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Indian Polity (GS Paper 2)

BRICS Parliamentary Forum 2026

- **Event: 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum**
- Venue: New Delhi, India
- Theme: "Fostering Parliaments for People-Centric Development"
- **Host: Indian Parliament**

Key Areas of Discussion

The forum will focus on the following issues:

1. **Institutional Resilience**: Strengthening parliamentary institutions.
2. **Ethical Artificial Intelligence (AI):** Promoting responsible and ethical AI use.
3. **Digital Transformation**: Using digital technologies to improve parliamentary functioning.
4. **Global Governance Reform**: Making international institutions more representative and effective.
5. **Sustainable Development**: Advancing inclusive and sustainable growth.

Significance for India

- **Parliamentary diplomacy**: Strengthens cooperation among BRICS countries.
- **Global governance**: Provides a platform to discuss reforms in international institutions.
- **Digital governance**: Encourages the responsible use of AI and digital technologies.
- **Inclusive development**: Promotes people-centric policymaking.
- **Multilateral cooperation**: Facilitates bilateral and multilateral discussions on shared priorities.

Important Additional Facts

- Saudi Arabia and Ethiopia expressed their inability to participate in the conference, according to the report.
- The forum will include presiding officers, parliamentarians and dignitaries from BRICS and partner countries.
- The Lok Sabha Speaker clarified that Article 85 of the Indian Constitution does not assign the Speaker the authority to summon or prorogue a parliamentary session.

Prelims Questions

Q. Consider the following statements regarding Article 85 of the Indian Constitution:

1. The President summons each House of Parliament.

2. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha has the power to prorogue Parliament.

3. Six months cannot intervene between the last sitting of one session and the first sitting of the next session.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

A. 1 and 2 only

B. 1 and 3 only

C. 2 and 3 only

D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B (1 and 3 only).

Explanation: Article 85 vests the power to summon and prorogue Parliament in the President, not the Lok Sabha Speaker.