

The adoption of parliamentary system in Pakistan is the result of political experiences of Pakistanis in the past. Elaborate Exordium

The adoption of parliamentary system in Pakistan is no doubt the result of political experience of Pakistan in the past. Pakistan has been facing issues in all domains and most importantly in political domain. It took almost 25 years to establish and finalize the constitution. In 79 year history of Pakistan, there were 30 years of direct military rule. The devaluation of power became a trend in Pakistan. So, parliamentary system was adopted to restrict and avoid events like happened in past.

1) Description of parliamentary system

Parliamentary system is a system of government when

executive and legislature are connected. In contrast, the separation of executive and legislature is presidential form of government.

The ideal example of parliamentary form of government is UK.

The head of state and head of government are two separate bodies in parliamentary system.

There is a fusion of power in parliamentary system.

2) Reasons behind parliamentary system

The selection of parliamentary system is a rational step to avoid past events. In 1962 constitution, presidential form of government was included. To weaken the long domination of one institution parliamentary system is adopted.

a) Military rule

The military dictators ruled Pakistan for 30 years. The continuous

shift of power in new born state caused social unrest. The system of government established by one government / party is always reversed by new political power. They devised new plans and leave a vacuum. The strict rules by military leaders became one of the reason behind adoption of parliamentary system.

3) Domination of power

It was very easy to overthrow and dominate power.

The speed of changing PM and presidents were unbelievable. The law was puppet in hands of powerful party. No security and uniformity in government lead the public to suffer.

4) Colonial legacy

The parliamentary system was adopted by colonial rulers. The Indian Act 1935 was adopted

as Pakistan interim. The constitution given by Ayub adopted presidential system and it was a blatant attempt for unchecked rule of president.

1) Demand for Democracy

The continuous shift of power make general public to suffer. Democracy prevailed in world so, Pakistanis also demanded for democracy which can be ensured by parliamentary form of government.

2) 1973 constitution

In constitution of 1973, parliamentary system was adopted which rejected its predecessor presidential system. This opened and ensured new beginning for Pakistan. This constitution give power to public to choose their leader which is accountable to legislature.

3) Barrier for dictatorship

The parliamentary system become

a barrier for democracy as it did not give unchecked power to president. There is collaboration and share of power between executive and legislature.

3) Features of parliamentary system

a) Fusion of power.

There will be no separation of power and so no misuse of power. The powers of legislature and executive were fused and so to linked these two organs of government. Therefore, legislature needs executive to exercise power and vice versa.

b) Vote of no confidence

A person is elected as MNA and legislature give him vote of confidence to make him the chief executive and head of government.

ment. However, the legislature can remove executive by 'vote of no confidence'. This blocked the way for unchecked power which can lead to dictatorship.

c) Loose constitution

The constitution is not rigid and can easily amend. In presidential form of government constitutional amendment are difficult to happen. In parliamentary form, constitution can easily amend because power is shared so no one can snatch the whole power and dominate. Also, it is easy give vote of no confidence to dismiss executive from office.

d) Collectiveness of executive and legislature

In all decision making executive and legislature are dependent on each other. They can not make decisions independently. Their unity and collectiveness is effective

in policy making.

e) Accountability of executive

Executive is part of legislature and become executive by vote of legislature. Therefore, the relation of executive and legislature is deepened by authority of accountability. Executive is accountable to legislature. Legislature can question and investigate any act of executive.

4) Check and parliament

In parliamentary system, parliament holds sovereignty. In contrast, presidential system where parliament have no sovereignty. This sovereignty of parliament is not however unchecked. Parliament is responsible for 'law making' but have some restriction.

- 1- Any bill which violates fundamental rights cannot be passed by the legislature.

- 2- Legislature can not pass any bill against Islamic law. It is checked by 'Shura'.

Conclusion

Parliament do not holds unchecked power but undoubtedly it saved unchecked rule of President. However, Pakistan adopted it for a reason. The past experiences of continuous tussel of power in politics which caused unrest. The history made Pakistan to choose parliamentary system of government. Hence, legislature and executive share power and responsibilities and accountable to each other.