

**QUESTION 02**

संसदीय समिति प्रणाली की संरचना और महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए। लोक लेखा समिति (PAC) जैसी वित्तीय समितियों ने भारतीय संसद के संस्थागत ढाँचे को किस प्रकार सुदृढ़ किया है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

**Discuss the structure and significance of the Parliamentary Committee system. How have financial committees, such as the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), strengthened the institutional framework of the Indian Parliament? (10 Marks, 150 Words)**

**Thought Process (Pre-Writing Work)**

- Parts of the question with expected marks criteria
- Directive Word(s)
- Topic Word(s)
- Limiting Words
- Writing Presentation
- Writing Interpretation

**This section will be discussed in the Answer Discussion Class.**

**Description of the Answer Content**

The Parliamentary Committee system in India comprises Standing (permanent) and Ad-hoc (temporary) committees that aids the Indian Parliament in scrutinizing legislation, overseeing the executive, and ensuring detailed deliberation on public matters. Since Parliament has limited time, committees enable in-depth, non-partisan examination of complex issues.

**Structure and significance****Structure:**

- Standing Committees:** These are permanent, functioning continuously and reconstituted annually. Major types include:
  - Financial Committees: Public Accounts Committee (PAC), Estimates Committee, and Committee on Public Undertakings (CoPU).

- Departmentally Related Standing Committees (DRSCs): 24 committees that oversee the work and budgets of various ministries.

ii. **Ad Hoc Committees**: Temporary committees constituted for a specific purpose, such as a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) to investigate a particular issue.

### Significance:

- **Efficiently handling the workload of Parliament**: Committees help to manage Parliament's heavy workload by allowing for detailed scrutiny in a focused setting.
- **Engage with experts**: Committees allow Member of Parliaments to engage with experts and stakeholders, improving the quality of legislation and policy.
- **Consensus building among political parties**: Committees provide a less adversarial forum for members to discuss issues and build consensus among political parties. This is in contrast to the often adversarial public debates that take place in Parliament.
- **Enhance transparency and accountability**: They enhance transparency by holding the executive accountable and incorporating public input into the legislative process.

### Role of financial committees in strengthening the institutional framework:

Financial committees, particularly the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), play a vital role in upholding fiscal discipline and legislative oversight.

- **Watchdog over public finances**: The PAC, traditionally headed by a member of the opposition, ensures an impartial scrutiny of government expenditure.
- **Accountability of the Executive**: The PAC examines the audit reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) to ensure that the money granted by Parliament is spent legally, prudently, and for its intended purpose.
- **Investigation of Financial Irregularities**: Committee exposes cases of waste, extravagance and financial irregularities in government departments, thereby improving financial management.
- **Creates Public Pressure**: Although its recommendations are advisory, the PAC's reports can create strong public opinion and put pressure on the government to act on its findings and address deficiencies.

- **Public Trust:** The committee's ability to expose financial mismanagement and recommend corrective actions strengthens public trust and reinforces the principle of democratic oversight.

**If Aspirants have any doubts, kindly ask the Mentor in the Answer Discussion Class**

## The purpose of this explanation is to value addition only.

### One Model Answer can be...

#### **Structure and Significance of the Parliamentary Committee System:**

Parliamentary Committees are smaller groups of Members of Parliament (MPs) tasked with detailed examination of legislative, financial, and administrative matters. They are classified into Standing Committees (permanent) and Ad hoc Committees (temporary). These include Department-related Standing Committees, Select Committees, and Financial Committees.

#### **Significance:**

- Facilitate detailed scrutiny of bills, budgets, and policies.
- Enhance legislative efficiency and executive accountability.
- Promote bipartisan, non-disruptive deliberation.
- Allow expert consultation and public input.

#### **Role of Financial Committees like PAC:**

The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) examines audit reports by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) on government expenditure. It:

- Ensures fiscal discipline and transparency.
- Exposes wasteful spending, irregularities, and corruption.
- Holds the executive accountable to the legislature.
- Strengthens public financial management.

Parliamentary Committees, specially financial ones like PAC, are vital for deepening democratic oversight, improving governance, and ensuring that taxpayer money is spent efficiently and lawfully.

# # Aspirants can use the brainstorming method to answer such information. Such method helps in avoiding unnecessary rambling and ensures that all the main points are covered within the word count.

**Space for Answer Discussion**

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