

Lok Sabha

These notes are your ultimate revision weapon to revise Lok Sabha. We've distilled years of previous exam questions (PYQs) into one powerful, concise resource. Everything you need to know, nothing you don't.

- **PYQs, Decoded:** All key concepts from past exams, organized and simplified.
- **Revise in Record Time:** Short, precise, and designed for last-minute review.
- **Focus on What Matters:** Master high-probability topics and boost your confidence.

Lok Sabha: Composition, Structure, and Representation

A. Maximum and Current Strength

- **Constitutional Maximum:** 550 members.
 - Composition: 530 from States + 20 from Union Territories.
- **Current Strength:** 543 members (524 from States + 19 from Union Territories).
- **Historical Changes:**
 - The **104th Constitutional Amendment Act (2019)** discontinued the nomination of two Anglo-Indian members, reducing the maximum from 552 to 550.
 - The **31st Constitutional Amendment Act (1973)** increased the strength from 525 to 545.
 - The **7th Constitutional Amendment (1956)** initially set the number of Lok Sabha members.

B. Allocation of Seats

- **Basis:** Primarily based on the state's **population** (as per **Article 81**).

- **Current Freeze:** The allocation is based on the **1971 Census**, frozen by the **84th Constitutional Amendment Act (2001)** until the first census after **2026**.
- **Objective:** To divide states into constituencies with as **equal population as possible** (exception for states with a population of six million or less).
- **State-wise Representation:**
 - **Largest Representation:** Uttar Pradesh (80 seats).
 - **Other States:** Maharashtra (48), West Bengal (42), Tamil Nadu (39), Bihar (ranked 2nd/3rd), Rajasthan (25), Andhra Pradesh (25).
 - **Minimal Representation:** Sikkim (2 seats); Chandigarh, Sikkim, and Mizoram have one seat each.
 - **Fact:** Bihar's total seats equal the combined seats of Punjab and West Bengal.

C. Nominated Members (Anglo-Indian Community)

- **Original Provision:** **Article 331** allowed the President to nominate 2 Anglo-Indian members if not adequately represented.
- **Cessation:** This provision **expired on January 25, 2020**, and was not extended.

D. Reservation of Seats

- **Constitutional Basis:** **Article 330** governs the reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs).
- **Calculation:** Based on the percentage of the SC/ST population to the state's total population.
- **Voting:** All voters in a reserved constituency can vote; there is no separate electoral roll.
- **Reserved Seat Count (Post-2008 Delimitation):**
 - **SCs:** 84 seats.
 - **STs:** 47 seats.
- **State-wise Exceptions:**

- **No SC/ST Reservation:** Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, and Puducherry.
- **No ST Reservation:** States of Kerala and Tamil Nadu.
- **High ST Reservation:** Madhya Pradesh has the highest (6), followed by Jharkhand and Odisha (5 each).

E. The Delimitation Commission

- **Role:** Readjusts constituency boundaries to balance voter numbers; decides which specific constituencies are reserved for SCs/STs.
- **Appointment:** Appointed by the **President** under an Act of Parliament.

Lok Sabha: Election Process and Membership

A. Eligibility and Candidacy

- **Minimum Age:** 25 years (Article 84(b)).
- **Nomination:** Can only be filed by a citizen whose name appears in the electoral roll of that constituency (Representation of the People Act, 1951).
- **Security Deposit:**
 - **Forfeiture:** A candidate loses the deposit if they fail to secure **more than one-sixth (1/6)** of the total valid votes.
 - **Amount (Current):** ₹25,000 for General candidates; ₹12,500 for SC/ST candidates.

B. Electoral Administration

- **Authority:** The **Election Commission of India** directs and controls the preparation of electoral rolls and conducts elections (Article 324).
- **Basis:** Elections are conducted on the basis of **adult suffrage** (Article 326).
- **Support:** The President must make staff available to the Election Commission upon request.

C. Voting System and Winning

- **System:** A candidate can win by a **plurality** (highest number of votes); it is **not necessary** to secure 50% of the votes.

D. Tenure, Sessions, and Dissolution

- **Normal Term:** 5 years.
- **Sessions:** The President must summon Parliament at least twice a year. The gap between two sessions cannot exceed six months.
- **Dissolution:** The President can dissolve the Lok Sabha **on the recommendation of the Prime Minister**.
- **Extension:** During a national emergency, the term can be extended by one year at a time, but not beyond six months after the emergency ends.
- **Historical Precedent:** The **5th Lok Sabha (1971-1977)** had the longest term (~6 years).

E. Procedures and Quorum



- **Quorum:** The minimum number of members required to conduct business is **one-tenth (1/10th)** of the total membership.
- **Termination of a Sitting:** Can be done by:
 - **Adjournment** (by the Speaker).
 - **Prorogation** (by the President).
 - **Dissolution** (by the President).

F. Disqualification of Members

- A member's seat can be declared vacant if they are absent (without permission) for a continuous period of **60 days**.

Lok Sabha: Leadership and Officials

A. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha

- **Election:** Elected by all members of the Lok Sabha. The Speaker must be a member of the House or become one within six months of election.
- **Oath:** The Speaker **does not** take a formal oath of office.
- **Resignation:** Submitted to the **Deputy Speaker**.
- **Removal:** Requires a resolution passed by a **majority of all the then members** of the Lok Sabha.
- **Tenure:** Vacates office only upon ceasing to be a member or upon the **dissolution of the House**.
- **Powers and Functions:**
 - **Casting Vote:** Has a casting vote in case of a tie (Article 100).
 - **Administrative Control:** The **Lok Sabha Secretariat** operates under the direct supervision of the Speaker.
 - **Legislative Process:** The general discussion on a Bill takes place during the **Second Reading**.
- **Protem Speaker:** Appointed from senior members to administer oaths and preside until the regular Speaker is elected.
- **Historical Facts:**
 - First Speaker: **G.V. Mavalankar**.
 - First Speaker against whom a No-Confidence motion was moved: **G.V. Mavalankar**.
 - First Female Speaker: **Meira Kumar**.
 - First Tribal Speaker: **P.A. Sangma**.

B. The Deputy Speaker

- **Voting:** When presiding, cannot vote in the first instance but can exercise a casting vote.
- **Joint Sitting:** Does **not** have the right to preside over a joint sitting of Parliament in the Speaker's absence.

- **Post Allocation:** There is **no** constitutional rule that the Deputy Speaker's post must go to the opposition.

C. Other Key Figures

- **Leader of the House:** The **Prime Minister** is the leader of the Lok Sabha.
- **Leader of the Opposition (LoP):**
 - **Recognition:** Officially recognized for the first time in **1969**.
 - **Criteria:** The party must have a minimum of **10% of the total seats** (55 seats in a 545-member House).
 - **Historical Context:** In the first Lok Sabha, the single largest opposition party was the **Communist Party of India (CPI)**.
- **Attorney General of India (AGI):**
 - **Appointment:** Appointed by the President.
 - **Rights:** Has the right to speak in both Houses but **no right to vote**.
 - **Status:** Is **not** a member of the Cabinet.



Lok Sabha: Legislative and Financial Powers

A. Money Bills (Article 110)

- **Introduction:** Can **only be introduced** in the Lok Sabha.
- **Lok Sabha's Exclusive Power:** Has exclusive power over the rejection or amendment of a Money Bill.
- **Role of Rajya Sabha:** Cannot amend a Money Bill; can only make recommendations. It can detain a Money Bill for a maximum of **14 days**.
- **Presidential Assent:** A Money Bill/Finance Bill must be signed by the President.

B. Parliamentary Discussions

- A discussion under **Rule 184** is significant as it **provides for voting along with the discussion**.

Historical and Miscellaneous Facts

- **First General Election:** Held in **1952**.
- **Election History:** The 9th Lok Sabha was dissolved on **March 13, 1991**. Elections for the 12th Lok Sabha were held in **February 1998**.
- **Constituencies:** The largest Lok Sabha constituency by area is **Ladakh**. After delimitation, the largest constituency in Uttar Pradesh by number of voters is **Baghpat**.
- **Union Territories:** UTs get representation in **both Houses of Parliament**. The maximum allocation to UTs in the Lok Sabha is **20**.

Know More About Lok Sabha:

- [The Parliament: Lok Sabha – Old Year Questions](#)
- [The Parliament: Lok Sabha One Liner Questions & Answers](#)

