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Composition and Functions of the Cabinet Committees

1) **Cabinet Committee on Security.**

Composition

Prime Minister.
Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of External Affairs.
Shri A.K. Antony, Minister of Defence.
Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Minister of Home Affairs.
Shri P. Chidambaram, Minister of Finance.

Functions

- i) to deal with all Defence related issues;
- ii) to deal with issues relating to law and order, and internal security;
- iii) to deal with policy matters concerning foreign affairs that have internal or external security implications including cases relating to agreements with other countries on security related issues;
- iv) to deal with economic and political issues impinging on national security;
- v) to review the manpower requirements relating to national security including proposals concerning creation of posts carrying the pay scale of rupees 18400-22400 and above, and setting up new structures to deal with security related issues;
- vi) to consider cases relating to projects, acquisition or procurement of security related equipment not delegated to be approved either by the Minister-in-Charge of the concerned Department or/and by the Minister of Finance; and
- vii) to consider cases of increase in the firmed up cost estimates/revised cost estimates due to reasons such as time overrun, changes in scope, under-estimation, etc. in respect of proposals that are required to be placed before the Cabinet Committee on Security for which the procedure stipulated in the Second Schedule in respect of similar cases will apply.

2) **Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs.**

Composition

Prime Minister.
 Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of External Affairs.
 Shri Arjun Singh, Minister of Human Resource Development.
 Shri Sharad Pawar, Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution.
 Shri Lalu Prasad, Minister of Railways.
 Shri A.K. Antony, Minister of Defence.
 Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Minister of Home Affairs.
 Shri Sushilkumar Shinde, Minister of Power.
 Shri P. Chidambaram, Minister of Finance.
 Shri T.R. Baalu, Minister of Shipping, Road Transport & Highways.

Functions

- i) To deal with problems relating to Centre-State relations;
- ii) To consider economic and political issues that have to be judged with a wider perspective; and
- iii) To deal with policy matters concerning foreign affairs that do not have external or internal security implications.

3) **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.**

Composition

Prime Minister.
 Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Minister of Home Affairs.
 Minister in-charge of the concerned Ministry.

Functions

- i) To take decisions in respect of the appointments specified in Annexure I to the First Schedule to the Government of India (Transaction of Business) Rules;
- ii) to take decisions in respect of the empanelments specified in Annexure II to the First Schedule to the Government of India (Transaction of Business) Rules;
- iii) to decide all cases of disagreement relating to appointments between the Department or Ministry concerned and the Union Public Service Commission;
- iv) to decide all cases of disagreement relating to appointments to board-level positions in public sector enterprises between the Department or Ministry concerned and the Public Enterprises Selection Board; and

- v) to consider and decide representations and memorials from officers of the rank of Joint Secretary or equivalent and above, except from those in their cadre posts, against adverse remarks.

4) **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.**

Composition

- Prime Minister.
- Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of External Affairs.
- Shri Sharad Pawar, Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution.
- Shri Lalu Prasad, Minister of Railways.
- Shri A.K. Antony, Minister of Defence.
- Shri A.R. Antulay, Minister of Minority Affairs.
- Shri Sushilkumar Shinde, Minister of Power.
- Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Minister of Chemicals & Fertilizers and Minister of Steel.
- Shri P. Chidambaram, Minister of Finance.
- Shri T.R. Baalu, Minister of Shipping, Road Transport & Highways.
- Shri Kamal Nath, Minister of Commerce & Industry.
- Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Minister of Rural Development.
- Shri A. Raja, Minister of Communications & Information Technology.

Special Invitees

- Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.
- Shri Prithviraj Chavan, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office and Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

Functions

- i) To review on a continuous basis economic trends, problems and prospects with a view to evolving a consistent and integrated economic policy framework for the country;
- ii) to direct and coordinate all activities in the economic field including foreign investment, requiring policy decisions at the highest level;
- iii) to deal with matters relating to fixation of prices of agricultural products and price controls of industrial raw materials and products, industrial licensing policies and foreign investment policies;
- iv) to deal with price increases of essential commodities or bulk goods under any form of formal or informal control;

- v) to lay down priorities for public sector investment and to consider specified proposals for investment of not less than rupees one hundred and fifty crores as cleared by the Public Investment Board/Expenditure Finance Committee/Expanded Board of the Railways, etc. except proposals involving setting up of new Companies, Autonomous Bodies, Institutions, special purpose vehicles, etc. or creation of posts carrying pay scale of rupees 18400-22400 and above, which shall continue to be placed before the Cabinet;
- vi) to deal with industrial licensing cases involving proposals from the Ministries for the establishment of Joint Sector Undertakings;
- vii) to review the performance of Public Sector Enterprises and consider cases relating to their structural re-organisation or financial re-structuring;
- viii) to review progress of activities related to rural development including those concerning small and marginal farmers;
- ix) to consider and decide upon the measures - fiscal, financial, institutional and legal - required to enhance investment in the infrastructure sector, including grant of requisite approvals to facilitate private sector investment in specific projects;
- x) to consider proposals relating to infrastructure projects costing more than rupees one hundred and fifty crores in sectors such as railways, coal, steel, power, surface transport and in other infrastructure sectors which may be of critical importance to the economy and review the progress of their implementation;
- xi) to facilitate finalization of factual reports on the accomplishments of the Ministries, Agencies and Public Sector Undertakings involved in implementation of prioritized schemes or projects for evaluation by the Prime Minister;
- xii) to consider issues relating to disinvestment;
- xiii) to decide price band for the sale of Government shares through Global Depository Receipt/domestic capital market route prior to the book building exercise, and to decide the final price of sale in all cases;

Note: Decisions in respect of functions listed in sub-para (xiii) above may be taken by the Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) consisting of the Minister of Finance, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and the Minister-in-Charge of the Administrative Ministry concerned with the public sector enterprise whose proposals come up for consideration;

- xiv) to decide the final pricing of the transaction and the strategic partner in case of the strategic sales;

- xv) to consider cases of increase in the firmed up cost estimates/ revised cost estimates due to reasons such as time overrun, changes in scope, under-estimation, etc. in respect of proposals that are required to be placed before the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs for which the procedure stipulated in the Second Schedule in respect of similar cases will apply.

5) **Cabinet Committee on Accommodation.**

Composition

- Shri Arjun Singh, Minister of Human Resource Development.
- Shri Sharad Pawar, Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.
- Shri Lalu Prasad, Minister of Railways.
- Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Minister of Chemicals & Fertilizers and Minister of Steel.
- Shri S. Jaipal Reddy, Minister of Urban Development.
- Shri T.R. Baalu, Minister of Shipping, Road Transport & Highways.

Functions

- i) To determine the guidelines or rules and terms and conditions to govern out-of-turn allotment of Government accommodation;
- ii) to decide upon the allotment of Government accommodation to various categories of non-eligible persons and organizations and rate of rent to be charged from them;
- iii) to consider the question of allotment of accommodation from the General Pool to the Members of Parliament;
- iv) to consider proposals regarding shifting of the existing Central Government Offices to places outside Delhi and the location of new offices in Delhi; and
- v) to consider and decide upon the proposals relating to :-
 - a) revision of scales of accommodation to various categories of persons;
 - b) revision of licence fee for various types of Government accommodation; and
 - c) other matters, like allotment of accommodation to the various categories of Central Government servants from the 'Central Pool' or 'Special Pool'.

6) **Cabinet Committee on Management of Natural Calamities.**

Composition

Prime Minister.
Shri Sharad Pawar, Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.
Shri Lalu Prasad, Minister of Railways.
Shri A.K. Antony, Minister of Defence.
Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Minister of Home Affairs.
Shri A.R. Antulay, Minister of Minority Affairs.
Shri Sushilkumar Shinde, Minister of Power.
Shri P. Chidambaram, Minister of Finance.
Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev, Minister of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises.
Prof. Saif-ud-din Soz, Minister of Water Resources.
Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Minister of Rural Development.
Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunsi, Minister of Information & Broadcasting.
Shri A. Raja, Minister of Communications & Information Technology.
Dr. Anbumani Ramdoss, Minister of Health and Family Welfare.

Special Invitee

Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.

Functions

- (i) to oversee all aspects relating to management of natural calamities including assessment of the situation and identification of measures considered necessary to reduce its impact;
- (ii) to examine and implement programmes for reducing the adverse impact of natural calamities;
- (iii) to monitor and suggest long term measures for prevention of such calamities in future; and
- (iv) to formulate and recommend programmes for public awareness for building up society's resilience to natural calamities.

The Committee will be serviced by the Ministry of Home Affairs in all cases except in the cases relating to Drought Management and Epidemics when it will be serviced, as the case may be, by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

7) **Cabinet Committee on Prices.**

Composition

Prime Minister.
Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of External Affairs.
Shri Sharad Pawar, Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.
Shri Lalu Prasad, Minister of Railways.
Shri A.R. Antulay, Minister of Minority Affairs.
Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Minister of Chemicals & Fertilizers and Minister of Steel.
Shri P. Chidambaram, Minister of Finance.
Shri T.R. Baalu, Minister of Shipping, Road Transport & Highways.
Shri Kamal Nath, Minister of Commerce & Industry.
Shri Murli Deora, Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas.

Special Invitees

Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.
Shri Prithviraj Chavan, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office and Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

Functions

- i) To monitor the general price situation in the country and to decide upon the appropriate corrective measures;
- ii) to assess the internal availability of all essential and agricultural commodities and to authorise effective steps;
- iii) to take decisions on export of all essential and agricultural commodities particularly from Food Corporation of India stocks keeping in view the price implications for the domestic market;
- iv) to consider measures required for making the Public Distribution System more efficient and effective and to determine the prices of articles supplied through the System; and
- v) to review measures regarding enforcement of the Essential Commodities Act and other related statutory provisions.

8) **Cabinet Committee on WTO Matters.**

Composition

Prime Minister.
Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of External Affairs.
Shri Sharad Pawar, Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution.
Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Minister of Chemicals & Fertilizers and Minister of Steel.

Shri P. Chidambaram, Minister of Finance.
 Shri Shankarsinh Vaghela, Minister of Textiles.
 Shri Kamal Nath, Minister of Commerce & Industry.
 Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Minister of Rural Development.
 Shri A. Raja, Minister of Communications & Information Technology.
 Shri Kapil Sibal, Minister of Science & Technology and Minister of Earth Sciences.

Special Invitees

Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.
 Shri Prithviraj Chavan, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office and Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

Function

To consider and decide on issues pertaining to the World Trade Organization.

9) Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs.

Composition

- LS Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of External Affairs.
- LS Shri Sharad Pawar, Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution.
- LS Shri Lalu Prasad, Minister of Railways.
- LS Shri A.K. Antony, Minister of Defence.
- LS Shri Shivraj V. Patil, Minister of Home Affairs.
- LS Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Minister of Chemicals & Fertilizers and Minister of Steel.
- LS Shri T.R. Baalu, Minister of Shipping, Road Transport & Highways.
- LS Shri Vayalar Ravi, Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.
- LS Shri H.R. Bhardwaj, Minister of Law & Justice.
- LS Smt. Ambika Soni, Minister of Tourism and Minister of Culture.

Special Invitees

- LS Shri Prithviraj Chavan, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office and Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions.
- LS Smt. Suryakanta Patil, Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
- LS Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal, Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

Functions

- i) To watch the progress of Government business in Parliament and to give such directions as may be necessary from time to time, in order to secure smooth and efficient conduct of such business;
- ii) to scrutinize, and to consider the attitude of the Government on, non-official bills and resolutions to be presented to Parliament;

Note: The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, may take a decision in cases, where the recommendation of the concerned Ministry/ Department is that the non-official Bill / Resolution may be opposed, or the Members may be persuaded/requested to withdraw the Bill / Resolution, failing which it may be opposed. Decisions so taken by the Minister may be placed before the Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs or if no meeting of the Committee is envisaged, within a reasonable period of time, these may be circulated to the Members of the Committee for ratification.

- iii) to review legislations undertaken by State Legislatures from an all-India point of view; and
- iv) to consider proposals to summon or prorogue the Houses of Parliament.

The committee will be serviced by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

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