Polity & Governance · GS - II

Discuss how issue-based political cooperation on delimitation can contribute to parliamentary consensus while reflecting the competing interests of India's federal units.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 27/11/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

Parliamentary deliberation, issue-based cooperation, federalism, regional representation, demographic performance, political consensus, constitutional safeguards

Model Answer

Delimitation is not merely an exercise in redrawing constituency boundaries. It can alter the distribution of political representation among States, making it a significant federal and constitutional issue.

1. Why issue-based cooperation matters

1. **Legislative consensus:** Conditional support from parties across regional and national political divides can facilitate deliberation on constitutional and electoral reforms.
2. **Representation of regional interests:** Parties can raise concerns about the possible consequences of population-based seat redistribution for their respective States.
3. **Democratic negotiation:** Issue-based cooperation allows parties to support specific reforms without implying broader political alignment.

2. Competing federal considerations

1. **Population-based representation:** The principle of equal representation requires parliamentary constituencies to reflect population distribution.
2. **Demographic performance:** States that successfully implemented population stabilisation policies may fear losing relative political influence.
3. **Regional equity:** A substantial shift in parliamentary seats could alter the balance of political representation between northern and southern States.
4. **Constitutional legitimacy:** Delimitation requires transparent criteria, institutional credibility and acceptance across political stakeholders.

3. Building a sustainable framework

Parliamentary consensus should be developed through inter-party consultations, meaningful engagement with State governments and transparent examination of alternative representation models. Any proposal must preserve constitutional principles while addressing concerns about demographic performance and regional equity.

Conclusion

Issue-based cooperation can widen democratic deliberation on delimitation, but durable consensus requires more than political agreement. It must rest on transparent constitutional procedures and a fair balance between population-based representation and federal considerations.

BECOME IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP