Polity & Governance · GS - II

Examine the relationship between women's political representation and delimitation in the implementation of the 106th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2023.

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

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

Women's representation, 106th Amendment, delimitation, census, federal balance, political participation

Model Answer

The 106th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2023, popularly known as the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, provides for one-third reservation of seats for women in the Lok Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies and the Delhi Legislative Assembly.

Relationship between reservation and delimitation:

1. **Constitutional linkage:** Implementation is linked to the publication of relevant figures of the first census conducted after the commencement of the Amendment Act.
2. **Seat identification:** Delimitation is required to determine the constituencies in which seats will be reserved for women.
3. **Rotation mechanism:** Reserved constituencies are to be rotated after subsequent delimitation exercises, as provided by the constitutional framework.

4. **Representation debate:** Any expansion of legislative seats alongside reservation raises questions about regional representation and the distribution of political power.

Key concerns:

The delay between constitutional enactment and implementation has generated debate over the timing of women's representation. Further, linking reservation to delimitation brings federal concerns into the discussion, particularly regarding the relative representation of States with different population trends.

Way forward: Parliament should ensure transparent delimitation procedures, broad political consultation, clarity on implementation timelines and adequate representation of all regions.

Conclusion: Women's reservation and delimitation are interconnected constitutional processes. Their implementation should advance gender representation while maintaining democratic legitimacy and federal balance.

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