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Political Science Paper-II

MOCK Exam 6

Part - II

Section A

Q NO 2

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

Outline.

I. Introduction

II. Nature and Extent of Powers

A. US President

1. Executive Role
2. Commander in Chief
3. Legislative Influence
4. Judicial Appointment

5. Checks and Balances

B. UK Prime Minister

1. Executive Role
2. Parliamentary Majority
3. Cabinet Leadership
4. Foreign Policy and Defense
5. Check and balances

III. What makes the US president more powerful?

1. Unified Role
2. Fixed term
3. Global Influence
4. Judicial Appointments
5. Bicameral Legislature

IV. Constraint on US President

V. Constraint on UK Prime Minister

VI. Conclusion:

I. Introduction:

The roles of US President and UK Prime Minister are rooted in distinct political systems: presidential and parliamentary democracy, respectively. Both leaders have their governments with different nature and extent of power.

II. Nature and Extent of Powers:

A. US President:

1. Executive Role:

The US president served as both head of state and head of government.

consolidating ceremonial and administrative authority in one office.

2. **Commander-in-chief:** The president leads the armed forces and has significant influence over national defense.

3. **Legislative Influence:** While president cannot directly shape introduce legislation but they can shape policy by using veto power and executive orders.

4. **Judicial Appointment:** The president appoints federal judges including supreme court justices, shaping the judiciary ideological balance.

5. **Checks and Balances:** Presidential power is limited by congress (e.g. budget control, impeachment authority).

B. UK Prime Minister.

1. **Executive Role:** The Prime Minister is the head of government but not the head of state (a role held by the monarch). They lead executive branch implement policies.

2. **Parliamentary majority:** A prime Minister's power depends significantly on their parties majority in the house of common. Strong majority allows for substantial legislative control.

3. **Cabinet leadership:** A prime Minister appoint and dismisses ministers.

and oversee cabinet decision and guide national policy.

4. **Foreign Policy and defense:** PM plays central role in the foreign policy and defense. PM

5. **Check and balances:** The PM authority is constraint by parliament, judiciary and public opinion.

III. **What makes the US president more powerful?**

1. **Unified Role:** The US president combines the role of head of state and head of government, centralising authorities in ways the UK PM cannot.

2. **Fixed terms:** The president serves fixed 4-year term independent of legislative confidence. In contrast, a PM can be removed by a Parliamentary vote of no confidence and internal party.

3. **Global Influence:** As a leader of a super power, the US President command unparalleled global attention and influence with broader authority over ~~the~~ military and foreign policy.

4. **Judicial Appointment:** The president ability to shape Judiciary gives them long term influence on the interpretation of laws and constitution.

5. Bicameral Legislatures: In the US congress cannot easily oust the president without impeachment proceeding. Unlike the UK system where parliament directly remove PM.

IV. Constraint on US President

Some constraints on US president

are

- Congressional oversight limits executive action specially in budget and legislative matters.
- Supreme court decisions can nullify presidential policy.

V. Constraint on the UK PM

Some constraints on the UK PM

are as follow, the PM depend only on parliamentary confidence and party support can make their position vulnerable less party leadership or a rebellion within ruling party can lead to their removal often with little warning.

VI. Conclusion:

While the US President may seem more powerful due to their consolidated authority and global role both positions are profoundly shaped by their constitutional and institutional context. The

Presidents' five term and independencies
from legislative contrast sharply with the
UK PM reliance on the parliamentary
majority and party cohesion. Each side
reflects the different priorities and
traditions of the system they
represent.