

Frequently

Asked

Questions



PARLIAMENT OF UGANDA



VISION OF PARLIAMENT

To be a vibrant, independent and people-centred Parliament.

MISSION OF THE PARLIAMENT

To achieve improved accountability, rule of law and national development within a multi-party democracy system in Uganda.

What are the roles of a Member of Parliament?

Members of Parliament have four main roles:

Legislative - Members debate and pass laws through which the Parliament endeavors to guide the country's progress.

Oversight - Members demand for accountability from the Executive through raising different issues on the floor of Parliament and by summoning ministers and other government officials to appear before them on different matters

Budget Approval - Members of Parliament analyse and approve the Budget for every financial year.

Representative Role - Members represent their constituents' views in Parliament.

What types of committees does Parliament have?

Parliament has two types of committees;

Sessional committees; these are departmentally related committees, whose composition is determined at the start of each new session. Sessional committees last one session and comprise 30 members designated by whips and approved by the House.

Standing Committees; are set up at the start of a new term of Parliament and again after two and a half years. These committees last two and a half years.

Who is the Leader of the Opposition and what are his/her roles?

The Leader of the Opposition means the Member of Parliament who is the leader in Parliament of the party in opposition to the government and having the greatest numerical strength

in Parliament. According to the Administration of Parliament (Amendment) Act, 2006, "the principal role of the Leader of the Opposition is to keep the government in check."

What is the meaning of Party Whip?

A Party Whip is a Member of Parliament selected, appointed or voted by party members in the House to ensure discipline, attendance and that members vote according to agreed positions. A Party Whip may be appointed by the Party leadership or the President, out of the Parliament. The role and functions of a Party Whip is to ensure due attendance, participation in proceedings and voting in Parliament of members of the party.

How does a Bill become law?

A Bill is a proposed law. A Bill becomes law after being introduced in Parliament (First Reading), discussed/debated and approved at the Second and Third Reading, before being signed (assented to) by the President of Uganda.

What is a Session of Parliament?

Each five-year term of Parliament is divided into sessions. A session lasts one year. It is a period beginning with the date when Parliament commences to sit upon being summoned by the Speaker by proclamation under Clause (2) of Article 95 of the Constitution, and ending with the date when it is prorogued by the Speaker under Clause (3) of that Article or when it is dissolved under Article 96 of the Constitution.

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