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Monsoon Session of Parliament Begins

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Why in News

Recently, the **monsoon session of Parliament** began after several months which was delayed due to the **Covid-19 pandemic**.

However, the government has **suspended Question Hour for the session and has also curtailed the Zero Hour.**

Key Points

- **Parliament Session:**
 - The **President of India is empowered to summon** each House of Parliament from time to time.
 - The **maximum gap** between two sessions of Parliament **cannot be more than six months**. That means the Parliament should meet at **least twice a year**.
 - A '**session**' of Parliament is the period between the first sitting of a House and its prorogation.
 - There are usually **three sessions** in a year, viz,
 - **Budget Session** (February to May)
 - **Monsoon Session** (July to September)
 - **Winter Session** (November to December)
 - The period between the prorogation of a House and its reassembly in a new session is called '**recess**'.
- **Meetings of Session:**

A session of Parliament consists of **many meetings**. Each meeting of a day consists of two sittings, that is, a morning sitting from 11 am to 1 pm and post-lunch sitting from 2 pm to 6 pm.

- **Termination of Session:**

- A sitting of Parliament can be terminated by **adjournment** or **adjournment sine die** or **prorogation** or **dissolution** (in the case of the Lok Sabha).
- **Adjournment:** It suspends the work in a sitting for a specified time, which may be hours, days or weeks.
- **Adjournment sine die:** It means terminating a sitting of Parliament for an indefinite period.
 - In other words, when the House is adjourned without naming a day for reassembly.
 - The **power of adjournment** as well as **adjournment sine die** lies with the **presiding officer** (Speaker or Chairman) of the House.
- **Prorogation:** The **President** issues a notification for prorogation of the session after the business of a session is completed and the presiding officer declares the House adjourned sine die.

The President can also prorogue the House while in session.
- **Dissolution:** Only the **Lok Sabha** is subject to dissolution. Rajya Sabha, being a permanent House, is not subject to dissolution.
 - A **dissolution ends the life of the existing House**, and a new House is constituted after general elections are held.
 - The **President** is empowered to dissolve the Lok Sabha.

Source: TH