

STANDING COMMITTEES

OFFICERS IAS ACADEMY™

IAS ACADEMY RUN BY FORMER CIVIL SERVANTS

STANDING COMMITTEES:

They are permanent (constituted every year or periodically) and work on a continuous basis,

STANDING COMMITTEES:

On the basis of the nature of functions performed by them, standing committees can be classified into the following six categories:

FINANCIAL COMMITTEES

Public Accounts Committee
Estimates Committee
Committee on Public Undertakings

DEPARTMENTAL STANDING COMMITTEES (24)

COMMITTEES TO INQUIRE

Committee on Petitions
Committee of Privileges
Ethics Committee

COMMITTEES TO SCRUTINIZE AND CONTROL

Committee on Government Assurances
Committee on Subordinate Legislation
Committee on Papers Laid on the Table
Committee on Welfare of SCs and STs
Committee on Empowerment of Women
Joint Committee on Offices of Profit

COMMITTEES RELATING TO THE DAY-TO-DAY BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Business Advisory Committee
Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions
Rules Committee
Committee on Absence of Members from Sitzings of the House

HOUSE-KEEPING COMMITTEES OR SERVICE COMMITTEES (i.e., Committees concerned with the Provision of Facilities and Services to Members):

General Purposes Committee
House Committee
Library Committee
Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members



PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

This committee was set up first in 1921 under the provisions of the Government of India Act of 1919 and has since been in existence.

At present, it consists of 22 members (15 from the Lok Sabha and 7 from the Rajya Sabha).

The members are elected by the Parliament every year from amongst its members according to the principle of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.

The term of office of the members is one year.

A minister cannot be elected as a member of the committee.

The chairman of the committee is appointed from amongst its members by the Speaker.

The chairman of the committee is selected from the Opposition.

The function of the committee is to examine the annual audit reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG).

The CAG submits three audit reports to the President, namely, audit report on appropriation accounts, audit report on finance accounts and audit report on public undertakings.

The committee examines public expenditure not only from legal and formal point of view to discover technical irregularities but also from the point of view of economy, prudence, wisdom and propriety to bring out the cases of waste, loss, corruption, extravagance, inefficiency and nugatory expenses.

Its recommendations are advisory and not binding on the ministries.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

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ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

The origin of this committee can be traced to the standing financial committee set up in 1921.

It consists of 30 members.

All the thirty members are from Lok Sabha only.

The chairman of the committee is appointed by the Speaker from amongst its members and he is invariably from the ruling party.

The term of office is one year.

It examines every year only certain selected ministries and departments. Thus, by rotation, it would cover all of them over a number of years.

Its recommendations are advisory and not binding on the ministries.

Its work is in the nature of a post-mortem.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS



This committee was created in 1964 on the recommendation of the Krishna Menon Committee.

It has 22 members (15 from the Lok Sabha and 7 from the Rajya Sabha).

Its members are elected according to the principle of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote.

The term of office of the members is one year.

The chairman of the committee is appointed by the Speaker from amongst its members who are drawn from the Lok Sabha only.

They examine the reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General on public undertakings.

The committee is not to examine and investigate any of the following:

- Matters of major government policy as distinct from business or commercial functions of the public undertakings

- Matters of day-to-day administration

- Matters for the consideration of which machinery is established by any special statute

Consultative committees are attached to various ministries / departments of the Central Government.

They consist of members of both the Houses of Parliament.

The Minister / Minister of State in charge of the Ministry concerned acts as the chairman of the consultative committee of that ministry.

These committees are constituted by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

These committees provide a forum for informal discussions between the ministers and the members of Parliament on policies and programmes.

The maximum membership of a committee is 30 and the minimum is 10.

These committees shall stand dissolved upon dissolution of every Lok Sabha and shall be reconstituted upon constitution of each Lok Sabha.

In addition, separate Informal Consultative Committees of the members of Parliament are also constituted for all the Railway Zones.

Unlike the Consultative Committees attached to various ministries / departments, the meetings of the Informal Consultative Committees are to be arranged during the session periods only.

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES



On the recommendation of the Rules Committee of the Lok Sabha, Departmentally-Related Standing Committees (DRSCs) were set up in the Parliament in 1993.

The main objective of the standing committees is to secure more accountability of the Executive to the Parliament, particularly financial accountability.

The 24 standing committees cover under their jurisdiction all the ministries / departments of the Central Government.

Each standing committee consists of 31 members (21 from Lok Sabha and 10 from Rajya Sabha).

Out of the 24 standing committees, 8 work under the Rajya Sabha and 16 under the Lok Sabha.

They consider the demands for grants of the concerned ministries / departments before they are discussed and voted in the Lok Sabha.

Its report should not suggest anything of the nature of cut motions.

They should not consider the matters of day-to-day administration of the concerned ministries / departments.



DEPARTMENTAL STANDING COMMITTEES

