

Motion of Thanks

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Why is in news? Lok Sabha resumes discussion on Motion of Thanks to President Droupadi Murmu's address to joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament

Article 87 provides for the special address by the President.

The article provides that at the **commencement of the first session after each general election** to the House of the People and at the **commencement of the first session of each year**, the President shall address both Houses of Parliament assembled together and inform Parliament of the causes of its summons.

Such an Address is called 'special address', and it is also an annual feature. This Address has to be to **both Houses** of Parliament assembled together.

Content of the President of Address:

The President's Address is the **statement of policy of the Government** and, as such, is drafted by the Government.

The Address contains a **review of various activities and achievements of the Government during the previous year** and sets out the policies, projects and programmes which the Government of the day wishes to pursue with regard to the important national and international issues.

The Address also indicates, in broad terms, items of legislative business which are proposed to be brought during the sessions to be held in that year.

The address of the president, which **corresponds to the 'speech from the Throne in Britain'**, is discussed in both the Houses of Parliament on a motion called the 'Motion of Thanks'.

If any of the amendments are put forward and accepted then the Motion of Thanks is adopted in the amended form.

Amendments may refer to matters contained in the Address as well as to matters which, in the opinion of the member, the Address has failed to mention.

At the end of the discussion, the motion is put to vote.

Significance of Motion of Thanks:

The Motion of Thanks must be passed in the House. Otherwise, it amounts to the defeat of the government. It is one of the ways through which the Lok Sabha can also express a lack of confidence in the government.

The other ways are:

Rejection of a money bill.

Passing a censure motion or an adjournment motion.

Kamaraj IAS Academy

Plot A P.127, AF block, 6 th street, 11th Main Rd, Shanthi Colony, Anna Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600040

Phone: 044 4353 9988 / 98403 94477 / Whatsapp: 09710729833

| The defeat of the government on a vital issue. | |
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| Passing a cut motion. | |
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