

Search Tips for Searching the Official Debates of Rajya Sabha

Introduction

The search engine used to search this database is Lucene and capable to create your own queries through its API.

A query can be broken into terms and operators. There are two type of terms: single terms and phrases. A single term is a single word such as “expenditure” or “health”. A phrase is a group of words surrounded by double quotes such as “expenditure on health care in India”. Multiple terms can be combined together with Boolean Operators(AND, OR, NOT) to perform a more complex query.

The searches can be performed in the following ways.

Field Search

You can search any field by typing the field name and followed by a colon “ : “ and the term you are looking for.

Example:

- Title: tourism
- Title: “tourism projects in rajasthan”
- Title: “crimes in delhi”

FIELD SEARCH WITH BOOLEAN OPERATOR

Boolean operators allow terms to be combined through logic operators using AND,OR, NOT as Boolean operators

OR

The OR operator links two terms and finds a matching document if either of the terms exist in a document.

Example : To search for documents that contain either “national park” or just “national” use the query:

national park OR national

AND

The AND operator matches documents where both terms exist anywhere in the text of a single document.

Example : To search for documents that contain “national park” and “national highway” use the query:

national park AND national highway

NOT

The NOT operator excludes documents that contain the term after NOT.

Example : To search for documents that contain “national park” but not “highway” use the query:

National park NOT highway

GROUPING

This can be very useful if you control the Boolean logic for a query

Example : To search for documents that contain either “highway” or “park” and “national” use the query:

(Highway OR park) AND national

WILDCARD SEARCHES

- You can search single character wildcard search by using “?” symbol.

Example: to search for “india” or “indra” you can use the search:
ind?a

- You can also search multiple character wildcard search by using “*” symbol.

Example: to search for “india” ,”indian” , “indians” or “indianisation” you can use the search:
India*

NOTE: You can also use the wildcard searches in the middle of a term.

Indi*n

FUZZY SEARCHES

You can do a fuzzy search using the tilde “~” symbol at the end of the Single word term.

Example: To search for word similar in spellings to “Role” we use the fuzzy search:
role~

This search will find terms like rome, rola, rale, pole, gole, and so on...