replies are laid on the Table of the House.

Un-starred Question

- Unstarred: These do not carry the Asterix mark and are meant for obtaining written reply. Not more than 230 Questions can be placed on the Un-starred list for a particular sitting.
- This list is printed on white paper. Minimum 15 clear days notice is required for tabling Un-starred Questions. Written answers given by the Ministers are deemed to have been laid on the Table of the House at the end of Question Hour.

Short Notice Question

- Short Notice Question: Question can also be asked on a matter of urgent public importance at a notice of less than ten clear days.
- The list of admitted SNQ is printed on a pink paper.
- The procedure of SNQ is regulated by Rule 54 and the basic test for its admissibility is the urgency of matter. SNQ is asked and answered soon after the Question Hour.

Number of Questions in a day

- The maximum number of Questions to be placed on the list of Questions for oral answers (Starred Question) on a particular day is 20, while the maximum number of questions to be placed on the list of Un-starred Question is 230.
- However, the number of Un-starred Questions may exceed by a maximum of 25 Questions pertaining to State/States under President's Rule.

Half-an-Hour Discussion

- Another instrument available to the Members of Lok Sabha for raising issue of public importance is the Half-an-Hour Discussion. Under this, a Member may raise discussion on a matter of sufficient public importance which has been the subject of a recent question, Starred, Un-starred or Short Notice Question and the answer to which needs further elucidation on a matter of fact.
- The procedure regarding Half-an-Hour Discussion is regulated by Rule 55 of the 'Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha' and Direction 19 of the 'Directions by the Speaker'. Under this, a Member may give notice to raise a discussion on a matter of sufficient public importance and which has been the subject of a recent question, Starred, Un-starred or Short Notice Question, and the answer to which needs further elucidation on a matter of fact.

Money Bill

- In case any question arises whether a Bill is a Money Bill or not, the decision of the Speaker, Lok Sabha, thereon, is final.
- When a Bill is held to be a Money Bill, the Speaker endorses a certificate thereon duly signed by the Speaker to that effect that it is a Money Bill before the Bill is sent to the Rajya Sabha or presented to the President for assent.

Stages of Passing of a Bill

- A Bill while being considered has to undergo three stages in each House of Parliament. The *first stage* consists of the introduction of the Bill which is done on a motion moved by either a Minister or a Member.
- During the *second stage*, any of the following motions can be moved: that the Bill be taken into consideration; that it be referred to a Select Committee of the House; that it be referred to a Joint Committee of the two Houses; or that it be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon. Thereafter, the Bill is taken up for clause-by-clause consideration as introduced or as reported by the Select/Joint Committee.
- Thereafter, the Bill is taken up for clause-by-clause consideration as introduced or as reported by the Select/Joint Committee.
- The *third stage* is confined to the discussion on the motion that the Bill be passed and the Bill is passed/rejected either by voting or voice vote (or returned to the Lok Sabha by the Rajya Sabha in the case of a Money Bill).

Calling Attention

- Under this procedural device, a Member may, with the prior permission of the Speaker, call the attention of a Minister to any matter of urgent public importance and the Minister may make a brief statement thereon.
- There shall be no debate on such a statement at the time it is made.
- After the statement, brief clarifications can be sought from the Minister by the Member who has initiated the Calling Attention and other Members whose names appear in the List of Business are called by the Speaker.

Calling Attention

- Only those matters which are primarily the concern of the Union Government can be raised through a Calling Attention notice.
- The Calling Attention procedure is an Indian innovation which combines asking a question with supplementary and making brief comments;
- the Government also gets adequate opportunity to state its case.
- The Calling Attention matter is not subject to the vote of the House.

Motion

- The term 'motion' in parliamentary parlance means any formal proposal made to the House by a Member for the purpose of eliciting a decision of the House.
- It is phrased in such a way that, if adopted, it will purport to express the judgement or will of the House.
- Any matter of importance can be the subject matter of a motion.
- The mover of a motion frames it in a form in which he/she wishes it ultimately to be passed by the House and on which a vote of the House can conveniently be taken.

Adjournment Motion

- *Adjournment Motion* is the procedure for adjournment of the business of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, which can be moved with the consent of the Speaker.
- The Adjournment Motion, if admitted, leads to setting aside of the normal business of the House for discussing the matter mentioned in the motion.
- To be in order, an adjournment motion must raise a matter of sufficient public importance to warrant interruption of normal business of the House and the question of public importance is decided on merit in each individual case.
- The purpose of an Adjournment Motion is to take the Government to task for a recent act of omission or commission having serious consequences. Its adoption is regarded as a sort of censure of the Government.

Motion of No-confidence

- The Government must always enjoy majority support in the popular House to remain in power.
- If need be, it has to demonstrate its strength on the floor of the House by moving a Motion of Confidence and winning the confidence of the House.
- In view of the express Constitutional provision regarding collective responsibility of the Council of Ministers to the Lok Sabha, a motion expressing want of confidence in an individual Minister is out of order; under the Rules, only a motion expressing want of confidence in the Council of Ministers as a body is admissible.

Motion of No-confidence

- Rule 198 of the *Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha* lays down the procedure for moving a Motion of No-Confidence in the Council of Ministers.
- The usual format of such a motion is that "this House expresses its want of confidence in the Council of Ministers".
- A Motion of No-confidence need not set out any grounds on which it is based.
- Even when grounds are mentioned in the notice and read out in the House, they do not form part of the No-confidence Motion.

Discussion under Rule 193

- Discussion under Rule 193 does not involve a formal motion before the House. Hence no voting can take place after discussion on matters under this rule.
- The Member who gives notice may make a short statement and such of the Members as have previously intimated to the Speaker, may be permitted to take part in the discussion.
- The Member who raises the discussion has no right of reply. At the end of the discussion, the Minister concerned gives a brief reply.

Zero Hour

- The time immediately following the Question Hour and laying of papers and before any listed business is taken up in the House has come to be popularly known as the `Zero Hour`.
- As it starts around 12 noon, this period is euphemistically termed as `Zero Hour`. For raising matters during the `Zero Hour` in Lok Sabha, Members give notice between 8.30 a.m. and 9.00 a.m. everyday to the Speaker stating clearly the subject which they consider to be important and wish to raise in the House.
- It is, of course, for the Speaker to allow or not to allow for raising such matters in the House. The term `Zero Hour` is not formally recognised in our parliamentary procedure.

President Address to the Parliament

- The Constitution provides for an Address by the President to either House or both Houses assembled together [Article 86(1)].
- The Constitution also makes incumbent upon the President to address both Houses of Parliament assembled together at the commencement of the first Session after each General Election to the Lok Sabha and at the commencement of the first Session each year and inform Parliament of the causes of its summons. [Article 87(1)].
- The matters referred to in the Address by the President to the Houses are discussed on a Motion of Thanks moved by a Member and seconded by another Member.

MPLAD Scheme

- Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) was introduced in December, 1993.
- Under this Scheme, a Member of Lok Sabha has the choice to recommend to the Head of the District, development works with emphasis on the creation of durable community assets based on the locally felt needs
- To the tune of Rupees five crore per year, to be taken up in his/her Constituency.

- JOIN US
- WE WILL UPGRADE YOU
- WE WILL TRANSFORM YOU

Thank You