

14. COMMITTEE SECTION (PPG)

14.1 Main Functions of the Section:- This Section provides secretarial assistance to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice, which is one of the eight Standing Committees being serviced by the Rajya Sabha Secretariat. The Ministries of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Law and Justice come under the purview of the Committee's scrutiny. This Section assists the Committee in disposing its mandated functions as enshrined in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Rajya Sabha. For that purpose, the Committee Section (PPG) is provided with two Assistant Directors, one Sr. Committee Assistant, one Research Assistant and one Senior Clerk and one Jr. Clerk. The work of Section is supervised by one Joint Director, a Director and a Joint Secretary.

14.2 Constitution of the Committee:- The tenure of the Committee (2013-14) came to end on the 30th August, 2013. Subsequently, the Committee (2013-14) was re-constituted on the 31st August, 2013. The total strength of the Committee is 31, consisting of 10 Rajya Sabha Members including Chairman of the Committee and 19 Lok Sabha Members and two vacant seat of Lok Sabha Members.

14.3 Consideration of Demands for Grants:- In respect of Demands for Grants (2013-14) of the Ministries of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions and Law & Justice, this Section prepared the requisite questionnaire for the respective Ministries /Departments and the answers received thereto were circulated to Members along with background notes prepared by this Section. After completing scrutiny of Demands for Grants pertaining to the aforesaid two Ministries, two Reports were prepared which the Committee presented/laid in both the Houses of Parliament. The action taken by the Government on these two Reports are also being examined. Details of the Reports on Demands for Grants are shown below :-

- (i) Demands for Grants (2013-14) of the Ministry of Law and Justice; and
- (ii) Demands for Grants (2013-14) of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

14.4 Consideration of Government Bills:- The following Government Bills were also referred, under the established procedure, to the Committee for examination and report during 2013:-

- (i) The Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2013;
- (ii) The Readjustment of Representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Bill, 2013;
- (iii) The Rajasthan Legislative Council Bill, 2013;
- (iv) The Judicial Appointments Commission Bill, 2013;
- (v) The representation of the People (Second Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2013;
- (vi) The Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2013;
- (vii) The Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2013; and
- (viii) The Assam Legislative Council Bill, 2013.

The preparatory work pertaining to the Bills mentioned at (i) to (vi) above was done by the Section at each stage during the course of consideration of the Bills and which were adopted by the Committee and the Reports were presented/laid in both the Houses of Parliament during the year. However the Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2013 was referred in 23rd August, 2013 to the Committee and the deliberation thereon could not be completed during the year and Report thereon could not be presented to the House by the end of 2013. The Assam Legislative Council Bill, 2013 was referred on 11th December, 2013 and public opinion thereon was sought by the committee till 17th January, 2014. In effect, out of eight Bills which were referred to the Committee during the year, the Committee could complete deliberation on six Bills and presented Report thereon to Parliament during the year.

14.5 Consideration of Subjects:- The following first two subjects were carried forward from the previous year for examination and report by the Committee and subjects at Sr. Nos. 3 & 4 were

taken up by the Committee during the year from Annual Reports of Ministries of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Law and Justice :-

Sr. No.	Subject (s) Taken
1.	Status of Women Government Employees, Service Conditions, Protection against exploitation, Incentives & other related Issues.
2.	Infrastructure Development and Strengthening of the Subordinate Courts in the Country
3.	Electoral Reforms – Code of Conduct for Political Parties and Anti Defection Law
4.	Effectiveness of Vigilance Administration in Central Government's Ministries, Corporations, Societies, Public Sector Enterprises etc.

During the year the Committee remain preoccupied with the examination of Demands for Grants and the Bills referred to the Committee. The Committee could not devote time to the subject identified by it in view of reference of legislation to it by Hon'ble Chairman. However, the Committee could complete its deliberation on Electoral Reforms – Code of Conduct for Political Parties and Anti Defection Law and Status of Women Government Employees, Service Conditions, Protection against exploitation, Incentives & other related Issues and presented its Reports on 26th and 30th August, 2013 to the House.

14.6 Study Tours/Visits:- The Committee undertook following four study visits during the year 2013:-

- (1) 2nd to 9th January, 2013 to Goa and Kochi for in-depth study of The Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2012, Status of Women Government Employees, Service Conditions, Protection against exploitation, Incentives & other related Issues and Infrastructure Development & Strengthening of the Subordinate Courts in the country.
- (2) 15th to 19th February, 2013 to Bhubaneswar, Kolkata and Port Blair for in-depth study of The Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2012, Infrastructure Development and Strengthening of the Subordinate Courts in the Country and Status of Women Government Employees, Service Conditions, Protection against exploitation, Incentives and other related Issues.
- (3) 30th June to 7th July, 2013 to Mumbai, Kolkata and Shillong for in-depth study of Electoral Reforms – Code of Conduct for Political Parties and Anti Defection Law and Effectiveness of Vigilance Administration in Central Government Ministries, Corporations, Societies, Public Sector Enterprises, etc.;
- (4) 3rd October to 10th October, 2013 to Chennai, Mumbai and Jaipur for in-depth study of The Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2013, (ii) The Judicial Appointment Commission Bill, 2013, (iii) The Rajasthan Legislative Council Bill, 2013, (iv) The Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2013, and the subject (v) Effectiveness of Vigilance Administration in Central Government, Ministries, Corporations, Societies, Public Sector Enterprises etc.

14.7 Meetings:- The Section assisted the Committee to hold twenty-eight sittings spanning 45 hours and 13 minutes in all, during the year 2013. The details are as follows:-

Sr. No.	Date	Duration Hrs.-Mts.	Main Items or Agenda
1.	16.01.2013	0 - 45	(i) To review the status of subjects pending with the Committees. (ii) To finalise the proposed study visit of the Committee to Port Blair, etc.
2.	22.02.2013	0 - 15	(i) To consider and adopt its draft Fifty-sixth Report on the Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2012.
3.	13.3.2013	0 - 25	Consider and adopt the following draft Reports:- (i) Fifty-sixth Report on Action Taken Replies of the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 51 st

			Report on Demands for Grants (2012-13) of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and (ii) Fifty-seventh Report on Action Taken Replies of the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 52 nd Report on Demands for Grants (2012-13) of the Ministry of Law and Justice.
4	4.4.2013	5 - 16	I. Presentation on Demands for Grants (2013-14) by:- (i) Director, Central Bureau of Investigation; (ii) Chairman, Staff Selection Commission; (iii) Secretary, Central Vigilance Commission; and (iv) Director, LBSNAA, Mussorie. II Presentation on Demands for Grants (2012-13) by:- (i) Secretary, Department of Personnel & Training (ii) Secretary, Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances and Departments of Pensions & Pensioners Welfare.
5	*5.4.2013	4 - 46	I. Presentation on Demands for Grants (2013-14) by (i) Secretary, Election Commission of India; (ii) Registrar, Supreme Court; (iii) Director, National Judicial Academy; (iv) Member Secretary, NALSA; (v) Secretary General, ICADR; (vi) Director, ICPS; (vii) Secretary, BCI; and (viii) Director, ILI. II. Presentation of Secretary, Legislative Department on the Readjustment of Representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Bill, 2013; III. Presentation on Demands for Grants (2013-14) by:- (i) Secretary, Legislative Department; (ii) Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs; and (iii) Secretary, Department of Justice
6	12.4.2013	0 - 58	To hold in-house discussion on the Readjustment of Representation Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Parliamentary and Assem Constituencies Bill, 2013.
7	23.4.2013	0 - 30	Consideration and adoption of its Fifty-eighth Report on Demands for Grants (2013-14) of the Ministry of Law and Justice.
8	29.4.2013	0 - 45	Consideration and adaptation of its draft 59 th Report on the Readjustment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Bill, 2013
9	2.5.2013	0 - 15	Consideration and adoption of its draft Sixtieth Report on the Demands for Grants (2013-14) of the Ministry of Personnel , Public Grievances & Pension.
10	22.5.2013	1 - 11	Hear presentation by the Secretary , Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) on the subjects ' Electoral Reforms - Code of Conduct for Political Parties and Anti-Defection Laws.
11.	5.6.2013	1 - 18	Hear presentation of the Addl. Secretary , Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) , on the Subject " Electrol Reforms - Code of Conduct for Political parties.
12.	14.6.2013	2 - 41	To hear the views of the representatives of the following Political Parties on the subject "Electoral Reforms-Code of Conduct for Political Parties & Anti-Defection Laws":- (i) Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav, General Secretary, Samajwadi Party; (ii) Shri Javed Raza, General Secretary, Janata Dal(United);
13.	16.7.2013	1 - 42	Hear the views of the representatives of the Election Commission of India on the subject " Electoral Reforms -Code of Conduct for Political Parties & Anti-Defection Law.
14.	24.7.2013	1 - 22	Hear views of the representatives of the Legislative Department,

			Department of Legal Affairs and Law Commission of India on the Subject " Electoral Reforms -Code of Conduct for Political Parties & Anti-Defection Laws.
15.	19.8.2013	1 - 37	I. To consider and adopt the draft Sixty - first Report on Electoral Reforms – Model Code of Conduct and Anti-Defection Law. II. To hear the Secretary, Department of Personnel & Training on ' Status of Women Government Employees, Service Condition , Protection against exploitation, incentives and related issues;
16	29.8.2013	0 - 30	I. To consider and adopt its draft Sixty-second Report on Status of Women in Conditions, Protection against exploitation, Incentives and other related issues. II. Information to Members of the reference of the Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2013.
17.	13.9.2013	2 - 30	Hear presentation of the Secretary, Department of Personnel and Training and Legislative Department on the Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2013
18	*20-9-2013	1 - 31	Hear presentation of the Secretary, Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice on the Judicial Appointments Commission Bill, 2013.
19	27-9-2013	1 - 32	I. Hear presentation of Secretary, Legislative Department, Ministry of Law and Justice on the Rajasthan Legislative Council Bill, 2013. II. Hear presentation of Secretary, Department of Personnel and Training, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions on the Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2013.
20	22-10.2013	1 - 41	To hear the views of Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs and Attorney General of India on (i) The Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2013; and (ii) The Judicial Appointments Commission Bill, 2013.
21	30.10.2013	1 - 25	Oral evidence of the following non-official witnesses on the Rajasthan Legislative Council Bill, 2013:- (a) Shri. Rangasayee Ramakrishna, M.P (Rajya Sabha); (b) Shri. Subash C. Agrawal, RTI Activist; (c) Shri. P.N. Mendola, Jaipur; (d) Shri. Chouth Mal Gupta, Jaipur; and (e) Shri. Bal Mukund Sanaday, Rajasthan
22	6.11.2013	4 - 00	To hear following the non-official witnesses on the Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2013:- (a) Association for Democratic Reforms, New Delhi; (i) Prof. Jagdeep Chhokar (ii) Shri Anurag Mittal (iii) Ms. Shivam Kapoor (b) National Campaign for People's Right to Information, New Delhi; (i) Ms. Anjali Bharadwaj (ii) Shri Shekhar Singh (c) Shri Subash Chandra Agrawal, New Delhi; (d) From Ghaziabad; (i) Adv. Om Prakash Saxena (ii) Shri Neeraj Saxena (iii) Shri Sanjeev Gupta (iv) Shri Anuj Aggarwal (e) RTI Activist, Nagpur:- (i) Shri Kamlesh Shantilal Shah (ii) Ms. Ankita Kamlesh Shah. (f) Shri K.K. Sharma, New Delhi; (g) Shri Kulamani Mishra, Odisha. (h) Shri Shailesh Gandhi, Former Chief Information Commissioner, Mumbai;

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Akhil Bharatiya Grahak Panchayat, Delhi; (i) Shri B.S. Sachdeva (ii) Dr. Jaikishan (iii) Shri Prabhat Gujral (j) Shri Ashok Mittal, Indian Council of Universities, Mathura ; (k) Shri Nripendra Misra, Public Interest Litigation, Delhi; (l) Shri Sarbjit Roy, India Against Corruption, Jan Andolan & National Campaign for Political Reform in India, New Delhi; (m) Adv. R.L. Saravanan, Chennai; (n) Shri V. Ramesan, Potti Sreeramulu Foundation, Andhra Pradesh; (o) Shri Rahul Kadiy and Ms. Swati Chawla
23	*13.11.2013	2 - 55	<p>To hear the views of the following non-official witnesses on the Judicial Appointments Commission Bill, 2013:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan, MLA, Foundation for Democratic Reforms (Lok Satta), Hyderabad; (b) Shri Subhash Chandra Agrawal, RTI Activist, New Delhi; (c) Dr. Lokesh Kumar, RTI Activist, New Delhi; (d) Shri Ishwar Dayal Goyal, Noida, U.P.; (e) Shri Fali S. Nariman, Ex. M.P., Rajya Sabha and Senior Advocate, Supreme Court; (f) Shri. Ashok H. Desai, Former Attorney General for India; and (g) Shri P.P. Rao, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court.
24	*20.11.2013	2 - 55	<p>To hear views of following the non-official witnesses on the Judicial Appointments Commission Bill, 2013:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bar Council of India, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Shri. S.Prabakaran, Co-Chairman (ii) Shri. Ramchander Rao, Member (iii) Shri. Nilesh Kumar, Member (iv) Shri. Bhoj Chander Thakur, Member (v) Shri. J.R.Sharma, Member (vi) Shri. Ashok K. Pandey, Member (vii) Smt. Shiva Priyamvadu, Member 2. The Madras Bar Association, Chennai <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Shri. R. Muthukumaraswamy, President (ii) Shri. V.R. Kamalanathan, Secretary 3. Advocates forum for Social Justice, Tamil Nadu, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Shri. K. Balu, President (ii) Shri. K. Muthuramalingam 4. Association of Lawyers Against Corruption & Oppression, Chennai <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shri. A.P Surya Prakasam, President 5. Shri. Naik. Holiyappa. Kanna (Adv. Supreme Court), New Delhi 6. Shri. Radhey Shyam Gora (Advocate, Supreme Court), New Delhi 7. Shri. Suniti Kumar Chaudhuri (Advocate) Hooghly, West Bengal 8. Dr. Durlabh Chandra Bhattacharyya (Advocate Calcutta High Court), Kolkata <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Association of Retired Judges of Supreme Court & High Courts of India (UP State Chapter), Lucknow. Justice K.L.Sharma, 2. Justice A.N.Gupta (Retd.), Lucknow 3. Shri. V.P.Singh, District Judge (Retd.) 4. Madras High Court Advocates Association. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Shri R.C. Paul Kanagaraj, President, (ii) Shri N. Kannan, Advocate (iii) Shri C. Kanagaraj, Advocate (iv) Shri S. Arivazhagan, Advocate 5. Women Lawyers' Association, Chennai

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Smt. D. Prasanna, President (ii) Smt. V. Nalini. 6. Shri. Harvinder Oberoi, New Delhi 7. Shri. T.G.N. Kumar, Kochi 8. Shri. Abhishek Sudhir, (Advocate) Bangalore. 9. Suraz India Trust, Rajasthan; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Shri. Rajiv Daiya, Chairman (ii) Shri Narender Bhansali, Advocate (iii) Shri L.P. Upadhyay, Judge (Retd.)
25	27.11.2013	1 - 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. To hear the views of representatives of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) on the Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2013: II. Consideration and adoption of its draft Sixty-third and Sixty-fourth Reports on the Rajasthan Legislative Council Bill, 2013 and the Judicial Appointments Commission Bill, 2013, respectively.
26	5.12.2013	0 - 20	To consider "Notice given by the Hon'ble Minister of Law & Justice conveying his intention to withdraw the Representation of the People (Second Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2013 in the ensuing Session of Parliament".
27	6.12.2013	0 - 20	Consideration and adoption of its draft report on the Representation of the People (Second Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2013
28	13.12.2013	0 - 30	Consideration and adoption of its draft Sixty-sixth Report on the Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2013

** No quorum. However, record of discussion was maintained.*

14.8 Reports:- The Section drafted twelve Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice of the Rajya Sabha. Those reports were presented to Parliament.

Sr. No	Report No.	Subject	No. of Sittings	Date of Presentation
1.	55 th	Report on The Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2012	2	Presented to Rajya Sabha on 27.02.2013 and Laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 27.02.2013.
2.	56 th	Action Taken Replies of the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 51 st Report on Demands for Grants (2012-13) of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.	1	Presented to Rajya Sabha on 21.03.2013 and Laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 20.03.2013.
3.	57 th	Action Taken Replies of the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 52 nd Report on Demands for Grants (2012-13) of the Ministry of Law and Justice.	2	-do-
4.	58 th	Report on Demands for Grants (2013-14) of the Ministry of Law and Justice.	1	Presented to Rajya Sabha on 25.04.2013 and Laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 26.04.2013.
5.	59 th	The Readjustment of Representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Bill, 2013.	3	Presented to Rajya Sabha on 2.05.2013 and Laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 2.05.2013.
6.	60 th	Report on the Demands for Grants (2013-14) of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.	2	Presented to Rajya Sabha on 3.05.2013 and Laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 3.05.2013.
7.	61 st	Report on the "Electoral Reforms-Code of Conduct for Political Parties & Anti Defection Law".	6	Presented to Rajya Sabha on 26.08.2013 and Laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 26.08.2013.

8.	62 nd	Report on the "Status of Women Government Employees, Service Conditions, Protection against exploitation, Incentives and other related Issues".	2	Presented to Rajya Sabha on 30.08.2013 and Laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 30.08.2013.
9.	63 rd	Report on the Rajasthan Legislative Council Bill, 2013.	5	Presented to Rajya Sabha on 09.12.2013 and Laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 09.12.2013
10.	64 th	Report on the Judicial Appointments Commission Bill, 2013.	7	-do-
11.	65 th	Report on the Representation of the People (Second Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2013.	2	Presented to Rajya Sabha on 09.12.2013 and Laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 09.12.2013.
12.	66 th	Report on the Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2013.	4	Presented to Rajya Sabha on 17.12.2013 and Laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 17.12.2013.

14.9 Press-Conference of Chairmen of the Committees:- The Chairman of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice held three **Press Conferences** during the year 2013. The Section arranged the Press Conferences in liaison with the Press and Media Unit of the Secretariat and also assisted the Chairmen to hold the Press Conferences.

Four briefing meetings for various organisations / Departments and Ministries chaired by the Joint Secretary in-charge of this Section in connection with Study Tours of the Committee was also held. This Section liaised with the concerned officials of the Organisations / Departments / Ministries and other units of this secretariat for the smooth conduct of the meetings.

14.10 Goals and Objectives:- This Section has reasons to believe that by providing secretarial assistance to the Committee in time and discharging its functions with the requisite zeal, the goals and objectives were achieved. The Section was, therefore, able to provide all the secretarial assistance to the Committee when it examined the Demands for Grants and Bills referred to it and took up the subjects for consideration.

14.11 Computerisation:- During the period reported, all the typing work, including the Committee Reports, were prepared on Windows based P.C. The Committee Software was also utilised by the Section for providing requisite information regarding meetings of the Committee. Members were informed of meetings and other urgent information through SMS using SMS utility. E-mail facility was also used to furnish agenda papers to Members and to correspondence with Ministries and non-official Witnesses.

14.12 Miscellaneous work:- In addition to work referred to above the Section also dealt with other miscellaneous work such as liaising with the concerned Sections i.e. Interpreters, Reporters, Parliament Security Service, Electrical and sound Department, Air-conditioner, Horticulture of CPWD and Ministries concerned during the meetings of the Committee. Settlement of refreshment bills on account of expenditure incurred during the Committee's meeting and tour related Bills were also undertaken by the Section. Other miscellaneous correspondence received in the Section were suitably disposed off. Newspaper clipping pertaining to the committee were sent to officers and selected clipping were sent to related Ministries/Departments for comments. The Section also makes available the information on the RTI application pertaining to the section and ensures timely submission of replies. Circulation of printed Reports from 50th, 51st, 52nd, 56th, 57th, 59th and 60th was done during 2013

14.13 Inspection:- Inspection of the Section was done on --February, 2013 by Shri S.K. Tripathi, the then Director (L) who was satisfied with the functioning of the Section.

14.14 Processing of Public Grievances:- The Committee Section has been receiving a number of grievances from various quarters for redressal, although not within the mandate of the

Committee. These grievances were, however, processed and forwarded to the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances/concerned Departments for appropriate action. During the period under review, the Committee Section processed approximately 126 cases of public grievance.

14.15 Details of training to staff during 2013:- The staff of this Section attended the following training programmes during the period under review:

Sl. No.	Training Programme	Duration	Name & Designation of the Official
1.	Financial Management	9- 13 September, 2013	Smt. Catherine John L. Assistant Director
2.	Office Procedure.	21 - 25 October, 2013	Shri Surendran K.P. Junior Clerk