



**G.D Goenka Public School**

**Subject:S.ST**

**Topic:Forms of Government**

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## **Parliamentary System of Government**

India chose a parliamentary form of government primarily because the constitution-makers were greatly influenced by the system in England. Another reason the founding fathers saw was that the parliamentary model would only work to accommodate the varied and diverse groups within our population. Also, the strict separation of powers in the presidential system would cause conflicts between the two branches, the executive and the legislature, which our newly-independent country could ill-afford.

There are more parliamentary forms of government in the world than there are presidencies. In this system, the parliament is generally supreme and the

executive is responsible to the legislature. It is also known as the Cabinet form of government, and also 'Responsible Government'.

## Features of the parliamentary system

- **Close relationship between the legislature and the executive:** Here, the Prime Minister along with the Council of Ministers form the executive and the Parliament is the legislature. The PM and the ministers are elected from the members of parliament, implying that the executive emerges out of the legislature.
- **Executive responsible to the legislature:** The executive is responsible to the legislature. here is a collective responsibility, that is, each minister's responsibility is the responsibility of the whole Council.

- **Dual executive:** There are two executives – the real executive and the titular executive. The nominal executive is the head of state (president or monarch) while the real executive is the Prime Minister, who is the head of government.
- **Secrecy of procedure:** A prerequisite of this form of government is that cabinet proceedings are secret and not meant to be divulged to the public.
- **Leadership of the Prime Minister:** The leader of this form of government is the Prime Minister. Generally, the leader of the party that wins a majority in the lower house is appointed as the PM.
- **Bicameral Legislature:** Most parliamentary democracies follow bicameral legislature.
- **No fixed tenure:** The term of the government depends on its majority support in the lower house. If the government does not win a vote of no confidence, the council of ministers has

to resign. Elections will be held and a new government is formed.

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