

Powers of President

Administrative power

- The President is the formal head of the administration. All executive actions of the Union are expressed to be taken in the name of the President (Ref : Art. 77)
- The President shall have the power to appoint and remove high dignitaries including the chairman and member of the UPSC
 - The Prime Minister of India
 - Other Minister of the Union
 - The Attorney – General for India
 - The Comptroller and Auditor General of India
 - The Chief Justice and Judges of the High Courts of the states.
 - Indian Ambassadors and other diplomats

Military power :

- The Supreme command of the Defence Forces is vested in the President of India, but the Parliament can regulate or control the exercise of such powers {Ref. : Art. 53(2)}

Diplomatic power :

- The President is empowered to negotiate treaties and agreements with other countries on the advice of his Ministers, subject to ratification by Parliament.
- President of India represents India in International affairs, appoints Indian representatives to other countries and receives diplomatic representatives of other States.

Legislative power :

- President has the power to summon or prorogue the Houses of Parliament and to dissolve the Lok Sabha. {Ref. : Art. 85}
- He also has the power to summon a joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament in case of a deadlock between them {Ref. : Art. 108}
- The President addresses both Houses of Parliament assembled together, at the first session after each general election to the Lok Sabha and at the commencement of the first session of each year.
- In the Rajya Sabha 12 members are nominated by the President from persons having special knowledge or practical experience of literature, science, art and social service {Ref. : Art. 80(1)}
- A Bill becomes an Act of the Indian Parliament only after it receives the assent of the President.
- The veto power of the Indian President is a combination of the absolute, suspensive and pocket veto.

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Pardoning Power :

- Pardon rescinds (abrogates or revokes) both the sentence and the conviction and absolve the offender from all punishment and disqualifications.
- Commutation merely substitutes one form of punishment for another of a lighter character. Remission reduces the amount of sentence without changing its character.
- Respite means awarding a lesser sentence instead of the penalty prescribed in view of pregnancy of a woman offender etc.
- Reprieve means a stay of execution of a sentence, e.g. pending a proceeding for pardon or commutation.

Emergency power :

- The President has extraordinary powers to deal with a situation of emergency.

List of the Presidents of India

S.	Name	Tenure
1.	Dr. Rajendra prasad (1884 - 1963)	26 Jan, 1950 – 13 May, 1962
2.	Dr. S. Radhakrishnan (1888 - 1975)	13 May, 1962 – 13 May, 1967
3.	Dr. Zakir Hussain (1897 – 1969)	13 May, 1967 – 03 May, 1969
4.	Sri. V.V. Giri (1894 - 1980)	24 Aug, 1969 – 24 Aug, 1974
5.	Dr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed (1905 - 1977)	24 Aug, 1974 – 11 Feb, 1977
6.	Sri. N. Sanjeeva Reddy (1913 -1996)	25 July, 1977 – 25 July, 1982
7.	Giani Zail Singh (1916 - 1994)	25 July, 1982 – 25 July, 1987
8.	Sri R. Venkataraman (1910 - 2009)	25 July, 1987 – 25 July, 1992
9.	Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma (1918 - 1999)	25 July, 1992 – 25 July, 1997
10.	Sri K.R. Narayanan (1920 - 2005)	25 July, 1997 – 25 July, 2002
11.	Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam (1931 - 2015)	25 July, 2002 – 25 July, 2007
12.	Smt. Pratibha Devi Singh Patil (B. 1934)	25 July, 2007 – 25 July, 2012
13.	Sri Pranab Mukherjee (B. 1935)	25 July, 2012 – 25 July, 2017
14.	Sri Ram Nath Kovind (B. 1945)	25 July, 2017 -

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