

Parliament of India

The **Parliament of India** is the supreme legislative body in India. The Parliament comprises the President of India and the two Houses-**Lok Sabha** (House of the People) and **Rajya Sabha** (Council of States).

India's government is bicameral; Rajya Sabha is the upper house and Lok Sabha is the lower house. The two Houses meet in separate chambers in the Sansad Bhavan in New Delhi.

Those elected or nominated (by the President) to either house of Parliament are referred to as members of parliament or MPs. The MPs of Lok Sabha are directly elected by the Indian public and the MPs of Rajya Sabha are elected by the members of the State Legislative Assemblies, in accordance with proportional representation. The Parliament is composed of 790 MPs, who serve the largest democratic electorate in the world.

Session of Parliament

The period during which the House meets to conduct its business is called a session. The Parliament must meet at least twice a year. In India, the parliament conducts three sessions each year.

- **Budget session:** February to May.
- **Monsoon session:** July to September.
- **Winter session:** November to December

Some Important Post Hold

Chairman of Rajya Sabha	Mr. Venkaiah Naidu
Speaker of Lok Sabha	Smt. Sumitra Mahajan

* Term of Members of Rajya Sabha—6 yrs

* Term of Members of Lok Sabha—5 yrs

Country	Name of Parliament
Britain	Parliament (House of Commons is the Lower House and House of Lords is the Upper House)
India	Parliament (Lok Sabha is the Lower & Rajya Sabha is the Upper House)
Japan	Diet
Nepal	Panchayat
U.S.A.	Congress (Lower House-house of Representatives & Upper House-Senate)
China	National Peoples, Congress
Pakistan	Parliament (National Assembly and Senate)
Australia	Parliament
South Africa	House of Assembly
Canada	Parliament (Lower House: House of Commons, Upper House: Senate)

The Constitution of India contains 395 articles in 22 parts and 8 schedules at the time of commencement.

The idea to have the constitution in India was given in the year 1934 by Mr. M.N. Roy the pioneer of the communist movement in India

The demand was accepted by the British parliament which came to be known as the August Offer in the year 1940, for this purpose the Constituent Assembly of India was setup under the Cabinet Mission Plan in May 1946.

The Constituent Assembly met for the first time in New Delhi on 9 December, 1946.

Constituent Assembly of India finally accepted the Constitution on 26th November 1949.

The Constituent Assembly took 2 years, 11 months and 18 days in making the Constitution

Important fact

Chairman of drafting committee in constituent Assembly - B R Ambedkar

First Chairman was Sachidanand Sinha

First Elected Chairman of Constituent Assembly was Dr Rajendra prasad

Fundamental Rights

The Fundamental Rights has been mentioned in the part III of the Constitution of India and articles 12-35 deals with it. The concept of Fundamental Rights has been borrowed from the Constitution of USA.

At the time of making of the there were 7 Fundamental Rights but after the 44th Amendment Act 1978, Right to Property was deleted from the Constitution.

1. Right to Equality (Article 14-18)
2. Right to Freedom (Article 19-22)
3. Right against Exploitation (Article 23-24)
4. Right to freedom of Religion (Article 25-28)
5. Cultural and Educational Rights (Article 29-30)
6. Right to Property(Article 31- deleted by 44th Amendment Act 1978)
7. Right to Constitutional Remedies (Article 32-35)

Under the Article 352 of the Indian Constitution during the proclamation of the **National Emergency** all the fundamental rights mentioned under **Article 19 gets suspended**.

Article 20 and 21 are known as the absolute fundamental rights and **cannot get suspended** in any circumstances by the 44th Amendment Act 1978.

Fundamental Rights which are available to only citizens - Article- 15, 16, 19, 29 and 30.

Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP)

The DPSP has been mentioned under part IV of the Constitution and articles 36-51 of the Constitution deals with it.

The difference between the Fundamental Rights and DPSP id that Fundamental Rights are enforceable and in case of violation the person can directly move to the court of law whereas the DPSP are not enforceable and in case of violation the person cannot move to the court of law.

Important articles under DPSP

Article-39A Equal justice and free legal aid

Article-43 Living wage, etc. for workers

Article-44 Uniform civil code for the citizens

Article-45 Provision for free and compulsory education for children

Article-48 Organization of agriculture and animal husbandry

Article-48A Protection and improvement of environment and safeguarding of forests and Wildlife

Article-49 Protection of monuments and places and objects of national importance

Article-50 Separation of judiciary from executive

Article-51 Promotion of international peace and security

President of India

The Union Government consists of the President, Vice President, Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers.

Minimum age required to become a President of India is 35 years.

The President is the nominal head of the country, head of the executive and the first citizen of the country.
Minimum age required to become a Vice President of India is 35 years.

The President of India is not directly elected by the people of India but by the

- (a) Elected members of the Parliament (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha)
- (b) Elected members of state legislative assembly (Vidhan Sabha)
- (c) Elected members of the legislative assembly of Delhi and Pondicherry

The President of India takes OATH in the presence of the Chief Justice of India and his absence senior most judge of the Supreme Court.

The President of India can be removed from the office by a process of impeachment for the violation of the Constitution.

Vice President of India

The Vice-President is elected by an electoral college consisting of members of both Houses of Parliament. The nominated members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha also participate in the elections of the Vice President of India.

Minimum age required to become a Vice President of India is 35 years.

The Vice-President is not a member of either House of Parliament or of a House of a Legislature of any state.

The Vice President of India takes OATH in the presence of the President of India.

The Vice President of India is the ex officio chairman of the Rajya Sabha.

Prime Minister and Council of Minister

Under the article 75 of the Indian Constitution it says that the Prime Minister of India will be appointed by the President of India.

Minimum age required to become a Prime Minister is 25 Years.

The Prime Minister of India is the ex officio Chairman of the Niti Aayog, National Development Council, National integrated council and Inter-State Councils.

Article 74 of the Constitution of India says that there will be a Council of Ministers with the prime Minister with the main aim of advising the president in the exercise of his functions.

Governor of the State, Chief Minister and Council of Minister

The State government consists of the Governor, Chief Minister and the State Council of Ministers.

The Governor is the nominal head of the state and the first citizen of the State. The governor of state is appointed by president for the period of 5 years but it is subject to the pleasure of the President of India. Minimum age required to become a governor of state is 35 years.

According to 7th Amendment Act 1956 a person can be a Governor of two or more state.

The governor appoints the Lokayukta of the concerned state.

The President only on the advice of the Governor declares the State emergency.

The governor is the Chancellor of the State universities.

Currently, there are seven Union Territories. These are

- (1) Andaman and Nicobar Islands (1956) (Capital- Port Blair)
- (2) Delhi (1956) (Capital- New Delhi)
- (3) Lakshadweep (1956) (Capital- Kavaratti)
- (4) Dadra and Nagar Haveli (1961) (Capital- Silvassa)
- (5) Daman and Diu (1962) (Capital- Daman)
- (6) Puducherry (1962) (Capital- Pondicherry)
- (7) Chandigarh (1966) (Capital- Chandigarh)

Only Union Territories of Puducherry and Delhi are provided with a legislative assembly.

These Union Territories are administered by the President acting through an administrator (Lieutenant Governor in case of Delhi, Puducherry and Andaman and Nicobar) appointed by him.

Judiciary

The Supreme Court is the apex court of India and the highest court of justice in India. The Current maximum strength of Supreme Court is 31 judges (1 Chief Justice and 30 other judges).

The judges of the Supreme Court including Chief Justice of India are appointed by the President of India. Current CJI is Ranjan Gogoi

The judges of the Supreme Court is removed by the President upon an address by both the Houses of the Parliament supported by a majority of not less than 2/3rd of members present and voting and a majority of total strength of the House on the ground of misbehaviour or incapacity.

The High Court is the highest court of justice in the state it functions below the Supreme Court and above the Subordinate Courts. The Chief Justice and the other judges of the High Court are appointed by the President of India. The process of the removal of the judge of the High Court is similar to the process of the removal of the judge of the Supreme Court

At present there are total 24 High Courts in India and out of which three are common High Court. Delhi is the only Union Territory which is having its own High Court since 1966.

Panchayati Raj

Balwant Rai Mehta committee in the year 1957 proposed three tier panchayati raj system.

The Panchayats in India were the constitutional status by the 73rd Amendment Act 1992 and added 11th schedule in the constitution.

Rajasthan was the first state to start the Panchayati Raj from its Nagaur district.

The Panchayati Raj system consists of the 3-tier structure i.e.

- (a) Gram Panchayat which works at the village level and the head is known as Sarpanch.
- (b) Panchayat Samiti which works at the block level and the head is known as Pradhan.
- (c) Zila-Parishad which works at the district level whose head is known as District collector.

Constitutional Amendments

Article 368 deals with the Constitutional Amendments.

Important Constitutional Amendments

36th Amendment Act 1975- Formation of Sikkim as a State within the Indian Union

42nd Amendment Act 1976- (a) Three words were added in the Preamble of the Constitution of India i.e. Socialist, Secular and Integrity (b) 10 Fundamental Duties were added

44th Amendment Act 1978- Right to Property was deleted as the Fundamental Right was made as the Legal Right

61st Amendment Act 1989- Reduce age for voting rights from 21 to 18

73rd Amendment Act 1993- Granted Constitutional status to the Panchayat Raj

74th Amendment Act 1993- Granted Constitutional status to the local Urban bodies

86th Amendment Act 2002- (a) Provides Right to Education until the age of fourteen and early childhood care until the age of six article 21(A)

(b) 11th Fundamental Duty was added which says that it is duty of all the parents to sent their children of age group 6-14 years to school

101st Amendment Act 2016- Good and Service Tax

When was the Constitution of India adopted by the Constituent Assembly ?

- (A) 25th Nov. 1949
- (B) 29th Nov. 1949
- (C) 26th Nov. 1949
- (D) 27th Nov. 1949

Ans: C

Who decides whether a bill is a Money Bill or Not ?

- A. President
- B. Chairmen of Rajya Sabha
- C. Speaker of Lok sabha**
- D. Minister of Parliamentary affairs

Who among the following is/are not appointed by the President of India ?

- (A) Governors of the States
- (B) Chief Justice and Judges of the High Courts
- (C) Vice-President**
- (D) Chief Justice and Judges of the Supreme Court

Who is competent to prescribe conditions as for acquiring Indian Citizenship?

- A. State Legislatures
- B. Parliament**
- C. President
- D. Attorney General

The Lok Sabha is also known as

- A. Council of states
- B. The Upper House
- C. The House of the People**
- D. Parliament

The chairman of the Rajya Sabha is the

- A. President of India
- B. Vice President of India**
- C. Prime Minister of India
- D. None of the above

The Lok Sabha is also known as:

Ans : The House of the People

The members of Lok Sabha hold office for a term of

Ans : 5 years

The minimum age for a person to become a member of Rajya Sabha is

Ans : 30 Years

The precursor to the Indian Parliament was the :

Ans : Constituent Assembly

The maximum strength (number of members) of the Rajya Sabha :

Ans : 238

The part of the constitution that reflects the mind and ideals of the framers is

- A. directive principles
- B. fundamental rights
- C. preamble**
- D. Citizenship

The Indian Constitution has borrowed the ideas of preamble from the

- A. Italian Constitution
- B. Canadian Constitution
- C. French Constitution
- D. Constitution of USA**

What is the minimum permissible age for employment in any factory or mine?

- A. 12 years
- B. 14 years**
- C. 16 years
- D. 18 years

The minimum age to be eligible for a election for the Lok Sabha is

Ans : 25

The Council of States in India is generally known as:

Ans : Rajya Sabha

Who Elect the members of the Rajya Sabha

Ans : elected members of the legislative assembly

The members of the Rajya Sabha are chosen for the term

Ans : of six years

The Parliament of India consists of the following (more than one answer applies)

Ans : President, Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha

Who decides whether a bill is a money bill or not:

Ans : Speaker of the Lok Sabha

The phrase 'bicameral legislature' means

Ans : a legislature consisting of a lower and an upper chamber

In which session of Parliament, Railway and General Budgets are presented ?

- (A) Monsoon session
- (B) First session
- (C) Winter session
- (D) None of the above

Ans: B

The judges of the High court of a state are appointed by ?

- A. President
- B. Governor
- C. Chief Justice of India
- D. Vice-President

The First Election Commissioner of India was

- A. Dr.Nagendra Singh
- B. S.P.Sen Verma
- C. Sukumar Sen
- D. K.V.K.Sundaram

Ans: C

Who founded the Indian Association of Calcutta in 1876?
Surendranath Banerjee

The transfer of the capital from Calcutta to Delhi was announced in :
1911

Who was the first woman president of the Indian National Congress?
Mrs. Annie Besant

. Name the paper started by Bipin Chandra Pal in 1906?
Vande mataran

In the Rajya Sabha, the President can appoint how many representatives

Ans : 12

A motion of no confidence against the government can be introduced by

Ans : Lok Sabha

Who is the first female judge of supreme court ?

Answer: Fathima Beevi

Which state has no Panchayati Raj Institution

Answer : Nagaland

Who appoints the judges of supreme court ?

Answer: President

India became a Sovereign democratic republic on

- A. Aug 15, 1947
- B. Jan 30, 1948
- C. Jan 26, 1950**
- D. Nov 26, 1929

The design of the national flag was adopted by the constituent assembly of India in

- A. July, 1948
- B. July, 1950
- C. July, 1947**
- D. August, 1947

In the National Flag, what does saffron colour represent ?

- (A) Spirit of Renunciation
- (B) Spirit of colours
- (C) Spirit of Human nature
- (D) None of the above

Ans: A

In the National Flag, which colour is used in the wheel ?

- (A) Blue
- (B) Navy Blue
- (C) Red Green
- (D) Green-White

Ans: B

What is the age of retirement of a Judge of a supreme

- A. 62yrs
- B. 68yrs
- C. 60yrs
- D. **65yrs**

The Constitution of India provides a

- A. Presidential form Govt
- B. Cabinet System of Government**
- C. Parliamentry System
- D. Bicameral System of government

Who is the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces in India?

- (a) The Prime Minister
- (b) The Commander-in-chief
- (c) The President of India**
- (d) Minister of Defence

Who is known as the sculptor of the constitution of India?

- (a) Rajendra Prasad
- (b) V.V. Giri
- (c) B.R. Ambedkar**
- (d) Dr. S. Radhakrishnan

Who was the first Foreign Minister of free India?

- A. Jawaharlal Nehru
- B. Gulzari Lal Nanda
- C. Lal Bahadur Shastri
- D. John Mathai

The idea of the constitution of india was first of all given by

- A. Mahatama Gandhi
- B. Dr BR Ambedkar
- C. Jawaharlal Nehru
- D. MN Roy

What is the maximum strength (number of members) of the Lok Sabha envisaged by the Constitution:

Ans : 552

The Presiding Chairman of the Lok Sabha is the following:

Ans : Elected from the Lok Sabha Members

Which of the following are not sessions of the Lok Sabha:

Ans : Spring Session & Summer Session

The budget is presented by the Finance Minister to the:

Ans : Lok Sabha

How many Sessions of the Lok Sabha are held in a year?

Ans : Normally three Sessions of the Lok Sabha are held in a year, viz.,
Budget Session - February - May
Autumn or Monsoon Session - July - August
Winter Session - November - December

Andaman and Nicobar islands come under the jurisdiction of which of the following High Courts?

Answer : Calcutta High Court

The pension of a high court judge is charged to the

Answer : Consolidated Fund of India

Which of the following is the oldest High Court in India?

Answer : High Court of Calcutta

Who was the first woman judge to be appointed Chief Justice of a High Court?

Ans : Justice Smt Leila Seth

Total number of High Court in India

Answer : 24

The age of retirement of a Judge of a
High Court in India is?

Answer : 62 years