

Time Allowed : Three Hours
समय : तीन घंटे**ForumIAS**Maximum Marks : 250
अधिकतम अंक : 250**GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन**

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	ABHAY DAGA		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910128365	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	1900	Date/दिनांक	25/07/23

*Center Code : For Online - 1900 / Delhi : Karol bagh - 1901, ORN - 1902, Mukharji Nagar - 1903 / Patna : Boring Rd. - 2001 / Hyderabad : Jawahar Nagar - 2101

INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका			INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश	
Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक	1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet. कृपया उत्तर-पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर भरें।	
1			2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory. उत्तर पुस्तिका में अंग्रेजी/हिंदी में बीस प्रश्न दिए गए हैं, सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।	
2			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए निर्धारित अंक उसके सामने अंकित किए गए हैं।	
3			4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. उत्तर प्रवेश पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जो कि दिए गए स्थान में इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के कवर पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा जाना चाहिए।	
4			5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाए। प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गये किसी भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ के भाग को स्पष्ट रूप से काट दें।	
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Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :			Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय : 10:50 AM	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय : 1:50 PM
Total Marks/कुल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि : ONLINE	Online/ऑनलाइन <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline/ऑफलाइन <input type="checkbox"/>
*Examiner's Discretion is the marks awarded at the discretion of the examiner based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy. मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक अंक, आपकी लिखावट, प्रस्तुति, आरेखों के उपयोग, फ्लोचार्ट, तथ्यों और आंकड़ों या समग्र रूप किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु, जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आयी के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हीं तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।			For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु	
			ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	EG/ईजी : ① ② ③ ④ ⑤
				Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :

Note: You can discuss your evaluated copy with the Mentor. Raise a ticket from your portal to schedule a mentor call or visit the offline centre to meet mentor (all 7 days, Timings - 11 AM to 6 PM). Further if you are unsatisfied with the evaluation, you can seek re-evaluation of the copy.

EXAMINER'S REMARKS

[Faint handwritten notes and a large diagonal watermark reading 'Forum IAS' are visible in this section.]

CRITERIA FOR THE FEEDBACK SECTION AT THE END OF EACH QUESTION

1. **AWIS = Answered What is Asked.** This means whether you have addressed the core demand of the question or not. Addressing the core demand of the question gets you an objectively fair score. It is examiner's perception if you have understood the question and if you know the answer in the first place. Creative answer writing, sometimes missing the core demand, may fetch very high or very low scores, and exposes your answer to the subjectivity of the examiner.
2. **CD & VA = Content Density & Value Addition.** Examiner will evaluate the quality and quantity of your content in the answer. In the same word limit and space limit have you (a) written what is asked (b) gone beyond what is asked (c) enriched answers through combination of (but not all!) suggestions, ideas, quotes, flowcharts, diagrams, facts and figures, data etc. This affects objective components of assessment.
3. **S & F = Structure & Flow =** Whether you have structured your answer properly or not. Whether the answer has been broken into parts and sub-parts and each part has been addressed appropriately or not. Whether the flow of the answer is maintained. Affects both subjective and objective components of assessment.
4. **P & R =** How your answer performs on the criteria of **presentation, ease of read, clarity and apparent effort** in writing the answer. This affects the subjective components of assessment.



Q.1) Basic structure doctrine has prevented the Parliament, a creature of the constitution, from becoming the master of the constitution. Discuss this statement with the help of relevant case laws. (10 marks, 150 words)

बुनियादी संरचना सिद्धांत, संविधान का सृजन, ने संसद को संविधान का स्वामी बनने से रोक दिया है। प्रासंगिक केस कानूनों की मदद से इस कथन पर चर्चा कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Basic structure doctrine was propounded by Supreme Court first during Kesavnanda Bharati Case (1973) to limit amending powers of Parliament and preserve the core constitutional provisions.

Basic structure vs Parliament's amending powers

① Minerva Mills Case (1980)

- Any constitutional amendment is subject to judicial review of Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of state Policy ~~are~~ is harmonious bedrock of Constitution.

② Indira Gandhi / Election Case (1975)

- Parliament legislated that election of President, PM etc. can't be called in court for review.
- Supreme Court nullified it by asserting judicial review and free and fair elections are basic feature.

③ S.R. Bommai Case (1994)

- Parliament can't take away federal, secular character of Constitution.

④ Kesavananda Bharati (1973)

- Parliament has limited amending powers and it can't take away fundamental rights forming basic structure - Art. 14, 15, 19, 21

Thus, the judicial innovation of basic structure has helped in upholding supremacy of Constitution and separation of power

Feedback
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AWIS			
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Please put tick marks in the above table.			
Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			



Q.2) To what extent, in your opinion, Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in India have enabled women led development at the grassroots level? (10 marks, 150 words)

आपकी राय में, भारत में स्वयं सहायता समूहों (SHGs) ने जमीनी स्तर पर महिलाओं के नेतृत्व वाले विकास को किस हद तक सक्षम बनाया है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Self-Help Groups (SHGs) refer to a group where people (generally from poor and vulnerable sections) come together to collectively pool their resources and pursue collective interest, and obtain loans at market interest rate.

SHGs and women led development

- ① In the last 9 years, > 7 crore women have joined SHGs and collectively take loan over ₹ 6 lakh crores.
- ② Push to entrepreneurial activities
- Radhe Krishna SHG in Himachal manufacturing bamboo furniture.
- ③ Reduction in IMR and MMR
- better nutrition levels.

④ Rise in socio-economic status, independent decision making.

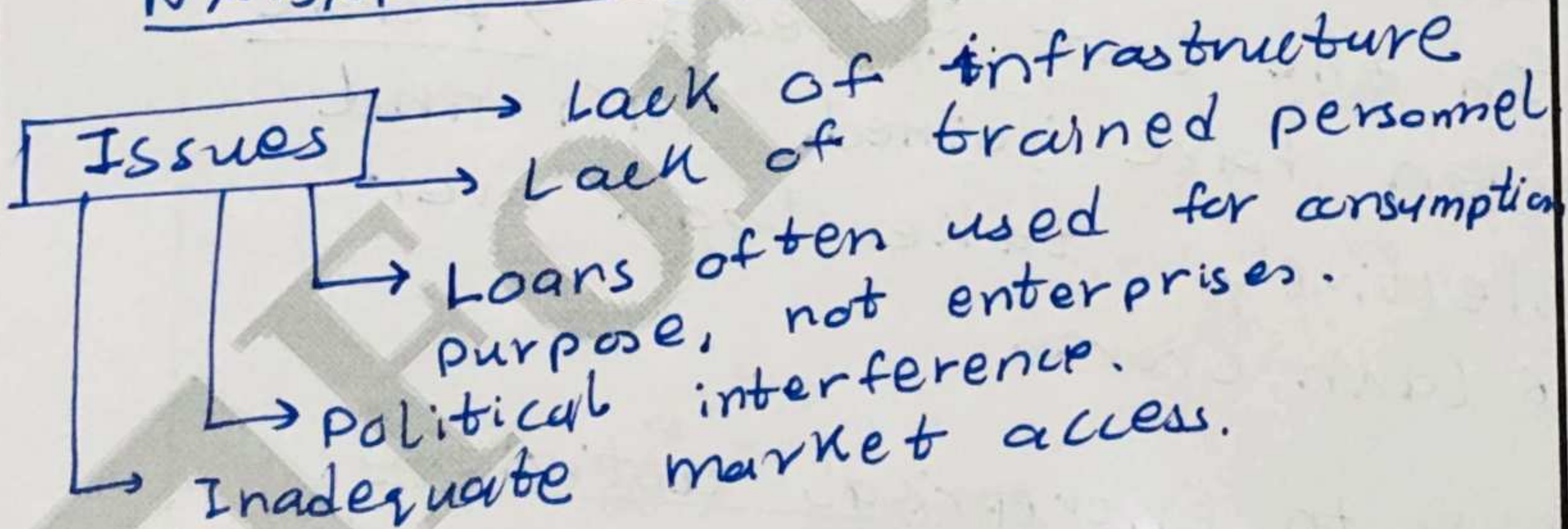
- Jay Ambe SHG

⑤ SKILL and training provision

- Kudumbashree (Kerala) providing martial arts training for self-defence.

⑥ Poverty alleviation and access to credit at market rate.

- ~103 mn households connected via NABARD-SHG Bank Linkage Programme.



SHGs have played a major role in progressing towards SDGs - 1 - No poverty, 5 - Gender Equality etc.

Feedback

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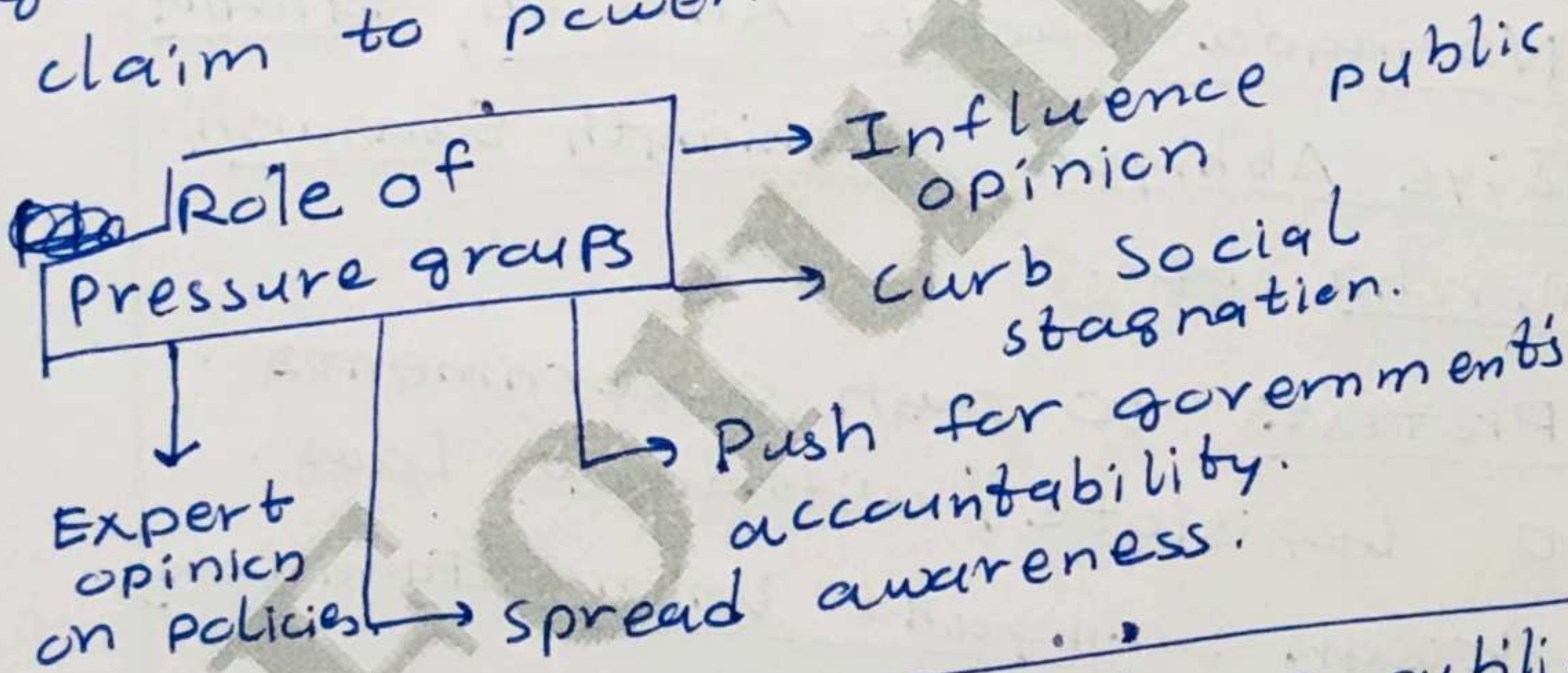
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Q.3) The power of pressure groups lies not in their size or elaborate organization, but in their ability to mobilize public opinion and create lasting change. With help of relevant examples, discuss how informal pressure groups shape public policy. (10 marks, 150 words)

दबाव समूहों की शक्ति उनके आकार या विस्तृत संगठन में नहीं, बल्कि जनता की राय जुटाने और स्थायी परिवर्तन लाने की उनकी क्षमता में निहित है। प्रासंगिक उदाहरणों की सहायता से चर्चा कीजिए कि अनौपचारिक दबाव समूह सार्वजनिक नीति को कैसे आकार देते हैं। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Pressure groups are groups that aim to pursue a definite interest, aiming to bring policy change by influencing government without actually staking claim to power.



How pressure groups shape public policy?

- Public awareness drives - GM-free India on harms of genetically modified crops.

② Provide inputs to government policies.

- ~~Cell Operators Association~~ Cell Operators Association of India on 5G readiness policy.

③ Demand for better tax regime

- FICCI, Assocham

④ Push for environmental protection

- Narmada Bachao Andolan, Yamuna Jiye Abhiyan, Joshimath Sangarsh Mercha. etc.

⑤ Protests to push governments to legislate / withdraw Laws.

- Kisan Samyukt Union [Farm Laws]

Thus, pressure groups are a crucial stakeholder in public policy to bridge the gap between the government and the governed.

Feedback

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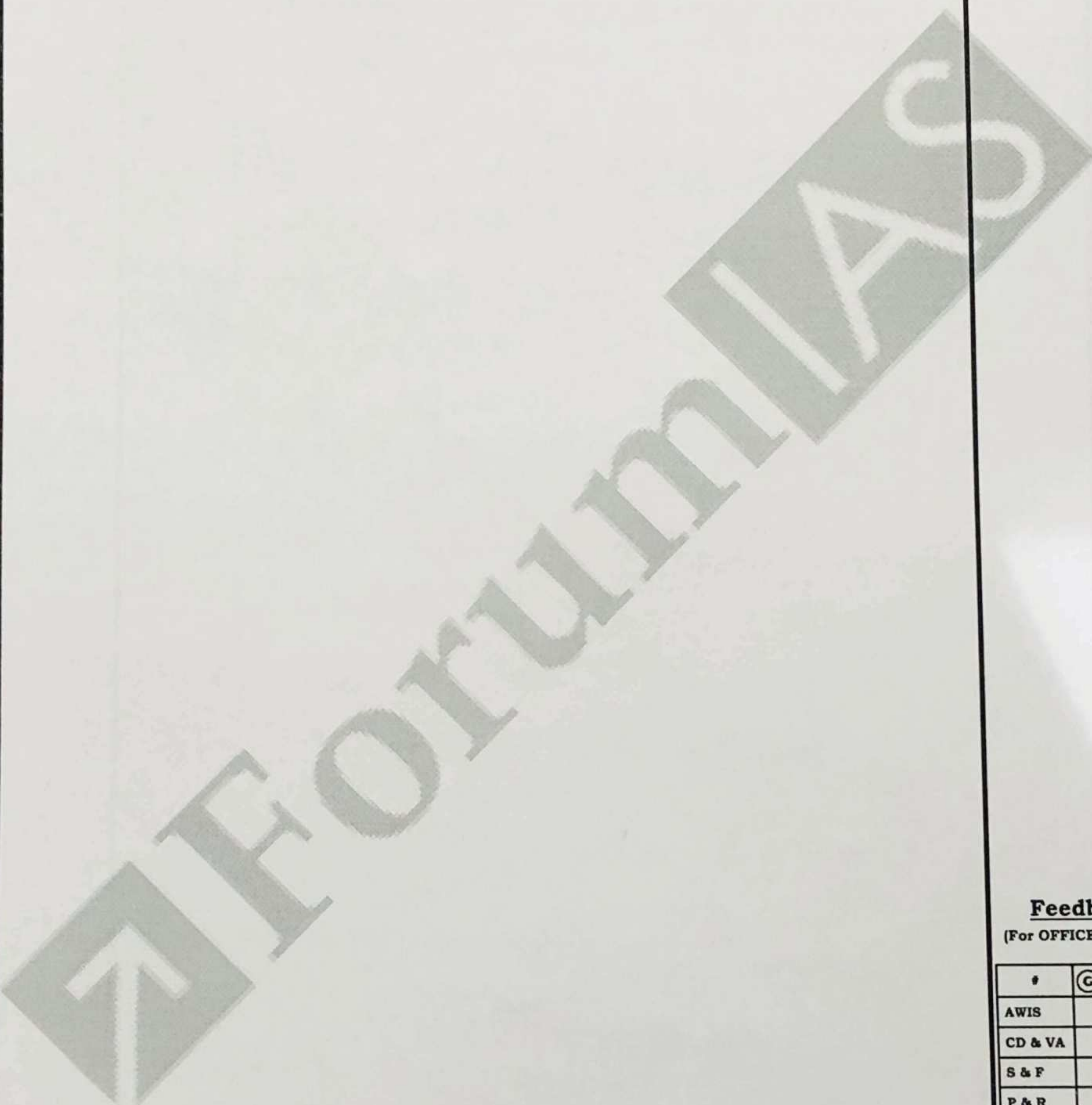


Q.4) "Bail not Jail" is the cardinal principle that upholds the sacrosanct ideas of individual's liberty and dignity. Explain the statement with the help of various judicial pronouncements.

(10 marks, 150 words)

"जेल नहीं जमानत" वह प्रमुख सिद्धांत है जो व्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता और गरिमा के पवित्र विचारों को कायम रखता है। विभिन्न केस कानूनों का हवाला देते हुए कथन को स्पष्ट कीजिए।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)



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TOTAL MARKS			



Q.5) Dispute redressal is the most important component of cooperative federalism. How does the Interstate Council facilitate the resolution of disputes related to states in India, and what are the challenges associated with this process? (10 marks, 150 words)

विवाद समाधान सहकारी संघवाद का सबसे महत्वपूर्ण घटक है। अंतरराज्यीय परिषद भारत में राज्यों से संबंधित विवादों के समाधान को कैसे सुविधाजनक बनाती है और इस प्रक्रिया से जुड़ी चुनौतियाँ क्या हैं? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Cooperative federalism refers to active coordination and cooperation between Centre and states, between states to pursue collective goals and amicably resolve disputes.

Inter-state Council (ISC) and dispute redressal

- ① Article 263 provides for Inter-state Council formation with PM as its head and CMs of states, administrator of UTs as its members.
- ② Provides platform to discuss important issues / disputes between states.
 - Public Distribution System
 - COVID-19, disaster compensation.

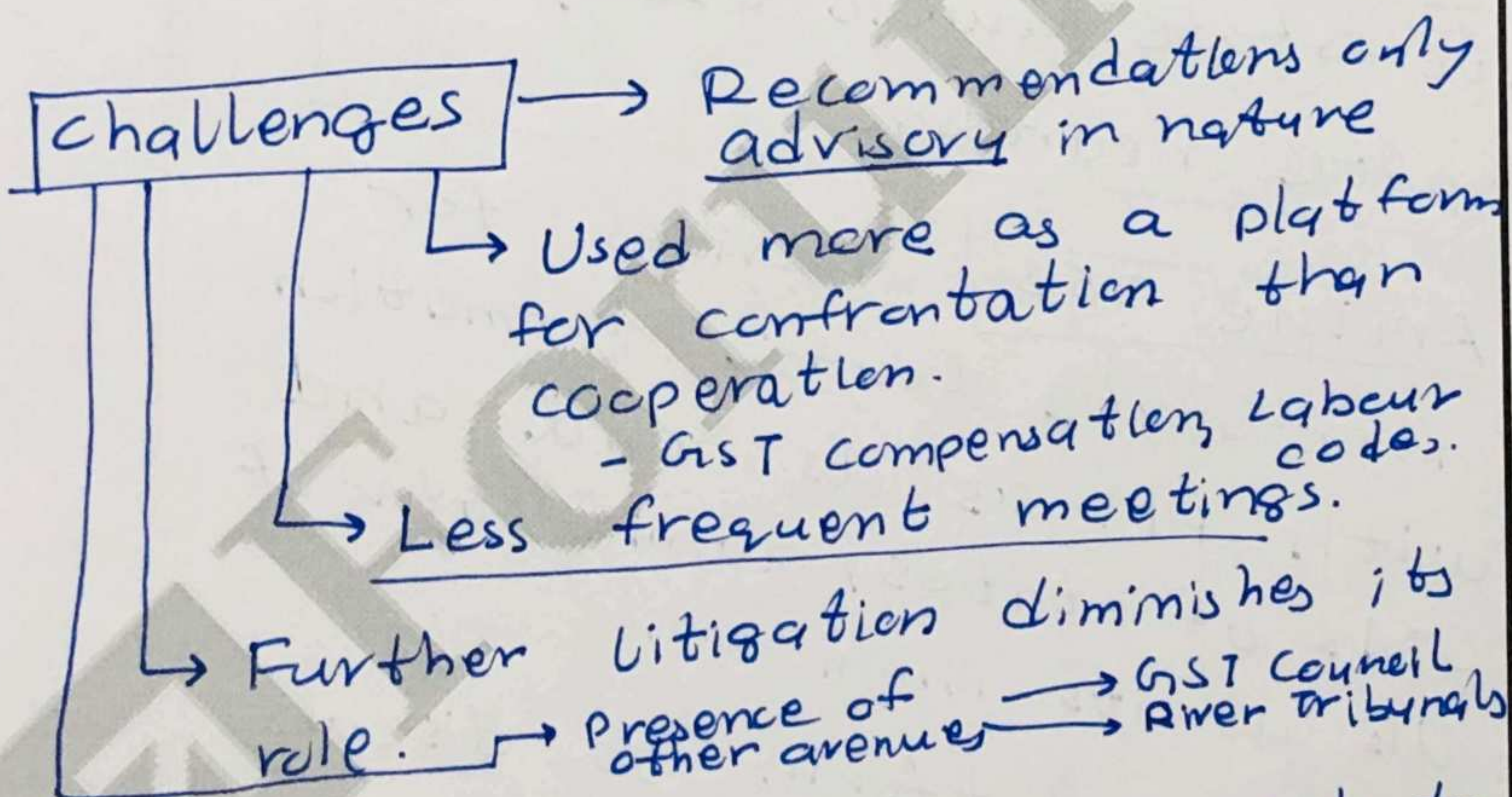
③ Take learnings from successful initiatives of other states.

- Border disputes
- Taxation

④ Arbitrate for better resource distribution and utilization.

- River disputes
- Pollution. - (stubble burning)

⑤ Come up with plan of action



ISC is critical arrangement to sustain India's federalism, preserve its unity and integrity. It should be frequently used - Sarkaria Commission

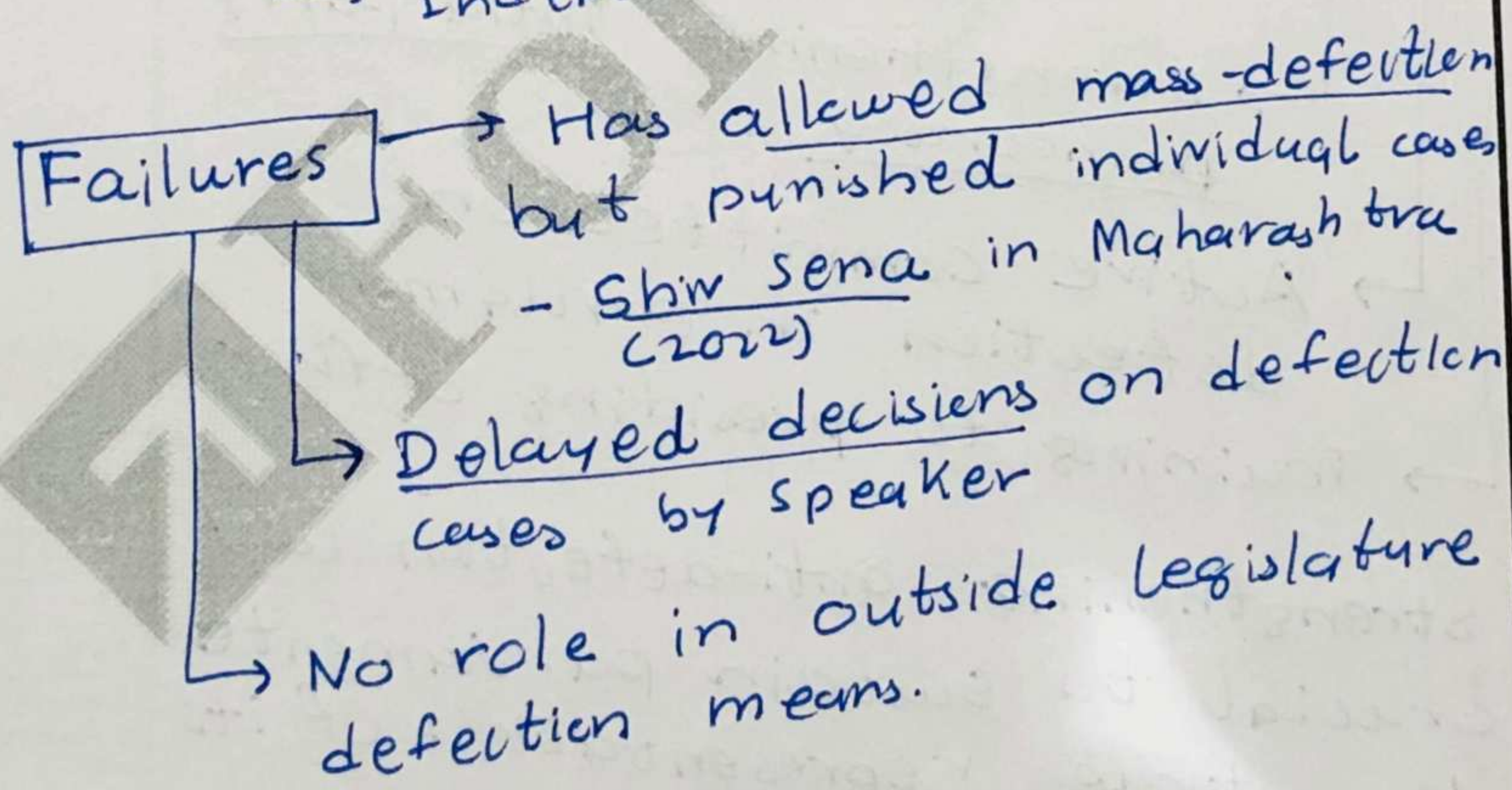
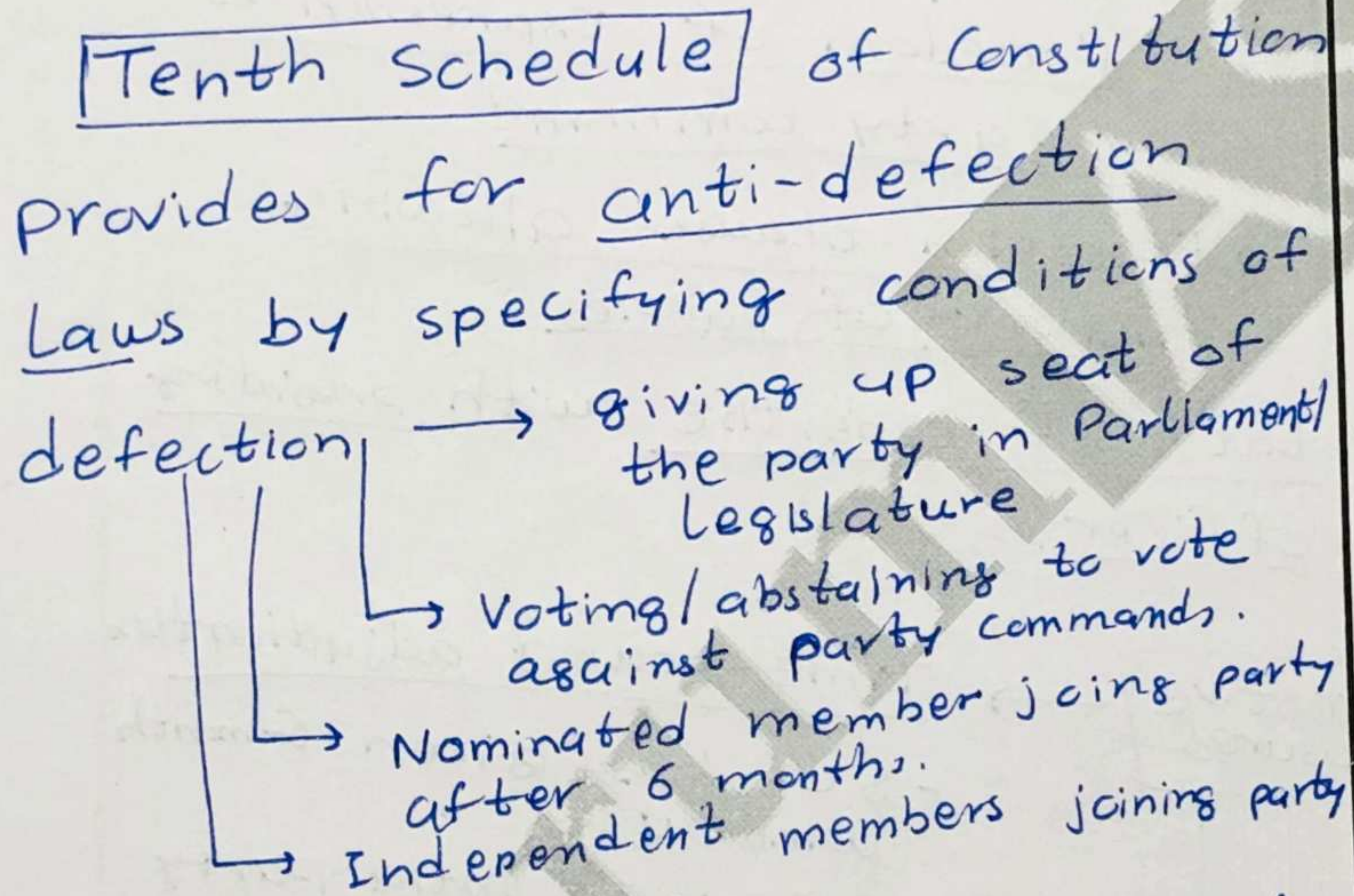
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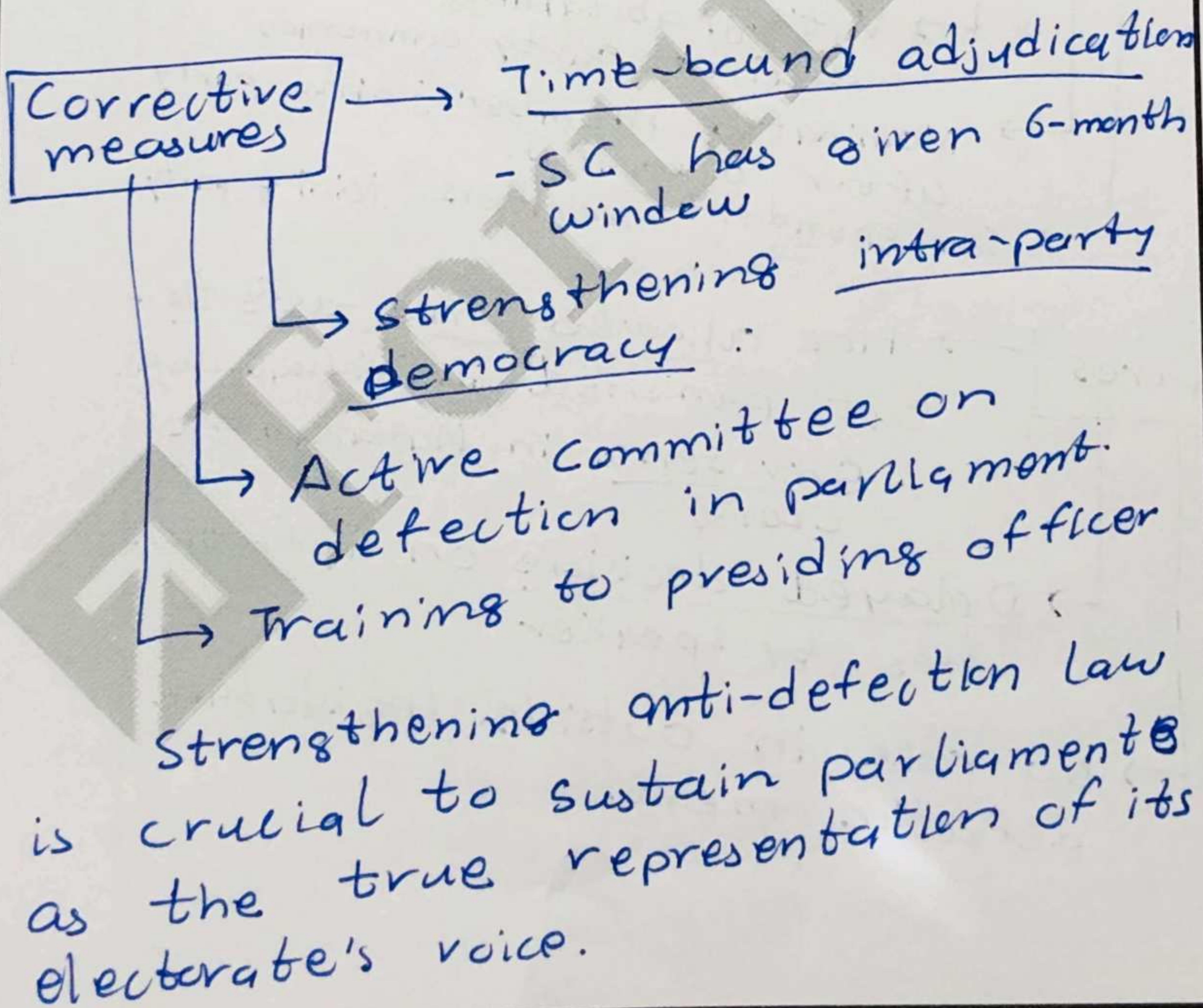
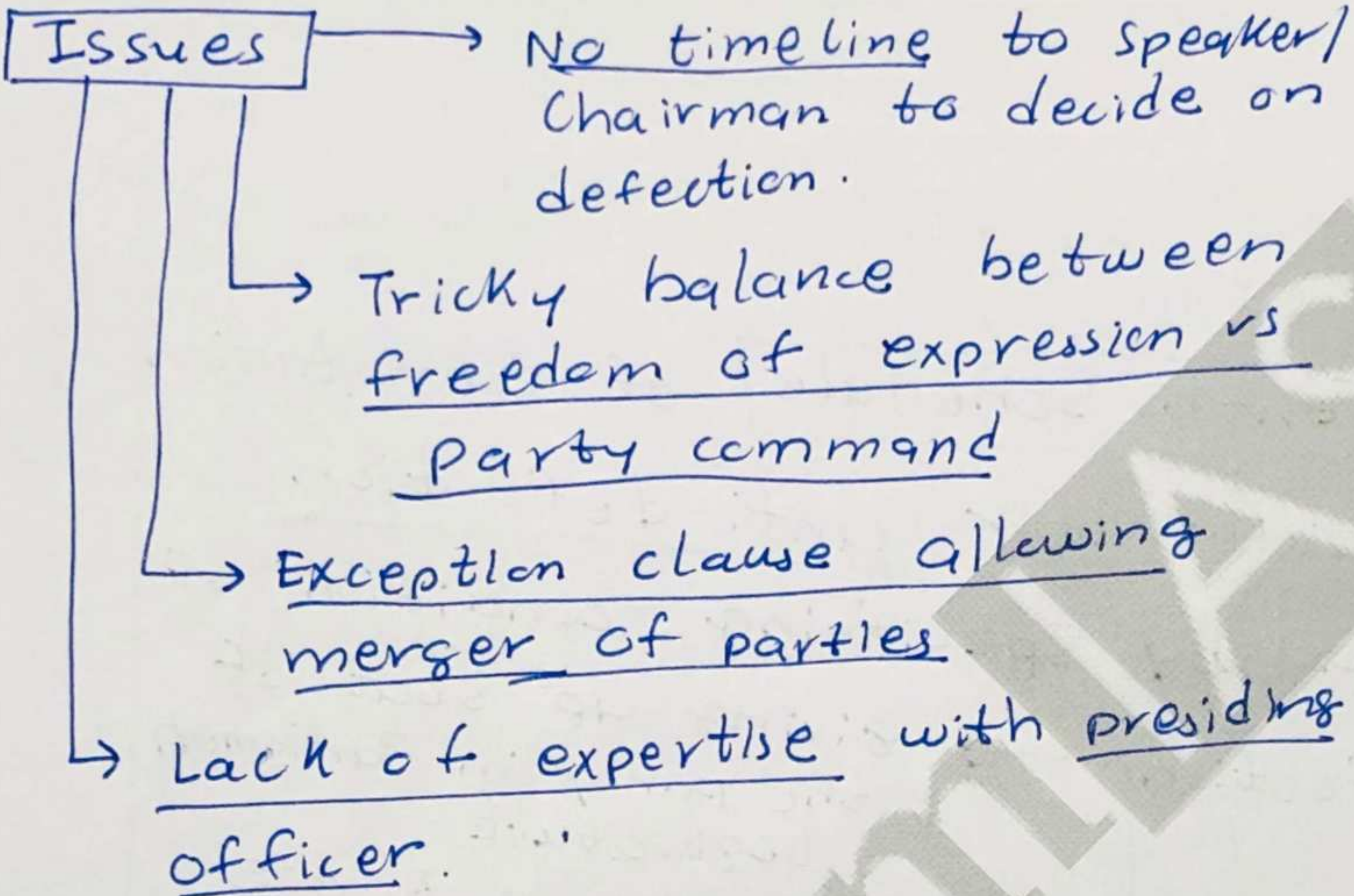
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TOTAL MARKS			



Q.6) Anti-defection law has failed to address and resolve the evil of political defection satisfactorily. Discuss various issues surrounding the Anti-defection law and recommend some corrective measures. (10 marks, 150 words)

दल-बदल विरोधी कानून राजनीतिक दल-बदल की बुराई को संतोषजनक ढंग से संबोधित करने और हल करने में विफल रहा है। दल-बदल विरोधी कानून से जुड़े विभिन्न मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए और कुछ सुधारात्मक उपायों की सिफारिश कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)





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Q.7) Decriminalization of homosexuality by the SC in Navtej Singh Jauhar case remains a task half done, specially without the socio-political sensitisation about the issues faced by LGBTQIA+ community. Elaborate in light of ongoing debates on same sex marriage. (10 marks, 150 words).

नवतेज सिंह जौहर मामले में सुप्रीम कोर्ट द्वारा समलैंगिकता को अपराध की श्रेणी से बाहर करना अभी भी आधा अधूरा काम है, खासकर LGBTQIA+ समुदाय के सामने आने वाले मुद्दों के बारे में सामाजिक-राजनीतिक संवेदनशीलता के बिना। समलैंगिक विवाह पर चल रही बहस के आलोक में सविस्तार पूर्वक वर्णन कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

SC struck down IPC Section 377
- thus decriminalizing homosexuality,
and bringing LGBTQIA+ community
on par with rest asserting their
right to equality and life,
privacy under Article 14 and 21

Decriminalization → Same-sex union

SC is currently hearing petitions
to bring same-sex marriage under
Special Marriage Act, 1954.

Socio-political issues faced by LGBTQIA+

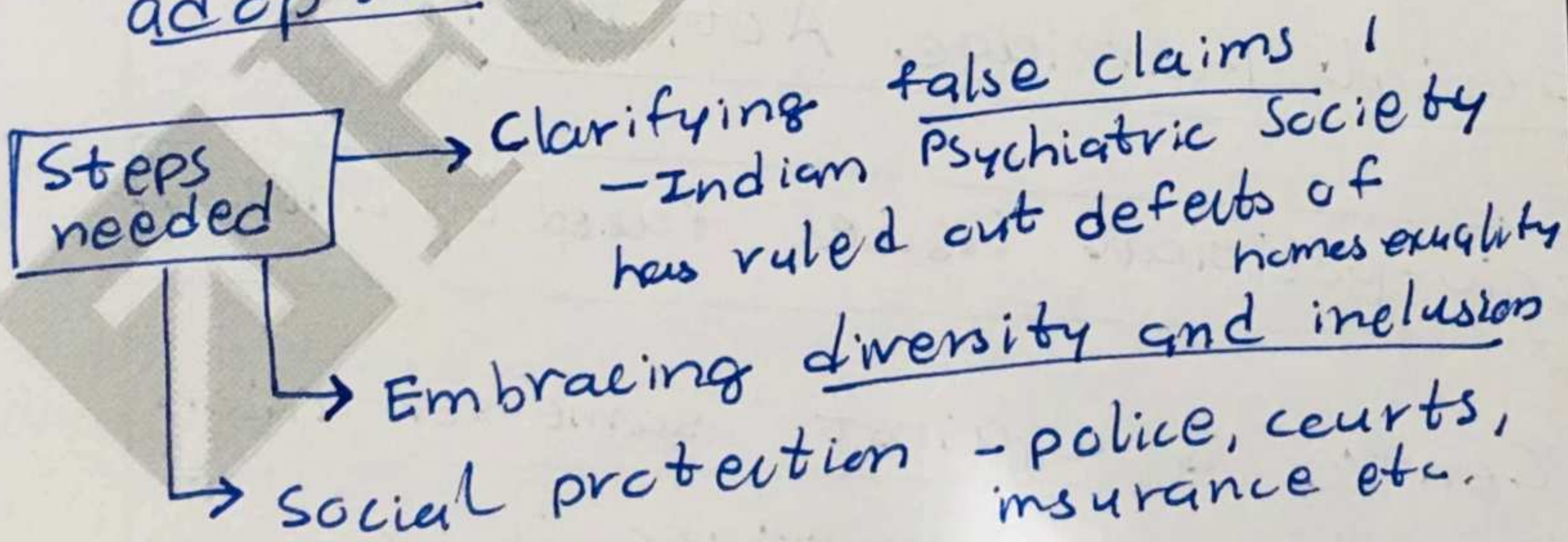
① Centre is against same-sex union
by claiming marriage is a
union of a man and a woman
- heterosexual couple

② Religious organizations from all religions are against it by asserting marriage is for procreation, and not recreation.

③ Pseudo-scientific claims of homosexuality being a disease and unnatural - as it can't lead to reproduction.

④ Lack of social security net - pension of deceased partner can't be transferred

⑤ No rights to inheritance, adoption etc.



Same-sex marriage needs to be publicly discussed to remove apprehensions, improve social acceptability and uphold right to life.

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TOTAL MARKS			



Q.8) Assess the relevance of lateral entry in civil services in making the governance structure more effective, efficient, and people oriented. (10 marks, 150 words)

शासन संरचना को अधिक प्रभावी, कुशल और जनोन्मुख बनाने में सिविल सेवाओं में लेटरल एंट्री की प्रासंगिकता का आकलन कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Lateral entry refers to recruiting experts in bureaucracy at middle or higher levels.

E.g: Madhabi Puri Buch is the first non-IAS SEBI chairperson.

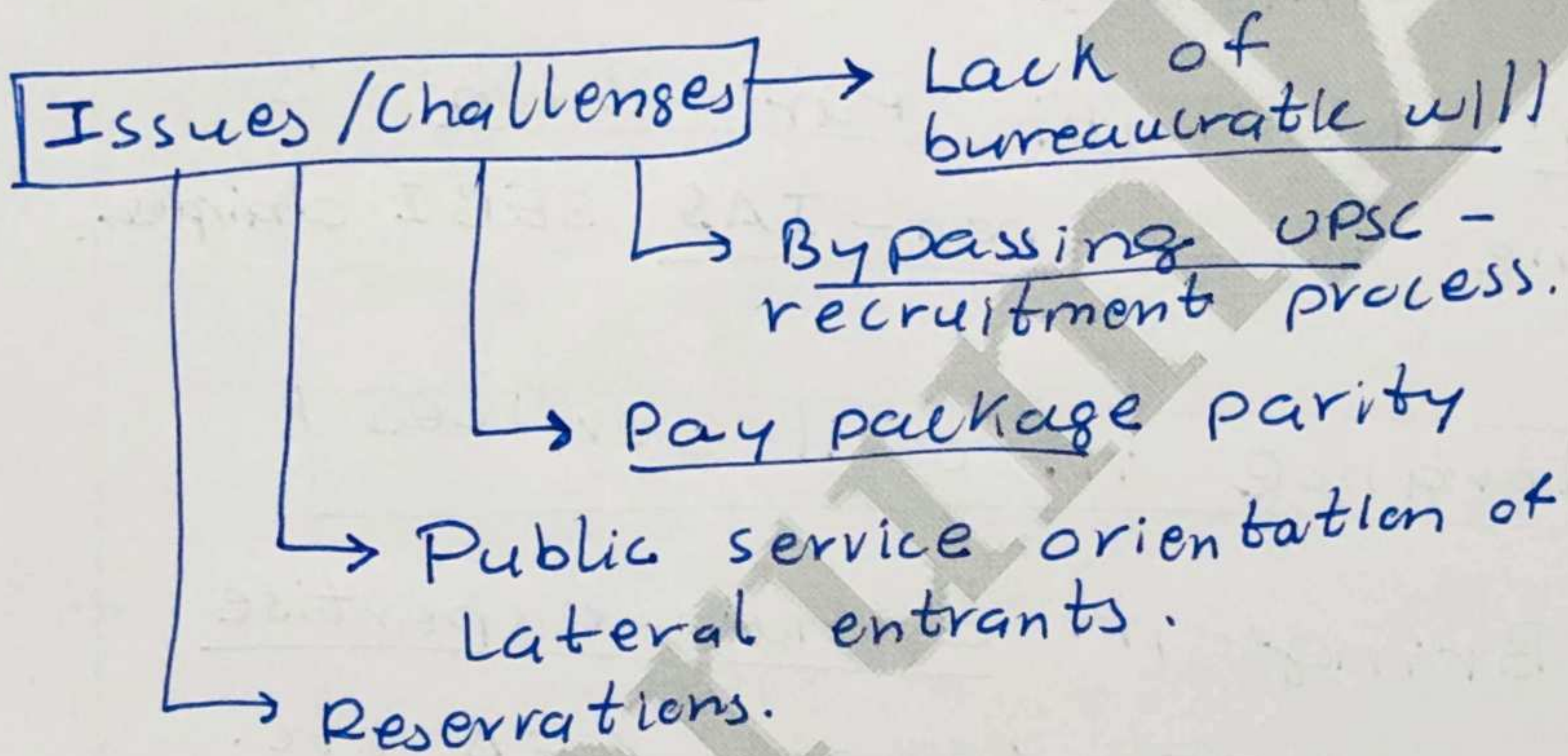
Relevance in civil services

- ① Bring in domain expertise
- NITI Aayog, CEA etc.
- ② Improve competition within civil servants to make them efficient.
- ③ Growing demand of specialists over generalists in bureaucracy.
- 9 Joint Secretaries recruited laterally in 2019.

④ Bridge the gap between government and industry.

⑤ Diversity of inputs:

- Raghuram Rajan, ex-RBI Governor.



Lateral entry should be gradually introduced in areas needing high expertise - space, Artificial Intelligence, blockchain etc. so as to make governance more effective and public-oriented.

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Q.9) Built upon common democratic values and shared vision of strategic autonomy, India-France bilateral ties exude a promise of stability, growth, and security in a time of geo-political flux and uncertainty. Do you agree? Substantiate your answer. (10 marks, 150 words)

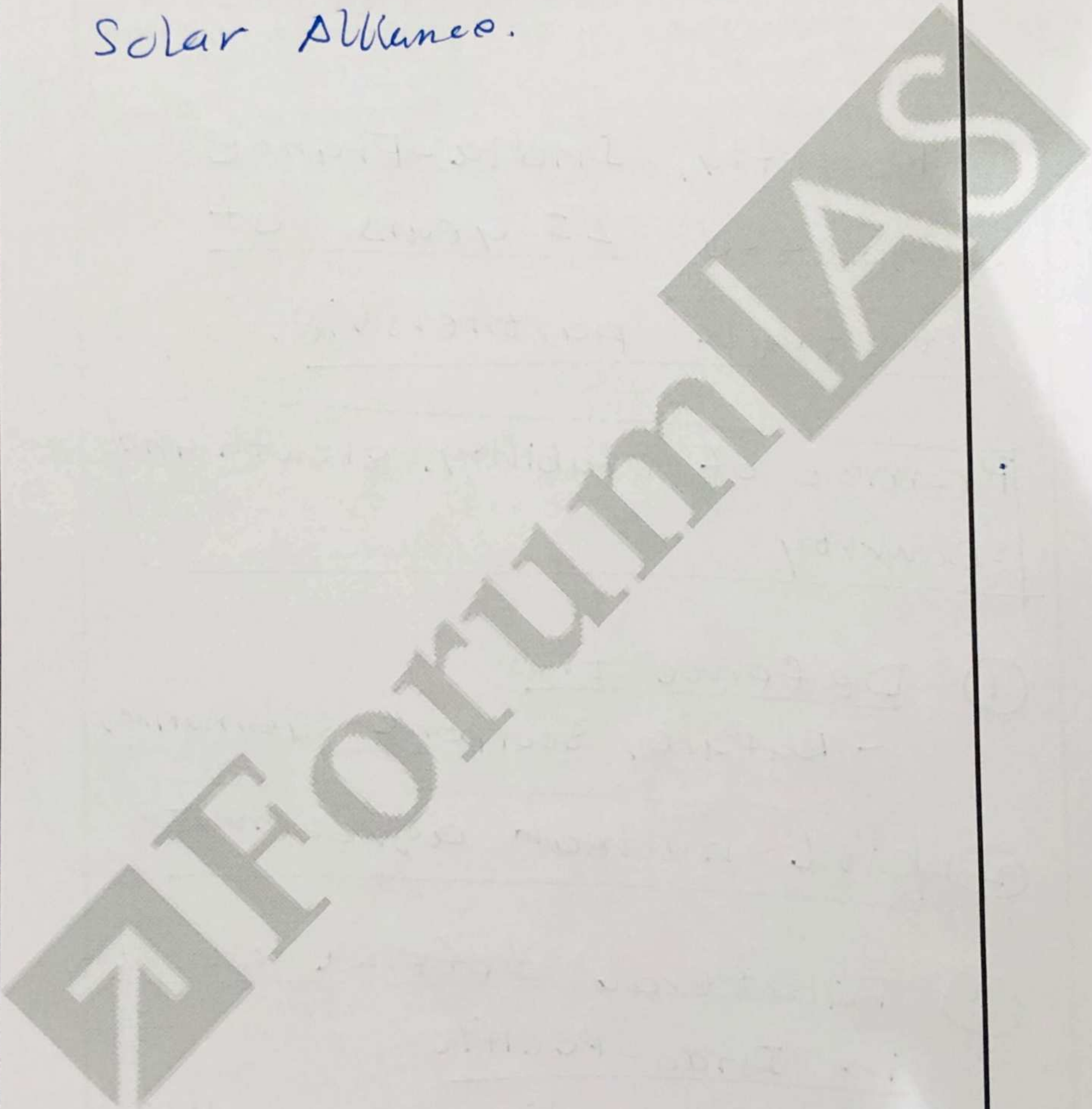
सामान्य लोकतांत्रिक मूल्यों और रणनीतिक स्वायत्तता के साझा दृष्टिकोण पर आधारित, भारत-फ्रांस द्विपक्षीय संबंध भू-राजनीतिक प्रवाह और अनिश्चितता के समय में स्थिरता, विकास और सुरक्षा का वादा करते हैं। क्या आप सहमत हैं? अपने उत्तर की पुष्टि कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Recently, India-France completed 25 years of strategic partnership.

Promise of stability, growth and security

- ① Defence ties
- Rafale, Scorpene submarines.
- ② Civil nuclear agreement
- ③ Bilateral defence exercises in Indo-Pacific
- Garuda, Varuna, Shakti

④ Co-founder of International
Solar Alliance.





Q.10) As an important attribute of soft power, "Knowledge diplomacy" has the potential to further various objectives of foreign policy. Explain. (10 marks, 150 words)

सॉफ्ट पावर के एक महत्वपूर्ण गुण के रूप में, 'नॉलेज डिप्लोमेसी' में विदेश नीति के विभिन्न उद्देश्यों को आगे बढ़ाने की क्षमता है। व्याख्या कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Knowledge diplomacy

refers to leveraging human resource, research, acquired knowledge and technology to further strengthen foreign policy.

Potential

① Soft power

- Yoga, Ayurveda,

② Push for renewable and green energy

- Solar energy

③ Strengthening food and

energy security

- Climate resilient agriculture

- Millets, Organic Farming

④ Highly trained human resource

- IT, Space etc.

Feedback

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Q.11) Referring to the case laws through which the collegium system in India evolved, critically assess its functioning. (15 marks, 250 words)

उन केस कानूनों का उल्लेख करते हुए जिनके माध्यम से भारत में कॉलेजियम प्रणाली विकसित हुई, इसकी कार्यप्रणाली का आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Collegium System refers to system of CJI and four senior-most SC judges which recommend appointments and transfer of judges in Supreme Court and High Courts.

Evolution of collegium system

① By convention - the senior-most SC judge is to be made CJI.

- Implicit in Article 124

② However, 1980s-1990s witnessed violation of this convention with Executive appointing "favourable" candidates.

③ Supreme Court reacted by evolving its collegium system in Second Judges Case (1993) by making opinion of the collegium obligatory.

- Crucial for retaining judicial independence and prominence over its functioning.

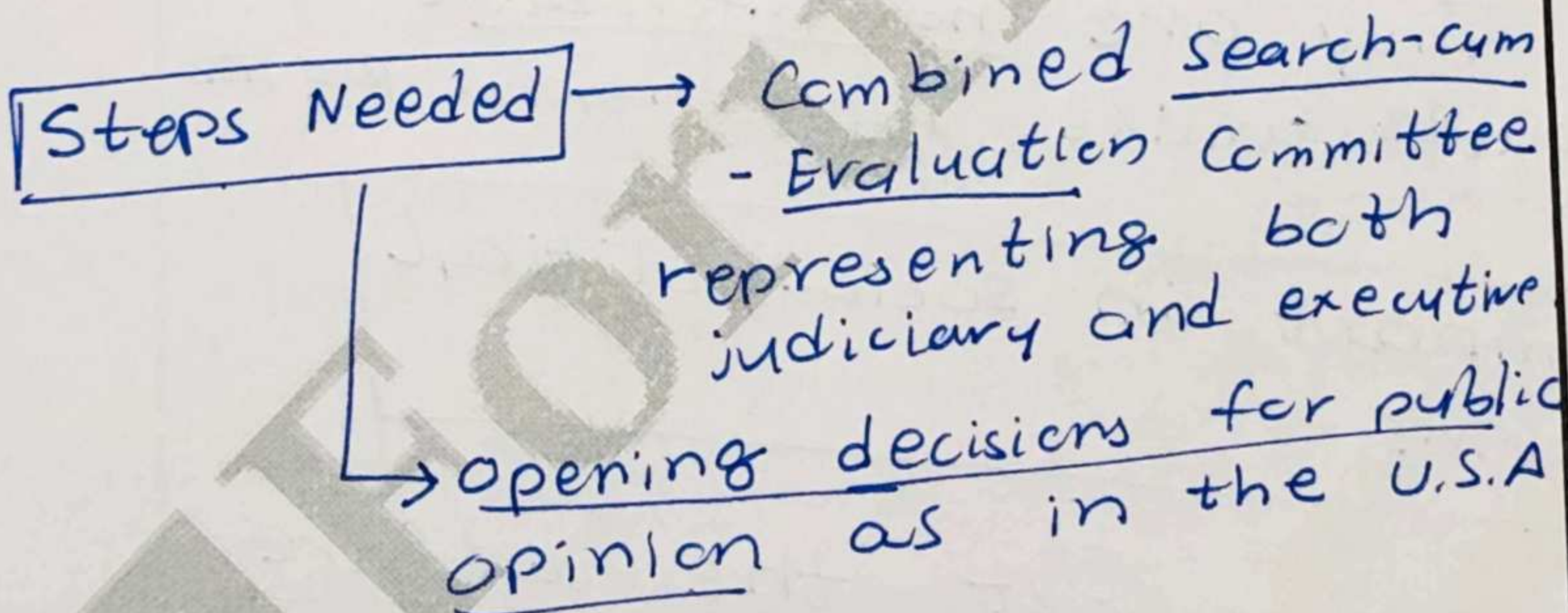
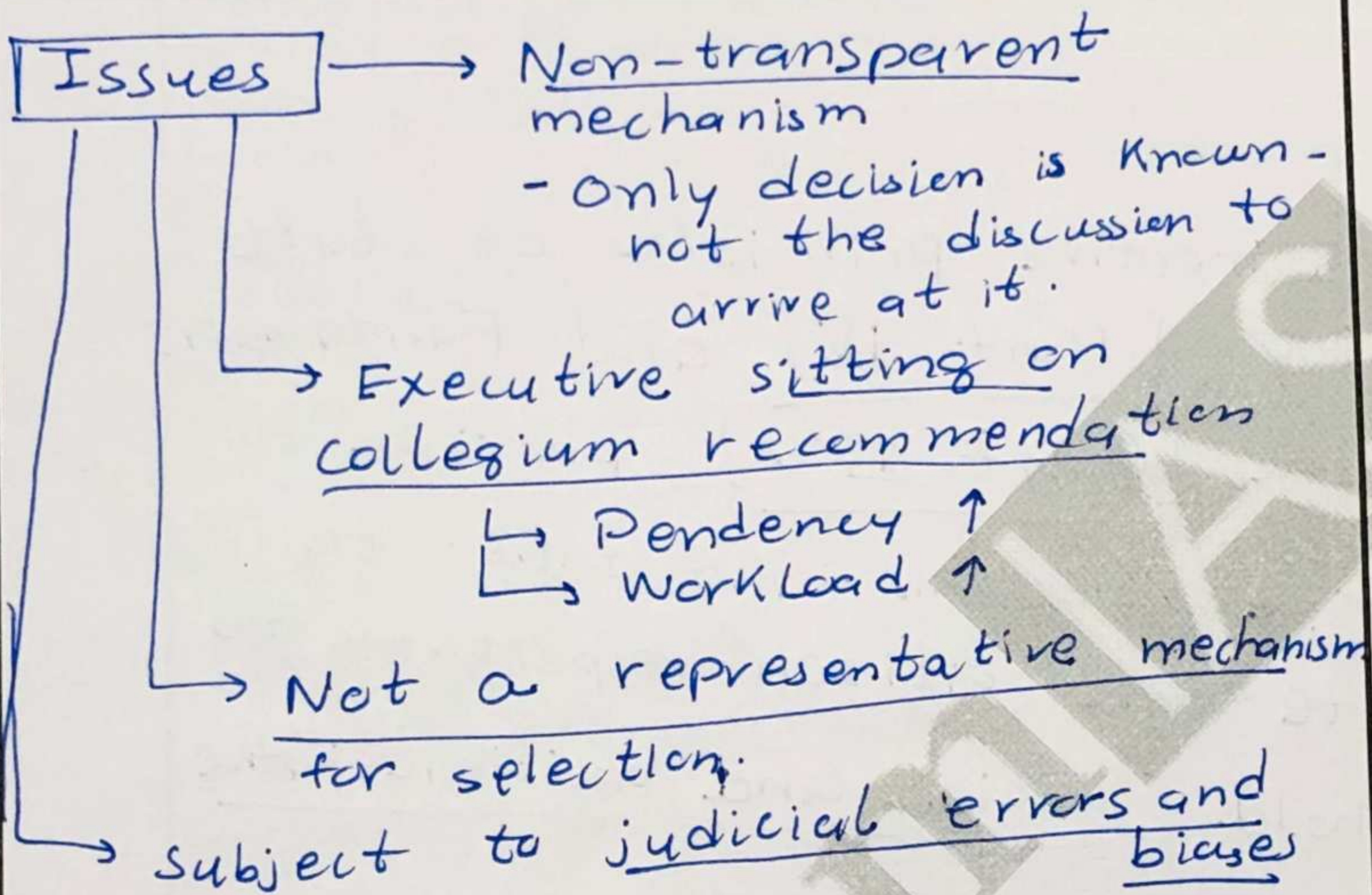
④ Parliament reacted by bringing National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) [99th CAA, 2014] for appointment of judges.

⑤ In Fourth Judges Case (2015), SC struck down 99th CAA and restored the collegium system.

Functioning

Positives

→ Separation of powers
 → Reduced executive interference
 → Judges better placed to judge suitability and eligibility of judges



Collegium system should be replaced / modified with more democratic mechanism by taking inspiration from other constitutions - South Africa, U.S.A etc.

Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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Please put tick marks in the above table. Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			



Q.12) Considering the non-enforceable nature of fundamental duties and directive principles of state policy, critically examine their impact in socio-political norms. (15 marks, 250 words)

मौलिक कर्तव्यों और राज्य के नीति निदेशक सिद्धांतों की गैर-प्रवर्तनीय प्रकृति को ध्यान में रखते हुए, सामाजिक-राजनीतिक मानदंडों में उनके प्रभाव की आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Directive principles of state policy [Part IV] and Fundamental Duties [Part IV-A] provide for directions and duties to state and citizen respectively to uphold social and political justice.

They are non-enforceable in courts unlike Fundamental Rights

Impact in socio-political norms

① Bring out the welfare nature of state - a basic feature of constitution.
- Art. 39 - equal pay, equal distribution of resources

② Provides direction to states to evolve policies in public's benefit.

- Art. 46 - socioeconomic interests of SCs, STs, BCs etc.

③ Instill sense of unity and uphold integrity of nation.

- Art. 51-A - Fundamental duty.

④ Provide for realization of direct and participatory democracy.

- Art. 40 - village panchayats.

- Art. 43B - Cooperatives.

Issues due to non-enforceability

① Continuance of socio-economic divide

- Concentration of wealth in few hands.

- ② ~~Cont~~ Continuance of actions derogatory to women and vulnerables.
- ③ Rise in consumption of drugs and intoxicants in India.
- ④ Incidences of Khap panchayats - against free-legal aid to Poor (Art. 39-A) and impinges on access to justice.

However, arrangements have been made to enforce directive principles, fundamental duties to realize their aim - Prevention of Insult to National Honour Act, 1971, Wild life Protection Act 1973, Equal Remuneration Act, 1971 etc.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			



Q.13) Despite its vital role for the smooth functioning of the body politic, constitutional punctuality remains conspicuous by its absence. Discuss. (15 marks, 250 words)

राजनीतिक निकाय के सुचारु कामकाज में इसकी महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका के बावजूद, संवैधानिक समय की पाबंदी इसकी अनुपस्थिति के कारण स्पष्ट बनी हुई है। चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Constitutional punctuality

refers to adherence to constitutional principles and ~~never~~ never letting it to be violated, and ensuring the timely implementation of its provision.

Role in smooth functioning of body politic

- ① Realize the vision of constitutional makers.
- ② Drive towards more equal and egalitarian society.
- ③ Protect voice of people and fulfill their demands.

- Panchayati Raj Institutions, Municipalities

④ Uphold social, political, economic justice.

Absence of constitutional punctuality

① Despite abrogation of Article-370 - state legislature hasn't been created since 2019.

② Constitution mandated Official Language Commission to be established after 15 years of independence which was never done.

③ Misuse of Emergency Powers, President's Rules in past.

④ Rights of vulnerables - LGBTQIA
women have not been fully realized even after 73 years of ~~the~~ Constitution enforcement.

⑤ Delays in judicial appointments

⑥ Last Delimitation Commission was created in 2002 despite Art. 82 mandating it to be constituted every 10 years.

Constitutional punctuality
needs to be deeply engrained in the government organs to realize the highest potential of Indian Constitution and democracy.

Feedback
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TOTAL MARKS



Q.14) Frequent reliance on the ordinance making power by the government, not only dilutes the basic tenets of executive accountability in a parliamentary democracy, but also overlooks the democratic traditions of building consensus. Discuss with relevant examples.

(15 marks, 250 words)

सरकार द्वारा अध्यादेश बनाने की शक्ति पर बार-बार निर्भरता न केवल संसदीय लोकतंत्र में कार्यकारी जवाबदेही के बुनियादी सिद्धांतों को कमजोर करती है, बल्कि आम सहमति बनाने की लोकतांत्रिक परंपराओं को भी नजरअंदाज करती है। प्रासंगिक उदाहरणों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Art. 123 of the Constitution provides ordinance (legislation-making) powers to the President when the Parliament is not in session.

Dilution of executive accountability

- ① Bypasses the parliamentary approval
- 2021 ordinance to extend tenure of CBI and ED Directors.
- ② Assume power of legislature to make laws.
- National Medical Commission (2019) ordinance.

③ Usurp powers of States / UTs
 - National Capital Civil Services Authority Ordinance (2023)
 for Delhi.

④ Undermines collective responsibility to Lok Sabha
 - Art. 75

Overlooking consensus building

① No references to parliamentary standing committees.

② Bypass judiciary for opinions
 - Tribunals (Rationalization and Condition of Service) Ordinance 2021.

③ Asserting executive will over electoral voice.

Judicial Pronouncements

R.C. Cooper (1970)

↳ Ordinance is illegal if it doesn't warrant immediate need.

D.C. Wadhwa (1986)

↳ Re-promulgation of same ordinance is illegal/unconstitutional.

Krishna Kumar vs State of Bihar (2017)

↳ Re-promulgation of ordinance is liable to be struck down.

Ordinance-making power

is an extra-ordinary power - it should be used only in exceptional circumstances to provide immediate redution/justice.

Feedback

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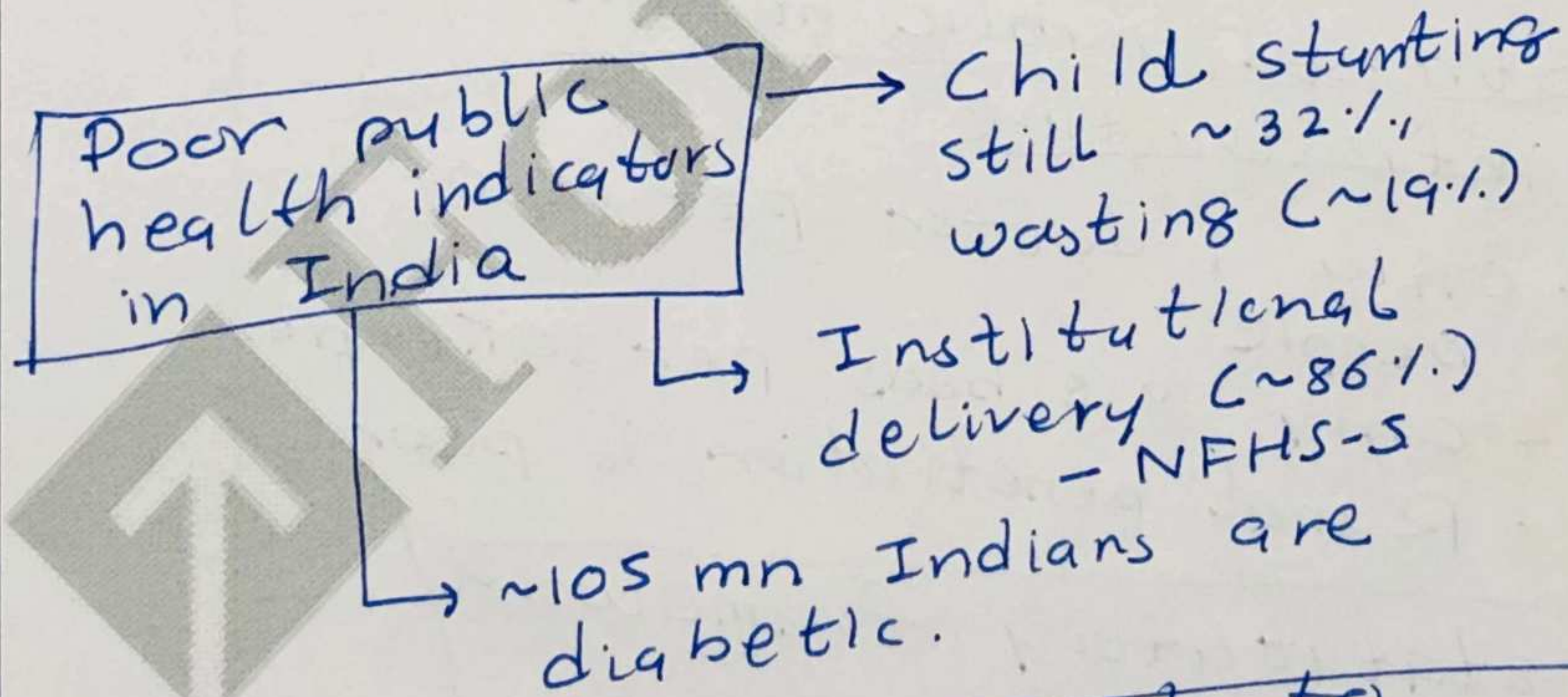
TOTAL MARKS



Q.15) The critical reason for poor public health indicators in India goes beyond recognition of right to health as fundamental right. Do you think that a statutory framework alone can ameliorate the situation? (15 marks, 250 words)

भारत में खराब सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य संकेतकों का महत्वपूर्ण कारण स्वास्थ्य के अधिकार को मौलिक अधिकार के रूप में मान्यता न देना है। क्या आपको लगता है कि केवल वैधानिक ढाँचा ही स्थिति को सुधार सकता है? (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Right to Health is recognised as a fundamental right under right to life (Article 21) by the supreme court. Recently, Rajasthan became the first state to ~~not~~ realize right to health through Law.



Factors beyond right to health for poor public health

- ① Lack of awareness on public health.
- ② Water, Sanitation, Hygiene (WASH) issues.
- ③ Undernutrition - inadequate access to nutritional food.
 - PDS largely provide cereals
 - ignoring protein intake.
- ④ Overpopulation and spread of communicable disease
- ⑤ Stressed public health infrastructure
 - only 1 doctor per 1400 people
 - only 8.5 beds per 10K people.
 - Rural penetration is poor.

Is statutory framework alone sufficient?

statutory framework alone is

not enough to ameliorate public health.

- Needs effective implementation, Last-mile delivery and accessibility.
- Needs active public participation and robust feedback mechanisms.
- Needs behavioural change in public to adopt healthy lifestyle.
 - Junk food, alcohol, tobacco.
- Maintenance of hygiene.
 - Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

Thus, right to health can be realized via active participation of both public and government and focus on preventive measures to ensure better life outcomes.

Feedback

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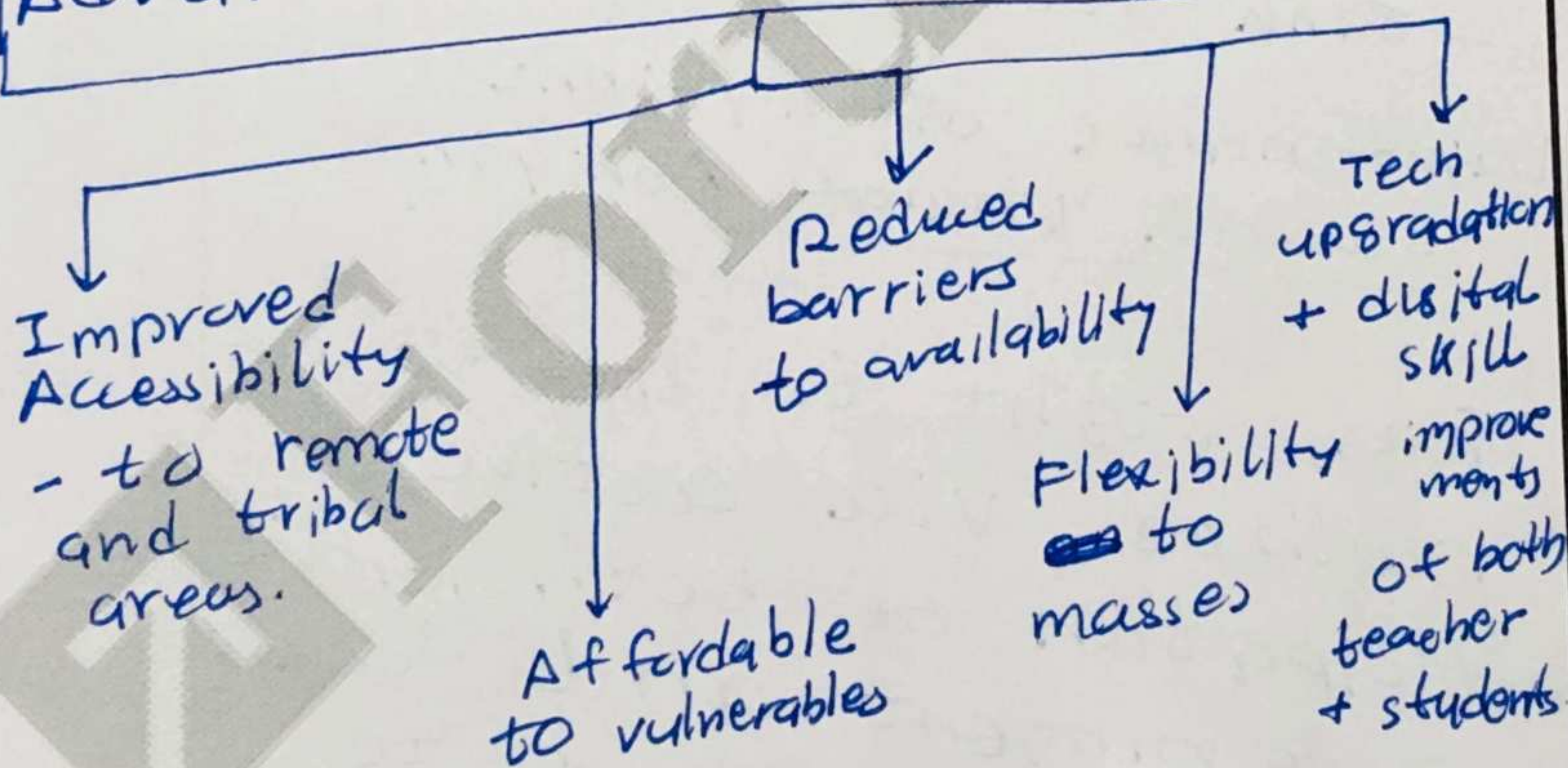
Q.16) Reforming the education infrastructure through digital interventions is a progressive step, but it has its limitations too. Comment. (15 marks, 250 words)

डिजिटल हस्तक्षेप के माध्यम से शिक्षा के बुनियादी ढांचे में सुधार एक प्रगतिशील कदम है, लेकिन इसकी अपनी सीमाएँ भी हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Digital India, SWAYAM, PO P-e-pathshala, National Digital Library etc. are

Some of the recent digital interventions to reform education infrastructure.

Advantages of digital interventions



Limitations

① Digital divide

- Access to mobile, laptops, tablets.
- Network infrastructure in rural areas
- Internet speed still below 512 kbps despite 4G mandates of 2mbps.

② Digital illiteracy especially among poor and vulnerable.

③ Security and privacy issues

- Bullying through online platforms.
- Harassment by fraudulent ed-tech companies.

④ Training and sensitization of teachers

⑤ Content quality of courses

- Lack of regulation
- Misinformation

Steps needed

- ① Regulation of quality of content.
- ② Digital skill training especially in rural and remote areas.
- ③ Building digital infrastructure in remote areas.
 - BharatNet Project
 - Kerala Optical Fibre Network Project.

Digital interventions have immense potential to accelerate India's progress towards

SDG-4 - Quality Education

Feedback
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TOTAL MARKS			



Q.17) Electoral bond was brought in as a reform that was high on intent but has proved to be low on substance. Do you agree? Justify. (15 marks, 250 words)

चुनावी बॉन्ड को एक ऐसे सुधार के रूप में लाया गया था, जिसका इरादा उच्च था, लेकिन यह कमतर साबित हुआ है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? औचित्य सिद्ध कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Electoral bond scheme

was launched in 2017 to curb the menace of black money and corruption in political funding.

Provisions

① Electoral bond - promissory note on behalf of bank account holder to political party he/she intends to donate.

② Removed ceiling on corporate funding.

③ Remove anonymous 'cash donations'

~~④ High on intent~~

High on intent

① Curb illicit funding through
Laundering.

② Improve transparency

③ Curb off-the-back donations
from corporates.

④ Ensure funds are used in
accountable manner.

⑤ Protect privacy of donor.

Low on substance

① Though available for all
parties who secured 1% of
total votes in last general
elections.

- majority of chunk of
donations have been received
by two national parties [>90%]

② No way to ascertain whether
funds were used for intended
purpose.

③ Given rise to corporate funding - raising questions on political favours to corporates.

④ Cash donations ^{continue to} be in practice ^{reducing} the intent of ~~minimise~~ electoral bonds.

Electoral bond schemes needs to be tweaked to improve accountability of parties for transparent use - through declaration of fund utilization on their websites etc. This way, ~~can~~ electoral funding can be better utilized.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS		

Q.18) The profound impact of the data revolution and widespread smartphone usage has necessitated the use of digital tools in welfare programmes. Discuss. (15 marks, 250 words)

डेटा क्रांति और व्यापक स्मार्टफोन उपयोग के गहरे प्रभाव ने कल्याण कार्यक्रमों में डिजिटल उपकरणों के उपयोग को आवश्यक बना दिया है। चर्चा कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India ~~is~~ ^{has} the second largest Internet users base in the world - owing to rise in smartphone usage and affordable and fast internet connections. This has led to rise in analysis of data generated for better policy-making.

Necessitating use of digital tools in welfare programmes

- ① Direct-Benefit Transfer through mobile-linked bank accounts - JAM - PM-Jan Dhan Yojana.

② Transfer and delivery of public goods

- PM-Ujjawala → LPG
- COWIN

③ Analysis of disease burden through data generated

- Aarogya Setu app for pandemic management.

④ Transfer of wages and curbing diversion

- National Mobile Monitoring System - e-attendance for MGNREGS worker

⑤ Ensuring last-mile delivery

- PM-KISAN
- UMANG APP for new-age governance.

⑥ Tracking welfare indicators

- Nutritional delivery via

mobile-linked NFSA beneficiaries

⑦ using data as feedback for policy improvements

- Solid waste management under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

Government is planning to launch Bima - Vastar programme [Insurance for all] through digital means to further strengthen the social security net by leveraging the ongoing data revolution and rising smartphone usage.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			



Q.19) Presidency of G20 is but a reflection of India's quest for a more just and polycentric world order, where the voice of the global south is mainstreamed not muzzled. Elucidate.

(15 marks, 250 words)

G20 की अध्यक्षता एक अधिक न्यायपूर्ण और बहुकेंद्रित विश्व व्यवस्था के लिए भारत की खोज का प्रतिबिंब है, जहां विश्वव्यापी दक्षिण की आवाज को मुख्यधारा में रखा जाए, दबाया न जाए। स्पष्ट कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

India is the G20 president for 2023 with its main priorities → multilateral reforms
→ women-led development
→ digital infrastructure.
→ inclusive and resilient growth.
→ transition to green and renewable energy.

Quest for just and polycentric world

① Push for multilateral reforms
- UN, IMF, World Bank etc.
to reflect the changing dynamics of the world.

② Pushing towards accommodation of diversity and multiplicity of developing nations.

③ Moving away from dominance of G-7 and towards a broader G-20 [~85% of global GDP and 2-3rd of population]

④ Working Groups for a just future.

- G20 Disaster Reduction Working Group
- G20 Energy Transition Working Group
- T20 [Think 20 Working Group]

Mainstreaming Global South

① India's hosting of Global South Summit under the overarching G-20 framework to bring to the forefront voice of South Asia, Latin America, Africa etc.

② India's proposal for African Union's admission to G-20 to accommodate Global South farther.

③ Pushing for energy and food security of vulnerable nations - from Global South.
- Renewable Energy, funds from developed nations etc.

④ Push for digital infrastructure - to bring Global South at par with Global North.

India's G-20 Theme of One World, One Family and One Life is a reflection of India's quest for mainstreaming voice of global south while pushing for just and polycentric world.

Feedback
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TOTAL MARKS			



Q.20) The new cold war between the USA and China may have the effect of casting a long shadow on India's strategic interests from Pacific to Atlantic. Evaluate. (15 marks, 250 words)

संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका और चीन के बीच नए शीत युद्ध का प्रभाव प्रशांत से अटलांटिक तक भारत के रणनीतिक हितों पर लंबी छाया डालने का हो सकता है। मूल्यांकन कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Various statements and references from the U.S.A reflects on China being its only ^{major} competitor and threat economically and geopolitically.

Impact of USA-China cold war on India's interest

- ① Growing proximity of India with the U.S.A can further increase maritime tensions especially in South China Sea and Indian Ocean Region and also along LAC
- ② India's membership of QUAD, Indo-Pacific Economic Framework, I2U2 and also SCO, BRICS

may make it difficult to balance between ~~the~~ USA-China

- ③ China's chip war to restrict export of gallium and germanium has threatened energy security of both USA and India alike
- ④ Rise in China-Pakistan-Afghanistan proximity may have security implications on India
 - Nuclear plant proposed in CPEC
 - Belt and Road Initiative via Pakistan-Occupied-Kashmir
- ⑤ Threats to sea-line communication in Indian Ocean, Malacca Strait due to rise in maritime infrastructure of both USA and China
 - Chinese port in Djibouti, Gwadar etc.
 - AUKUS and nuclear proliferation

Steps needed

- ① Active cooperation between USA and China - at least on energy security, climate change.
- ② Preventing nuclear proliferation in Indo-Pacific.
- ③ Pushing for free, fair and open trade in Indo-Pacific and Atlantic region.

India is strategically positioned to balance the growing tensions between USA and China. It should actively use G20, BRICS, QUAD, SCO to increase cooperation and reduce tension between the two.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Mentor Feedback Questions

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Test Goal

- 1
- 2
- 3

Outcomes

-
-
-

Marking Scheme

Mark	Good	Average	Below average
10 Marker	3.75 – 5.0	3.0 – 3.5	< 3.0
15 Marker	5.75 – 7.0	4.0 – 5.5	< 4.0
✓✓	Key / Relevant Point		
✗	Vague / Irrelevant		

* Subject to change without prior notice.