

Section - A

Question no 2

Introduction

The president of the United States is often regarded as the most powerful executive in the world due to vast domestic authority, global influence, and command over state machinery. However, this power is not absolute. The US Constitution deliberately places multiple, legal, institutional and political restraints on presidential autonomy to prevent authoritarianism and ensure democratic governance.

US President most powerful elected executive in the world

The strengths of US presidency flows from constitutional design, political practice and global circumstances

1- Chief executive

The US president is the head of the federal administration, controlling a vast bureaucracy.

2- Commander in Chief

The US president also is the commander in chief, he has supreme authority over the armed forces

3- Chief diplomat

The president also conducts foreign policy, negotiates treaties, and represent the US globally

4- Legislative influence

The US president also proposes legislations, can summon the parliament, veto bills, and can shape the congressional agenda.

5 Economic powers

He influences fiscal policy trade and global financial institutions.

Constitutional Constraints on US President

1- Legislative Constraints

1. Power of the Purse / Budgetary Control

While president proposes a budget, only congress can appropriate funds. Without congress approval President cannot control the federal spending.

2. Veto overrides

Congress can ~~also~~ override a presidential veto with the two thirds majority in both chambers.

3. Advice and Consent

The Senate must confirm high level appointments such as appointment of cabinet members, Supreme Court Justices and ratify treaties.

4. Impeachment of president

The House of representatives has power to impeach (charge) a president for bribery, treason, or other high crimes and misdemeanors, while the Senate holds the trial to decide on removal from office.

2- Judicial Constraints

Judiciary reinforces the constitutional boundaries.

1. Judicial review

The Supreme Court can declare executive orders or presidential actions unconstitutional. For example, the Court has historically struck down attempts by presidents to seize private industry or overstep immigration authority.

2. Legal accountability

Supreme Court can also affirm that the President does not perform any arbitrary actions, and it is not above the law.

3- Federalism and Decentralization of powers

Federalism further divides executive authority. The states with in federalism retain autonomous powers. Moreover, the policy implementation often depends on the state cooperation. Additionally, governors and state courts act as a counterweight on the President of the US.

Conclusion:

The president of the US has several executive functions and authorities which make him a powerful figure in the political structure of the United States. However, his executive authorities also have checks and balances that ensure that the US president does not perform any arbitrary rules.

Question no 7

Introduction

The recent amendments in 1973 constitution have concentrated the power into the executive authorities in Pakistan. The 26th Amendment was a major shift to consolidate the powers of executive by curbing the judicial activism. The 27th Amendment was followed by the 26th Amendment that further added clauses like immunity of president and established a Federal constitutional court that would be only used to resolve constitutional and political issues.

Overview of 26th Amendment

① Appointment of Chief Justice of Pakistan

The chief justice of Pakistan was previously appointed automatically by the most senior judge appointed. The process has been amended by a parliamentary and executive committee will sit to appoint the chief justice of Pakistan.

② Special parliamentary benches

These benches will sit in Supreme and High Court to review constitutional and political issues and will separate these issues from family and criminal issues.

③ Tenure of Chief Justice of Pak

Tenure of chief justice of Pakistan has been reduced to three years or till retirement age of 65 years.

④ Removal of *sou motu*

The *sou motu* powers of judiciary (acting on its own initiative) has been curtailed by 26th Amendment.

⑤ Environmental factor

26th Amendment has added Article 9A that ensures environmental rights as the fundamental rights of an individual.

Overview of 27th Amendment

① Introduction of Federal constitutional Court

27th Amendment has introduced the Federal constitutional court which would be separate from Supreme court to resolve constitutional matters.

② Immunity of five star officials

The Amendment has also introduced the life time immunity of the president and five star official such as Field Marshal.

③ Chief of defence forces

The 27th Amendment has introduced constitutional post of Chief of defence forces that will be held along with Chief of Army forces.

④ Transfer of Judges.

The 27th Amendment

the executive branch to do transfers of supreme and high court judges with across provinces without their consent.

Impact on parliament - any powers

1- Strong executive authorities

The 26th and 27th ^{amendment} authorities can hinder the parliamentary supremacy by forming a power imbalance. The parliament is often named as balancing democracy but strong executive powers and hybrid rule can weaken parliamentary supremacy in Pakistan.

2- Parliamentary supremacy in policy formulation

By curbing the so-called powers of the judiciary, parliament remains the supreme body for law making and policy.

3- Accountability of judges by parliament

The amendments allow the judicial commission (which is now parliamentary) to evaluate the performance of supreme High court judges.

of a judge is deemed inefficient, they can be recommended for removal. This introduces a layer of parliament - any that did not exist before.

4- Parliamentary control in Judge Selection

The judicial commission of Pakistan (CJP) which nominates all High Court and supreme court judges, was previously dominated by judges. The amendment added more members from parliament and government. This has strengthened the parliamentary powers in state.

Impact on Democratic Consolidation

4- shift in separation of power

A healthy democracy relies on a balance between the legislature, executive and judiciary. By giving parliament the power to select the chief justice and increasing political presence in the judicial commissions, the check that the courts once held over government has been weakened. This centralizes the power in the hands of the ruling coalition.

2- Reinforcement of the Hybrid Model

The 27th Amendment formalizes the role of the military in governance by making Chief of defense forces a constitutional post and granting high level communities for democratic consolidation to occur civilian authority must be supreme.

3- Protection of executives from accountability

The Amendments grants the President and other high offices lifetime immunity from criminal and civil proceedings. In a consolidated democracy "no one is above law." These protections may hinder the democratic principle of accountability as leaders can no longer be legally challenged.

4- Reduction of Judicial neutrality

Democratic consolidation requires an impartial referee to settle political disputes. With the creation of constitutional benches and Federal Constitutional Court (FCC) whose judges are heavily influenced by political appointments there is a risk that judiciary will be seen as pro-government rather than a neutral

5. Potential for majoritarianism

Supporters argue these amendments reflect the will of the people expressed through parliament. However, if a simple parliamentary majority can reshape the entire judicial hierarchy in a matter of days, it can lead to Majoritarianism.

Conclusion

In conclusion the 26th and 27th Amendment in Pakistan have made to supersede the judicial activism by making parliamentary say more superior. The 26th and 27th Amendment has been made to consolidate the parliament but it can also erode the democratic fabric of state by causing imbalance in the state institutions.

Question no 6

Introduction

The BRICS bloc - originally comprising Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa and recently expanded into BRICS+ - has emerged as a key platform for the global south to challenge western led economic and

financial order. By creating parallel institutions and alternative financial mechanisms, BRICS aims to reduce dependence on United States Order and the conditionalities of the IMF, giving developing nations greater economic and political autonomy.

BRICS + as a Challenge to United Nations and IMF

1. New Development Bank (NDB)

The New Development Bank established in 2014 serves as an alternative to the World Bank, key features include:

- ① Funding infrastructure and sustainable development projects in developing countries
- ② Reducing dependency on IMF and World Bank loans with strict conditionalities
- ③ Promoting south to south cooperation through locally governed financial mechanisms

2. Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA)

The CRA is a BRICS financial safety net designed to provide liquidity support to member countries during economic crises:

- ① Acts as an alternative to IMF emergency funding
- ② Reduces reliance on western controlled financial institutions
- ③ Strengthens economic resilience with the global south

3- Advocacy for UN reforms

BRICS actively supports reforms in the United Nations particularly

- ① expanding representation in the security council
- ② promoting equitable decision-making in peacekeeping and development policies.
- ③ strengthening the voice of developing nations in multilateral diplomacy.

4- Trade and investment cooperation

BRICS promotes intra south trade and investment, which reduces dependency on western economies.

- ① creation of BRICS Trade Agreements

and investment frameworks

② Encouraging local currency trade to reduce dollar dependence ex Yuan

③ supporting technological and industrial collaboration among member states

5. Geopolitical Collaboration

BRICS also act as a geopolitical counterbalance to western dominance

① Coordinated positions on global issues like climate change, sanctions and economic crises.

② collective government with G20 to push for equitable global governance from

③ promotes multipolarity in the world order, challenging unilateral western influence.

Impact of United Nations and IMF

The cumulative effect of these initiatives is gradual but significant.

- ① Reduced western leverage in the economic governance
- ② Emergence of alternative institutions that prioritise south-south cooperation.
- ③ Pressure on UN and IMF to reform and address representation and policy fairness.

Conclusion

BRICS and similar global south organisations represent a strategic challenge to the traditional global financial and political order dominated by the UN and IMF. Through initiatives like New Development Bank, Contingent Reserve Arrangement trade frameworks and advocacy for UN reforms.