

"SECTION-II"

(Question-1)

Discuss the nature and extend of powers of US President and the Prime Minister of UK. What makes the US president more powerful? Discuss.

(ANSWER)

The United States President and the United Kingdom Prime Minister are the leaders of their respective governments, but the nature and extent of their powers differ significantly due to the constitutional and political structures of their countries.

US President:-

The US President operates within a presidential system with a written constitution, which explicitly outlines the scope of his powers.

(a) Executive Powers:-

The US president has the executive powers of Head of Government along with the ceremonial role of Head of State. He is

the commander-in-chief of the military and can order military actions, though formal declarations of war require Congressional approval. The US President also has the authority to appoint federal judges, ambassadors, and cabinet members subject to the senate confirmation. Moreover, he can issue executive orders to direct government operations, bypassing Congress in certain circumstances.

(b) Legislative Powers:-

The President can veto legislation passed by Congress, though Congress can override the veto with a two-thirds majority. Moreover, he has the authority of agenda setting through the State of the Union Address, the President can outline policy priorities. He can also call congress into special sessions if

there is any kind of emergency

(c) Judicial Powers:-

The US President has the power to grant pardons for federal offenses. He also influences the judiciary by appointing Supreme Court justices and other federal judges, with the confirmation from Senate.

(d) Foreign Policy Powers:-

The US president is the chief diplomat, he negotiates treaties although it is necessary to seek ratification from Senate. He represents the US internationally. He signs executive agreements which are widely used for international relations and does not require Senate approval.

UK Prime Minister:-

The UK Prime Minister operates within a parliamentary system, where powers are rooted in convention rather than a single written constitution.

(a) Executive Powers:-

The Prime Minister of UK leads the government but is not the ceremonial Head of State. The Prime Minister selects and directs the cabinet, which collectively makes decisions on policy. He has the authority to advise monarch on key appointments, such as government ministers and bishops in the Church of England. He exercises powers on behalf of the monarch, such as signing treaties and declaring war subject to parliamentary approval.

(b) Legislative Powers:

As the Prime Minister is the leader of the majority party, so he controls the legislative agenda. He engages directly with Parliament weekly, answering questions and defending government policies. He also has the authority to advise monarch to dissolve the assembly which lead to new general elections.

(c) Judicial Powers:

The UK's Prime Minister do not have much influence over the judiciary due to the UK's principle of judicial independence.

(d) Foreign Policy Powers:-

The UK Prime Minister represents UK at international summits and in negotiations. He has the authority to exercise

military power through the Cabinet and with parliamentary oversight.

US President More Powerful:-

The US President is often considered more powerful than UK Prime Minister due to the following factors:

(a) Consolidation of Powers:

The US President is not only the head of the government but also the head of the state, which grants him symbolic authority and executive power simultaneously. In contrast, the UK Prime Minister is only the head of the Government, sharing authority with monarch.

(b) Separation of Powers:

The US system's separation of powers ensures the president is not directly dependent on the

legislature for survival while the UK Prime Minister, however, must retain the confidence of Parliament and can be removed by a vote of no confidence.

(c) Fixed Tenure:

The US President has a fixed four-year term, providing stability and independence. The UK Prime Minister's tenure depends on maintaining the support of their party and Parliament, making them more vulnerable to political shifts.

(d) Veto Powers:

US President has the authority to veto any legislation passed by the Congress with simple majority. On the other hand, UK Prime Minister has no such power, as the approval is required from Parliament.

(e) Military Powers:-

US President is the commander in-chief and has direct control over military while UK Prime Minister exercises this control through cabinet and parliamentary consent.

(f) Direct Public Mandate:-

The US President is elected through a nationwide electoral process, granting them a direct mandate from the people. The UK Prime Minister is selected as the leader of the majority party, indirectly deriving authority from the electorate.

“ ————— ”

“ ————— ”