

## Motions in Parliament

### 1. What is a Motion in Parliament?

A **motion** is a **formal proposal** made by a Member of Parliament (MP) or a Minister to **initiate discussion or take a decision** on a matter of public importance.

**Key idea:** *No discussion can take place in Parliament unless a motion is moved and accepted by the Speaker/Chairman.*

### 2. Why are Motions Important?

- Allow MPs to **raise public issues**
- Enable Parliament to **control and question the Executive**
- Ensure **democratic debate and accountability**
- Provide a **structured method** for discussion and decision-making

### 3. Who Allows a Motion?

- **Lok Sabha** → Speaker
- **Rajya Sabha** → Chairman (Vice-President)

Their permission is **mandatory**.

### 4. Categories of Motions in Parliament

Motions are broadly divided into **three categories**:

#### A. Substantive Motion

- **Independent motion**
- Complete in itself
- Leads to a **direct decision** of the House

**Examples:**

- Impeachment of the President
- Removal of Chief Election Commissioner
- No-Confidence Motion

#### B. Substitute Motion

- Moved **in place of another motion**

- If adopted, it **replaces the original motion**

Example:

A new motion replacing an original resolution under discussion.

### C. Subsidiary Motion

- Cannot stand alone
- Depends on the **main motion or ongoing business**

#### Types of Subsidiary Motions:

Type	Meaning
<b>Ancillary Motion</b>	Helps conduct parliamentary business
<b>Superseding Motion</b>	Seeks to replace the discussion on another issue
<b>Amendment</b>	Proposes a change in part of the original motion

### 5. Closure Motion

A motion to **end the debate** and put the matter to a vote.

#### Types of Closure Motions:

Type	Explanation
<b>Simple Closure</b>	Matter has been sufficiently discussed
<b>Closure by Compartments</b>	Bill is divided into sections for voting
<b>Kangaroo Closure</b>	Only important clauses debated
<b>Guillotine Closure</b>	Undiscussed parts voted due to lack of time

### 6. Calling Attention Motion

- MP draws attention to a **matter of urgent public importance**
- The minister gives an **authoritative statement**
- **Indian innovation** (introduced in 1954)

Difference from Zero Hour:

- Calling Attention is **mentioned in the Rules**
- Zero Hour is **not mentioned anywhere**

### 7. Privilege Motion

- Raised when a **Minister violates parliamentary privilege**
- Example: Giving **false or misleading information**
- Purpose → **Censure the Minister**

### 8. Adjournment Motion

- Used to discuss a **definite, urgent public issue**
- **Disrupts normal business**
- Needs the **support of 50 members**
- The debate must last a **minimum of 2.5 hours**

**Not allowed in the Rajya Sabha**

### 9. No-Confidence Motion

- Can be moved **only in the Lok Sabha**
- Needs the support of **50 MPs**
- If passed → **Government must resign**

Key Facts:

- **Not mentioned in the Constitution**
- First moved in **1963** by Acharya Kriplani
- The maximum number moved against the **Indira Gandhi Government**

### 10. Confidence Motion

- The government proves its **majority**
- Used in:
  - Hung Parliament
  - Coalition or minority governments
- If defeated → **Government falls**

### 11. Censure Motion

- Moved **only in the Lok Sabha**
- Must be **specific and reasoned**
- Can be against:
  - Council of Ministers
  - Individual Minister

Difference from No-Confidence Motion:

Aspect	Censure	No-Confidence
Reasons required	Yes	No
Govt must resign	No	Yes

## 12. Motion of Thanks

- Moved after the **President's Address**
- Must be passed in **both Houses**
- Failure = **defeat of the government**

## 13. No Day Yet Named Motion

- Motion accepted, but **date not fixed**
- Speaker decides timing later based on House business

## 14. Dilatory Motion

- Used to **delay or adjourn the debate**
- The speaker can **reject** if misused

## 15. Cut Motion (Very Important for Prelims)

Used to oppose **Demands for Grants** in the Budget.

**Only in the Lok Sabha**

### Types of Cut Motions:

Type	Meaning
<b>Policy Cut</b>	Reduce demand to ₹1 (policy disagreement)
<b>Economic Cut</b>	Reduce the amount by a specific sum
<b>Token Cut</b>	Reduce by ₹100 to highlight the grievance

If passed → **treated as No-Confidence Motion**

## 16. Resolutions in Parliament

- A **specific form of substantive motion**
- Always **voted upon**

### Types of Resolutions:

Type	Key Feature
<b>Private Member's Resolution</b>	Discussed on alternate Fridays
<b>Government Resolution</b>	Moved by Minister (Mon–Thu)
<b>Statutory Resolution</b>	Required by the Constitution or law

## 17. Note

- **All resolutions are motions, but not all motions are resolutions**
- **No-Confidence Motion** → Only Lok Sabha
- **Adjournment Motion** → Not in Rajya Sabha
- **Guillotine** → Time-bound voting
- **Cut Motion** → Budget control tool

### Memory Trick

“PAC-CAN-DC” to remember powerful motions: **P**rivilege – **A**djournment – **C**ensure – **C**alling Attention – **A**djournment – **N**o Confidence – **D**ilatory – **C**ut

Aspire with Ram IAS