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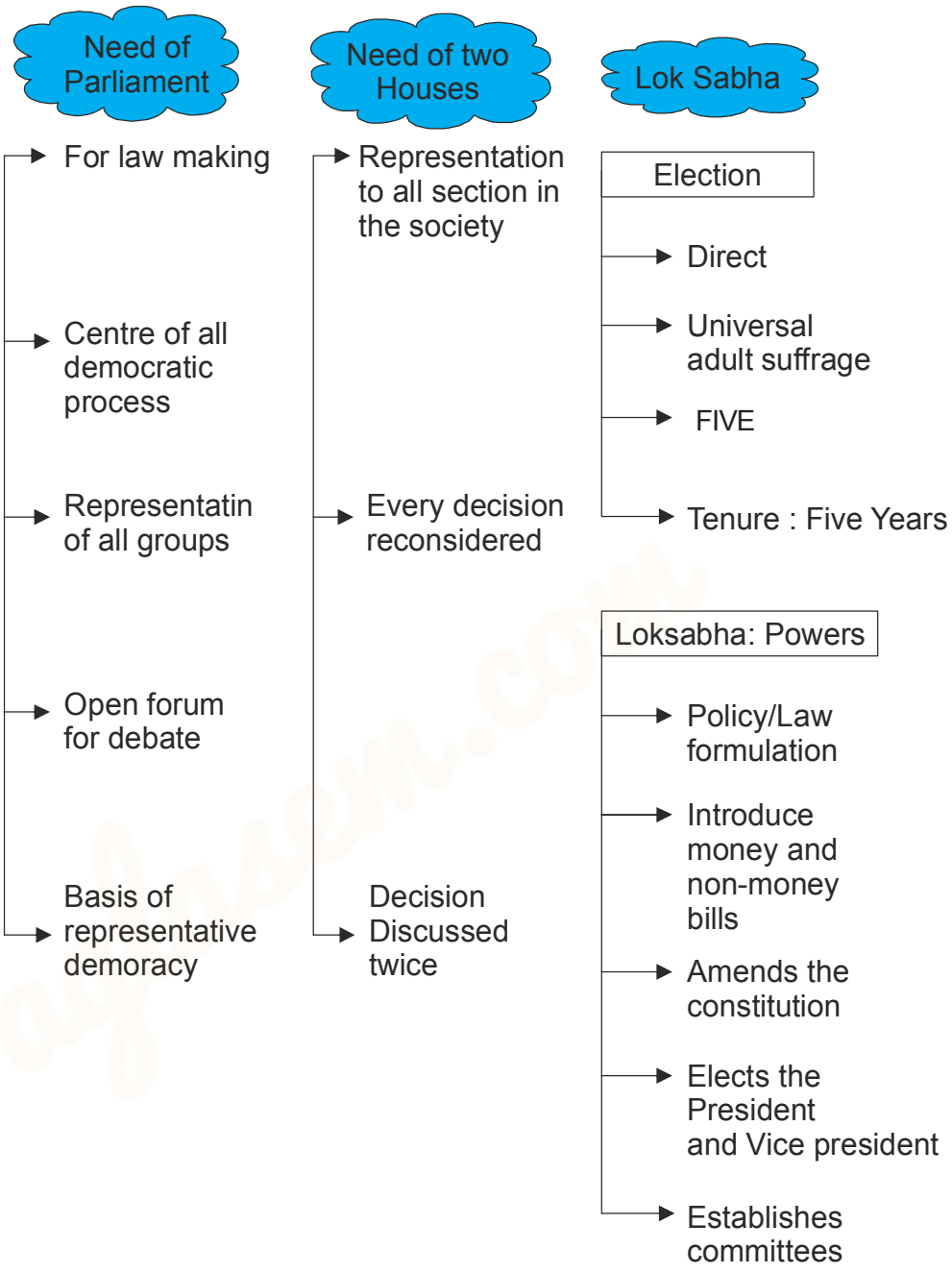


CLASS XI
NOTES
POLITICAL SCIENCE

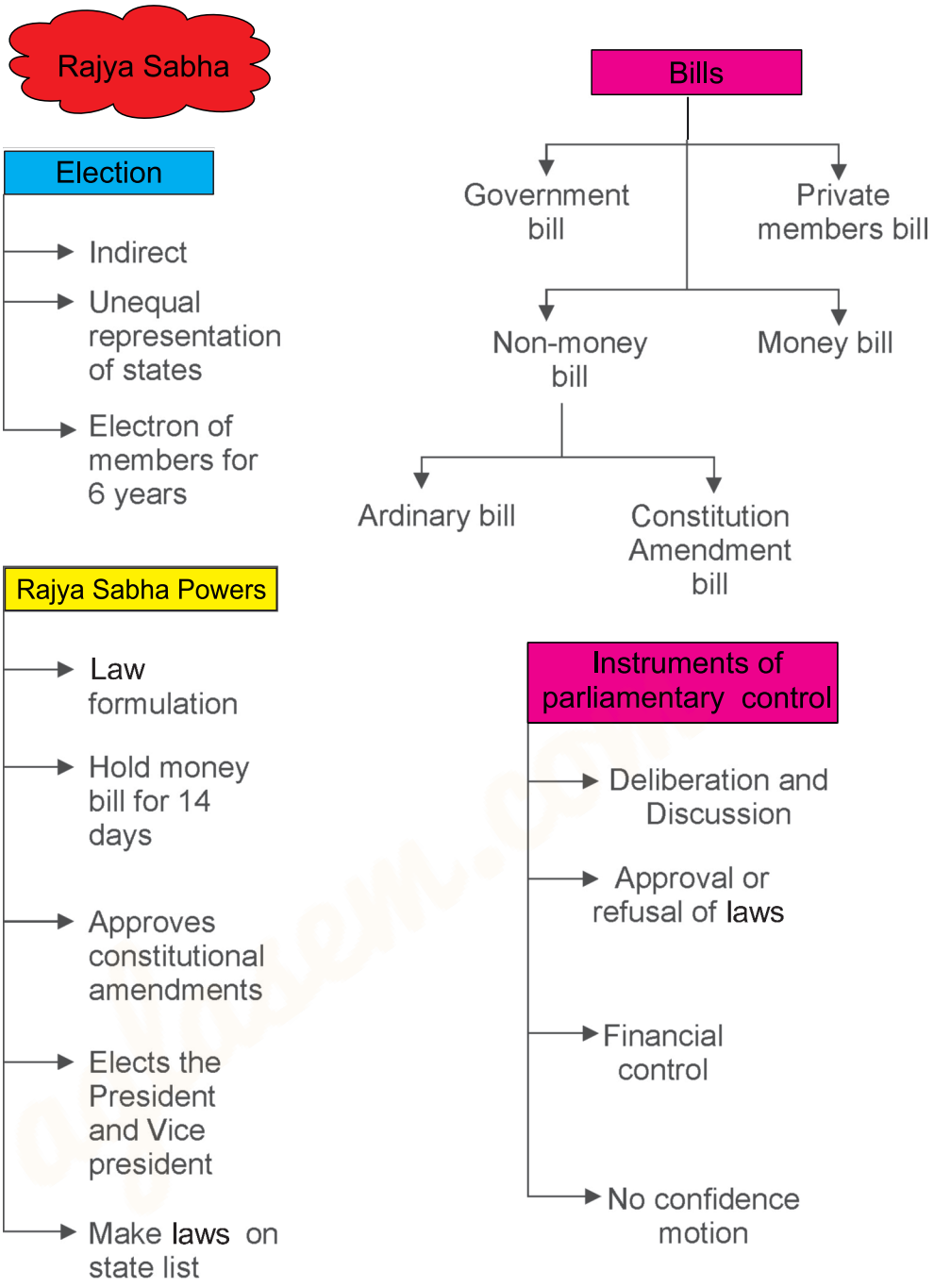
KEY NOTES AND IMPORTANT QUESTIONS WITH ANWERS

Chapter - 3

THE LEGISLATURE



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Key Points :-

- What is Legislature
- Need of Parliament
- Need of Two Chambers
- Functions of Legislature
- Powers of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha
- Parliamentary Control over Executive

Legislature

The Legislature of the Union is called the Parliament. The legislatures of the states are described as the State Legislative Assemblies. Parliament is made up of the President and the two Houses. Where there are two houses, it is called as a bi-cameral legislature. The two Houses of the Indian Parliament are the Council of States or the Rajya Sabha and the House of the People or the Lok Sabha. The legislature of the states are called the Legislature or State Legislative Assembly.

Why We Need A Parliament

1. Law Making
2. Open forum for debate
3. For the formation of the Government
4. Walkouts, protests, demonstrations, co-operation
5. Proper representation to all sections of society

What does the Parliament do

- **Legislative functions:** The Parliament enacts the laws for the country though no major bill can be introduced without the approval of the Cabinet.

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- **Control over Executive and ensures its accountability:** The Parliament controls the Executive and the Executive always remains responsible to the people who have elected them.
- **Financial Function:** The Legislature controls taxation and the way in which money is used by the government.
- **Representation:** Parliament represents the divergent views and opinions from different Sections of the society.
- **Debating Function:** Parliament is the highest forum of debate in the country.
- **Constituent Function:** All Constitutional amendments have to be approved by a special majority of both houses.
- **Electoral Functions:** Parliament elects the President and the Vice President of India.
- **Judicial Functions:** Parliament can remove the President, Vice President and Judges of High Courts and Supreme Courts.

Functions of Lok Sabha

(i) Makes Laws

(ii) Introduce and enact money and non-money bills

(iii) Approves bills for taxation

(iv) Controls the executive by asking questions

(v) Amends the Constitution

(vi) Approves the Proclamation of emergency

(vii) Elects the President and the Vice President

(viii) Removes the Judges of High Courts and Supreme Courts

(ix) Establishes committees and commissions

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Functions of Rajya Sabbha

(i) Considers and approve non money bills.

(ii) Approves constitutional amendments.

(iii) Control over executive by asking questions.

(iv) Participate in the election and removal of the President Vice-President Judges of Supreme Court and High court.

(v) Can give the Union Parliament power to make laws on matters included in the State List.

How Parliament Control the Executive

There are the many ways in which the Parliament can control the executive. The legislature in Parliamentary system ensures executive's accountability at various stages:- policy-making, implementation of law or policy and during and post implementation stage. The legislature does this through the use of a variety of devices.

- **Deliberation and Discussion:** During the law making process, members of the legislature get an opportunity to deliberate on the policy direction of the executive and the various instruments may be adopted during the general discussions in both the House of the Parliament. Various instruments are question hour, zero or half an hour or adjournment motion.
- **Approval and Ratification:** A law can became a law only with the approval of the Parliament. Parliamentary control is also exercised through its power of ratification. A government that has the support of a disciplined majority may not find it difficult to get the approval of the parliament. Though approval cannot be taken for granted.
- **Financial Control:** Budget cannot be passed unless it is approved by majority in the parliament. This constitutional obligation allows the legislature to exercise control over purse strings of government. Parliament can enquiry into cases of misuse of faults on the basis of the

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report of comptroller and Auditor General and public accounts committee.

- **No confidence Motion:** This is the most powerful weapon that controls the Parliament to ensure executive accountability.

QUESTIONNAIRE

One Mark Questions

1. Minimum Age for the members of Rajya Sabha is
   (a) 30 years
   (b) 35 years
   (c) 40 years
   (d) 45 years

2. Who will decide whether a bill is a money bill or not?
   (a) President
   (b) Speaker of Lok Sabha
   (c) Prime Minister
   (d) Vice President

3. The Council of Ministers in India is responsible to whom?
   (a) President
   (b) Lok Sabha
   (c) Rajya Sabha
   (d) Both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha

4. Who nominate 12 members in the Rajya Sabha?
   (a) Prime Minister
   (b) President
   (c) Vice President
   (d) Chief Minister

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5. The President nominates 12 members of the Rajya Sabha who have expertise in
   (a) Arts, literature, sports and science
   (b) Arts, literature, theatre and social service
   (c) Arts, literature, politics and social service
   (d) Arts, literature, science and social service

6. The Rajya Sabha can hold the money bill for reconsideration.
   (a) 10 days
   (b) 14 days
   (c) 3 months
   (d) 6 months

7. The Rajya Sabha represents.
   (a) The States of India
   (b) Union and the States
   (c) Union
   (d) None

8. If the Government of India wants to impose a new tax, it will have to take consent of
   (a) Rajya Sabha
   (b) Lok Sabha
   (c) Both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha
   (d) President

Fill in the blanks :-

9. Tenure of Rajya Sabha members is _____ .

10. The first Speaker of Lok Sabha was _____ .

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11. The 52nd Constitution Amendment of the Constitution deals with _____ .

12. The Bill presented by MLAs is called _____ .

13. The joint session of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha is presided by _____ .

14. The number of members of Rajya Sabha has been ensured in the _____ Schedule of the Constitution.

Sate True or False :-

15. Rajya Sabha is more powerful than Lok Sabha in Parliament.

16. The Constitution Amendment Bill can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha.

17. The Council of Ministers is responsible to the Lok Sabha.

18. Non-governmental bills are those bills which are proposed by the members of the Parliament.

19. In the United States, Members of the Second House, Senate have been granted equal representation in the States.

20. The Public Accounts Committee looks at whether government industries or businesses are being run efficiently.

Rewrite the following statements.

21. The term of the members of Rajya Sabha is 6 years. After every 2 years, two-thirds of the total members will get retire.

22. If the Constitutional Amendment Bill is not passed in the second house, then there is a provision of joint session in the Constitution.

23. The work of the Public Undertakings Committee is to check the expenditure of various departments of the government has been done as per rules or not.

24. Parliamentary Committee is constituted for various disciplines and daily affairs. It discusses various matters. It is mandatory for the Parliament to follow their recommendations.

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25. It has been mentioned that there will be two houses in the state Legislatures.

26. If a member does not appear in the house or does not vote or voluntarily resigns from the membership of the party, despite the order of the leadership of his party, it is called control of the Lok Sabha.

28. Write the names of any two committees of Parliament.

Very Short Questions

29. Which House of the Indian Parliament is more powerful?

30. In which new state bicameral legislature has been introduced?

31. Mention the three sessions of Parliament?

32. Mention one of the judicial functions of the Parliament.

33. Explain anyone advantage of bicameral legislature.

34. How many Lists are mentioned in the Indian Constitution?

35. Mention any two devices of parliamentary control?

36. What is the provision in Article 312 of the Indian Constitution?

37. Give one argument that shows the relevance of Rajya Sabha.

38. How long can Rajya Sabha hold the general bill with itself?

Read the following passage and answer the questions.

I. The legislature is not just a law-making body; it is the centre of all democratic political processes. Protests, consensus, concern and cooperation etc. Indeed, true democracy cannot be imagined without an efficient and effective legislative representation. The legislature ensures the public representative's accountability to the public.

1. Which is the main pillar of the representative democracy?

(a) Executive (b) Legistative

(c) Judiciary (d) All of the above

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2. The centre of all democretic political process is :

(a) Legistative (b) Executive

(c) Judiciary (d) Government

3. Which of the following is main device of parliamentary control.

(a) Question hour (b) No confidence motion

(c) Financial control (d) All of the above

4. The indian parliamentary system is

(a) Unicameral (b) Bi-Cameral

(c) Multi Cameral (d) None of the above

Read the following passage and answer the questions.

II. Discussion on Bills is held mostly in Parliamentary Committees. The recommendations of the Committee are sent to the House. All the parliamentary parties get representation in these committees. These committees are also called mini legislatures. Members of these committees are selected from both Houses. The Committee system has reduced the burden on the Parliament.

1. Why are Parliamentary Committees called as mini legislatures?
2. In the Parliamentary committees'members have been selected from which house?
3. What is the importance of the parliamentary committees?
4. Parliamentary committees have drastically reduced the functions of the legislature. Do you agree with this statement?

Two Marks Questions

1. Give two arguments in favour of bicameral legislature.
2. Write the names of any four states of India in which there area bicameral legislature.

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3. Explain the composition of Rajya Sabha in brief.
4. What are the qualifications to become a member of Rajya Sabha?
5. What are the two characteristics of Rajya Sabha?

Four Marks Questions

1. Why do we need a Parliament?
2. Why do we need two houses of Parliament?
3. What are the main functions of Parliament?
4. What are the special powers of Rajya Sabha? Explain
5. How does Parliament make the laws?

Six Marks Questions

1. Explain the instruments of parliamentary control over executive.
2. How does deliberation and discussion keep a control over executive?
3. What is 52nd amendment? Give reasons of its importance.
4. Why do we need two houses of the Parliament?
5. How can you say that Lok Sabha is more powerful than Rajya Sabha?
6. What are the main functions of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha?

ANSWERS

One Mark Answers

1. 30 years
2. Speaker of Lok Sabha
3. Lok Sabha
4. President
5. Arts, literature, science and social service
6. 14 days

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7. States of India
8. Lok Sabha
9. 6 years
10. G. B. Mavalankar
11. Anti Defection Law
12. Non-Government Bill
13. Speaker of Lok Sabha
14. Tenth Schedule
15. Incorrect
16. Wrong
17. Correct
18. Correct
19. Correct
20. Correct
21. One-third members
22. There is no provision for joint session for constitutional amendment. This applies only to general bill.
23. Public Accounts Committee
24. It is not mandatory for Parliament to follow their recommendations.
25. Two House arrangement is not mandatory
26. Anti-defection
27. Telangana
28. Public Accounts Committee, Estimates Committee, Lok Sabha
29. Lok Sabha is more powerful

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30. Bicameral States: Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Kamataka, Maharashtra, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh.
31. Three sessions: Budget session, Monsoon session, winter session
32. Impeachment
33. Reconsideration
34 Three lists: union list, state list, concurrent list.
35. Question Hour, No Confidence Motion.
36. New All India Services can be constituted as per Article-312 provides that if changes are to be made on the subject of the state list, it is necessary to get the consent of the Rajya Sabha.
37. Reconsiders the bills and represents the states.
38. Rajya Sabha can keep it for 6 months.

Para Based Answers

I. a. Lagislature

a. Legislature

d. all of the above

b. Biocameral

II. a. Parliamentary committees are called mini-legislatures because these committees consist of subject-related experts who discuss specifically on particular subject with expertise on that subject.

c. Parliamentary committees have members from both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha.

b. The importance of parliamentary committees is that these parliamentary committee have expertise in dealing the specific subject matter and builds political consensus on specific matters.

b. Parliamentary committees have significantly reduced the functions of the legislature. It examines the bills thoroughly and in detail.

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Two Marks Answers

1. To get proper representation of states, representation of all sections of the society.
2. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh & Maharashtra.
3. Rajya Sabha has a total members of 250 with 238 member states elected by the state and The 12 members are nominated by the President.
4. He must be a citizen of India, he has attained the age of 30 years.
5. Representation of all states, upper house.

Four Marks Answers

1. Law-making body, Essential for representative democracy, Open forum of debate, most representative of all organ of the government.
2. To give geographical representation to all sections of the society, every decision reconsidered, double check on every matter.
3. Legislative functions
   a. Control of executive and ensuring its accountability
   b. Financial Function
   c. Representation
   d. Debating Function
   e. Constituent Function
   f. Electoral Functions
   g. Judicial Functions
4. Examples of article 312 and 249 of Indian constitution
5. Kindly see page no 110 of NCERT book.

Six Marks Answers

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1. Question hours, adjournment motion, approval or refusal of laws, financial control and no confidence motion.

2. In Parliamentary System, the Legislature ensures executive accountability at various stages: policy-making, implementation of laws and policy making and post implementation and stage. The Legislature does through the use of a variety of devices deliberation and discussion approval or refusal of laws and no confidence motion.

3. 52nd amendment is anti-defection amendment. In this amendment the members are restricted from defecting. It means that if a member remains absent in the house when asked by the party leadership, or votes against the instructions of the party or voluntarily leaves the membership of party he is said to have been defected. If it is proved that the member has defected than he loses membership of the house and is disqualified from holding any political office.

4. Countries with large size and Diversity gives representation to all sections of the society and geographical regions of the country, every decision taken by one house is reconsidered by the second house. It means that every policy and every Bill will ,be discussed by both houses and twice so there is a double check on each and every matter.

5. Lok Sabha is more powerful than Rajya Sabha:
   (i) Directly elected by the people,
   (ii) Approves proposals for taxation, budgets, financial statements,
   (iii) Introduce money bills

6. **Functions of Lok Sabha**
   (i) Makes Laws
   (ii) Introduce and enact money and non-money bills
   (iii) Approves bills for taxation

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(iv) Controls the executive by asking questions

(v) Amends the Constitution

(vi) Approves the Proclamation of emergency

(vii) Elects the President and the Vice President

(viii) Removes the Judges of High Courts and Supreme Courts

(ix) Establishes committees and commissions

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