

SHORT DISCUSSION (Rule 60 to 62)

Introduction :

In a Parliamentary form of Government the Legislature has three fold functions. They are legislative, Financial and Critical. The Legislative Part of the Legislature is embodied in various statutes that it makes. The Legislature exercises financial control through voting of demands for various Departments of the Government. The Critical functions of the Legislature are performed by members by means of questions, adjournment motions, call attention notices, raising half-an-hour discussion on matters of urgent public importance. The rules have also provided various other opportunities to members for performing critical functions. The purposes of these devices are to elicit information and to focus attention on commissions and omissions of the Government. They are used by members to bring certain omissions and misdeeds to the notice of the Government as well as to the attention of the public. The Object to discuss such matters is to focus public imagination on the commissions and omissions or pitfalls of the Government.

Short discussion on matters of urgent public importance is one of the devices available to Members to draw the attention of the Government to such matters.

It provides an opportunity to members to raise such issues for discussions at a shorter time.

Notice for raising discussion : (Rule 60)

A member who desires to raise discussion on a matter of urgent public importance, may give notice in writing to the Secretary.

The member has to specify clearly and precisely the matter to be raised for discussion. An explanatory note stating reasons for raising discussion on the matter in question is to be enclosed to the notice. The notice should be supported atleast by two other members. They should sign on the said notice supporting it.

Speaker to decide admissibility : (Rule 61)

If the Speaker is satisfied after calling for such information from the member who has given notice and from the Minister, as he may consider necessary, that the matter is urgent and is of sufficient importance to be raised in

the Assembly at an early date, he may admit the notice. The Speaker, in consultation with the Leader of the House, fixes the date on which such matter may be taken up for discussion which should not exceed two hours.

The Speaker may refuse to admit notice, if an early opportunity is otherwise available for discussion on such matter.

Fixing date for discussion :

The Business Advisory Committee allocates time for discussion.

Procedure for raising discussion :

The matter is included in the list of Business as decided by the Business Advisory Committee. The member who gave notice, makes a short statement. Any member who has previously intimated to the Speaker, is permitted to take part in the discussion. Then the Minister replies to the discussion.

As per Rule 62 there will be no voting on the discussion.



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