Polity & Governance · GS - II

Examine the role of regional parties in coalition politics and parliamentary decision-making in India.

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

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Regional representation, coalition arithmetic, Rajya Sabha, federalism, legislative bargaining, democratic pluralism

Model Answer

Regional parties play an important role in India's parliamentary democracy by representing State-specific interests and influencing national political decisions. Their significance becomes particularly visible when major alliances lack sufficient parliamentary numbers.

Role in parliamentary decision-making

1. **Legislative arithmetic:** Regional parties can influence the passage or rejection of Bills when their support becomes necessary for a parliamentary majority.
2. **Federal representation:** They raise concerns relating to State autonomy, resource allocation and regional interests in national policymaking.
3. **Coalition formation:** Their participation can shape alliance-building, government stability and parliamentary negotiations.
4. **Rajya Sabha influence:** Parties with significant representation in the Upper House can affect legislative outcomes, especially where the government lacks a majority.
5. **Policy negotiation:** Regional parties may seek amendments or safeguards to ensure that national legislation addresses regional concerns.

The reported outreach by both the NDA and INDIA bloc to the Biju Janata Dal illustrates how regional parties can become important interlocutors during major legislative debates.

However, parliamentary bargaining must remain transparent and guided by constitutional principles rather than narrow political considerations.

Ultimately, regional parties strengthen India's federal character by bringing diverse State perspectives into national decision-making. Their influence also highlights the importance of consensus-building in a plural parliamentary democracy.

BECOME IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP