

Estimates Committee of Parliament

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Estimates Committee Latest News

The Lok Sabha Speaker recently inaugurated the national conference marking the platinum jubilee of the Parliamentary Estimates Committee in Mumbai's Vidhan Bhavan complex.

About Estimates Committee

- It was **constituted** for the first time in **1950**.
- It is a parliamentary committee consisting of **30 members, elected every year by the Lok Sabha from amongst its members**, to **examine the budget estimates** of the Union Government.
- The **Chairperson** of the Committee is **appointed by the Speaker** from amongst its members.
- A **Minister cannot be elected as a member** of the Committee and **if a member** after selection to the Committee is **appointed a Minister**, the member **ceases to be a Member** of the Committee from the date of such appointment.
- The **term of office** of the Committee is **one year**.

Estimates Committee Functions

- It has powers to **examine the budget estimates and**
 - to **report what economies, improvements** in organisation, efficiency, or administrative reform, **consistent with the policy underlying the estimates, may be effected;**
 - to **suggest alternative policies** in order to bring about efficiency and economy in administration;
 - to **examine whether the money is well laid out within the limits of the policy** implied in the estimates; and
 - to **suggest the form in which the estimates shall be presented to Parliament.**
- The Committee **may continue the examination** of the estimates **from time to time throughout the financial year and report to the House as its examination proceeds.**
- It shall **not be incumbent** on the Committee **to examine the entire estimates of any one year.**
- The **Demands for Grants** may be **finally voted on notwithstanding the fact that the Committee has made no report.**
- The Committee **does not exercise its functions in relation** to such **Public Undertakings** as are **allotted to the Committee on Public Undertakings** by the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Lok Sabha or by the Speaker.

Estimates Committee Working

- Soon after it is constituted, the **Committee selects** such of the **estimates pertaining to a Ministry/Department** of the Central Government or such of the **statutory and other bodies** of the Central Government as may seem fit to the Committee.
- The Committee **also examines matters of special interest** which may arise or come to light in the course of its work **or which are specially referred** to it **by the House or the Speaker.**
- The Committee, from time to time, **appoints one or more Sub-Committees/Study Groups** for carrying out detailed examinations of various subjects.
- The **observations/recommendations** of the Committee are **embodied in its Reports** which are **presented to Lok Sabha.**
- The **Ministry or Department** concerned is **required to take action on the observations/recommendations** conclusions contained in the Report **within a period of six months or as directed by the Committee.**
- The **replies of the Government are examined** by the Committee and an **Action Taken Report is presented to Lok Sabha.**
- The **replies to the recommendations** contained **in the Action Taken Reports** are **laid on the Table of Lok Sabha in the form of Statements.**

Source: IE

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