International Relations · GS - II

Explain the role of coalition politics and proportional representation in shaping government formation in Israel. How can political instability affect governance and regional diplomacy?

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 05/11/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Parliamentary democracy, Knesset, proportional representation, multi-party system, coalition negotiations, government majority, political stability, policy continuity, West Asian diplomacy, regional security.

Model Answer

Introduction

Israel follows a parliamentary system based on proportional representation. Its multi-party political structure often makes coalition formation essential for establishing a government.

Role of Coalition Politics

The Knesset has 120 members, and a government generally requires the support of at least 61 members to command a majority. Proportional representation enables smaller political parties to gain legislative representation, giving them potential influence during coalition negotiations.

Consequently, disagreements over security, religion, economic policy and relations with Palestinians can affect government formation and stability.

Impact on Governance and Regional Diplomacy

Frequent coalition changes may delay legislation, weaken policy continuity and create uncertainty in domestic administration. They can also influence Israel's foreign policy, regional security decisions and diplomatic engagement with neighbouring countries and international partners.

Conclusion

Coalition politics reflects Israel's plural political structure but can complicate stable governance. Institutional continuity, consensus-building and effective parliamentary functioning remain important for domestic stability and regional diplomacy.

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