

Background Guide

Lok Sabha

SIISMUN 2026

AGENDA

“Deliberation on Strengthening National Security and Border Management to Address Emerging Security Challenges and Safeguard India's Sovereignty.”

Executive Board

Parin Verma

(Lok Sabha Speaker)

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(Lok Sabha Deputy Speaker)

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(Scribe 1)

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THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA



Preamble

WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a **SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**

and to secure to all its citizens:

JUSTICE, social, economic and political;

LIBERTY of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship;

EQUALITY of status and of opportunity;

and to promote among them all

FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the Nation;

IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY this twenty-sixth day of November, 1949, do **HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION.**

Letter from the Executive Board

Honourable Leaders of Bharat,

It is our immense pleasure to welcome you to the Lok Sabha Committee. On behalf of the Executive Board, we are delighted to have you join us for this enriching and intellectually stimulating session of the Model United Nations.

The Lok Sabha, also known as the House of the People, is the lower house of the Parliament of India and serves as the primary legislative body representing the voice and aspirations of the nation's citizens. It is the forum where crucial national issues are debated, policies are scrutinized, and decisions shaping the future of the country are made.

As delegates, you will have the opportunity to step into the shoes of Members of Parliament, represent diverse perspectives, and engage in meaningful discussions on matters of national importance. We encourage you to research thoroughly, think critically, and participate actively while maintaining the highest standards of diplomacy, decorum, and parliamentary procedure. This committee is not merely a platform for debate but also an opportunity to develop leadership, public speaking, negotiation, and problem-solving skills.

We hope that the discussions will be insightful, productive, and reflective of the spirit of democratic governance.

We look forward to witnessing engaging debates, innovative solutions, and fruitful collaboration among all delegates. May this experience be both educational and memorable for each one of you.

Once again, welcome to the Lok Sabha Committee. We wish you the very best for the conference and eagerly await your contributions.

Warm Regards,
Executive Board
Lok Sabha

What is Lok Sabha?

The Lok Sabha, also known as the House of the People, is the lower house of the Parliament of India. It is one of the most important democratic institutions in the country because it represents the voice and interests of the people. Members of the Lok Sabha are directly elected by Indian citizens through general elections, making it a true reflection of the public's will.

The primary function of the Lok Sabha is to make laws for the country. Members discuss and debate important national issues, introduce bills, and vote on proposed laws. The Lok Sabha also plays a crucial role in financial matters, such as approving the Union Budget and government expenditure. Through discussions and questioning, it ensures that the government remains accountable to the people.

The Lok Sabha is composed of representatives from different constituencies across India. These members are elected for a term of five years unless the house is dissolved earlier. The political party or coalition that secures a majority of seats in the Lok Sabha forms the government, and its leader usually becomes the Prime Minister of India.

As the directly elected chamber of Parliament, the Lok Sabha serves as the cornerstone of Indian democracy. It provides a platform for public concerns to be raised, debated, and addressed, ensuring that the voices of millions of citizens are represented in the nation's decision-making process.

The proceedings of the Lok Sabha are presided over by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, who is responsible for maintaining order, ensuring that debates are conducted fairly, and upholding the rules and procedures of the House. The Speaker plays a vital role in safeguarding the dignity and effectiveness of parliamentary discussions.

The Lok Sabha also serves as a platform where diverse opinions from different regions, communities, and political ideologies are brought together. Through debates and deliberations, members discuss issues of national importance such as education, healthcare, economic development, national security, and social welfare. This exchange of ideas helps in formulating policies that address the needs and aspirations of the people.

In addition to law-making, the Lok Sabha acts as a check on the executive branch of the government. Through mechanisms such as Question Hour, Zero Hour, motions, and parliamentary committees, members scrutinize government actions and demand accountability. This oversight function strengthens democratic governance and ensures transparency in public administration.

History of Lok Sabha

Its origins can be traced back to the period of British rule in India, when representative institutions were gradually introduced through various legislative reforms. After India gained independence in 1947 and adopted its Constitution on 26 January 1950, a democratic parliamentary system was established, laying the foundation for the Lok Sabha.

The first general elections in independent India were held between 1951 and 1952, making them the largest democratic exercise in the world at that time. Following these elections, the First Lok Sabha was constituted on 17 April 1952. It consisted of elected representatives from across the country, reflecting India's commitment to democracy, universal adult franchise, and representative government. Ganesh Vasudev Mavalankar became the first Speaker of the Lok Sabha.

Over the decades, the Lok Sabha has played a crucial role in shaping India's political, economic, and social development. It has debated and passed important laws, approved budgets, and held governments accountable. Through discussions, question hours, and committee work, members of the Lok Sabha represent the concerns and aspirations of the people.

Today, the Lok Sabha is one of the largest democratic legislative bodies in the world, with a maximum strength of 552 members as provided by the Constitution (currently 543 elected members). It remains a cornerstone of Indian democracy, ensuring that the voice of the people is represented in the governance of the nation.

Timeline

1950

26 January 1950 – The Constitution of India came into force, establishing the parliamentary system and creating the framework for the Lok Sabha.

1951–1952

25 October 1951 – 21 February 1952 – India's first General Elections were held, the largest democratic exercise in the world at the time.

17 April 1952 – The First Lok Sabha was constituted.

13 May 1952 – First sitting of the Lok Sabha.

Ganesh Vasudev Mavalankar became the first Speaker.

1957

Second Lok Sabha constituted after the second general election.

1962

Third Lok Sabha began during a period marked by the Sino-Indian War.

1967

Fourth Lok Sabha elected.

Rise of regional parties and decline of one-party dominance began.

1971

Fifth Lok Sabha elected under Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

1975–1977

National Emergency declared (1975).

Lok Sabha's term was extended beyond its normal five-year period.

1977

Sixth Lok Sabha elected after the Emergency.

First non-Congress government formed at the Centre under Morarji Desai.

1980

Seventh Lok Sabha elected; Congress returned to power.

1984

Eighth Lok Sabha elected following the assassination of Indira Gandhi.

Rajiv Gandhi led the government with a historic majority.

1989

Ninth Lok Sabha marked the beginning of the coalition era in national politics.

1991

Tenth Lok Sabha elected amidst major political and economic changes.

Economic liberalization reforms were launched.

1996–1999

11th and 12th Lok Sabhas had short tenures due to unstable coalition governments.

1999

13th Lok Sabha formed under Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and completed a full term.

2004

14th Lok Sabha elected; Manmohan Singh became Prime Minister.

2009

15th Lok Sabha elected. Women's representation continued to rise.

2014

16th Lok Sabha elected.

Narendra Modi became Prime Minister with the first single-party majority in three decades.

2019

17th Lok Sabha elected.

Government returned with a larger majority.

2020

Anglo-Indian nominated seats in the Lok Sabha were abolished through the 104th Constitutional Amendment, reducing the maximum strength from 552 to 550.

2023

The Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam (Women's Reservation Act) was passed, providing for 33% reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies after future delimitation and census processes.

2024

18th Lok Sabha elected after the 2024 General Elections.

First session of the 18th Lok Sabha commenced in June 2024.

2026

Debate continued on implementing women's reservation and future delimitation of constituencies.

A proposal to operationalize reservation through the 131st Constitutional Amendment Bill, 2026 did not secure the required majority in the Lok Sabha.

Constitutional Provisions for National Security

Under Article 246 and the Seventh Schedule (Union List), Parliament has exclusive authority over matters related to:

- Defence of India
- Armed Forces (Army, Navy, and Air Force)
- Deployment of armed forces
- Arms, ammunition, and explosives
- Atomic energy related to national security
- Intelligence and investigation agencies

Articles 256 and 257 empower the Union Government to ensure that states comply with laws relating to national security and allow the Centre to exercise control in matters affecting national interests.

The Constitution provides special powers during emergencies:

National Emergency (Article 352)

Can be declared in cases of:

- War
- External aggression
- Armed rebellion

During such an emergency, the Union Government receives extensive powers to safeguard national security.

Article 356 (President's Rule) can be imposed if a state's constitutional machinery fails, including situations that seriously affect security and governance.

Article 1 defines India as a "Union of States" and specifies the territory of India. The Constitution also allows Parliament to alter state boundaries and manage territories when required for national interests.

The Political Landscape

- **Ruling Alliance – NDA (BJP, TDP, JDU, Shiv Sena)**

The NDA can advocate a strong, security-centric approach. It can emphasize strengthening border infrastructure, increasing military preparedness, expanding surveillance and intelligence capabilities, modernizing the armed forces, and promoting indigenous defence manufacturing. The alliance could argue that national security must take precedence over political differences and support decisive action against terrorism, cross-border infiltration, cyber threats, and illegal activities along India's borders.

- **Opposition - INDIA (INC, SP, AITC, DMK, NCP, Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray), CPI(M), CPI)**

The INDIA alliance could support robust national security measures but adopt a more accountability-oriented approach. It could stress the importance of parliamentary oversight, transparency in defence procurement, intelligence reforms, and Centre-State cooperation. While supporting territorial integrity and border security, the alliance may question the effectiveness of current policies and advocate balancing security concerns with democratic values, civil liberties, and welfare of border communities.

- **Regional Parties (YSRC, AIMIM)**

Regional parties could take a pragmatic and state-centric position. While supporting national security objectives, they could focus on issues directly affecting their respective states, such as coastal security, border trade, migration, infrastructure development, disaster management, and the welfare of border populations. They could demand greater consultation with state governments, increased financial assistance, and a stronger role for states in implementing border management policies.

Strategies to Prepare for the Session

1. Master the Agenda

For National Security and Border Management, research:

- India's land and maritime borders
- Border disputes with neighboring countries
- Terrorism and cross-border infiltration
- Cyber security threats
- Coastal and maritime security
- Defence modernization and indigenous defence production
- Border infrastructure (roads, tunnels, smart fencing, surveillance systems)
- Role of agencies such as the Armed Forces, Coast Guard, intelligence agencies, and border forces

Prepare facts, statistics, and recent examples to support your arguments.

2. Know Your Political Bloc

Whether you represent the NDA, INDIA Alliance, or a Regional Party, understand:

- Your bloc's priorities
- Policies you would support
- Policies you would oppose or seek to modify
- Arguments against rival blocs

Remember: defend your party's position even if your personal views differ.

3. Prepare a Strong Opening Speech

Your speech should:

1. Define the problem.
2. Explain your bloc's position.
3. Propose key solutions.
4. End with a call for action.

A good opening speech is usually:

- 60–90 seconds long
- Data-driven
- Clear and impactful

4. Anticipate Questions and Attacks

Prepare answers for questions such as:

- How will your proposal be funded?
- How does it protect civil liberties?
- What makes it different from existing policies?
- How will states be involved?
- What evidence shows your solution will work?

5. Build a "Fact Sheet"

Create a one-page document containing:

- Important constitutional provisions
- Key security agencies
- Major border challenges
- Relevant government schemes
- Important statistics
- Recent developments

6. Practice Parliamentary Procedures

Be comfortable with:

- Point of Information (POI)
- Point of Order
- Motion for Moderated Caucus
- Motion for Unmoderated Caucus

7. Focus on Solutions, Not Just Criticism

- Identify problems
- Offer practical solutions
- Explain implementation
- Address potential challenges

8. Prepare a Draft Resolution Framework

Have ideas ready under:

- Border Security
- Defence Modernization
- Cyber Security
- Intelligence Coordination
- Coastal Security
- Border Area Development
- International Cooperation

9. Follow Current Affairs

Read recent developments involving:

- Defence acquisitions
- Border infrastructure projects
- Cyber attacks
- Maritime security initiatives
- Relations with neighboring countries

10. Aim for Leadership in Committee

To stand out:

- Speak early and frequently.
- Ask sharp but respectful questions.
- Collaborate with other delegates.
- Help draft resolutions.
- Maintain parliamentary decorum.

Conclusion

National Security and Border Management remain among the most critical responsibilities of the Indian state, directly influencing the nation's sovereignty, stability, and development. As India navigates a rapidly evolving security environment marked by conventional and non-conventional threats, technological advancements, geopolitical shifts, and complex border challenges, the need for comprehensive and forward-looking policies has become increasingly important.

This agenda offers delegates an opportunity to examine the effectiveness of existing security frameworks, evaluate emerging challenges, and propose innovative solutions that balance national interests with constitutional values. Delegates are encouraged to engage in informed debate, considering strategic, diplomatic, economic, and humanitarian dimensions of the issue. Through constructive dialogue and parliamentary deliberation, the committee must strive to develop recommendations that strengthen India's security architecture while promoting cooperation, resilience, and sustainable development in border regions.

The Executive Board looks forward to insightful discussions, rigorous debate, and well-researched policy proposals as delegates work towards safeguarding India's national security and ensuring effective border management for the future.

Jai Hind