POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF US PRESIDENT

US President is head of the state as well as head of the government. He is elected for the term of four years. The power and functions of US President can be divided into following headings:-

(1)Executive: The executive powers of the President can be divided into into the following:-

(a) Enforcement of the Laws: It is the responsibility of the President to enforce properly the laws passed by the congress. It has been provided in Article 2 section III that “ He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed”

(b) To maintain Peace and order

(c) Protection against external invasion and domestic violence.

(d) It is also the responsibility of the President to ensure Republican government in the states and for this purpose he can take any action.

(e) President makes all the higher appointments with the approval of the senate.

(f) By Article 2, section II President has been made the commander-in- chief of the arm forces and make military higher appointments. He makes rules regarding recruitment, training and conduct of the military.

(g) President is the architect and conductor of the foreign policy of the country, but he has to take the approval of the congress on foreign policy.

(h) President grants recognition to new states and new government and this decision depends on the personal discretion of the president.

2. Legislative Powers: President has both positive as well as negative legislative powers:

(a) President can send massages to the congress as per necessity and recommends legislation on necessary subjects.

(b) The Bills passed by the Congress need the signature of the President. President can reject the laws passed by the congress with his veto power. He has two types of veto pocket veto and suspensory veto power.

(c) Sometimes Congress passes the outlines of the bills and authorizes the President to fill up the gaps. It is known as delegated legislation.

(d) President has been give the power to convene special session of any or joint session of both houses of the congress. This power is usually exercise during national crises.

3. Financial power: By the budget and accounting act passed in 1921, the Bureau of the Budget is place under the control of the President. President gets the Budget prepare under his own supervision and present it before the congress.

4.Judicial Power: President appoints judges of the Supreme Court with the approval of the Senate. He can grant pardon, general amnesty and decrease punishment.