

## Union Parliament

### A comparison between the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha

	Lok Sabha	Rajya Sabha
Basic Qualifications for Membership	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. S/he should be an Indian citizen.</li> <li>2. S/he should be minimum 25 years of age.</li> <li>3. S/he should not be a proclaimed offender.</li> <li>4. S/he should have his/her name on the electoral roll.</li> <li>5. S/he should not be holding any office of profit.</li> </ol>	S/he should be minimum 30 years of age. Rest; as pertaining to the requirements for a member of the Lok Sabha.
Term	5 years It can be dissolved before the expiry of its term and the term can also be extended.	6 years 1/3 <sup>rd</sup> of its members retire every two years. It cannot be dissolved.
Method of election	Directly elected by adult suffrage from single member constituencies.	Indirectly elected by the elected members of the State Legislative Assemblies to represent the respective States.
Nomination of some members by the President	Two members of the Anglo- Indian community, if it has not been adequately represented.	12 members who have shown excellence in the fields of Literature, Science, Art and Social Service.
Maximum number of members	530 from States + 20 from Union Territories and 2 nominated by the President. Present 543+2	238 elected + 12 nominated by the President. Present 238+12
Presiding Officer	Speaker : Elected by the members from amongst its members.	Chairman : Vice – President is ex-officio Chairman.
Powers and Functions exclusive for each house of the Parliament	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Money bills can originate only in the Lok Sabha.</li> <li>2. The Lok Sabha can alone vote a Ministry out of office.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It has exclusive power to declare a subject of State List that has become a subject of National importance and requests the parliament to make law on it.</li> <li>2. It can create a new All India Service in national interest.</li> <li>3. When a State of National Emergency is proclaimed due to external aggression or internal disturbance (e.g. a civil war) and the Lok Sabha is dissolved, the Rajya Sabha looks after all the responsibilities of the Union Legislature. The proclamation of emergency is approved by the Rajya Sabha alone when the Lok Sabha stands dissolved or is out of session.</li> </ol>
Powers/ Functions common to both the Houses	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Both the houses elect the President and the Vice – President.</li> <li>2. Impeachment proceedings against the President or Judges of the Supreme Court</li> <li>3. Non – Money bills can be introduced in either of the two Houses.</li> <li>4. Both Houses exercise control over the Executive though the Lok Sabha alone can</li> </ol>	