

TEST CODE 8 3 4 2 2 0

ATS 2025

Time Allowed : Three Hours  
समय : तीन घंटे

Forum IAS

Maximum Marks : 250  
अधिकतम अंक : 250

## POLITICAL SCIENCE &amp; I.R/ राजनीति विज्ञान और आई.आर

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	Shiksha Pathak		
Roll No./ अनुक्रमांक	1910131995	Medium/ माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/ परीक्षा केंद्र	Kawol bagh	Date/ दिनांक	72 August 2025

\*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. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Email, Roll No, Mobile). उत्तर पुस्तिका में उपयुक्त विवरण (जैसे नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर, मोबाइल) प्रस्तुत करें।	
1			2. There are EIGHT questions divided in two Sections in the question paper. Question 1 and 5 are compulsory. You can attempt any THREE out of the remaining, Choosing at least ONE Question from each section. प्रश्न पत्र में आठ प्रश्न दो खंडों में विभाजित हैं। प्रश्न 1 और 5 अनिवार्य हैं। आप प्रत्येक खंड से कम से कम एक प्रश्न चुनकर, शेष में से किसी भी तीन का प्रयास कर सकते हैं।	
2			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. किसी प्रश्न/भाग द्वारा किए गए अंकों की संख्या उसके सामने दर्शाई गई है।	
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 प्रमाण पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जिसका उल्लेख इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (QCA) पुस्तिका के मुखपृष्ठ पर दिए गए स्थान में स्पष्ट रूप से किया जाना चाहिए।	
4			5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाना चाहिए।	
5			6. Content is more important than content length. विषय-सामग्री लंबाई की तुलना में विषय-सामग्री अधिक महत्वपूर्ण है।	
6			7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off. प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा गया कोई भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ का भाग स्पष्ट रूप से काट दिया जाना चाहिए।	
7				
8				
Total/ कूल अंक	250		For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु	
Examiner's Discretion/ मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक:			Start Time/ प्रारंभ करने का समय : 3 hours	End Time/ समाप्त करने का समय:
Total Marks/ कूल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ ऑनलाइन <input 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 :	Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :
			EG/ ईजी : ① ② ③ ④ ⑤	

**Note:** Students are expected to incorporate suggestions from the feedback provided in the answers. Discussion classes for the tests are also available online in your portal to aid in your preparation. Further, students are requested to see the good copies of the tests and learn from them. You can also discuss your copy with a Mentor and discover ways and means to improve your answers, or if you have any issues with this test / copy. Ask specific questions, to get specific answers.

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## EXAMINER'S REMARKS

WUOLCUMMILAS

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### 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.

Section- A

Q.1) Answer the following questions in 150 words.

a) Every method in comparative politics is a compromise between depth and breadth. Comment  
(10 Marks)

Comparative politics deals with the study of state and relative differences that exist between the politics of different nations.

The methods in political science always have to tradeoff between the depth of understanding either in one state or in one sphere, and width of the spheres covered.

Aristotle compared 158 Constitutions in his attempt to cover these number of states. He had to narrow down the spheres to be studied, limiting to legal sphere.

Similarly, Post-behavioural revolution, many new methods like systems approach emerged, it could study and compare many nation including the newly

developed nation as held by David Easton, yet, it lacked analysis in depth.

An improvement can be seen in Structural-functional approach by Almond and Powell where different functions are dealt in depth while trying to embrace wider world.

methods like Political sociology (Karl Marx), Political economy (Adam Smith) and political culture (Sydney and Verba) gave in-depth analysis of specific spheres yet they tend to overlook the rest of the significant dimensions.

Nevertheless, the paradox between depth and width is not difficult to resolve. A Combined method can be used and further a case-by-case understanding is always sustainable.

**Feedback**

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#	G	A	P
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			

b) "Party systems are both products of structure and agents of change."

Comment

(10 Marks)

"Political parties are fundamental to the working of democracy" - Harold Lasswell.

They are both the products and agents of change in society. Party system consist of number of parties having systemic relevance. They are undercurrents to all the major political events.

Products of structure

Duverger has shown the relationship between a state's electoral system and party system. If there is majoritarian system of election, there will be two-party system, while a proportional electoral system leads to multi-party system.

Similarly, the structure of society also influences party system. In Prismatic societies, Party system is less modernised and more elitist.

without wider base.

In Communist society (China, Cuba) party system is of monolithic elite dominated by single party as pointed out by Raymond Aron.

Agents of Social change

According to Rajini Kothari, Political Parties have two functions -

- ① Formation of government
- ② Social movement.

Indian national Congress played a pivotal role in India's independence as agent of social change. Political party in this function of interest aggregation tend to mobilise public opinion for change.

Thus, Party system is strongly attach to the working of democratic stab.

**Feedback**

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TOTAL MARKS	
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c) Assess the contemporary relevance of nuclear restraint and arms control in an era of emerging technologies and strategic instability. (10 Marks)

Nuclear restraint initiatives and Arms control preparation began as "anti-thesis" ideas with the development of these technologies in an attempt to save the humanity from potential scourge.

However, Emerging technologies like Artificial intelligence, cyber space technologies, Drones, tactical nuclear weapons questions the relevance of such control-strategies.

Relevance in nuclear technologically advanced era

↳ Fading relevance due to distinct nature of new weaponry.

③ Difficulty in identifying the adversary for instance in cyberwarfare like Stuxnet in Iran and Solarflare in US, it was too difficult to identify

the agent with whom Limitation treaties can be signed like the cold war era.

② Dual use of the weapons which are important for advancement of the nation prevents nations from engaging in restricting it as innovation will hamper (Collinsedge - dilemma)

③ Lack of attribution in case of autonomous weapons and blurring of lines between civil and warfare space.

↳ Still relevant

④ as held by Joseph Nye, states are security maximisers, thus will try to minimise potential harm, for instance Paul's call for protection of Cyber sphere.

⑤ Nuclear weapon is unmatchable to other emerging ones, as global nuclear regime already exist and nations has inherent responsibility to not use it.

**Feedback**

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TOTAL MARKS	
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d) Compare Bretton Woods institutions with Comecon on aims, mechanisms, and reasons for collapse/continuity. (10 Marks)

Bretton Woods institutions formed in 1945 which led the foundation for post-war liberal international governance structures supporting the Pax-America. It comprised of World bank, IMF, WTO etc.

Comecon was early attempt to consolidate the global governance however it collapsed due to its inherent drawbacks.

### Aims

Bretton woods aimed for universal membership, including Russia and China. While Comecon was stuck in world war mentality.

Bretton woods aimed to set up international economic order while Comecon was more regional in its approach.

Mechanisms

Bretton woods followed a more demo-  
cratic mechanism at the same time  
balancing the need to give importance  
to the global power.

Comcon couldn't do this delicate  
balancing and followed a more  
Consensus based mechanism for decision  
making

Reason for collapse

Institutional faults, Lack of  
wider support had led to collapse  
of Comcon.

Currently, Bretton woods too  
is facing backlash by developing nations  
for its biased and unrepresentative  
quota system.

Nevertheless, both lacked the  
voice of global South that led to  
them being criticised and questioned.

**Feedback**

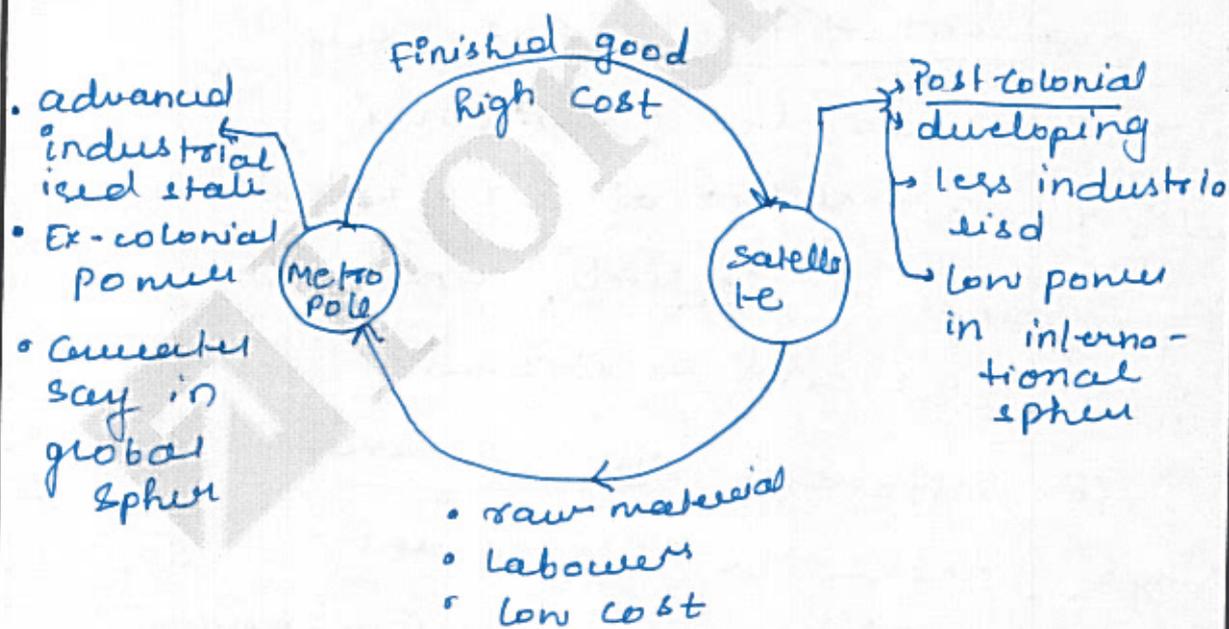
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TOTAL MARKS			

e) Metropole-satellite relations in dependency analysis. Comment (10 Marks)

Dependency analysis was done by Marxist scholars to show how capitalist economic structure in global sphere still exploits the workers and post-colonial states.

Scholars like Immanuel Wallerstein has shown core-periphery relation also known as metropole satellite relations to convey the exploitative nature of world's system.



It was further explained by A-G Frank, who showed the

development of under-development in the satellite states. Kwame Nkrumah

called it Neo-colonialism, where the colonial powers still exploits the post-colonial state in subtle

- ways through
- ① unfair trade
  - ② Dominance in international institutions
  - ③ Conditional aid transfer.

In current times, we see such tendency in third world nation where problem of Plenty has been aggravated due to dependency of nation on export of raw material creating range of conflicts and issue in social and political sphere. For instance, oil resources in Congo and the consequent conflict and crisis due to involvement of militant groups and elites leading to suffering for workers and commoner.

**Feedback**

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TOTAL MARKS	
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Q.2) a) Globalisation has produced two broad but divergent forms of resistance—one egalitarian and trans-national, the other nationalist and exclusionary. Compare these left-wing and right-wing anti-globalisation movements in terms of origins, core demands and likely implications for the future of the nation-state. (20 marks)

Globalisation refers to the increased interconnectedness among nations leading rise in flow of goods, services, capital, people and ideas, with the emergence of Flat World (Anthony Giddens)

In its decade long journey it has faced many challenges due to revolutionary and wide ranging changes that it comes with. It has led to left-wing and right-wing anti-globalisation movements.

Egalitarian and trans-national movements

They emerged in context of rising intra-state and inter-state inequalities due to globalisation.

Joseph Stiglitz in his work 'globalisation and its discontent' highlighted the inequality and demanded to fill the 'democratic deficit' in global institutions by giving more representation to the marginalised highlighted through Post-washington Consensus.

Global forums have been formed ( World Social Forum) to counter institutions of global governance like IMF.

At domestic level, the impact of such left-wing movement has been moderate to low. For instance, emergence of Nam Admi Party in India.

Communist scholars and Marxist analyst try to create global awareness against the neo-liberal aspect of globalisation that is hurting the

economy of smaller nation.

In environmental ethics, we see, movements like #Fridayforfuture that demands alternate growth path other than exploitative neo-liberal development.

### Nationalist and exclusionary movements

These movements straddle across Culture and economy.

Migration in developed nation has

led to -

- ↳ Frustration among locals due to lack of employment opportunity
- ↳ Fear of getting dominated or diluted by migrants sharing different culture.
- ↳ Threat to their lives due to influx of migrants like drug peddlers, criminals and terrorists.

All these have led to people supporting right wing party who

improvements based on nationalist and cultural undercurrents.

For instance, rise of Victor Orban in Hungary, MAGA policy by Donald Trump, Green Party in Greece.

Further, In East and West Asia the globalising forces have led to emergence of reactionary elements who aim for protecting their culture from western influence.

In moderate form, we see Asian values, propounded by Mahatma Mohanandas, Lee Kuan Yew etc. On extreme side we see rise of Islamic fundamentalism like Al-Qaeda

Nevertheless, these movements show the response of the people in complex political dynamics. Yet, globalisation as such is not bad only when it promotes single value, it gets challenged (A Madhya Sen)

Feedback

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Please put tick marks in the above table.			
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TOTAL MARKS			

b) Evaluate the argument that cyclical crises of capitalism simultaneously fuel neo-right and neo-left currents in advanced economies. (15 marks)

Karl Marx in his book 'Communist Manifesto' explained the cyclical nature of boom and fall in capitalism and how it leads to frustration among masses.

The perceived boom and fall and its consequences leads to people searching for solutions and simultaneously supporting right and left current, currently it is neo-right and neo-left in advanced economies.

### The Boom Phase

It happens when the growth is high, economic production is rising, profits are surging. But it also leads to inequalities, the boom phase of Capitalist in England in 19th century led to widened

inequality.

The lower middle class, workers move towards neo-leftist ideology as they offer a solution through distributive justice. For instance, New deals act in US, Beveridge support in UK

In this case, the rich and capitalist do not support such neo-left movement and thus due to lack of financial support, they subside soon. (e.g.) Wall Street protests in USA.

### The recession Phase

In this phase, the economic growth stagnates, inflation rises, profits fall. Even the rich and capitalist are impacted.

In this time, anti-migration, free market, tariff on foreign

impacts, all these are demanded to protect the domestic economy. This leads to support for no-rightist.

Even capitalist like Elon Musk in US, support such movement as it leads to their sustenance in long run.

Apart from economy, a narrative of security threat from other cultures is also created.

As no-rightist trends have been getting support even from dominant sections, we are seeing them on rise in west and Europe.

Yet, localised protests (no-left) are also present, like 'No Kings protest', tinamaru square, protest in china & thus, they exist simultaneously.

**Feedback**

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TOTAL MARKS	
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c) Evaluate the concept of securitization: how do issues move from normal politics to "security," and with what policy consequences? (15 marks)

Securitization as concept was explained by Bailey Buzan, where he enumerated how issues are securitized or made an 'issue of security' by the political elements.

Movements from normal politics to security.

It is part of Anthony Giddens's 'structuration', where he shows that not only man get influence by structure (anarchy) but it also changes the structure by thinking differently.

In the same way, securitization happens by thinking and speaking differently and to attract the attention of public to favourable issue.

Nation-states follow this sterilization to gain legitimacy for their acts from public. For example, Pakistan creating narrative of India as primary threat to justify allocation to defence and not on social sector that causes more death.

It is also used to promote National Integration by giving a Common Threat. For instance, in diverse country like India, Pakistani attack acts as unifying force developing a common element of hatred against terrorism.

### Policy Consequences

There can be positive impact as it would be easier to formulate and implement a policy.

securitized object or event with limited assistance.

However, On negative side important issues are overlooked that do not serve political Purpose but are significant for instance, focus on development, maternal health, poverty etc.

Sometimes, Public Conscience and reasoning can act as counter to state power of agenda setting (Steven Lucas). For instance,

In India, India against Corruption movement brought in center and securitized the issue of corruption leading formulation of Lokpal bill.

Thus, Public reasoning (Amanat ya ser) when united can act at par with state in the act of securitization.

**Feedback**

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.3) a) Assess the adequacy of balance of power and deterrence as Realist mechanisms for order in the post-Cold War era. (20 marks)

Realist tools for management of power as recommended by Maoh-J Morganthau involves balance of power and deterrence.

'Balance of Power' <sup>(Bop)</sup> refers to the process of preventing one actor from becoming preponderant power that impacts the sovereignty of other nations.

'Deterrence' on the other hand prevents war or conflict by raising the cost of victory. (e.g) mutually assured destruction during cold war due to possession of lethal nuclear weapons by both of the super powers.

Post Cold War era saw changes in the world order that questions the salvance of Bop and Deterrence

## changes in world order

↳ Erosion of Bipolarity to a weakly multi-polar world with unchallenged Hegemon US.

↳ Though smaller players exist, they cannot challenge the dominance of US by themselves.

↳ Complex interdependence as theorized by Robert Keohane and Joseph Nye compels nations to co-operate due to economic interdependence

(e.g) India - china trade touches ~150 billion dollars, though they have conflicts along the border

↳ Emergence of new technologies like Drone, AI, Cyber technology that blurs the adversary and thus the distinction in the new world is doubted as the accountability, attribution of

a single agent is difficult.

However, BoP and deterrence do not fade away rather they have transformed.

↳ In the era of great power rivalry, smaller and middle nations are going for issue-based balancing, for instance India going for omni-alignment (Sunderlal sing) in bodies like QUAD, I2U2 to balance china in Asia.

↳ BoP as internal balancing has emerged in importance. It implies making self-reliant states to reduce dependencies for instance, America-first policy, India's Atmanirbhar Bharat to reduce vulnerability to geopolitical upheavals.

↳ Though individual deterrence is difficult, collective deterrence is more in vogue. (e.g) AI Summit in France, co-hosted by India highlighted the need to prevent the misuse of AI. India engaging with nations like USA (ICET, COMPACT) to produce 'co-deterrence' (Sameer Lalwani) in emerging sector.

Thus, BOP and deterrence remains relevant, though their nature and tools of application has changed

'so long common sense is relevant, Balance of Power will continue to exist'

— David Harvey

**Feedback**

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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			

b) Compare the methods, reach, and constraints of pressure groups in developed and developing countries. (15 marks)

Pressure groups are group of people with the function of interest articulation or section of Population (Abaelich Armond)

They differ in their method, reach, and constraints as highlighted by scholars like Lipset, La Polambro, Abaelich Armond

Developed Countries	Developing Countries
<div style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; padding: 2px;">Method</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; padding: 2px;">Method</div>
<p>↳ <u>Institutionalised</u> methods of <u>lobbying</u> and <u>propagandising</u>, <u>recruitment</u> etc</p>	<p>↳ <u>Informal</u> methods of <u>strikes</u>, 'Bandhs' (<u>Blocked</u>), may <u>escalate</u> into <u>violence</u></p>

↳ Nations usually encourage constitutional expression of grievance

↳ Nations usually facing secessionist tendencies, suppress any attempt to create Public disorder

Reach

↳ Reach is wider among the intellectual elite industrial and professional Dominance of associational pressure group

↳ wider base among the lower strata like Farmers, labourers, industrial workers dominance of non-associational groups.

Constraints

↳ Absence or neglect of grassroot movements

↳ mostly based on traditional identity

involve in Post-material

movement

ignoring the

basic needs of

marginalised

↳ Lack of Public spirited

Leadership,

mostly, thus

are professionally

trained groups

like caste, religion  
ethnicity. Thus,  
are exclusionary.

↳ Lack of  
organisation.

Dominance of  
anomic

pressure  
groups &

excessive

Politicisation

**Feedback**

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TOTAL MARKS	
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c) Is the emerging order an incipient bipolarity centred on great-power rivalry or a managed multipolarity? Discuss (15 marks)

Munich security summit highlighted that we are moving towards a mixed world order of multipolarity, bipolarity and Unipolarity.

The confusion has also been shown by C. Rajamohan. However, there have been much debate around incipient bipolarity or managed multipolarity.

Elements of incipient bipolarity

↳ Thucydides trap which was further highlighted by John Mears that there has been great power rivalry between USA and China

↳ China is fast Pacing and has now become largest

Navy (350 fleet), has been advancing at faster pace than US in technological sphere (development of deep seek)

↳ Dominance over supply chain of critical mineral (60% production in china) and rare-earth elements

(90% production in china)

↳ Global influence is rising through mediation centres

(mediated between Saudi Arabia and Iran) and

Belt and road initiatives,

Elements of managed multipolarity

↳ Emergence of multiple middle power - India, Japan, Brazil, South Africa.

↳ Strengthening of regional

organisation to amplify the voices of smaller nations (e.g) BRICS expansion, ASEAN, EU.

↳ In the era of global flux every nation is following Active-non alignment to protect its own strategic autonomy

Thus, there has been multi-conceptual world order. Yet, the world politics is becoming more region specific and agenda-oriented as expounded by S. Jaishankar.

“ We are entering into unknown unknowns ”

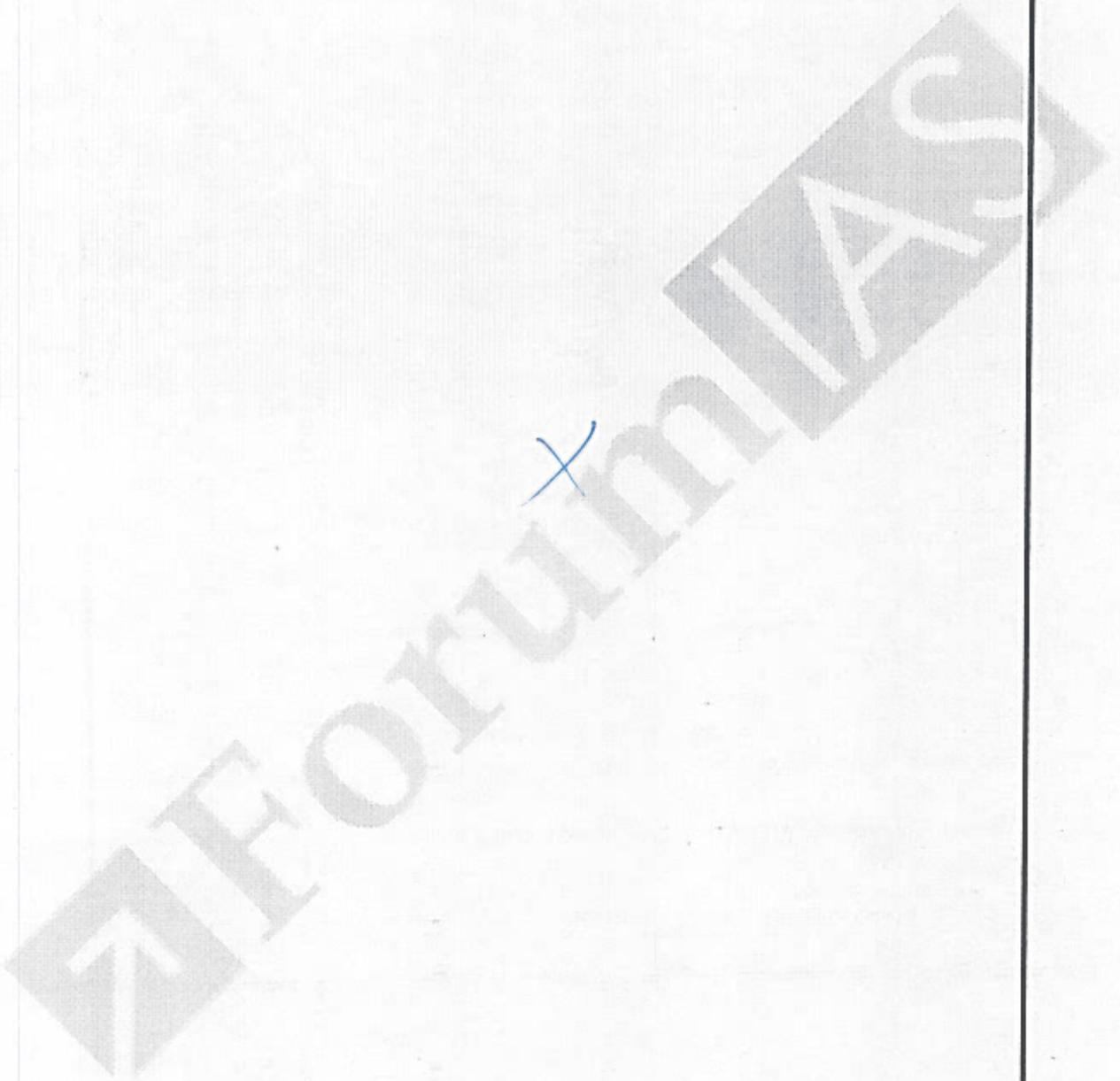
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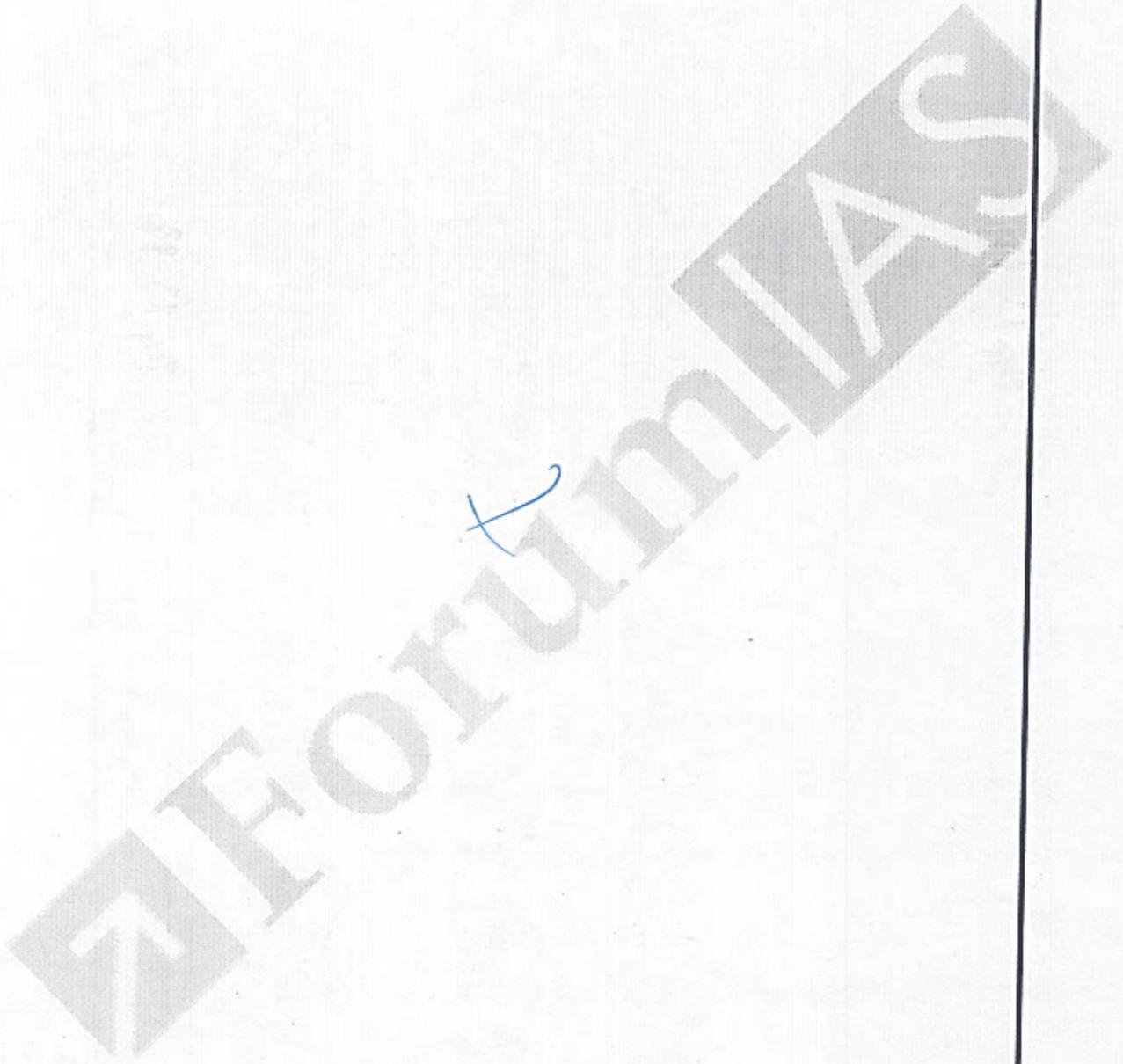
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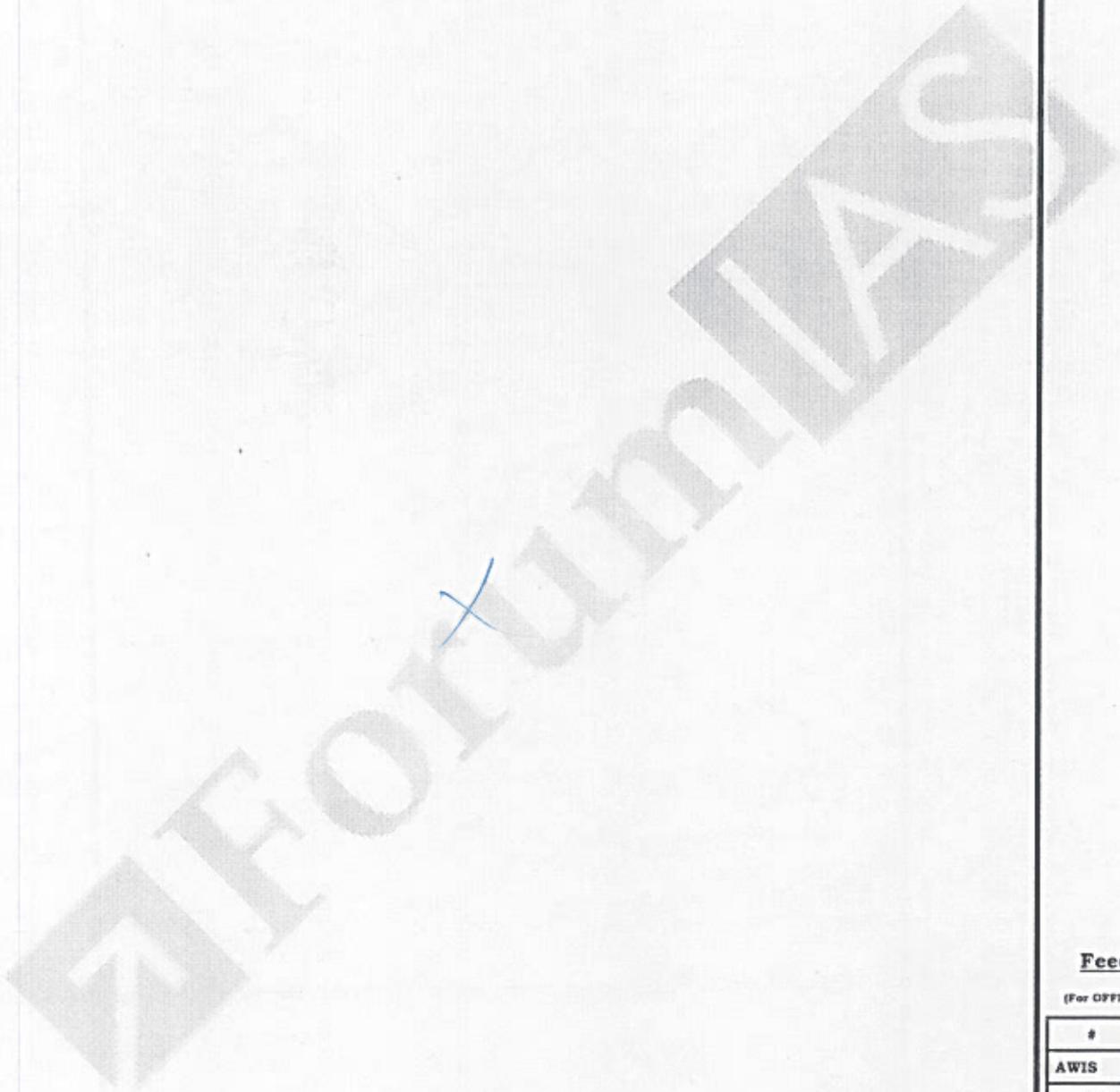
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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.4) a) Compare functionalism and Neo-functionalism in explaining regionalism and discuss their relevance beyond Europe. (20 marks)

Forum IAS







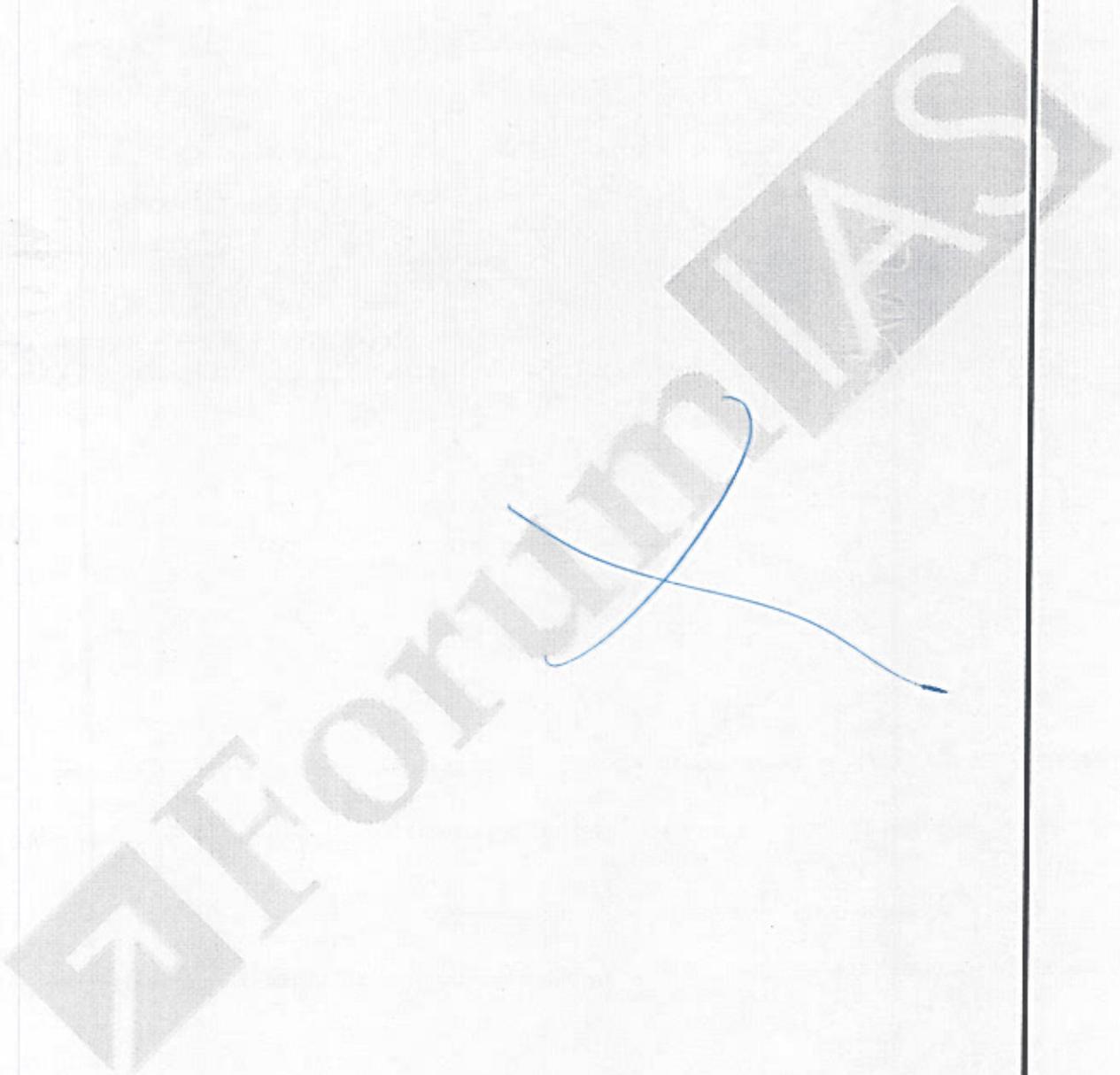
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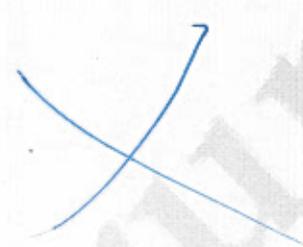
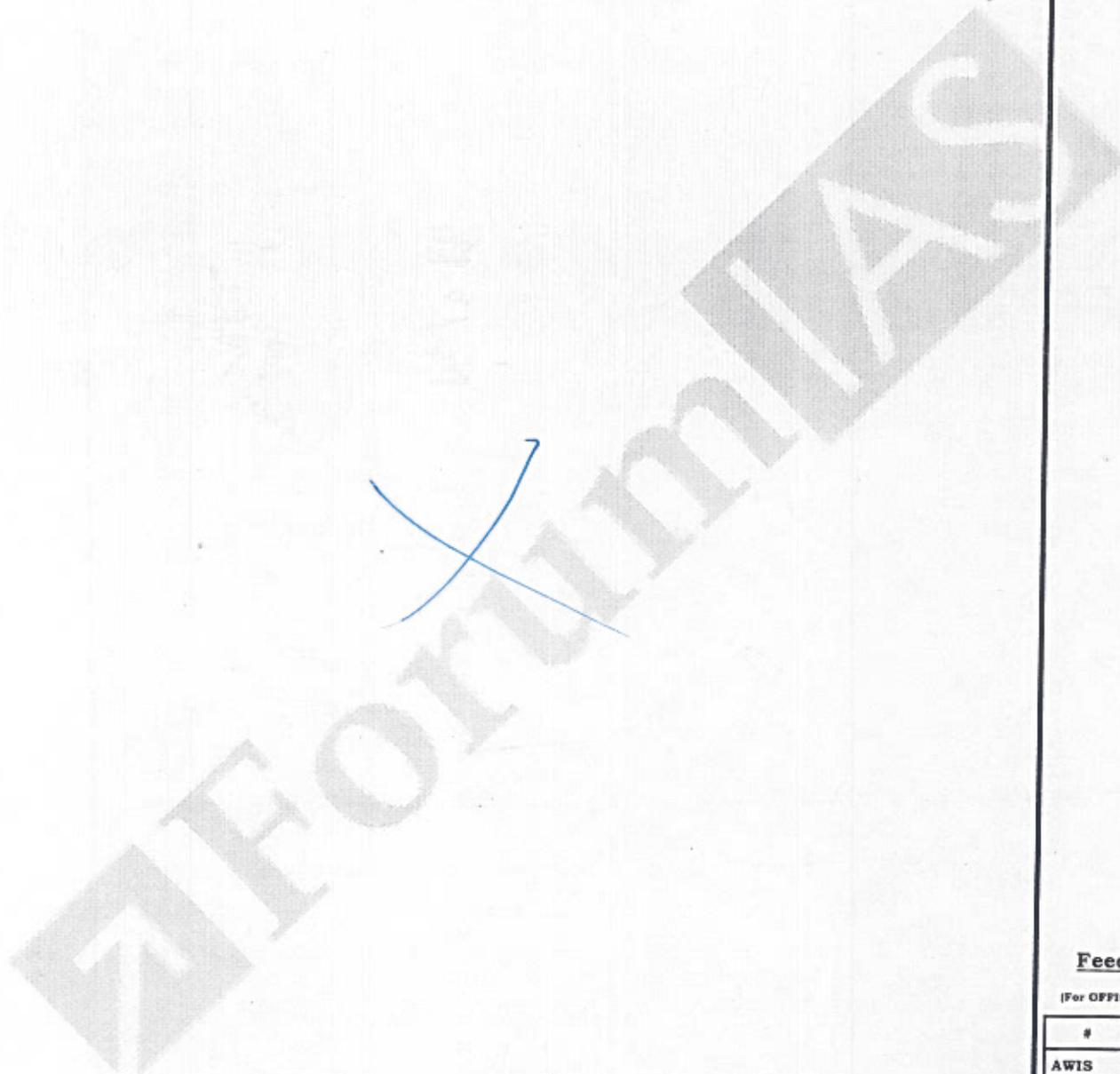
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b) "Contemporary movements prioritise autonomy and identity over capture of state power." Comment. (15 Marks)

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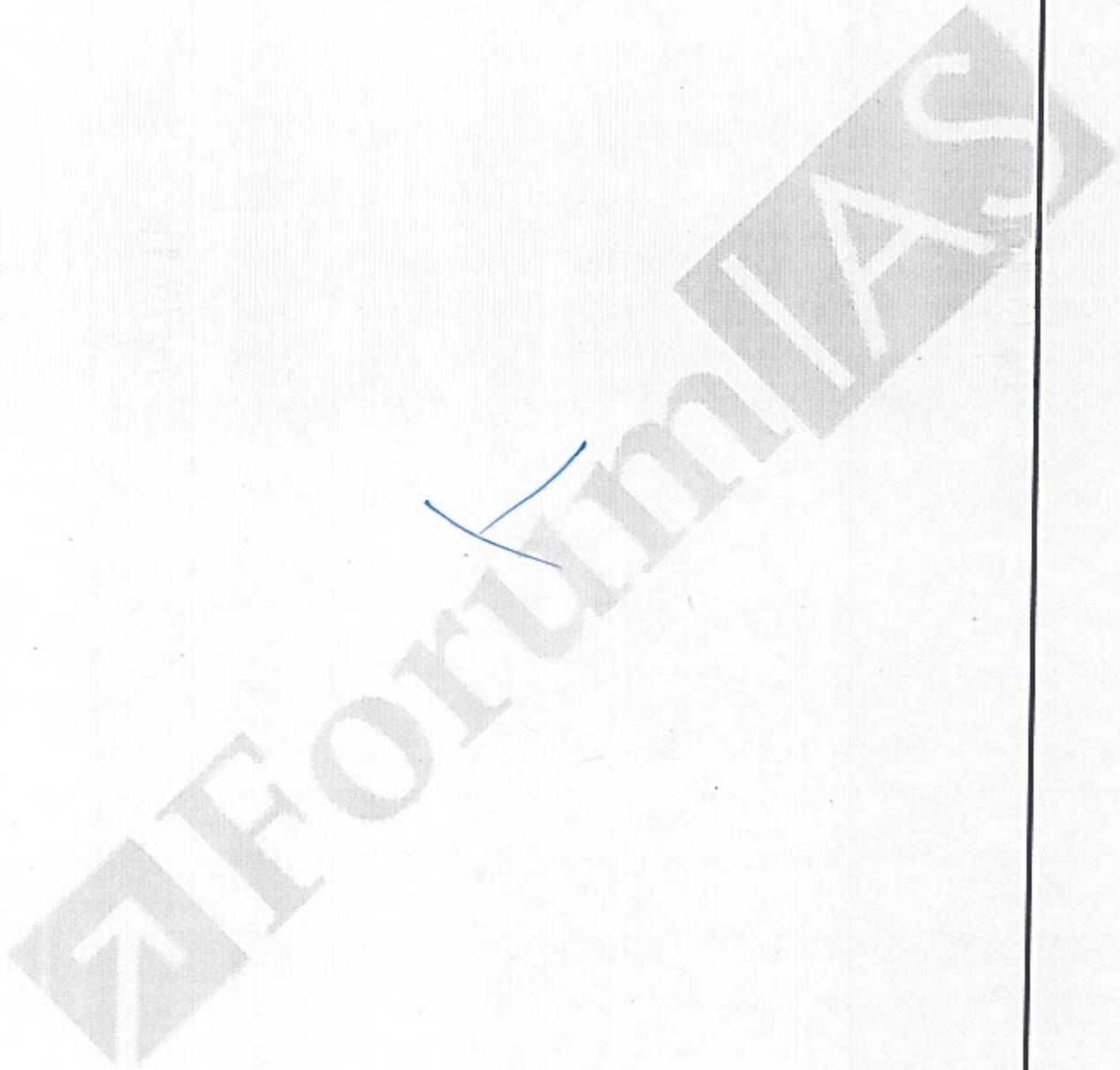
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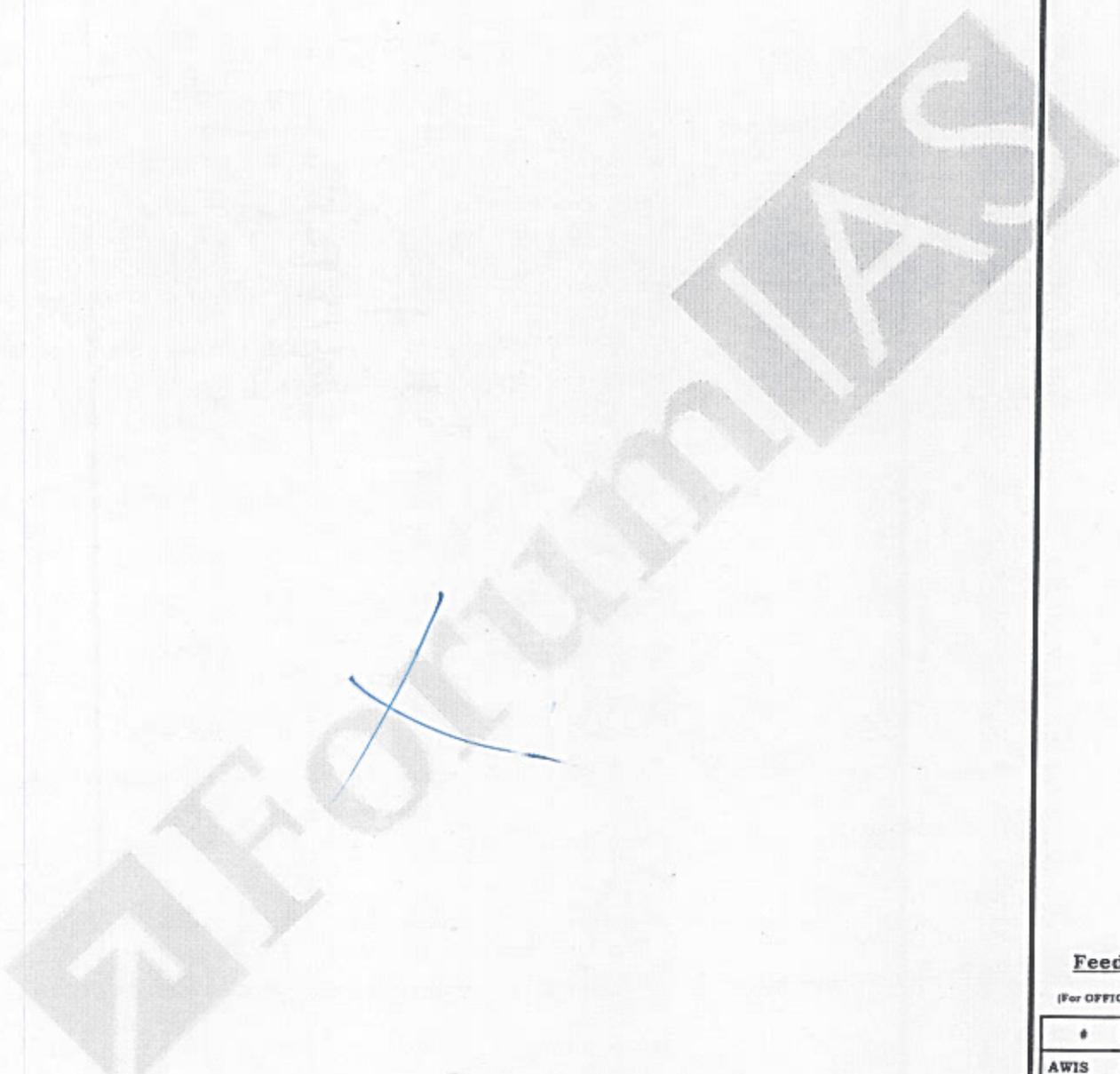


c) Analyse the evolution from old to new terrorism and propose a balanced strategy that preserves rule of law while ensuring security. (15 marks)

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Section- B

Q.5) Write short notes on the following in 150 words.

a) Continuity more than change describes India's foreign policy. Comment (10 Marks)

India's foreign policy has been an ever-evolving worder based on core -principles that has been developed and shaped before independance and that expressed the aspirations and well being of Indians

Continuity more than change

↳ Though there has been visible change from idealistic non-align ment to pragmatic multi- alignment ('India-way')

↳ Yet, there has been 'continuous concern' for 'national interest' and India's well being.

For example, During cold war era, India leveraged

its non-aligned instance to get favour from both superpower (Nisupama Roy), similarly, India aligned with multiple nations and organisations to promote India's interests.

Nevertheless, the change has not been ~~test~~ fundamental rather tactical that is the demand of time (eg) from strategic ambiguity to strategic clarity stance against China

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b) India's support to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) during the 2024 Gaza crisis. Comment (10 Marks)

India officially support the two-nation solution for the Palestine issue and thus continue to provide assistance to victims in Gaza while engaging with Israel.

The support reflected India's Commitment to following Principle

↳ Humanitarian core principle and a compassion for all into need cause, as part of big family 'Vasthuder kutumbkern'

↳ Instance against any 'war' and violence, PM Modi conveyed in Cyprus that 'solution by dialogue'

and 'restoration of stability' is call for humanity,

↳ Project India as 'Vishwa Bandhu', a friend of all

↳ Bridge among global South and north, where India condemn's Israel's actions but also helps victims.

Thus it is in line with India's goal of getting the position it deserves in 'comity of nations' (Article 31)

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c) Discuss India's crisis-management strategies in Afghanistan and West Asia.  
What do these reveal about the evolving doctrine of "multi-alignment"?

(10 Marks)

India faced violent and hostile challenges in Afghanistan and West Asia

Crisis management strategy

↳ Primacy to the humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan through WFP and to Gaza through UNRWA.

↳ Safeguarding national interest through well-curated deliberate instrumental steps

(c-g) → engagement with Taliban through technical team

↳ Commitment to the principles of Counter-terrorism,

S. Jaishankar held that

'engagement with taliban does not imply endorsement of ill ideology.

Evolving doctrine of multi-alignment

↳ Omni-alignment based on issue and interest. Partner with Israel in defence but also assisting Palstinian victims.

↳ Counter-balancing China's presence in extended neighbourhood through multilateral like QUAD, I2U2 etc.

Thus, there has been retreat and pragmatic shift in India's engagement.

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d) Explain the rationale of India's No First Use pledge and outline the main lines of contestation around it today. (10 Marks)

India's nuclear doctrine as published in 2003-2004 provides for

- No first use and policy
- Credible minimum deterrence
- strong secondary retaliation

Rationale of NFU pledge

- ↳ Projects India as responsible nuclear state (Shashi Tharoor)
- ↳ Promotes peace full South ASIA with nuclear neighbour who are hostile deterring security dilemmas (C. Raja Mohan)
- ↳ Supports India's claim to permanent seat in security council (Krupa Mongra)

Lim of Contention

↳ Reliability on Nuclear weapon after times | Strike from other nation is questioned  
( Bipin Rawat )

↳ merit of credible minimum deterrence and strong second substitution are contradictory

↳ China has been proposing to adopt first use Policy.

Nevertheless India's no-first use instanc suits  
India's responsible behaviour and has prevented any full-fledged war in region.

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e) "India-Japan coordination is a structural, not episodic, feature of the Indo-Pacific." Comment (10 Marks)

India-Japan relations has been described as 'convergence of two oceans' with mutual concern for free and open Indo-Pacific.

Structural

- ↳ both aspire for multipolar world order
- ↳ Aim for secure Indo-Pacific with no-dominance of single nation  
(China in South China sea)
- ↳ Cooperates in providing

Benefits to South (e.g)  
Asia-African growth  
Corridor.

↳ Act as balancer for  
 each other against  
 China.

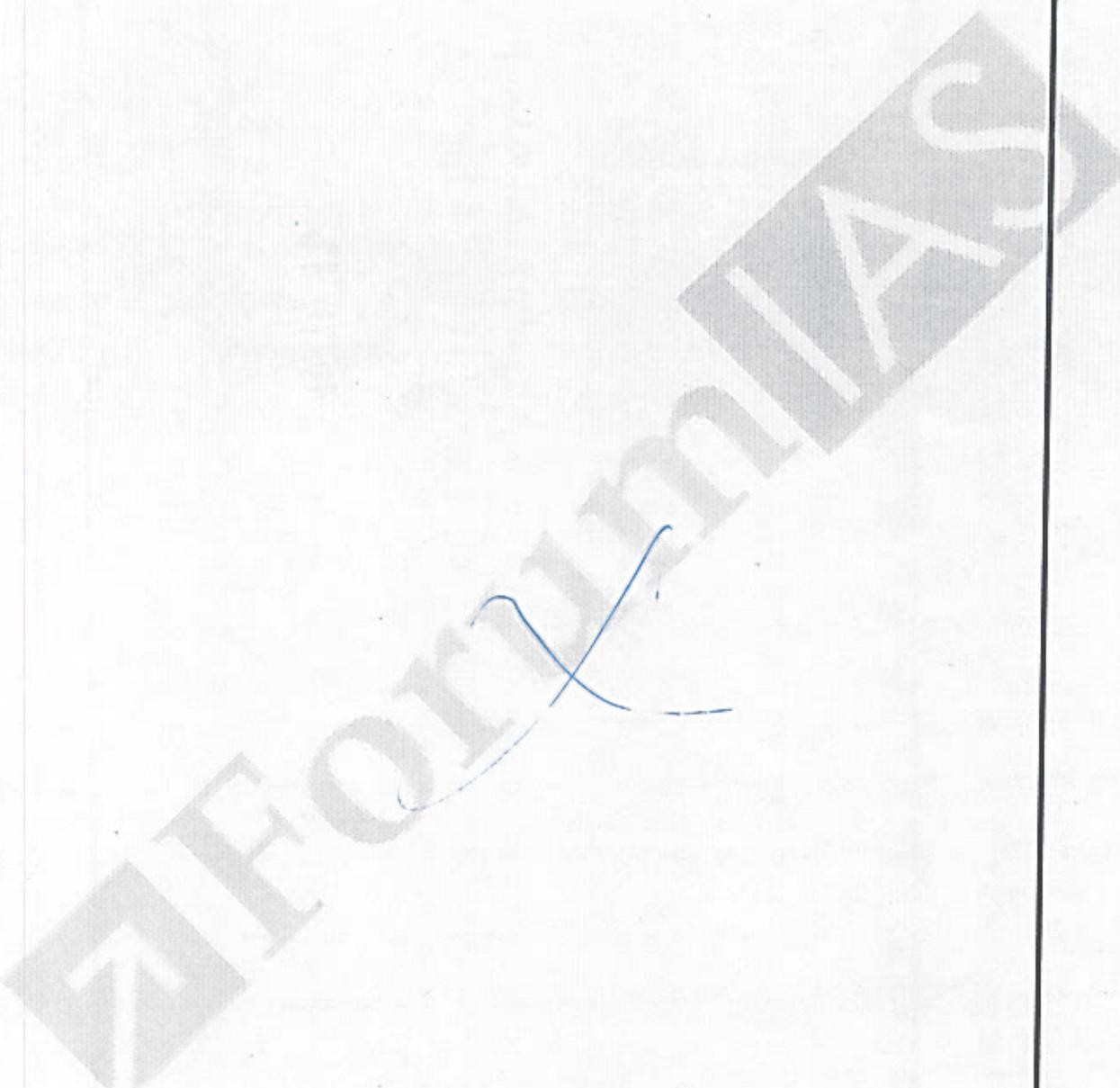
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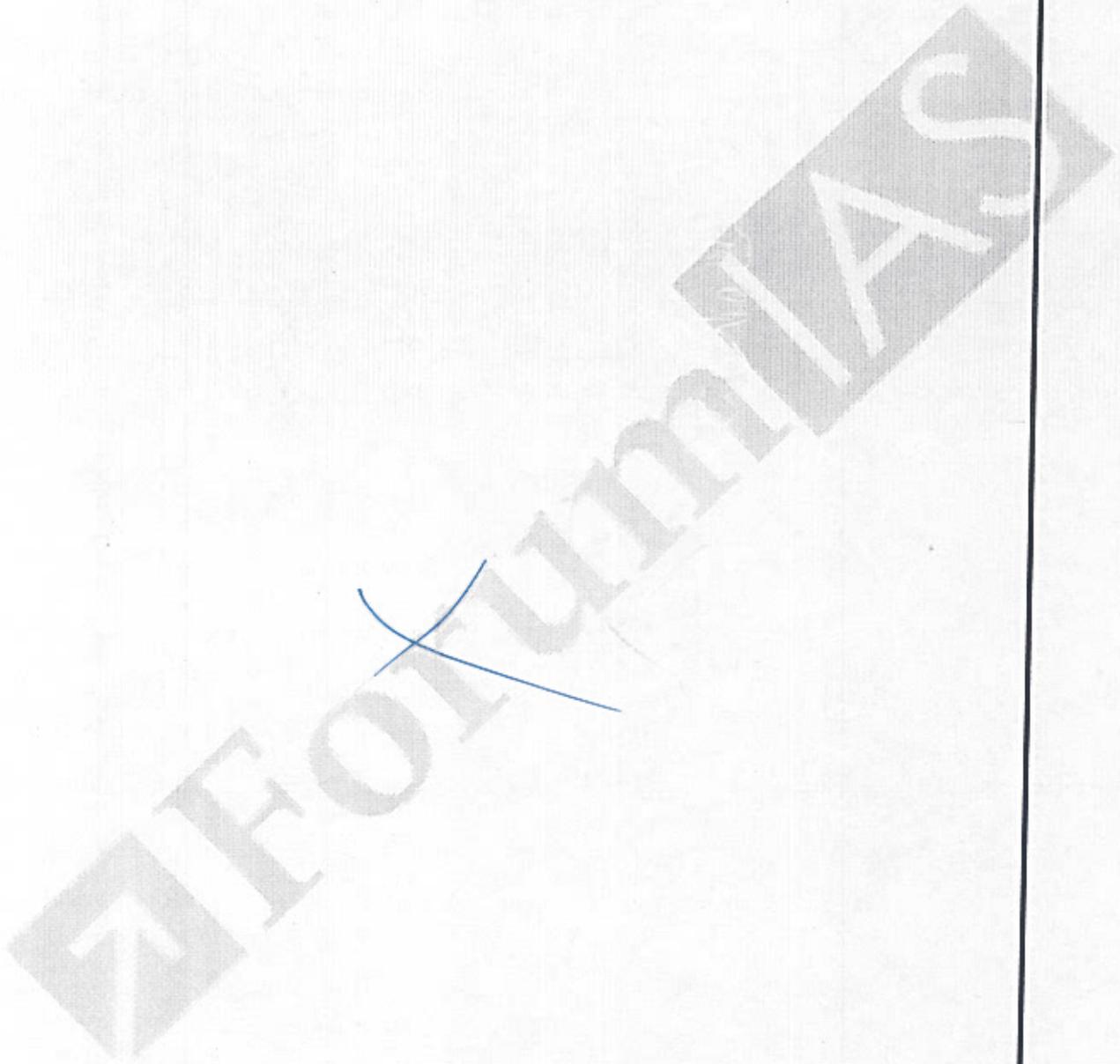
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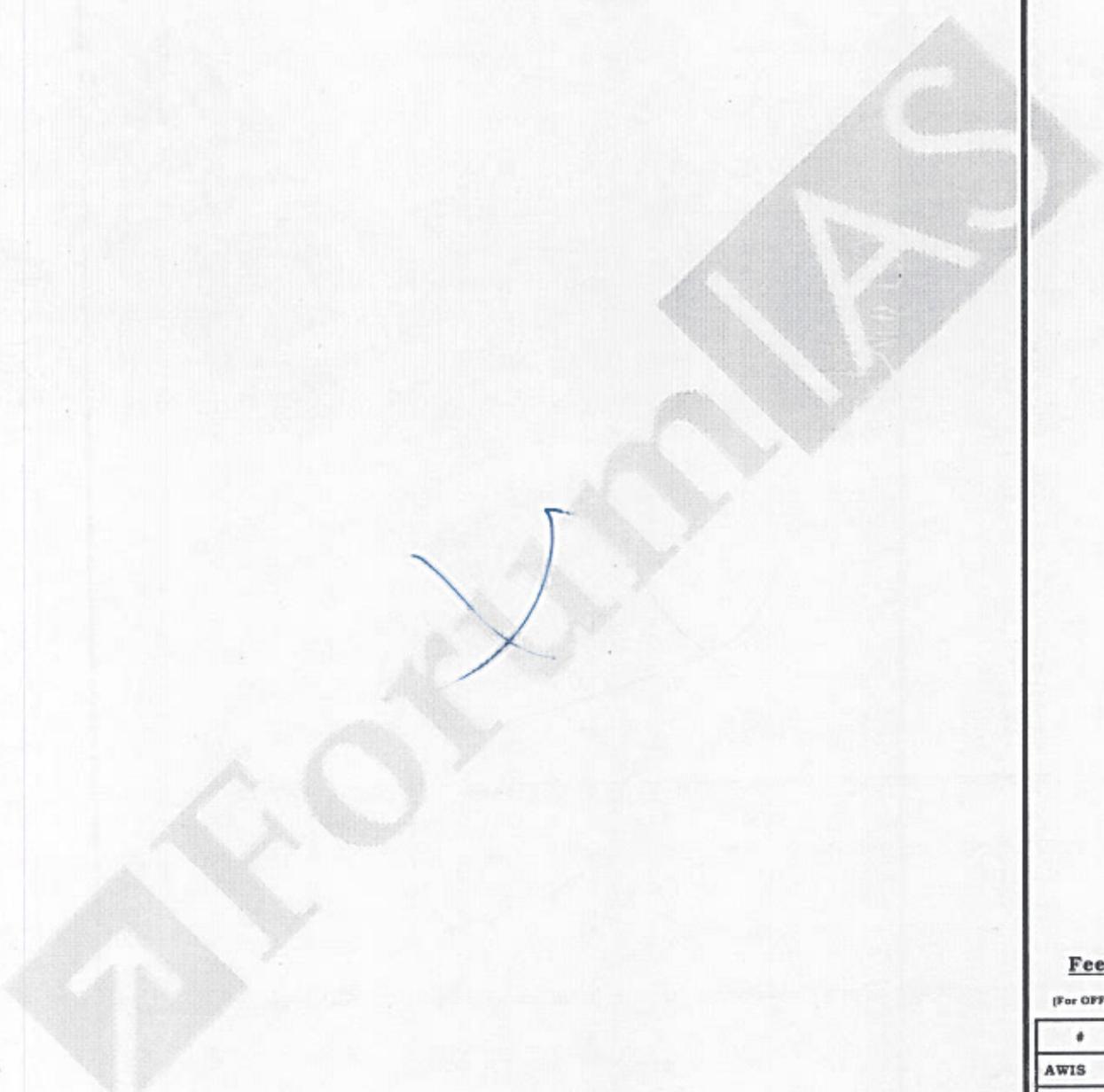
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Q.6) a) From iCET/INDUS-X to coercive tariffs: explain the simultaneity of deepening strategic-tech cooperation and hardening trade frictions in India-US relations. Discuss the feasibility of a Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA), sector-specific tariff carve-outs, and World Trade Organization (WTO)-consistent safeguards?.

(20 marks)







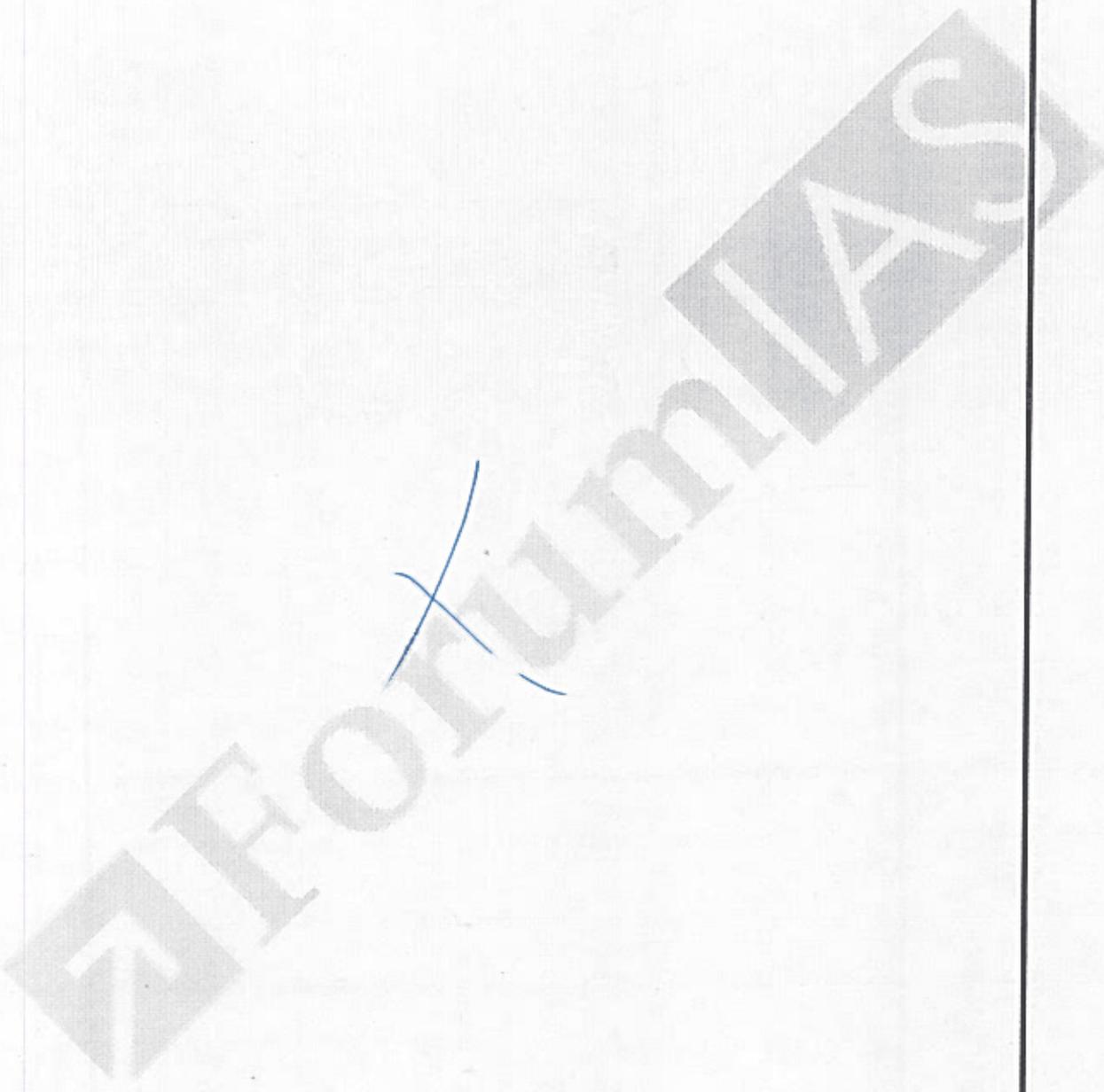
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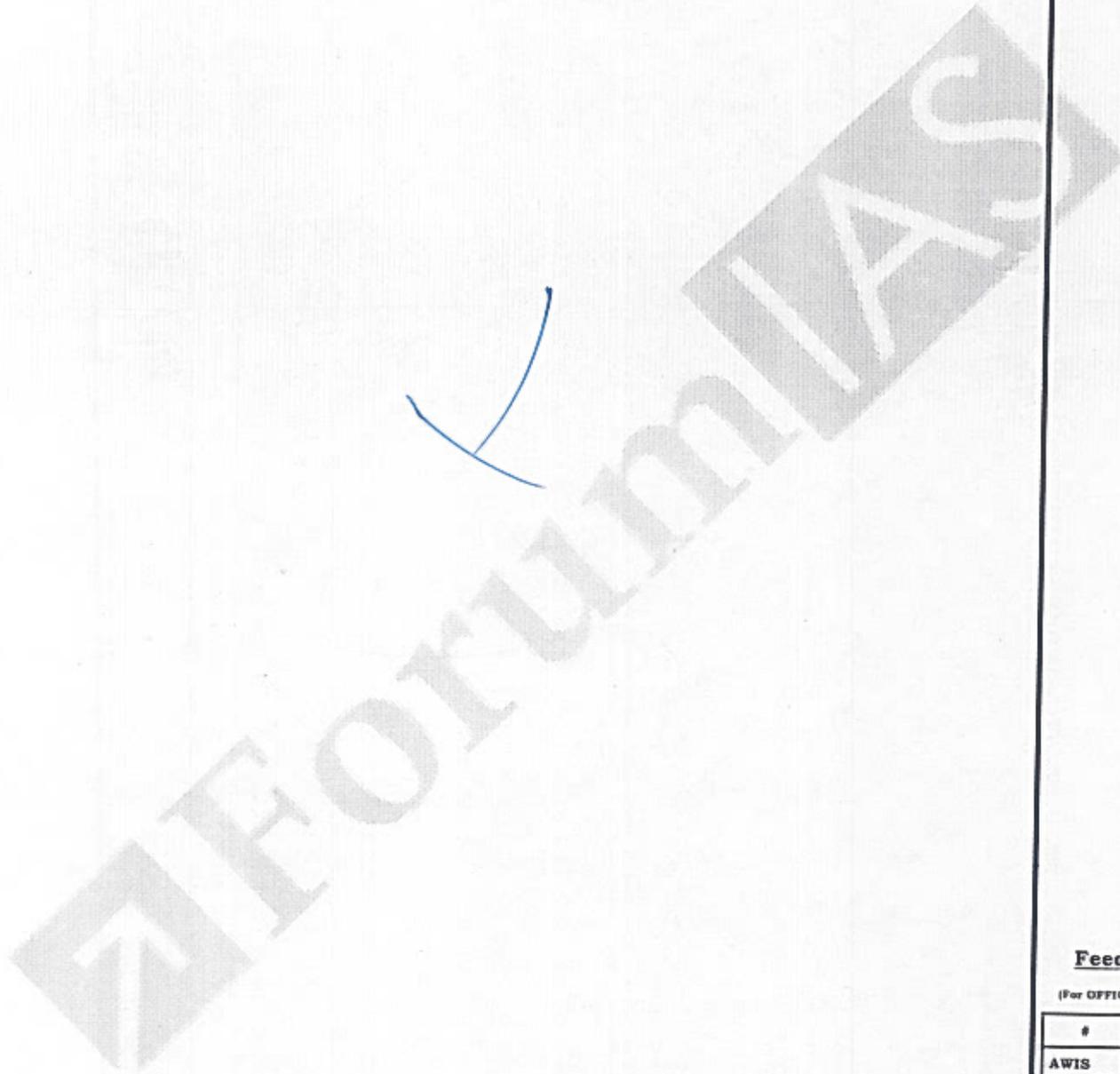
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b) Trace and analyse India's three distinct phases within NAM—Idealist (1947-71), Activist (1971-91), and Pragmatic/Multi-Aligned (1991-2025). Does the "Vishwa Mitra" vision restore India's centrality to the Movement today?

(15 marks)





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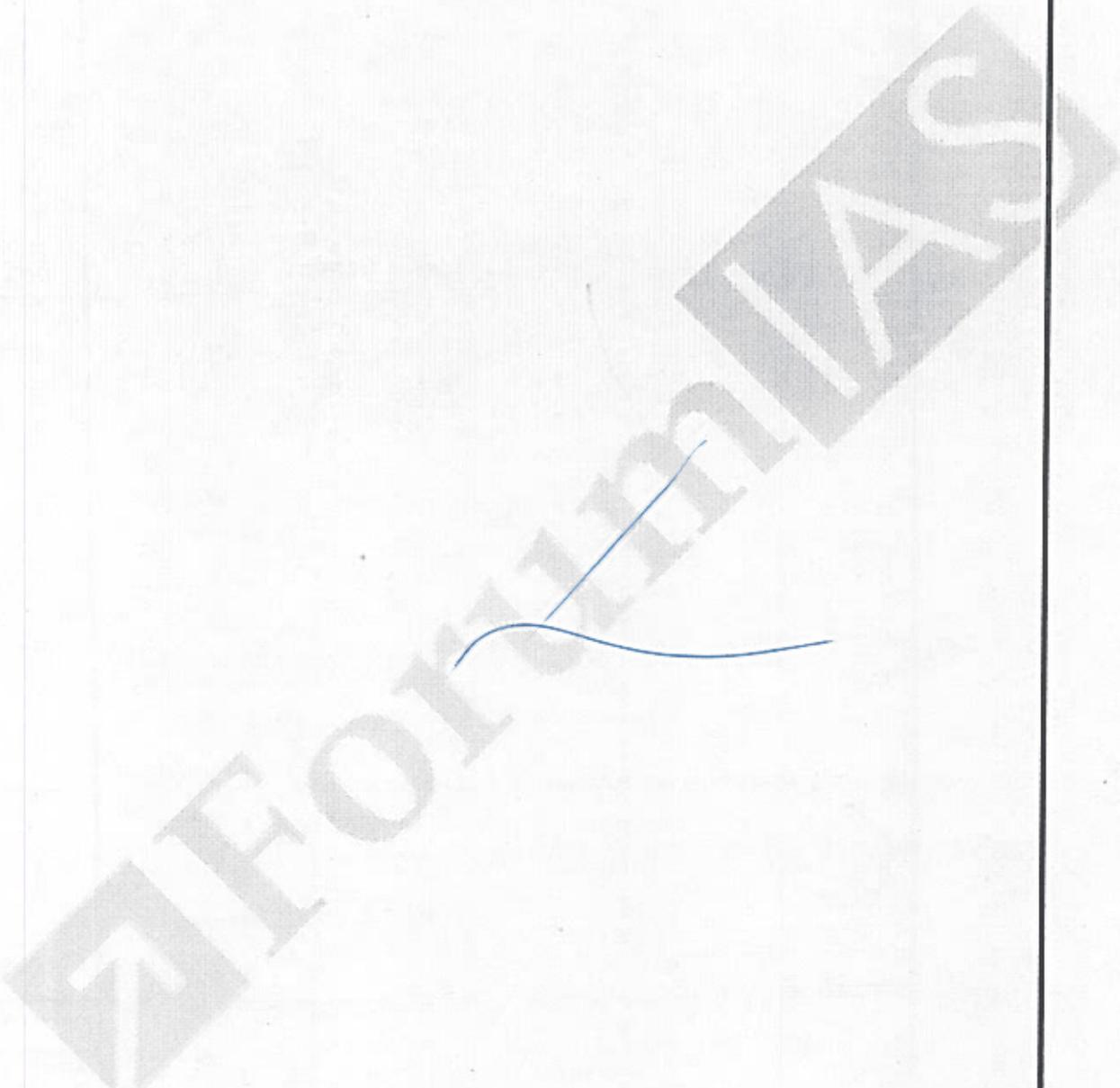
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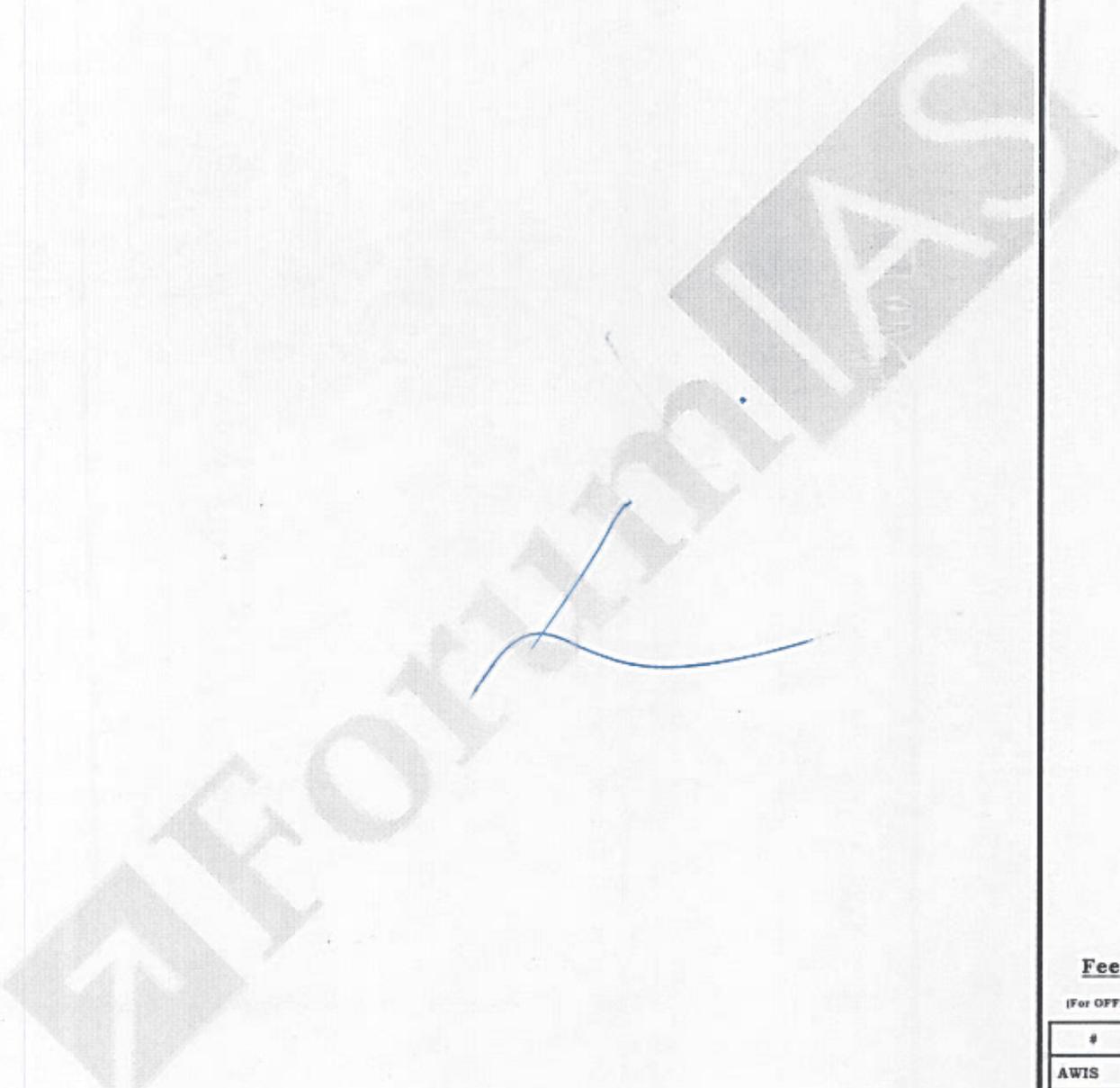


c) How do IMEC and I2U2 move India-Israel ties beyond defence into connectivity and geo-economics? Discuss (15 marks)





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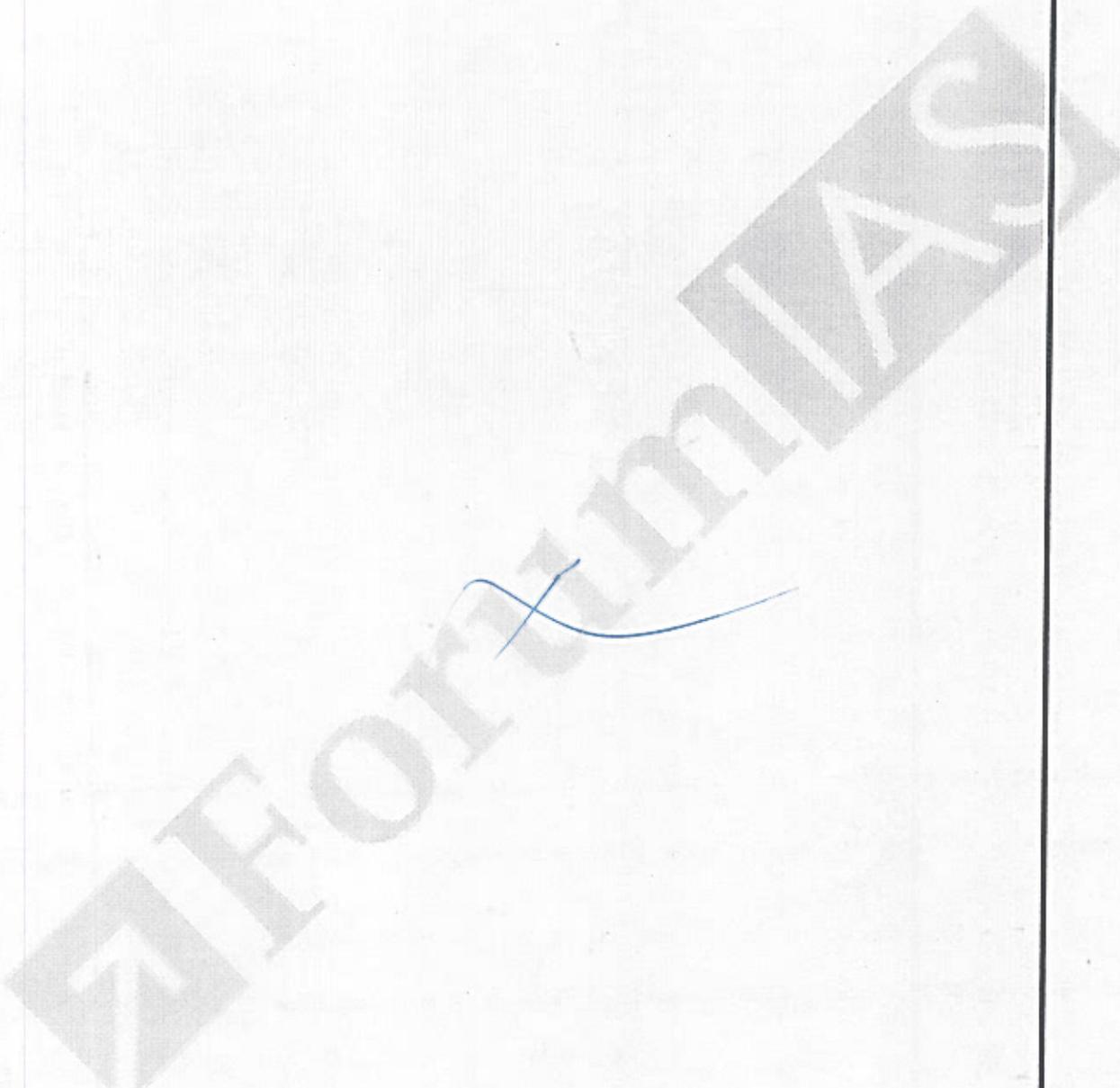
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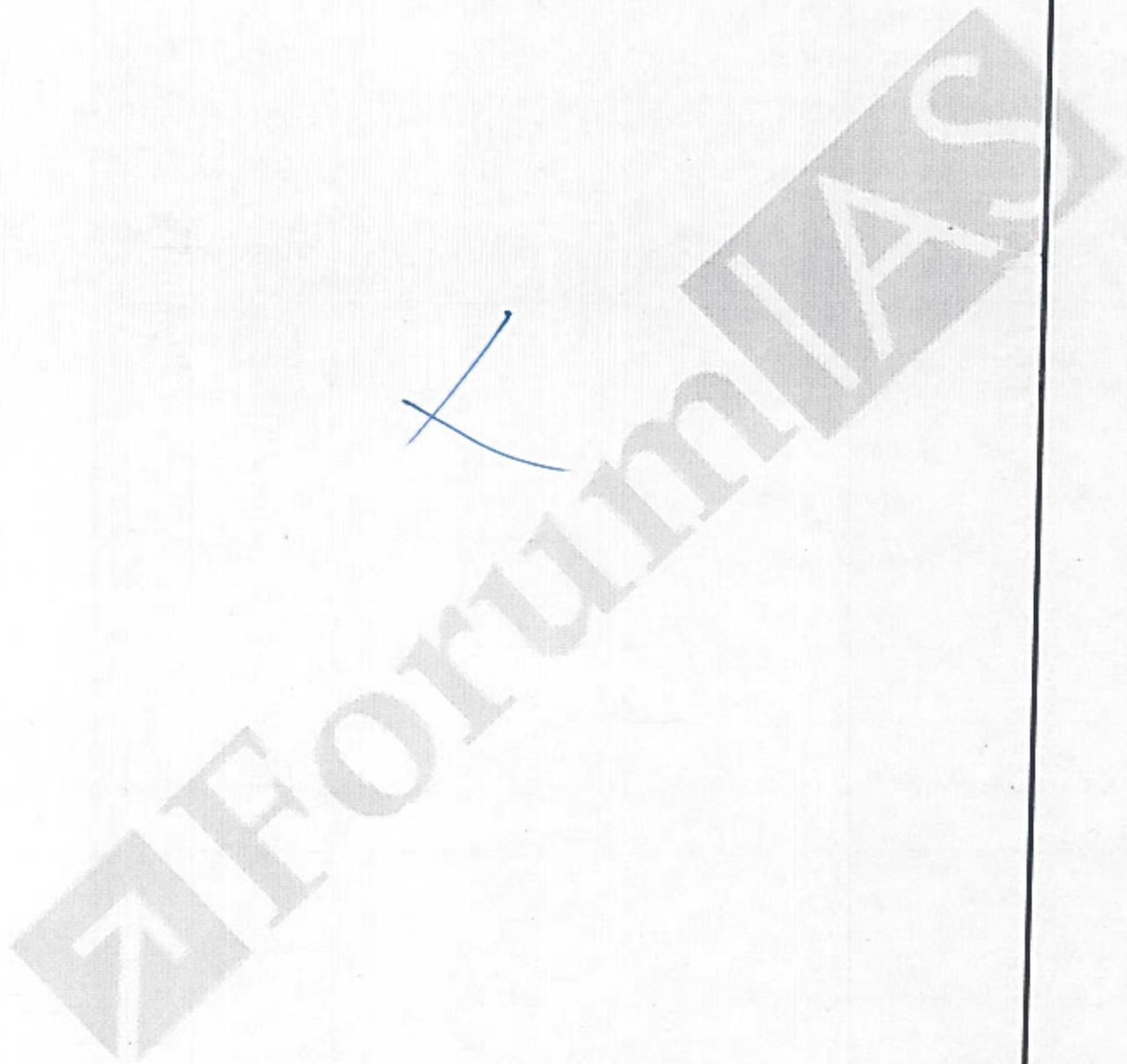
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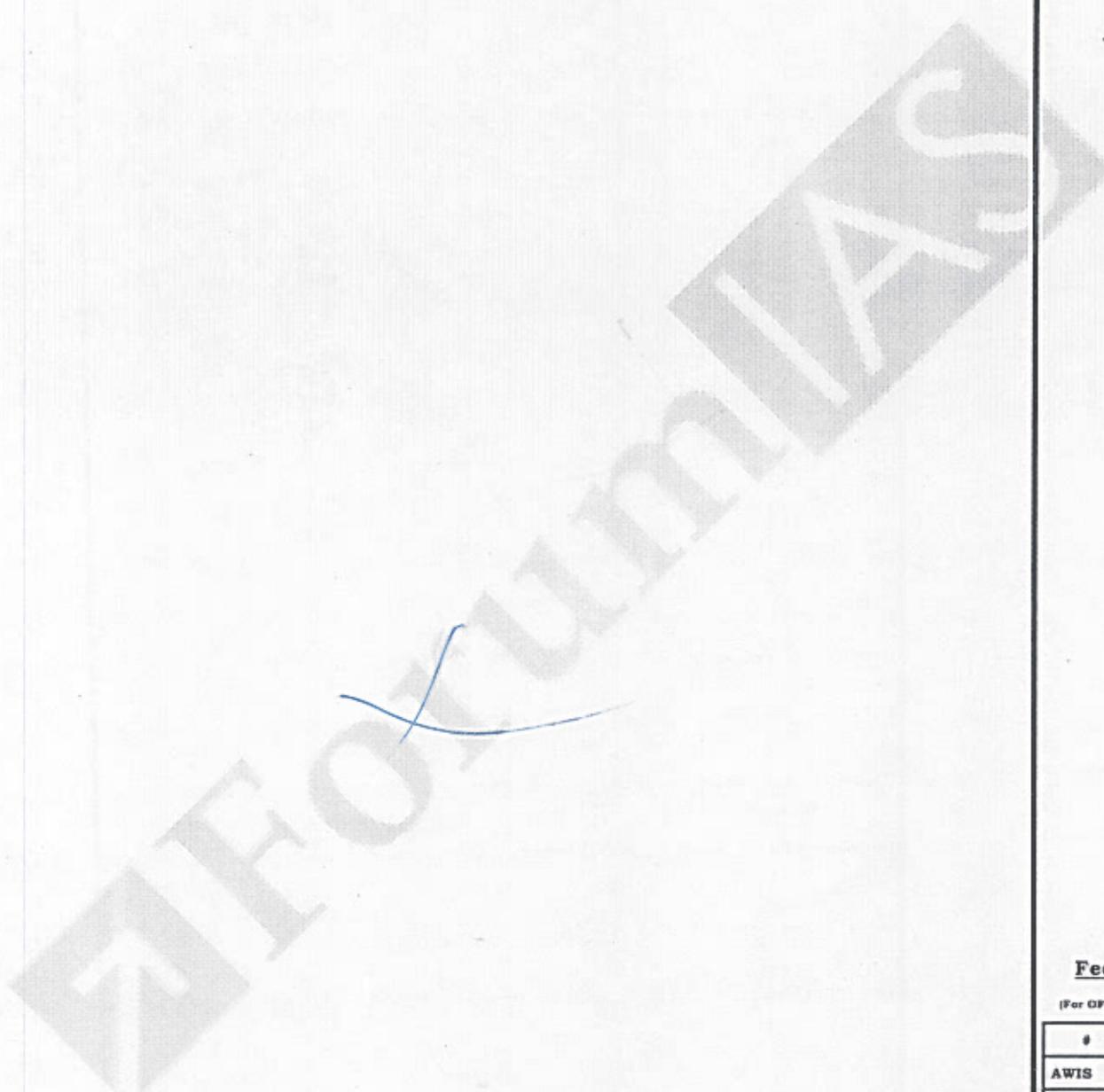
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Q.7) a) Account for the coexistence of deterrence and engagement in India's China policy since 2020. Evaluate the efficacy of crisis-management mechanisms, the weight of economic interdependence, and the pull of multilateral forums. (20 marks)







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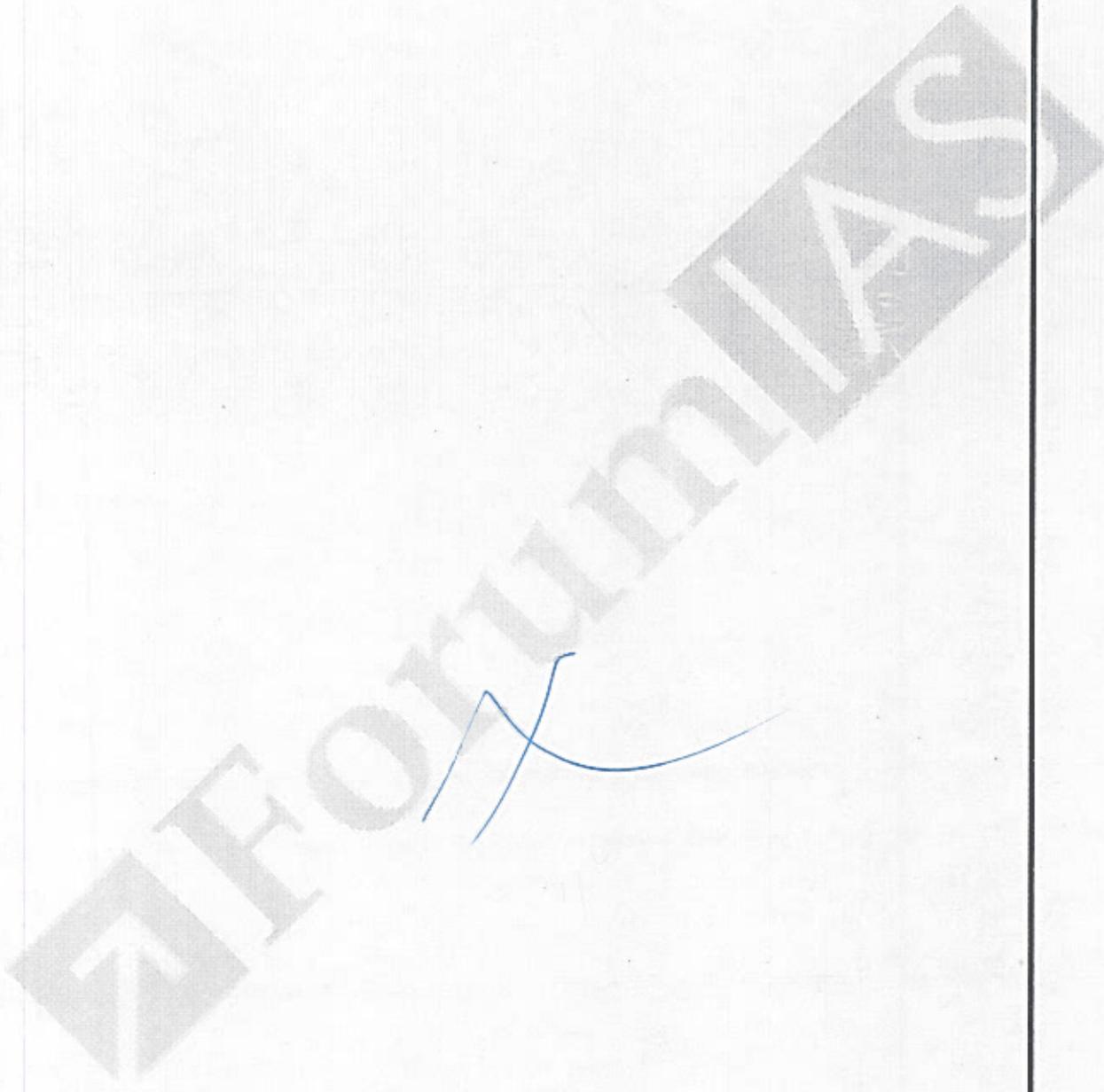
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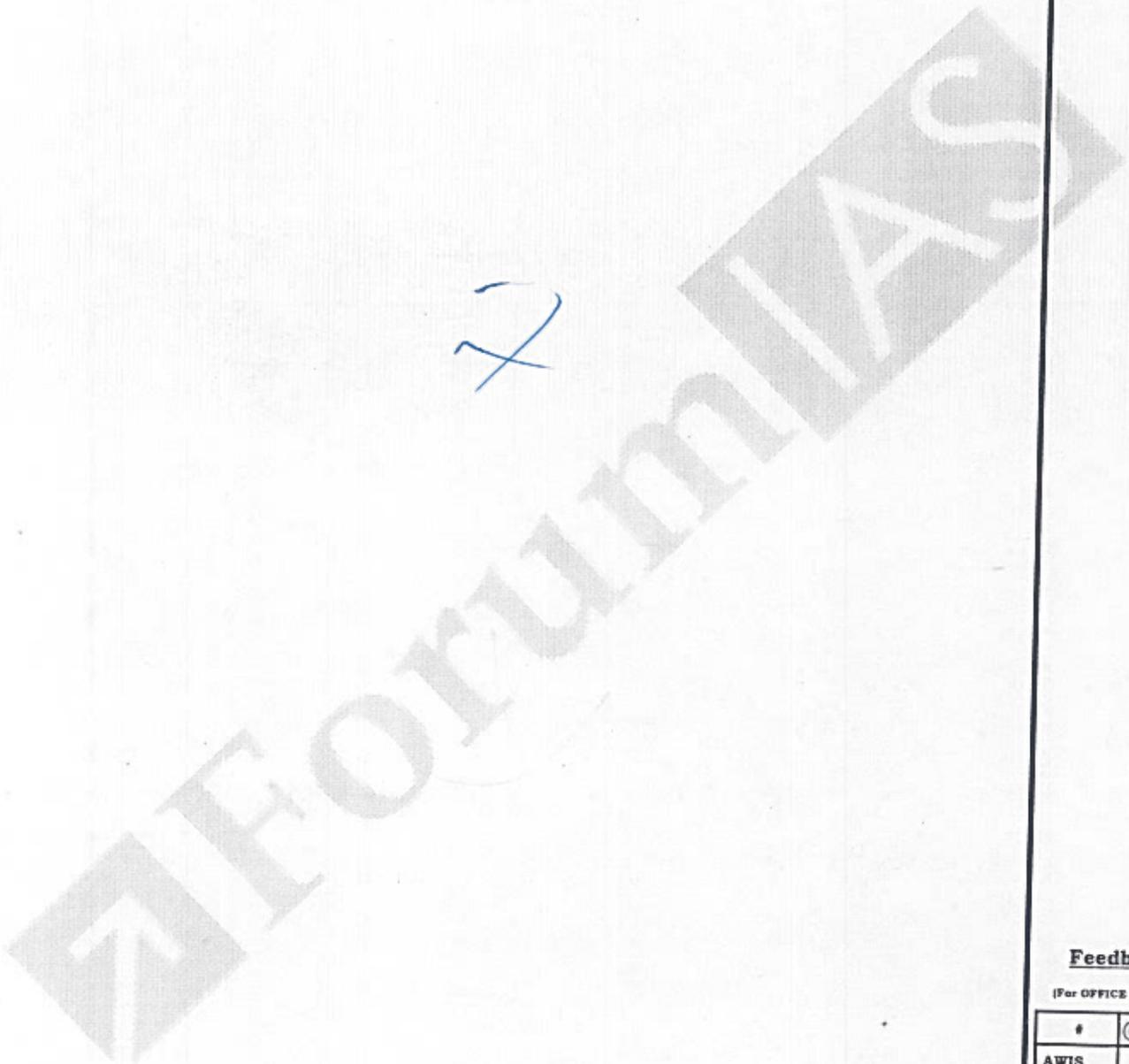
b) Does India's Africa policy offer a viable model for a 'NIEO 2.0'—combining market access, debt-safe financing, and technology transfers? Substantiate with sectoral evidence.

(15 marks)

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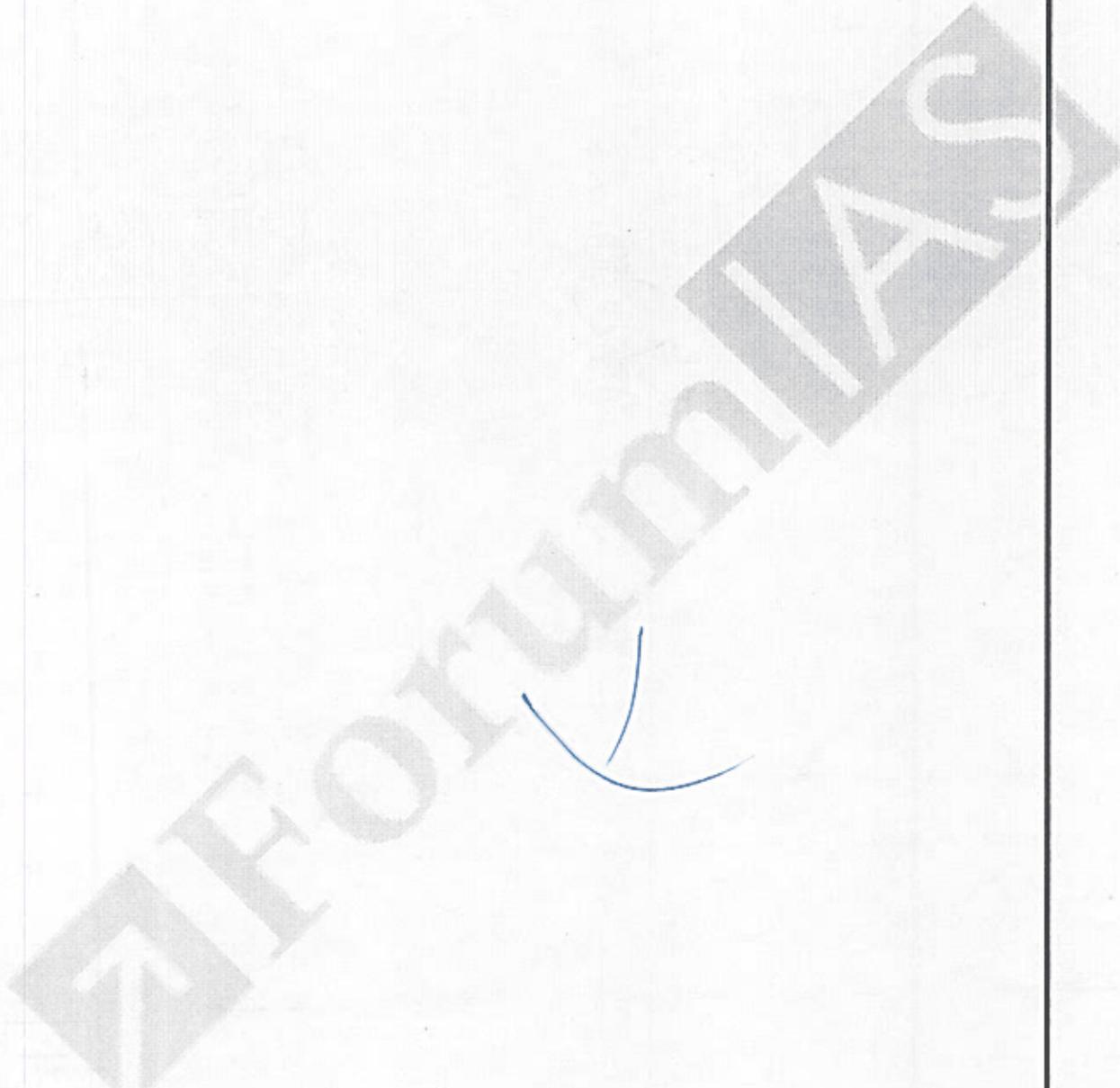
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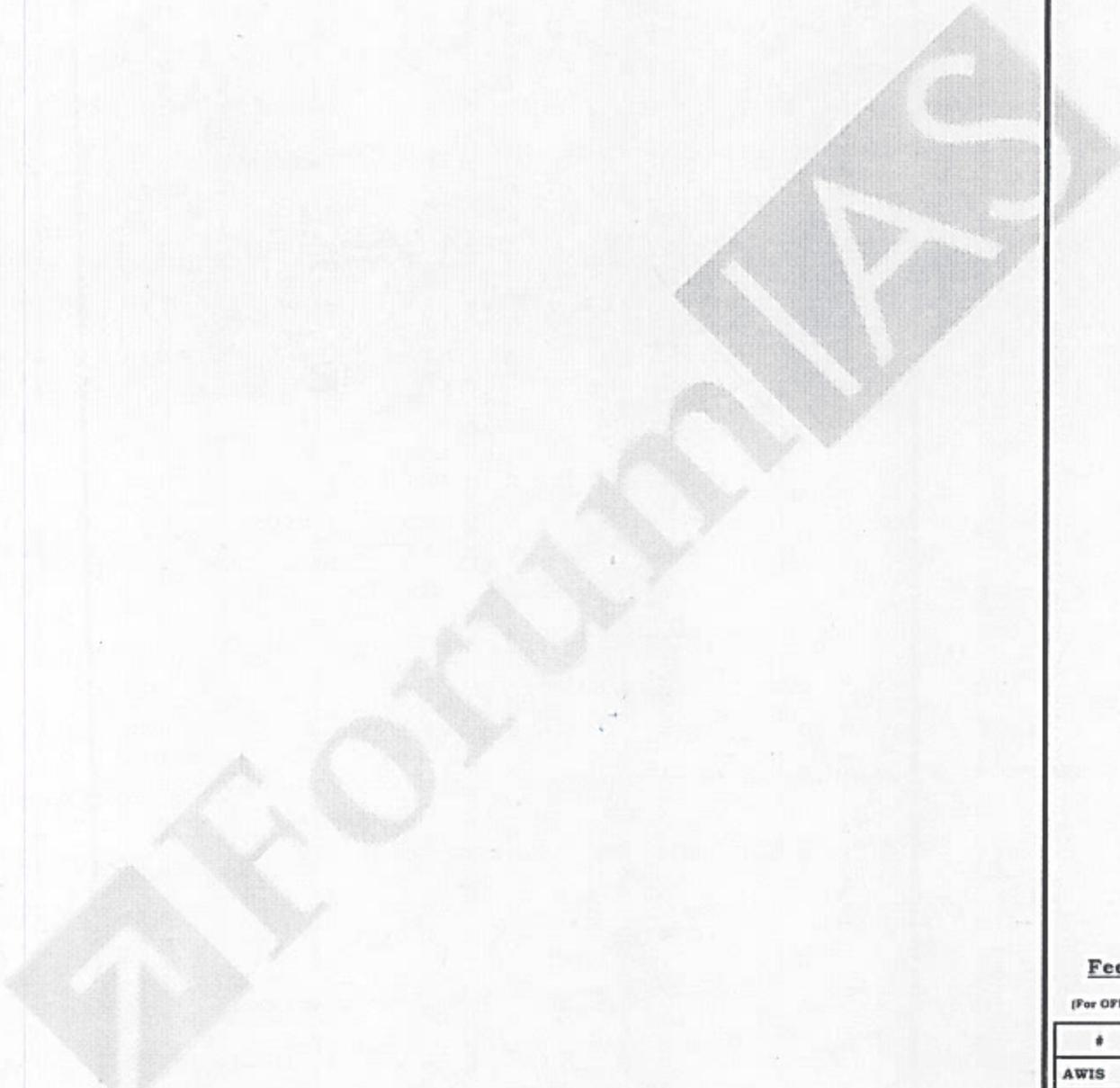
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c) Discuss India's current stance at the WTO on agriculture (public stockholding), fisheries subsidies, and the e-commerce moratorium. Why does India link these to development policy space? (15 marks)



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Q.8) a) "Contributor, reformer, stakeholder." Evaluate India's engagement with the UN system by balancing its field contributions in peacekeeping with its normative agenda for Security Council reform. Substantiate with recent evidence.

(20 marks)

India has been foundling member of United Nations and has since then a responsible member with utmost committed for multilateralism.

India as contributor,

↳ As part of administration, India has been elected to UNGA and UNSC (six times), Indian judge has served in ICJ (Justice Bhandari)

↳ Provide assistance to vulnerable nations through UN body (eg) humanitarian

assistance to ~~Talibans~~ <sup>Afghanis</sup>  
 through World Food Program  
 and to Guaza through  
 UN relief and work agents

↳ India is largest contributor  
 to Peacekeeping force, many  
 Indians have martyred and  
 received <sup>Hamme</sup> N. K. Jald prize for

their service

India sent first ever  
female peacekeeping contingent  
 to liberia.

### Reform

↳ India has been pushing  
 for UNSC reforms

↳ As part of G4 along  
 with Brazil, India

demand expansion of UNSC  
and claims permanent  
seat for itself.

↳ India efforts excluded  
result when UNGA  
adopted a letter-bare  
written negotiations  
for UNSC reform.

India as stakeholder

↳ India needs multi-la-  
teral platform to  
voice its concern at  
these platforms.

↳ These institutions  
prevent unilateral  
action by super  
power.

↳ India needs to consolidate global opinion against terrorism and demand passage of <sup>convention</sup> convention against terrorism.

↳ Agencies of UN, like UNESCO, WHO etc contribute in improving social sector indicators in India.

Thus, for India, UN is requirement, yet it needs to be transformed "21st Century software can not be run in 20th century type machine"

— Narendera Modi at BRICS Summit

**Feedback**

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b) Trace the evolution of India-LAC ties. What explains periodic surges and slumps in trade, investment and high-level political attention? (15 Marks)

India-LAC ties has been historical since the time of non-alignment.

Evolution

↳ From political engagement there has been move towards more economic ties

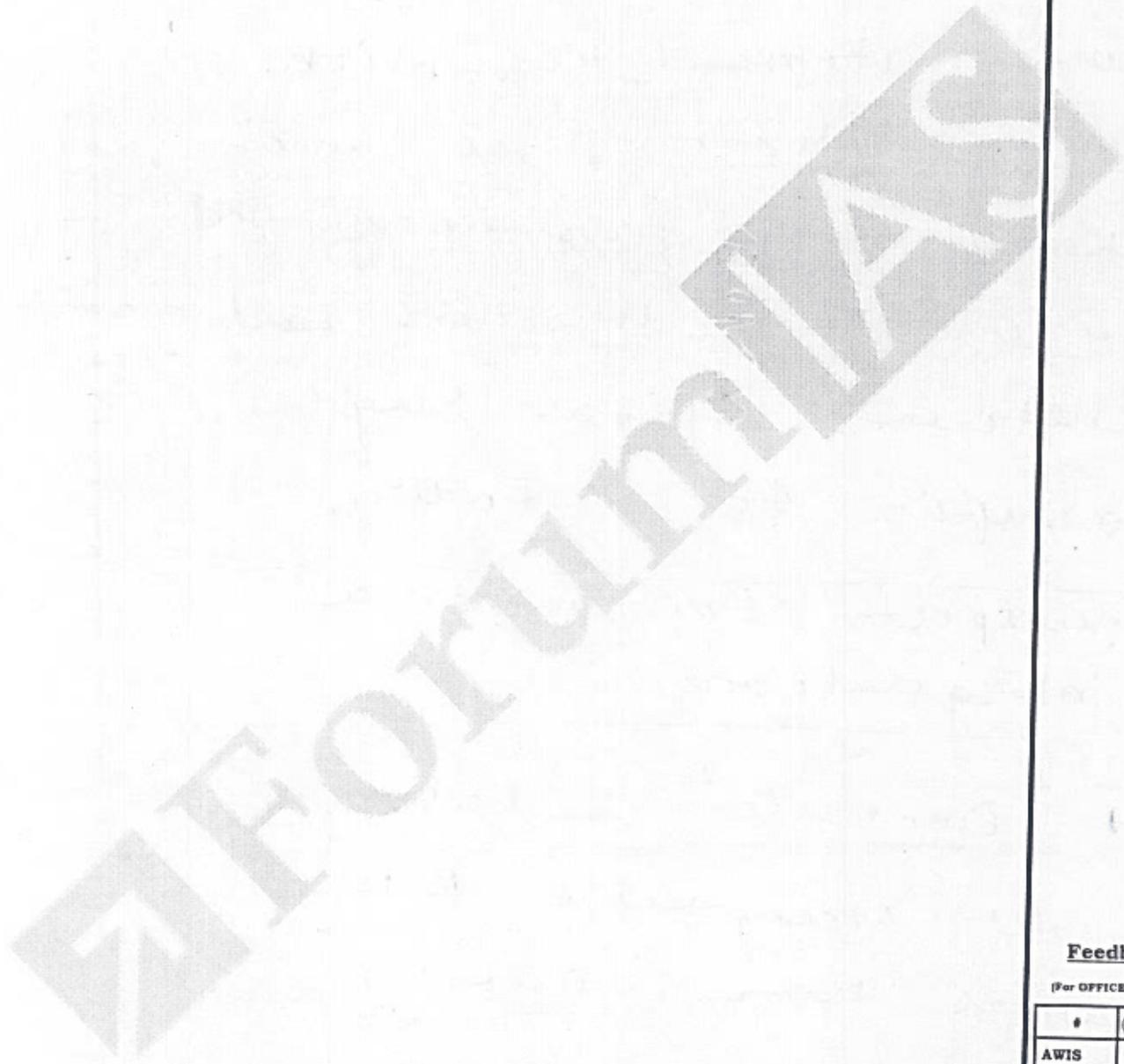
↳ LAC are growing source of critical minerals like

Lithium etc.

India needs for its energy transition

Reason

- ↳ Geopolitical flux
- ↳ Great - power rivalry
- ↳ India's development  
diplomacy.



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c) Critically assess the prospects for regional integration in South Asia through alternative platforms such as BIMSTEC and BBIN. Is such realignment feasible in the near term? (15 marks)

India shares cultural and historical ties with Asian nations, we cannot change our geography and proximity in location and culture offers huge benefit for India.

Prospects for regional integration

↳ Economic relations will strengthen, Asian nations have diversified market, already free trade agreement exist

↳ It will integrate India to geo-political hotspot Indo-pacific

↳ Physical connectivity through BBIN will help in improving cross-border trade particularly for North-east region

↳ BIMTEC offers unique opportunity to co-operate with like-minded nations in South Asia beyond Pakistan's reticence

↳ Culturally people to people ties will improve.

Feasibility

↳ Feasibility depends on the efforts by the Nation Particularly India

↳ India needs to fast-track infrastructure projects and connectivity initiatives

“The Nation that has aspiration to become major global power, needs to strengthen its regional posture.”

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