



Monsoon Session of Parliament 2025

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Why in News?

The **2025 Monsoon Session of Parliament** has begun. During the session, the **Bills of Lading Bill, 2025**, which was passed earlier in the Lok Sabha, was approved by the Rajya Sabha.

What are the Sessions of Parliament?

- **Sessions of Parliament:** A **session** refers to the period between the **first sitting** and **prorogation** of a House. A **recess** is the interval between **prorogation** and **reassembly** of Parliament. Typically, there are 3 sessions in a year:
 - **Budget Session (Feb-May)**
 - **Monsoon Session (July-August)**
 - **Winter Session (Nov-Dec)**
 - **Special Sessions:** A **Special Session of Parliament** is convened **outside the 3 regular sessions** (Budget, Monsoon, Winter) to deliberate on **urgent, exceptional, or historic matters** of national significance like **India-China war in 1962**.
- **Key Parliamentary Procedures:**
 - **Summoning:** Under **Article 85** of the Constitution, the **President** summons each House of Parliament, ensuring that the interval between **two sessions does not exceed six months**.
 - While the **Constitution does not specify the number of sessions** or sitting days, Parliament typically meets three times a year.
 - **Adjournment:** It refers to the **temporary suspension** of a parliamentary sitting by the **Presiding Officer**. It may be for a short duration or for the day.
 - **Adjournment sine die** means **suspension without a fixed date** for the next sitting.
 - It does **not end the session**, and pending business **resumes when the House meets again**.
 - **Prorogation:** It is the **formal termination** of a parliamentary **session** by the **President**. After prorogation, the **House can meet again** only when it is **summoned afresh by the President**.
 - **Dissolution:** **Dissolution** marks the end of the **Lok Sabha's term**, unlike the **Rajya Sabha**, which is a permanent body. It occurs under the following circumstances: -
 - after 5 years, and after an extended term during Emergency, or through the President's power under **Article 85(2)**.
 - The **President holds the power to dissolve** the Lok Sabha.
 - On dissolution, **all pending business lapses**, except **bills originating in the Rajya Sabha** not passed by the Lok Sabha,
 - **Assurances by Ministers** on the floor of the House still awaiting implementation.
 - **Quorum:** It is the **minimum number of members required** to be present to conduct a sitting of either House of Parliament. As per the Constitution, it is **one-tenth of the total strength** of the House.

- Hence, **55 members in Lok Sabha** and **25 members in Rajya Sabha** constitute the quorum for their respective sittings.

Bills of Lading Bill, 2025

- A **Bill of Lading (BoL)** is a key document in maritime trade, serving as proof of goods loaded, a record of their details, and a title of ownership.
- The **Bills of Lading Bill, 2025** seeks to replace the colonial-era **Indian Bills of Lading Act, 1856**, modernizing the legal framework governing shipping documents.
- The Bill affirms the BoL as **conclusive evidence** of shipment, clarifies rights and liabilities of receivers/transferees, and empowers the **Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways** for implementation.
- It aims to enhance **legal clarity, reduce disputes**, and align India's shipping laws with **global trade standards** to improve **ease of doing business**.

UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year's Question (PYQs)

Prelims

Q. Which of the following is/are the exclusive power(s) of Lok Sabha? (2022)

1. To ratify the declaration of Emergency.
2. To pass a motion of no-confidence against the Council of Ministers.
3. To impeach the President of India.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 2
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1 and 3
- (d) 3 only

Ans: B