



Key Stage 3

Members of Parliament

Lesson Plan

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Members of Parliament

Objectives

By the end of the session, students would be able to:

- Understand the role of Member of Parliament (MP) in the parliament
- Explain how the numbers of MPs are attained in accordance with the respective constituencies
- Understand the conditions of becoming an MP of People's Majlis

Curriculum Link

Key Stage 3 Social Studies Curriculum Strand 5: Governance and Citizenship, sub-strand: Structure and functions of the Government - "role of the parliament administration and the parliament members"

GC3.1: Demonstrate understanding of the electoral process in the Maldives and the structure and functions of the government of Maldives

Success Criteria

Students will be able to:

- Explain the importance of MPs and their functions at the Majlis.
- Describe how MPs are elected to the parliament and how the number of members are decided
- State the conditions and privileges of being an MP of People's Majlis

Setting or Resources required

- PPT Slides
- White board
- A4 Papers
- Fact sheet

Procedure

Introduction (3 minutes)

Begin the topic by asking the students to name a few MPs they know. Ask students if they know the MPs representing their respective home constituencies.

Discussion: (15 minutes)

Discuss using the PPT slides.

Who can become an MP?

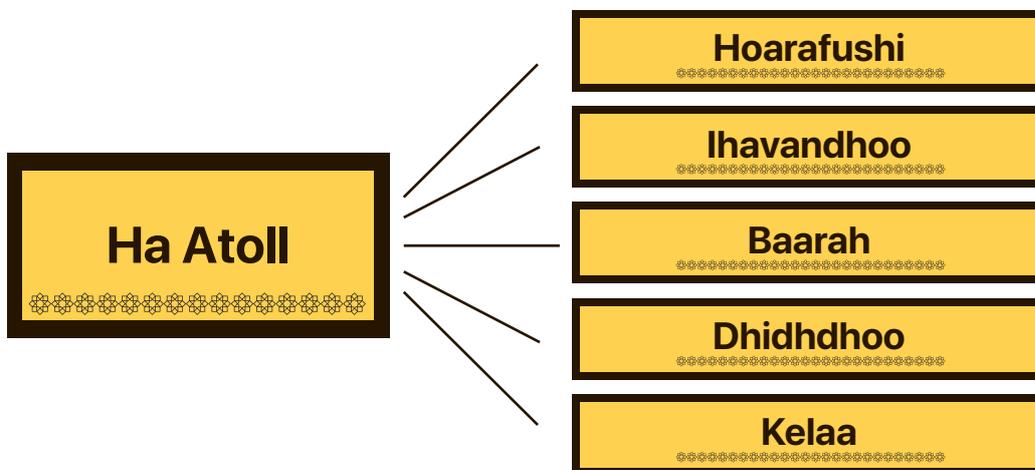
Who cannot become an MP?

What are the roles or positions that an MP cannot hold while serving a term in the Majlis?

Ask students how many MPs are in the Majlis. How is this number decided?

Explain how the number of MPs is decided in relation to the population of the respective constituencies.

For example, according to the information from 2014, the population of HA atoll in total is 21508. And the atoll is divided into 5 total constituencies.



Discuss the different functions of MPs both in the Chamber and the Parliamentary Committees.

Show a small video of how a debate is carried out on the floor, and show some pictures of committee proceedings.

Explain the privileges of MPs.

Activity (24 minutes)

Students can act a role play of a Majlis Session to question a Minister (e.g. Minister of Education or Minister of Youth and Sports)

Arrange the classroom to depict the chamber of Majlis.

Select a student to become the Speaker of Majlis and another student to act as the Secretary General

Ask 2 to 3 students to act as the minister and an official from the ministry.

All remaining students act as MPs from different constituencies.

Assume that the questions have been sent to the minister with 14-day notice accordingly by the Speaker. Give students 5 minutes to think of answers to the questions.

Sample questions.

Eg. If for Education Minister: What are the consequences of changing the beginning of the academic year? Are there any plans from the ministry to upgrade school libraries and laboratories? If so, what are the plans, and how long would it take to do so?

If for Youth Minister: How many sports halls are being built throughout the nation? Which islands are given priority in building sports halls, and on what basis are the islands selected?

It would be helpful for students to come up with questions if you explain to students the mandate or the scope of each ministry. So questions can be formulated in accordance to the responsibility of each ministry.

Questioning process

The speaker introduces the session and asks specific MP to proceed with the question.

MPs have to address the other party with proper respect, like honorable minister, and ministers would also have to address members as honorable members.

After the question has been posed, the Speaker then gives the minister the chance to answer the question.

When the first questions has been answered by the minister, Speaker then thanks the minister and opens the floor to other MPs to ask any questions.

When asking questions, MPs should refrain from asking hypothetical questions.

Closure (3 minutes)

Ask the students if they understood the role of members of Parliament in questioning

Cabinet Ministers to hold them accountable for the way Minister carry out their responsibilities.

Go through a quick recap of the important points in the class to see how much students remember.