

Department filter up to Parliament, through government white papers or similar documentation, at the discretion of the government, and in the form of annual reports submitted to Parliament. But otherwise, except in the Standing Committees, the Department remains invisibly or obscurely in the background, with no direct connection with Parliament. The corollary of this is that, apart from fiscal matters, Parliament interferes not at all in the Department of External Affairs, and, while taking an interest in appointments, it delegates even this task to the government of the day under powers of Order-in-Council rather than by parliamentary statutes.

The foregoing reference to the relation of Parliament to the Department of External Affairs is made here only to emphasize the negligible role it played in matters bearing on the Department itself.