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II B A

Parliamentary
procedures in India



Power and Functions of Parliament

Part V chapter III and Articles ≈79 to 123 deals with the union parliament. The parliament is a supreme legislative body in India. It comprises of the president of India and the two Houses—Lok Sabha (House of the People) and Rajya Sabha (Council of States).

Power and Function of Rajya Sabha

1. Legislative Function

The Rajya Sabha enjoys equal power with Lok-Sabha in the sphere of ordinary law-making. An ordinary bill can be introduced in the Rajya Sabha and it cannot become a law unless and until it is passed by both the houses of parliament.

2. Financial powers

a) Once the money bill is passed by the Lok Sabha the Rajya Sabha can withhold its consent for a maximum period of 14 days.

b) If within a period of 14 days the Rajya Sabha fails to pass the bill, the bill is deemed to have been passed by the parliament.

3. Executive powers

- ▶ Rajya Sabha can put questions to the minister for seeking information regarding their departments. Also, the member of Rajya Sabha can criticize the policies of the government

4. Amendment powers-

- ▶ In the matter of the amendment of the Indian Constitution, the Rajya Sabha enjoys equal power as of the Lok Sabha. An Amendment Bill can be introduced in either of the two houses of parliament and it is necessary that it is passed by both the houses of Parliament that are Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha.

5. Judicial powers-

The Rajya Sabha along with the Lok Sabha can impeach the president on the charges of violation of the constitution. One house frames the charges, the second house makes the investigation and if the members of both the houses of parliament pass the impeachment resolution with the majority of 2/3rd members- present voting, the President stand impeached and is removed from his office.

6. Approval of the emergency

The declaration of emergency must be laid before both the houses of the Parliament within the time period for approval. In the case of dissolution of the Lok Sabha, such a declaration is to be laid before the Rajya Sabha, which has the power to approve or disapprove it.

7. Miscellaneous powers

- **a)** Give approval to the ordinances issued by the president of India.
- **b)** Make a change in the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India and the high court in various States.
- **c)** To make changes in the qualification of the members of the state legislative assembly or Indian Parliament.

THANK YOU