

Discuss the Features of Turkish Model of Democracy keeping distinguished position of the Armed forces in The Turkish Politics.

1: Introduction:

Turkish model of democracy has distinguished position of armed forces since the foundation of Turkish Republic by Mustafa Kamal Atatürk.

Turkish model of democracy is presidential form of government with unicameral legislature. Armed forces were influential in every tier of government but in contemporary Turkey the guardianship of military has been officially denounced in Turkish Constitution and the rule of military is curbed.

2:- Historical Perspective of Turkish Model with distinguished Armed Forces:

Republic of Turkey was established after world war I by Mustafa Kamal Atatürk. He was a military personnel so military always had distinguished positions in democratic model of Turkey. All the tiers of government were headed by military personnel. Armed forces TSK considered themselves the only saviour and guarantor of the state.

3: Features of Turkish Model of Democracy:

Some of the major Turkish model features are given below:

3.1: Presidential System of Government:

Turkish model of democracy is a presidential system of government in which head of the state is President. In Turkish model there is no seat of Prime-minister.

3.2: Uni-cameral Legislature:

Turkish democratic model has uni-cameral legislature having only one house which is named as Grand National Assembly - GNA. Upper house does not exist. 500 members collective form GNA.

3.3 Executive Powers of the Head of State:

President being

head of the state has many distinguishing powers such as he can summon the legislature session, appoint ambassadors, diplomats, judges, can pardon prisoners and also can declare war with advice of grand national assembly.

3.4 Judiciary of Turkish Model:

Judiciary is free and strong. Constitutional courts have been abolished new is contemporary model. Appointment of judges are done by the consultation of president with GNA.

3.5: Executive and Legislature:

Five hundred plus representative of civilians are directly elected by people. From

which President chooses Executive.

4: Distinguished Position of The Armed Forces in Turkish Politics:

Armed forces has its distinguished position in Turkish model since its inception after world war I. Some prominent positions of Armed forces are discussed here;

4.1: Establishment of Constitutional Courts:

Constitutional courts were established by Military to hear the cases of constitution and human Rights.

But in contemporary Turkey they are abolished in 2004.

4.2: Major Institutions Headed by Retired Army Personnels:

Major institutions of the state were headed by retired military personnels to keep check and balance because they were considered the guardian of the state.

But now no army personnel can head any institution in Turkey. It was abolished in 2007.

4.3: Guardianship of the State:

Military was considered by civilians their sole guardian. But Tayyab Erdogan in 2017 officially removed the word "Guardian" from the constitution.

"Military is no more any guardian of state."

4.4: Defence Budget-Audit by Civilians:

There were no systems of audit and check and balances of military in past.

But now civilians audit the defence budget. This change was made to get the membership of European union.

Add more arguments. Also discuss the post referendum scenario.

Conclusion:

After world war I Turkey was more like a dictator's territory because military was the guardian of the state and was involved with every institution but in recent Turkish model constitutional courts have been abolished, defence budget audit is done by civilians.

Day: _____

Date: _____

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a government institution. Hence,
the role of military in Turkish
model of democracy is
curbed.