

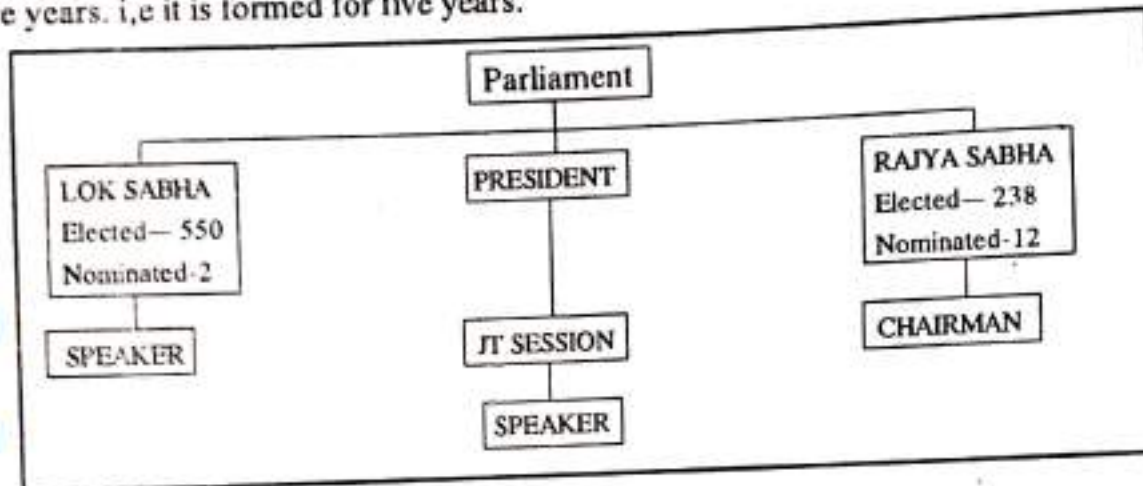
Topic Covered:

Semester - IV

1st year	Paper - C-9 (Indian gov. & Politics)
Unit → 05	Union legislature: Rajya Sabha & Lok Sabha : Composition & function; Speaker.
1st year	
1st year	Study material given by Dr. Annila Banerjee.

5.11. Parliament of India

It has been provided in *Article 79* of the constitution that there shall be a Parliament for the Union which shall consist of the President and two Houses. Most modern Legislatures are *Bicameral*. The Indian Parliament, the Union Legislature also has two Houses. The Upper House is called the Council of States or the *Rajya Sabha* and the Lower House is called the House of the People or the *Lok Sabha*. *Rajya Sabha* is a permanent House and it is never dissolved or non-existent. *Lok Sabha*, unless sooner dissolved, shall continue for a term of five years. i.e it is formed for five years.



5.11.1. Qualification for Membership of Parliament.

Article 84 of the Constitution provides that a person shall not be qualified to be chosen to fill a seat in the Rajya Sabha unless he is a citizen of India and he is not less than thirty years of age. He is also to possess such other qualification as may be prescribed by Parliament.

A person shall not be qualified to be chosen to fill a seat in the Lok Sabha unless he is a citizen of India and he is not less than twenty five years of age. He will also have to possess such other qualifications as may be prescribed by Parliament.

5.11.2. Disqualification for membership

(i) No person shall be member of both the Houses of Parliament at a time. No person shall be a member of any of the Houses of Parliament and a member of any State Legislature at a time. After getting elected he shall submit his resignation from any one House or State Legislature as the case may be.

(ii) A person shall be disqualified for membership of Parliament if he holds any office of profit under the government or if he is of unsound mind, or if he is an insolvent.

(iii) If a member of either House of Parliament remains, without permission of the House, absent for a period of sixty days, from all meetings thereof, the House may declare his seat vacant.

5.11.3. The Rajya Sabha (Council of States)

The Rajya Sabha (The Council of States), the Second Chamber of Parliament, is called the House of the Elders. It is comparatively a small body.

STATEWISE REPRESENTATION IN THE RAJYA SABHA			
State	No of Seats	State	No of Seats
Andhra Pradesh	18	Meghalaya	01
Assam	07	Nagaland	01
Bihar	22	Orissa	10
Goa	01	Punjab	07
Gujrat	11	Rajasthan	10
Haryana	05	Sikkim	01
Himachal Pradesh	03	Tamilnadu	18
Jammu and Kashmir	04	Tripura	01
Karnataka	12	Uttar Pradesh	34
Kerala	09	Delhi	03
Madhya Pradesh	16	West Bengal	16
Maharashtra	19	Pondicherry	01
Manipur	01	Arunachal Pradesh	01
Mizoram	01		233
		Nominated by the President	12
		Total	= 245

(Composition of Rajya Sabha)

Article 80 of the Constitution provides the composition of the Council of States.

The total number of the members of the Council of States or *Rajya Sabha* shall not exceed 250. The Council of States is constituted in the following way :

(i) Out of 250 members not more than 238 members shall be representatives of the States and the Union Territories. They shall be elected indirectly. A system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote has been adopted for the indirect election of members of the Upper House of the Indian Parliament. The majority of the members of the Council of States are thus indirectly elected.

(ii) Twelve (12) members shall be nominated in the *Rajya Sabha* by the President who chooses them from among persons with special knowledge or practical experience in respect of such matters as literature, science, art and social service. Following the federal principle, the Council of States has been so composed that it may properly represent the component States. But whether the Council of States has been able to function, in practice, as a representative body of the States, is a debatable question.

The Council of States is a permanent body. Each of its members are elected for six years and one-third of its members retire every two years. Take an example

Suppose, 79 members of the Council of States are elected in 1990 and they retire in 1996
 " 80 " " " " " " " " " " 1992 " " " " " " 1998
 " 79 " " " " " " " " " " 1994 " " " " " " 2000

So the Council of States is a permanent House in the sense that all of its members never retire at a time.

The members of the Council of States can be re-elected. The Vice-President of India is the ex-officio Chairman of the Council of States' Sessions. Besides there being a Chairman, one Deputy Chairman is elected by the members of the Council of States amongst themselves to act in the absence of the Chairman. It should be noted that unlike other federations, no provision has been made in India for equality of representation of the States in the Council of States. For example, Uttar Pradesh has 34 members in the Council of States, while West Bengal has 16 and Tripura has only one member.

5.1 F.4. The Lok Sabha (House of the People)

The House of the People or the *Lok Sabha* is the lower or First Chamber (the popular chamber) of the Indian Parliament.

Composition of the Lok Sabha

The composition of the Lower House, the *Lok Sabha* or the House of the People is guided by *Article 81, 82, 83 and 331*. The House of the People shall consist of not more than 550 members according to the following schedule:

- (i) not more than 530 members chosen by territorial constituencies in the States;
- (ii) not more than 20 members to represent the Union territories, chosen in such manner as Parliament may by law provide and
- (iii) the President, if he is of opinion that the Anglo-Indian community is not adequately represented in the House of the People, nominates not more than two members of that community to the Lok Sabha or the House of the People.

For the purpose of electing members from the States in the House of the People from each state, each state shall be divided into territorial constituencies in such manner that the ratio between that number and the population of the State is, as far as practicable, the same for all States as well as for constituencies within a State.

Statewise Representation in the Lok Sabha			
Name of States and Union Territories	Total	Reserved for S.C.	Reserved for S.T.
A. States			
Andhra Pradesh	42	6	2
Arunachal Pradesh	2	—	—
Assam	14	1	2
Bihar	54	8	5
Goa	2	—	—
Gujrat	26	2	4
Haryana	10	2	—
Jammu & Kashmir	6	—	—
Karnataka	28	4	—
Kerala	20	2	—
Madhya Pradesh	40	6	9
Maharashtra	48	3	4
Manipur	2	—	1
Meghalaya	2	—	—
Mizoram	1	—	1
Nagaland	1	—	—
Orissa	21	3	5
Punjab	13	3	—
Rajasthan	25	4	3
Sikkim	1	—	—
Tamil Nadu	39	7	—
Tripura	2	—	1
Uttar Pradesh	85	18	—
West Bengal	42	8	2
B. Union Territories			
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1	—	—
Chandigarh	1	—	—
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	—	—
Delhi	7	1	—
Daman & Diu	1	—	—
Lakshadweep	1	—	1
Pondicherry	1	—	—
Nominated	543 2	79 —	40 —
Total	545	79	40

It has been provided in the constitution that until the relevant figures of the first census taken after the year 2000 have been published, 1971 census shall be taken into consideration for alternating the number of members of the House of the People to be chosen by each of the States. The State of West Bengal has 42 and Tripura 2 members in the Lok Sabha.

Duration and Dissolution

The House of the People, unless dissolved earlier, shall continue for a term of five years. The *42nd Amendment Act* extended the term of Lok Sabha from five years to six years. The *44th Amendment Act of 1978*, however, restored the original position of five years. The President can dissolve it early in an emergency; he can, also, extend its term by another year. For example, The term of the sixth *Lok Sabha* ended in March, 1976. But the President had, in view of the national emergency, extended its term by another year.

The Lok Sabha can also be dissolved earlier if situation so demands. For example, early if no political party or a coalition of parties could form a government in the Union the president had to dissolve the Lok Sabha early. It so, it happened in December 1997 after the resignation of the government headed by I.K.Gujral and the President having no other alternative had to dissolve the eleventh Lok Sabha as would be clear from the party position at that time.

Dissolution of Twelfth Lok Sabha

In April 1999, the AIDMK withdrew its support from the Vajpayee Government. The President asked the Prime Minister to prove the majority enjoyed by his Government in the Lok Sabha. But the Prime Minister A.B. Vajpayee failed to get the motion of confidence passed in the Lok Sabha. No other party or any coalition of parties also could form an alternative Government. So, having no other alternative, the President **dissolved the twelfth Lok Sabha on 23.4.99**. It is expected that the Thirteenth Lok Sabha will be formed in October, 1999 after the elections of the Lok Sabha in September-October, 1999.

50 YEARS OF LOK SABHA		
	Date of constitution	Date of dissolution
Constituent Assembly	9.12.1946	26.01.1950
Provisional Parliament	26.01.1950	17.04.1952
First Lok Sabha	17.04.1952	04.04.1957
Second Lok Sabha	05.04.1957	31.03.1962
Third Lok Sabha	02.04.1962	03.03.1967
Fourth Lok Sabha	04.03.1967	27.12.1970
Fifth Lok Sabha	15.03.1971	18.01.1977
Sixth Lok Sabha	23.03.1977	22.08.1979
Seventh Lok Sabha	10.01.1980	31.12.1984
Eighth Lok Sabha	31.13.1984	27.11.1989
Ninth Lok Sabha	02.12.1989	13.03.1991
Tenth Lok Sabha	20.06.1991	10.05.1996
Eleventh Lok Sabha	15.05.1996	04.12.1997
Twelfth Lok Sabha	09.03.1998 —	

Thus, till date Lok Sabha has been constituted twelve times.

The Speaker and the Deputy Speaker

The House of the People elects a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker. The Speaker presides over the proceedings of the Lok Sabha and the *Deputy Speaker* presides over in his absence. The Speaker is a very important constitutional functionary. The Legislative power of Parliament extends over the subjects included in the Union List and in the Concurrent List. Under special circumstances the legislative power of Parliament does extend to the State List.

The House of the People must meet at least twice a year. Its quorum is one-tenth of the total strength of the House.

Each House of Parliament enjoys certain privileges collectively and its members enjoy certain others individually.

5.12. Powers and Functions of Parliament

The importance of Parliament in the parliamentary system and its significance as the National Legislative Body can hardly be exaggerated. The powers and functions of Parliament may be broadly categorised under the following heads:

1. Providing the Cabinet

The first function of the Lok Sabha, as it stands in a Parliamentary system, is that of providing the Council of Ministers and the Cabinet. After the elections of each Lok Sabha or after the

fall of any Union Government Lok Sabha provides the Council of Ministers and the new Cabinet. The Council of Ministers is formed mainly from among the members of Parliament. Non-members may be included in the Council of Ministers subject to the condition that if any of them fails to get elected in either House of Parliament within a period of six months, he shall cease to be a member of the Council of Ministers.

2. Legislation

The principal business of Parliament is to deal with matters relating to legislation. This function of legislation is performed by all the Legislatures under both the Presidential and Parliamentary system of government. The volume of legislative work of the Legislature has been steadily increasing all over the world in our days of big government. Parliament of India, for example, passed 47 Bills in 1995 besides discharging other multi dimensional functions. Parliament has to legislate various bills every year on a wide range of areas in our contemporary age of welfare state.

3. Control over the Executive

In Parliamentary system as it is obtained in India the Council of Ministers remains responsible to Parliament. The role of Parliament in controlling the Council of Ministers is very important indeed. Putting questions to the Ministers, initiating debates on different subjects, debate on the budget, adjournment motion, discussion on no-confidence motion—these are certain methods by which Parliament exerts influence over the Ministry. The Council of Ministers remains in power so long as it enjoys the confidence of the majority of the House of the People or Lok Sabha which can, by passing a no-confidence motion, force a government to resign. But it must be remembered that the power to oust a government under a disciplined party system is essentially theoretical. In practice, owing to the rigid party system and party discipline, the control of the Council of Ministers by Parliament becomes less effective than they appear to be. In reality, it is the parties that control the executive. The debates and discussion of the members and their confidence on the government follow their respective party lines. So it is difficult for Parliament to pass a no-confidence motion against the government which enjoys absolute majority in the House of the People.

4. Financial powers and functions

The financial power of Parliament is mainly enjoyed by the House of the People or Lok Sabha. The constitution has allowed larger share of powers in financial matters to the Lok Sabha, for, the Lok Sabha represents the people. Money bills can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha. The finance minister presents the annual budget in the Lok Sabha and after presenting it in the lower House both the Houses discuss it. After the budget has been presented, financial bills are introduced in the Lok Sabha for raising money by taxation or by other means. The Executive cannot make any expenditure unless the Lok Sabha passes the necessary Appropriation Bill. The control of the Lok Sabha over the incomes and expenditures of the Union is really substantive. But due to the growth of the party system and, sometimes, due to lack of time available, Lok Sabha delegates some of its power to the Cabinet and the Ministers.

5. Election of the President and Vice-President

Parliament elects the President and the Vice-President. The President of India is elected by an electoral college composed of all the members of Parliament and the elected members of all the State Assemblies. The Vice President is elected by an electoral college comprising the members of both Houses of Parliament. Besides election of the President and the Vice President, Parliament can also remove them by initiating the method of Impeachment.

6. Amendment of the Constitution

Parliament enjoys such power which are enjoyed by a Constituent Assembly. Parliament can amend the Constitution, other than its basic structure, by passing a bill of constitutional amendment. Parliament of India has amended the Constitution eighty times during last 50 years.

7. Election of Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Deputy Chairman

The Lok Sabha elects its Speaker and the Deputy Speaker while the Rajya Sabha elects its Deputy Chairman. The Vice-President being the ex officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, the question of the election of the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha does not arise.

8. No-confidence Motion

The House of People can dismiss the government by passing a vote of no-confidence motion. Recently within 20 months (1996—98) the Union Governments were changed three times by expressing no-confidence by the Lok Sabha or the House of the people.

9. Consideration of Reports

Parliament considers the Reports submitted to and laid before it or by different Statutory Commissions and Committees besides the Reports of different ad-hoc Committees or Enquiry Commissions. For example, the Reports of the National Commission on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is a statutory Report under *Article 338(b)*, while the Report of the Jain Commission is a report of an Enquiry Commission.

10. Other functions

Among the other functions and powers of Parliament, some important are the impeachments of the President, the Vice-President and the Judges, the power of discussing treaties and other international matters. Parliament appoints several Parliamentary Committees in order to perform its functions effectively and efficiently and it tries to regulate the governmental activities through these Committees.

5.12.1. Business Procedure of Parliament

Both the Houses of Parliament must be in session at least twice a year. There must not be a gap of more than six months between the last meeting of a session and the first of the next. The president shall summon the session of a House or both the Houses at a time that will appear to him necessary and convenient. He can prorogue one House or both the Houses of Parliament and can dissolve the *Lok Sabha*.

The President can address a House of Parliament or the joint meeting of both the Houses. The President can send his message on a bill which is under the consideration of Parliament and it must deliberate on the message as soon as possible. At the opening of a each session the President will make an inaugural speech at the Joint Session of both the Houses and shall describe the reasons for summoning the Session.

The Attorney General can be present and make speech in the session of the House or in the joint meeting of both the Houses. A Minister may attend both the Houses but he can exercise his vote only in the House of which he is a member.

5.13. Relation Between the two Houses of Parliament

It has been seen that Parliament of India has two chambers or Houses — the Lower or the First House and the Upper or Second House. The Lower House is called the House of the People or the *Lok Sabha* and the Upper House is called the Council of States or the *Rajya*

Sabha. Both these Houses take part in legislation. But the Constitution gives an overriding importance to the *Lok Sabha* or the Lower House over the *Rajya Sabha* or the Upper-House.

The relation between the two Houses are now discussed under three heads.

1. Areas of Supremacy of Lok Sabha

The Lok Sabha enjoys supremacy on the following areas.

A. Ministerial Responsibility

The Ministers are collectively and individually responsible to the *Lok Sabha* and not to the *Rajya Sabha*. *Rajya Sabha* has no control over them. *Rajya Sabha* can demand to be fully informed of every matter relating to the governmental activities. But it cannot pass any motion of confidence in favour of or a vote of no-confidence against the Council of Ministers. This principle has been adopted because the *Lok Sabha* is composed of the directly elected representatives of the people. Responsible government means ministerial responsibility directly to the elected representatives of Parliament i.e., the Lok Sabha. If the Lok Sabha expresses its no-confidence, the ministry shall have to resign.

B. On Money Bill

The *Rajya Sabha* has little power with regard to Money Bills. Money Bills are introduced in the Lok Sabha, for money is regarded as the primary concern of the elected representatives. The consent of the people through their representatives is absolutely necessary in raising or imposing taxes. We can recall the famous slogan: *No taxation without representation*. The *Rajya Sabha*, however, can suggest or recommend amendment to money bill which may or may not be accepted by the *Lok Sabha*. The *Rajya Sabha* should return a money bill within 14 days of receipt of it. If it does not, the bill will be regarded as passed by both the Houses, even without the concurrence of the *Rajya Sabha*. Thus, the *Rajya Sabha* can discuss money bills, it has no power of voting money or of withholding assent. So, in financial matters, the *Rajya Sabha* has a mere advisory role, while the *Lok Sabha* has the supreme and final say.

2. Equal powers of both the Houses

In many cases, the *Rajya Sabha* is as much powerful as the *Lok Sabha*. It can amend or reject a Bill other than Money Bill; ordinary Bills can be introduced either in the *Rajya Sabha* or in the Lok Sabha.

If after a Bill has been passed by one House and rejected by the other House, the President shall summon a joint sitting for the purpose and deliberating and voting on the Bill. Though the *Rajya Sabha* has equal rights in this respect, yet the decision of the Lok Sabha is likely to be upheld owing to the fact it will get through in the game of number.

Parliament has the power to legislate on any subject included in the State list if two or more States make resolution to that effect (Art.250). This power of enactment is enjoyed by both the Houses. Both the Houses share the power to legislate with respect to any matter in State list if a proclamation of Emergency is in operation (Art 250). This power of legislation is thus shared by both the Houses.

3. Supremacy of Rajya Sabha

Rajya Sabha exclusively possesses certain extraordinary powers which the Lower House does not possess.

1. Under Article 249 the *Rajya Sabha* backed by a two thirds majority, can declare that in the national interest Parliament should legislate on a matter included in the State List.

2. The Constitution empowers Parliament under Article 312 to make laws regarding all India Services which are common to the Union and the States. Since the creation of such services

affects the States, so the *Rajya Sabha* has been given the power of deciding by a resolution backed by a two-thirds majority the question of creating such services.

To begin with, a comparative discussion having relevance with the relation between the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha may be presented.

1. So far the composition is concerned, Lok Sabha enjoys a superior position than the Rajya Sabha. The Lok Sabha is a popular chamber formed by the directly elected representatives on the basis of universal adult suffrage. But the Rajya Sabha is formed by members partly indirectly elected and partly nominated. The very composition makes the position of the Rajya Sabha weaker.

2. The Rajya Sabha being a permanent House, can claim to be an experienced House. The Lok Sabha, on the other hand, being elected for a fixed period, i.e., five years, can claim neither permanency nor that much experience.

3. It is primarily the Lok Sabha which provides the Union Government. The party or the coalition of parties that secures an absolute majority in the Lok Sabha, forms the government and normally most of the members of the Council of Ministers including the Prime Minister belong to the Lok Sabha.

4. The Council of Ministers are responsible to the Lok Sabha only, which can bring the government to an end by passing a no-confidence motion. The Rajya Sabha does not enjoy such power.

5. Money Bill can only be initiated in the Lok Sabha which also enjoys primacy over the bills and specially the Money Bills against the Rajya Sabha.

6. The power of the *Lok Sabha* is greater in the matter of controlling the *Cabinet*. The Council of Ministers is responsible to the *Lok Sabha* and not to the *Rajya Sabha*.

Conclusion

We can conclude that in the ordinary cases, both the Houses of Parliament have equal powers. Ordinary bills must be passed in both the Houses. If there is conflict of opinion between the two Houses, the President will summon a joint meeting of both the Houses and there the matter will be settled by a majority vote. But in the case of Money Bills the *Lok Sabha has far greater power than the Rajya Sabha*. Money Bills, after being passed in the *Lok Sabha*, are sent to the *Rajya Sabha*. The *Rajya Sabha* cannot reject such a bill. It will send the bill back to the *Lok Sabha* with its recommendations. The *Lok Sabha* can accept or reject those recommendations.

In spite of the enjoyment of a special position of the *Rajya Sabha* in respect by certain matters and in spite of the theory of equality of the two Houses, the *Rajya Sabha* cannot, owing to the nature of its composition, attain a status of equality with the Lower House. There has been an increasing feeling that the *Rajya Sabha* does not serve any really useful purpose.

The second chamber in India, i.e., the *Rajya Sabha*, however, is more powerful than the Canadian Upper House, though it stands nowhere near the American Senate which is the most powerful second chamber in the world.

5.14. The Speaker of the House of the People

Following the system in the British House of Commons, the responsibility of presiding over the House of the People or Lok Sabha rests also on the Speaker. The Speaker is elected by the members of the Lok Sabha. There is a Deputy Speaker who is also elected by the members of the Lok Sabha. The Deputy Speaker shall temporarily take charge of the office in the Speaker's absence.

Ordinarily, the post of a Speaker falls vacant when he ceases to be a member of the Lok

Sabha, or when he resigns his post, or if he is removed by the members of the Lok Sabha according to Article 93 of the Constitution. Article 94 says that the Speaker may be removed from his office by a resolution of the Lok Sabha and passed by a majority of all the members. Such a resolution shall be moved at least with 14 days' notice. The Speaker ordinarily holds office during the life of the Lok Sabha.

The framers of the Constitution have tried to make the office of the Speaker a non-partisan one. His salary is paid from the consolidated fund of the Union. He presides over the meetings of the Lok Sabha, but does not usually participate in the voting. He has a casting vote which he exercises in case of a tie or equal number of votes. Thus in India, the Speaker does not vote in the first instance but he can exercise his casting vote only in order 'to solve a deadlock'. In Britain, the Speaker is held in high esteem and is regarded so impartial that a person once elected as a Speaker remains a Speaker for life.

The Speaker's conduct of the proceedings of the business of the Lok Sabha is not under the jurisdiction of any Court of law.

5.14.1. Functions of the Speaker

The functions and powers of the Speaker emanate both from the provisions of the Constitution and the Rules of Procedure of Parliament. His functions are listed below :

1. The Speaker presides over the Lok Sabha
2. The Speaker has the supreme power of maintaining order and discipline in the House of the People. The powers of the Speaker include his entire authority as well as responsibility for conducting the business of the House in an orderly manner. Thus he maintains the order and decorum of the House. He adjourns meetings of the Lok Sabha if he thinks that there has been no quorum.
3. The speaker, under Article 118 (4), presides over the joint sitting of the two Houses of Parliament.
4. When a money bill is transferred from the Lok Sabha, the Lower House, to the Rajya Sabha, the Upper House, the Speaker shall append his approval to the bill certifying that it is a money bill.
5. The Speaker is the head of the Parliamentary Committees. The members of various Parliamentary Committees are appointed by the Speaker. He may ask the government to furnish necessary information to the House or its Committees. Some important Parliamentary Committees work under his Chairmanship.
6. The Speaker has some administrative powers as well. He is the head of the secretariat of Parliament. He also provides residential accommodations and other amenities for the members of the House.
7. The Speaker is the guardian and custodian of the rights and privileges of the members of Lok Sabha.

In fact, two extraordinary powers, first, of presiding over the joint sitting and, second, deciding a Money Bills, make the Speaker more powerful and dignified than the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.

There are certain constitutional provisions regarding Speaker's powers. Apart from the above functions, there are some Rules of Procedure which give a number of powers to the Speaker. The Speaker's decision to admit notices of motions, resolutions, bills, etc., is regarded as final.

5.14.2. Position of the Speaker

Shri Jawahrlal Nehru observes : The Speaker represents the dignity of the House, the freedom of the House and because the House represents the Nation, in a particular way the Speaker becomes the symbol of the Nation's freedom and liberty. Therefore, it is right that the post of the Speaker should be an honoured position, a free position and should be occupied always by men of outstanding ability and impartiality.

Speakers of the Lok Sabha			
Lok Sabha	Speakers	From	To
<u>1st Lok Sabha</u>	Ganesh Vasudev Mavalankar	15 May, 1952	27 Feb. 1956
	M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar	08 March, 1956	10 May, 1957
<u>2nd Lok Sabha</u>	M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar	11 May, 1957	06 April, 1962
<u>3rd Lok Sabha</u>	Hukum Singh	17 April, 1962	16 March, 1967
<u>4th Lok Sabha</u>	Neelam Sanjiva Reddy	17 March, 1967	19 July, 1969
	Dr. Gurdial Singh Dhillon	08 August, 1969	19 March, 1971
<u>5th Lok Sabha</u>	Dr. Gurdial Singh Dhillon	22 March, 1971	01 Dec, 1975
	Bali Ram Bhagat	05 Jan, 1976	25 March, 1977
<u>6th Lok Sabha</u>	Neelam Sanjiva Reddy	26 March, 1977	13 July, 1977
	K.D.Hegde	21 July, 1977	21 Jan, 1980
<u>7th Lok Sabha</u>	Dr. Bal Ram Jakar	22 Jan, 1980	15 Jan, 1985
<u>8th Lok Sabha</u>	Dr. Bal Ram Jakhar	16 Jan, 1985	18 Jan, 1989
<u>9th Lok Sabha</u>	Rabi Ray	19 Dec, 1989	09 July, 1992
<u>10th Lok Sabha</u>	Shivraj Patil	10 July, 1992	13 May, 1998
<u>11th Lok Sabha</u> (constituted on 14.5.96)	P.A.Sangma	23 May, 1996	09 March, 1998
<u>12th Lok Sabha</u> (Constituted on 24 March, 1998)	G.M.C. Balayogi	—	—

However, some doubts have occasionally been raised about the ability and impartiality of the Speaker. A motion of no confidence even was moved on 18th December 1954 against the then Speaker by the opposition parties because he allegedly failed to *maintain an impartial attitude*. Such moves were also subsequently made on a few occasions. Though all those moves were defeated, but such moves indicated more clearly the necessity for the Speaker to maintain the dignity and uncompromising impartiality in the discharge of his duties in the Lok Sabha as the Speaker.