

ANDHRA KESARI UNIVERSITY

Y. A. Govt. Degree College for women,

Group project

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Submitted TO

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Topic: Committees of the Parliament of India

① Public Accounts Committee :

The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) is a key Indian Parliamentary Committee, established in 1921, that scrutinizes government expenditure and financial accounts to ensure accountability. Comprising 22 members (15 Lok Sabha, 7 Rajya Sabha) it examines Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) reports to prevent waste and corruption.

Key Aspects of the Public Accounts Committee :

- Objective : To examine the audit reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) on Appropriation Accounts of the Government, ensuring that money is spent as authorized by parliament.
- Composition : 22 members (15 from Lok Sabha, 7 from Rajya Sabha) elected annually through proportional representation.

Leadership: The chairman is appointed by the speaker of the Lok Sabha and, by convention, is always from the opposition party.

• Functions:

- Examines public expenditure, focusing on economy, propriety and wisdom to prevent financial irregularities.
- Reviews Finance Accounts of the government of India and reports.
- Assists in identifying waste, corruption, and inefficiency in government spending.

The Public Accounts Committee is a committee of selected members of parliament, constituted by the parliament of India, for the purpose of auditing the revenue and the expenditure of the government of India. They check that parliament exercises over the executive stems from the basic principle of parliament embodies the will of the people.

The Public Accounts Committee consists of not more than twenty-two members, fifteen elected by Lok Sabha, the Lower house of the Parliament, and not more than seven members of Rajya Sabha, the upper house of the Parliament.

The members are elected every year from amongst its members of respective representative by means of single transferable vote. The chairperson is appointed by the Lok Sabha Speaker. The term of office of the members is one year.

At present, the 18th Lok Sabha has Rahul Gandhi as a leader of opposition and Indian National Congress (INC) being largest opposition party has the responsibility of heading the PAC.

CABINET COMMITTEES

They not only sort out issues and proposals for the consideration of the Cabinet but also take decisions. However, the Cabinet can review their decisions.

LIST OF CABINET COMMITTEES :-

At present the following 8 Cabinet Committees are functional :-

1. Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs
2. Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs
3. Cabinet Appointments Committee of the Cabinet
4. Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs
5. Cabinet Committee on Security
6. Cabinet Committee on Accommodation
7. Cabinet Committee on Investment and Growth.
8. Cabinet Committee on Employment and Skill Development.

FUNCTIONS OF CABINET COMMITTEES

The following are the functions of the

Cabinet Committees:-

- ① The Cabinet Committee on public Affairs deals with all policy matters pertaining to domestic and foreign Affairs
- ② The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs direct and coordinates the governance activities in the economic spheres
- ③ The Appoint Committee of the Cabinet decides all higher level appointments in the central secretariat, public enterprises.
- ④ The Cabinet Committee on parliamentary Affairs look after the progression of government business in the parliament
- ⑤ The Cabinet Committee on Security deals with all issues relating to defence law and order.
- ⑥ The Cabinet Committee Accommodation deals with all issues regarding the allotment of government other persons.

Groups OF MINISTERS :

In addition to Cabinet Committee several Group of Minister (GOMs) are Constituted to the issues / subjects some of to the Cabinet.

The Second Administrative Reforms Commission of India (2005-2009) made the following

Observation and recommendations with respect to the working of the Council

The Commission observed that the Constitution of a large member being able to meet regularly to complete their work thus leading to delay. The Commission recommended that there is need to ensure that the existing coordination mechanisms and will be to ensuring helps in early resolution clear mandate and prescribed time limits would be helpful.

Estimates Committee :

The origin of this committee can be traced back to the standing financial committee established in 1921.

Formation of estimates committee :-

After independence, the Government Estimates Committee was formed in 1950 on the recommendations of the then Finance Minister, John Mathias. Initially this committee had only 25 members. But in 1956 the number of members was increased to 30. As the members of this committee belong to the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha they have to transfer one vote, elected by proportional representation in committee.

Functions of estimates committees -

The committee of estimates mainly examines the budget estimates and makes government expenditure, therefore this association considered to be a control economics.

Powers - Role of Estimates Committee:-

1. The Budget Estimates shall be considered only after a vote in Parliament and not before.
2. This body has no power to question the policy made by Parliament.
3. The instructions given by this committee to Government departments shall be advisory only. Branches can comply or reject them.
4. This committee shall not examine the estimate of all departments at once, the department will not re-examine for a few years on alternate ministries. Hence there is a becoming neglect.
5. CAG advice is available to the public Accounts Committee but the committee functions without expert assistance.

The functions performed by the estimates committee include -

1) Adoption of austerity measures, development of institutions, efficient government-introduction of reforms, following the approach laid down in the estimates.

2) To suggest alternative means of introducing saving capacity in government.

3) To examine whether the deposit has been made within the limits of the procedures incorporated in the estimates.

4) To prescribe the form in which estimates shall be introduced in parliament.

This association does not interfere in matters related to public a special interest will send the estimates at all the branches of government finally voted without regard to the report of this committee.

Departmental Standing Committees
(Departmentally Related Standing Committees (DRSCs)) are 24 permanent parliamentary committees in India, established in 1993 to ensure executive accountability, scrutinize ministry budgets, and examine legislation. Each committee comprises 31 members (21 Lok Sabha + 10 Rajya Sabha) serving one-year terms to provide in-depth, non-partisan oversight of government departments.

Key details regarding departmental standing committees:

- composition ÷
Each of the 24 committees consists of 31 members - 21 from the Lok Sabha and 10 from Rajya Sabha nominated by the speaker and chairman respectively.

functions :-

examining annual reports, condoning bills referred by parliament, analyzing demands for grants of relevant ministries, and studying long-term policies.

• purpose :-

they improve parliamentary efficiency by conducting detailed, non-partisan that cannot always taken place on the floor of the house.

• structure :-

16 committees operate under the lok sabha and 8 under the rajya sabha covering all union ministries and departments

Scope :-

The reports and recommendations of these committees have persuasive value and are considered expert advice on government performance.

term ÷
Members serve for a maximum of
one year.

• selection ÷

nominated by the speaker of Lok
Sabha and chairman of Rajya Sabha

• Restrictions ÷

Ministers cannot be members of
these committees.

18th Lok Sabha committee chairpersons (2024-25)

Agriculture ÷ Charanjit Singh Channi

• Defence ÷ Radha Mohan Singh

• External Affairs ÷ Shashi Tharoor

• Finance ÷ Bhartuhari Mahtab

• Home Affairs ÷ Radha Mohan Das Agarwal

• Education ÷ Digvijaya Singh

The committees cover all central ministries
and crucial for detailed legislative and
financial scrutiny before parliamentary.