

2/8/22

12

① The bedrock of a functioning democracy is a flourishing legislature & effective parliamentary session?

Introduction -

The parliament of a country is central to the democracy as it has effective role in framing bills, holding sessions, deliberate discussion for its country.

Recent Trend -

① In recent times, parliament have diminished in terms of stature & efficiency.

② Though country celebrating its 75th year of independence it still didn't evolved or matured in conducting of parliamentary session.

③ The representatives of political people using the parliamentary forum for their gain rather for legislative functioning.

④ The deliberate discussion, ~~being~~ scrutinizing bills, participation of expert opinion & parliamentary committees in parliamentary process declined.

More concerned over the issues:-

(i) participation of opposition parties -

In 2021 & 2022 parliamentary sessions have witnessed increasing number in suspension of MP's, ~~is~~ [~~in the~~ More than 3 times of suspension of MP's viz. UPA govt]]

(ii) Marginalisation of parliamentary committees -

The recent report by PPS legislative research, published the % of bills referred to [DRSC] where -

77%	in	15 th	LS
27%	in	16 th	LS
11%	in	17 th	LS

↓

(iii) Absence of deputy speaker - frequent absence of deputy speaker degrades the parliamentary's efficient functioning.

(iv) Weakened legislative scrutiny - (29) In 2021, out of 13 bills 8 bills were passed

within a week & no 13 bills were sent to (DRSC), (as) any parliamentary committees

(*) Discussion for Union Budget -

In 2021 Union budget, 76% of total budget passed without any discussion.

Way Forward -

(1) Shadow cabinet - The shadow cabinet can be set up in Indian parliament for effective role of opposition in parliament process like (British parliament)

(2) scrutinizing bills - All (or) $\frac{2}{3}$ rd of total bills should be mandated to send to submit before parliamentary Committee (eg) this process followed in -
① Sweden
② Finland
③ Australia

(3) Legislative impact assessment - Legislation committee of parliament should be constituted to provide a overall ^{view of} conduct of parl. business.

(4) Transparency in legis process - Ensuring bills & budget are examined by (DRSC) & public opinion is taken.

Conclusion - parliamentarian must realise flourishing legislation is the bedrock of democracy. The try (parli) needs to actively engage in holding session, scrutinize bills to uphold our democracy.