**Powers of the President**

**Executive Powers:**

(i) He makes all important appointments such as those of Governors, the Chief Justice, and the Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts, the Prime Minister;

(ii) He administers the Union Territories and the Border Areas;

(iii) He assumes to himself all or any of the functions of the Government of the State when the State is put under President's Rule.

**Legislative Powers:**

(i) He addresses the first session of Parliament after the General Elections and the first session of each year;

(ii) He issues Ordinances when the Parliament is not in session;

(iii) He summons, prorogues or dissolves the Lok Sabha and orders fresh elections;

(iv) A Bill passed by the Parliament must receive his assent before it becomes an Act; and

(v) He nominates 12 members to the Rajya Sabha and 2 Anglo-Indian members to the Lok Sabha.

**Financial Powers:**

(i) No Money Bill can be introduced in Parliament without the prior assent of the President;

(ii) He causes the Annual Budget and the Annual Financial Statement to be laid before the Parliament;

(iii) He can authorise withdrawal of advances from the Contingency Fund of India to meet unforeseen expenditure; and

(iv) He appoints a Finance Commission after every five years.

**Judicial Powers:**

(i) He appoints Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts;

(ii) He can grant pardon, reprieve or remission of punishment or commute a death sentence.

**Discretionary Powers**: The President of India enjoys certain discretionary powers, where he uses his wisdom and judgment.

1. The power to decide who should be given the first opportunity to form the government, in case of a hung parliament;

(ii) Appointment of a Prime Minister in case of sudden death of the incumbent; and

(iii) Dissolution of Lok Sabha.

**Emergency Powers:** He can declare an Emergency if there is a threat to the security of India or any part or if there is a failure of constitutional machinery in a State or if there is a financial crisis.

**Diplomatic Powers:**

(i) He has the power of appointing Indian Ambassadors to other countries:

(ii) He receives ambassadors, High Commissioners and diplomatic envoys from foreign countries;

(iii) All treaties and international agreements are concluded in the name of the President; and

(iv) The President represents India in International Conferences.

**Military Powers:**

(i) The President is the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces of India;

(ii) He appoints the Chiefs of the three wings of the Armed Forces, subject to certain rules and regulations; and

(iii) He has the power to make Declaration of War and Peace on the advice of the Council of Ministers.

**Powers and Functions of the Vice-President**

i) He is the ex-officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.

(ii) He officiates as President in case of death, resignation or removal of the President till a new President is elected.

(iii) When the President is unable to discharge his functions owing to absence, illness or any other reason, the Vice-President discharges his functions. During such period, he is entitled to all the powers and immunities of the President.