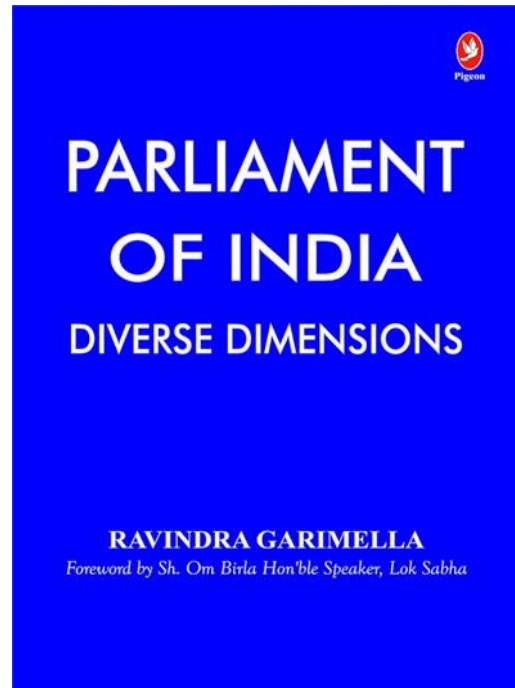


***Parliament of India: Diverse Dimensions* by Ravindra Garimella, New Delhi: Pigeon Books India, ISBN 978-9389330793, Pages-248, 2024.**

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Ravindra Garimella's book *Parliament of India: Diverse Dimensions* (2024) is an insightful and comprehensive analysis of the working, past, and future of The Indian Parliament with an intellectual and down-to-earth quality. Garimella has written this book that is relevant to scholars, students of any level, and the curious non-scholar who would like a deeper understanding of this huge democratic institution in North America. The book is structured to have ten chapters, each looking at different facets of the Indian Parliament. In the Foreword, Speaker of the Lok Sabha Om Birla underscores the importance of Indian democracy and its organs with



specific reference to Parliament. This is how the Indian Parliament and Legislatures managed to bridge the divide among innumerable cultures, languages, and religions – a lesson for all of us. Since there was increasing interest among youth, academics, institutions and intelligence society within India and beyond about working of the Indian Parliament, a foreword to that effect is added. Parliament of India – Diverse Dimensions by Ravindra Garimella is widely appreciated for providing excellent insights about the legislative procedure as well as wisdom. The author, with a 30-year service as a parliamentary official, gives informed insight and personally reflects on numerous aspects of the Parliament – democratic institutions, expressions, rituals, and procedures. The foreword ends by wishing the author well and calling this book a valuable tool for politicians and legislative staff writers. *Parliament of India: Diverse Dimensions* by Ravindra Garimella has received great responses from renowned authors for its concise and perceptive description of the proceedings in the Indian Parliament. In particular, Dr. Shashi Tharoor compliments the essay for being in layman's language and metaphorical to previous significant parliaments.

On the other hand, Dr. Shirin M. Rai appreciates Garimella's wide wisdom and inclination to accept new ideas. Dr. Rochana Bajpai acclaimed the book's useability and relative viewpoints. At the same time, Prasad Kunduri features the significance of rendering statutory words. Greg Power applauds Garimella for leveraging his scholarly proficiency and real-world knowledge to cast light on Lok Sabha performances. Before diving into how the institution works now, Garimella examines the historical progression of parliamentary techniques, chiefly in India. He highlights the Parliament's extensive obligations, which comprise developing policy, adopting legislation, and administering the administration.

This book encloses ten articles that look at numerous viewpoints of the Indian Parliament's work during the past seven decades, like procedures, customs, rituals, conventions, and membership-related concerns. Using thirty years of individual experience as a legislator, the author explores the significance of India's parliamentary system and the important messages that may be acquired by functioning intimately with it. The author's connections with academic institutions like Warwick and the University of Nottingham, along with their connections to scholars like Prof. Shirin M. Rai and Dr. Carole Spary, have made it feasible to plunge extreme into subjects like ceremonial procedures, democratic strength, and managing distractions. The book also contains substantial selections from reputed journals. The book is targeted to assist as a means for scholars, legislators, and everyone else with an interest in the democratic institutions of India. The author voices gratefulness to all academic colleagues, mentors, and collaborators who have eased in this journey for wisdom and understanding.

This book investigates the essential subjects, including committees, debates, and parliamentary practices, in order to feed light on the complexities of legislation. Garimella also takes into account problems such as disturbances all through meetings and the need for alterations to amend the effectiveness and manners of legislative processes. The first chapter, "The Functioning of Democratic Institutions in India," focuses on the growth of the Parliament following independence and investigates how democratic institutions in India have sustained and developed over time. Alliance administrations, changes in the economy, and reactions to internal emergencies like terrorist attacks are examples of major turning spots. Through examples of their association and dialogue, the author highlights the unison among legislators in spite of their contradictory political proportions. Modest protocols such as "Zero Hour" display the tractability of Parliament and its capacity to address serious issues, confirming the endurance and vitality of India's democratic constitution.

"Parliamentary Expressions and Practices," the second chapter, looks at key parliamentary expressions and practices, accentuating "crossing the floor of the House" and "catching the

Speaker's eye." It expounds on how Members of Parliament (MPs) show their intent to speak during a discussion. Changing parties is known as "crossing the floor," and it's generally explained as a sign of political disappearance by MPs. Historical illustrations that focus on the unstable nature of political associations and are particularly appropriate in the context of the British Parliament serve as proof of its pertinency.

The implication of parliamentary ceremonials and practices is examined in Chapter 3, "Ceremonies and Rituals in Indian Parliament," with an emphasis on how they affect the institution's repute and public aura. It highlights how essential rituals are to the working of Parliament, such as the President's Address, which signifies dominion and community. The Westminster tradition is connected to the twice-yearly President's address given during major parliamentary sessions. These customs protect democracy while demonstrating the social and political sequence in Parliament. The implication of whips and their function in maintaining party discipline and ensuring party line voting are contained in the fourth chapter, "Whips in Indian Parliament." Party representatives identified as whips administer and give commands to preserve efficient parliamentary procedures. The hunting language is from where the word "whip" originated. Their function implies cooperation and assistance throughout the legislative procedures like whips in the UK.

"Literary Interludes... Inparliamentary Committee Reports" is the fifth chapter exploring the important function that Parliamentary Committees perform in the democratic governance of India, accentuating both their role for in-depth analysis and their representativeness. It shows how literary breaks may enhance committee reports' influence and legibility. It stresses the knowledgeable influences made by politicians by showing the statements and ideas on morality and conduct. The sixth chapter, "Status of Members Expelled from Political Parties," requires a description of the situation of members expelled from political parties in India. It also incites the Anti-Defection Law, which first included exclusion as the main reason for ineligibility. This provision was abolished due to some expected harms, granting members of the House to stay in office even after being excluded from their respective parties. According to Chapter Seven, "Nominated Members in Indian Legislatures," the Constitution's requirements for nominated members in Indian legislatures are proposed to approve representativeness by accepting people with backgrounds in disciplines like science, literature, and social service. Questions about the foundation of the nomination process and its possible impact on election fair-mindedness were brought up during thoughts in the Constituent Assembly.

The principles for elections in India and the constitutional requirements concerning concurrent contribution in State legislatures and Parliament are contained in the eighth chapter,

"Simultaneous Membership in Houses of Parliament/ Legislatures." It indicates the process for chair vacation in the case that a person is elected to several bodies, accentuating the requirement to resign from one within the appropriate time settings to avoid holding two memberships. Chapter nine, "Managing Disruptions in the Indian Parliament," highlights differing views on the magnitude of disruptions in the Indian Parliament. Some are concerned about interfering with essential mechanisms of representative democracy, while others view them as a danger to it. Presiding officers reconcile procedural validity with the diverse requirements of the organization's members by favouring informal alternatives over strict rule enforcement. In democratic legislatures, the last chapter, "Conflict of Interest," emphasizes the need for clarity and upholding the public interest over personal interests. It includes rules that the Indian Parliament has set on the discovery of members' concerns and the processes for objecting to votes and committee assignments due to potential conflicts of interest.

Parliament of India: Diverse Dimensions offers the benefit of Garimella's balanced point of view. Rather than offering undue commendation or critique, he offers readers the knowledge to allow them to establish their own opinions based on data, statistics, and analysis. His examination of current parliamentary developments and the role of technology in modernizing the institution is especially appropriate in the context of India's progressively digitizing administration. Garimella lists a number of significant legislation and court judgments; a more in-depth consideration of their long-term outcomes would have supported his assertions.

Garimella makes a complex subject for readers to comprehend with his clear and short words. Each chapter builds on the one before it to provide a cohesive plot, and the book is well-structured. Still, readers who are unfamiliar with the traces of the Indian political system may find certain sections difficult. Readers might have gained from a vocabulary of legislative terms. The recently published and extensively researched *Parliament of India: Diverse Dimensions* takes a tight look at one of the most important institutions in Indian democracy.