

News: 'One nation, one election' bill sent to Joint Parliamentary Committee

JPC in the Indian Parliament

JPC stands for **Joint Parliamentary Committee**. It is a special committee in the Indian Parliament formed to investigate specific issues or matters of public importance. A JPC includes members from both the **Lok Sabha (House of the People)** and the **Rajya Sabha (Council of States)**.

Key Features of JPC

1. Purpose:

- To investigate serious matters such as financial scams, corruption cases, or major policy issues.
- It examines the issue in detail and provides a report with recommendations.

2. Formation:

- A JPC is formed through a motion passed in **one house of Parliament** and agreed upon by the other house.
- The composition and terms of reference (objectives) of the JPC are defined during its formation.

3. Composition:

- The JPC usually includes members from **all major political parties** to ensure balanced representation.

4. Powers:

- It can summon people, including ministers, government officials, and experts, to provide information or give evidence.
- It can examine documents and seek explanations.

5. Recommendations:

- The JPC submits a report to Parliament with its findings and suggestions.
 - However, its recommendations are not binding on the government.
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Notable JPCs in India

1. Bofors Scandal (1987):

- Investigated allegations of corruption in the purchase of Bofors guns.

2. Harshad Mehta Scam (1992):

- Examined irregularities in the stock market and banking transactions.
 - 3. **2G Spectrum Scam (2011):**
 - Investigated alleged irregularities in the allocation of 2G spectrum licenses.
 - 4. **Adani-Hindenburg Controversy (Proposed 2023):**
 - Opposition demanded a JPC to probe allegations against the Adani Group.
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Significance of JPC

- Ensures **parliamentary accountability** and transparency.
- Provides a platform to investigate complex matters requiring in-depth study.
- Helps address public concerns over sensitive issues.