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UNION LEGISLATURE

Indian Polity

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UNION LEGISLATURE

Union Legislature: The Parliament

- The **Parliament** is known as **Union Legislature** or **National Legislature**, which is a supreme body of decision making and symbol of democratic governance.
- The Parliament holds **THREE** sessions in a year.
 1. Budget session (February-May)
 2. Monsoon Session (July-August)
 3. Winter Session (November-December)
- It has **two important powers** and functions called as **legislative** and **financial**.
- The **legislative powers** are for law making.
- The **financial powers** are to prepare money bill as called as budget.
- The **parliament** has **two houses**
 1. The Lok Sabha
 2. The Rajya Sabha.
- Both houses are **carrying same values** and **responsibilities** with a **few exceptions** such as passing the finance bills.

The Lok Sabha

- The **Lok Sabha** (**Lower House** or House of People) with **543 members** elected from 543 Parliamentary constituencies across the country directly by the people who have attained the **age of 18** and above and registered as voters. The Lok Sabha has **2 nominated members** from the **Anglo- Indian** community.
- The **grand total** number of members in the **Lok Sabha** **545**

The Rajya Sabha

- The **Rajya Sabha** or the Council of States is called as **upper house**.
- It has a total number of **250 members** including **238** from **all the states** and **union territories** and **12 members** **nominated by the President**.
- The council of states **Rajya Sabha** is called as **second chamber** of the Parliament of India.

- It was **constituted** on **3rd April, 1952**.
- The **members for Rajya Sabha** are **elected** by the members of the respective State Legislative Assemblies (MLAs).

Position of Rajya Sabha

The Constitutional **position of the Rajya Sabha** (as compared with the Lok Sabha) can be studied from **three angles**:

1. Where Rajya Sabha is **equal to Lok Sabha**.
2. Where Rajya Sabha is **unequal to Lok Sabha**.
3. Where Rajya Sabha has **special powers** that are not all shared with the Lok Sabha.

Law making process

- The **Law making process** in Indian Parliament stands **evident for its democratic credentials**.
- In the **law making process**, **role of opposition parties** becomes much more important.
- The Parliament of India passes **two types of bills** such as:
 1. Money Bill
 2. Non-Money Bill or ordinary or public bills

Powers of Legislature :

- The **legislative powers and functions** of the **Union and the States** are clearly **demarcated in seventh schedule of the Constitution of India**.
- The **powers** on which both union and the states can legislate.
- The Powers classified into three list
 1. The Union List
 2. The State List
 3. The Concurrent List