



TEST CODE 8 1 2 5 5 1

MGP 2025

Time Allowed : Three Hours  
समय : तीन घंटे

Forum IAS

Maximum Marks : 250  
अधिकतम अंक : 250

GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	Zinnia Aurora		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910092235	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र		Date/दिनांक	15/06/2025

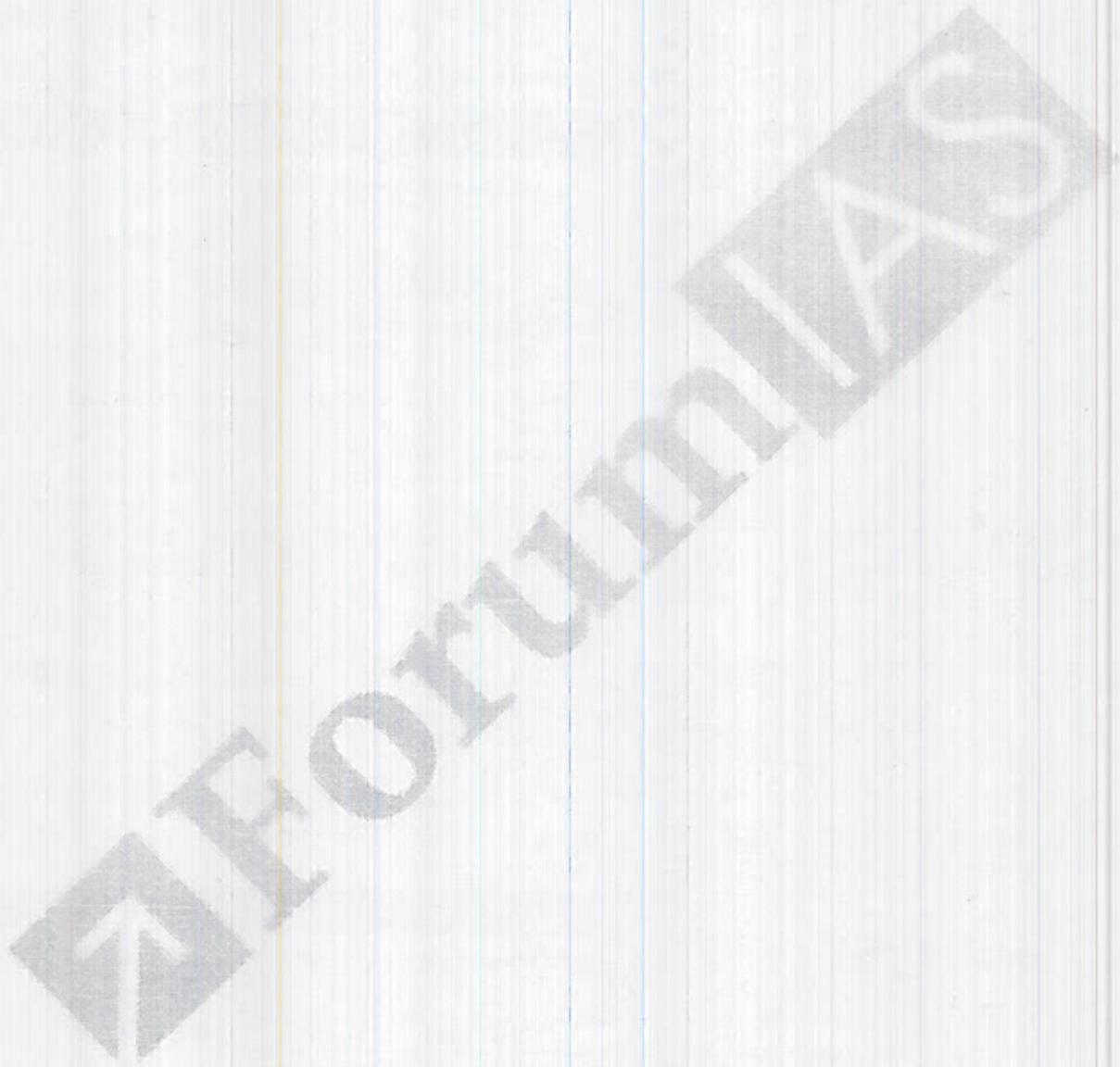
\*Center Code : For Online - 1900 / Delhi : Karol bagh - 1901, ORN - 1902, Mukharji Nagar - 1903 / Patna : Boring Rd. - 2001 / Hyderabad : Jawahar Nagar - 2101

INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका			INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश	
Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक	1. 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 <b>TWENTY</b> 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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Total/कुल अंक	250		<b>For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु</b>	
Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :			Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय :	End Time/समाप्त करने का समय :
Total Marks/कुल 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 समय 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।			<b>For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु</b>	
			ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :
			EG/ईजी :	
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**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



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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.

Q.1) Explain how the terms 'socialist' and 'secular' in the Preamble embody specific meanings in the Indian context. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

स्पष्ट कीजिए कि प्रस्तावना में 'समाजवादी' और 'धर्मनिरपेक्ष' शब्द भारतीय संदर्भ में किस प्रकार विशिष्ट अर्थ रखते हैं। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Laying the preface to Indian edifice of Constitutionalism, the 42<sup>nd</sup> Amendment added gravitas to the political culture, stratigraphy and structure via addition of socialist and secular.

<p><u>Socialist</u> economic equality</p>	+	<p><u>Secular</u> socio- religious equality</p>	=	<p>Indian equality pragmatism</p>
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A sui generis socialism

1) Defined by Supreme court as 'democratic socialism' laid on social & economic justice.

2) Navigating Indian contextual challenges of landlordism, caste-defined class structures  
(eg) caste pyramidism of Yogendra Yadav.

3) Gandhian socialism  
Sarvodaya + antodaya metrics.

4) No water-tight public-private division of labour and industry

5) Socialism resting on equality, equity and not 'stateless society'.

6) No complete devolution of private property but a harmonized interplay of 'all for all'.

(eg) Art 39 (b) in consonance with Preamble economic compensation clause w/ Article 300A.

## Secularism: Nehruvian tinge

1) Soft secularism model borrowed from Nehruvian understanding.

2) Ultra-mosaic society (Sunil Khitroni) demands equal respect of all.

3) Contextualised to Indian religious climate (eg) Constitutional provision of welfare and state intervention (Art 26).

4) State's promotion of all religions instead of 'complete separation' (Western idea)

(eg) Haj yatra, Amarnath yatra pilgrimages sponsorship.

Therefore, these two pillars of Indian polity lie uniquely at the socio-political Preamble interface of India.

### Feedback

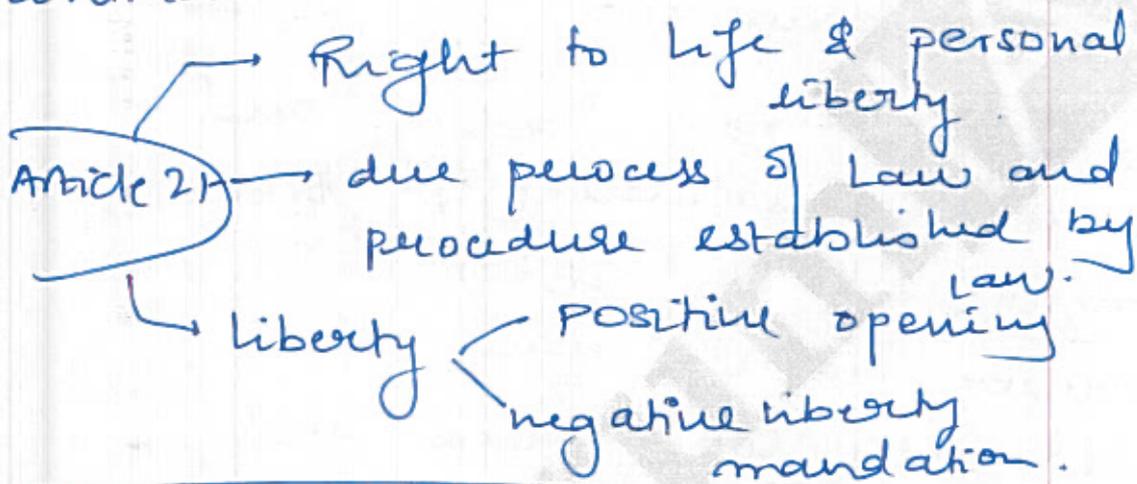
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Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

Q.2) Article 21 of the Indian Constitution broadly interprets the right to life and liberty. Elucidate with the help of relevant case laws. (10 marks, 150 words)

भारतीय संविधान का अनुच्छेद 21 व्यापक रूप से जीवन और स्वतंत्रता के अधिकार की व्याख्या करता है। प्रासंगिक केस कानूनों की सहायता से स्पष्ट कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Article 21, as per St. Krishna Jyer, proclaims the 'democratic conscience' of Indian constitutionalism as a 'right that expands when liberties contract'.



## Broad Interpretation

1) Carries social justice tinge with opening ambit of criminal justice system.

(eg) Death penalty barred by it

2) Evolution of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> generation of rights via speciation

(eg) Olga Tellis case → Right to livelihood.

3) Social infrastructure as a right

(eg) Unnikrishnan vs State of Andhra Pradesh in Right to Education evolution

- 4) 'Right primus' among other fundamental rights (eg) Right to information, Right to be forgotten (Delhi HC)
  - 5) Environmental jurisprudence fountain-head  
 (eg) MC Mehta's absolute and strict liability.  
 (eg) Right to clean air
  - 6) Moves beyond mere 'bodily' and 'negative' understanding of 'liberty'.  
 ↳ 'meaningful life' under Maneka Gandhi case.
  - 7) Expands individual's power and check over State's arbitrary action.  
 (eg) Golaknath case.
  - 8) Provision against inhuman conduct as undervalued / in jail.  
 (eg) Right against solitary confinement.
  - 9) Opening of 'free legal aid' under Hussainara Khatoon judgement (ultimately Article 39A).
- Thus, Article 21 stands as the litmus test of advanced rights of 21<sup>st</sup> century political discourse.

### Feedback

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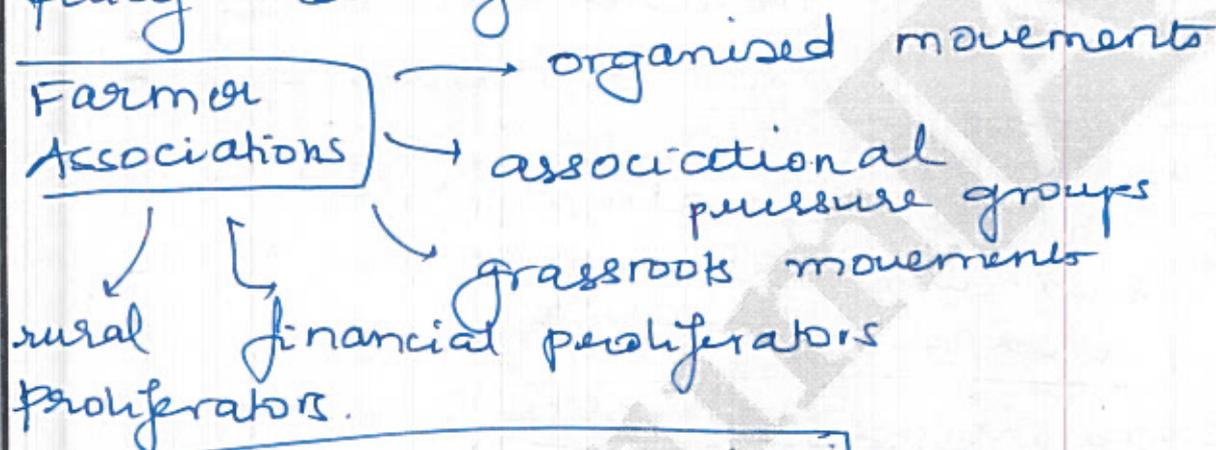
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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.3) To what extent have farmer associations been successful in influencing public policies and governance in the country? (10 marks, 150 words)

किसान संगठन देश में सार्वजनिक नीतियों और शासन को प्रभावित करने में किस हद तक सफल रहे हैं?

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Lal Bahadur Shastri's call to 'Jai Kisan' has been heard via the farmer associations' consistent impression over Indian discourse of policy and legislation.



A success of the 'collective'

1) Pressure group structuralism.

(eg) Mazdoor Kisan Sangh Samiti's pressure for financial transparency

2) Auditors of the public hold public servants accountable to ensure farmer's welfare.

3) Collectivisation of 'will' and interest articulation of grassroots

(eg) Farmer's bill agitational consequences.

- 4) Land related accountability ensure  
(eg) Bringing of land records digitization for eased access to credit.
- 5) Political socialisation and mobilisation for leveraging own interests (eg) Punjab Kisan Sabha for increase in MSP.
- 6) Regional governance diameetrics influenced  
(eg) Farmers' cooperatives impact on sugarcane FRP governance in Maharashtra, Karnataka.

Challenges, however, persist

- 1) Influence of political parties leads to fading of demands.
- 2) Political soundboards instead of grassroots demand voicing.
- 3) Informal and mis-structured organisation leads to lesser impact

way forward

Kisan Sabhas  
Digitisation leads to increased voice and lift of marginalised farmers.

policy design participatory index be increased

Thus, gram sabha, farmer's processing organisations hold potential to be the 'labharthis' and leaders of 21<sup>st</sup> century

### Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.4) The role of State Finance Commissions in building regional equity and strengthening the federal link has largely been underutilized. Discuss. (10 marks, 150 words)

क्षेत्रीय समानता के निर्माण और संघीय संबंध को मजबूत करने में राज्य वित्त आयोगों की भूमिका का व्यापक स्तर पर अल्प उपयोग किया गया है। चर्चा करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

State Finance Commissions, constituted under 73<sup>rd</sup> Constitutional Amendment, act as financial planners for the state and local governments.

Role

① augmenting financial resource access to state and local government

② Allocation of resources to the

- vertical extent (state + local)

- horizontal (inter-district & departmental)

③ Advisory aid to Panchayats on increasing revenue via viable tax effort.

(eg) octroi, tax planning, etc.

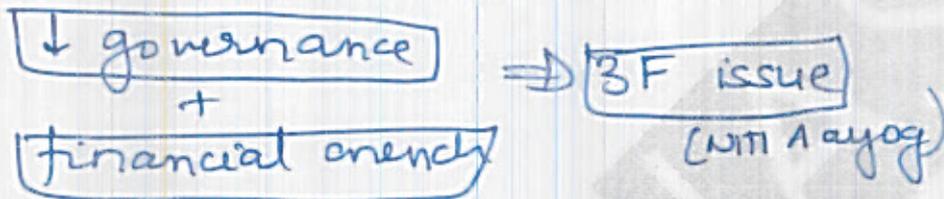
④ Regional imbalance correction via planned financing and cross-subsidized regional development

(eg) Western UP, Eastern UP development needs differ.

## Underutilized potential

1) Not constituted across all states.  
 ↳ left to discretion of state

2) Lesser devolution to 3rd tier of government ↓



3) Toothless before state's decision paraphernalia

4) Lack of integrationist working with central Finance Commission (Art 280)  
 ↳ autonomized working.

5) Lack of 'best practices' exchange among states.

6) Misidentified developmental needs of states → underfiscalized might and muscle.

way forward → special purpose vehicle creation  
 ↳ movement of subjects from 'voluntary' to mandatory (Art 243)

↳ time-bound creation of SFCs.  
 ↳ integration of central - state FCs.  
 SFCs hold potential for financial performance enhancement and better

federal fiscal relations

### Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.5) The contributions of the "founding mothers" of the Indian Republic are often under-acknowledged, yet they are crucial to understanding the evolution of gender-sensitive constitutional jurisprudence. Elaborate. (10 Marks, 150 Words)

भारतीय गणराज्य की "संस्थापक माताओं" के योगदान को अक्सर कम आंका जाता है, फिर भी वे लैंगिक रूप से संवेदनशील संवैधानिक विधिशास्त्र के विकास को समझने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण हैं। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

The Indian Constitution mandates 'equality' as the first fundamental (Art 14), as figured in the Constituent Assembly's composition as well.

Founding mothers of Constitution → Sucheta Kripalani  
 → Vijaylaxmi Pandit  
 → Rajkumari Amrit Kaur and more...

## Contributory ethos

1) Cohesive debates on inclusion of Uniform Civil code in Directive Principles.

2) 'We the People' → from UNGA to our own Preamble by Hon'ble member Vijaylaxmi Pandit.

3) Rational Communicative Action ensuring proliferation of 'Right to Equality' with 'sex' prohibited as ground for discrimination.

4) Constant hitting on upholding true 'Republic' principles

(e.g.) Pratibha Patil, Indira Gandhi as President and Prime Minister therein.

5) Directive Principles → maternity benefit (~~42~~ 42<sup>nd</sup> Amendment), unemployment benefit for ensuring equity enhancement.

6) Article 15, 16

"Nothing shall prohibit the state to make laws favouring welfare of women and children".

## Evolutionary impact

+ Expansion of Article 21 to include bodily autonomy to women

+ Right to equal pay for equal work (Article 39)

+ Legislative promulgation of Acts against domestic violence & social security benefits.

+ (e.g.) pensions, shelters, etc.

Founding Mothers' active constitutional push has aided pursuit of a gender-aware policy and legislative future.

### Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.6) What do you understand by delimitation? Underlining the significance of delimitation exercise, throw light on the associated challenges. (10 marks, 150 words)

परिसीमन से आप क्या समझते हैं? परिसीमन अभ्यास के महत्व को रेखांकित करते हुए उससे जुड़ी चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Delimitation refers to division of territories into constituencies for the effectuation of a balanced and rightly representative electorate. (Art 81)

Delimitation → by Act of Parliament  
→ creation of territorial constituencies.

↳ horizontally, conducted 4 times since  
inter and independence.  
intra state division

Significance of Delimitation

- 1) Aids in 'evolutionary' character of representative democracy.
  - ⊕ J&K delimitation to capture new demography.
- 2) Balances the 'equity' debate as per 'population principle'. as per previous Census
- 3) Shuffles populations among different and newer constituencies to break creation of rigid power structures.
- 4) Aids franchise of people by providing

True meaning of 'one vote, one value'

- 5) State's horizontal equity provision and push for more representative Rajya Sabha at Union.
- 6) Rotation of SC/ST constituencies helps bring welfare closer to historically disadvantaged communities all throughout.

## Challenges

1) Census as sole basis for delimitation quivers population control actions.  
 (eg) Southern states' recent plea against change in Lok Sabha seats.

2) Gargantuan size of nation poses logistical and enumerative difficulties.

3) 'True representation' to marginalized, lacking due to no 'proportional representation'

→ mix of FPTP + proportional representation  
 → focus on graded criterion for creation of constituencies, like Finance Commission.  
 → participation of popular vote.

Delimitation, thus, is an exercise crucial to constituency-wide welfare

## Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.7) The Presidents of India and USA differ not just the manner in which they are elected but also with respect to their powers. Elucidate. (10 marks, 150 words)

भारत और संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के राष्ट्रपति न केवल उनके चुने जाने के तरीके में बल्कि उनकी शक्तियों के संबंध में भी भिन्न हैं। स्पष्ट कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

India follows a parliamentary while US follows a presidential form of government, laying the 'Head of the state' as the de facto and de jure executive.

## Manner of election

### India

- indirect election via electoral college.
- State and Union legislature partake.
- party-secular system.
- MLAs (elected) + MPs (elected)

### USA

- direct election via people and college thus created.
- entire country partakes.
- two party system.
- electoral college created via provision of votes from across states.

These are the differences in manner of election.

## Powers of President

1) "Indian President is like the US President but also nothing like him" - BR Ambedkar.

1) De facto + de jure executive (US)  
De jure executive (India)

2) Indian President is part of Union Legislature, US President is not.  
US follows complete separation of powers.

3) US President holds executive power while in India, President has

no discretionary power  
functions on aid, advice of Council of Ministers (Art 75)

4) US President appoints own cabinet, Indian President has no cabinet of own.

Thus, the institutional power structure and dispersal for the Presidents of these two countries differ magnanimously.

### Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.8) The office of the Speaker is not only a referee, but also an active player in the politics of government formation and survival, leading to controversies and criticisms. In this context, examine the need to bring reforms in the office of the speaker. (10 marks, 150 words)

स्पीकर का पद न केवल एक रेफरी जैसा है, बल्कि सरकार बनाने और अस्तित्व की राजनीति में एक सक्रिय खिलाड़ी जैसा भी है, जो विवादों और आलोचनाओं को जन्म देता है। इस संदर्भ में, अध्यक्ष के पद में सुधार लाने की आवश्यकता का परीक्षण कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Office of speaker is sine qua non to effective functioning of Lok Sabha, and has been borrowed from British tradition.

## Active player.

- 1) Final interpreter of constitution and Rules of House.  
(eg) Hon'ble Om Birla on ethics committee report.
- 2) Decides heads of parliamentary committees and is head of any committee he joins.
- 3) Holds discretionary power in event of loss of confidence in ruling dispensation if no imminent successor.
- 4) Calls for floor test in case of confidence loss. (eg) During Vajpayee ji's government fall.
- 5) Approves motions of substantive and other kinds that impact ruling government's stance and standing.

6) Deciding authority on defection cases under Xth Schedule.

(eg) Maharashtra Assembly case.

7) No time-bound decision mandate by Constitution of member's case ~~of~~ judgement - defection.  
(Overpowered by SC now).

8) Usage of Committees (quasi-judicial) in member decorum behaviour -  
excesses alleged too.

9) Power to ratify money bills.

Reforms thus needed

1) Time-bound, dead-line based decision of defection.

2) creation of matrix and committee vetting Speakers' decisions.  
(currently outside judicial review)

3) Impart on Speaker being a non-party figure, like British tradition.

Thus, office of speaker, whilst a constitutionally affected power mandate, has been conserved and restricted via checks and balances for an effective and discourse enabling Parliament.

### Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.9) 'Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) is an independent body responsible only to the Parliament.' What are the provisions that ensure independence of CVC? Also, discuss the issues that limit its effectiveness in tackling corruption in the country's public administration. (10 marks, 150 words)

'केंद्रीय सतर्कता आयोग (CVC) एक स्वतंत्र निकाय है, जो केवल संसद के प्रति उत्तरदायी है।' CVC की स्वतंत्रता सुनिश्चित करने वाले प्रावधान क्या हैं? साथ ही, उन मुद्दों पर भी चर्चा कीजिए जो देश के सार्वजनिक प्रशासन में भ्रष्टाचार से निपटने के खिलाफ इसकी प्रभावशीलता को सीमित करते हैं। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Central Vigilance Commission is the anti-corruption bulwark affected by the CVC Act, heralding transparency prognosis of government working.

Independence provisioning

- 1) Whistleblowers' PIDPI resolution mechanism
- 2) autonomous office, reporting directly to Parliament, instead of Ministry.
- 3) Statutory body, not at behest of executive
- 4) Officers (Vigilance officers) present as third parties across administrative and other govt offices.
- 5) Dokpal Lokayukta interlinkages in check on corrupt practices under framework of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.
- 6) Appointment committee kept balanced among organs of government.

## Issues affecting effectiveness

- 1) Appointment Committee - excess share of executive.
- 2) Not a constitutional body.
- 3) Investigative powers only, no 'teeth' to the 'lion'.
- 4) Benefits and emoluments varied by central government.
- 5) Lack of 'anonymity' clause in PIDPI resolution.
- 6) Untimely resolution of cases of corrupt malpractice.
- 7) Lack of safety protection to witnesses.

(eg) NMAI case whistleblower.

### Way forward

→ integration with ombudsman ethos

→ deterrence invoking presence across departments

↓  
creation of separate constitutional mandate for teethed autonomy.

Thus, the CVC holds the baton to ensuring a transparent dispensation

### Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

#	G	A	P
AWES			
CD & VA			
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P & R			
Please put tick marks in the above table.			
Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

Q.10) "The creation of All India Judicial Services (AIJS) shall enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the Indian judiciary". Comment. (10 marks, 150 words)

अखिल भारतीय न्यायिक सेवाओं (AIJS) के सृजन से भारतीय न्यायपालिका की प्रभावशीलता और दक्षता में वृद्धि होगी।  
टिप्पणी कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

All India Judicial Services, a constitutionally promulgated idea, holds potential to democratise judicial appointments and has been encouraged by President Murre.

## Effectiveness & Efficiency Table

- 1) Appointment of meritorious candidates via democratic selection.
- 2) Experience-based promotion to higher posts.
- 3) Breaking of 'under judge' visual of Indian judiciary.
- 4) Standardised recruitment.
- 5) Union and state cadre creation for effective delivery, like IAS, IPS.
- 6) Increased recruitment for reduction of judicial pendency of 75 lakh + cases.
- 7) All India service for common and

cheating proof, non-political appointments.

However, challenges persist.

challenges → existence of current state cadre at local district courts

→ system of merit based promotion currently replaced by seniority based later

→ parallel system of appointments conflicting with collegium system in place currently.

→ language and regional impress on justice delivery pertinent to localised justice delivery. All India cadre against the same.

Thus, the provision and fruition of All India Judicial services must be met with structural reforms in judiciary with the 'common people' at focus.

### 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.11) Although upholding the spirit of the Constitution through judicial activism is noble in its intent, in practice it runs the risk of undermining the delicate balance of power that the Constitution sought to achieve. Critically examine. (15 marks, 250 words)

यद्यपि न्यायिक सक्रियता के माध्यम से संविधान की भावना को कायम रखना अपने इरादे में नेक है, लेकिन व्यवहार में यह शक्ति के उस नाजुक संतुलन को कमजोर करने का जोखिम उठाता है जिसे संविधान हासिल करना चाहता था। आला. चनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Judiciary, a crucial spoke of the Indian republic, is the guarantor of rights and promulgator of Rule of Law.

Constitutionally spirited activism

(intent for change) + (suo moto justice initiation) = activism for change

- 1) Facilitates constitutional morality  
(eg) true meaning of 'justice' via Article 142.
- 2) Relaxed locus standi for aiding public redressal  
(eg) Bhagwati's PIL mechanics for 'underprivileged' rights.
- 3) Going the 'extra mile' for effecting equal protection of law.
- 4) Protection against arbitrary actions of the state (eg) Champakam Dorairajan's land case.

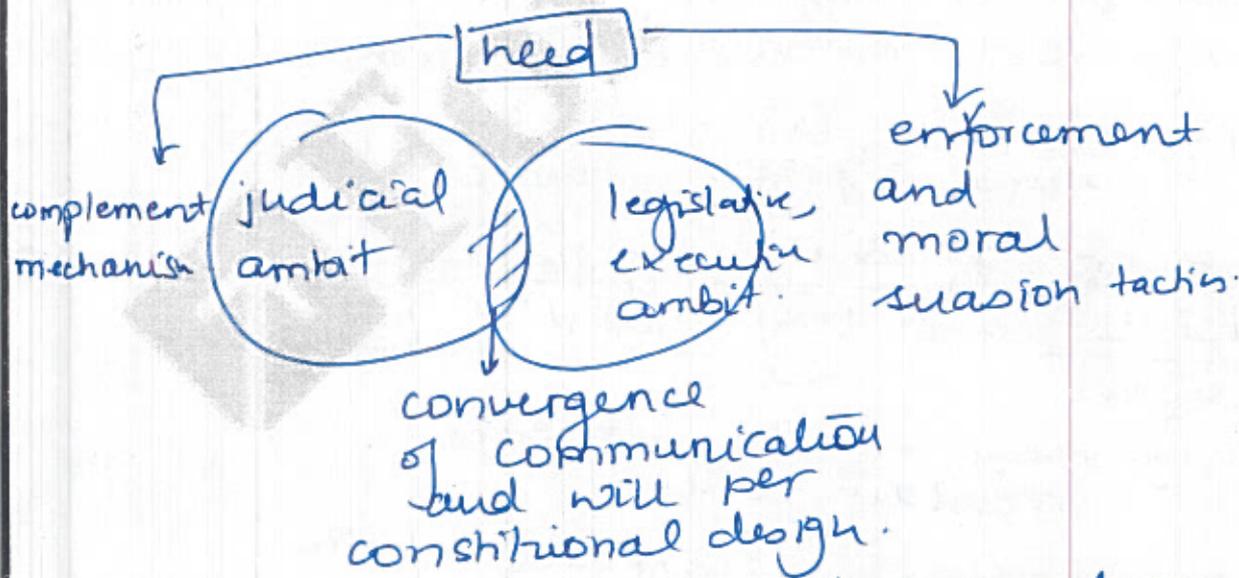
- 5) Pressurizing government to uphold freedom and equality
  - (eg) Union's 'role' in declaring rights for LGBTQIA+ community
- 6) Safeguarding constitutional fences in federal dispensation
  - (eg) Verdict on Tamil Nadu's Bill barrier of gubernatorial office.
- 7) Provision of executive accountability in fear of judicial tear down.
  - (eg) coalgate scam.

However, an overreach of sorts, into other organs' functionality is alleged, thus violating Montesquieu's separation of power.

## 1) Judicial legislation

- (eg) Places of worship Act, opened to 'all preberties' by SC.

- 2) Executive action and rule-making by judiciary, instead of directive to state.  
 (eg) disabled people's rights and rules for documents.
- 3) Expansion of rights, without Parliamentary approval  
 (eg) Article 21 and 19.
- 4) Undermining Parliament's sovereignty by bringing exclusive powers under itself.  
 (eg) Delimitation now under judicial review.



Judicial pro-activism, balanced on constitutional principles, can yield beyond mere pedantic legalism.

### 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) Governor is neither a saboteur nor a sage; he is a constitutional functionary who needs to be solely loyal to the Constitution. Critically examine the statement in the light of recent events.

(15 marks, 250 words)

राज्यपाल न तो विध्वंसक है और न ही संत; वह एक संवैधानिक पदाधिकारी है जिसे पूरी तरह से संविधान के प्रति निष्ठावान रहने की आवश्यकता है। हाल की घटनाओं के आलोक में कथन का समालोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Governor, a constitutional conduit in our sui-generis federal polity, is a functionary of crucial importance.

Functionary - not saboteur / sage

1) Conduit and interface between Union and state.

(eg) communication facilitator.

2) Nominal executive of state - keeps real executive in check.

(eg) breach of constitutional scheme reported to union

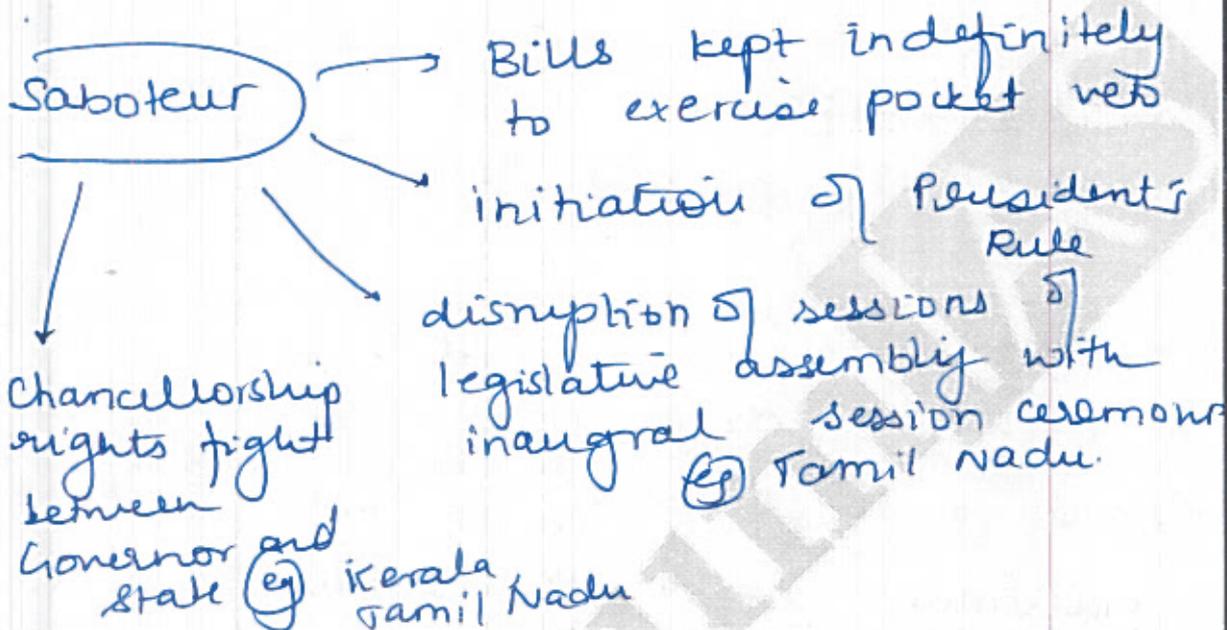
3) Approver of state legislative decisions - avoiding harsh, paced decisions.

(eg) Presidential reference in certain bills.

4) Chancellorship of state universities under state's guidance.

(eg) Kerala Governor's case against appointment of Ks.

5) Declaration of Presidents' Rule on Governor's report (Art 356)  
 ↳ reports on constitutional breakdown



↳ Non declaration of money bills on advice of Council of Ministers.

Reforms have, thus, been suggested

1) Sarkaria Commission

- de-link appointment from Union
- autonomous functionary with no ties to centre.

- deadline-based legislative powers
- 'localised emergencies' only in affected areas

2)

## Punchhi Commission

- integrity of procedure of appointment
- discretionary bandwidth & explicitly defined.
- Report to constitution, not centre.
- appointment committee with security of tenure is crucial.

Thus, to enhance constitutional loyalty of gubernatorial office, it is important to advance the commissions' reforms, herein.

### 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.13) Throw light on the various mechanisms for the settlement of disputes related to the equitable sharing of river water among states. Also, evaluate the effectiveness of these mechanisms in the resolution of inter-state river water disputes in the country. (15 marks, 250 words)

राज्यों के बीच नदी जल के न्यायसंगत बंटवारे से संबंधित विवादों के निपटारे के लिए विभिन्न तंत्रों पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, देश में अंतरराज्यीय नदी जल विवादों के समाधान में इन तंत्रों की प्रभावशीलता का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

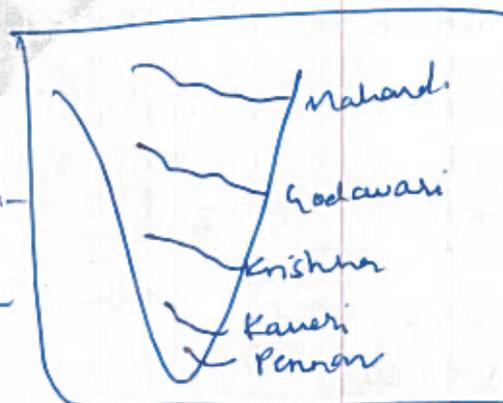
(15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Inter state river water disputes,  
as delved into under Article 260,  
provide for ambit of mechanisms  
for effective resolution of same.

## Mechanisms & Disputes

Disputes {  
Kaveri, Pennar  
Ghagra  
Godavari  
Krishna

mechanisms suggested include:



## 1) Inter-State River water dispute ~~Act~~ Tribunal

- Constitutionally set up
- set up ~~for~~ separately for different disputes.
- outside jurisdiction of SC judicial review.

## 2) River Boards Act

- River Boards set up for administering arrangements
- central representation in maintenance of dams and rivers of interstate character.

3) Not under jurisdiction of Supreme Court, but only tribunal.

4) Arbitration and Negotiation, under Union's eye for effective dispute resolution

5) Treaty-based distribution of riverine assets among states

## Effectiveness

D Long gestation of disputes due to lack of cooperation between states

(eg) Mettur Dam dispute.

- 3) Tribunal's decisions taken to SC to effect SLP etc to seek appeals.  
↳ lack of decisive end to disputes.
- 4) River based state-boundary disputes coagulate with this issue.
- 5) River Boards effectiveness in question due to federal disbalance.
- 6) Rising demand within state for energy, water causing increased damming and changing state of rights of lower riparian states.

While Constitution provides mechanisms for amicable dispute settlement, a need is seen to effect more cohesive mechanisms touching newer demands.

### 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			

Q.14) How does the inability of local bodies to generate their own funds affect their ability to function effectively? Suggest necessary measures to empower local governments in generating independent revenue streams. (15 marks, 250 words)

स्थानीय निकायों की स्वयं की धनसंश्लेषण उत्पन्न करने में असमर्थता उनकी प्रभावी ढंग से कार्य करने की क्षमता को कैसे प्रभावित करती है? स्वतंत्र राजस्व उत्पन्न करने में स्थानीय सरकारों को सशक्त बनाने के लिए आवश्यक उपाय सुझाएँ। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Local self government has been identified by NITI Aayog as initiator of true 'democracy' at grassroots, but a crucial bonepoint remains - funding.

Inability → ↓ effectiveness

1) Inability to effect development plans at last mile  
(eg) pucca roads, offices.

2) Structure of revenue collection also in doldrums.

(eg) lack of taxable avenues

3) functional diversification nipped due to lesser financial might

4) Financial dependence leads to developmental dependence

↓  
peripheralisation of rural/ local areas

5) Impacts ~~on~~ public trust on Gram Panchayat / Urban local bodies thus disabling their political might and efficacy.  
(eg) Lack of access to State Finance.

6) Inordinate working of State Finance Commission hurdles augmentation of financial resources thereon.

Measures to accrue better autonomy

1) State finance commission mandata for effective devolution.

2) Fixing of percentage by centre and state for monetary grants

3) Municipal financing innovation and best practices.

(eg) Swedish gap funding.

4) Listing of local bodies as SPVs as under Smart Cities Mission.

- 5) Advancing of Invits and other financial instruments to democratic funding by public.
- 6) Devolving tax collection powers to local bodies
  - (eg) entertainment tax, road tax.

These steps can be taken, apart from a sound

- functional
- formalisation

drive at local body level to enfranchise true grassroots development

### Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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

Q.15) Critically examine the functioning of National Human Rights Commission of India (NHRC) as an apex institution entrusted with the protection of human rights in the country. (15 marks, 250 words)

देश में मानवाधिकारों की सुरक्षा के लिए सौंपी गई एक शीर्ष संस्था के रूप में भारत के राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (NHRC) की कार्यप्रणाली का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

National Human Rights Commission set up in consonance with Paris Principles in 1991, is a statutory body undertaking rights-based protective working.

## Role

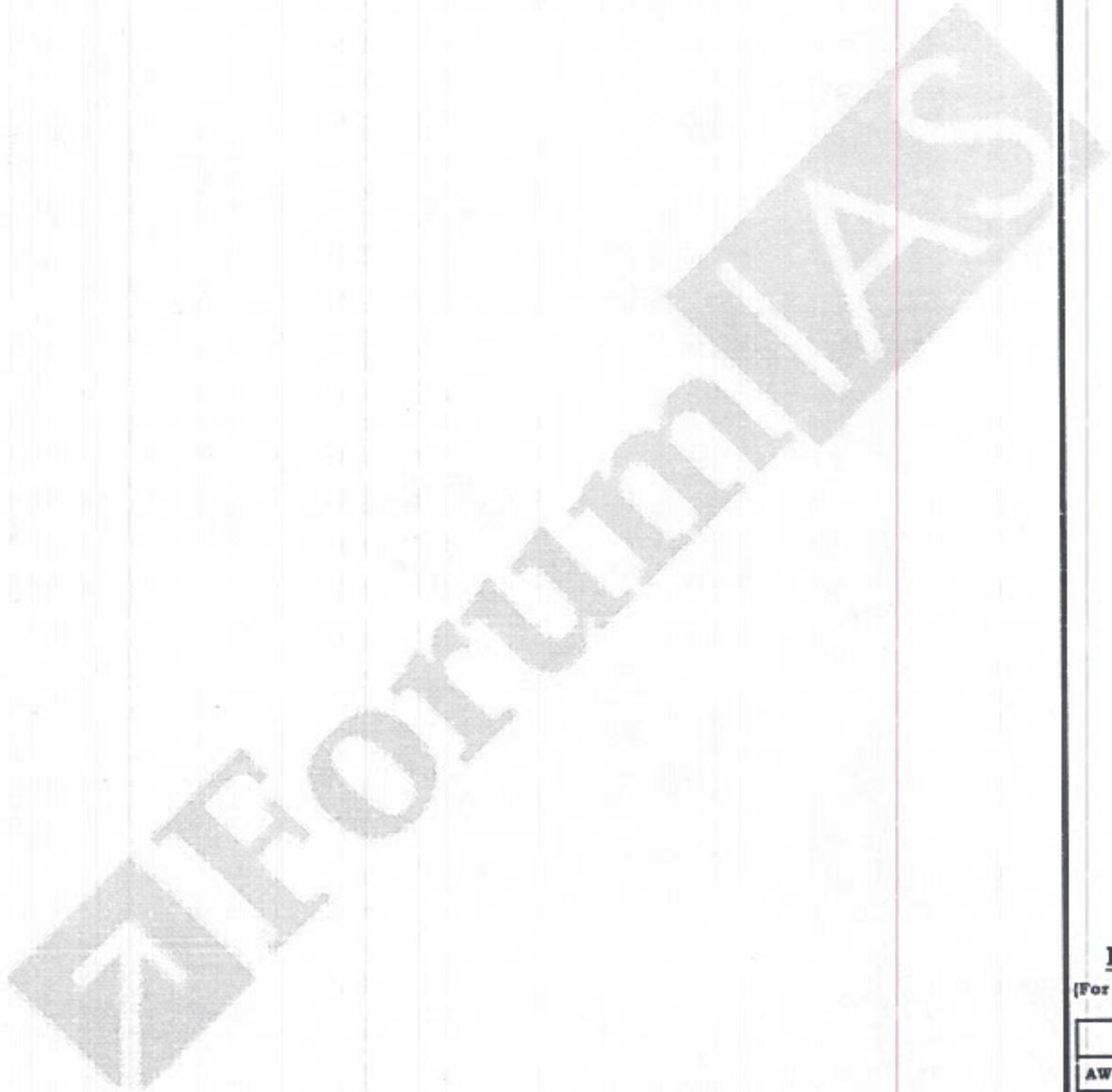
- 1) Protector of human rights at apex level  
(eg) Natha Pratha action by NHRC
- 2) 'Sarv Sukhineh Bhava' → entranchising all, equality.
- 3) Best practices sounding board for executive, legislative action
- 4) insures rights to jail inmates  
↳ undertrials, custodial harassment cases, etc.
- 5) Suo moto cognizance of acts violating inalienable rights.

- 6) Research and development of governmental postulates to actualize better protection of human rights
- 7) Protection against state officials, as under open application / reporting of any acts awaiting the same.

However, issues persist in its functioning

- 1) A 'caged parrot' of sorts due to state interference.
- 2) Appointments by ~~union~~ favoured metrics instead of decided criterion.
- 3) 'Toothless tiger' → only recommendatory suggestions.
- 4) Investigative powers but no power of prosecution.
- 5) Report not tabled in the parliament.

6) Not a constitutional body, but merely statutory in nature



**Feedback**

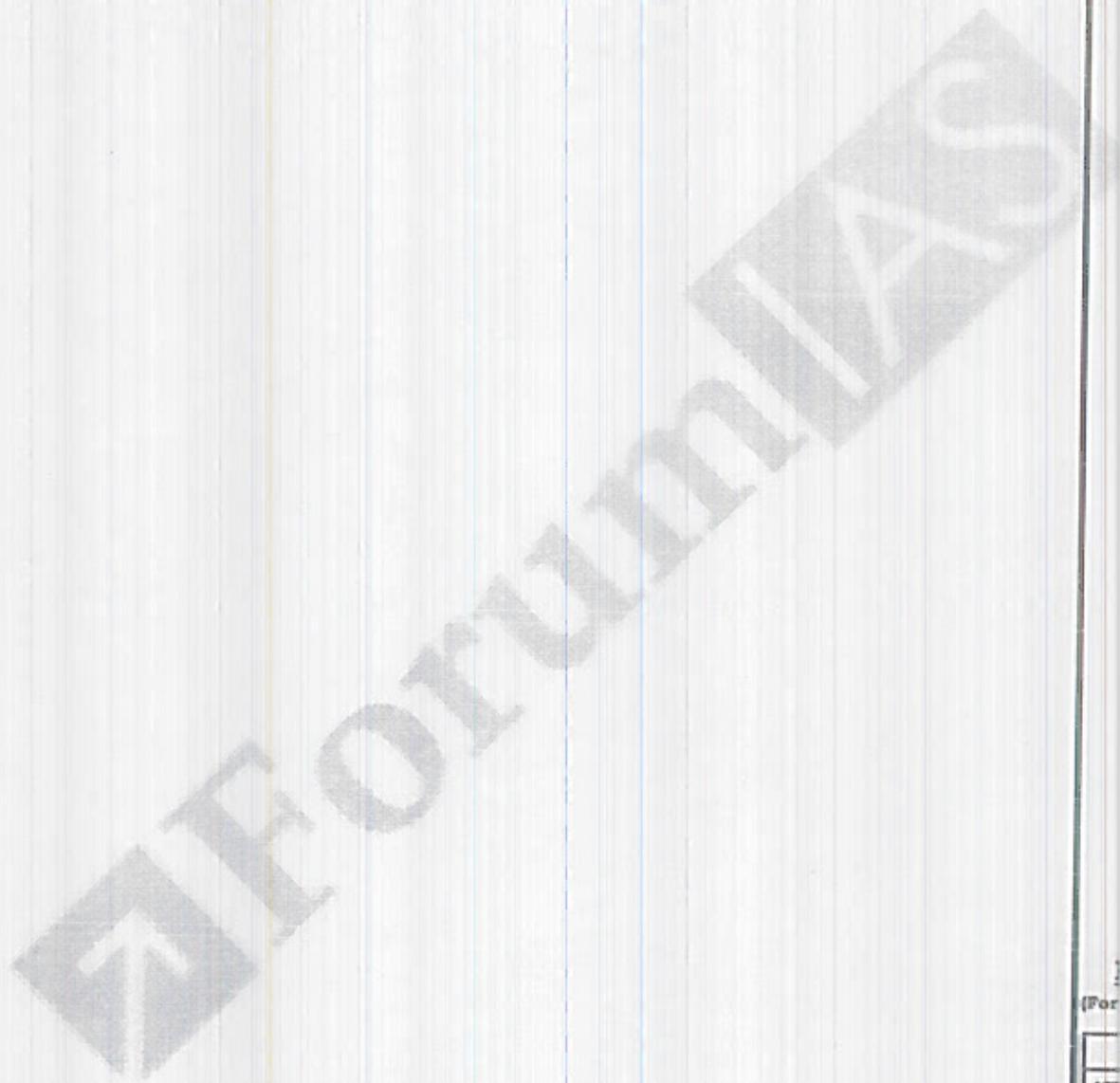
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TOTAL MARKS			

Q.16) "Right to vote is fundamental to democracy, and depriving undertrial prisoners of this right while allowing contesting elections reflects a flawed legal framework." Comment. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

"मतदान का अधिकार लोकतंत्र के लिए मौलिक है, और विचाराधीन कैदियों को चुनाव लड़ने की अनुमति देते हुए उन्हें इस अधिकार से वंचित करना एक दोषपूर्ण कानूनी ढाँचे को दर्शाता है।" टिप्पणी करें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

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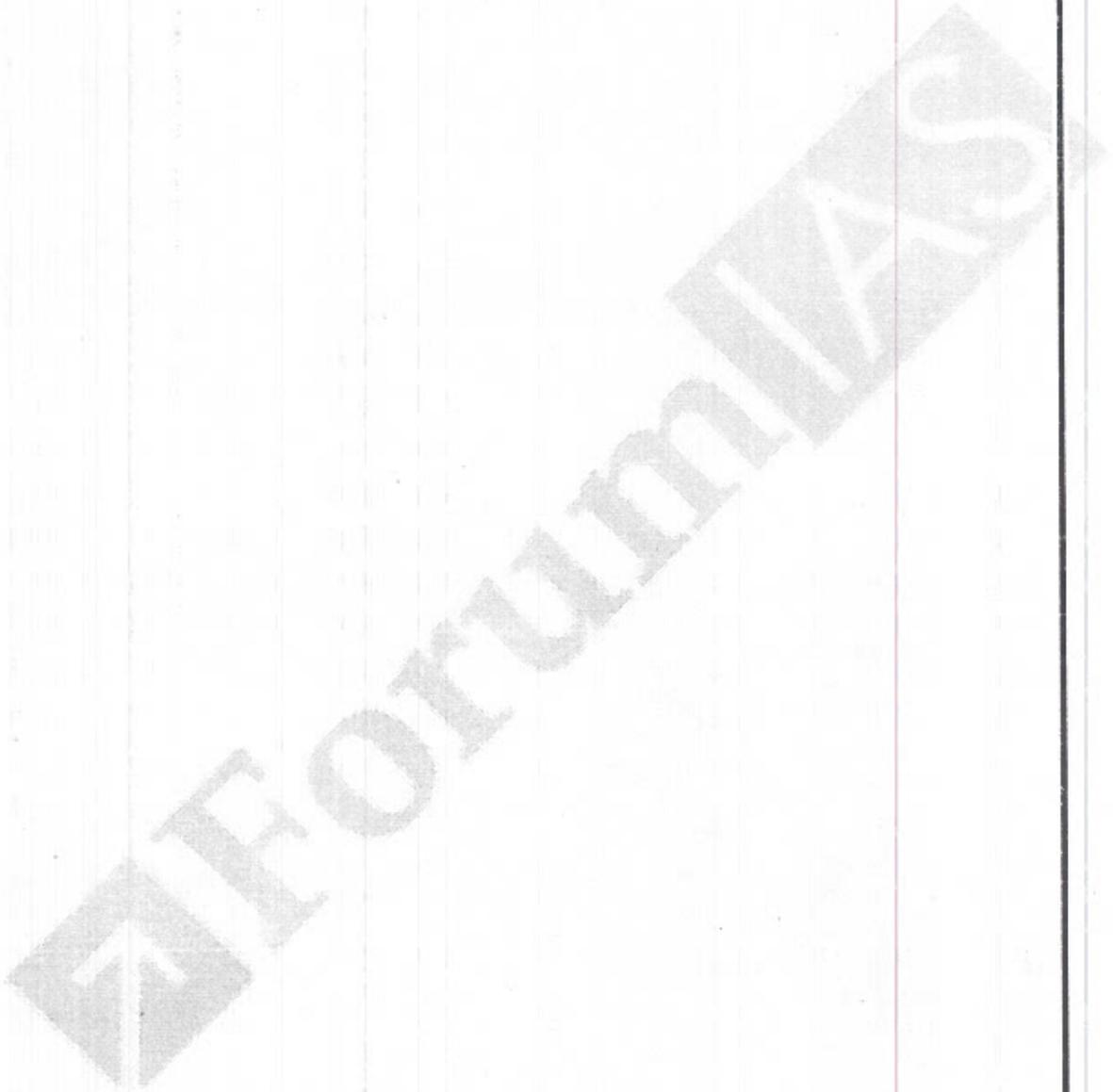
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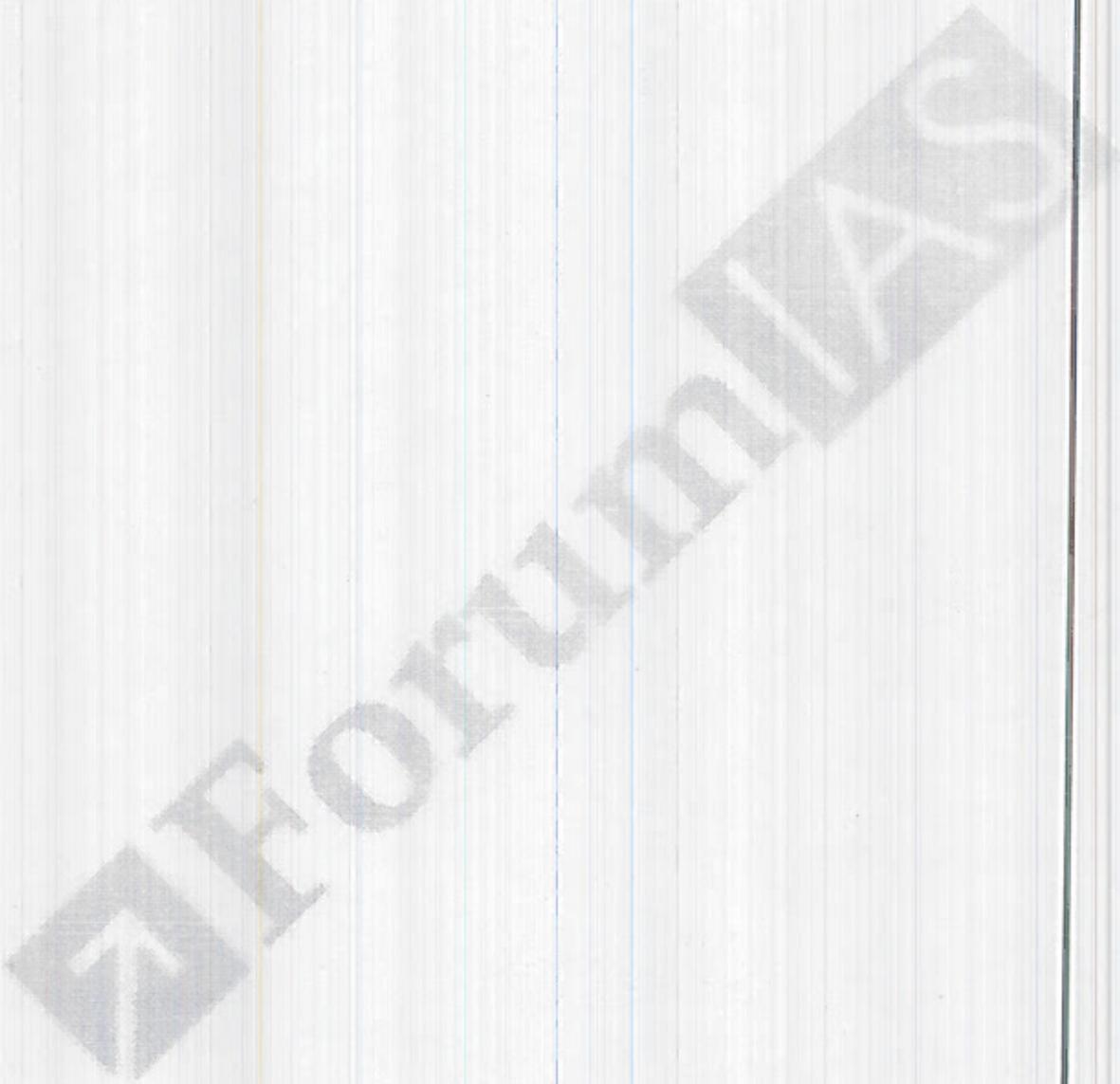
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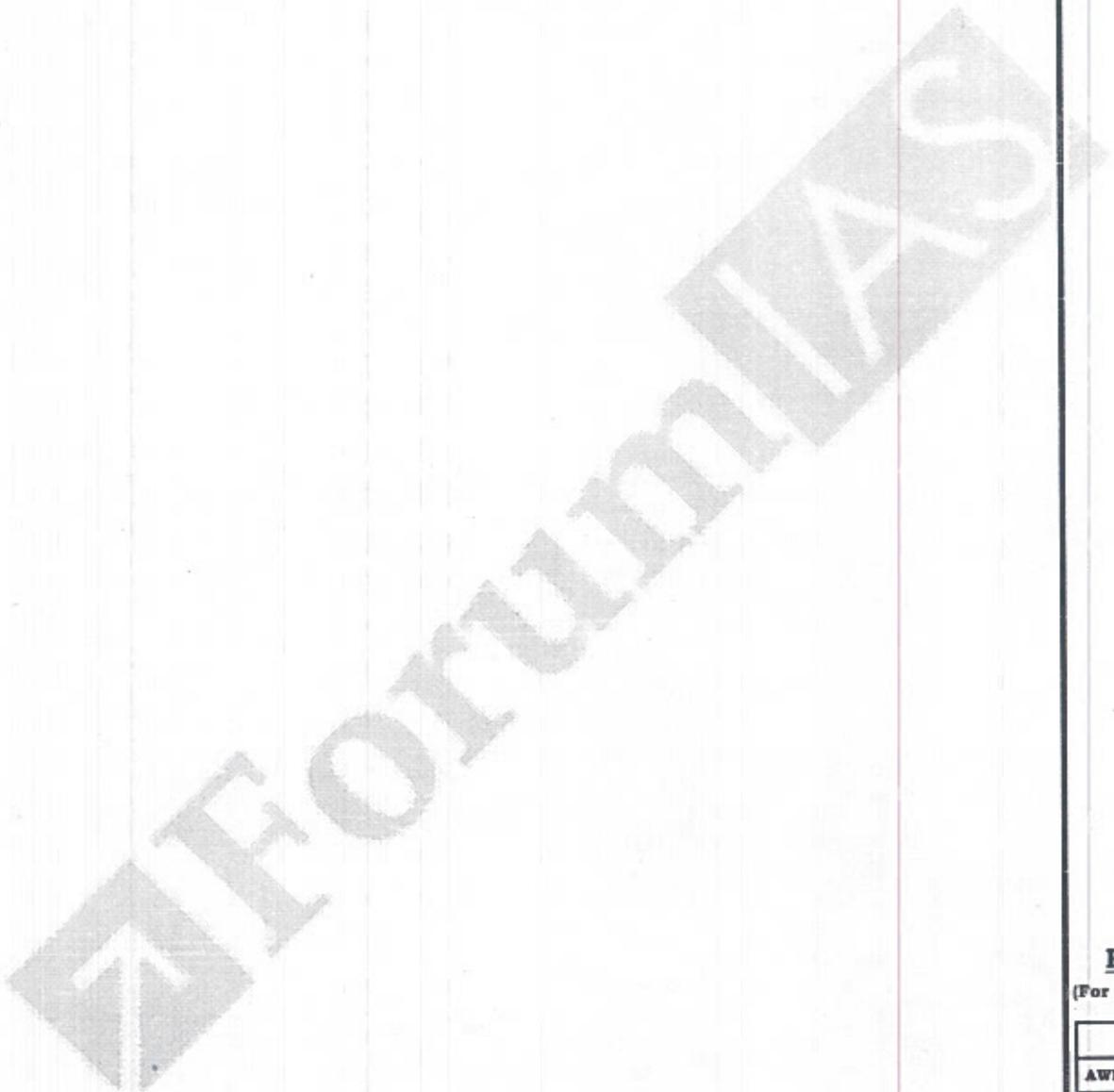
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Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.			
TOTAL MARKS			

Q.17) Examine the scope of partnership between the State and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) towards improving public service delivery to benefit the common citizen. (15 Marks, 250 Words)

आम नागरिकों को लाभ पहुंचाने के लिए सार्वजनिक सेवा वितरण में सुधार लाने की दिशा में राज्य और नागरिक समाज संगठनों (CSOs) के बीच साझेदारी की संभावनाओं की परिक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

 Forum IAS





**Feedback**

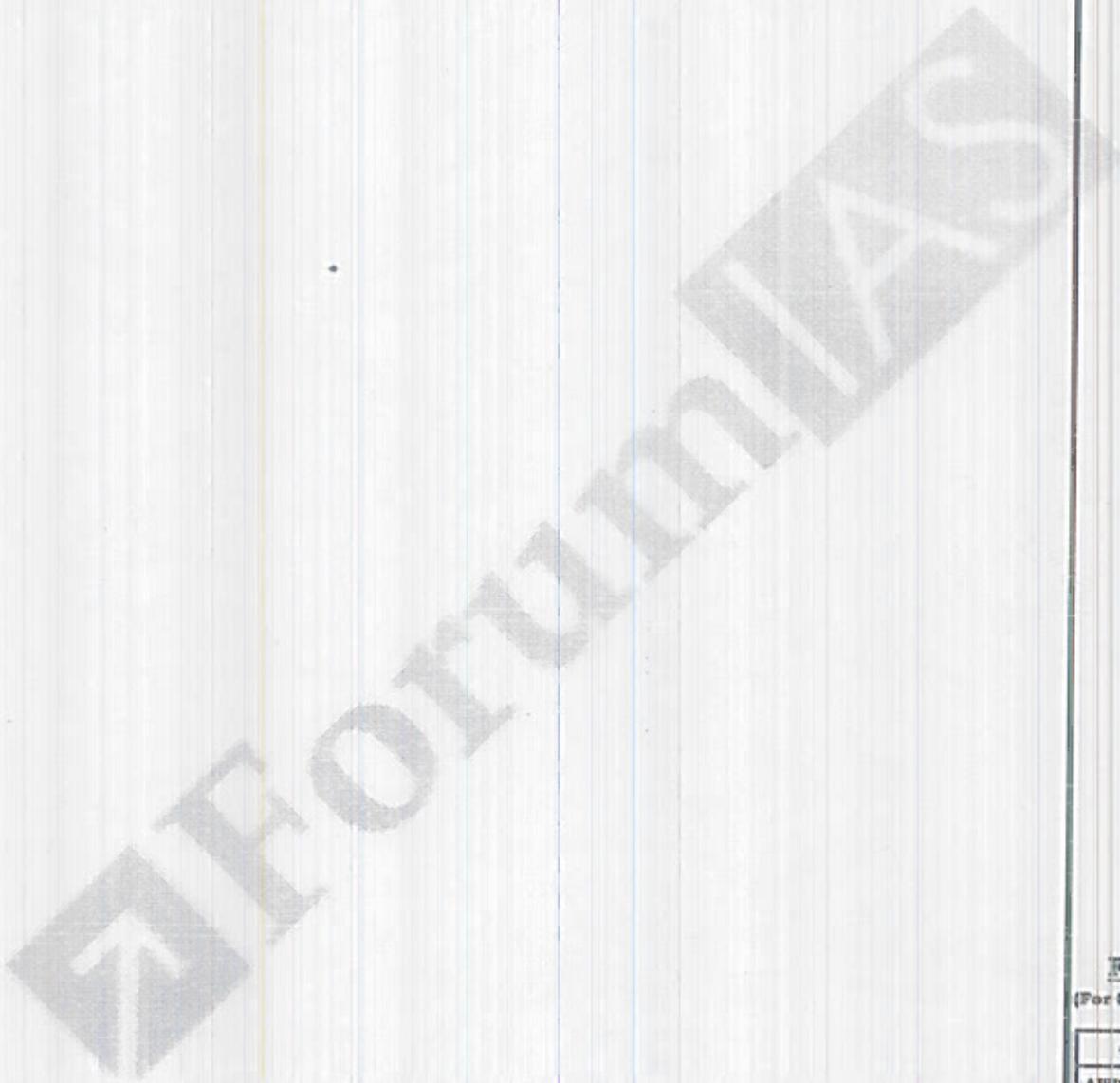
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TOTAL MARKS			

**Q.18)** "Parliamentary democracy would be incomplete without Parliamentary committees." In light of the statement, examine the role of the Public Accounts Committee in establishing financial accountability of the executive. (15 marks, 250 words)

"संसदीय समितियों के बिना संसदीय लोकतंत्र अधूरा होगा।" कथन के आलोक में, कार्यपालिका के लिए वित्तीय जवाबदेही स्थापित करने में लोक लेखा समिति की भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

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**Feedback**

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

Q.19) While the NCST has made significant contributions to tribal welfare, a multi-faceted approach is necessary to complement its efforts and ensure the holistic development of tribals. Elaborate.

(15 Marks, 250 Words)

जबकि NCST ने जनजातीय कल्याण में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान दिया है, इसके प्रयासों के पूरक के लिए और जनजातियों के समग्र विकास को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए एक बहुआयामी दृष्टिकोण आवश्यक है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

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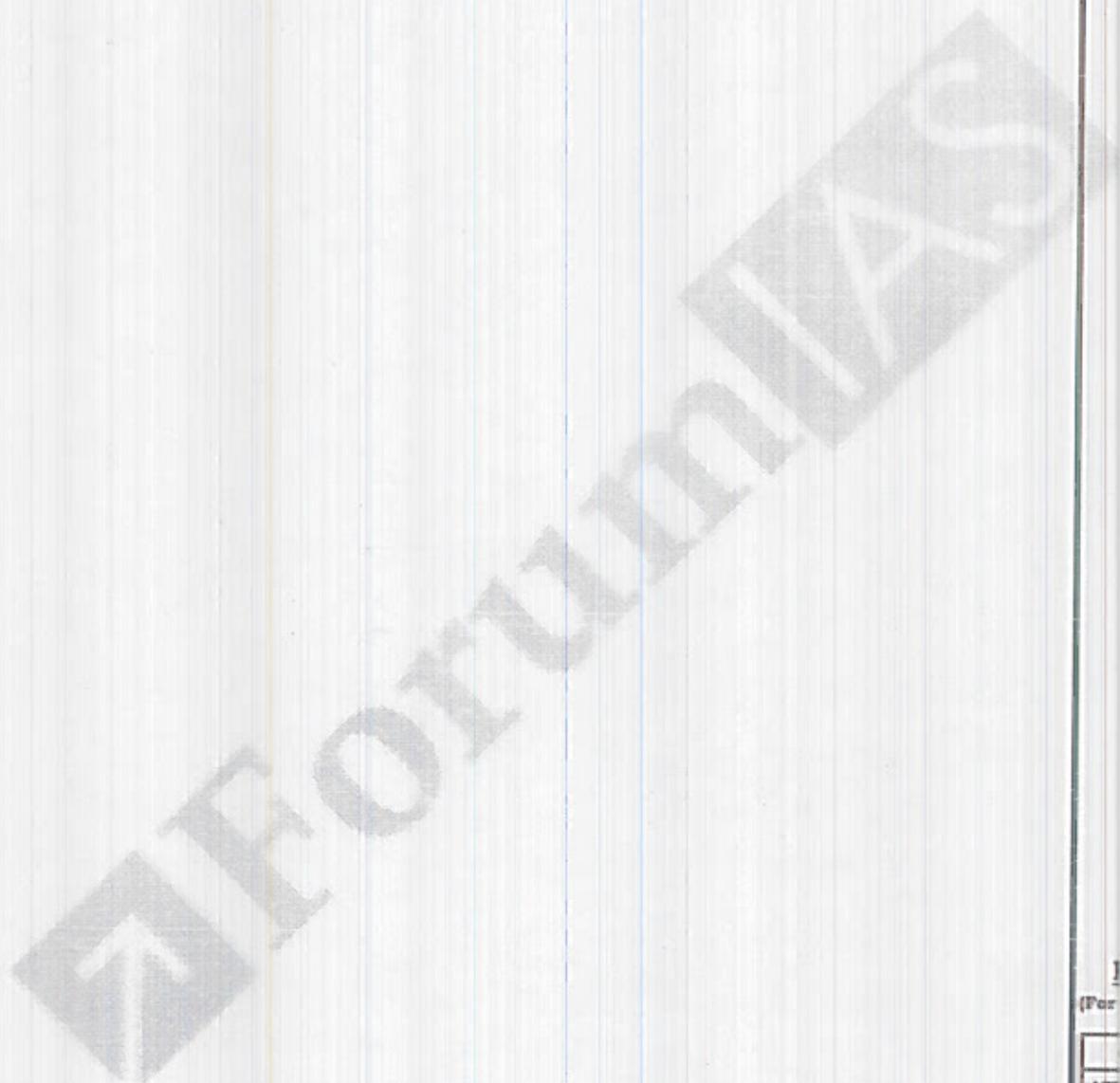
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<b>TOTAL MARKS</b>			

**Q.20)** What do you understand by Alternate Dispute Redressal (ADR) mechanisms? What are the reasons for their low adoption as the primary mode of dispute resolution in the country? Suggest measures for improvement. (15 marks, 250 words)

वैकल्पिक विवाद निवारण (ADR) तंत्र से आप क्या समझते हैं? देश में विवाद समाधान के प्राथमिक माध्यम के रूप में इन्हें कम अपनाने के क्या कारण हैं? सुधारात्मक उपाय सुझावें। (15 अंक, 250 शब्द)

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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			

## 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
20 Marker	7.75 - 10	6 - 7.5	< 6
	Key / Relevant Point		
	Vague / Irrelevant		

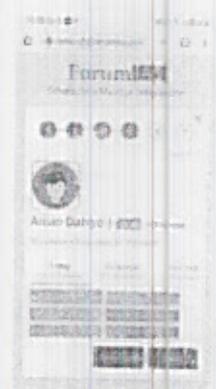
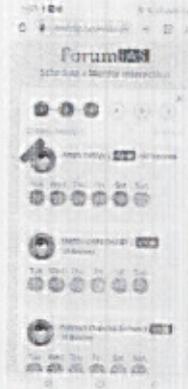
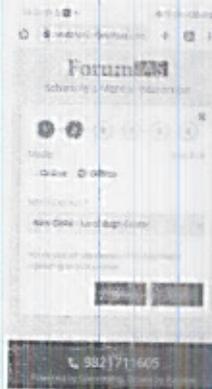
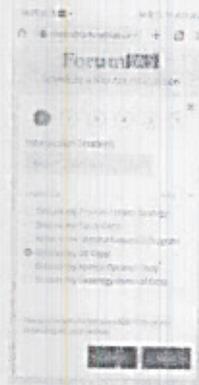
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