

Lok Sabha Speaker approves merger of Shiv Sena (UBT) MPs

Lok Sabha Speaker approved the merger of six Shiv Sena (UBT) MPs with the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena ahead of the monsoon session.

The Lok Sabha Speaker's decision on the merger of Members of Parliament (MPs) involves the application of anti-defection law and parliamentary procedures.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- Lok Sabha Speaker **Om Birla** approved the merger of MPs.
- **Six** Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray or UBT) **MPs** were merged.
- They merged with the **Shiv Sena** led by **Maharashtra** Deputy Chief Minister **Eknath Shinde**.
- The approval was given on **July 18, 2026**.
- After the merger, Shiv Sena (UBT) will have only **three MPs** in the **Lok Sabha**.

STATICS & SYLLABUS FOCUS

The **Anti-defection Law** was enacted through the **52nd Constitutional Amendment Act** in **1985**.

It is incorporated in the **Tenth Schedule** of the **Indian Constitution**.

The **Speaker** or **Chairman** of the respective House is the authority to decide on **disqualification** under this law.

The primary purpose of the law is to prevent **political defections** by legislators.

A **merger** of a political party is recognized if not less than **two-thirds** of the members of the legislature party agree to it.

The decision of the Speaker/Chairman on disqualification is subject to **judicial review**, as established in the **Kihoto Hollohan case (1992)**.

Article 93 of the Constitution deals with the election and removal of the **Speaker** and **Deputy Speaker** of the **Lok Sabha**.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Lok Sabha Speaker approved merger of 6 Shiv Sena (UBT) MPs with Eknath Shinde faction on July 18, 2026.

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