

# **FACULTY OF JURIDICAL SCIENCES**

**COURSE: B.A.LL.B. 1II Semester**

**SUBJECT: Political science-III**

**SUBJECT CODE: BAL-301**

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# Lecture-2



## **Form of Government**

### **USA**

1. America has adopted a Presidential form of government, in which the people directly elect the executive President.
2. The President is powerful and not accountable to the House of Congress.
3. The term of the American President is 4 years (fixed term).
4. One can hold the office of the President for only two terms.
5. The President can appoint his own staff, which may be neither from the House of Representative or Senate, in assisting in the administration of the government. The staff is not accountable to the Houses of Congress.

This means that the President is independent in the administration of the government and rather directly responsible to the people of USA.

### **India**

1. India has adopted a Parliamentary form of government.
2. The President of India is the executive head of the Indian government. He is indirectly elected by the legislators of Centre and states, and is not accountable to the Parliament.
3. The President runs the government with the aid and advice of the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers.
4. Unlike USA, the Indian President holds the office for five years.
5. He can be elected any number of times.

The impeachment of the President by the legislature is the only similarity in both the Constitutions.

- **President**

The position of the American President combines both the Head of State and the Head of Government into one.

- **Qualification**

Only a natural born citizen of USA can become the President, and not a person who has acquired the citizenship. Also, he must have attained the age of 35 years and must have stayed in USA for at least 14 years. On the other hand, the Indian President should be a citizen of India, wherein citizenship might be either natural or acquired.

- **Election of the President**

Presidential election is indirect, through Electoral College.

## ***Electoral College***

1. Strength of Electoral College = Total members in House of Representatives + Senate + 3 members from Washington D.C. =  $435 + 100 + 3 = 538$
2. Winning Candidate requires an absolute majority (50% + 1) of the total members of the Electoral College, i.e. 270.

In the House of Representatives, members from different states are not fixed, while in Senate members from different states are equal and fixed.

## ***Election of Electors***

1. The voters vote for the members of the Electoral College
2. System of election is the List System
3. Each state has a responsibility to conduct these elections
4. The party that wins the majority of the votes represents the state in entirety
5. Electors meet in their respective capital and vote for the Presidential candidate

# MCQ

1. The President of U.S.A.  

<u>A.</u> Usually pilots all important bills in the Senate	<u>B.</u> Initiates bills in the House of Representatives
<u>C.</u> Sends messages to the Congress containing his legislative proposals	<u>D.</u> Is silent spectator in legislative drama
2. The cabinet in U.S.A. works on the principle of:  

<u>A.</u> Joint and collective responsibility	<u>B.</u> Sinking and Swimming together
<u>C.</u> Individual responsibility to the cabinet	

3. Cabinet secretaries in U.S.A.

A.Are equals of the President

C.Accountable to the Congress for all actions

B.Accept President as first among the equals

D.Are subordinates of the President and can be removed by him

4. The President of the U.S.A. is:

A.Real head of the state

C.Has only very limited powers

B.Nominal head of the state

5. In U.S.A. The President performs only:

A.Legislative functions

C.Judicial functions

B.Executive functions

D.All the functions combined together