


New Delhi, the 27th April, 1998.  
7 Vaisakha, 1920 (S)

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The undersigned is directed to say that it has been decided, with the approval of the Prime Minister, to reconstitute the following Cabinet Committees. The composition and functions of the said Committees are indicated in Annexure.

- (i) Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.
- (ii) Cabinet Committee on Foreign Investment.
- (iii) Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs.
- (iv) Cabinet Committee on Prices.
- (v) Cabinet Committee on Infrastructure.
- (vi) Cabinet Committee on Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Minorities.
- (vii) Cabinet Committee on Science and Technology.
- (viii) Cabinet Committee on Commemoration of 50th Anniversary of India's independence.

  
(D.M.M. Rao)  
for Cabinet Secretary  
Tele: 3015802

dated 27.4.98.

CABINET SECRETARIAT

COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE CABINET COMMITTEES.

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(i) Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.

Composition

Prime Minister  
Shri Sikander Bakht,  
Minister of Industry.  
Shri Surjit Singh Barnala,  
Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers  
and Minister of Food and Consumer Affairs.  
Shri Ramakrishna Hegde,  
Minister of Commerce.  
Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi,  
Minister of Human Resource Development and  
Minister of Science and Technology.  
Shri K. Ramamurthy,  
Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas.  
Shri R. Kumaramangalam,  
Minister of Power.  
Shri Yashwant Sinha,  
Minister of Finance.  
Shri Babagouda Patil,  
Minister of State (Independent charge) of the  
Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment.

Special Invitees

Shri Jaswant Singh,  
Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.  
Shri Sompal,  
Minister of State in the Ministry  
of Agriculture.

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 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 for essential commodities or bulk goods under any form of formal or informal control including increase in salaries or wages in the case of a large number of employees;
- v) to lay down priorities for public sector investment and to consider specified proposals for investment as cleared by the Public Investment Board.
- vi) to deal with industrial licensing cases involving proposals from Central Ministries for the establishment of Joint Sector Undertakings;
- vii) to review the performance of Public Sector Enterprises;
- viii) to review progress for rural development including that relating to small and marginal farmers; and
- ix) to review the progress of production of coal, oil and power and developments in the energy sector, both in India and abroad.

(ii) Cabinet Committee on Foreign Investment

Composition

Prime Minister.  
Shri Sikander Bakht,  
Minister of Industry.  
Shri Yashwant Sinha,  
Minister of Finance.  
Minister in-charge of the  
concerned administrative Ministry.

Functions

- i) To consider the recommendations of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board involving proposals in which the total investment in the project is above Rupees six hundred crores; and
- ii) to consider such other proposals that may be referred to the Committee or those which may be rejected by the Minister of Industry.

(iii) Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs

Composition

- Shri Madan Lal Khurana,  
Minister of Parliamentary Affairs  
and Minister of Tourism.
- Shri Ananth Kumar,  
Minister of Civil Aviation.
- Shri Surjit Singh Barnala,  
Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers  
and Minister of Food and Consumer Affairs.
- Shri M. Thambi Durai,  
Minister of Law, Justice and Company  
Affairs and Minister of Surface Transport.
- Shri Nitish Kumar,  
Minister of Railways.
- Shri Naveen Patnaik,  
Minister of Steel and Mines.
- Shri Suresh Prabhu,  
Minister of Environment and Forests.
- Shri R.K. Kumar,  
Minister of State in the Ministry  
of Finance (Banking, Revenue and Insurance)  
and Minister of State in the Ministry of  
Parliamentary Affairs.
- Shri Ram Naik,  
Minister of State in the Ministry of  
Railways, Minister of State in the Ministry  
of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of  
State in the Ministry of Planning and  
Programme Implementation.

Special Invitee

- Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar,  
Minister of State in the Ministry of  
Petroleum and Natural Gas.

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 scrutinise, and to consider the attitude of the Government on, non-official bills and resolutions to be presented to Parliament;
- iii) to maintain a review from an all-India point of view of legislations undertaken by State Legislatures; and
- iv) to consider proposals to summon or prorogue the Houses of Parliament.



(iv) Cabinet Committee on Prices.

Composition

- Shri Yashwant Sinha,  
Minister of Finance.
- Shri Sikander Bakht,  
Minister of Industry.
- Shri Surjit Singh Barnala,  
Minister of Chemicals and Fertilisers  
and Minister of Food and Consumer Affairs.
- Shri Ramakrishna Hegde,  
Minister of Commerce.
- Shri Ram Jethmalani,  
Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment.
- Shri Nitish Kumar,  
Minister of Railways.
- Shri Kashiram Rana,  
Minister of Textiles.

Special Invitees

- Shri Jaswant Singh,  
Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.
- Shri Sompal,  
Minister of State in the Ministry  
of Agriculture.

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 balancing steps, including imports, to be taken;
- iii) to take decisions on export of all essential and agricultural commodities keeping in view the price implications for the domestic market; and
- 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.

(v) Cabinet Committee on Infrastructure.

Composition

Prime Minister.

Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi,  
Minister of Human Resource Development and  
Minister of Science & Technology.

Shri K. Ramamurthy,  
Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

Shri R. Kumaramangalam,  
Minister of Power.

Shri M. Thambi Durai,  
Minister of Law, Justice and Company  
Affairs and Minister of Surface Transport.

Shri Nitish Kumar,  
Minister of Railways.

Shri Naveen Patnaik,  
Minister of Steel and Mines.

Shri Suresh Prabhu,  
Minister of Environment and Forests.

Shri Yashwant Sinha,  
Minister of Finance.

Shri Dilip Ray,  
Minister of State (Independent charge)  
of the Ministry of Coal.

Shri Ram Naik,  
Minister of State in the Ministry of  
Railways, Minister of State in the Ministry  
of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of  
State in the Ministry of Planning and  
Programme Implementation.

Special Invitee

Shri Jaswant Singh,  
Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.

Functions

- i) to consider and decide upon the measures - fiscal, financial and legal - required to enhance investment in the infrastructure sector, including grant of requisite approvals to facilitate private sector investment in specific projects;
- ii) to consider the perspective plans of the infrastructure sectors to meet the demands of the economy;
- iii) to monitor on continuous basis the progress in implementation of infrastructure projects costing more than Rs. 100 crores in sectors like railways, coal, steel, power, surface transport and in other sectors which may be of critical importance to the economy;

- iv) to consider factors which may be adversely affecting implementation of projects of the type indicated in (iii) above and to decide upon remedial measures; and
- v) to review and bring about improvement in procedures having a bearing on the formulation and execution of projects, including preparation of feasibility reports, sanctions, finalisation of tenders and adoption of project management systems.

(vi) Cabinet Committee on Scheduled Castes  
Scheduled Tribes and Minorities

Composition

Prime Minister.  
Shri L.K. Advani,  
Minister of Home Affairs.  
Shri Sikander Bakht,  
Minister of Industry.  
Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya,  
Minister of Labour.  
Dr. M.M. Joshi,  
Minister of Human Resource Development  
and Minister of Science and Technology.  
Shri Yashwant Sinha,  
Minister of Finance.  
Smt. Sushma Swaraj,  
Minister of Information and Broadcasting  
and Minister of Communications.  
Shri Dalit Ezhilmalai,  
Minister of State (Independent charge)  
of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.  
Smt. Maneka Gandhi,  
Minister of State (Independent charge)  
of the Ministry of Welfare.  
Shri Babagouda Patil,  
Minister of State (Independent charge) of  
the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment.

Special Invitees

Shri Jaswant Singh,  
Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.  
Shri Omak Apang,  
Minister of State in the Ministry of Tourism.  
Sushree Uma Bharati,  
Minister of State in the Ministry of  
Human Resource Development.  
Shri Babulal Marandi,  
Minister of State in the Ministry of  
Environment and Forests.  
Shri Mukhtar Naqvi,  
Minister of State in the Ministry of  
Information and Broadcasting.

Functions

- (i) All matters pertaining to the protection of the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Minorities, especially their protection against any violation of their life, liberty, property and other rights.
  - (ii) All matters concerning elimination of exploitation of the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Minorities.
  - (iii) All matters relating to the socio-economic development programmes aimed at bridging the gap between the SCs, STs and Minorities and the rest of Society in a time-bound manner.
- (vii) Cabinet Committee on Science and Technology.

Composition

Prime Minister.  
Shri Sikander Bakht,  
Minister of Industry.  
Shri George Fernandes,  
Minister of Defence.  
Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi,  
Minister of Human Resource Development  
and Minister of Science and Technology.  
Shri R. Kumaramangalam,  
Minister of Power.  
Shri Yashwant Sinha,  
Minister of Finance.  
Shri Babagouda Patil,  
Minister of State (Independent charge) of  
the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment.

Special Invitees

Shri Jaswant Singh,  
Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.  
Shri Sompal,  
Minister of State in the Ministry  
of Agriculture.

Functions

To consider all matters relating to Science and Technology and also those referred to by the Scientific Advisory Committee to the Cabinet (SAC-C)/Prime Minister/Administrative Ministries/Departments and make appropriate recommendations/decisions.



(viii) Cabinet Committee on Commemoration of 50th Anniversary of India's Independence.

Composition

Shri L.K. Advani,  
Minister of Home Affairs.  
Shri Ananth Kumar,  
Minister of Civil Aviation.  
Shri George Fernandes,  
Minister of Defence.  
Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi,  
Minister of Human Resource Development and  
Minister of Science and Technology.  
Shri Yashwant Sinha,  
Minister of Finance.  
Smt. Sushma Swaraj,  
Minister of Information and Broadcasting  
and Minister of Communications.

Functions

To take all decisions on behalf of the Government in connection with the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of India's Independence including sanction of expenditure, posts, allotment of office accommodation, creation of other infrastructural facilities and all other matters to ensure an efficient and successful organisation of the celebrations.

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