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Tender Heart High School,
Sector 33B, Chandigarh
Class VIII

22/7/24

Subject:- History and Civics

Teacher:- Mili Bhatnagar

Chapter 1 Our Parliament - Union Legislature

Good Morning Students!

In this chapter we will study about the Parliament which is the supreme law making body in India. The Parliament consists of the President and the two Houses - the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. Though the President of India does not directly participate in the functioning of Parliament but without the signature of the President no bill passed by the Parliament can become a law.

Let us now study about the two houses of the Parliament

1. Rajya Sabha is the Upper House, known also as the Council of States. It is a permanent body and cannot be dissolved. There can be a maximum of 250 members. Out of these 238 are elected by the members of the State Legislative Assemblies. 12 members are nominated by the President who have distinguished themselves in the fields of art, literature, social service and science. Each member is elected for a term of six years. One third of the members retire every second year, and are replaced by the new members. The Vice President is the Presiding Officer of the Rajya Sabha.

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2. Lok Sabha is the Lower House of the Parliament. The Lok Sabha can have maximum of 550 members. Up to 530 are elected from the states. Up to 20 members are elected from the Union Territories. The members are elected for a term of five years. If the ruling party loses its majority, the President can dissolve the Lok Sabha before the term is over. In case of an emergency, the term of the Lok Sabha can be extended by one year.

After the General Elections result are announced, the leader of the party with the majority of elected members is invited by the President to form the government. The other parties form the opposition. When one party does not get a clear majority, a group of parties form a coalition and elect a leader, who is then asked to form a government.

The Lok Sabha is presided over by the Speaker who is elected by the members from among themselves. The Speaker supervises the proceedings of the Lok Sabha and maintains order and discipline in the House.

There are some circumstances when both Houses of the Parliament enjoy equal powers, like the introduction of the ordinary bill. In some cases Lok Sabha has an upper hand over Rajya Sabha. The

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Money Bill can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha. The Council of Ministers hold collective responsibility to the Lok Sabha.

Rajya Sabha also has superiority over Lok Sabha in some circumstances. The Rajya Sabha is a permanent body but Lok Sabha can be dissolved. It can also authorize the Parliament for creation of one or more all India services or give it the right to make laws for any matter mentioned in the State List if it is of national importance.

MCD's

1. Prime Minister
2. President, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha
3. 545
4. 250

State whether True or False

1. True
2. False
3. False
4. True
5. False