

GS-II Important Aspects of Governance, Transparency and Accountability

- 1. The Election Commission of India (ECI) has observed that the electoral bonds, wreck transparency in Political Funding. In this context critically Analyze the Electoral Bond Scheme.**

Why this Question?

- The government decided to issue electoral bonds as a money bill. This was unconstitutional because electoral bonds are not covered by the definition of 'money bill' in the Constitution.

Key Demands of Question:

- Explain about the electoral bond scheme.
- Explain the need for such scheme.
- Discuss the merits and demerits of the scheme.
- Mention the way forward measures regarding the funding of political parties.

Directive word:

Critically Analyze:

- When asked to Analyze, you have to examine methodically the structure or nature of the topic by separating it into component parts and present them as a whole in a summary. When 'critically' is suffixed or prefixed to a directive, one needs to look at the good and bad of the topic and give a fair judgement.
- Whenever it is asking Critically Examine, Critically Comment or Critically Analyse just remember that you have to write both pros and cons and give a fair, unbiased or value loaded judgement. It should always give a closure feeling while examiner reading the answer.

Structure of Answer:

Introduction:

- Give brief intro about the electoral bond scheme.

Body:

- Explain brief about the importance of the electoral bond scheme.
- Bring out the merits of the scheme.
- Discuss how the current electoral bond scheme wrecks the transparency in the political funding. For example current anonymous nature, removal of the 7.5% cap for companies, etc.

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- Mention the other Way Forward measures to increase the transparency in the political funding.

Conclusion:

- Conclude with the ECI observations and the Law Commission recommendations on the political funding like State Funding of Elections, etc.

