President of India:

- 1. President of India is not elected directly by people, but by an indirect election. Parliament members are involved in the voting for presidential elections. The voters are called electoral college. President of India has to be a citizen of India. President of India is the Head of State. He has the highest honor in the country.
- 2. President of India is treated as the first citizen. Lives in the designated presidential palace. Every winter President goes to Presidential palace in Hyderabad for two weeks. This helps closer ties with states in South of India.
- 3. President of India does not belong to any party as such (ideally) after becoming the president.
- 4. President of India is called a figurehead. He does not make laws. But the president's office needs to put the official seal before a decision/ ordinance/ act made by the legislation (parliament) becomes a law.
- 5. President is usually bound by the decisions made by the Prime Minister and cabinet. But president can send them for reviews and revisions, in case of inappropriate contents.
- 6. President appoints the prime minister and the cabinet ministers. He does not have the choice in their appointment. The leader of majority party in Lok Sabha becomes PM. PM chooses his members. But President can inform PM to change decisions, in case president disagrees.
- 7. There is no veto power like in the USA.
- 8. Presidential term lasts 5 years. President can get elected any number of times.
- 9. President cannot be inscriminated in a criminal case. Civil cases against president can be launched after giving a statutory notice, with no immunity. There were some examples of civil cases against presidents.
- 10. President is the head in the Parliament democracy (indirect democracy). In case of crisis in a state the presidential rule is imposed in that state. President has the power to dissolve the parliament houses on the advice of PM. In case no party or alliance gets majority, then too the president can dissolve the newly elected Lok Sabha.
- 11. Various government officials, governors of states are appointed by the choice and recommendations of the government. But governors do report to the president. IAS officers too are bound in a way to the president.

- 12. A man or woman can become the President of India. Election commission holds the elections.
- 13. President is the head for the Naval, Air Force and Army commanders. They are supposed to meet each other only in President's presence.
- 14. President honors distinguished people every year in the presidential houses. President convenes the parliament houses. The president gives the inaugural speech.

President of America:

- 1. He is the powerful head of state and executive body.
- 2. President is elected by direct elections by people. The process is a bit complicated.
- 3. The term of the president is 4 years.
- 4. One person cannot be president for more than two terms. A man or woman can become president.
- 5. President appoints own cabinet secretaries for various portfolios. He is similar to the Prime Minister of India in some ways.
- 6. **President is not a member of the legislature (congress).** The congress members, elected directly by people make the laws. So the President of USA needs to push his/her decisions/proposed laws through the congress members in order to pass them as laws.
- 7. President has a veto power for major decisions made by the congress.
- 8. President does not dissolve the legislature.
- 9. There is no immunity against legal proceedings against the president in either criminal or civil cases.
- 10. American president is the head of presidential democracy, whereas Indian president is on the steps of democracy in England.
- 11. President of America has a global influence with globally influencing strong organizations and head offices of strong western allies, located in the USA.
- 12. President can appoint one fifths of the officials of the administrative services.
- 13. President initiates and monitors the proceedings of the congress, through the members of the party to which he/she belongs to.
- 14. President holds majority of the powers of the federation.
- 15. He/she can initiate, conclude or continue the economic, financial or other cooperation between USA and other countries.
- 16. President has the power to command the military, Air Force or Navy related to war and peace.