



## “HISTORY OF THE INDIAN PARLIAMENT”

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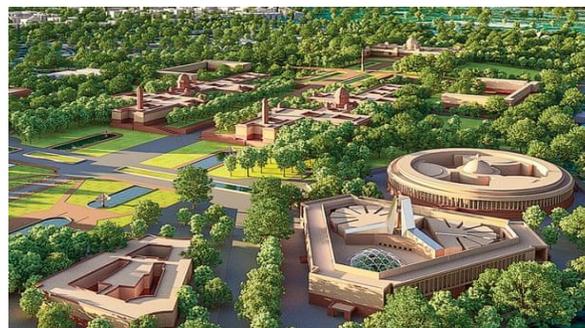
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### ABSTRACT:

The Government of India last January 2021 intends to disengage the functioning of the parliament and state assemblies. Let us welcome the move to implement this scheme. Because already Himachal Pradesh In all the state and union Territories of India. As a state model. National E-Vidhan application (NEVA) plan. Formulate a plan and get the members of the house. Informed at the fingerprints and bring together all the legislatures of the country in one platform. Creating massive data without the complexity of multiple applications. This is a good idea but the government of India is going to build another pavilion as it has a long history and a beautiful parliament house. Which will impress the viewers. Because the economy of the country is at low level GDP(4.3), India is suffering from covid-19 virus, food insecurity is too, high prices skyrocketing. The life of masses becomes worrying. In this case the government of India has to spend about Rs 970 crore. It is necessary to know what kind of enlightenment the political administration of india is in the hands of a new parliament building. One can not forget this long history building with realization.



**KEYWORDS:** Political System, Parliament, Lok Sabha, Raj Sabha, Central Hall.



## INTRODUCTION

The pages of the Indian history evinces that India is a popular nation. India comprises of multi cultures, heritage, religions, and languages and is vivid in nature. Such magnificent Indian parliament turns to 68 years on May 13, 2021. After the post independence of India the first meeting of elected parliamentarians was held on 13<sup>th</sup> May, 1952 with an objective of establishing democratic government in the nation. The Indian Parliament is called as President of India + Lok Sabha+Rajyasabha. The draft of Indian Constitution structured by the Constitution Construction Committee under the presidency of Babu Rajendra Prasad was approved on 26<sup>th</sup> November 1949. When the tentative Constitution Construction Committee was converted to parliament, Indian Constitution came into effect on 26<sup>th</sup> January, 1950. The tentative government continued up-till 1952 General Election. J.V. Mavalkar then President of tentative parliament was elected as the first speaker of the Lok Sabha and Dr. Rajendra Prasad then President of the Constitution Committee was elected as the first President of India. There is no doubt that the Parliament has maintained the same fame and name even today.

The magnificent Indian Parliament comprises of dual Legislature Assembly system. As per the Section 79 of Indian Constitution the Parliament includes the President, Rajasabha and Lok Sabha. Amongst the two houses in the Indian Parliament, Rajasabha is termed as upper house whilst the Lok Sabha is termed as lower house. Rajyasabha the upper house represents the states of the nation whilst Lok Sabha the lower house represents the entire citizens of the nation. Though the President is not the member of either of the houses, the President is termed as indivisible part of the Parliament. The word "Parliament" is taken from the French word "Parler" which means "to talk". The Parliament is called as "Reflect Meeting".<sup>1</sup> This Parliamentary system is called as "Parliament" in India, Britain and Canada whilst it is called as "Congress" and "Diet" in America and Japan respectively.

The common function of the Legislative assembly is to structure legislature or give directions or orders which indeed are essential for the nation. The Legislative assembly includes house of public or common, prominent powerful legislatures and representative member directly elected. The Rajyasabha the upper house of the Parliament comprises of 250 members. Of the 250 members 238 members are nominated as the representations from the Vidhanasabha members of the various states. 12 members with eminence, distinction, fame and name in the field of Arts, Literature, Science, Technology and Social Service and Sports are been nominated by the President of India. Rajyasabha being the non-dispersible house, 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the members of this house attain retirement for every two years and the same numbers of new members are nominated to their places. The tenure of the members of Rajyasabha is 6 years. On the other hand, the Lok Sabha the lower house of the Parliament comprises of 545 members. Of the 545 members 530 members are elected by the public in the general elections whilst, 13 members are elected from the union territories.

The President is entitled to suggest two names as the members to represent of the Anglo-Indian community. The Parliament of India comprising of two houses so constructed makes it remarkable and today we are proud to say Indian democracy is the biggest democracy in the world. Smt. Meera Kumari daughter of former Deputy Prime Minister, Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram wrote the history by becoming the first women Speaker of the 15<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha of this great democratic country. Smt. Meera Kumar is continues as the speaker of Lok Sabha in the 16<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha too. At Present 18<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha 2019 speaker is Shri OM Birla.



### History of Parliament: A View

Various documental evidences related to Vedic period are found which evinces that even during the Vedic period the Political power existed through body meetings constituted by the people. Here the committee is termed as a prominent aspect. The word "Committee" means "to gather". During the Vedic period the Committee used to play a vital role in nominating their king. There was a difficulty in the large states for the gathering of all people. Therefore, here the people's representatives of far off places used to participate on the behalf of the people in the committee proceedings to find out the solutions for their problems. Since Rigvedic period from 1700 B.C. to 700 B.C. the Committee was one of the responsible political organizations and it was at the peak during this period. The period of more than thousand years witnessed bright Democratic government. Since from ancient vedic period democratic states existed and these democratic states was called as 'Ajaya' in the great epic Mahabharata.

Much before the Buddhist religion convened the world that "Non Violence is the best Religion". Shakya and Vajja in the North, Central and East India were the prominent military republic states during that time. Amongst them Kshudras, Kattiyas and Malavas were very popular democratic states. "When Alexander expedited along the Sindh region in 326 B.C. he had to fight with these republic states. Likewise the so called father of Indian politics Chanakya in 4<sup>th</sup> Century B.C. has mentioned about the various republic states existed in the North part of India in his literary work "Arthasashtra". Later in 600 A.D. when the Hindu empires started rising "Committees" and "Republic States" gradually started depleting. During the period between 600 B.C. to 600 A.D. Pura (Capital) and Janapada (Country) were the active bodies which used to take action on Law and Trade aspects. Cholas in the southern part of India adopted self administration in rural communities and this was at the peak during their period. As the rise of bigger states and as competition pervaded resulting into wars the administration got transferred to the powerful kings and these kings resulted in the destruction of democracy. This system did not persist only in India but also the same perpetuated in Europe too. But on the other hand Britain upheld the democracy and propagated it to rest of the world.

Portuguese, Dutch and English invaded India with the objective establishing trade in India. British were benefitted by the political instability persisting in India and gradually they succeeded in taking control over the entire political powers of the nation. But influence of the British again inculcated the revolutionary concept of human freedom and social justice among the younger generation of India in 1857 through "First War of Independence". This forms one of the milestones of modern Indian History. Undoubtedly, the first war of Indian independence was the first step for the democratic and constitutional development of India.

In 1861 as per the Indian Council Act, Governor General Board acted as a Administrative Board and 8 members were nominated as the members of this Administrative Board. Later in 1892, Indian Council Act leaped ahead and focused primarily for giving prominence to the Public representation. As a result of this Act, imperial administrative boards were established at the regional levels. Though these boards were not allowed to make their choice in the budget the Board was empowered to discuss and debate with the executive bodies.

Indian freedom fighter Gopalkrishna Gokhale became the member of Imperial Administrative Board in 1901 and employed Indian Council Act of Parliament in 1909. This was for the first time introduced in the Central Administrative Board and also in the Regional boards as Mintomarle Enhancement Act. This also mentioned the election aspect for the first time. As a result of this room was provided for discussions. In 1917, when Sir Edwin Montague then Foreign Secretary of India published the words like Indian Independence and responsible government and urged the need for establishment of democracy and parliament system in India, the British government badly opposed his consent. Despite of this Montague's approach resulted in the establishment of Government of India Act and this was popular as Montague-Charles Ford Improvement programmes. The main objective of Government of India Act was to adopt dual democratic system in the union territories along with establishing Central Indian Legislature involving two houses the state representation through upper house and Indian legislature body the lower house.

On the basis of Montague-Charles Ford Act, Election was introduced for the first time on 20<sup>th</sup> October, 1920. Sir Fredrick White was nominated as the speaker of the Loksabha after the Post Independence of India. During the initial period Congress opposed the election system. But the magnanimous parties contested in the 1920 election and claimed majority of seats in the general election thus substantiating their stands towards election system. Later in 1923, it was decided to elect the speaker rather than nominating the speaker. Vittalbai J. Patil became the first elected Speaker of Loksabha. The concept of united power and the need of Parliament were mentioned in portfolio of the National demand in 1924.

In May, 1928 a conference of all parties was organized at Mumbai, a draft proposal was prepared and a committee was constituted under the presidency of Pandit Motilal Nehru. Chittaranjandas, Satyamurthy, Bhulbai Desai and Mohammed Ali Jinnah were the members of this committee. This committee in August 1928 submitted its report emphasizing the need of establishing strong parliament with complete sovereign power to preserve law and order, peace and good governance. Further, it recommended that executive power should play a responsible role. As there was strong demand for sovereign Parliament, Viceroy Lord Irwin travelled to Britain and declared that the India would be given Dominion status (to be independent in the British Sovereignty).

Congress party strongly opposed the Dominion status provided to India. Later in 1929 at the Lahore Congress Summit "absolute independence" was declared. Therefore the congress party boycotted the first Round Table Conference held at England. Soon after the conclusion of the first Round Table Conference, Prime Minister of Britain announced British to handover all the responsibilities of the Indian Government to Central and Territorial administrative bodies. The British Prime Minister's appeal was accepted after the agreement between Mahatma Gandhi and Irwin in 1931. In the second Round Table Conference Mahatma Gandhi represented the Congress Party. Due to some Communal disharmony the conference ended without any agreement or conclusion. United Parliamentary Committee was constituted to recommend establishing of constitution in India in the Third Round Table Conference. On the basis of the recommendations made by the United Parliamentary Committee Government of India Act was accepted and passed on 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 1935. It was then decided to establish United Indian Nation and Regional Self Government. This Act was itself an absolute Constitution. . The Act emphasized on the objective of establishing two Administrative houses namely Lower and Upper House (Loksabha and Rajyasabha) and to establish dual administration system in most of the eleven existing union territories.

## RAJYA SABHA



As per the Government of India Act, 1935 General election was declared in all the eleven union territories in 1936-37. Amongst the eleven seats contested Congress bagged 6 seats and framed the government and ruled till 1939. Later during the consequence of Second World War there was some

difference of opinion in the Congress government and the congress government receded from the power. So sacrificing the power Congress started revolting. After the Second World War concluded Labour Party came to power in Britain. The Labour Party of Britain intervened with the Indian National Leaders and solved the problems through agreement and compromise and established tentative government in India.

## LOK SABHA



Constitution Framing Committee of India was constituted on the invitation of British government. Indian Constitution Framing Committee started functioning from 9<sup>th</sup> December, 1946. The Muslim League opposed the meeting and started intensifying the Pakistan's demand. This resulted to the stage of Nation division. Later Indian Independence Act, 1947 declared the Indian Constitution Framing Committee as unitary powerful body. Later on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 1947 India took the power from the British government and thus became an independent nation. As per the directions of the British Cabinet Mission in 1946, the Indian Constitution Framing Committee was declared as Constitution Framing Body and the said committee continued to function also as the governing body for few years after Indian independence. The Constitution Framing Body took 2 years, 11 months and 18 days to complete the great deal of framing the Indian Constitution. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar had played a vital and significant role in framing the Indian Constitution. The draft Constitution of India was accepted on 26<sup>th</sup> November, 1949 but the Constitution was implemented on 26<sup>th</sup> January, 1950. Thus India augmented as Sovereign, Republic, Democratic Country. The Indian Constitution Framing Committee continued as tentative Parliamentary body until the permanent Parliamentarians were elected in the 13<sup>th</sup> May, 1952 general election.

## Our Parliament House

The Indian Parliament House (Sansad Bhavan) is spread over 6 acres of land (2.43 Hectares). The Parliament house building is circular in shape. The design Architects of the Indian Parliament was Sir Edwin Lutins and Sir Herbert Baker. Indeed, originally the architects had decided that indeed Parliament House should be a part of Rastrapathi Bhavan (President's Office). But later in 1919 as per Montague and James Ford's recommendations it was decided to construct an independent Parliament house. The Parliament House was formerly called as Council Hall. Prince Kanatan Duke the fourth son of Queen Victoria of Britain laid a foundation stone for the construction of Parliament house. The Parliament house was constructed with an expenditure of 83 Lakhs during those times. Then Governor General of India, Lord Irwin inaugurated the Parliament House on 15<sup>th</sup> January, 1927.

This huge Parliament House is circular in shape and its internal and external diameters are 170.9 metres (560 ft) and 536.33 metres (1/3<sup>rd</sup> of a mile) respectively. Surrounding the circumference of the first floor in the open verandah along the circumference, 144 round shaped cream coloured

Dolpur Sand stone pillars measuring 8.23 metres in height are erected. At the midst of this circular building there is a circular central hall. Surrounding this hall at equidistance there are three auditoriums. Amongst these three auditoriums one is Lokasabha auditorium (Lower House) and other is Rajyasabha Auditorium (Upper House). The Lokasabha auditorium comprises of 550 seats whilst the Rajyasabha auditorium comprises of 250 seats.



### CONCLUSION

Since the past 68 years of Post Independence India the Parliament to the major extent has succeeded in combating against the issues like illiteracy, poverty, caste discrimination, communal disharmony, corruption and other various social evils and enabled democracy to prevail which is a remarkable achievement of our proud Parliament.

Since its incision Parliament has played a vital and prominent role at the National and International level. Creating a Democratic and Social Equity in the society is an endless task. This is a constant process and Parliament has to constantly endure lots of ups and down to be in the positive track. Nowadays, people are discontent with the Parliamentarians (Politicians) and their function. The trend has developed that people with the criminal background, corruption are becoming the Parliament representatives. This obviously disrupts the whole system. It would be termed as failure of the people if such parliamentarians' causes harm to the Parliament and Democracy. Therefore citizens have the right of freedom to elect the Parliamentarians. The endurance of the people is a primary force and immense support for the success of Parliament and Democracy.

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