International Relations · GS - II

Examine the growing political representation of the Indian-American community in the United States and its significance for India–US relations.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 02/11/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Indian diaspora; political representation; Dalip Singh Saund; Kamala Harris; diaspora diplomacy; bilateral cooperation; diversity and inclusion; limits of diaspora influence

Model Answer

Introduction

The Indian-American community has expanded its political representation in the United States, reflecting its growing participation in public life. Leaders such as Dalip Singh Saund, Bobby Jindal, Nikki Haley and Kamala Harris represent different stages of this political presence.

Significance of Political Representation

1. Democratic Inclusion

The election of Indian-American representatives demonstrates the role of immigrant communities in American democratic institutions and public policymaking.

2. India–US Relations

Indian-American politicians can contribute to discussions on trade, education, technology, defence and people-to-people ties. Their public visibility can also encourage greater understanding of India among American audiences.

3. Diaspora Diplomacy

Political participation complements the economic, academic and cultural contributions of the Indian diaspora, strengthening social connections between the two countries.

Limitations

Indian-American politicians represent diverse constituencies and political ideologies. Their positions are shaped by American domestic priorities, party affiliations and individual policy preferences; they cannot be assumed to uniformly support India's interests.

Way Forward

India should engage with the diaspora through inclusive outreach, educational exchanges and institutional dialogue while respecting its independent political choices.

Conclusion

Indian-American political representation is an important dimension of diaspora engagement, but durable bilateral cooperation depends primarily on shared strategic interests and sustained diplomatic efforts.

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