

Delimitation Push: Constitutional Amendment Vote Threshold

The Narendra Modi government has revived efforts to secure the numbers needed to pass a Constitution amendment for delimitation.

Delimitation is the act of redrawing boundaries of Lok Sabha and state assembly constituencies to ensure equal representation.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The **Narendra Modi government** is renewing efforts to pass a **Constitution amendment** related to **delimitation**.
- The **Opposition**'s immediate objective is to keep the **NDA** below the **360-vote threshold** for the amendment.
- Under **Article 368**, any **constitutional amendment** requires support of at least **two-thirds** of members present and voting.
- The amendment also requires constituting a **majority** of the **total strength of the House**.

STATICS & SYLLABUS FOCUS

Article 368 of the Indian Constitution outlines the power of **Parliament** to **amend the Constitution** and the procedure for doing so.

A Bill for **constitutional amendment** can be introduced in either the **Lok Sabha** or the **Rajya Sabha**.

Special majority for amendments means a majority of the **total membership** of each House and a majority of not less than **two-thirds** of the members present and voting.

Amendments to certain **federal provisions** require **ratification** by the legislatures of at least **half of the states** by a simple majority.

The **24th Constitutional Amendment Act** of **1971** made it mandatory for the **President** to give assent to a Constitutional Amendment Bill.

The '**Basic Structure Doctrine**' was established by the Supreme Court in the **Kesavananda Bharati case** in **1973**, limiting Parliament's amending power.

The last major **delimitation exercise** in India was conducted between **2002 and 2008**, based on the **2001 Census** data.

The **next delimitation exercise** is constitutionally mandated to take place **after 2026**, based on the **first census** conducted post-2026.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Article 368 mandates a two-thirds majority for constitutional amendments.

Syllabus Relevance: High

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