Motions in Parliament

Today's no-confidence motion is the first to be admitted in 15 years. The last was in 2003 when the Congress party moved a no-confidence motion against prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. In the 524-member House, with 315 MPs, the NDA is expected to easily defeat the motion. The Congress and its allies, meanwhile, have 63 seats.

A **motion of no-confidence** can be moved by a Lok Sabha member if he/she thinks that the incumbent government has lost the support of the majority. It must be supported by at least 50 MPs to be accepted for discussion by the House Speaker. So far, 26 no-confidence motions have been moved in Lok Sabha since Independence.

No-confidence Motion in Lok Sabha

- The no-trust vote was moved by Telugu Desam Party Srinivas Kesineni, demanding a debate on a special package for Andhra Pradesh. The motion was accepted by Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan on Wednesday.
- While Rahul Gandhi will lead the charge for Congress party in Lok Sabha, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will respond from the saffron party's side. Home Minister Rajnath Singh is likely to be an intervener during the debate.
- BJP's ally, Shiv Sena, meanwhile will abstain from participating in the debate.
- Congress chief Rahul Gandhi launched a fiery attack on the Modi government and what he termed as their 'jumlas.' He attacked the NDA government on a number of issues including jobs, women's safety, GST, demonetisation, Rafale deal and farmers' issues.
- The government is expecting 331 votes. The parties opposing the government are expected to muster 154 votes.

- The BJP, which was accused of stalling the no-trust move last time, is seen as changing its approach. Sources said it was because the party felt that once the no-trust vote is debated and defeated, the opposition would not have any excuse to disrupt proceedings in parliament.

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General Rules for Parliamentary Motions

As per Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of the Houses:-

- No discussion on a matter of general public importance can take place except on a motion made with the consent of the Speaker/Chairman as the case may be.
- The Notice of Motion must be given in writing addressed to the Secretary-General.
- There are certain parameters for the admissibility of the motion.
- The Chairman/Speaker decides the admissibility of the motions as per the parameters.
- The Chairman/Speaker allots time for discussion on the matter raised in the motion.
- On the allotted day the Chairman/Speaker may put every question necessary to determine the decision of the House on the original question.
- The Speaker/Chairman may prescribe a time limit for speeches on the motion.

Types of Motions in Indian Parliament

- **Privilege Motion** - The Constitution grants certain powers, privileges and immunities to the Parliament, its members and committees.

- **Censure Motion** - Censure motion is moved by the opposition against a specific policy of the government or against a minister or against the whole council of ministers. It can be moved only in the lower house of the parliament.
- **Call Attention Motion** - A member may, with the previous permission of the Speaker, call the attention of a Minister to any matter of urgent public importance by moving a motion.
- **Confidence Motion** - It is also called "trust vote". Confidence motions have evolved as a counter by the government when it wants to demonstrate its majority.

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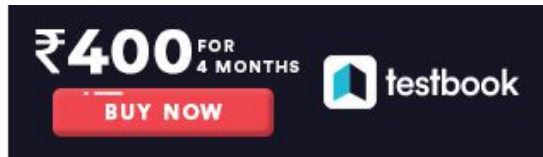## **Joint Military Exercises of India for SSC & Banking Exams**
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