Polity & Governance · GS - II

Examine the constitutional and democratic significance of delimitation and women's reservation in India. How can these reforms be implemented while ensuring equitable political representation and federal balance?

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 15/11/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Electoral representation, delimitation, 106th Constitutional Amendment, women's political participation, population changes, federal balance, census, parliamentary representation, democratic inclusion, consensus-building.

Model Answer

Introduction

Delimitation and women's reservation are significant electoral reforms aimed at strengthening representative democracy. While delimitation seeks equitable constituency representation, women's reservation addresses gender imbalance in legislative institutions.

Constitutional Significance

The 106th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2023 provides one-third reservation for women in the Lok Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies and Delhi Legislative Assembly. Its implementation is linked to a future census and subsequent delimitation exercise.

Key Challenges

Delimitation raises concerns regarding unequal population growth across states and the balance between democratic representation and federal equity. Delays in implementing women's reservation may postpone greater political participation. Electoral roll accuracy, transparency and public confidence are also essential for democratic legitimacy.

Way Forward

A transparent delimitation process, reliable census data, consultation with states and political consensus are necessary. Political parties should also promote women's participation within organisational structures.

Conclusion

Electoral reforms must strengthen inclusiveness, federal balance and public trust while ensuring that constitutional commitments translate into meaningful democratic representation.

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