



Key Stage 3

# Understanding our Parliament

Lesson Plan

# Lesson Plan - Key Stage 3

## Understanding our Parliament

### Objectives

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

- Develop an understanding of what parliament is and who is an MP
- Understand the process of how parliament works.
- Summarise the role of parliament in governance.

### Curriculum Link

Social Studies Curriculum Key stage 3 Strand 5: Governance and Citizenship (Grade 7,8), sub-strand: Structure and function of the Government

GC3.1: Shows awareness about the structure of the government of the Maldives

### Success Criteria

Students will be able to:

- Describe what parliament is about and who can become an MP (list all the conditions).
- Define some important people/roles in the People's Majlis.
- Outline what is Parliament's role in governance.

### Setting or Resources required

- A3 sheets
- Whiteboard, flipcharts, markers
- PPT on Understanding our Parliament
- Quiz

# Procedure (25 minutes)

## Introduction

Show students a picture of People's Majlis and explore their understanding about the parliament.

Reflect their answers and introduce the topic 'Parliament'

Say – Today in this session we are going to study about parliament and how it works and its role in governance.

Make the point 1. The People's Majlis, or Parliament is one of the three main organs of the State; Constitution of the Maldives vests its legislative authority to its parliament, The People's Majlis. Explain the terms Unicameral and Bicameral.

Unicameral legislature: When there is only one House of Parliament. In other words only one chamber, or body, that makes decisions.

A bicameral legislature has two chambers, often with different procedures and powers, that ultimately must work together to make policy and exercise other legislative powers and responsibilities.

Make the point 2. Parliament consists of members who are elected to represent citizens of the country. Explain the process of election of members to the Parliament based on the population and Constituencies (Refer to factsheet for more information).

Key points to be explained: what are administrative divisions (Idhaaree Dhaairaa)? What is an electoral constituency (Inthikhaabee Dhaairaa)? How are Electoral Constituencies formulated and by whom? How many Electoral Constituencies can be allocated for each administrative division? Who can become an MP? What can MPs do and not do?

Explain the details of the Majlis sessions.

*Key points: Majlis sessions per year, Speaker/Deputy Speaker of Majlis, Secret ballot, Ordinary Sittings and extra ordinary Sittings, Quorum, Majlis agenda*

## Activity (10 minutes)

### *Remember & Understand*

Give the students a POP Quiz allowing them to finish within 10 minutes (refer to the activity sheet). Once done, exchange it to their peers and ask them to correct it. Display the answers in PPT

## Closure/Conclusion (5 minutes)

Reflect: chose randomly few students and ask them to share what they have learnt from this session.

### Activity

#### *Pop Quiz*

1. What is People's Majlis? Define using three words.
2. Who is an MP?
3. List any three criteria needed to become an MP.
4. How many sessions of the People's Majlis must be held each year?
5. What is the quorum of the Majlis?
6. The ordinary sittings of the Majlis can be (held while the Majlis is in recess) (True/False)
7. The Majlis is elected for how many years?
8. How many administrative divisions in the Maldives are specified in the Maldives constitution?
9. Provide any two situations where a quorum of 50% of the MPs' total membership is needed.
10. Give an alternative name for the Majlis agenda?

## ANSWERS

### *Pop Quiz*

1. The People's Majlis, or Parliament ( one of the main /organ /state, or Legislative authority /country )
2. A Member of Parliament (MP) is an individual who has been elected by the people to represent a specific geographic area, known as a constituency in the parliament.
3. Is a citizen of the Maldives/ is not a citizen of a foreign country/ is a Muslim and a follower of a Sunni school of Islam/ has attained the age of eighteen years/is of sound mind.
4. three sessions
5. The quorum of Majlis is 25% of its total membership
6. False
7. Five years
8. 21 administrative divisions
9. Requires compliance by the citizens/imposes requirements or prohibitions on a citizen./cause expenditure from the citizens/imposes a tax upon the citizens./imposes legal sanction on a citizen for their acts or omissions/imposes a responsibility on the citizen
10. Order of Business