

Describe checks and balance in the US political system.

Answer - Introduction

"US-constitution is the world's first written constitution."

(- Tocqueville)

US-constitution is the world's first written constitution. In fact, in the US-constitution, checks and balance is its main features. Hence, checks and balance in the US-constitution is a major attributes of it.

2. What is phenomenon of checks and balance in the US constitution?

"Supremacy of the US constitution lies in its checks and balance."

(- Fukuyama)

US constitution is a supreme authority. Further, checks and balance is its feature. In fact, checks and balance means the checks of three branches of the government. Moreover, checks of legislature on executive and judiciary and executive over legislature and judiciary. Similarly, checks of judiciary over legislature and executive makes system effective and responsible.

"The three branches of government in the US - political system are inter-related."
(- US constitution)

3- legislative powers of the US political system.

Following are legislative powers:

a) Checks over executive body
legislative body has

Some checks over executive.
 Among which is, legislature
 can override the veto of
 President.

"legislature has power
 to override the
 presidential veto
 by passing a law
 by two third
 majority of senate."

(- US constitution, article I)

Moreover, legislature has
 also power to impeach
 president's authority and can
 remove him through
 impeachment. Not only this,
 but legislature can also
 interpret in executive
 authority of foreign affairs
 and in special appointment.

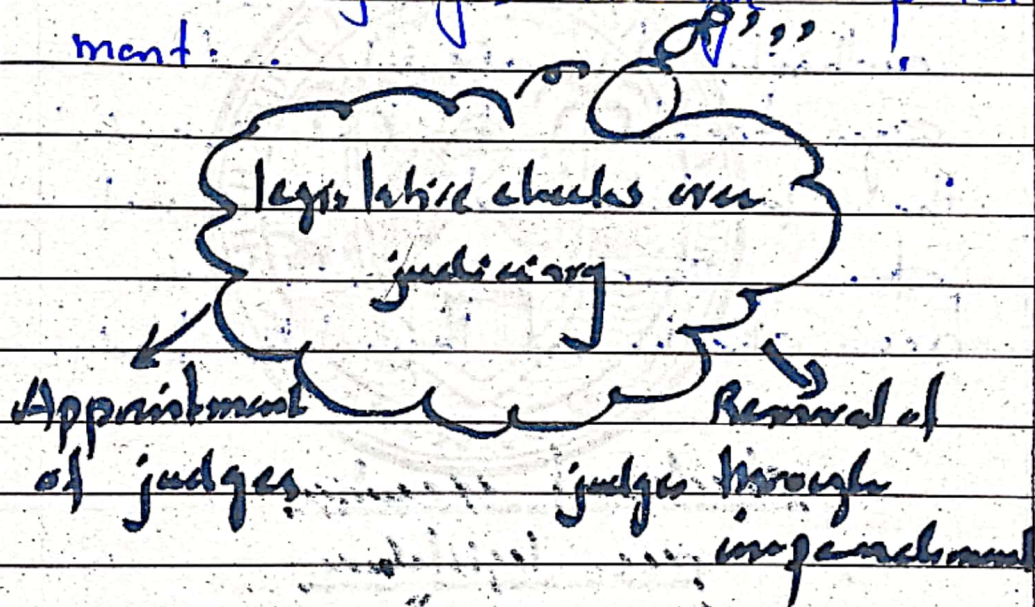
overrode presidential
 veto

legislature checks
 over executive

can remove president
 through impeachment

intercept in
 executive
 authority

b) Checks over judiciary authority
 legislature body has also
 checks on judicial authority.
 Chief among is in appointment
 of the Supreme court judges. In
 fact, appointment of the SC judges
 by president is approved by
 Senate of congress. Moreover,
 the legislature has power to
 remove judges through impeach-
 ment.



4- Executive powers of the US
 political system
 Executive powers are
 discussed as below:

a) Checks over legislative body
 Similarly, executive body

has checks over legislature.

Main among is 'presidential veto', president can veto the law passed by legislature.

"the US president is powerful in the world."

(- Barack Obama)

Secondly, the executive has authority to appoint and sign treaties. Without president, the legislature alone can not do. Therefore, executive also has checks on legislative body.

checks of executive over legislature

override the law

Appointment and foreign policy

b) Checks over judicial body

Moreover, executive body also has checks over judiciary.

Executive body has authority to appoint judges for the life time. Thus, executive is appointing the SC judges.

"The article II of the US constitution describes the executive powers."

(- US- constitution)

5- Judicial power of the US political system

Judicial powers of the US political system are discussed as below:

9) Checks over legislative body
Judiciary like legislative and executive authority also has checks on both. In fact, judiciary maintains the supremacy of law.

"The constitution in the US is supreme, not anyone else."

(- Stefan, 2008)

Judiciary interpret laws, constitution. Moreover, the law passed by both bodies can be declared unconstitutional in case of violation.

"The US - Supreme Court has power to declare the law passed by legislature as a null and void."

(- The SC powers; US-constitution, article III)

Hence, the judiciary has checks over legislature.

b) Checks over executive body

Further, judiciary also has some checks on executive powers. In fact, law passed by congress and signed by president has no power in case if it violates constitutional value. Resultantly, checks of judiciary works and

override the law signed by president in order to protect the constitution.

"Judiciary is a guardian of the constitution."

(- Allan M. Lybal)

Therefore, judiciary also has checks on executive body.

6- Conclusion

"The US - constitution is the world's brief constitution with only seven articles and twenty-seven amendments."
(- Barack Obama)

The US - constitution is the world's first written as well as brief constitution. In fact, the US constitution has a power of checks and balance that maintain balance among three branches of the government. Thus, three branches are inter-locked.