

Panel on Constitutional Affairs

**Research studies undertaken by the
Research and Library Services Division
relating to the portfolio of the Panel**

Research Paper/ Information Note	Subject	Issues covered
RP03-09/99-00	Systems of Government in Some Foreign Countries : Singapore, New Zealand, Germany, The United Kingdom, Japan, France and The United States	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- election/appointment of the Executive;- election/appointment of the Legislature;- relationship between the Executive and the Legislature; and- other features of political participation, e.g. referendum, constitutional assembly and political parties, etc.
RP010/99-00	Systems of Government in Some Foreign Countries : The Overall Comparison Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- composition and characteristics of the Legislature;- dissolution of Parliament;- role of Parliament in appointment of the Executive;- ministerial responsibility to Parliament;- initiation of legislation;- regulation of political party;- recent electoral reform; and- amendments of constitution.
IN05/99-00	Supplementary Information : Systems of Government in Some Foreign Countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- general election following dissolution of Parliament;- number of UK ministers resigned or dismissed between 1980 and 2000 as a result of taking individual responsibility; and- monitoring of the administration by Parliament.
RP05/01-02	Process of Appointment of Senior Members of Government in Selected Countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- qualification of senior members of government;- routes to senior members of government;- appointment process;- pay and benefits;

Research Paper/ Information Note	Subject	Issues covered
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - terms of appointment; - conflict of interest; and - removal of senior members of government.
RP02/99-00	Declaration of Interests by Senior Civil Servants in Some Overseas Countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - practices governing declaration of interests made by senior civil servants, including the declaration procedure and the control mechanisms.
RP02/01-02	Restrictions on Activities of Former Heads of Government and Former Senior Members of Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general principles underlying post-office arrangements; - arrangements applicable to former heads of government and former senior members of government; and - enforcement mechanisms.
IN09/01-02	Supplementary Information : Restrictions on Activities of Former Heads of Government and Former Senior Members of Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - terms of office and condition of service of members of authorities relating to post-office restrictions; - restrictions for former senior members of government on accepting appointments of public office; - post-office restrictions and benefits for former heads of government; - post-office restrictions and benefits for former ministers/political appointees/elected officials; and - post-office restrictions and benefits for former senior civil servants.
IN21/01-02	Supplementary Information : Post-Office Restrictions on Activities of Government Officials in the People's Republic of China	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - information regarding restrictions on activities of former members of government in the People's Republic of China equivalent in rank to the Chief Executive.
IN35/01-02	Selected Issues Relating to Declaration of Interests and Avoidance of Conflicts of Interests by Senior Members of Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - declaration of interests; - procedures to avoid conflicts of interests; - operation of blind trusts; and - operation of British Virgin Island Companies.

Research Paper/ Information Note	Subject	Issues covered
IN03/02-03	Supplementary Information on Selected Issues Relating to Declaration of Interests and Avoidance of Conflicts of Interests by Senior Members of Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - declaration of interests of presidential appointees in the US and ministers in the UK; - penalties for violation of the declaration requirement in the US; - difference in the system of declaration of interests for ministers and Members of Parliament in the UK; and - family trusts.
IN06/02-03	Supplementary Information on Selected Issues Relating to Declaration of Interests and Avoidance of Conflicts of Interests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - restrictions for cabinet secretaries reverting to their professions after stepping down from office; - appointment of cabinet secretaries from the private sector by way of no-pay leave arrangements; - arrangements made by the former US President Jimmy Carter in managing his family business during his presidency; - the Presidents Records Act; and - comparison of the requirements applicable to members of the US Congress and senior members of the government in respect of declaration of interests.
IN31/01-02	Legislative Council Elections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - constitutional framework; - electoral arrangements; - elector/voter; - qualification for candidacy; - nomination and election deposit; and - election expenses and donations.
IN09/02-03	Public Subsidies for Parliamentary Election Expenses in Canada, Germany and Australia	<p>Basic information on public subsidies for parliamentary election expenses, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - eligibility; - entitlement; - election expenses limits;

Research Paper/ Information Note	Subject	Issues covered
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - payment arrangement; - disclosure of election expenses; - tax credit and aid in-kind; and - election deposit.
IN17/02-03	Supplementary Information on Public Subsidies for Parliamentary Election Expenses in Canada, Germany and Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - limits on election expenses; - setting of limits on election expenses; - adjustment of limits on election expenses; - limits on donations; and - allocation of broadcasting time to candidates and political parties.
IN28/02-03	Donation Declaration Systems for Political Parties in the United Kingdom, New Zealand and Canada	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - acceptance of donations; - definition of party donation; - donation reporting requirements; and - other declaration requirements.
RP10/00-01	Parliamentary Handling of Non-Ordinary Bills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - legislative procedures for motion of censure in France; - legislative procedure for other non-ordinary bills in France; and - experience of the UK: legislative procedures for motion of censure.
IN26/01-02	Some Basic Information on Constitutional Conventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - nature of constitutional conventions; - difference between law and constitutional conventions; - functions of constitutional conventions; - sources of constitutional conventions; - establishment of constitutional conventions; and - codification of constitutional conventions.

Research Paper/ Information Note	Subject	Issues covered
RP01/02-03	The Relationship between the Government and the Opposition or Minority Parties in Selected Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - recognition of opposition parties; - parliamentary rules relating to opposition parties; and - shadow cabinet system.
RP06/02-03	Chairmanship of Parliamentary Committees in Some Selected Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - types and functions of committees; - membership of committees; - role of chairmen of committees; - method of selecting committee chairman; - allocation of committee chairmanships; - chairmanship of committees concerning rules of procedures; and - restrictions on chairmanship of committees.
IN02/03-04	Operation of Committees on Bills in the United Kingdom Parliament	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - operation of Standing Committees on bills; - operation of Second Reading Committees; and - operation of Select Committees.