Polity & Governance · GS - II

Examine the constitutional significance of regular parliamentary sessions in ensuring executive accountability in India.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 24/11/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

Parliamentary oversight, Article 85, legislative scrutiny, executive accountability, democratic deliberation, institutional functioning

Model Answer

Introduction

Parliament is the principal institution of legislative deliberation and executive accountability in India. Regular sessions provide opportunities for law-making, financial scrutiny and questioning of government policies.

Constitutional and Democratic Significance

1. **Constitutional Requirement:** Article 85 empowers the President to summon Parliament and requires that no more than six months intervene between the last sitting of one session and the first sitting of the next.

2. **Executive Accountability:** Question Hour, debates and parliamentary motions enable legislators to scrutinise government decisions and demand explanations from ministers.

3. **Legislative Scrutiny:** Parliamentary sessions facilitate discussion, examination and passage of Bills, allowing representatives to raise concerns affecting different sections of society.

4. **Financial Oversight:** Discussions on the Union Budget, demands for grants and appropriation measures strengthen legislative control over public expenditure.

5. **Democratic Representation:** Parliamentary debates provide a platform for diverse political and regional interests to participate in national decision-making.

Concerns Arising from Reduced Parliamentary Functioning

1. **Limited Scrutiny:** Fewer sittings can reduce opportunities for detailed examination of legislation and government policies.

2. **Weakening of Accountability:** Reduced opportunities for questions and debates may constrain parliamentary oversight.

3. **Institutional Imbalance:** Excessive reliance on executive decision-making can weaken the deliberative role of the legislature.

Way Forward

1. Establish a predictable annual parliamentary calendar through wider political consensus.

2. Strengthen committee examination of important legislation.

3. Ensure adequate time for Question Hour, debates and financial scrutiny.

Conclusion

Constitutional compliance is the minimum requirement; effective parliamentary democracy also depends on meaningful deliberation and oversight. Regular and productive sittings are essential for maintaining the balance between the legislature and executive.

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