International Relations · GS - II

Explain the functioning of Israel's parliamentary system and examine how allegations of electoral fraud and foreign interference can affect democratic legitimacy and political stability.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 30/10/2026	GS - II	International Relations

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Proportional representation; Knesset; coalition government; electoral integrity; foreign interference; democratic legitimacy; institutional trust

Model Answer

Introduction

Israel follows a parliamentary system in which the Knesset plays the central role in government formation. Recent allegations by Likud regarding electoral irregularities highlight the importance of institutional credibility in democratic processes.

Israel's Parliamentary Structure

- **Unicameral legislature:** The Knesset consists of 120 members.
- **Proportional representation:** Parties receive parliamentary seats broadly according to their share of votes.
- **Coalition politics:** A government generally requires support from multiple parties to secure a parliamentary majority.

- **Prime Minister:** The government is formed through parliamentary support rather than a separate direct presidential election.

Impact of Electoral Allegations

- Unsubstantiated claims can weaken public confidence in election results.
- Foreign interference, if established, can threaten electoral sovereignty.
- Political polarisation may increase and obstruct governance.
- Independent election authorities and security agencies are essential for credible investigations.

Way Forward

Transparent counting, evidence-based investigations, judicial remedies and responsible political communication are necessary to protect electoral integrity.

Conclusion

Democratic legitimacy depends not only on elections but also on public trust in impartial institutions, transparent procedures and acceptance of lawful outcomes.

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