



Draupadi Murmu



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- India's first tribal President
- Second woman President after Smt. Pratibha Patil
- Coming from Odisha's Mayurbhanj district, Murmu belongs to Santhal tribe – the third largest Scheduled Tribe in India (after Gonds and Bhils)

15th President of India

Who is a President?

- **About:** Head of the Indian State and the first citizen of India
- **Election:** Elected by an electoral college consisting of MPs of both Houses of Parliament and MLAs of the states and Delhi and Puducherry. (but not the nominated members of Rajya Sabha, Lok Sabha and Assemblies and members of Councils)
- **Constitutional Provisions:** Article 54 - 62

What Powers does President Enjoy?

Legislative Powers:

- Power to dissolve the Lok Sabha
- Gives final assent to pass a bill
- Promulgate ordinances when the Parliament is not in session
- Power to summon both the Houses of Parliament to meet in a joint sitting

Appointing Power:

- Appoints the Prime Minister, CJI and other judges of Supreme Court, Governor of the state, Ambassadors to other countries, Attorney General etc.

Military Powers:

- Commander in chief of all the Indian armed forces.
 - Appoints the Chiefs of the Army, Navy and Air Force

- Power to declare war or conclude peace with any country on the advice of a council of ministers headed by the PM.
- Treaties with other countries are signed under his/her name

Pardoning Power (Article 72):

- May grant pardons if the punishment of the crime is an offence of against union law, granted by the military court or the punishment is that of death

Emergency Powers:

- Can declare three types of emergencies: nation, state and financial, under Articles 352, 356 & 360
- Can rule individual states or the whole nation at times of emergency

Important Articles of Indian Constitution

- **Article 52:** The President of India
- **Article 53:** The executive power of the President
- **Article 72:** Powers of the president to grant pardons etc. and to suspend, remit or commute sentences in certain cases
- **Article 74:** Council of Ministers to aid and advise the President
- **Article 85:** Sessions of parliaments, prorogations and dissolution
- **Article 111:** Assent to bills passed by the parliaments
- **Article 112:** Union Budget (Annual Financial Statement)
- **Article 123:** Power of President to promulgate ordinances
- **Article 143:** Power of President to consult the Supreme Court

FORMER PRESIDENTS

INTERESTING FACTS

- **Rajendra Prasad** was the first President of India. He is also the only President to have served two consecutive terms.
- **Zakir Hussain** was the third President of India, and the first Muslim President. He was the shortest serving President of India (less than 2 years).
- So far two Presidents, **Dr. Zakir Hussain** and **Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed** (Fifth President), have died during their term of office.
- When President **Dr. Zakir Hussain** died in May, 1969, the then Vice-President, **V.V. Giri** was acting as the President.
- Soon after **V.V. Giri** resigned to contest the election of the President. Then the **Chief Justice of India, M. Hidayatullah** worked as the officiating President from 20 July, 1969 to 24 August, 1969.



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