**Powers and functions of prime minister under 1973 constitution**

The Prime Minister of Pakistan, under the 1973 Constitution, holds significant powers and responsibilities, serving as the head of government. Here are the key powers and functions outlined in the Constitution:

**1. Executive Powers**

* **Head of Government**: The Prime Minister is the chief executive of Pakistan, responsible for leading the government and exercising executive authority.
* **Formation of the Cabinet**: The Prime Minister selects members of the Cabinet, including ministers, ministers of state, and advisers, to run various ministries and divisions.
* **Policy Making and Implementation**: The Prime Minister is responsible for formulating and implementing national policies, with the Cabinet's help.
* **Administration of Government Departments**: All executive actions and administration of government departments fall under the Prime Minister’s authority.

**2. Legislative Powers**

* **Leader of the National Assembly**: The Prime Minister is the leader of the majority in the National Assembly, influencing legislation and policy direction.
* **Legislative Proposals**: The Prime Minister can introduce bills and legislative proposals, particularly related to finance and budget.
* **Advising the President on Summoning Sessions**: The Prime Minister advises the President on summoning or proroguing sessions of the National Assembly.
* **Ordinances**: When the National Assembly is not in session, the Prime Minister can advise the President to issue ordinances with the force of law, though these must be later ratified by Parliament.

**3. Powers in Relation to the President**

* **Advisory Role**: The Prime Minister advises the President on various matters, including the appointment of governors, ambassadors, judges, and other key officials.
* **Binding Advice**: Under Article 48, the advice of the Prime Minister is binding on the President in most matters.
* **Dissolution of the National Assembly**: The Prime Minister can advise the President to dissolve the National Assembly, which can lead to early elections.

**4. Foreign Affairs**

* **Foreign Policy**: The Prime Minister directs foreign policy, negotiates with foreign governments, and represents Pakistan internationally.
* **Treaties and Agreements**: The Prime Minister plays a key role in negotiating and signing treaties, agreements, and protocols with foreign countries.

**5. Defense and Military Powers**

* **Control of the Armed Forces**: While the President is the ceremonial Commander-in-Chief, the Prime Minister oversees the administration of the military and defense policy.
* **Appointment of Military Chiefs**: The Prime Minister advises the President on the appointment of the Chief of Army Staff, Chief of Naval Staff, and Chief of Air Staff.
* **National Security**: The Prime Minister oversees Pakistan’s national security policy, including matters related to internal and external security threats.

**6. Financial Powers**

* **Budget and Economic Policy**: The Prime Minister, along with the Finance Minister, is responsible for preparing and presenting the annual budget to the National Assembly.
* **Financial Proposals**: The Prime Minister can introduce financial bills and oversees economic policy.

**7. Judicial Appointments and Powers**

* **Judicial Appointments**: The Prime Minister advises the President on the appointment of judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts, as well as other key judicial positions.
* **Pardons and Reprieves**: While the President holds the power to grant pardons, reprieves, and remissions, the Prime Minister can recommend such actions.

**8. Miscellaneous Powers**

* **Emergency Powers**: In cases of emergency, the Prime Minister can advise the President on declaring an emergency, which allows the federal government to assume more power.
* **Leadership in Crisis**: During times of national crisis, the Prime Minister plays a critical role in decision-making, coordinating relief efforts, and addressing the public.

**Limitations and Checks**

Although the Prime Minister has significant powers, these are subject to limitations, including:

* **Judicial Review**: The judiciary can review and check the constitutionality of the Prime Minister’s actions.
* **No-Confidence Motion**: The Prime Minister can be removed by a majority vote of no confidence in the National Assembly.

In summary, the 1973 Constitution of Pakistan grants the Prime Minister a powerful role in government, with authority over the executive branch, significant influence over legislation, and substantial control over national policy, foreign affairs, and security matters. However, checks and balances are in place to maintain accountability and prevent misuse of power.