

1. DISCUSS THE PROVISIONS FOR REMOVING DEADLOCK BETWEEN THE TWO HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT OF INDIA.

Under a parliamentary arrangement, any bill other than a Money Bill can become a law only if it is agreed to by both the Houses. An inherent mechanism is essential for resolving a deadlock between the two Houses if they disagree on the whole or any provision of the bill. In a parliamentary democracy, where there exists a bicameral structure, resolving deadlock on any possible provision or bill between the two Houses is of paramount significance. Hence, under Article 108 of the Constitution of India, the provisions for a joint sitting of both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha are found mentioned.

Joint sitting is extraordinary machinery provided by the Constitution to resolve a deadlock between the two Houses over the passage of a bill. A deadlock is deemed to have taken place under any one of the following three situations after a bill has been passed by one House and transmitted to the other House.

- If the bill is rejected by the other House
- If the Houses have finally disagreed as to the amendments to be made in the bill, or
- If more than six months have elapsed from the date of the receipt of the bill by the other House without the bill being passed by it

In the above circumstances, the President can summon both the House to meet in a joint sitting for the purpose of discussing and voting on the bill. The provision of joint sitting is applicable to ordinary bill or financial bills only and not to money bills or Constitutional Amendment Bills.

However, if the bill under conflict has already elapsed due to the dissolution of the Lok Sabha, no joint sitting can be summoned. It happens if the President has not notified his intention to summon such a sitting.

Joint sitting is presided over by the Speaker of Lok Sabha. In his absence, the Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha, presides. In the absence of Deputy Speaker, the Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha is entitled to preside and in his absence, such other person as may be determined by the members present at the joint sitting presides over the joint sitting.

The quorum to constitute a joint sitting is one-tenth of the total membership of the two Houses. If the bill in question is passed by a majority of the total members of the two Houses present and voting in the joint sitting, the bill is deemed to have been passed by both the Houses. As obvious, the Lok Sabha with greater number wins in case of a joint sitting.