

TEST CODE 8 3 2 2 1 4

ATS 2025

Time Allowed : Three Hours
समय : तीन घंटे

ForumIAS

Maximum Marks : 250
अधिकतम अंक : 250

SOCIOLOGY

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	UJJWAL PRIYANK		
Roll No./ अनुक्रमांक	1910128253	Medium/ माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/ परीक्षा केंद्र	PATNA	Date/ दिनांक	14.08.2025

*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 खण्डों 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 दिए 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 : 01:45 PM	End Time/ समाप्त करने का समय: 04:45 PM
Total Marks/ कूल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ ऑनलाइन <input type="checkbox"/> Offline/ ऑफलाइन <input checked="" 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: 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.

EXAMINER'S REMARKS

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) Evaluate the relevance of Gellner's theory of nationalism in the Indian context. (10 Marks)

Ernest Gellner's theory of nationalism revolved around the feeling of oneness of a society due to ethnic identity.

Gellner's theory of nationalism in Indian context can be utilised to study the cultural diversity, but the presence of national identity of being an India.

Significance in the Indian context

1) Benedict Anderson signifies nationalism as "imagined community".

2) Indian society is unique in terms of ethnicity, religion

and culture.

(3) Being a pluralist society, nationalism in India derives from the feeling of unique history and common uprising against British.

(4) The concept of treating all as one family or "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam".

Limitation

(1) Gellner's nationalism depends on limited sets of criteria for nationalism.

(2) Use of ethnic identity is a threat to nationalism.

Thus, nationalism in the Indian context is both about being together despite differences and promoting solidarity.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			



b) Discuss the concept of "post-secular" society and its sociological significance. (10 Marks)

The "post-secular" society deals with the rise of concepts in the society where religion no longer continues to dominate the public life.

Bryan Wilson defined "secularisation" as the fading away of religion from the public life of individual.

Sociological significance

- (1) Rise of "invisible" religion as given by Peter Berger where religion shifts to private life.
- (2) Robert + Bellah concept of "civil religion" where he talked about growth of sacred symbols,

flags, texts to worship nation.

(3) Post-secular society sees loss of control of church over society.
 ↳ No longer public attendance in church.

(4) Rise of rationalism threatens the social cohesion that had existed earlier.

(5) Post-secular society requires a new interpretation of religious fundamentalism (Sorokin's cyclical theory of evolution)

Thus, post-secular society delves into study of society once secularisation is attained.

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c) Compare the Non-Brahmin Movement in South India with the OBC mobilizations in the Hindi heartland. (10 Marks)

The Non-Brahmin movement in South India reflects the rising aspiration of the marginalised community to be at par with Brahmin.

In contrast, OBC mobilisation in the Hindi heartland is about the rise of socio-economic goals and enhanced political representation of OBC community.

(1) Non-Brahmin movement such as Ezhava community's "Temple Entry Movement" focused on entry into temple under Self-Respect movement.

OBC mobilisation for implementation of Mandal commission report for ensuring benefits of affirmative actions

(2) Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana (SNDP) under Sree Narayana Guru in Tamil Nadu for socio-religious reforms

OBC mobilisation for gaining access to educational institutions

(3) Justice Party under Periyar for political empowerment

OBC evolved as dominant caste such as Ahir, Yadav, Kurmi etc due to politicisation of caste (Rajni Kothari)

Marc Gallanter highlights OBC movement as a "loose concept" due to diversity of socio-economic conditions

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d) Examine how climate change activism is being localized in the Global South.

(10 Marks)

Global South is experiencing wrath of climate change due to historical emission by Global North without considerable agreement over mitigation in current time.

- (1) The small island developing states (SIDS) such as Kiribati, Tuvalu are experiencing sea level rise, thus leading to loss of coastal community.
- (2) Distressed migration towards global north due to threat to local habitats and environment.
- (3) Climate change activism to demand for mobilisation of fund from developed nation for "loss and

damage".

(4) Climate change leading to extreme weather condition such as drought and floods.

↳ Food insecurity in Sahel region of Africa

(5) Rise of global epidemics such as Neglected Tropical disease due to greater influence of climate change.

Global South has been the victim of unsustainable development in Global North and have remained underdeveloped as explained by "Dependency theory".

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e) Is the digital divide a new form of development inequality? Analyze sociologically. (10 Marks)

Digital divide refers to the inequalities in the access and availability of digital technologies across region, gender, caste, etc.

↳ Digital literacy is low in rural region vis-a-vis urban areas.

Digital divide as a new form of development inequality

(1) Difference in the growth across region.

↳ Inaccessibility of digital devices in tribal regions

(2) Patriarchal norms : Disadvantaged position of women as compared to men.

(3) Caste divide → The already marginalised community are unable to reach digital literacy.

↳ Dalits are at disadvantaged position vis-a-vis educated caste (dominant caste)

(4) Access to education → Those who are illiterate face difficulty in accessing financial or digital literacy.

Yet, it is not a development inequality

(1) Digital Public Infrastructure led to UPI and Jan Dhan account.

(2) Affordability of data due to just ₹9/GB rate.

However, it requires significant measures to reach the last mile!

Feedback

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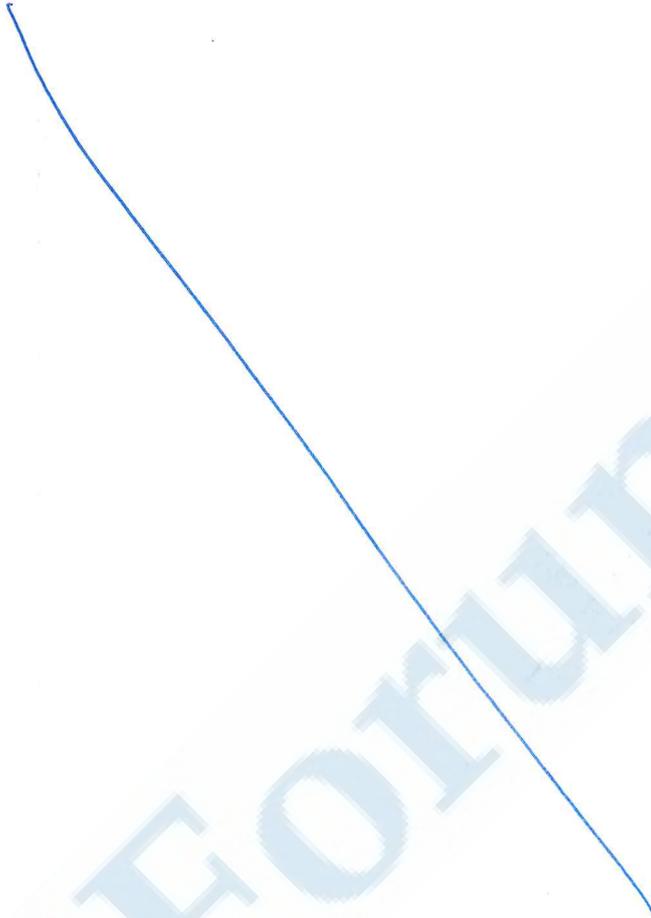
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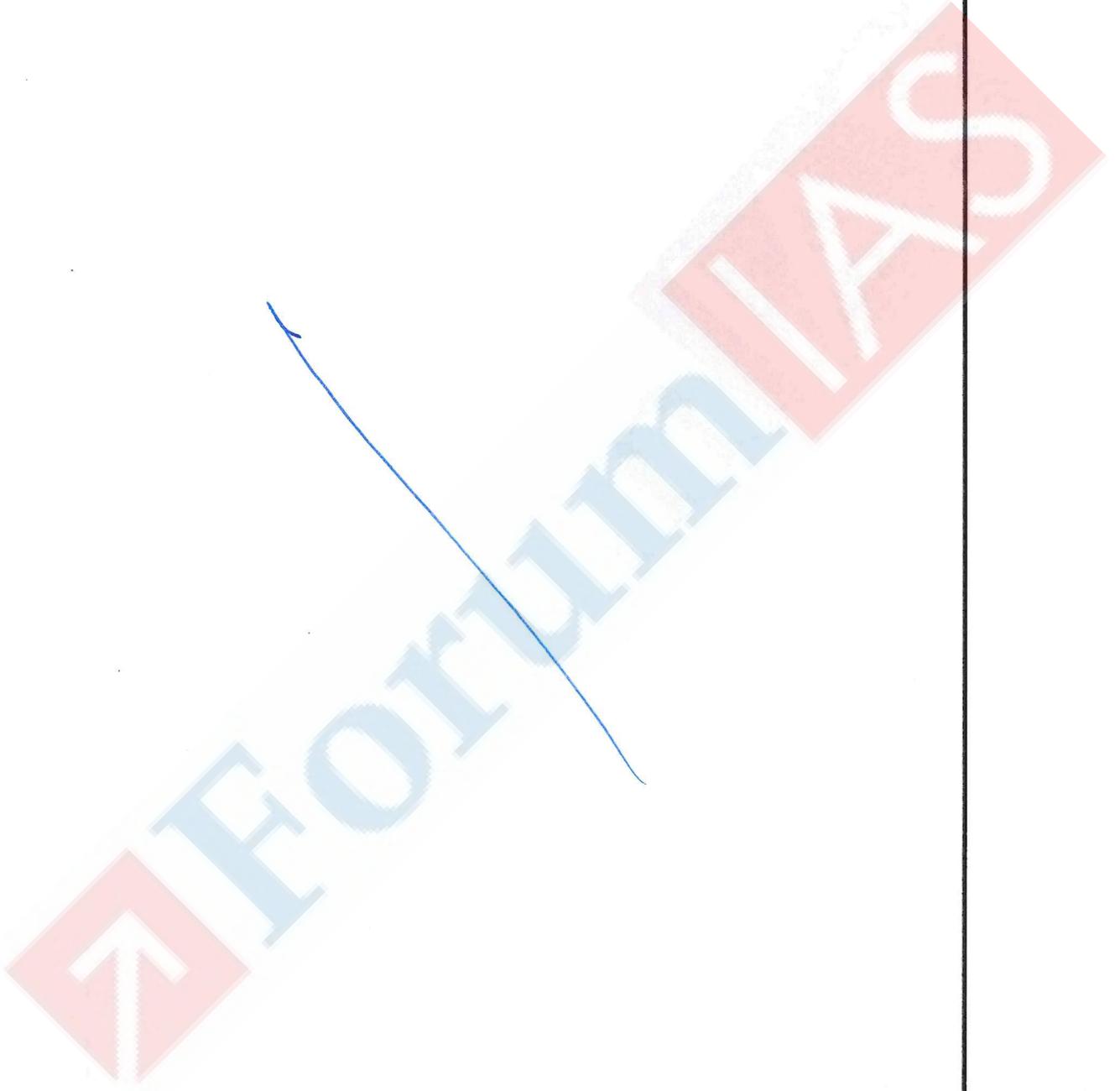
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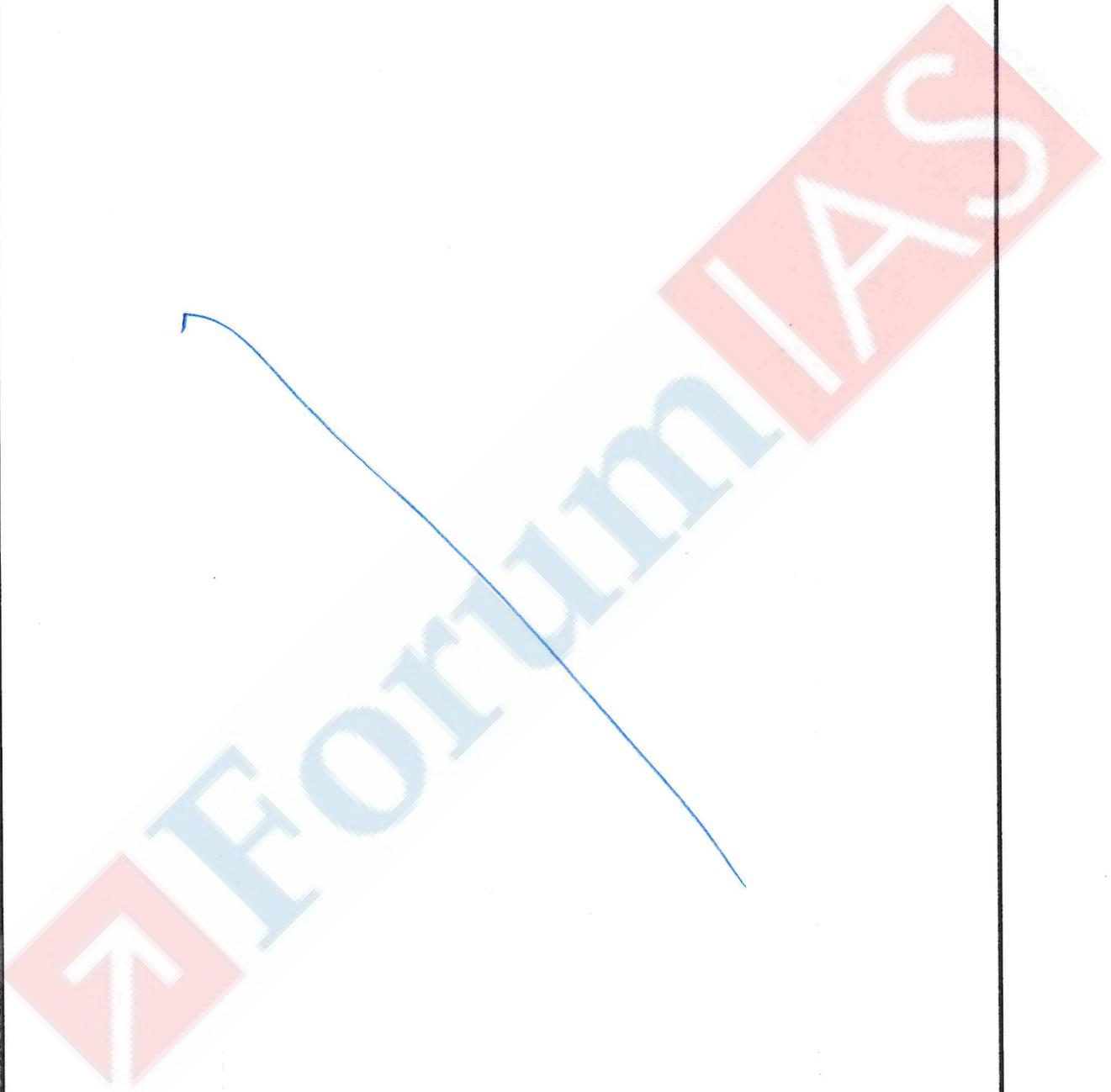
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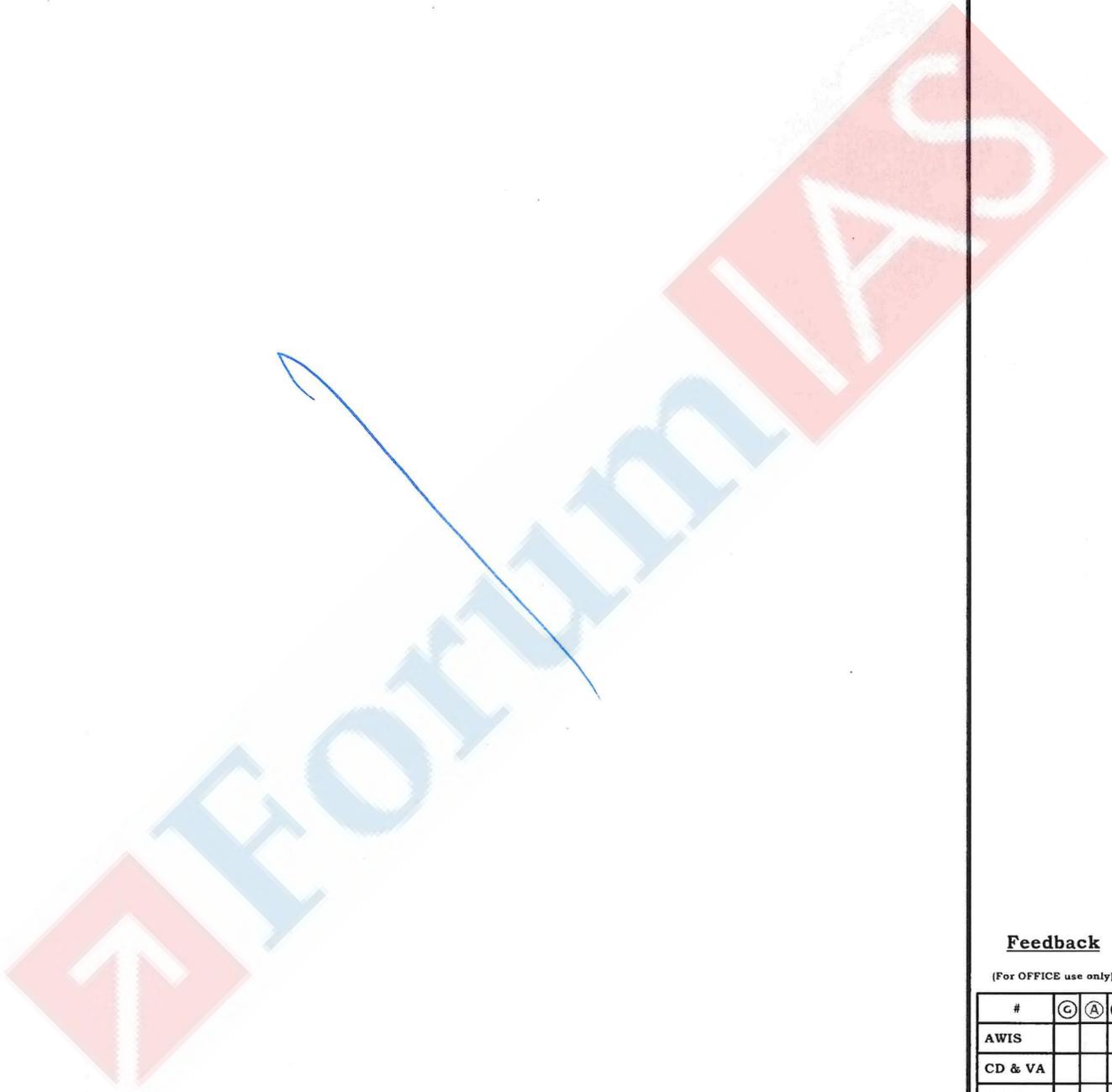


Q.2) a) Is electoral democracy sufficient for substantive democracy? Discuss sociologically. (20 marks)









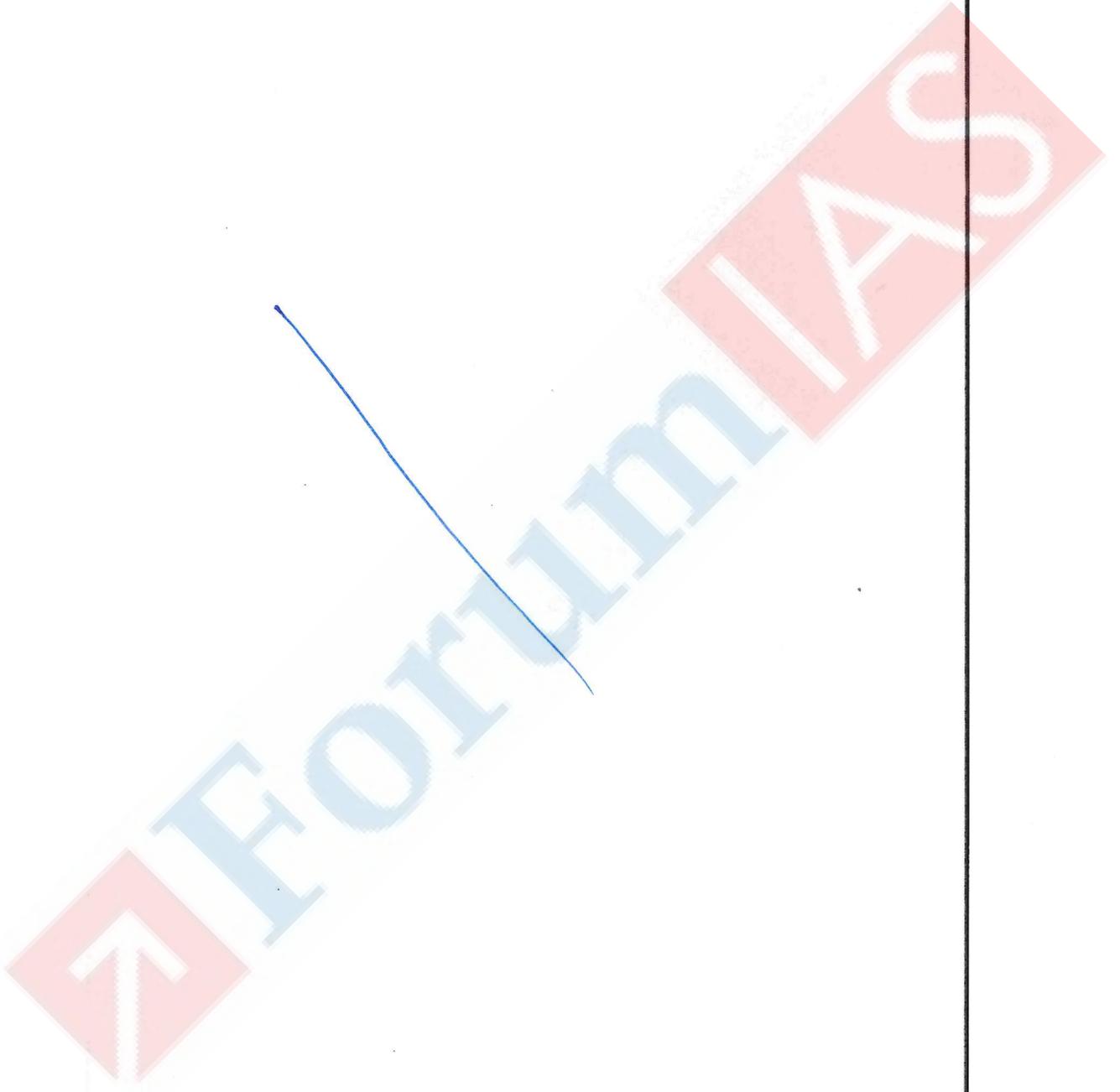
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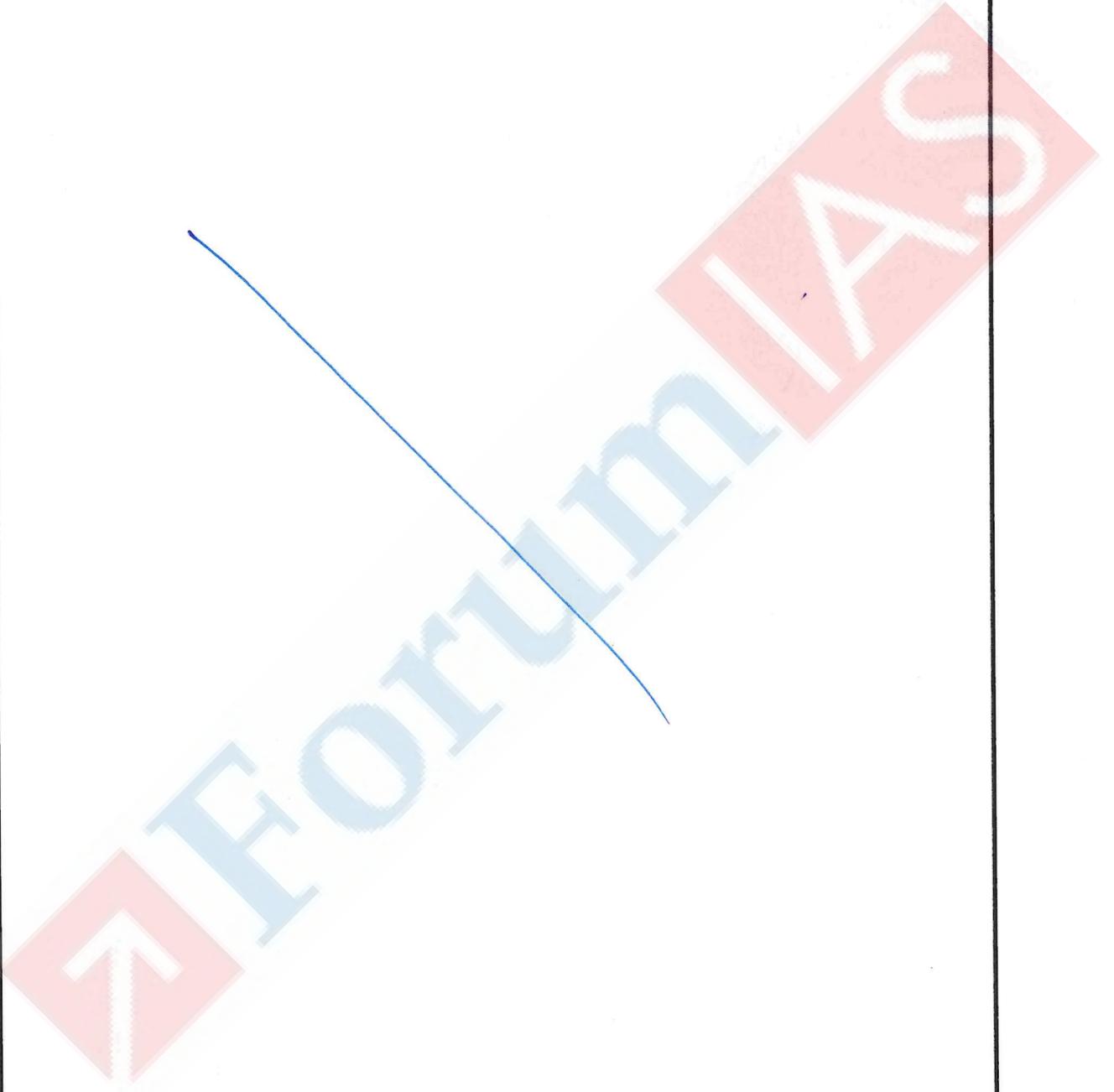
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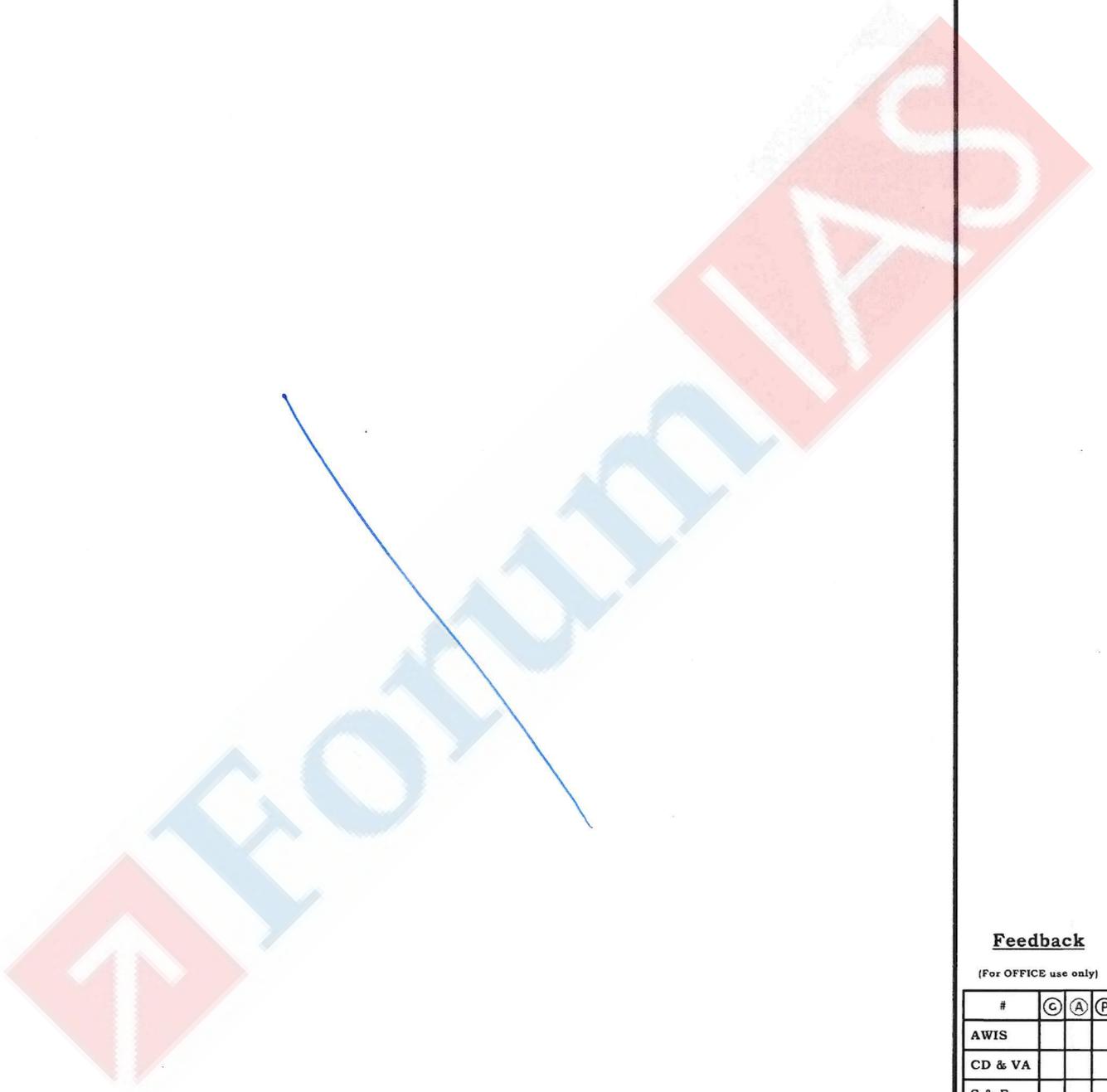
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b) Is there a growing depoliticization of social movements in neoliberal societies? (20 marks)







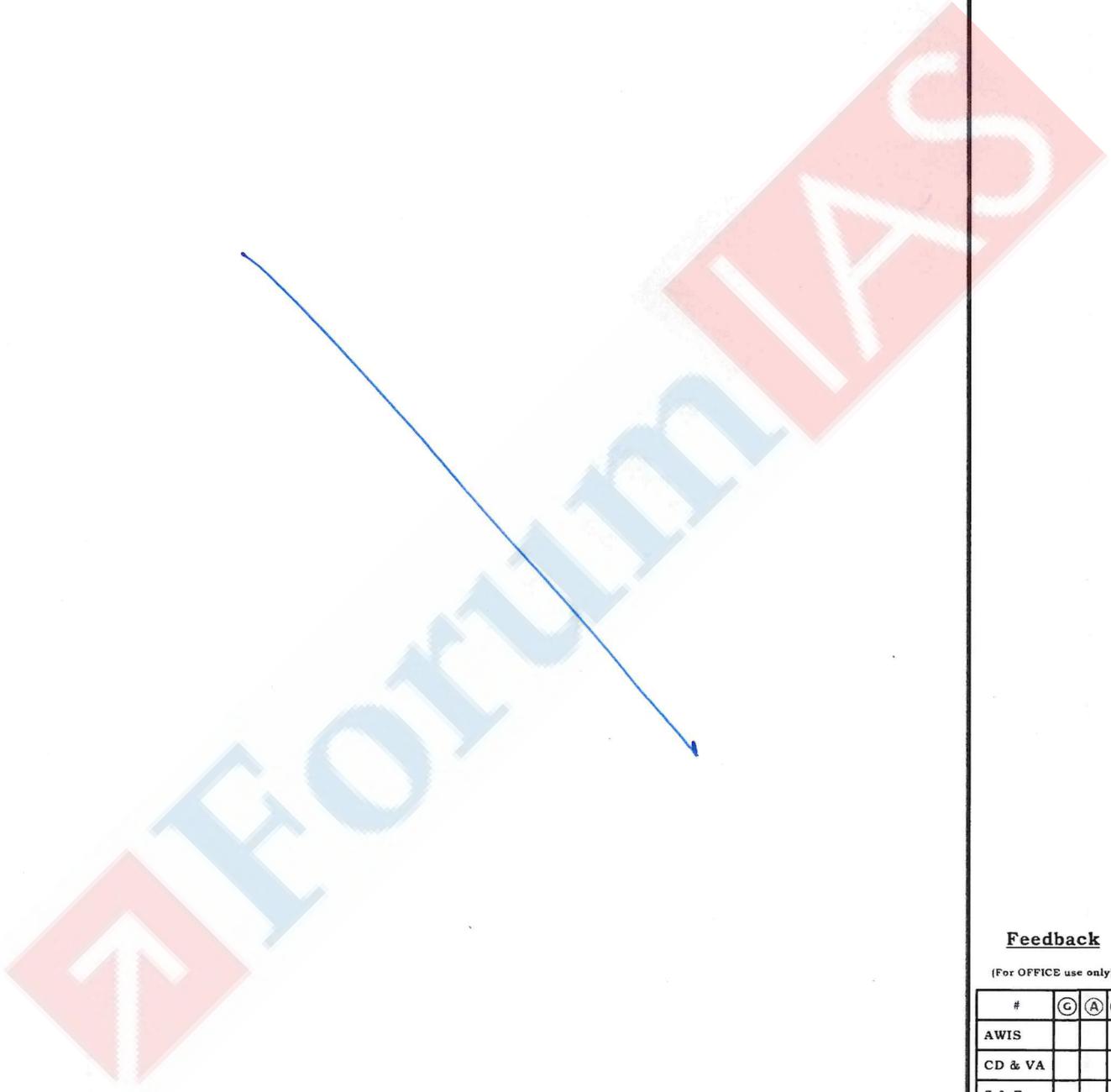
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c) Discuss the role of honor and shame in perpetuating gender-based violence.
(10 marks)



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Q.3) a) Can pressure groups replace political parties in articulating democratic demands? (20 marks)

Pressure groups are the association of certain interest groups like business, trade unions who are not involved in gaining political power through election, rather put a pressure on those in power.

Pressure groups cannot replace political parties completely in articulating democratic demands

- (1) Pressure Groups are narrow-interest groups. They don't reflect the complete social reality.
- (2) Pressure groups are sporadic in nature. They come up in

front when there is some crisis

↳ Eg. Tamil Nadu protest by Samsung workers' union.

(3) They are biased in the interest of their own aspiration

↳ Eg. Business association like FICCI, NASSCOM etc.

(4) Public may look up at pressure groups with suspicion due lack of trust and opacity in their functioning.

However, to some extent pressure groups can replace political parties in articulation of demands

(1) G Almonds' classification of

pressure group highlight various association which are pro active in building connect with masses.

[Eg.] Role of farmer association such as Bharatiya Kisan Union in Farmers' Protest.

(2) Pressure groups can mobilise resources for bringing positive social change (C. Tilley theory)

(3) Role of pressure groups and civil societies are great in sustainable development via ensuring enhanced public participation

[Eg.] Pressure groups' method of public consultation.

(4) Pressure groups provide the platform for training and rise of future political leaders.

↳ Student union in India

Thus, pressure groups have their own set of limitation as well as strength in dealing with articulation of democratic demands.

A better way forward is collaboration of government, pressure groups, political parties and civil society for democratisation.

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b) Examine the intersectionality of caste, class, and gender in Indian women's movements. (20 marks)

Indian women movements have seen various dimension across time and space.

From being demanding for voting rights in colonial time, women movement have furthered to demand for equality of opportunity and women empowerment.

Intersectionality of caste in Indian women's movement

- (1) Caste divide presents a threat to the women of Dalit and untouchable community.
- (2) Marginalised caste sees more risks of being not able to access

resources of society

(3) Andre Beteille in his study of Sripuram village experienced the suppression faced by Adi Dranida women.

(4) However, higher caste women have participated in women movement for demanding their rights.

Intersectionality of class.

(1) Higher class women belonging to well-off families are unable to participate in economic roles.

(2) However, lower class women are supposed to help men in sustaining families due to lower wages.

(3) Women movement saw greater participation of workforce demanding equal wages and prevention of sexual abuse at workplace.

↳ Self Employed Women Association (SEWA) by Ela Bhatt in 1971.

Intersectionality of gender

(1) Due to greater involvement of women in unpaid domestic work, their social status is diminished.

(2) Women are supposed to take care of household and bear children.

(3) However, women movement

demand greater recognition, reduction and redistribution (3R) of unpaid care work.

(4) Vena Majumdar's "Towards Equality" report demanded for greater recognition of woman role in society.

Thus, Indian women's movement have evolved from demanding mere legal equality to equality of opportunity and representation.

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c) Compare T.H. Marshall's theory of citizenship with postcolonial critiques.

(10 marks)

T.H. Marshall defined citizenship as the entitlement of the members of a political community.

However, post colonial critiques revolved around the rise of new nation-states who are freed from chains of colonial exploitation.

① T.H. Marshall's citizenship talks about various dimension of rights exerted by members of nation-state.

However, post colonial critique argues that the exploiters have changed from being foreigners to those who are of same nation.

(2) Citizenship grants political access to the members of the community through voting rights.

However, critique like Gramsci talk about existence of hegemony of those in power.

(3) Citizenship as given by T.H. Marshall explain the existence of various individuals due to the concepts of equality in legal terms.

However, post colonial critique views it as a mere equality in written documents with no major changes in social reality.

Despite these criticism, citizenship today is a global concept that ensures the grant of rights to the legal citizens.

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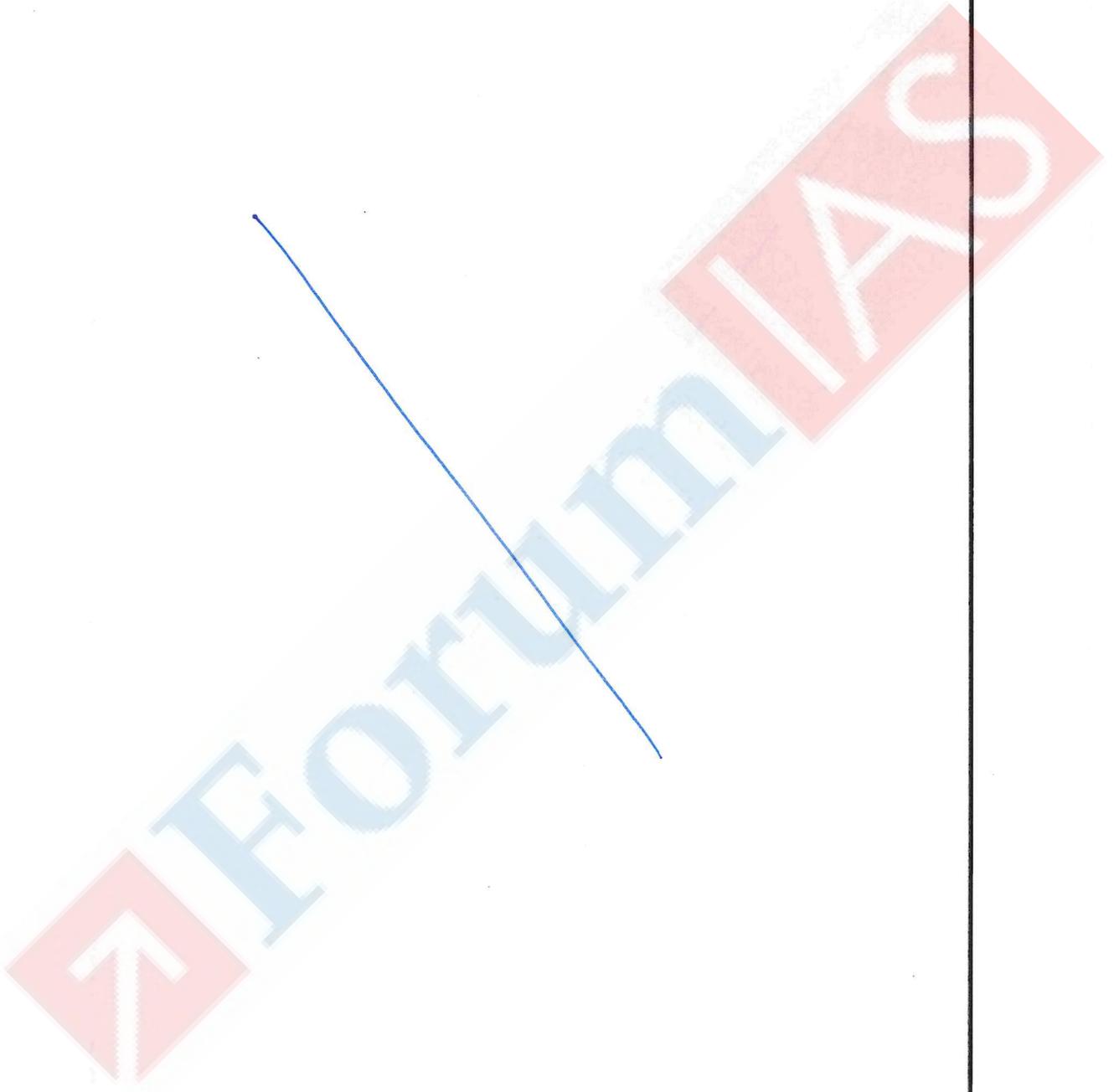
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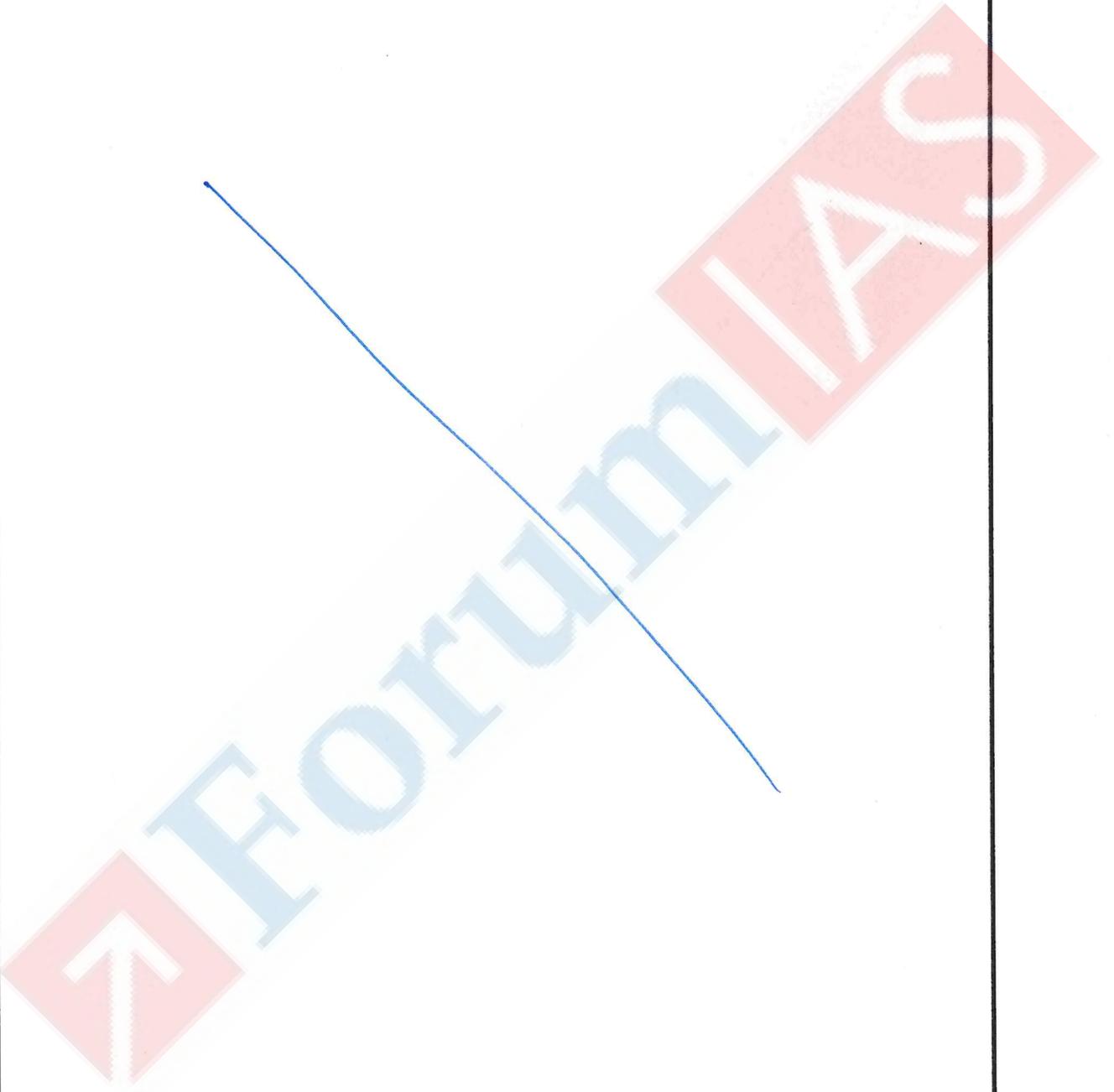
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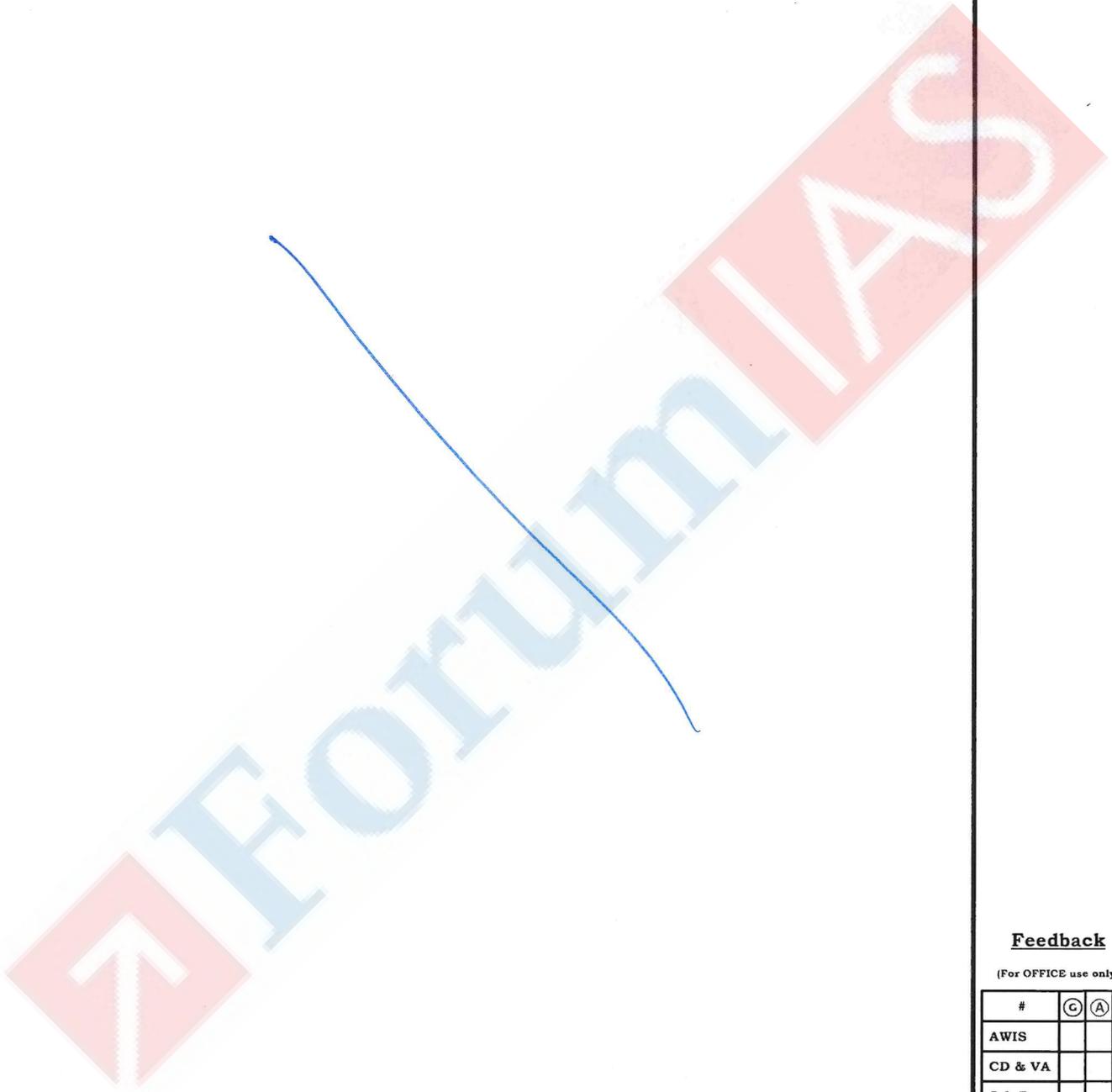
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Q.4) a) Critically examine the evolution of India's population policies since 1952. (20 marks)







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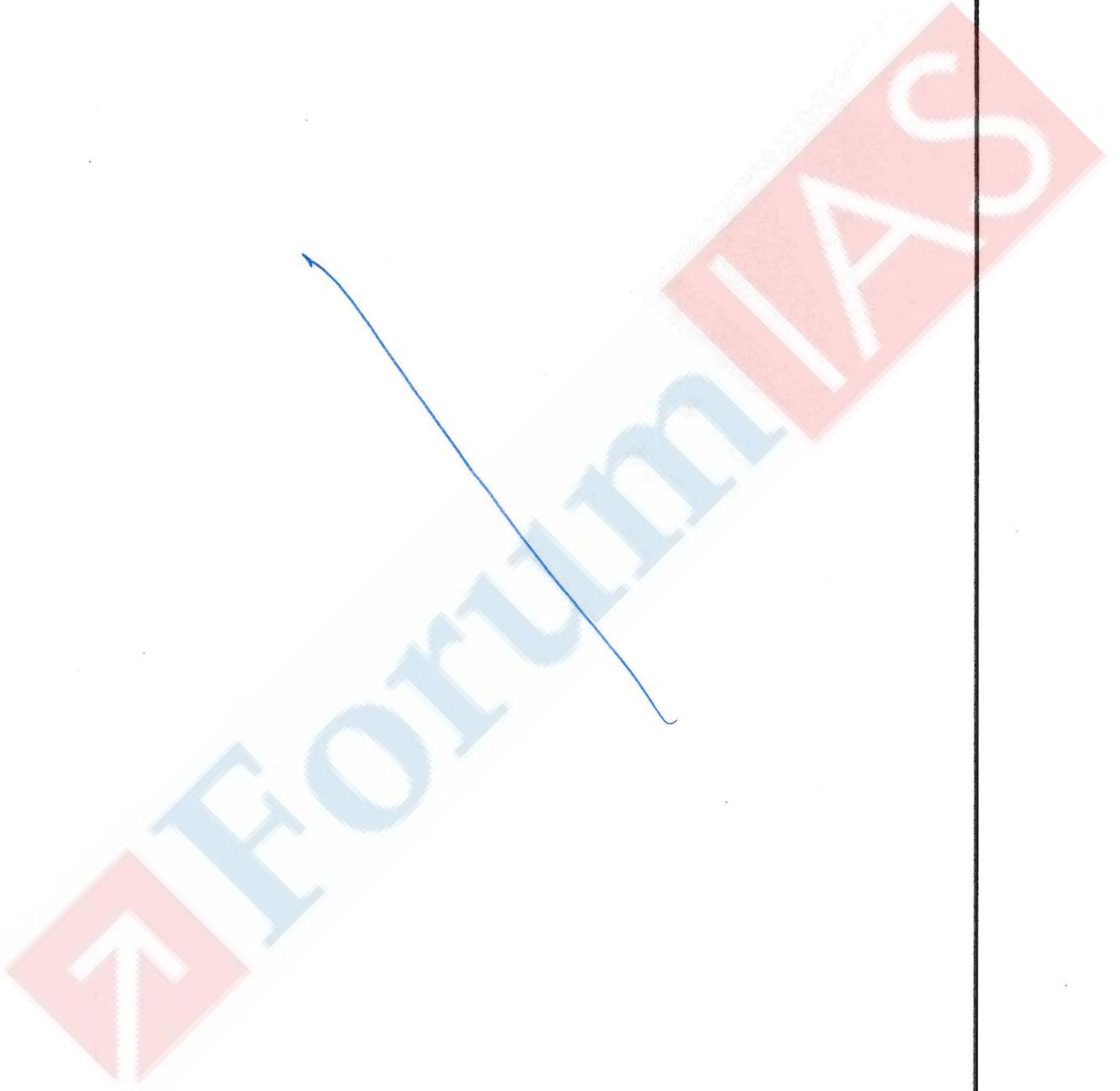
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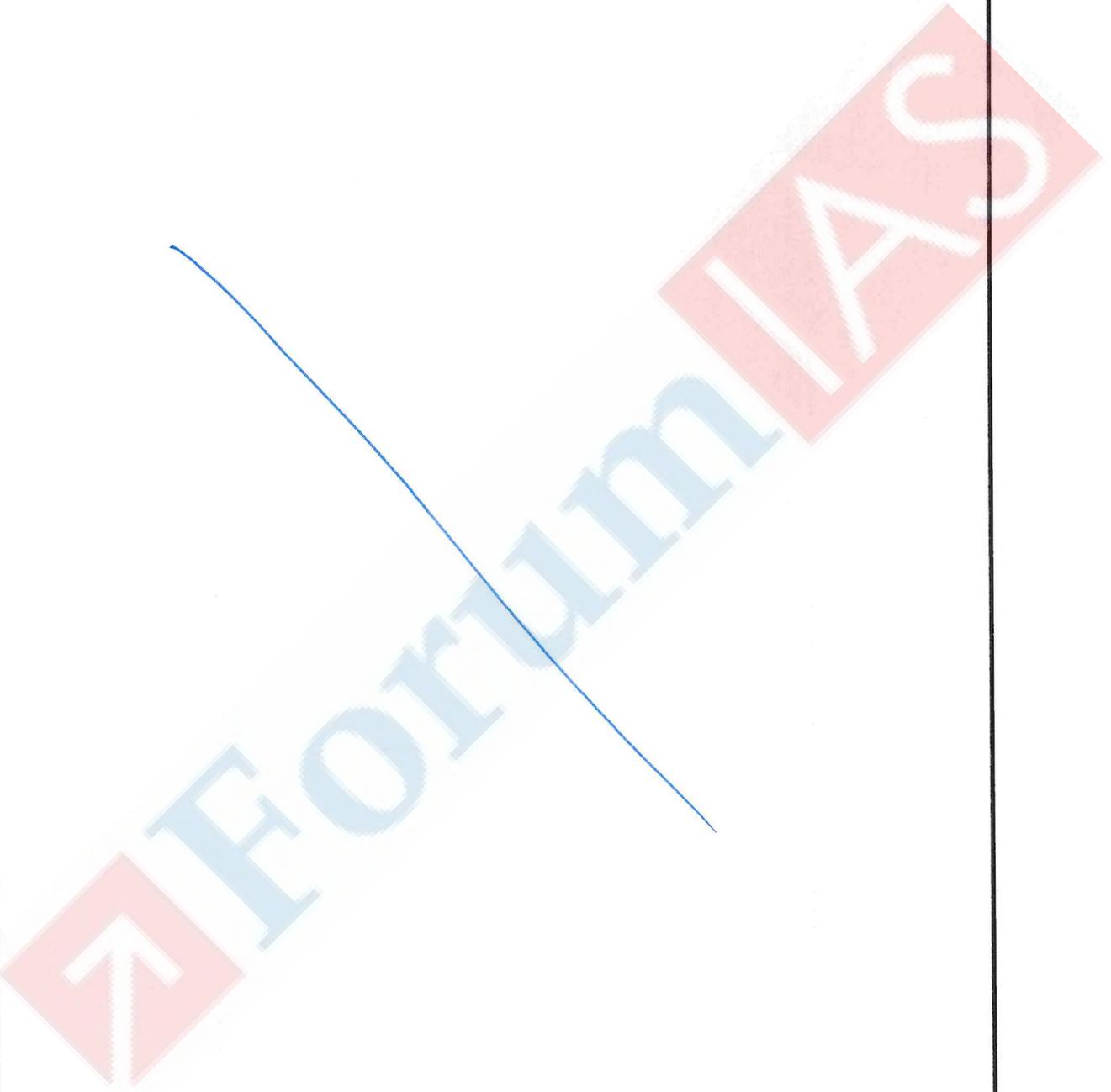
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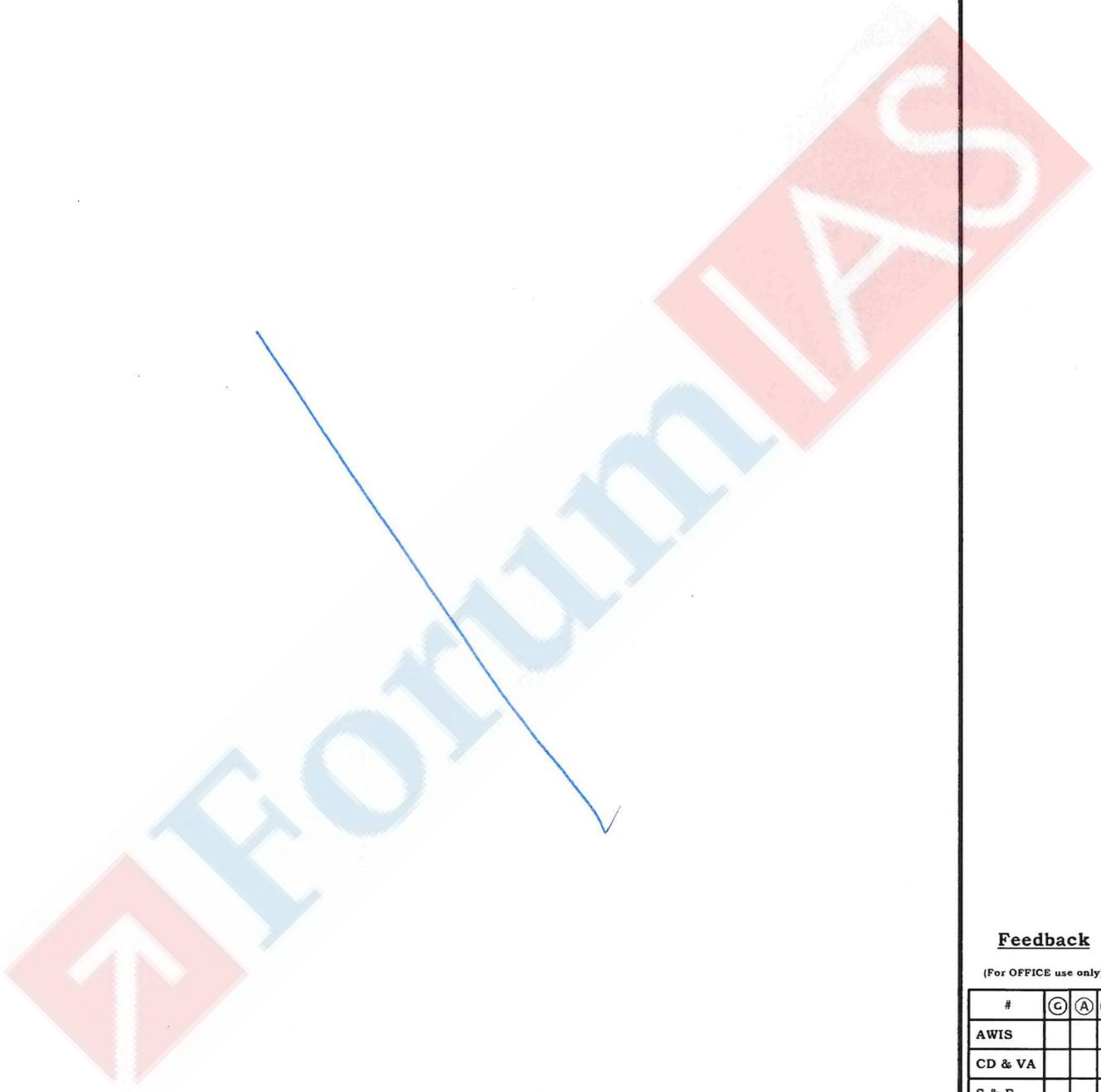


b) How do urban planning models ignore sustainability in Indian cities?

(20 Marks)







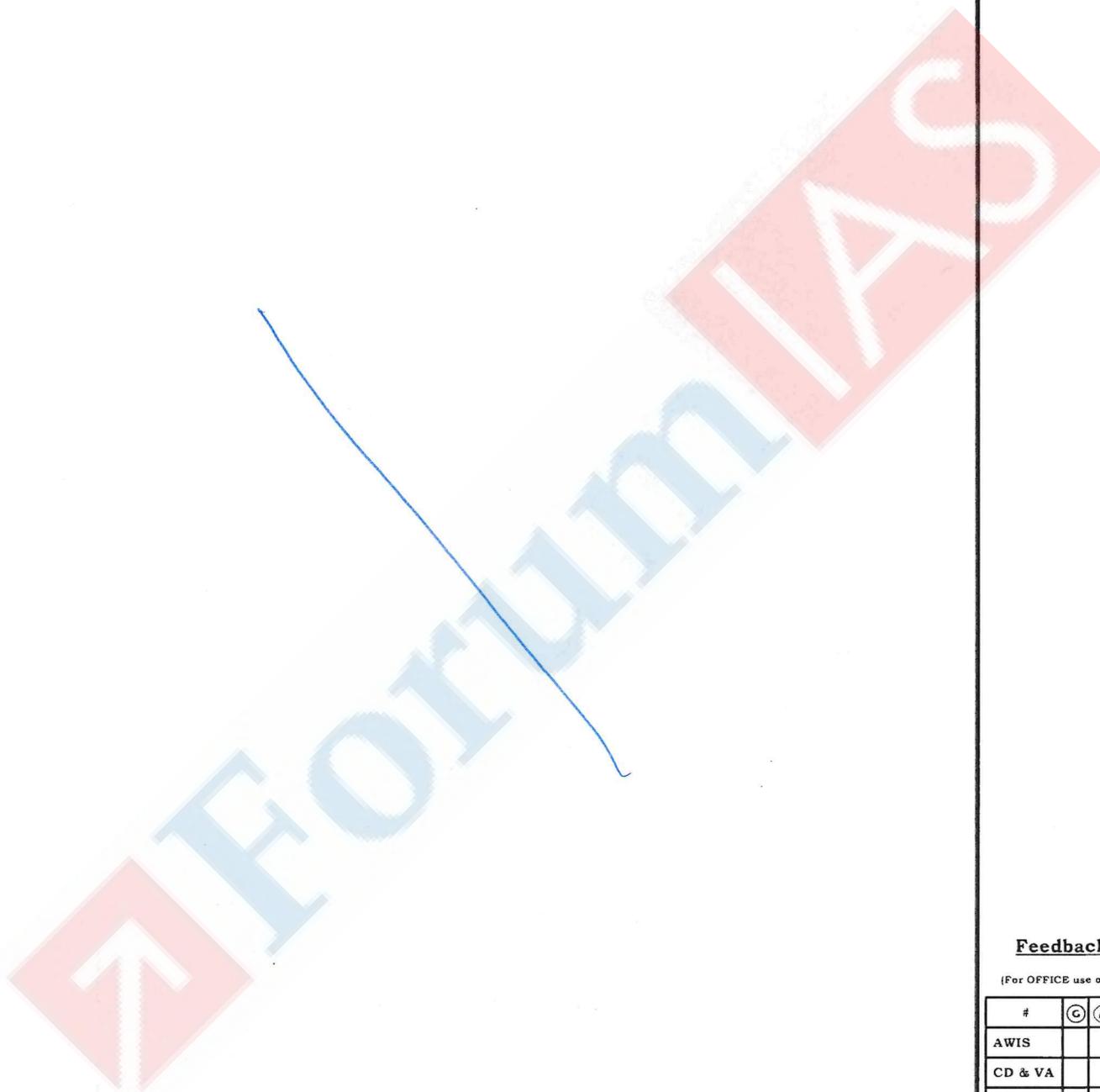
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c) How do networks and social capital influence the success or failure of movements? (10 marks)



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Section- B

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

a) In what ways do diaspora communities negotiate dual national identities?

(10 Marks)

Diaspora communities refer to the national or citizen of a country who reside in another country.

In Indian context, it refers to NRIs, Persons of Indian Origin and Overseas Citizen of India (OCI).

Diaspora communities negotiating dual national identity

(1) Diaspora uphold the interests of the country of their origin.

(Eq. → Indian diaspora in U.K. condemned Pakistan's action during operation Sindoor.

(2) Diaspora also involved in developing global identity

for better adaptation in foreign countries

↳ USA as "melting pot" of culture

(3) Economic significance via their ability to send back remittances.

(4) Role in globalisation of culture via homogenisation with foreign culture or hybridisation to promote national culture.

(5) Role as cultural as well as social capital given by Pierre Bourdieu

Thus diaspora communities are of great significance for furthering dual interest of country of origin as well as residence.

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b) How do caste, region, and religion interact in shaping political behavior in India? (10 Marks)

Political behaviour in India is not a discrete concept but rather loaded with the caste, regional and religious identity.

Role of caste

(1) There is politicisation of caste where different parties represent interest of different caste.

[Eg.] Dalit politics of Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP).

(2) Rajni Kothari studied voting behaviour based on caste.

[Eg.] PDA notebook of Samajwadi Party.

Role of region

(1) Indian politics is a federal politics

where there are multiple regional parties.

[Eq.] Biju Janata Dal in Odisha.

(2) Regional parties promote regional interest, thus getting public support.

[Eq.] DMK in Tamil Nadu.

Role of religion

(1) Political parties aligned on religious fundamentalism garner the support of conservative

[Eq.] AIMIM for muslim community.

(2) May foster communalism that threaten social cohesion.

[Eq.] Anti CAA protest in 2020.

Politics in India is thus affected by multiple factors; it's not a monolith!

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c) Critically examine the relevance of Eric Wolf's "Peasant Wars" thesis in the Indian context. (10 Marks)

Eric Wolf's concept of "Peasant Wars" refers to the rise of agricultural labourer and marginal cultivators against the exploitation by the ruling class.

Significance in the Indian context

(1) MSA Rao has identified that Colonial India saw "peasant struggle"; while post independence India experienced "farmer's movement".

(2) Peasant movement against landlord for getting the right of cultivator. [eg] Tebhaga movement

- (3) Issue of land reform in India for land ceiling and tenancy reform.
- (4) Rise of peasants on communist lines in Naxalbari village in 1960s.
- (5) Peasants demand for greater share of the farm produce, better tenancy conditions etc.

Limitation in Indian context

(1) Farmers' movement are no longer about share of produce; rather about better opportunities.

(2) Farmers' protest 2020 against 3 ~~fake~~ farm laws.

(3) Demand for legalisation of MSP.

Thus, "peasant's war" has tilted towards "farmer protest" in Indian society.

Feedback

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d) Discuss the gendered nature of environmental activism in India. (10 Marks)

Environmental activism in India has remained highly engendered due to differential impact of ecological degradation on different genders.

① Chipko Andolan started by Sunderlal Bahuguna saw involvement from women across society who hugged the tree and protected it.

② Women in rural India have the responsibility to fetch water for households from distant wells.
[Adrian C Mayer study of central India]

③ Degradation of natural resources provide much greater disadvantage

to women as

- (a) they face scarcity of fuelwood
- (b) walking long distance for water, etc

④ Thus, women have played significant role in environmental movement.

⑤ Amita Baniskar discusses the negative repercussion of displacement due to dam construction on women and local heritage

⑥ Role of women in Niyamgiri movement against exploitation by Vedanta in Odisha.

⑦ Medha Patkar in Narmada Bachao Andolan and Maneka Gandhi in wildlife conservation.

Environmental concerns requires human compassion and social cohesion for success

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e) Examine the urban-rural population growth divide in India from a sociological lens. (10 Marks)

The urban-rural population growth divide in India highlights the disparity in opportunities in different regions that cater to differences in population.

- ① Urban India is expected to inhabit around 40% of population by 2030.
- ② On the other hand, rural India saw migration of men from rural to urban society for better "life-chances".
- ③ Urban population growth puts excessive pressure on scarce resources; thus leading to inequity.

④ Rise of urban slums which are densely populated residence area with poor civic amenities.

Geeta Diwan Verma calls slum as not only infrastructural, but moral failures.

⑤ On the other hand, rural areas saw feminisation of household due to men-outmigration. It led to feminisation of agriculture in Eastern India without significant women empowerment (Gail Omvedt)

⑥ Urban areas lead to class-based segregation due to income disparity. But rural areas are still dominated by agriculture.

Access to healthcare has led to low death rate in urban society; however, infant and maternal mortality is still concern in rural areas.

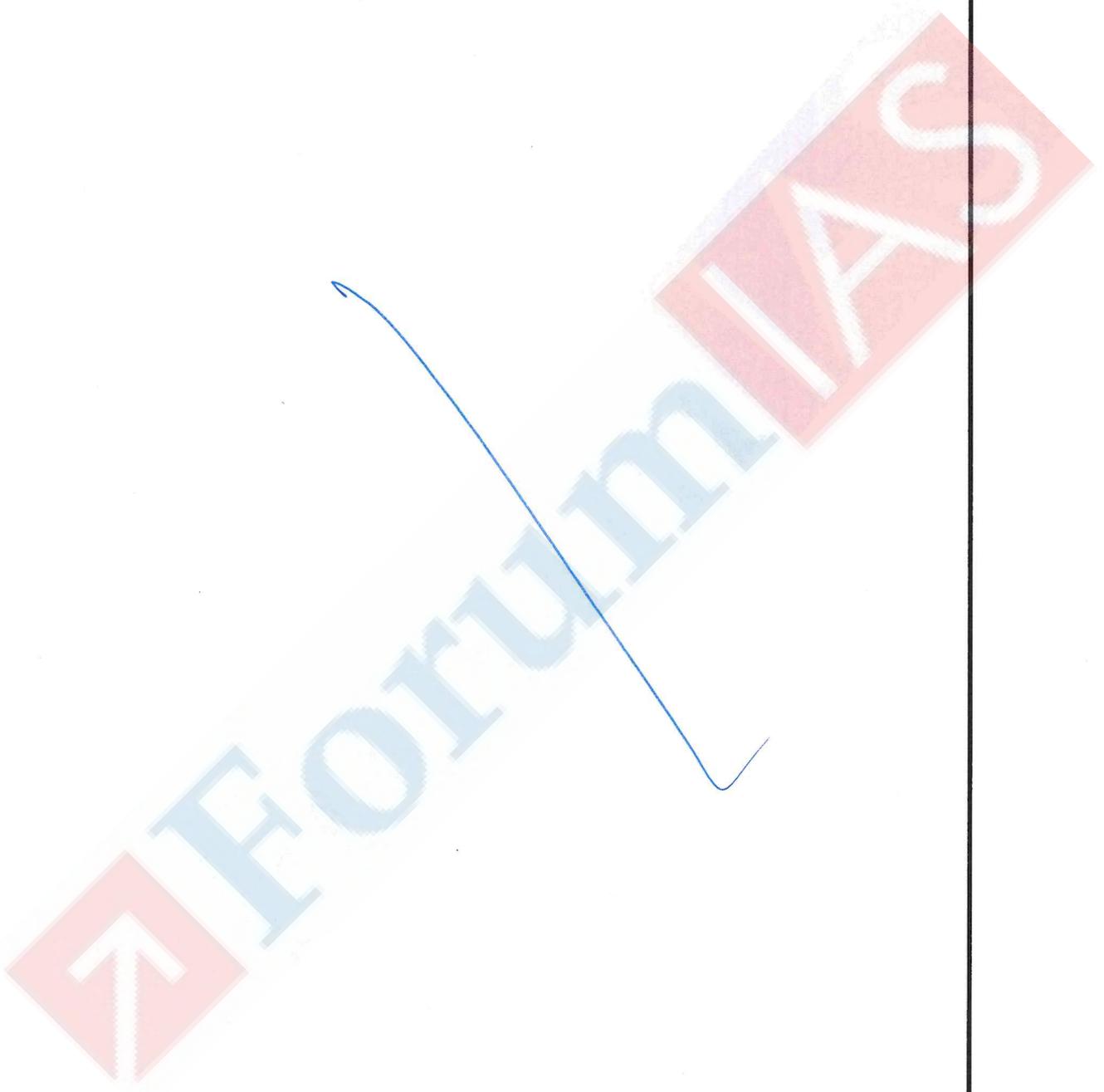
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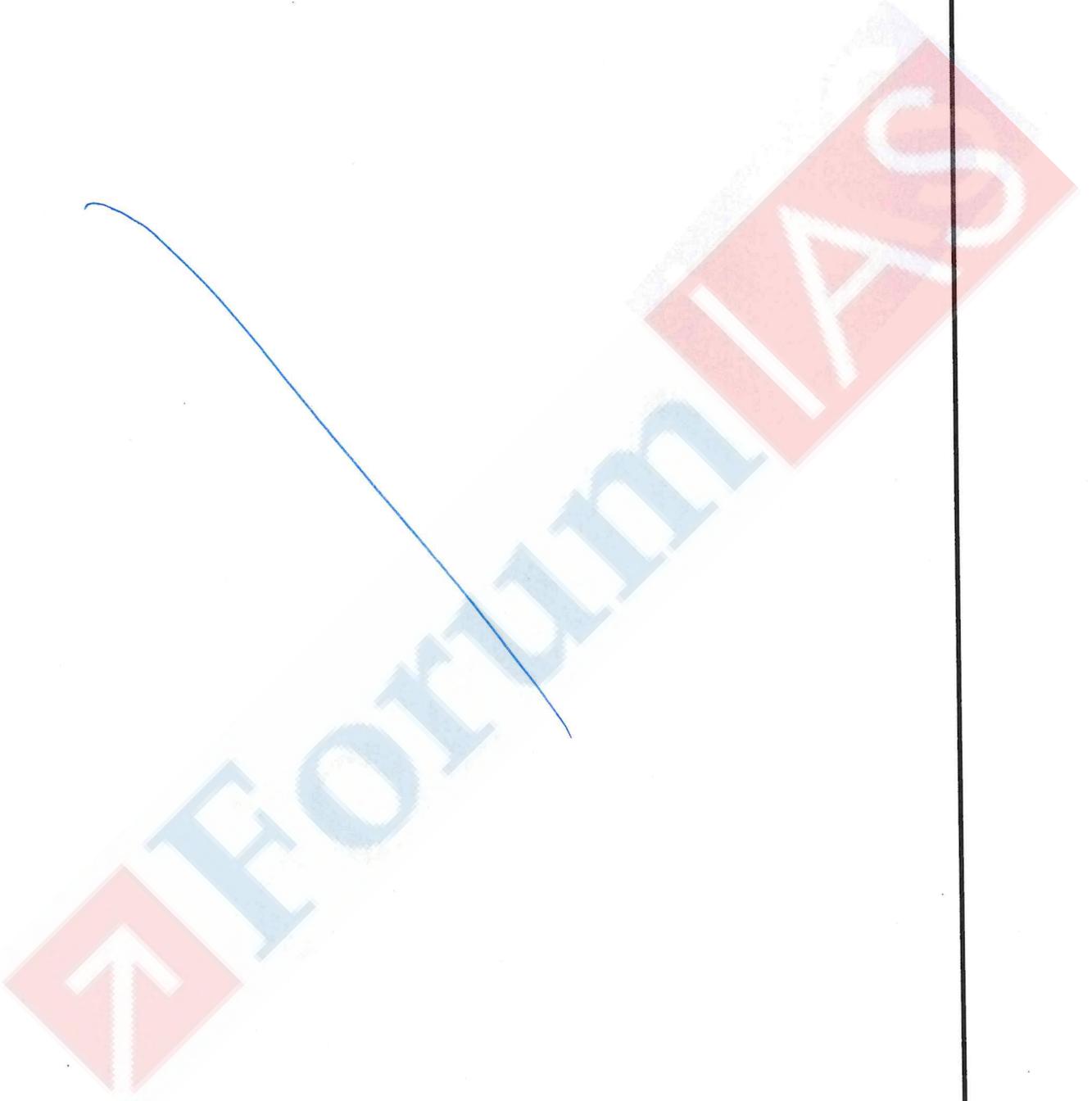
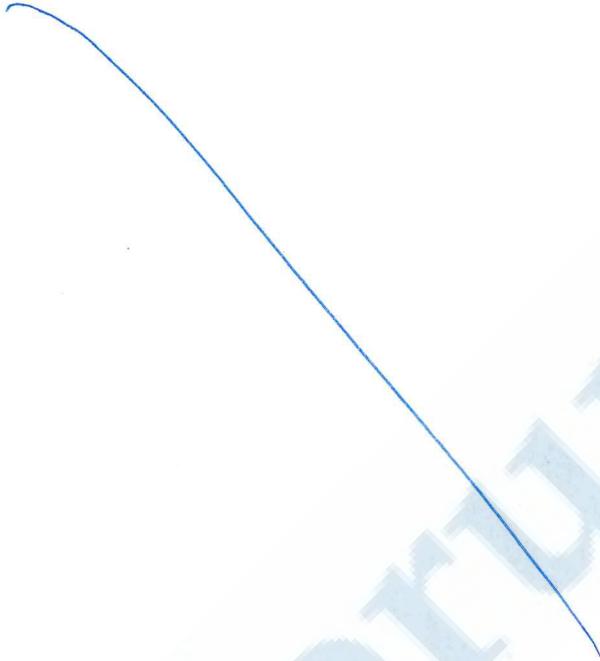
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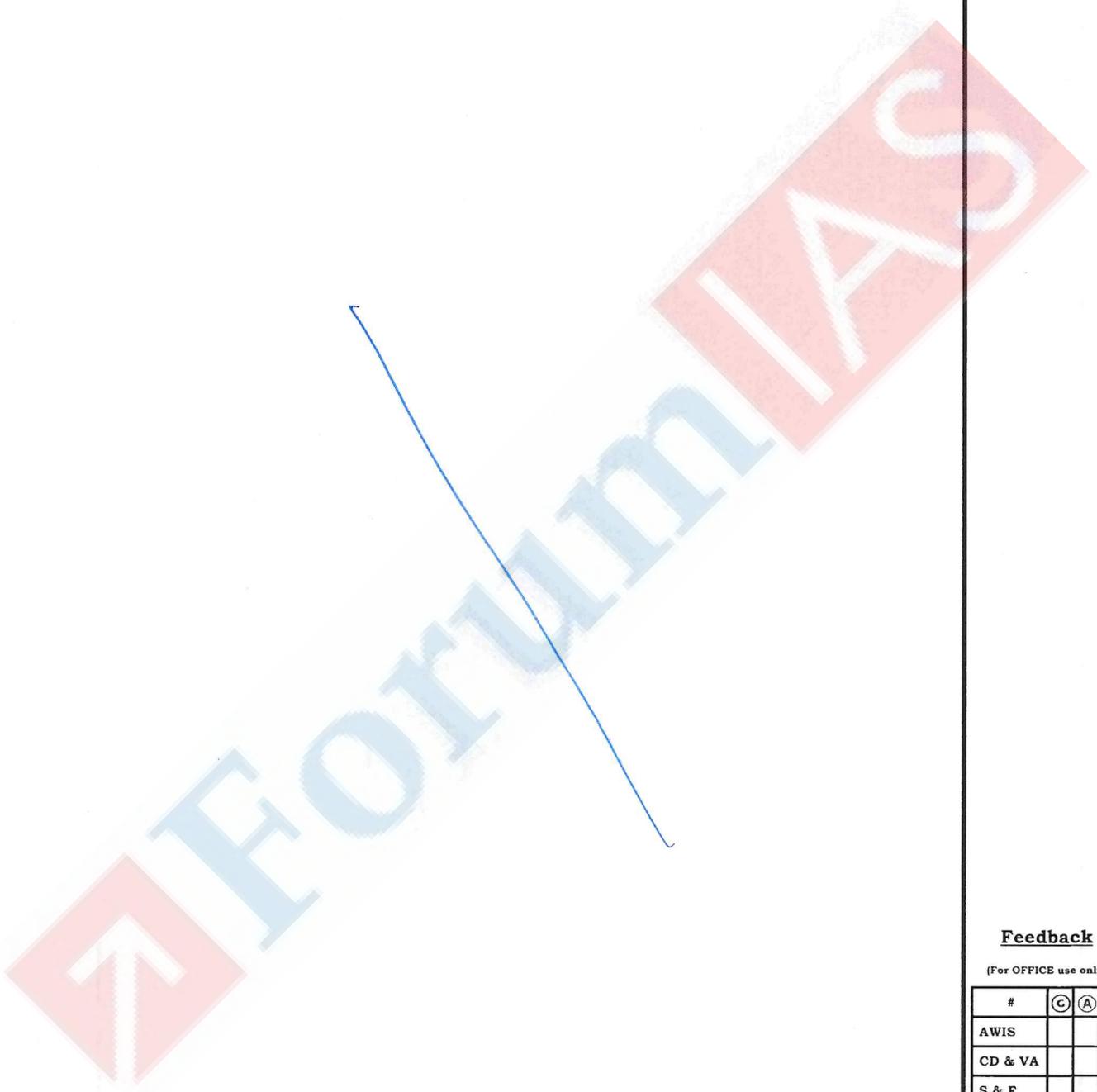
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Q.6) a) Analyze the shift from political mobilization to cultural movements among Dalits. (20 marks)







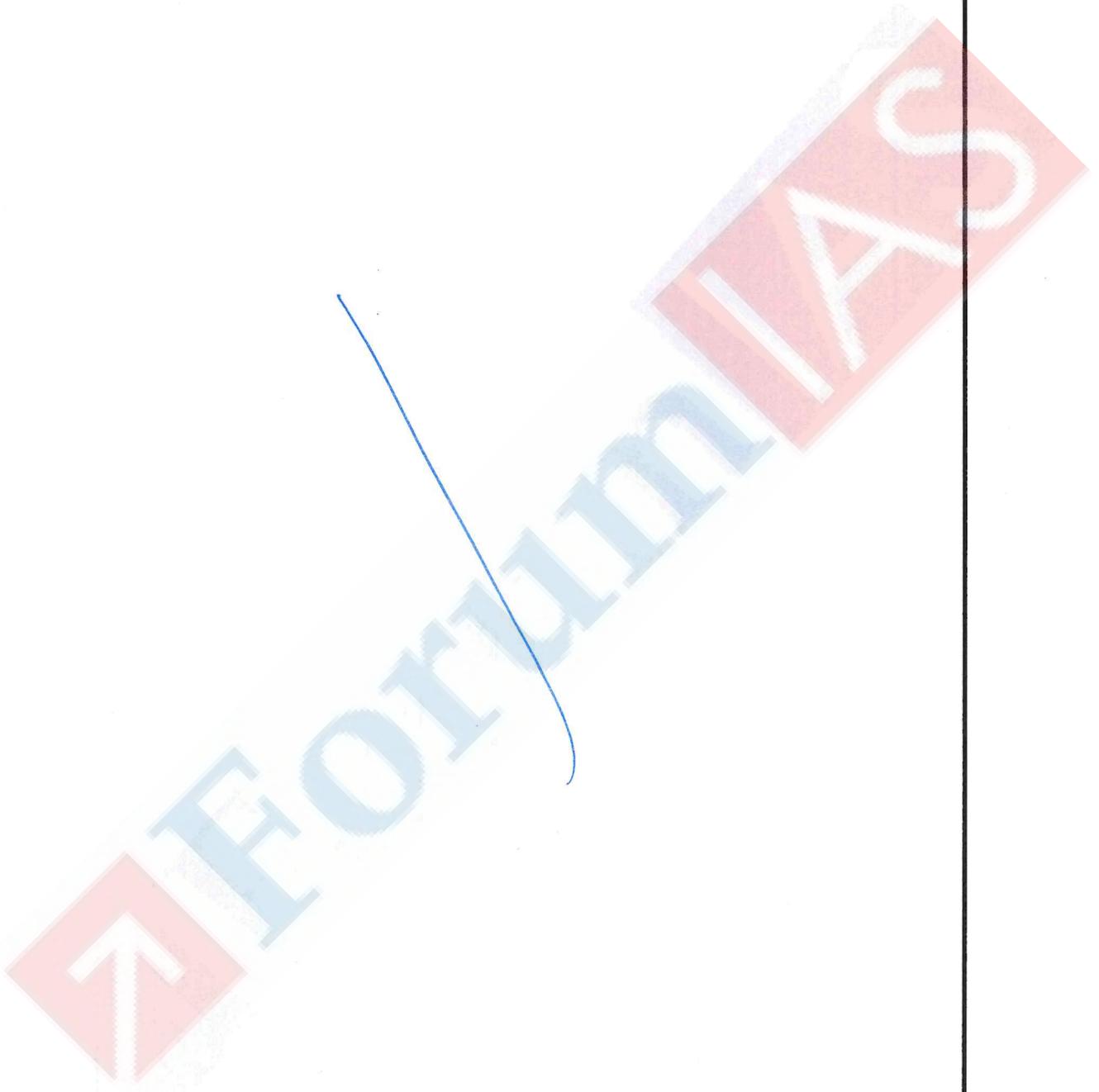
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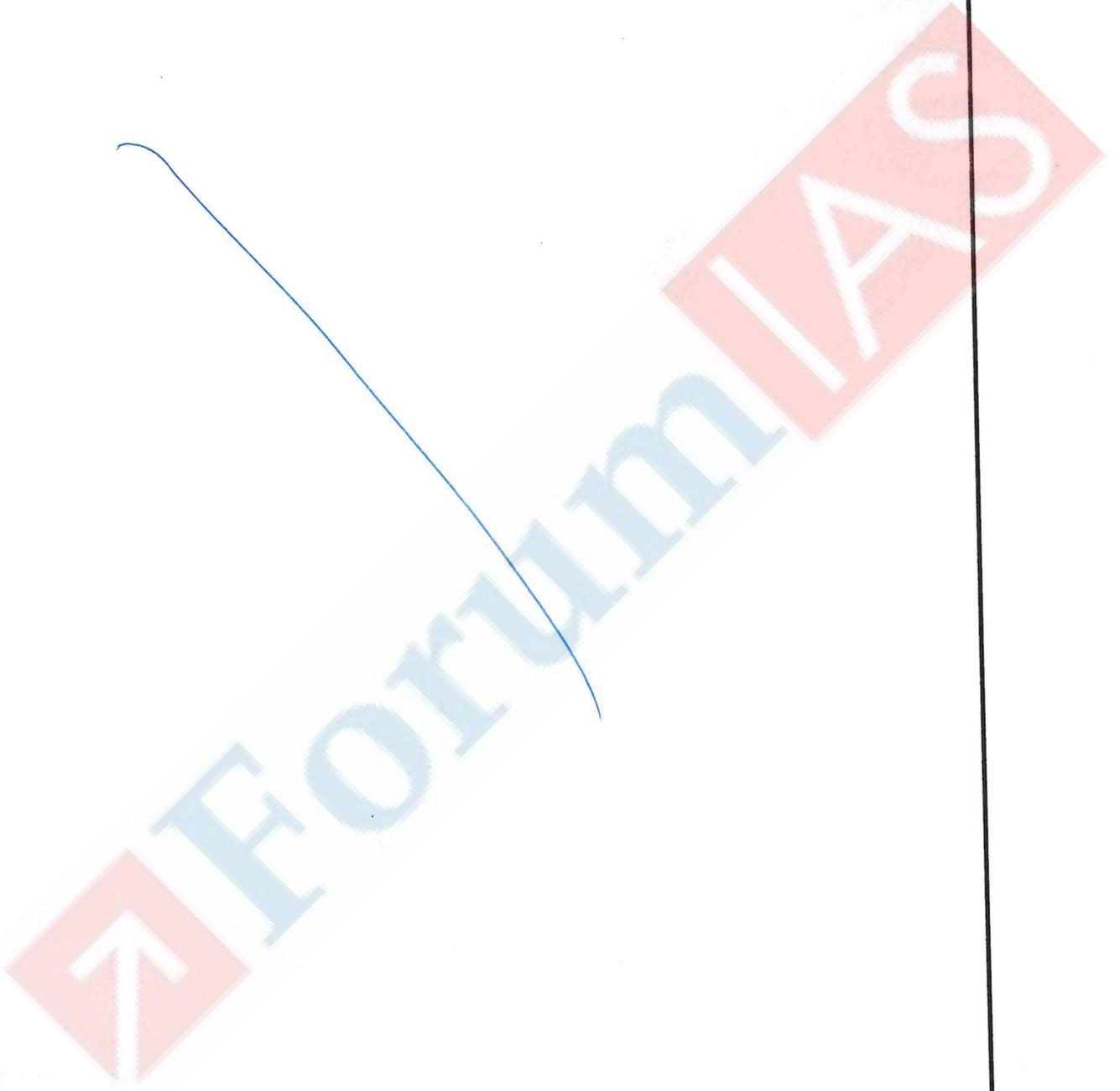
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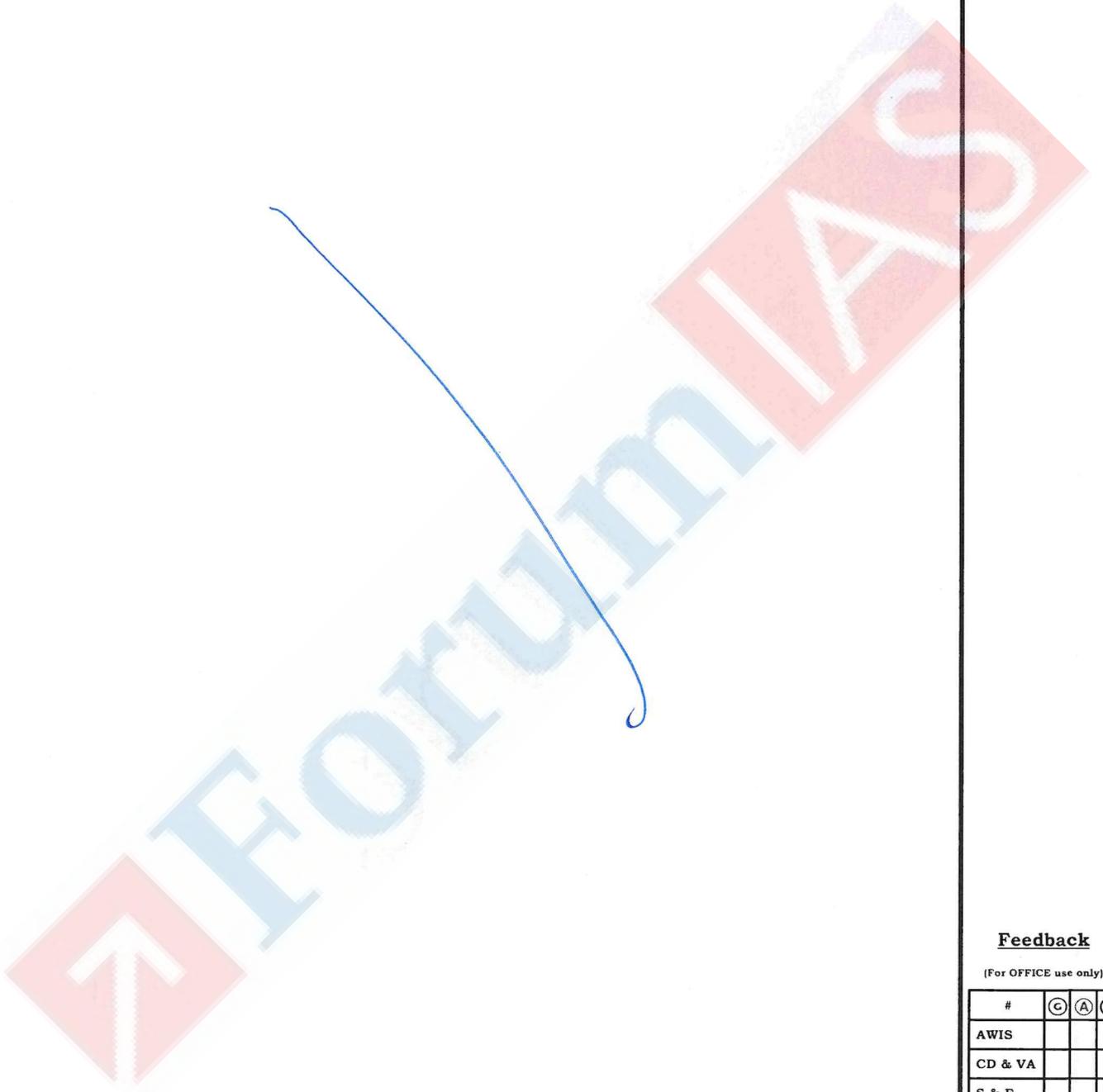
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b) What explains the rise of identity-based movements in the post-globalization era? (20 marks)







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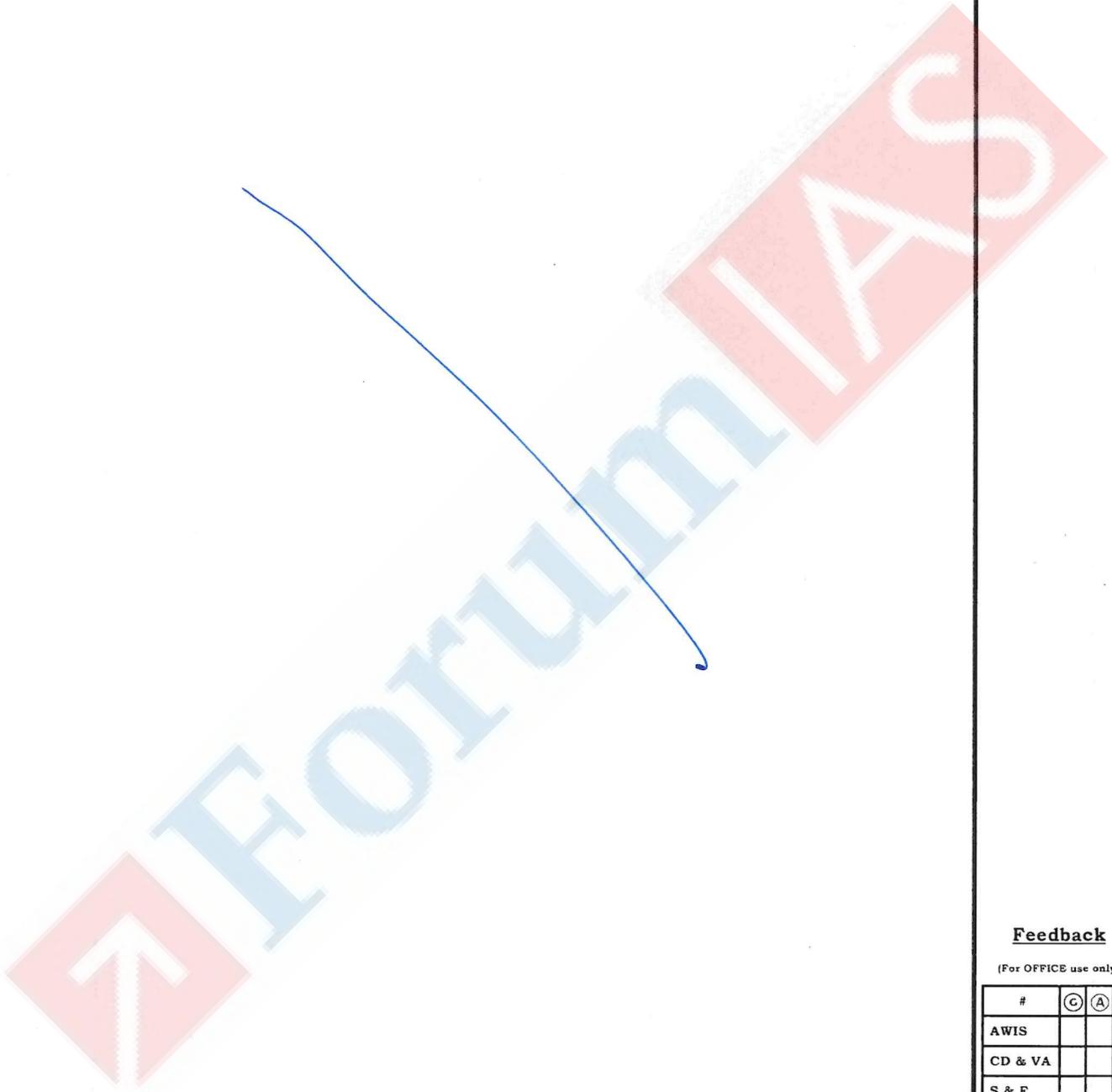
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c) Examine the feminization of migration and its socio-economic consequences.

(10 marks)



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Q.7) a) To what extent can social constructionism explain fertility and mortality behavior? (20 marks)

McCarthy and Maine's model
explain the interplay of various
distant and biological factors in
explaining fertility and mortality
behaviour.

Success of social constructionism

(1) Role of women's status in family
in deciding her rights to give
birth

[Eg.] Leela Dube's concept of "seed
and ~~Earth~~ Earth" highlights woman
status as child bearer.

(2) Status of education attained

by woman in a community.

↳ Tulsi Patel studied woman of Rajasthan and found that those with higher education and literacy supports less number of child births.

(3) Patriarchy and its role in deciding maternal mortality :

Women health and hygiene gets highly ignored leading to various health complexities.

For eg., 57% women in India were anemic as per NFHS-5.

(4) Neglect of female child leading to female foeticide and skewed child sex ratio.

(5) Lack of awareness about the facilities of institutional delivery, leading to high cases of maternal mortality.

Limitation of social constructionism

(1) There are various biological factors contributing to mortality behaviour.

[Eg.] Sickle cell anemia prevalent in PVTC group.

(2) Lack of access to healthcare service can lead to high mortality.

[Eg.] Non availability of primary health centre in remote villages.

(3) Fertility can be impacted by

various economic dimension

[Eq.] Preference to have less number of child due to higher living cost.

Thus, a universal scale of Social causality is not sufficient, but requires analysis of multiple dimension to explore causes of fertility rate and mortality.

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b) Discuss the implications of skewed sex ratio on marriage patterns and gender relations. (20 marks)

As per census 2011, the sex ratio or the number of female per 1000 males in India was 940.

This skewed sex ratio highlights the discrimination and marginalisation faced by women in India, with child sex ratio even worse than overall sex ratio.

Implication of skewed sex ratio on marriage pattern

- ① Skewed sex ratio highlights lower number of female. This promotes early marriage or even child marriage.

- ② Parents have to ensure that girl child remain protected so as to ensure a sacred marriage bond.
- ③ Loss of educational opportunities for female child.
Women lack educational competence and hence forced in unpaid care giving.
- ④ Neglect of female aspiration as early marriage ensures low dowry and freedom from burden of girl child.

Implication on gender relations

- (1) Skewed sex ratio can lead to increased case of violence

Against women

- ② Women sexual and reproductive health (SRH) is highly ignored in patriarchal society.
- ③ Instances of marital rape and forced to bear children at younger age.
- ④ Skewed sex ratio can also be correlated to religion, where certain religion like Sikh community have very poor child sex ratio, while christian have a favourable sex ratio for women.
- ⑤ Strengthening of patriarchy due to lesser say of women in

decision making and access to resources.

↳ Sylvia Walby's work on "Theorising Patriarchy"

Sex ratio has improved as per NFHS-5 data, however it requires collaborative efforts for meaningful Socio-economic development with an all-pervasive and all-inclusive approach.

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c) How does Ulrich Beck's concept of "risk society" explain contemporary environmental crises? (10 marks)

Ulrich Beck's concept of "risk society" deals with various notions where development leads to different approaches and risk is aroused due to various stakeholders.

"Risk society" in contemporary environmental crises

- (1) The environment faces damage due to overexploitation of resources by both public and private sphere.
- (2) The risk emerged out of excessive carbon emission cannot be mitigated by the single effort of any individual.

- (3) The risks society studies post-Fordism where the industries have moved ahead of mass production through automation.
- (4) The environmental concerns ~~and~~ puts various marginal groups at vulnerability to various hazards.
- (5) There is a need to take a multi-stakeholder approach to calculate the risks posed, and thus ensure collective action.

The global institutions and associations must ensure collaboration for a sustainable solution for environmental crises -

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Q.8) a) How does caste continue to shape violence and conflict in modern India? (20 marks)

G.S. Ghurye defined caste as the segmented division of society based on hierarchy, civil & ritual disabilities, endogamy, strict rules of commensality and limited occupational choice.

Even though, caste has remain fluid in terms of adapting to modern social reality, it has continued to shape violence & conflict.

① Caste based ghettoisation are still prevalent in rural India

↳ This leads to caste-based violence and community targeting.

- ② Still 98% of manual scavengers belong to marginalised dalit community. Violence against "Safai karmchari" and manual scavengers are common.
- ③ Over 67000 cases were registered in 2024 against dalit exploitation under SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989.
- ④ Though, inter caste marriage has become common with ~5.82% in Census 2011. But cases of honourkilling and Shame violence are prevalent.
- ⑤ Role of Khap Panchayats in remote region of Haryana and

Rajasthan has led to marginalisation of dalit and spread of injustice.

⑥ Politicisation of caste as studied by Rajni Kothari, is a threat to social solidarity due to divisive politics.

However, caste has also evolved, thereby ensuring loss of caste-based identity:

- ① Migration to urban areas create anonymity of caste.
- ② Achievement orientation establishes meritocratic society. Thus, it widens the choice of occupation.

③ Affirmative actions have promoted legal equality and equality of opportunity.

But caste based mobilisation has still remained strong. The use of social media for caste identity and caste assertion can be detrimental to the success achieved so far.

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b) Critically examine the role of private schooling in deepening educational disparities. (20 Marks)

Private schooling refers to the various schools run by private owners or organisation with an ambition to provide quality education with profit.

Role of private schooling in deepening educational disparities

- (1) low expenditure by government on schooling leads to poor condition of government run schools.
- (2) Private schooling ensures quality of education due to their good infrastructure as well as

qualified teachers.

- (3) New Education Policy 2020 aims to evolve education from rote learning to skill based.
- (4) Private schooling ensures education acts as an agent of social change thus empowering citizens.
- (5) Access to digital education is possible due to private schooling.
- (6) It can cater to larger section of society, as government schools have limited capacity.
- (7) Providing the ambition of "Samagra Siksha" or universal education via their wider

prevalence in society.

Yet, there are challenges:

① Private schooling is costlier. Thus it excludes marginalised classes from its benefit.

② Private schooling wants to ensure quality over quantity.

[Eg.] → vulnerable section are unable to qualify the entrance tests

③ It can create a sense of relative deprivation among poor whose children are unable to afford private schooling.

④ Ivan Illich concept of "deschooling" society as schools represent

interest of ruling class.

⑤ May widen the social inequality as vulnerable gets excluded

Talcott Parson believed that school provide "value consensus".

The new aspirational schools like

PM-SHRI represents the schools

of rising India developed through government's role.

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c) To what extent has ASHA and Aanganwadi workers improved reproductive outcomes? Examine sociologically (10 marks)

The prevalence of 3A's which are ASHA workers, Aanganwadi workers and auxiliary midwife Nurses have been the backbone of ensuring improved reproductive outcome in India.

- (1) Promote institutional delivery of children, thus reducing maternal mortality rate.
- (2) Improved social status of women, due to awareness of sexual and reproductive health. Fertility rate in India is ~ 2.0.
- (3) Ensure women empowerment via greater control over their life.
→ Education about menstrual hygiene

(4) Acts as agent of social change :

They play great role in reducing cases of anemia in women.

↳ Anemia Mukta Bharat and distribution of iron and folic acid tablet

(5) Ensure human development via greater role in Early child care and education (ECCE)

→ Also play a role in nutritional schemes such as PM POSHAN and Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS)

ASHA and Aanganwadi workers are indeed agents of social change via their contribution to reduce mortality rate

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