

The Functions of the UK Cabinet

According to the Report of the Machinery of Government Committee (1918), there are three important functions of the Cabinet -

1. The final determination of policy to be submitted to the Parliament
2. The Supreme Control of the National Executive in accordance with the policy prescribed by the Parliament
3. The Continuous Coordination and delimitation of the activities of the several Departments of State.

Despite of above mentioned important functions

the Cabinet functions as -

- A deliberative and policy formulating body. It discusses and decides all sort of national and international agendas to open for discussion in the Parliament.
- An instrument that links the executive branch of the government to the legislative branch. The Cabinet ministers guide and control the work of the Parliament.
- A supreme national executive. Legally all the executive powers vest in the King, but in actual practice, the King is the only titular head. It is the Cabinet that really exercises all the executive powers vested in the King.
- A coordinator since the essential function of the Cabinet to coordinate and guide the functions of several departments of the government. Though administration is divided into ~~not~~ numerous departments, yet it is difficult to make a water-tight division among the various departments.