

"The British P.M. is a shining moon among stars." In the light of this statement discuss carefully the position and powers of English Prime Minister.

Ans

Indeed, British P.M. is a shining moon among stars. He holds very important position in British government. His powers in some cases surpasses the president of U.S.A.

Many observers believes that the authorities given to British P.M. has made him an autocrat or dictator.

But this is not the case. Even though in theory he enjoys a lot of powers but in reality he is bound to chains as well.

Following are discussed some of the powers and authorities of British Prime Minister that really makes him a shining moon among the stars.

Formation of Cabinet:

The formation of



cabinet is under the control of British Prime Minister. He is bound to choose six to seven members from his party but overall he has free will. He can choose any one in his cabinet. There is also no restriction on the numbers of the cabinet members.

### Control over Parliament

British Prime Minister enjoys the control over British Parliament. All the major announcements are done by him. He can call the parliament whenever he wants. All the policies are signed by him. He is the representative of cabinet in the parliament.

But now-a-days Prime Minister is so busy in his office that some announcements in Parliament are made by some of the senior ministers of cabinet.



## Connection between King and the cabinet:

The British Prime Minister plays a connection between the King or Queen and the cabinet. He is the legal adviser of the King or Queen.

Even though all members of cabinet have the right to discuss important matters to the King alone. But it is considered as unwise to discuss the matter with Prime Minister.

## Control over Foreign Affairs

Even though this is not the domain of Prime Minister in theory. But in reality he plays a significant role in maintaining relations with other states. All the major treaties are signed by the King or Queen after discussing them with the prime minister.



## Control over Finance

Just as the Foreign affairs of Britain are indirectly influenced by the British Prime Minister the finance is also majorly influenced by the Prime Minister.

The budget of Britain is made by Prime Minister cabinet. Therefore, budget is indirectly under control of the Prime Minister.

## Patronage:

The Prime Minister enjoys a vast patronage in both the government and church. He has the power to appoint major members in office like diplomats, representatives and secretaries etc.

He also holds the task of distribution of honors and medals.



## Chairman of various bodies

Prime minister also holds the position of chairman of various bodies. He is *ex officio* chairman of defense, commonwealth conference and imperial conference.

## The position of British P.M.

Some may believe that British prime minister is a legal autocrat or dictator, but this is not the case. Unlike dictators, British prime minister has to allow the criticism. Even though he has the powers to dissolve the cabinet and rearrange the elections in theory. But in practice he is restrained by the expenses of election. He also has to discuss matters with his cabinet members.

Yes, British prime minister holds the top position but not the absolute powers in



reality.

## British Prime Minister comparison with Britain King or Queen

The quote stated below clearly describes the position of King or Queen in comparison to British Prime Minister in reality.

"The King or Queen of England reigns but does not rule."

Even though British Monarch holds great sovereignty and powers in theory but in reality they do not hold such sovereignty. British Prime Minister being the senior most adviser of King or Queen holds the real power. Just as he holds power over Foreign Affairs and Finance which are not his domain.

Similarly, quote that which clearly defines the powers:  
"King can do no wrong."



has very little authority therefore he can do no wrong.

## British Prime Minister vs British Parliament

The legislature of British Prime Minister is called as the Parliament. It is bicameral; one house is called House of Commons and the other house is called House of Lords. House of Commons enjoys more power than House of Lords. The cabinet which is important part of British crown is in it.

The Prime Minister of Britain enjoys the authority of formation of cabinet at its own will. He also has authority to dismiss the cabinet too. Therefore, in this way Prime Minister is much powerful than the cabinet.

## Prime Minister and Sovereignty

Even though in theory King enjoys sovereignty but in reality the powers



and position of British Prime Minister make him sovereign in Britain.

### Conclusion:

In order to conclude, we can say that British Prime Minister is a shining moon among the stars as he owns most of the powers in the British constitution.