Polity & Governance · GS - II

Examine how the proposed 50% expansion of legislative seats seeks to accommodate women's reservation while addressing concerns over federal representation.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 28/11/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

132nd Constitutional Amendment Bill, 2026, 50% seat expansion, Article 334A, 106th Constitutional Amendment, 1971 Census, federal equity, delimitation, parliamentary majority

Model Answer

The proposed constitutional changes to India's delimitation framework seek to facilitate women's reservation while addressing concerns regarding the unequal demographic growth of States.

The revised proposal introduces a uniform 50% increase in the existing Lok Sabha and State Assembly seat allocations.

Major features and implications:

1. **Expansion of representation:** The proposal increases Lok Sabha and State Assembly seats by 50%. Bihar's Lok Sabha allocation, for instance, could rise from 40 to 60 seats, while Jharkhand's could increase from 14 to 21.

2. **Federal safeguards:** Maintaining the existing inter-State proportion of Lok Sabha seats seeks to protect the relative parliamentary representation of States, particularly those that have achieved population stabilisation.

3. **Women's reservation:** The proposed framework seeks to facilitate 33% reservation for women through the delimitation exercise, building upon the 106th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2023.

4. **Constituency delimitation:** The proposed exercise envisages using the latest published Census figures for redrawing constituency boundaries while retaining the existing inter-State allocation proportions.

5. **Institutional challenges:** Constitutional amendments require the prescribed special majority in Parliament. Amendments affecting the representation of States in Parliament also require ratification by at least half of the State Legislatures.

Conclusion

The proposal attempts to reconcile women's political representation, democratic equality and federal equity. Its success will depend on constitutional consensus, transparent delimitation and effective implementation.

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