Polity & Governance · GS - II

Explain the constitutional composition of State Legislative Councils in India. How do elections to Graduates' and Teachers' constituencies contribute to representation in state legislatures?

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 28/10/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Bicameral legislature; Article 169; Article 171; composition and nomination; Graduates' constituencies; Teachers' constituencies; representative diversity; democratic accountability

Model Answer

Introduction

India permits some states to have bicameral legislatures consisting of a Legislative Assembly and a Legislative Council. The Council provides an additional forum for legislative scrutiny and representation.

Constitutional Framework

Article 169 empowers Parliament to create or abolish a State Legislative Council following a qualifying resolution by the concerned State Legislative Assembly. Article 171 governs its composition.

A Legislative Council's membership includes representatives elected by local authorities, graduates, teachers and members of the Legislative Assembly. The Governor nominates the remaining members from fields such as literature, science, art, cooperative movements and social service.

Role of Graduates' and Teachers' Constituencies

Graduates' constituencies provide representation to eligible registered graduate voters, while Teachers' constituencies represent eligible teachers meeting the constitutional and statutory conditions. These

constituencies can bring professional experience and specialised perspectives into legislative debate.

However, their electoral rolls and eligibility requirements differ from those of ordinary territorial constituencies, making voter registration and awareness important.

Conclusion

State Legislative Councils can broaden representation and encourage detailed legislative scrutiny. Their effectiveness depends on informed participation, transparent elections and meaningful engagement with public concerns.

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