

INDIAN POLITY – CONSTITUTION'S FEATURES & PHILOSOPHY

UPSC MAINS PYQS (BRAINSTORMING SHEETS - 45 YEARS PYQS COVERED)

MACRO TOPIC - CONSTITUTION – COMPARATIVE STUDY

#	Micro Topic	Year	Marks	Question
1	Pardoning Power — India vs USA	2025	15	Compare and contrast the President's power to pardon in India and in the USA. Are there any limits to it in both the countries? What are 'preemptive pardons'?
2	Secularism — India vs USA	2024	15	Discuss India as a secular state and compare with the secular principles of the US constitution.
3	Parliamentary Sovereignty — India vs UK	2023	10	Compare and contrast the British and Indian approaches to Parliamentary sovereignty.
4	Presidential Election — India vs France	2022	15	Critically examine the procedures through which the presidents of India and France are elected.
5	Equality — USA vs India	2021	15	Analyze the distinguishing features of the notion of Equality in the Constitutions of the USA and India.
6	Judicial Systems — India vs UK	2020	10	The judicial system in India and UK seem to be converging as well as diverging in recent times. Highlight the key points of convergence and divergence.

MACRO TOPIC - CONSTITUTION – HISTORY, MAKING & PHILOSOPHY

#	Micro Topic	Year	Marks	Question
7	Constitutional Morality	2021	10	'Constitutional Morality' is rooted in the Constitution itself and is founded on its essential facets. Explain the doctrine of 'Constitutional Morality' with the help of relevant judicial decisions.
8	India's Approach to Secularism	2019	10	What can France learn from the Indian Constitution's approach to secularism?
9	India vs USA	2018	15	India and USA are two large democracies. Examine the basic tenets on which the two political systems are based.
10	Need for Constitutional Review	2008	15	Do you think there is a need for a review of the Indian Constitution? Justify your view.
11	Sources	2007	15	What is a Constitution? What are the main sources of the Indian Constitution?
12	J&K Reorganisation	2025	10	Discuss the nature of Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly after the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act, 2019.

MACRO TOPIC - CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS & BASIC STRUCTURE

#	Micro Topic	Year	Marks	Question
13	Amending Power	2025	15	The Indian Constitution has conferred the amending power on the ordinary legislative institutions with a few procedural hurdles. Examine the procedural and substantive limitations on the amending power of Parliament.
14	GST & Federalism	2023	15	Explain the significance of the 101st Constitutional Amendment Act. To what extent does it reflect the accommodative spirit of federalism.
15	Article 368 — Basic Structure	2019	15	'Parliament's power to amend the constitution is a limited power and it cannot be enlarged into absolute power'. Explain whether Parliament under Article 368 can destroy the Basic Structure.

16	101st Amendment — GST	2017	15	Explain the salient features of the Constitution (One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016. Do you think it is efficacious enough to remove cascading effect of taxes?
17	Whistle-blowers Act	2015	15	'If amendment bill to the Whistle-blowers Act, 2011 tabled in the Parliament is passed, there may be no one left to protect.' Critically evaluate.
18	Amendment Bill - Ordinary Bill	2006	10	How would you differentiate between the passage of a Constitution Amendment Bill and of an Ordinary Legislative Bill?
19	44th Amendment	2003	10	Highlight the significance of Forty Fourth Amendment to the Constitution of India.
20	Amendment Procedure	2002	15	How is the Constitution of India amended? Do you think that the procedure for amendment makes the Constitution a plaything in the hands of the Centre?
21	Legislative Bill	2001	15	What are the main differences between the passage of a Constitution Amendment Bill and other Legislative Bills?
22	Basic Structure Doctrine	2000	20	What constitutes the doctrine of 'basic features' as introduced into the Constitution of India by the Judiciary?
23	24th Amendment	1999	10	Highlight the significance of the Twenty Fourth Amendment to the Constitution of India.
24	73rd Amendment	1998	10	Highlight the significance of the Seventy-third Amendment to the Constitution of India.
25	Basic Structure	1994	10	Describe the emergence of Basic Structure concept in the Indian Constitution.
26	8th Schedule	1994	10	Four more languages were added to the 8th Schedule of the Constitution through two amendments. Give the names of these four languages as also the serial number of amendments.
27	Amending Procedure	1992	15	What are the general features of the amending procedures of the Constitution of India?
28	64th Amendment	1990	15	What are the major recommendations of the National Perspective Plan for women, 1988 and what are the relevant recommendations as envisaged in the Constitutional Amendment Bill (64th Amendment)?

MACRO TOPIC - FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS, DPSP & DUTIES

#	Micro Topic	Year	Marks	Question
29	Right to Privacy & Article 21	2025	15	Right to privacy is intrinsic to life and personal liberty and is inherently protected under Article 21. Explain. Discuss the law relating to DNA testing of child in the womb to establish its paternity.
30	Right to Life	2023	15	'The Constitution of India is a living instrument with capabilities of enormous dynamism.' Illustrate with special reference to the expanding horizons of the right to life and personal liberty.
31	Gender Justice	2023	15	Explain the constitutional perspectives of Gender Justice with the help of relevant Constitutional Provisions and case laws.
32	Right to Movement — Not Absolute	2022	10	Right of movement and residence throughout the territory of India are freely available to Indian citizens, but these rights are not absolute. Comment.
33	Human Rights Commissions	2021	15	Though the Human Rights Commissions have contributed immensely to the protection of human rights in India, yet they have failed to assert themselves against the mighty and powerful. Analyzing their structural and practical limitations, suggest remedial measures.
34	Right to Privacy	2017	15	Examine the scope of Fundamental Rights in the light of the latest judgement of the Supreme Court on Right to Privacy.
35	Article 370	2016	12.5	To what extent is Article 370 of the Indian Constitution, bearing marginal note 'Temporary provision with respect to the State of Jammu and Kashmir', temporary? Discuss the future prospects of this provision.

36	Preamble — Adjectives of Republic	2016	12.5	Discuss each adjective attached to the word 'Republic' in the preamble. Are they defensible in the present circumstances?
37	Uniform Civil Code	2015	15	Discuss the possible factors that inhibit India from enacting for its citizens a uniform civil code as provided for in the Directive Principles of State Policy.
38	Article 21	2015	15	Does the right to clean environment entail legal regulations on burning crackers during Diwali? Discuss in the light of Article 21 and Judgement(s) of the Apex Court.
39	Freedom of Speech — Hate Speech	2014	10	What do you understand by the concept 'freedom of speech and expression'? Does it cover hate speech also? Why do the films in India stand on a slightly different plane?
40	Section 66A & Free Speech	2013	10	Discuss Section 66A of IT Act, with reference to its alleged violation of Article 19 of the Constitution.
41	Article 371A	2013	10	Recent directives from Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas are perceived by the 'Nagas' as a threat to override the exceptional status enjoyed by the State. Discuss in light of Article 371A.
42	Fundamental Duties	2011	15	Essentially all that is contained in Part IV-A of the Constitution is just a codification of tasks integral to the Indian way of life. Critically examine.
43	Fundamental Duties	2008	15	Enumerate the fundamental duties incorporated in the Constitution after the 42nd amendment.
44	Fundamental Rights vs DPSP	2007	15	Bring out the differences between the Fundamental Rights and the Directive Principles of State Policy. Discuss some measures taken by governments for implementation of DPSP.
45	Right to Life	2006	20	What is right to life and personal liberty? How have the courts expanded its meaning in recent years?
46	Right to Freedom of Religion	2005	20	Give your views on the right to freedom of religions as enshrined in the Indian Constitution. Do they make India a secular State?
47	Freedom of Movement (Limits)	2005	15	What are the constitutional limitations on the free movements of Indians throughout the country?
48	Preamble — Philosophy	2004	20	What is the significance of a preamble to a constitution? Bring out the philosophy of the Indian polity as enshrined in the preamble.
49	Constitutional Equal Rights	2004	20	Discuss how the Constitution of India provides equal rights.
50	Fundamental Duties — Major Duties	2003	15	Identify the major Fundamental Duties.
51	Oaths	2002	20	Why does the Constitution of India provide different forms of Oaths for the President, the Ministers, the legislators and the members of the judiciary? Discuss their significance.
52	DPSP — Non-Justiciable Directives	2002	15	Discuss the constitutional provisions relating to the non-justiciable directives binding upon the states.
53	DPSP — Constitutional Position	2001	20	What is the constitutional position of Directive Principles of State Policy? How has it been interpreted by the judiciary after the emergency in 1975-77?
54	Rights of Children	2001	15	Discuss the constitutional provisions regarding the rights of children.
55	Article 15	1999	20	What grounds does Article 15 of the Indian Constitution prohibit discrimination? Indicate the way the concept of 'Special protection' has qualified this prohibition.
56	DPSP — Importance	1999	15	What is the importance of Directive Principles of State Policy? Mention which Directive Principles have got primacy over the Fundamental Rights.

57	DPSP vs FR — Emerging Position	1998	20	Briefly state the stages through which the present position of the Directive Principles vis-a-vis the Fundamental Rights has emerged.
58	Rule of Law	1996	20	What do you understand by the term Rule of Law? How does the Constitution of India seek to establish it?
59	Oaths — Different Forms	1996	20	Why does the Constitution of India contain different forms of Oath for the President, the Ministers, the Legislators and the members of the Judiciary? Discuss their significance.
60	Citizens' Rights & Citizenship	1995	10	What are the constitutional rights of the citizens of India? What do you think about the demand of the NRI's for dual citizenship?
61	Article 21	1994	10	Differentiate between the 'due process of law' and 'the procedure established by law' in the context of deprivation of personal liberty in India.
62	Secularism	1994	10	Indicate the provisions of Indian Constitution relating to Secularism.
63	Fundamental Duties & Implications	1993	10	What are the fundamental duties and their implications?
64	Preventive vs Punitive Detention	1993	10	Distinguish between preventive detention and punitive detention.
65	Constitutional Writs	1993	10	What are the various writs available to the citizens of India?
66	Equal Protection of Law	1993	10	What is meant by 'equal protection of law'?
67	10th Schedule — Anti-Defection	1993	10	What is the content of the 10th schedule of the Constitution of India?
68	Article 24 — Child Labour	1993	10	What is the purpose of Article 24 of the Constitution of India?
69	Secularism & Minorities	1991	10	Discuss the secular nature of Indian polity and the position of minorities in India.
70	Reasonable Restrictions on FRs	1990	10	What are the reasonable restrictions mentioned in the Indian Constitution accompanying the fundamental rights?
71	DPSP Precedence over FR	1987	15	Briefly mention why and how the Chapter on Directive Principles gained precedence over the Chapter on Fundamental Rights in the Indian Constitution.
72	FR vs DPSP — Implementation	1982	15	Differentiate between the fundamental rights and directive principle of state policy, do you think that the later has been adequately implemented?
73	Right to Property	1981	15	Bring out the significance of the Fundamental Rights provided in the Constitution of India. The right to acquire, hold and dispose of property has ceased to be a fundamental right. Examine the purpose of the change.

MACRO TOPIC - FEDERALISM, CENTRE-STATE RELATIONS & EMERGENCY

#	Micro Topic	Year	Marks	Question
74	Financial Relation	2025	15	Examine the evolving pattern of Centre-State financial relations in the context of planned development in India. How far have the recent reforms impacted the fiscal federalism in India?
75	Recent Changes	2024	15	What changes has the Union Government recently introduced in the domain of Centre-State relations? Suggest measures to build trust between Centre and States and for strengthening federalism.
76	Article 356	2023	15	Account for the legal and political factors responsible for the reduced frequency of using Article 356 by the Union Governments since mid-1990s.

77	National vs Regional Parties	2022	15	While the national political parties in India favour centralisation, the regional parties are in favour of state autonomy. Comment.
78	CBI Jurisdiction	2021	15	The jurisdiction of the CBI regarding lodging an FIR and conducting probes within a particular state is being questioned. However, the power of States to withhold consent to the CBI is not absolute. Explain.
79	Cooperative Federalism	2020	10	How far do you think cooperation, competition and confrontation have shaped the nature of federation in India? Cite some recent examples.
80	Financial Emergency	2018	10	Under what circumstances can the Financial Emergency be proclaimed by the President of India? What consequences follow when such a declaration remains in force?
81	Delhi Lt. Governor	2018	15	Whether the Supreme Court Judgement (July 2018) can settle the political tussle between the Lt. Governor and elected government of Delhi? Examine.
82	69th Amendment	2016	12.5	Discuss the essentials of the 69th Constitutional Amendment Act and anomalies that have led to conflicts between the elected representatives and the Lt. Governor in the administration of Delhi.
83	Government of India Act 1935	2016	12.5	Did the Government of India Act, 1935 lay down a federal constitution? Discuss.
84	Cooperative Federalism	2015	15	The concept of cooperative federalism has been increasingly emphasized in recent years. Highlight the drawbacks in the existing structure and the extent to which cooperative federalism would answer the shortcomings.
85	Indian Federalism	2014	10	Though the federal principle is dominant in our constitution and that principle is one of its basic features, it is equally true that federalism under the Indian Constitution leans in favour of a strong Centre. Discuss.
86	Inter-State Water Disputes	2013	10	Constitutional mechanisms to resolve the inter-state water disputes have failed to address and solve the problems. Is the failure due to structural or process inadequacy or both? Discuss.
87	Inter-State Water Disputes	2010	15	Disputes between the riparian states on sharing of river waters in post-Independence India are becoming increasingly complex. Analyze the major disputes with special reference to Southern states.
88	Federalism	2008	15	Discuss the major extra-constitutional factors influencing the federal polity in India.
89	Greater State Autonomy	2008	10	Examine the demand for greater state autonomy and its impact on the smooth functioning of India polity.
90	Financial Relations	2005	15	Comment on the financial relation between the Union and the States in India. Has post-1991 liberalization in any way affected it?
91	Breakdown of Constitution	2004	15	Discuss the meaning of 'breakdown of constitutional machinery'. What are its effects.
92	River Water Accord	2004	10	The Inter-State river water dispute has once again assumed centre-stage after the Punjab Assembly's Bill terminating all previous accord on river waters. Discuss.
93	Administrative Relations	2001	15	Discuss the administrative relation between the centre and the states in the light of recent controversies.
94	State Autonomy	2000	15	Examine the demand for greater State-autonomy and also its impact on the smooth functioning of the Indian polity.
95	Extra-Constitutional Factors	2000	10	Discuss the major extra-constitutional factors influencing the working of federal polity in India.
96	Article 356	1997	10	What is Article 356 in the Indian Constitution? Comment.
97	Inter-State Water Disputes	1996	10	What role can the Union Government play in settling interstate water disputes?
98	Rajya Sabha	1995	10	Describe the non-federal features of the Council of States.

99	Nature of Indian Federation	1993	15	What are the essentials of a true federation? Analyse the nature of the Indian federation.
100	Zonal Councils	1992	15	What are Zonal Councils? Discuss their constitution, role and importance in achieving interstate comity.
101	State Autonomy	1991	15	Examine whether the grant of greater autonomy to the States would be in the interest of strengthening the integrity and promoting the economic development of the country.
102	Erosion of Federalism	1991	10	'The planning operations in India have led to erosion of federalism.' Discuss.
103	Cooperative Federalism	1990	15	The emphasis in modern federations should not be one division and separation but on Collaboration and on Cooperation. Discuss the statement in the context of Indian Policy.
104	President's Rule	1985	15	Explain the grounds on which the President can proclaim a state emergency. Give examples from the recent experience.
105	Emergency Provisions	1983	15	Many countries which achieved independence after the war have come under dictatorship or military rule. What are the forces that have enabled India to maintain a democratic system? Consider the emergency provision in the constitution.
106	Legislative Lists	1983	15	What were the objectives in having three separate legislative lists in the Constitution of India? Can the Parliament make any law regard to any item in the state list?
107	India — Federal Features	1982	15	India is not a federation but it has definite federal features. Elucidate.
108	Planning & Federalism	1982	15	Planning and federalism make uneasy partners, the planning operations in India have led to the erosion of federalism. Discuss.
109	Union-State Controversy	1981	15	Analyse the causes of controversy in India, in recent years in regard to Union-State relations. What are the specific areas? Consider the main issues and offer your comments and suggestions.
110	State Reorganisation 1950	1980	15	Why were the states of India 'reorganised' in 1950? Do you think that the policy has served the purpose which the Government had in view?

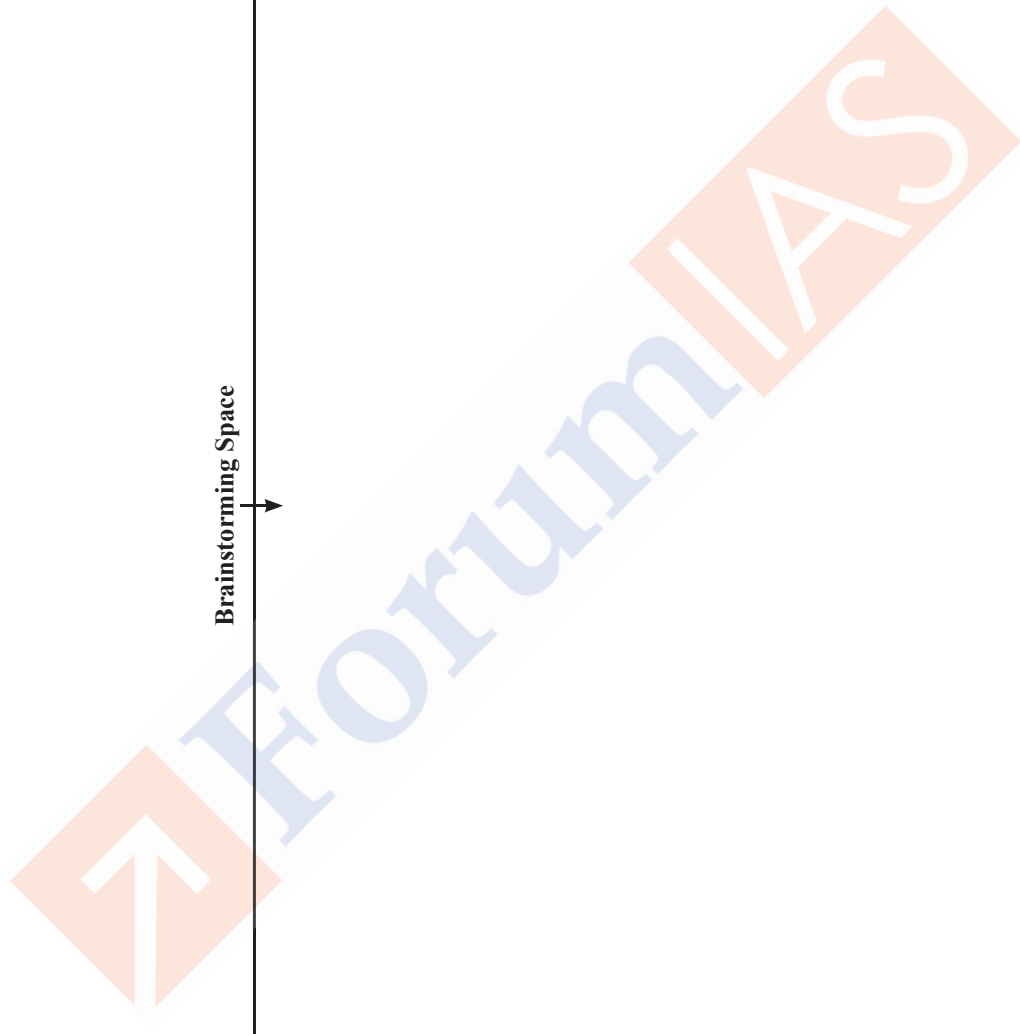
MACRO TOPIC - SEPARATION OF POWERS

#	Micro Topic	Year	Marks	Question
111	Cabinet System vs Parliamentary Supremacy	2024	15	'The growth of cabinet system has practically resulted in the marginalisation of the parliamentary supremacy.' Elucidate.
112	Judicial Independence & Democracy	2023	10	'Constitutionally guaranteed judicial independence is a prerequisite of democracy'. Comment.
113	Judicial Legislation vs Separation of Powers	2020	15	Judicial legislation is antithetical to the doctrine of separation of powers as envisaged in the Indian Constitution. In this context justify the filing of large number of public interest petitions.
114	Federal Supremacy & Harmonious Construction	2019	10	From the resolution of contentious issues regarding distribution of legislative powers by the courts, 'Principle of Federal Supremacy' and 'Harmonious Construction' have emerged. Explain.
115	Checks and Balances vs Strict Separation	2019	10	Do you think Constitution of India does not accept principle of strict separation of powers rather it is based on the principle of 'checks and balance'? Explain.
116	Check on Parliament's Amending Power	2013	12.5	'The Supreme Court of India keeps a check on arbitrary power of the Parliament in amending the Constitution.' Discuss critically.

117	Ordinance Power — Separation of Powers	2015	15	Resorting to ordinances has always raised concern on violation of the spirit of separation of powers doctrine. Analyze whether the decisions of the Supreme Court on the issue have further facilitated resorting to this power. Should ordinances be repealed?
118	Globalisation & State Institutions	2007	10	Impact of globalisation on state system and its institutions.
119	Individual Liberty & Separation of Powers	1983	10	Separation of powers is essential to ensure Individual liberty. Discuss this with regard to the provisions in the Constitution and practices adopted so far.
120	Legislature, Judiciary & Executive — Relative Roles	1982	10	Examine the relative role of Legislature, Judiciary and the executive in the functioning of the parliamentary system of Government in India. Is it a fact that executive has been tending to be more powerful?

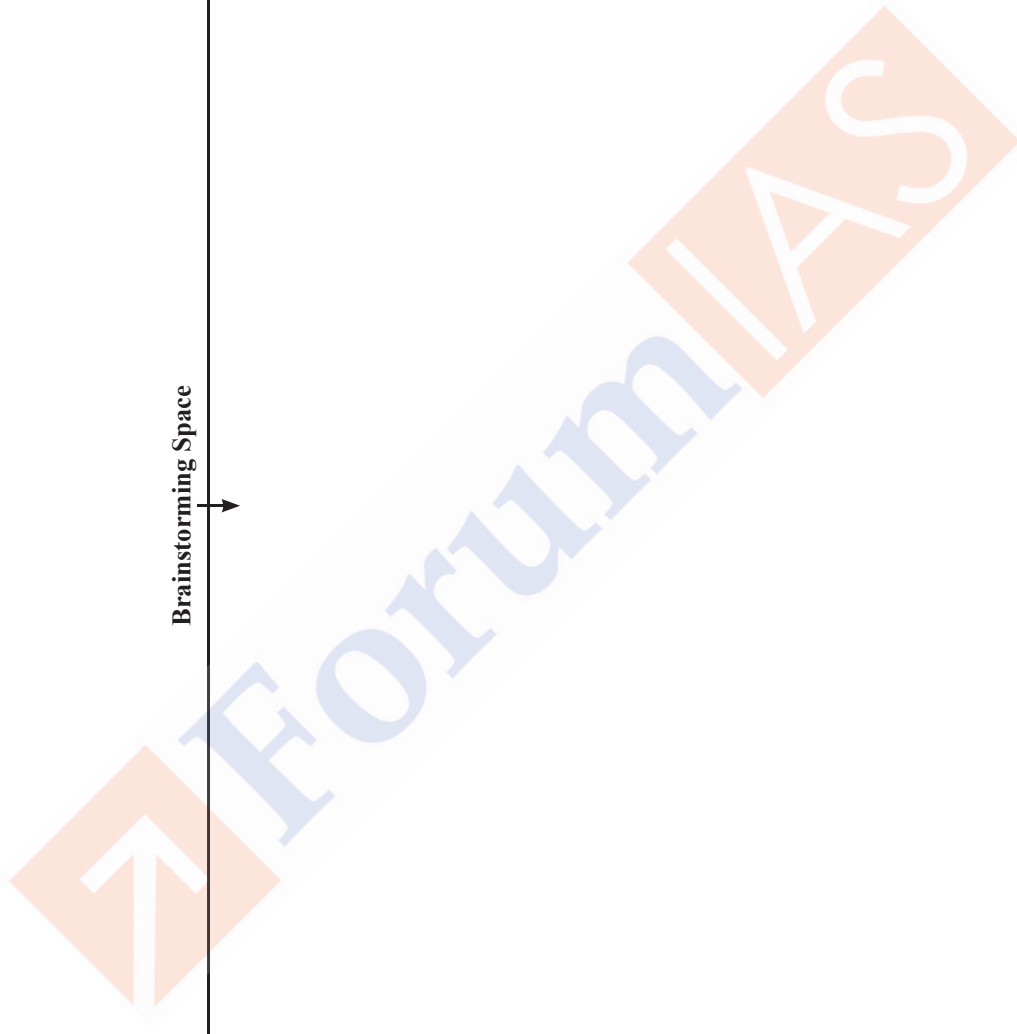
Q.1) Compare and contrast the President's power to pardon in India and in the USA. Are there any limits to it in both the countries? What are 'preemptive pardons'? (15 Marks, 250 Words) [2025]

Brainstorming Space



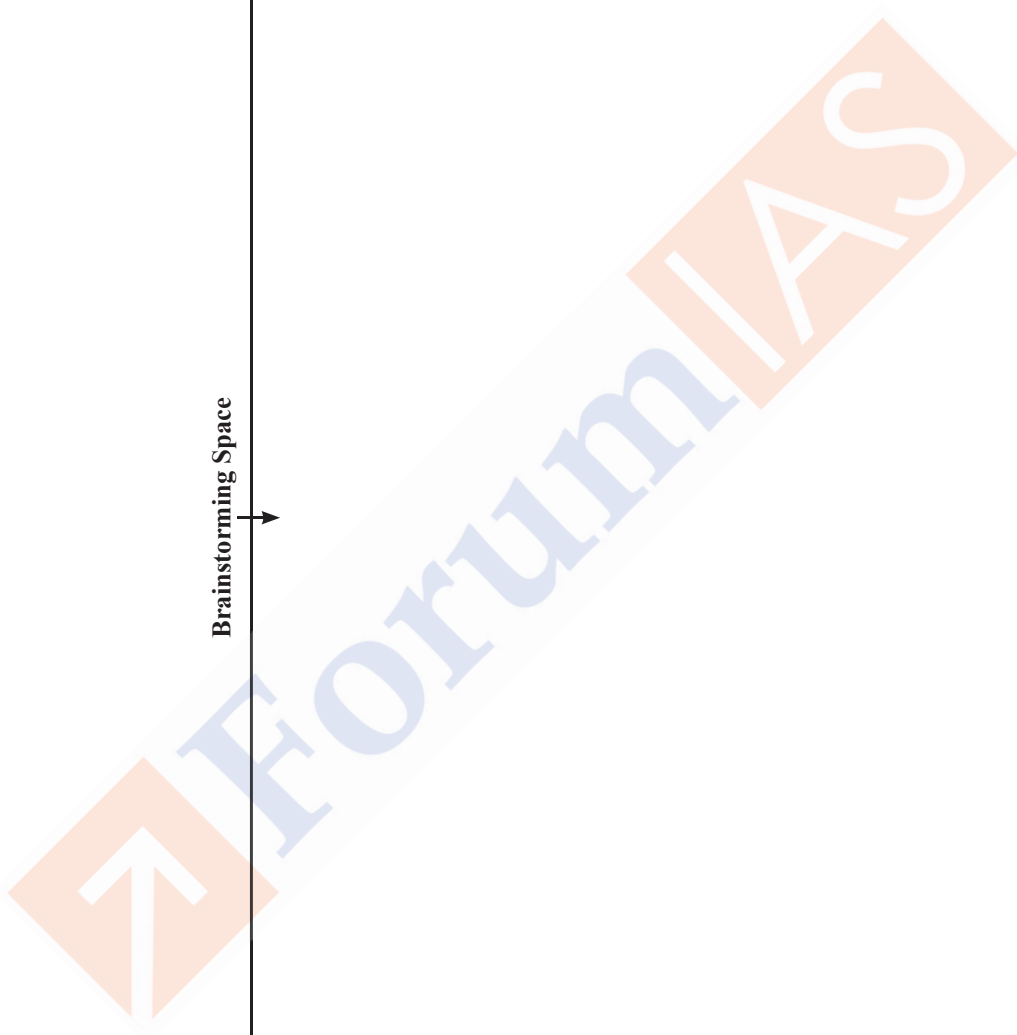
Q.2) Discuss India as a secular state and compare with the secular principles of the US constitution. (15 Marks, 250 Words) [2024]

Brainstorming Space



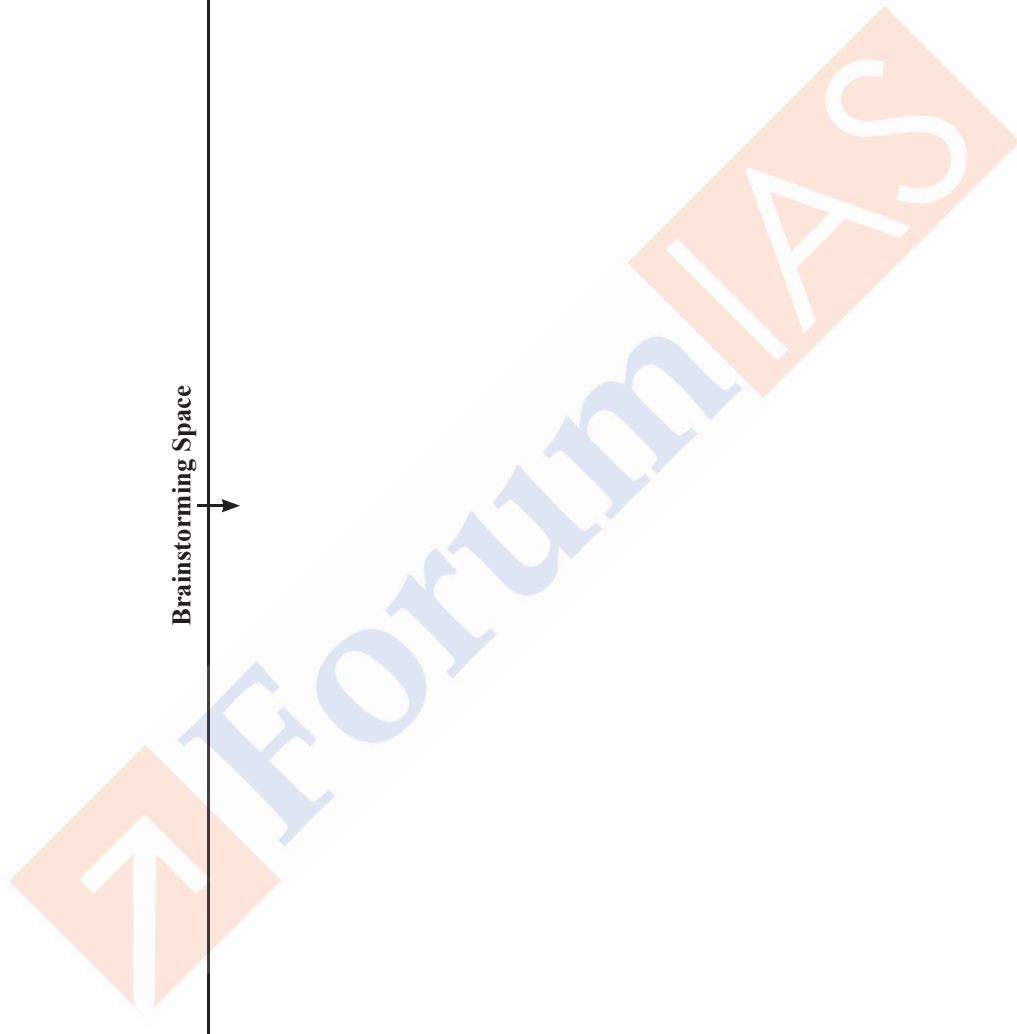
Q.3) Compare and contrast the British and Indian approaches to Parliamentary sovereignty. (10 Marks, 150 Words) [2023]

Brainstorming Space



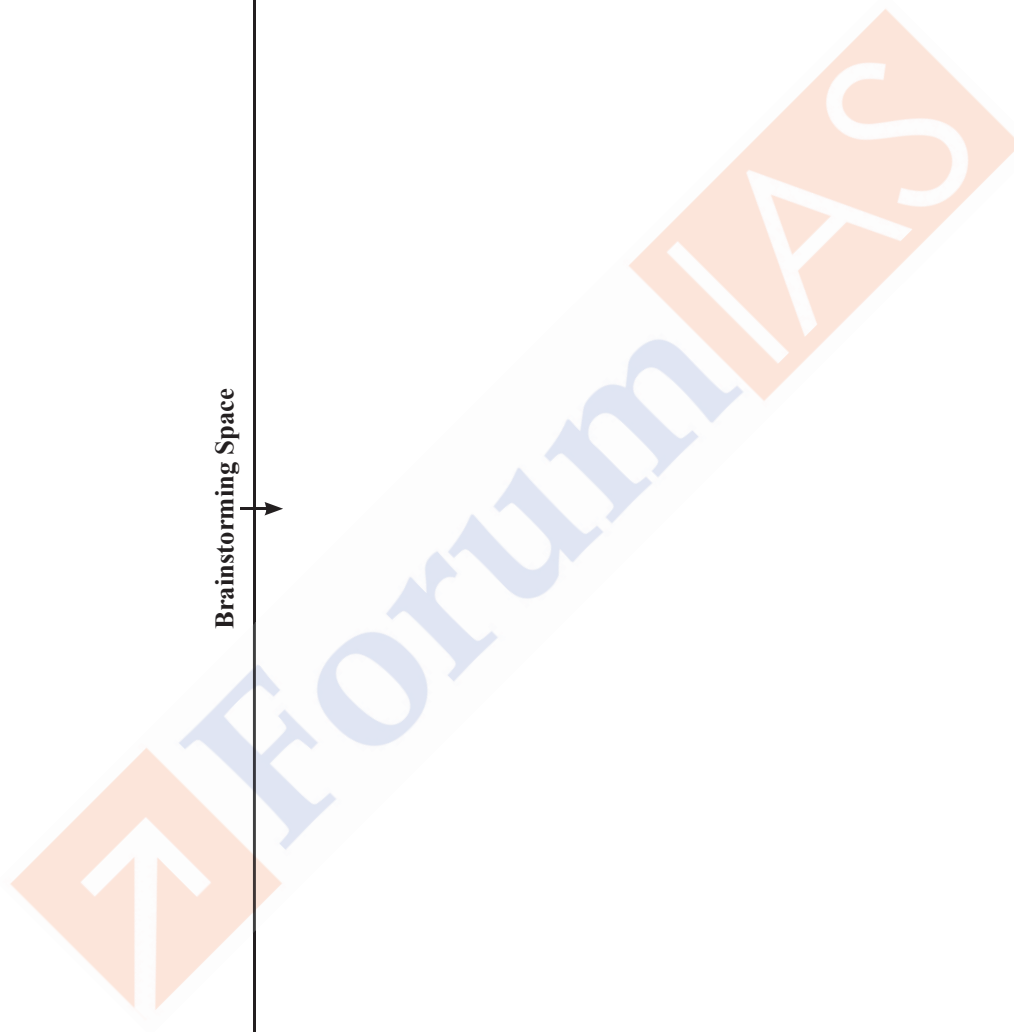
Q.4) Critically examine the procedures through which the presidents of India and France are elected. (15 Marks, 250 Words) [2022]

Brainstorming Space



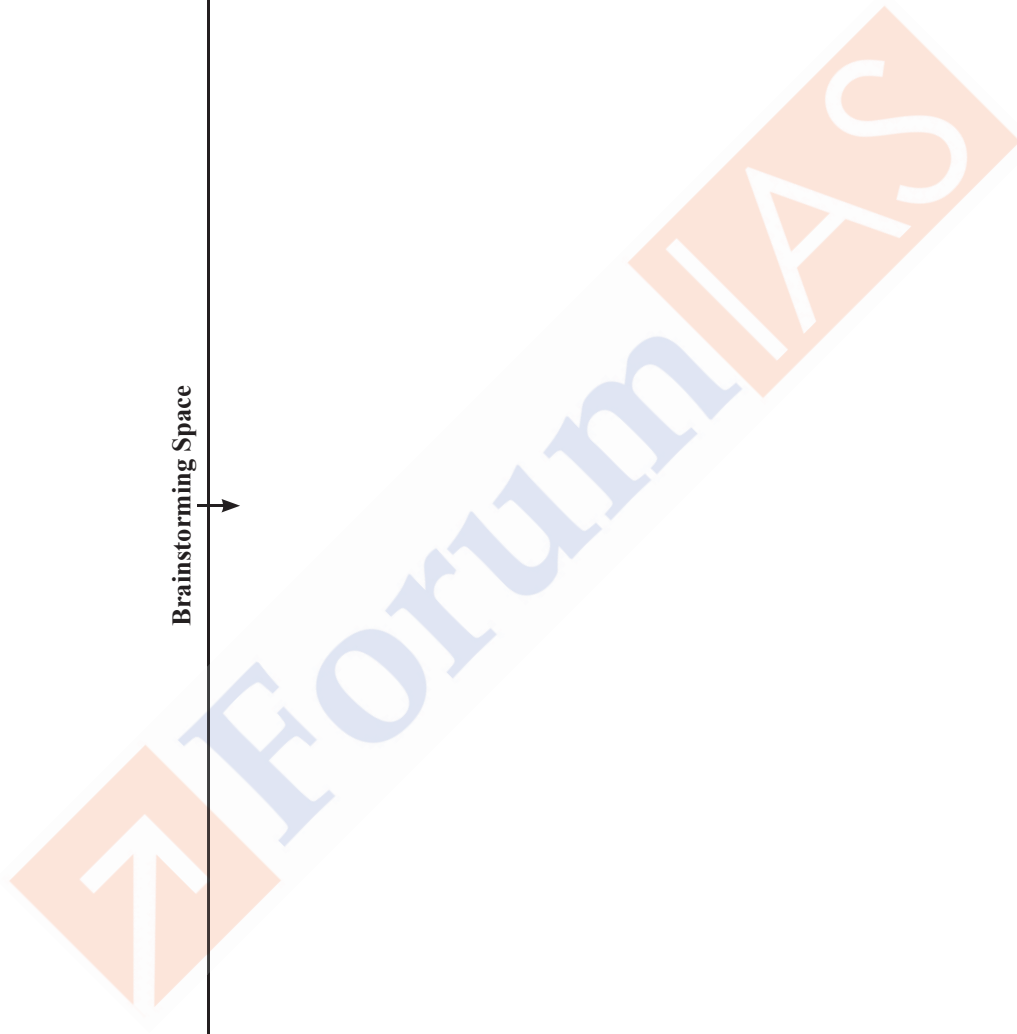
Q.5) Analyze the distinguishing features of the notion of Equality in the Constitutions of the USA and India. (15 Marks, 250 Words) [2021]

Brainstorming Space



Q.6) The judicial system in India and UK seem to be converging as well as diverging in recent times. Highlight the key points of convergence and divergence. (10 Marks, 150 Words) [2020]

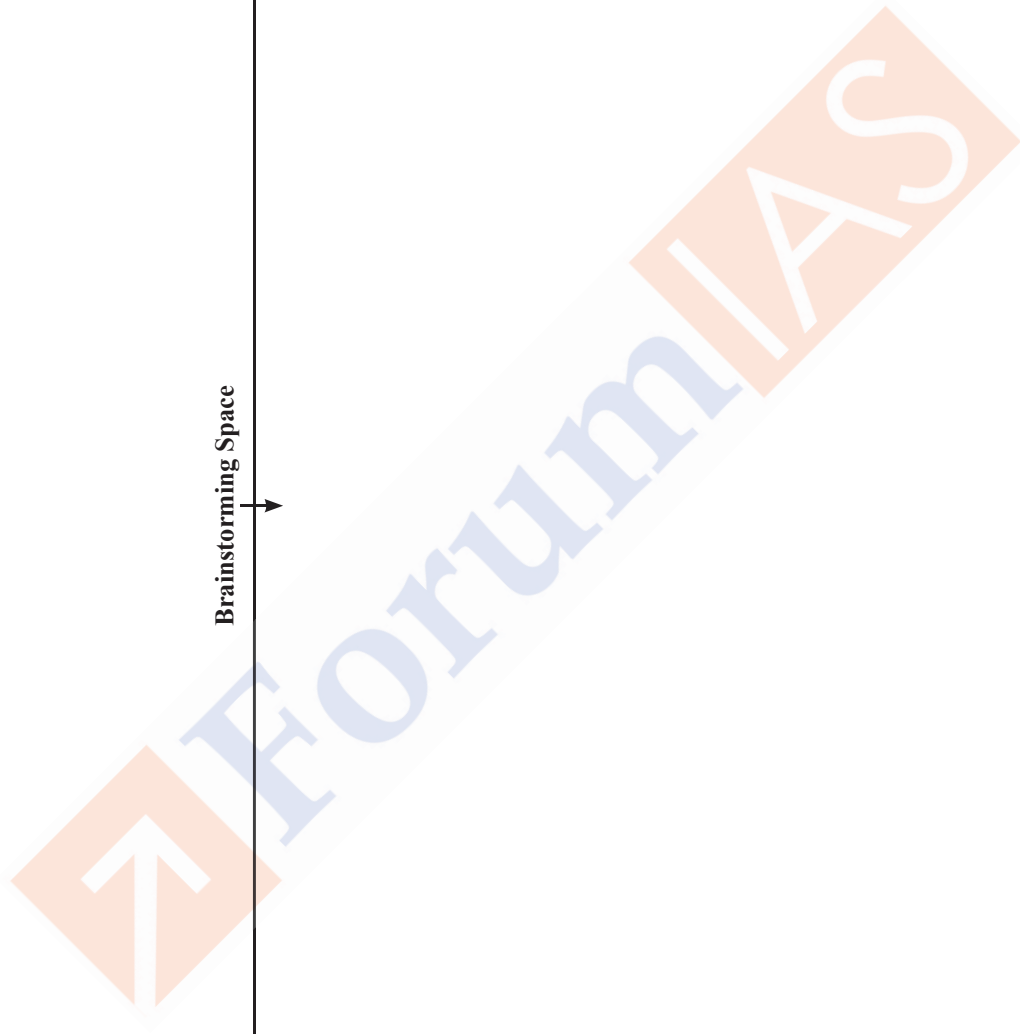
Brainstorming Space



Q.7) 'Constitutional Morality' is rooted in the Constitution itself and is founded on its essential facets. Explain the doctrine of 'Constitutional Morality' with the help of relevant judicial decisions.

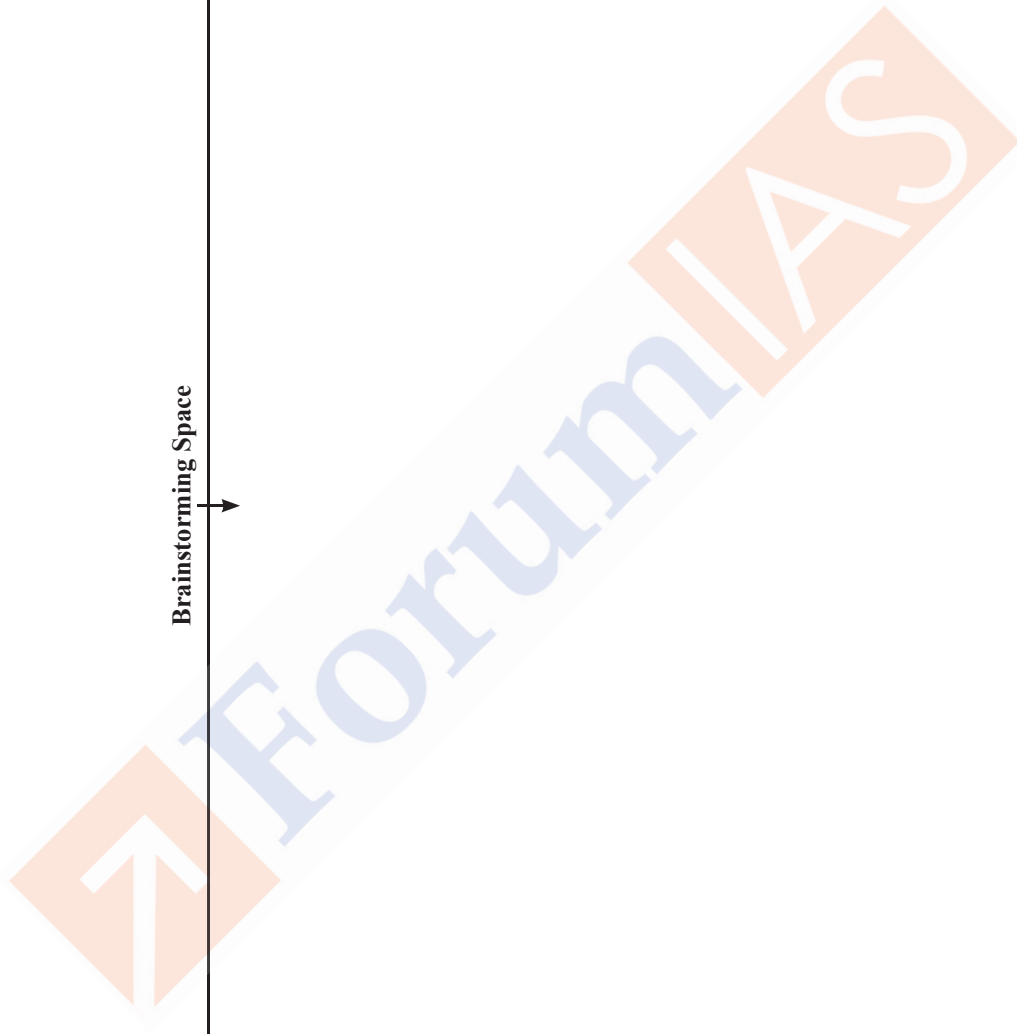
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [2021]

Brainstorming Space



Q.8) What can France learn from the Indian Constitution's approach to secularism?
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [2019]

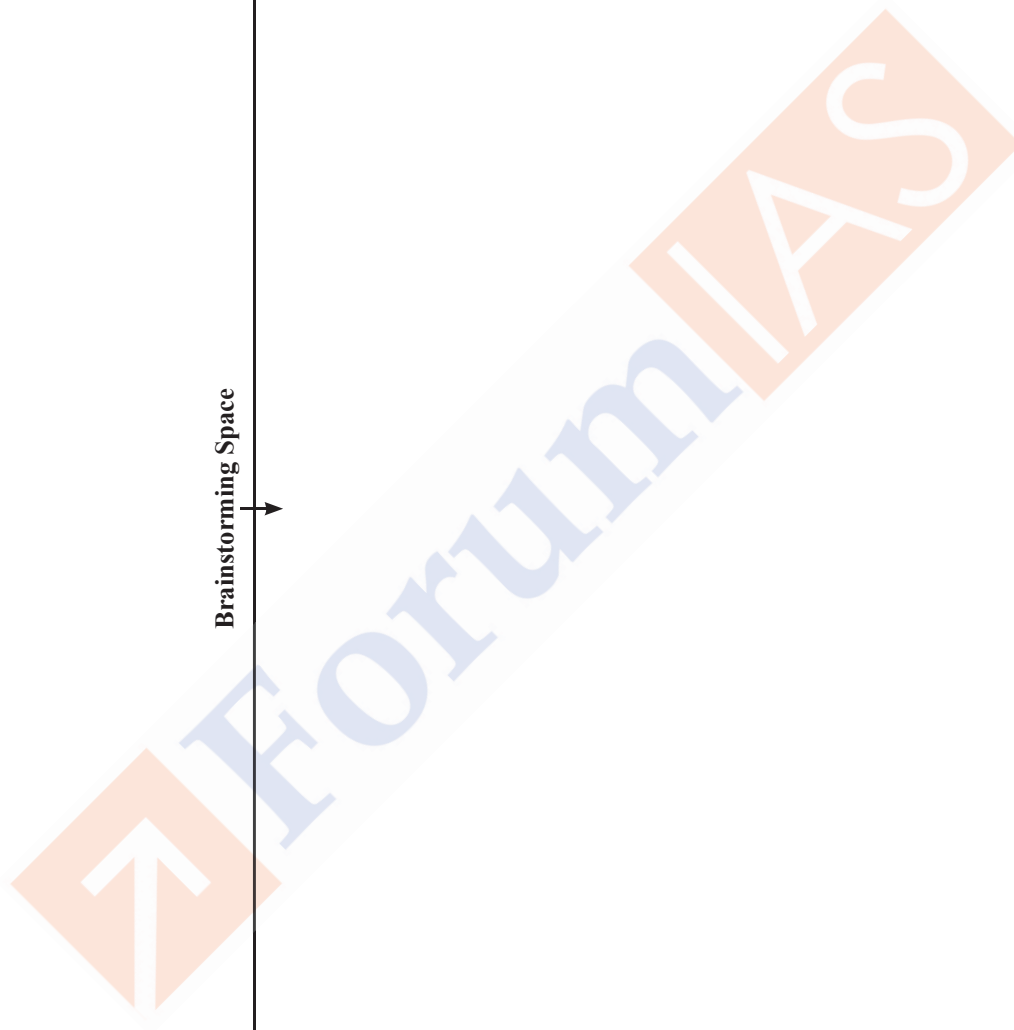
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Q.9) India and USA are two large democracies. Examine the basic tenets on which the two political systems are based.

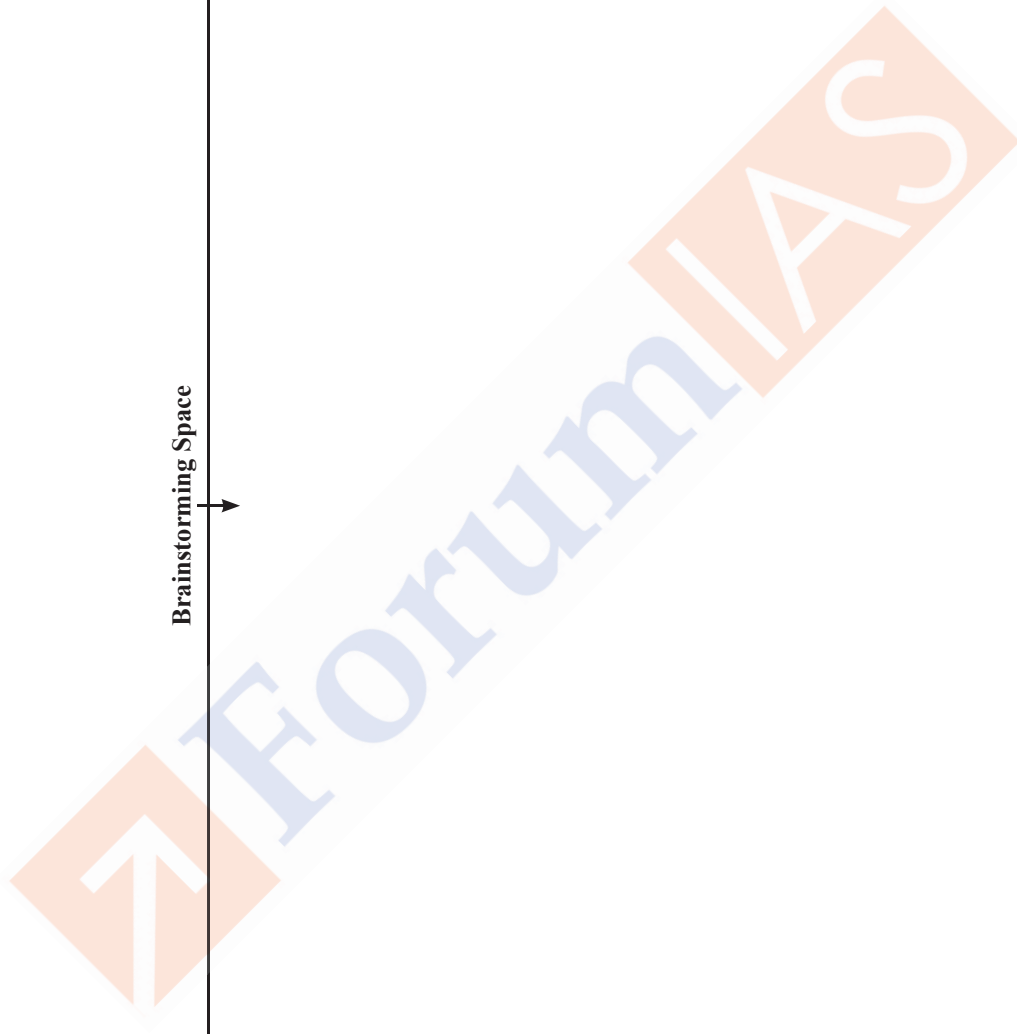
(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2018]

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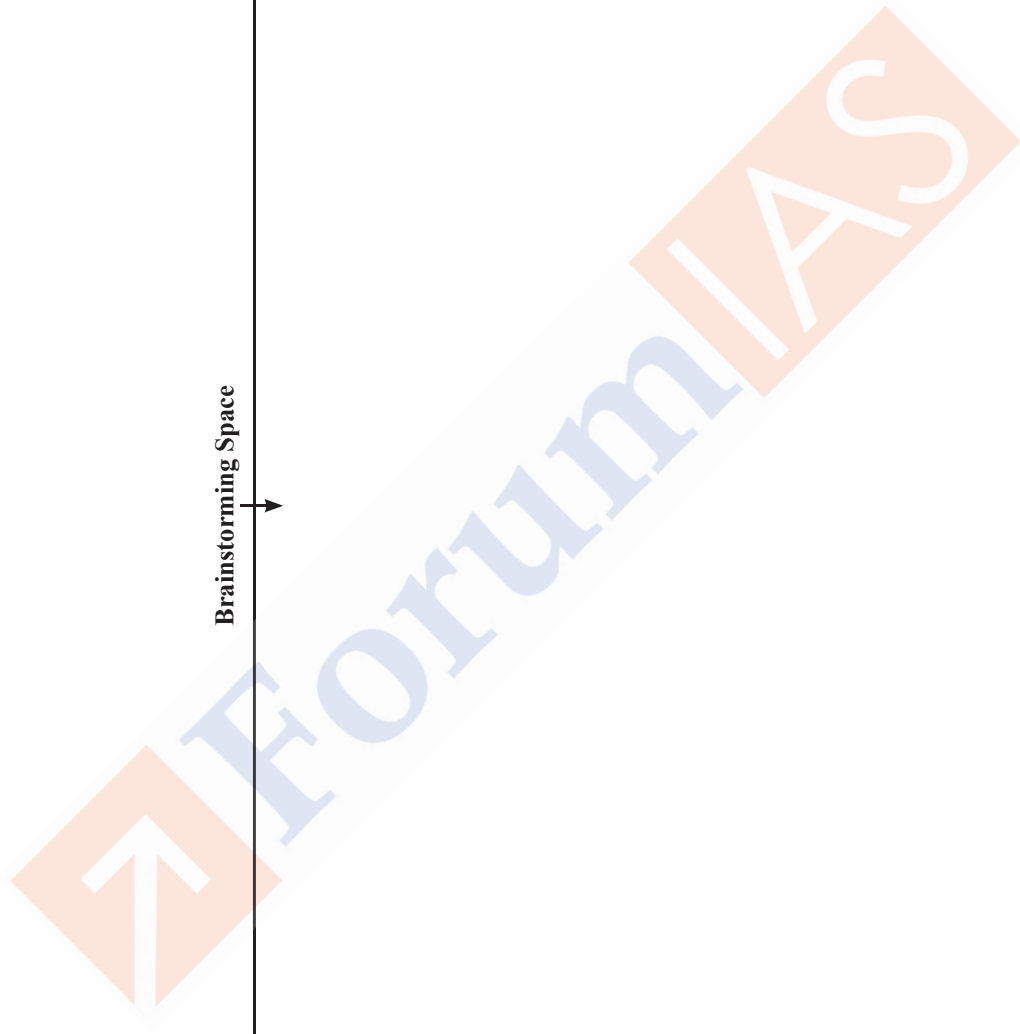
Q.10) Do you think there is a need for a review of the Indian Constitution?
Justify your view. (15 Marks, 150 Words) [2008]

Brainstorming Space



Q.11) What is a Constitution? What are the main sources of the Indian Constitution? (15 Marks, 250 Words) [2007]

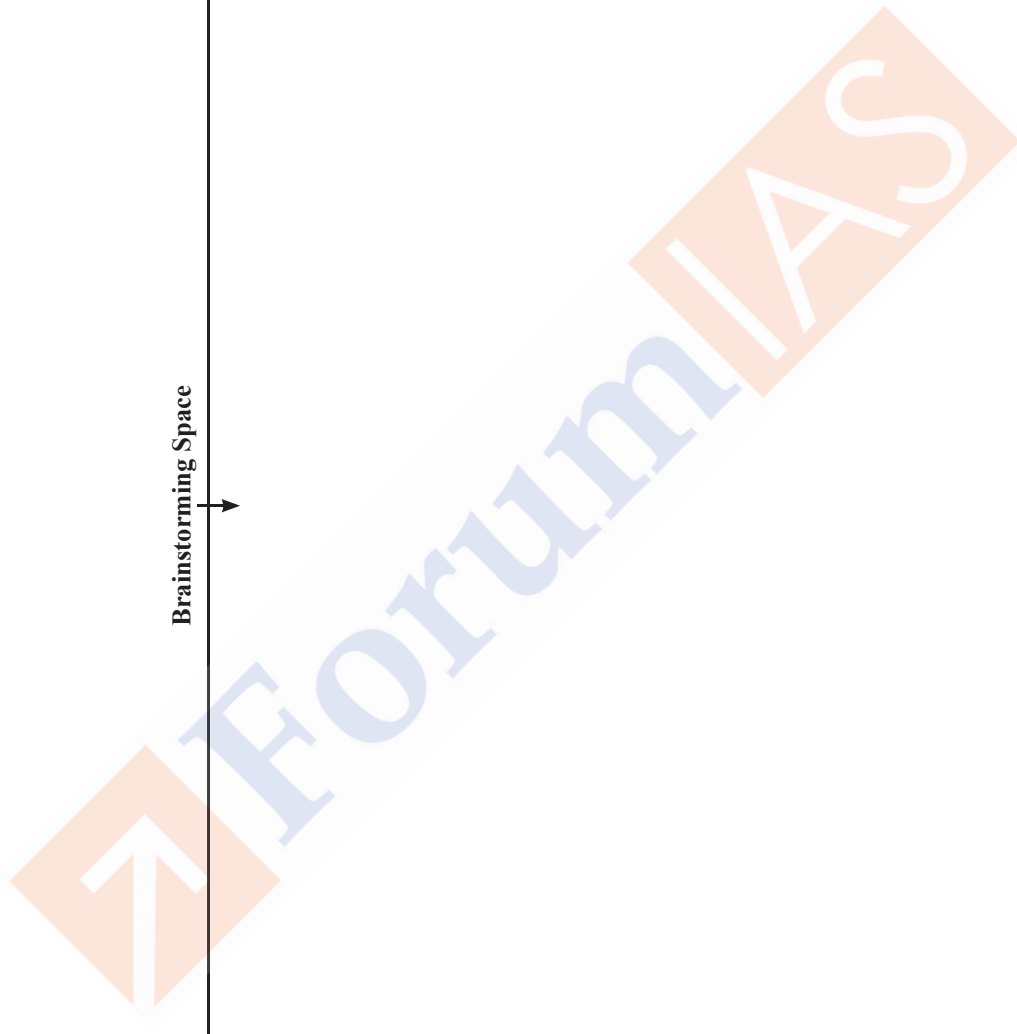
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Q.12) Discuss the nature of Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly after the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act, 2019.

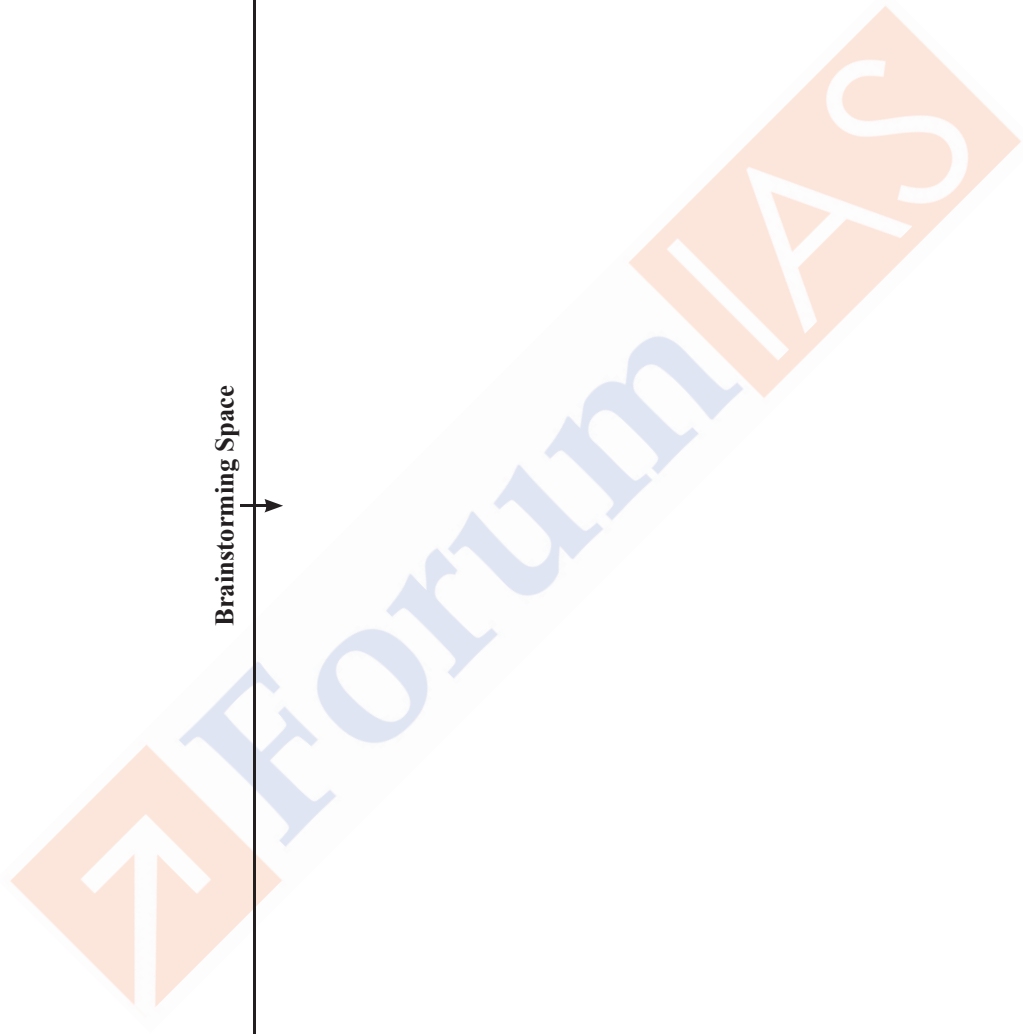
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [2025]

Brainstorming Space



Q.13) The Indian Constitution has conferred the amending power on the ordinary legislative institutions with a few procedural hurdles. Examine the procedural and substantive limitations on the amending power of Parliament. (15 Marks, 250 Words) [2025]

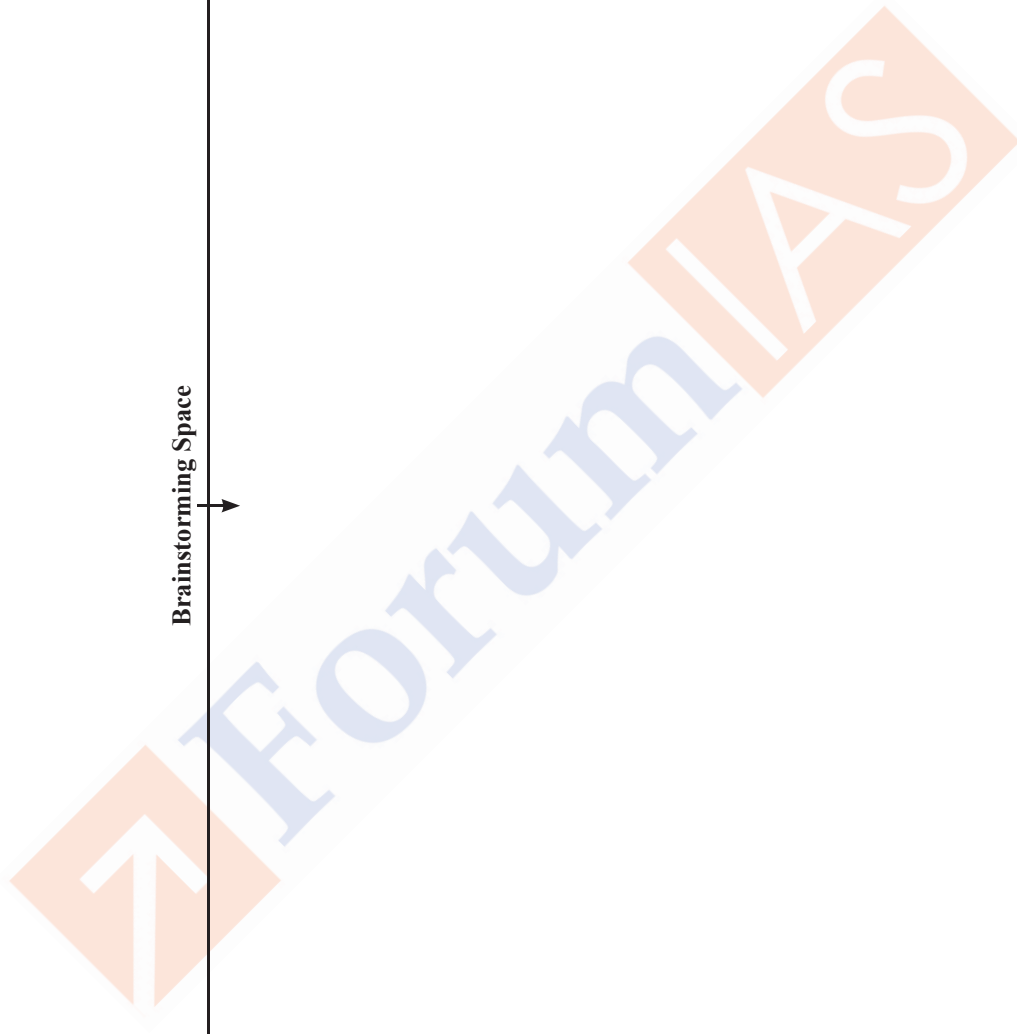
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Q.14) Explain the significance of the 101st Constitutional Amendment Act. To what extent does it reflect the accommodative spirit of federalism.

(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2023]

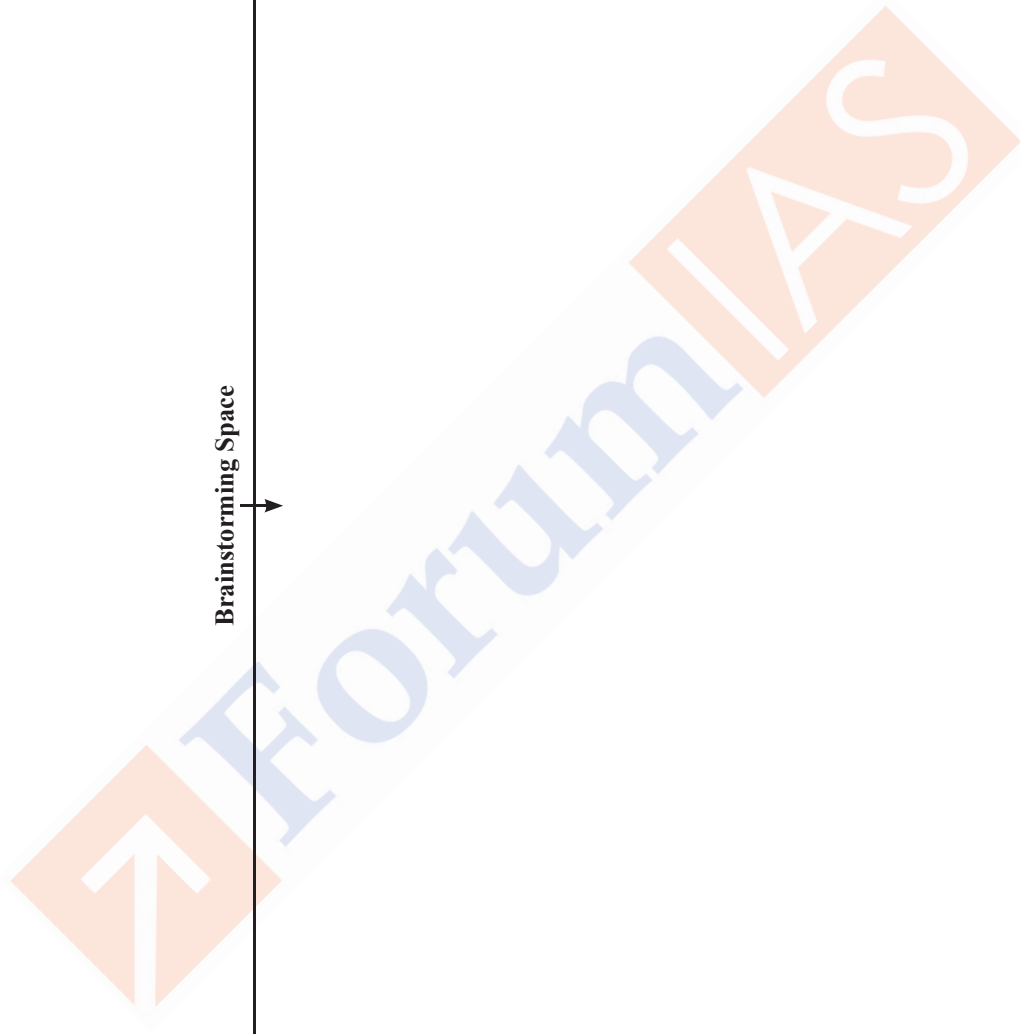
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Q.15) 'Parliament's power to amend the constitution is a limited power and it cannot be enlarged into absolute power'. Explain whether Parliament under Article 368 can destroy the Basic Structure.

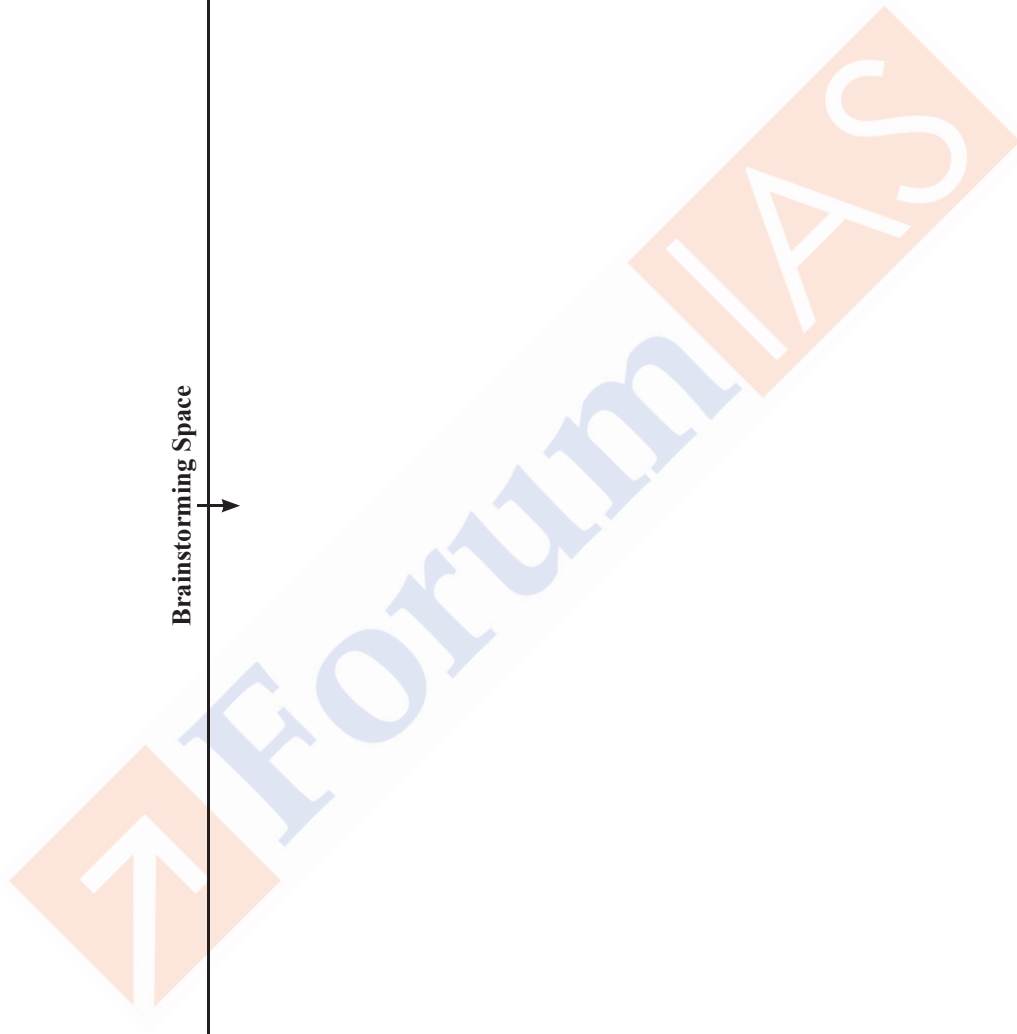
(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2019]

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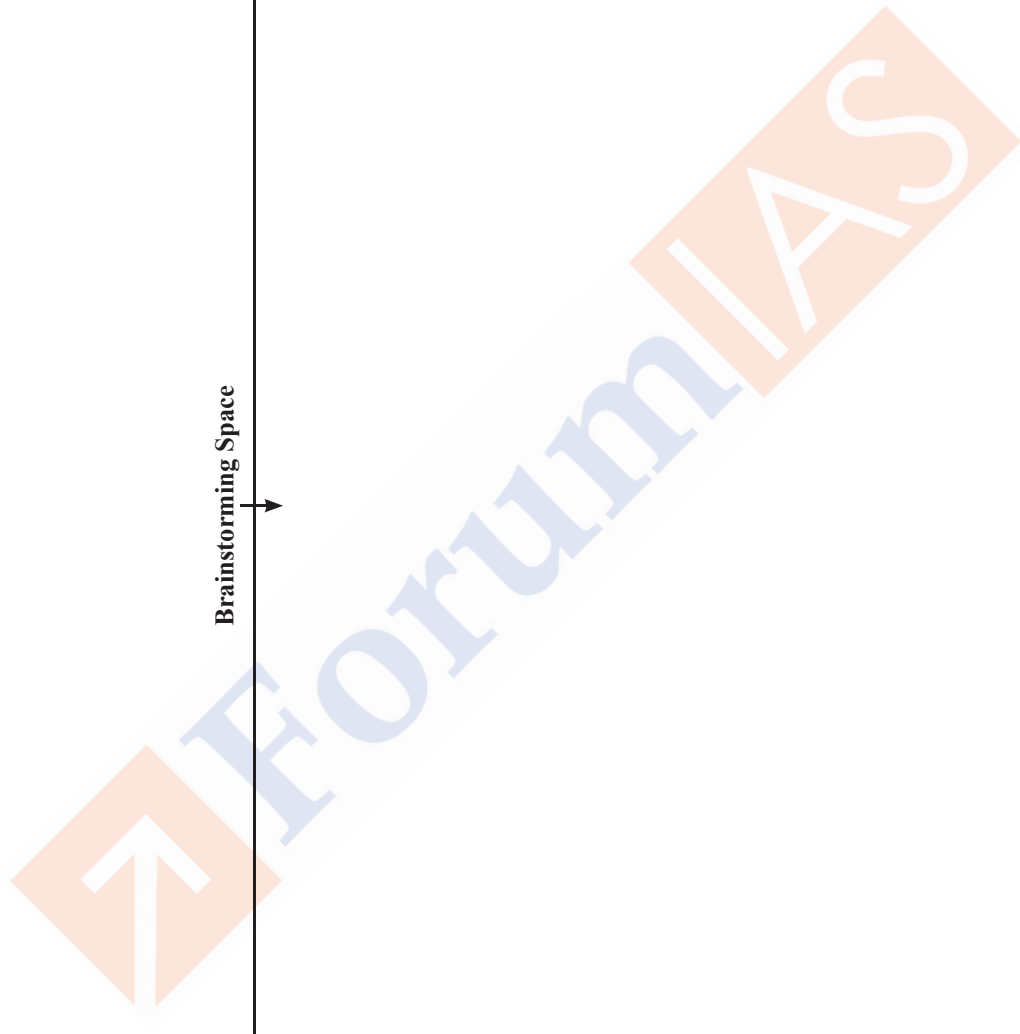
Q.16) Explain the salient features of the Constitution (One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016. Do you think it is efficacious enough to remove cascading effect of taxes? (15 Marks, 250 Words) [2017]

Brainstorming Space



Q.17) 'If amendment bill to the Whistle-blowers Act, 2011 tabled in the Parliament is passed, there may be no one left to protect.' Critically evaluate. (15 Marks, 200 Words) [2015]

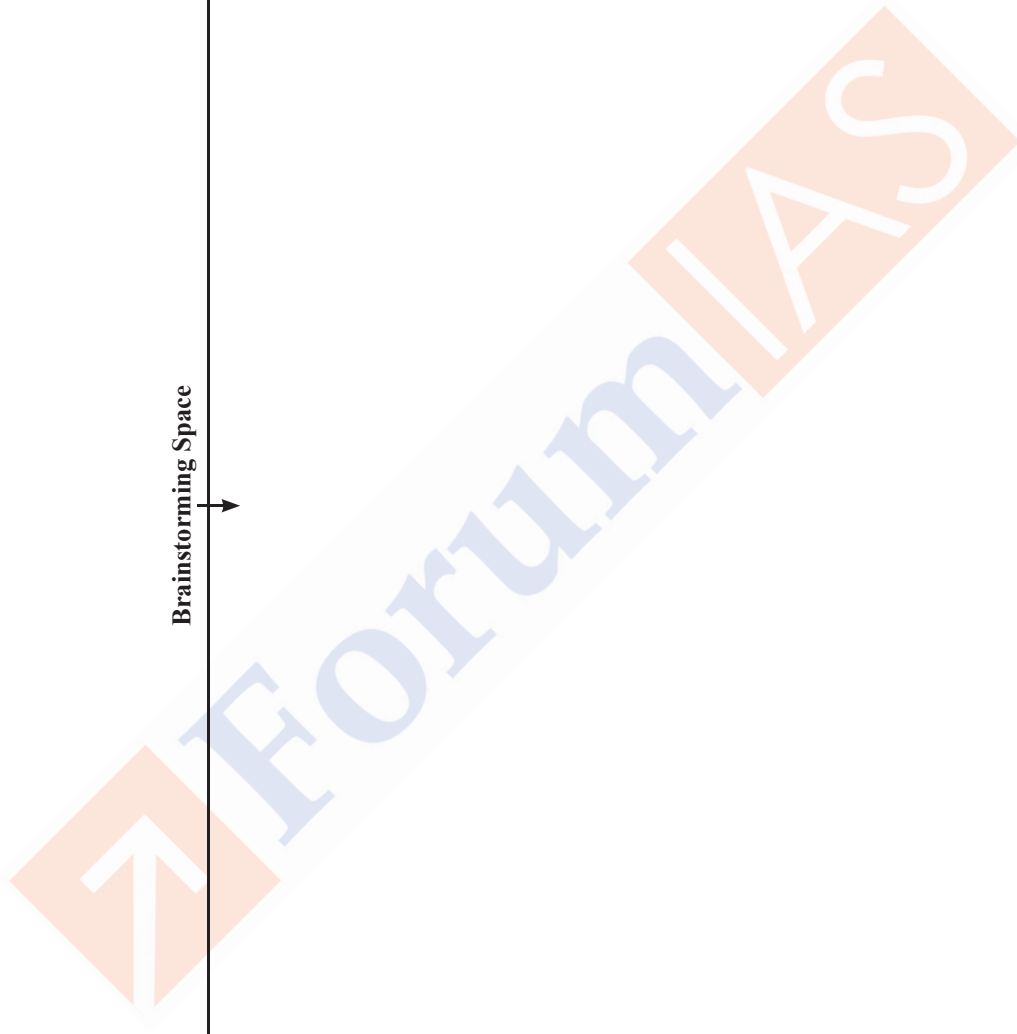
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Q.18) How would you differentiate between the passage of a Constitution Amendment Bill and of an Ordinary Legislative Bill?

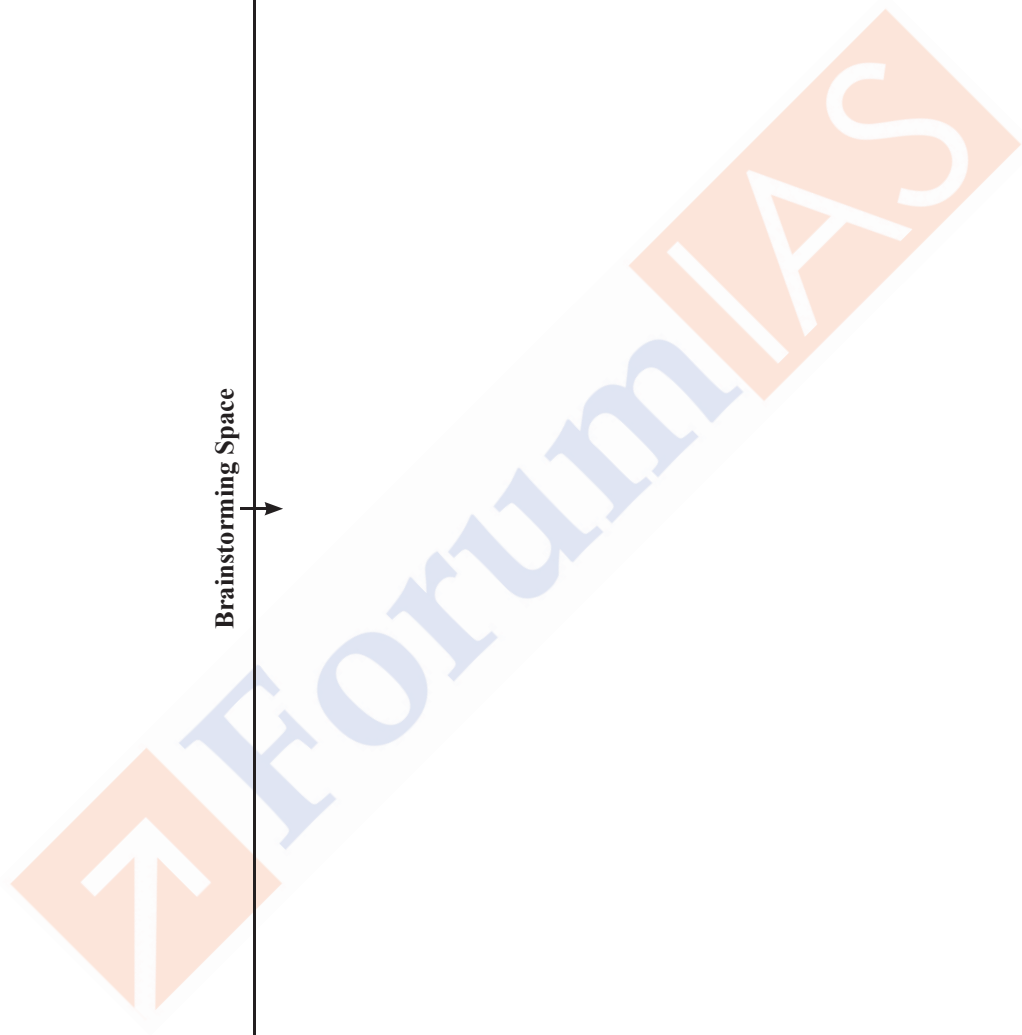
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [2006]

Brainstorming Space



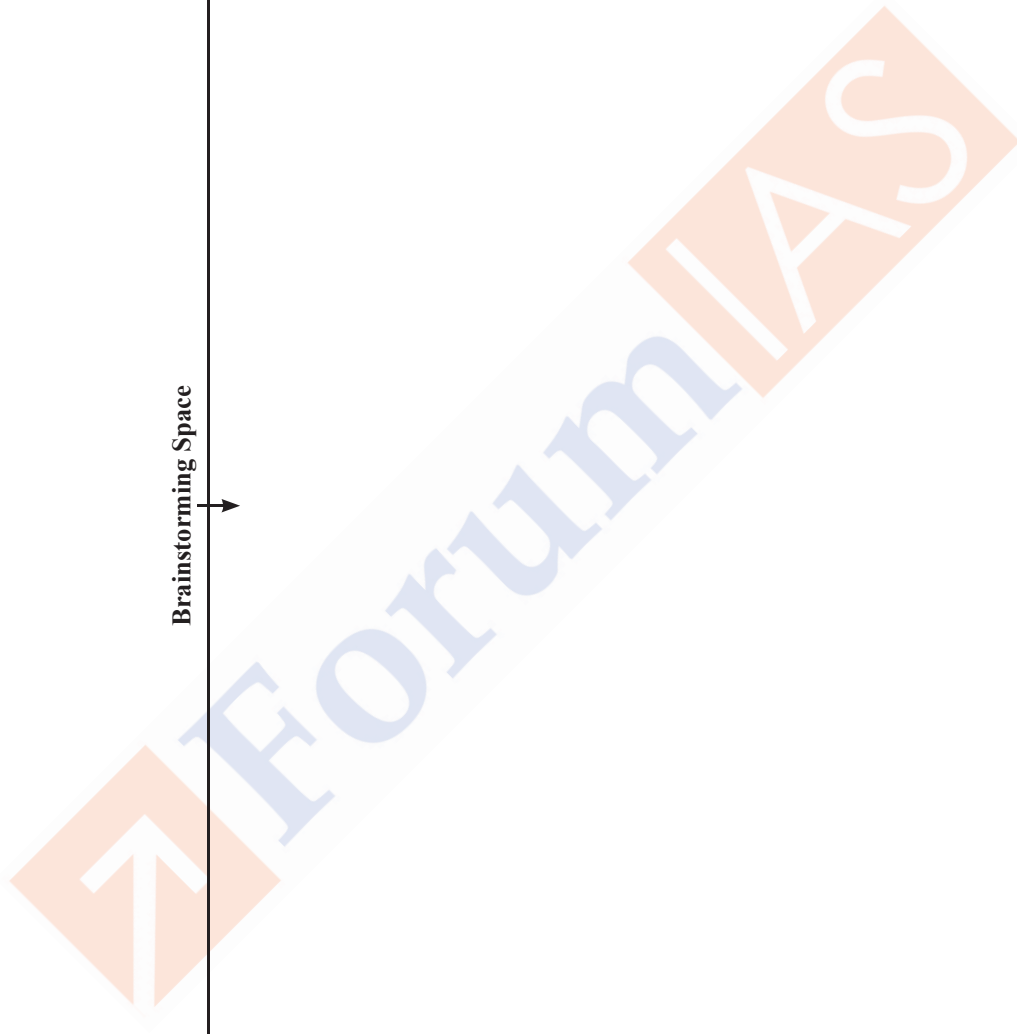
Q.19) Highlight the significance of Forty Fourth Amendment to the Constitution of India. (10 Marks, 150 Words) [2003]

Brainstorming Space



Q.20) How is the Constitution of India amended? Do you think that the procedure for amendment makes the Constitution a plaything in the hands of the Centre?
(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2002]

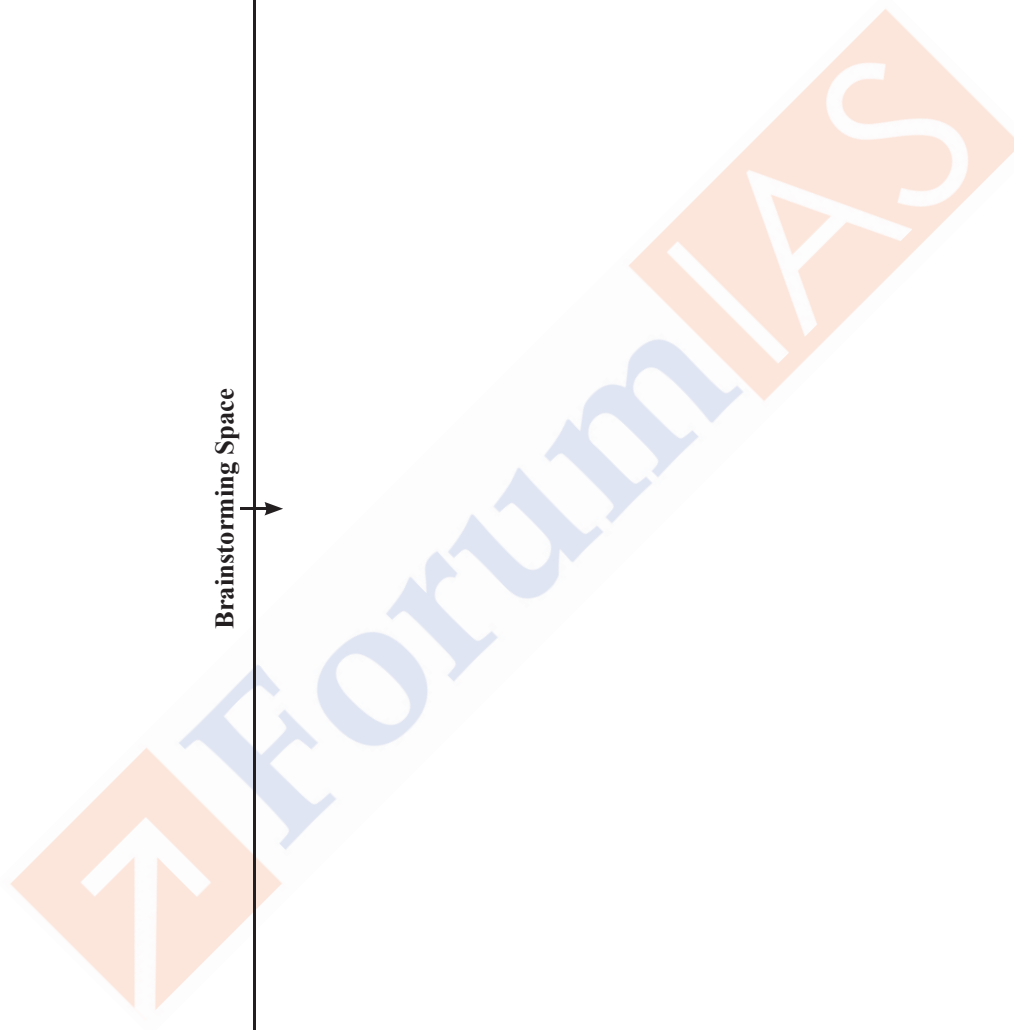
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Q.21) What are the main differences between the passage of a Constitution Amendment Bill and other Legislative Bills?

(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2001]

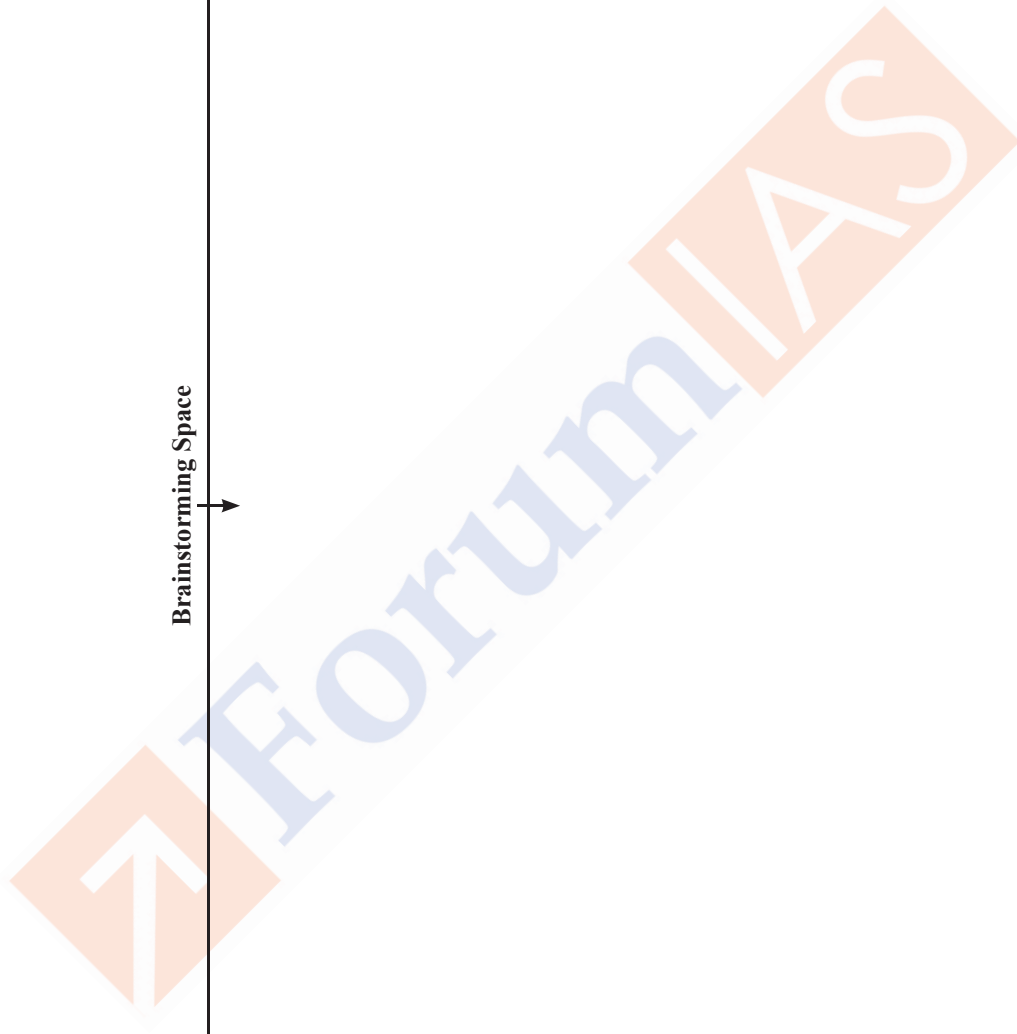
Brainstorming Space



Q.22) What constitutes the doctrine of 'basic features' as introduced into the Constitution of India by the Judiciary?

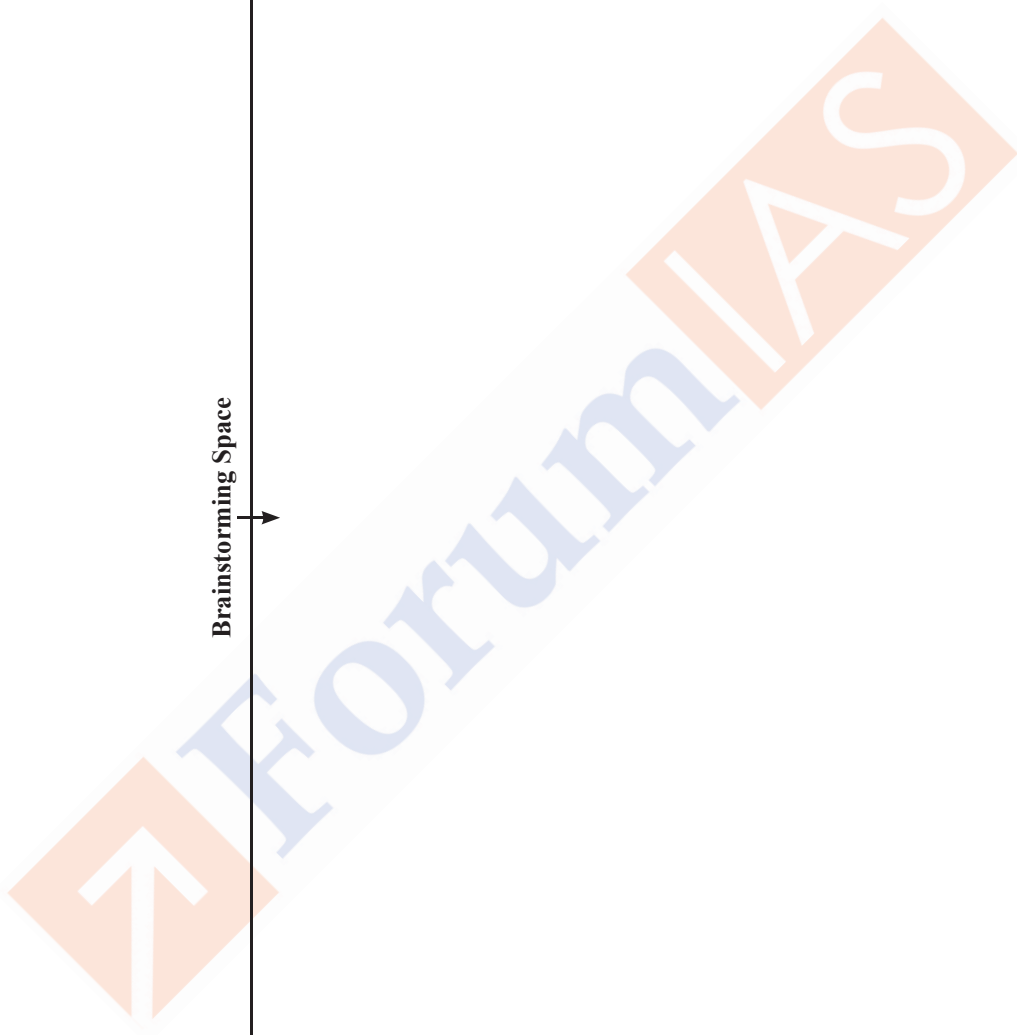
(20 Marks, 250 Words) [2000]

Brainstorming Space



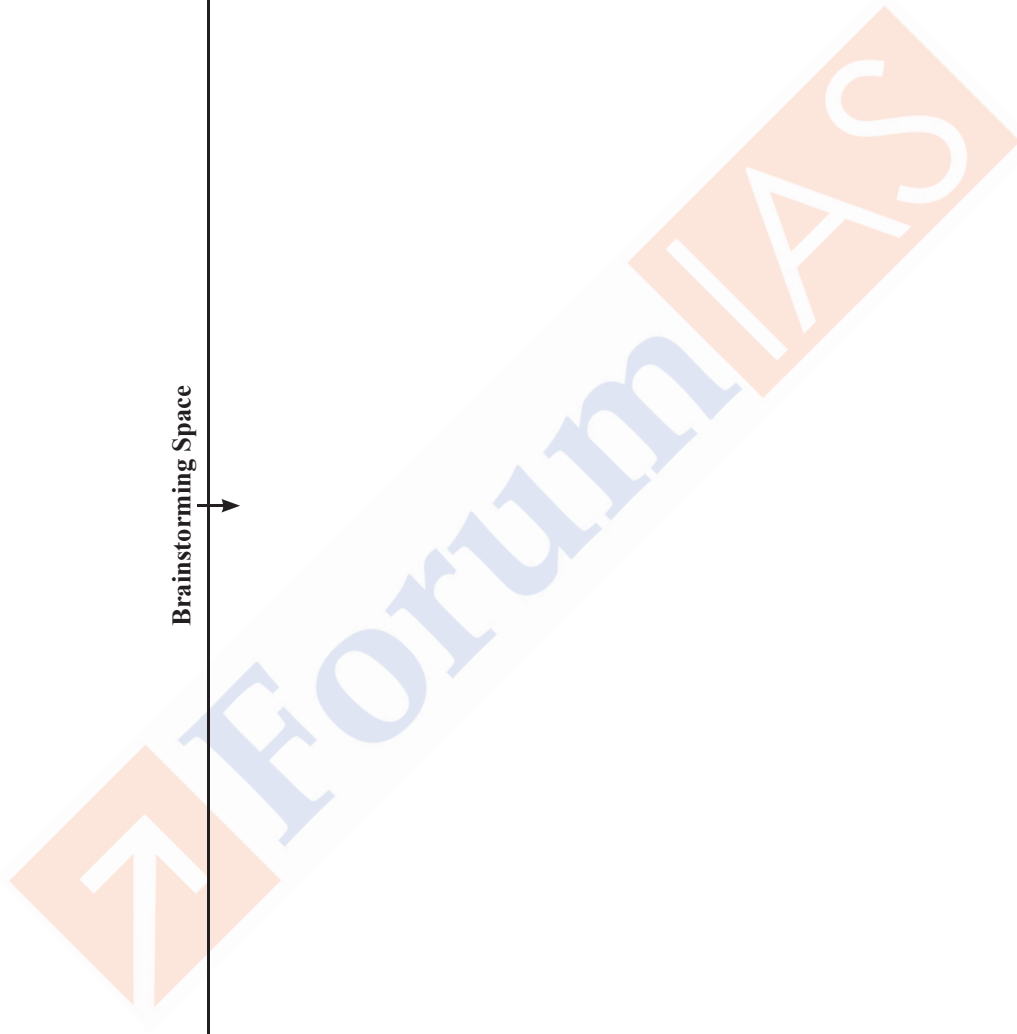
Q.23) Highlight the significance of the Twenty Fourth Amendment to the Constitution of India. (10 Marks, 150 Words) [1999]

Brainstorming Space



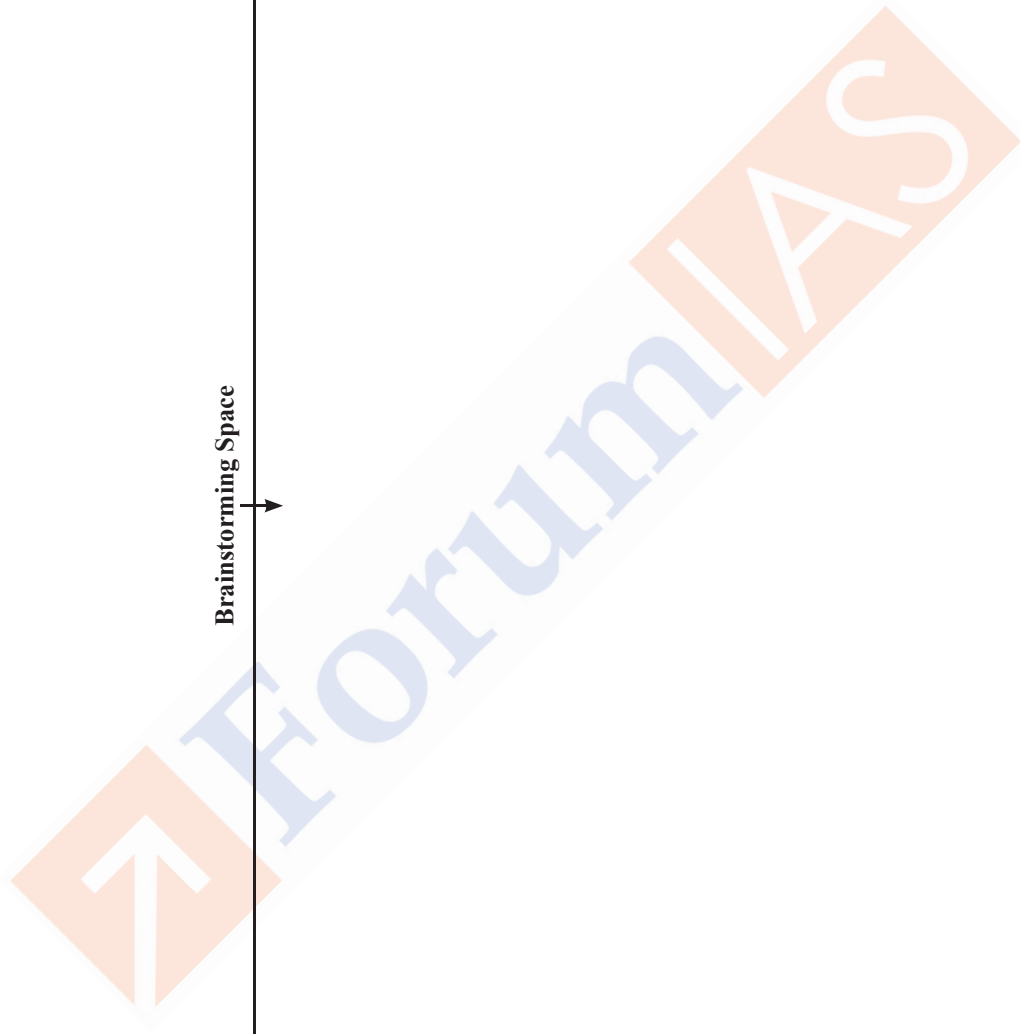
Q.24) Highlight the significance of the Seventy-third Amendment to the Constitution of India. (10 Marks, 150 Words) [1998]

Brainstorming Space



Q.25) Describe the emergence of Basic Structure concept in the Indian Constitution. (10 Marks, 150 Words) [1994]

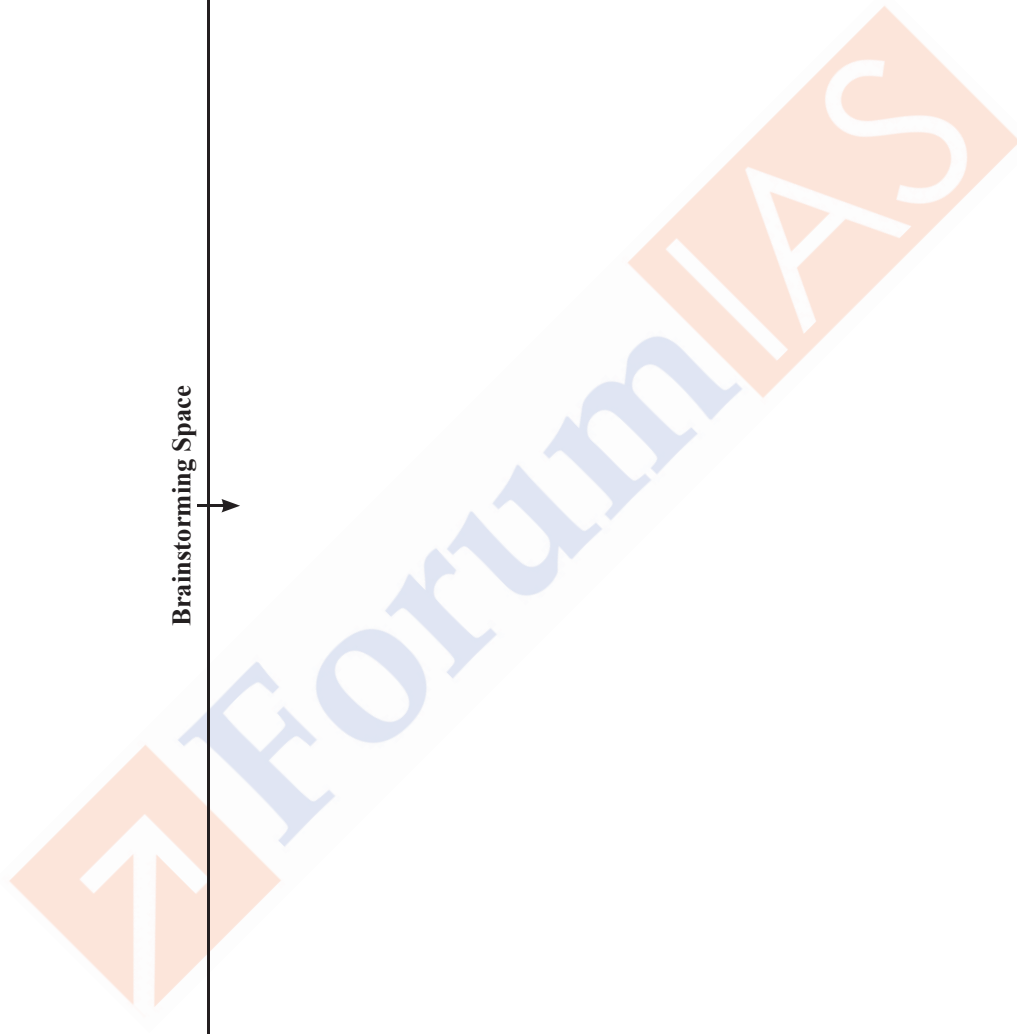
Brainstorming Space



Q.26) Four more languages were added to the 8th Schedule of the Constitution through two amendments. Give the names of these four languages as also the serial number of amendments.

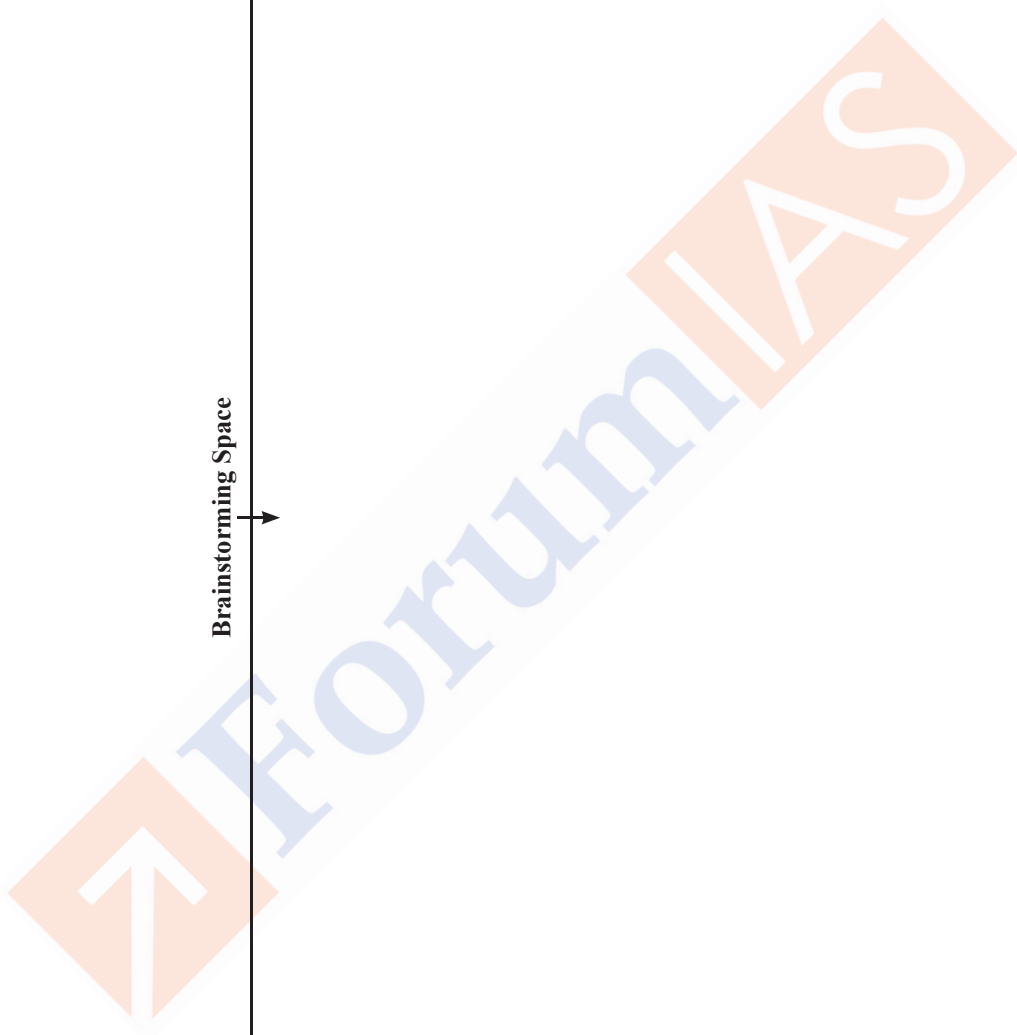
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [1994]

Brainstorming Space



Q.27) What are the general features of the amending procedures of the Constitution of India? (15 Marks, 250 Words) [1992]

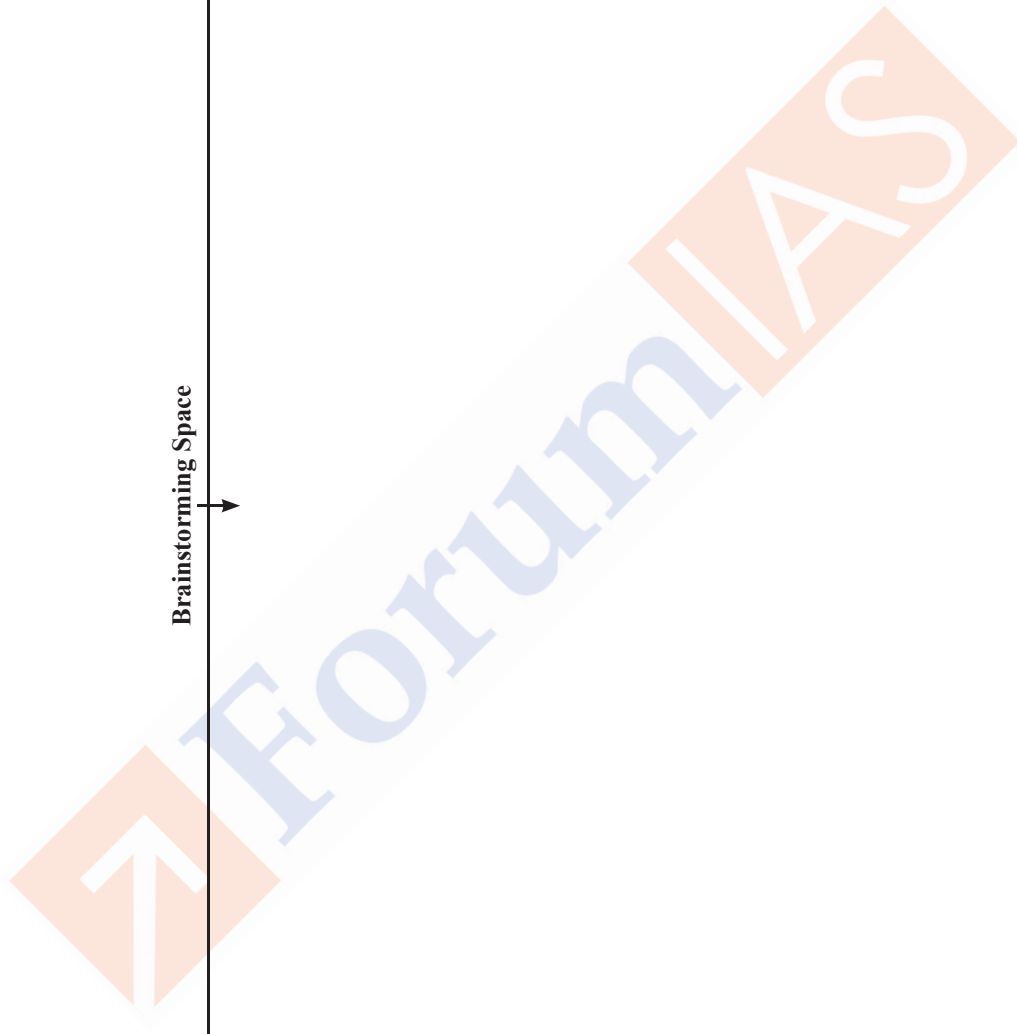
Brainstorming Space



Q.28) What are the major recommendations of the National Perspective Plan for women, 1988 and what are the relevant recommendations as envisaged in the Constitutional Amendment Bill (64th Amendment)?

(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2017]

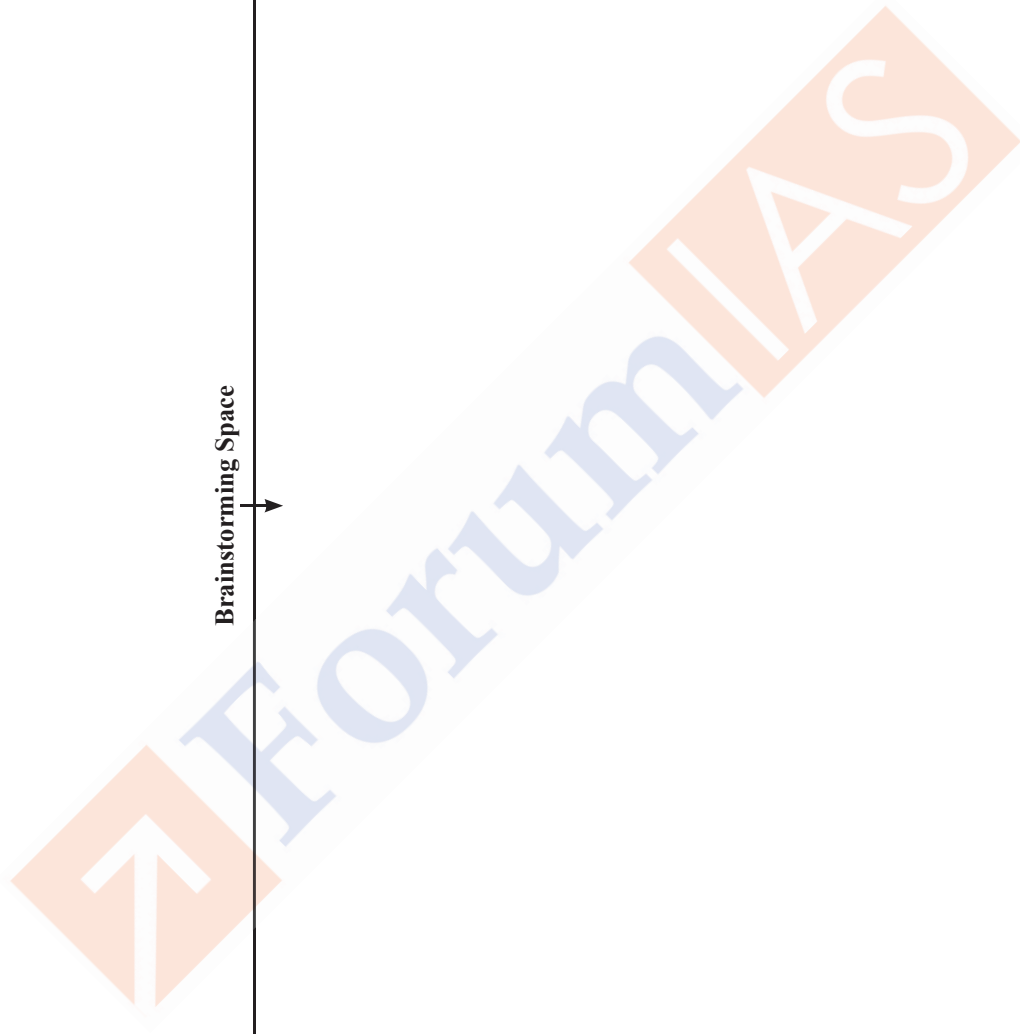
Brainstorming Space



Q.29) Right to privacy is intrinsic to life and personal liberty and is inherently protected under Article 21. Explain. Discuss the law relating to DNA testing of child in the womb to establish its paternity.

(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2025]

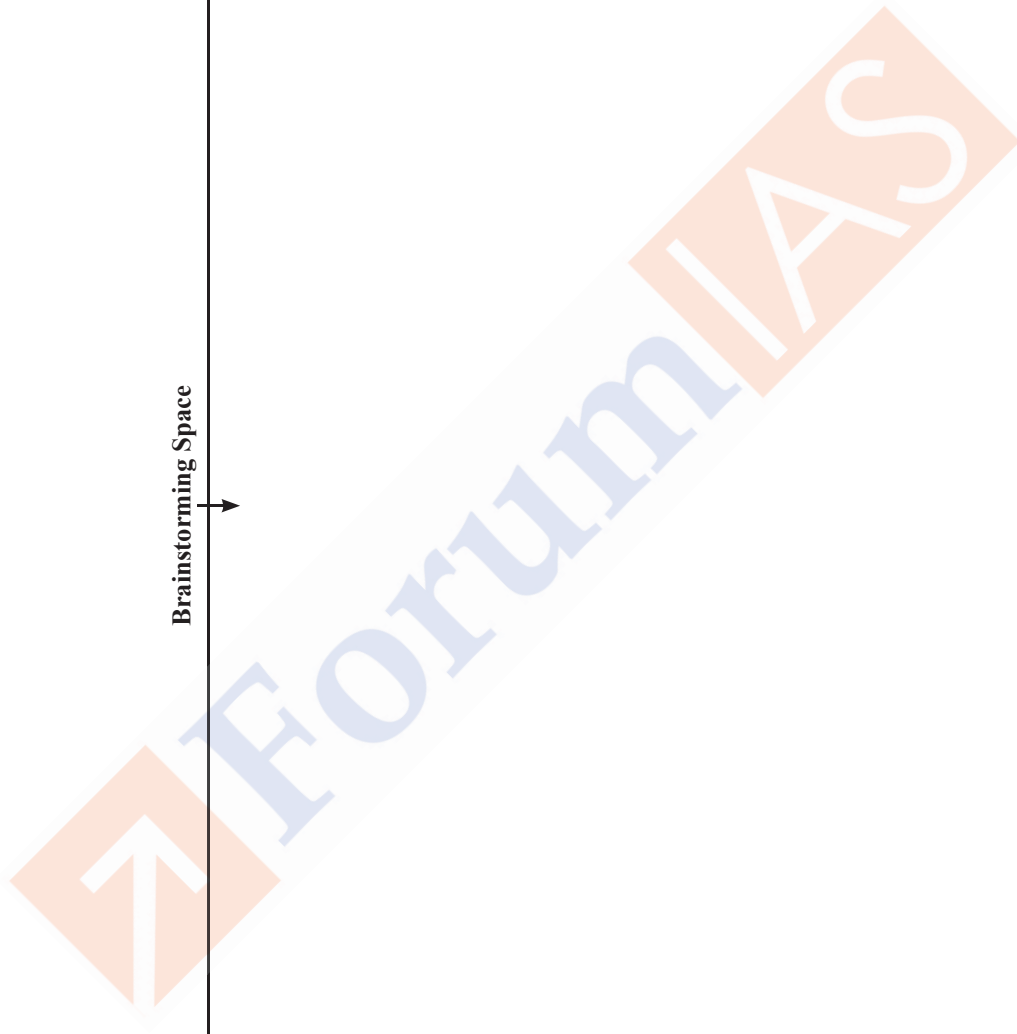
Brainstorming Space



Q.30) 'The Constitution of India is a living instrument with capabilities of enormous dynamism.' Illustrate with special reference to the expanding horizons of the right to life and personal liberty.

(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2023]

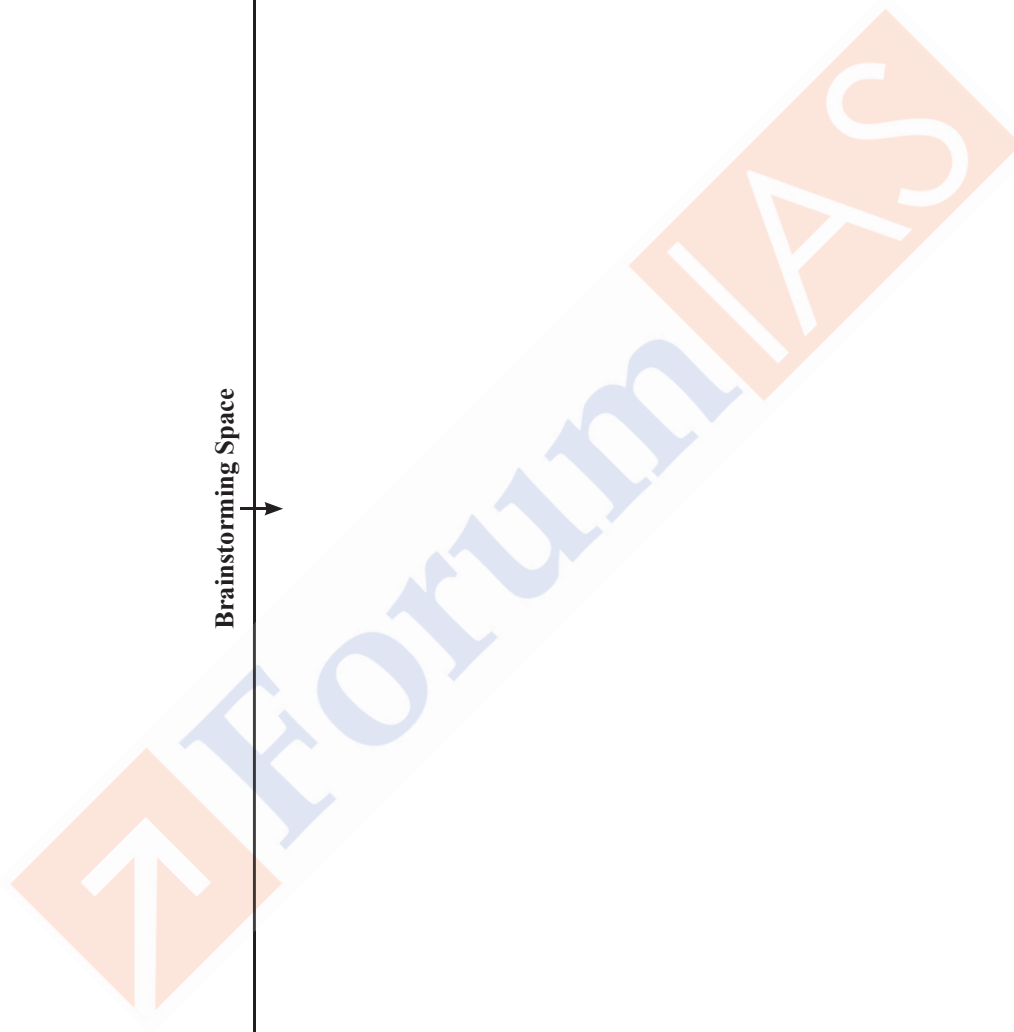
Brainstorming Space



Q.31) Explain the constitutional perspectives of Gender Justice with the help of relevant Constitutional Provisions and case laws.

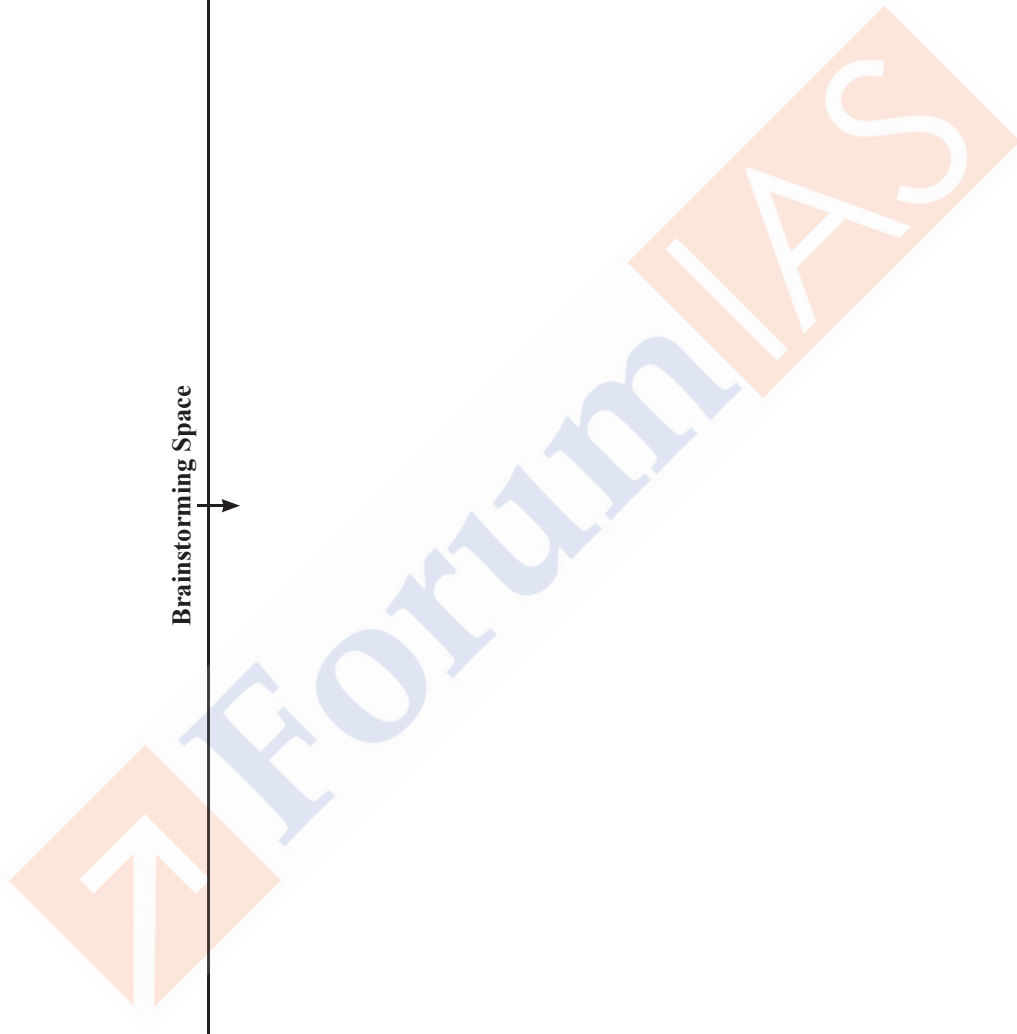
(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2023]

Brainstorming Space



Q.32) Right of movement and residence throughout the territory of India are freely available to Indian citizens, but these rights are not absolute.
Comment. (10 Marks, 150 Words) [2022]

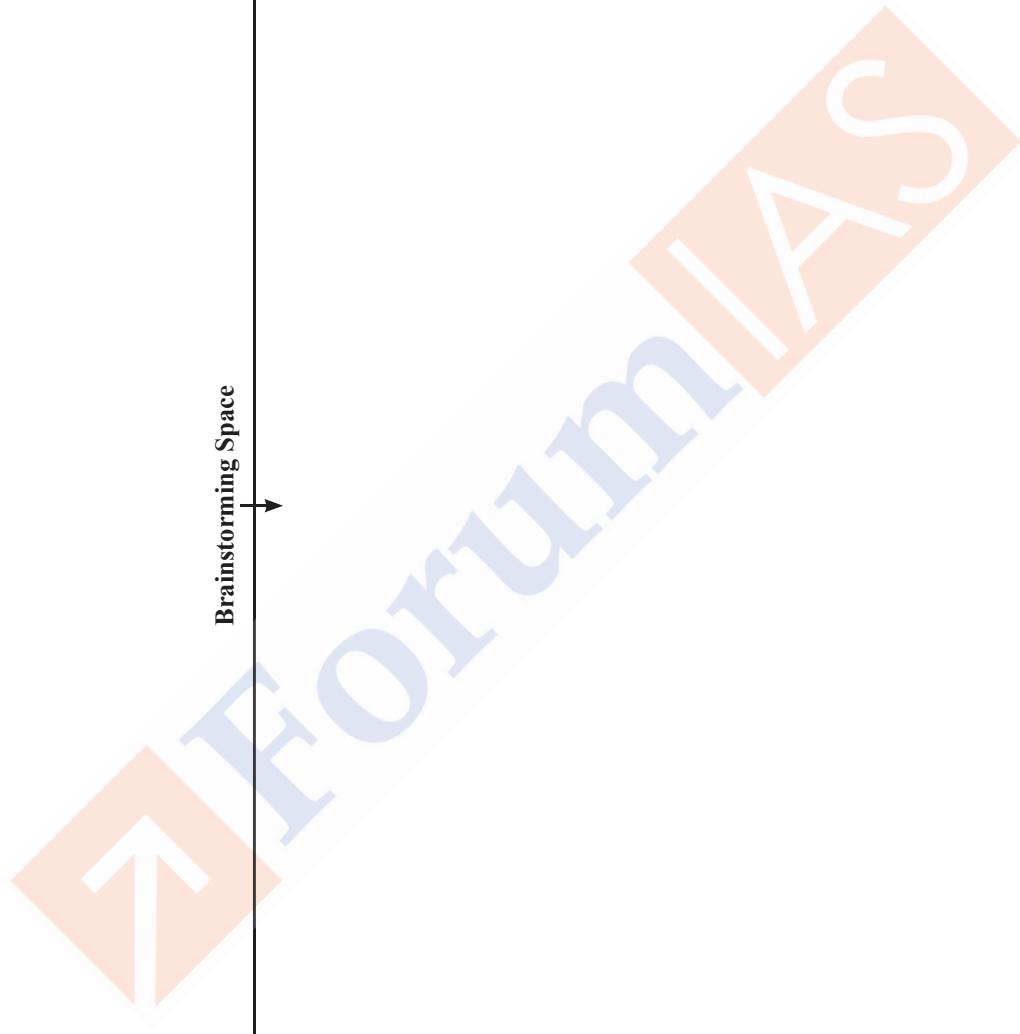
Brainstorming Space



Q.33) Though the Human Rights Commissions have contributed immensely to the protection of human rights in India, yet they have failed to assert themselves against the mighty and powerful. Analyzing their structural and practical limitations, suggest remedial measures.

(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2021]

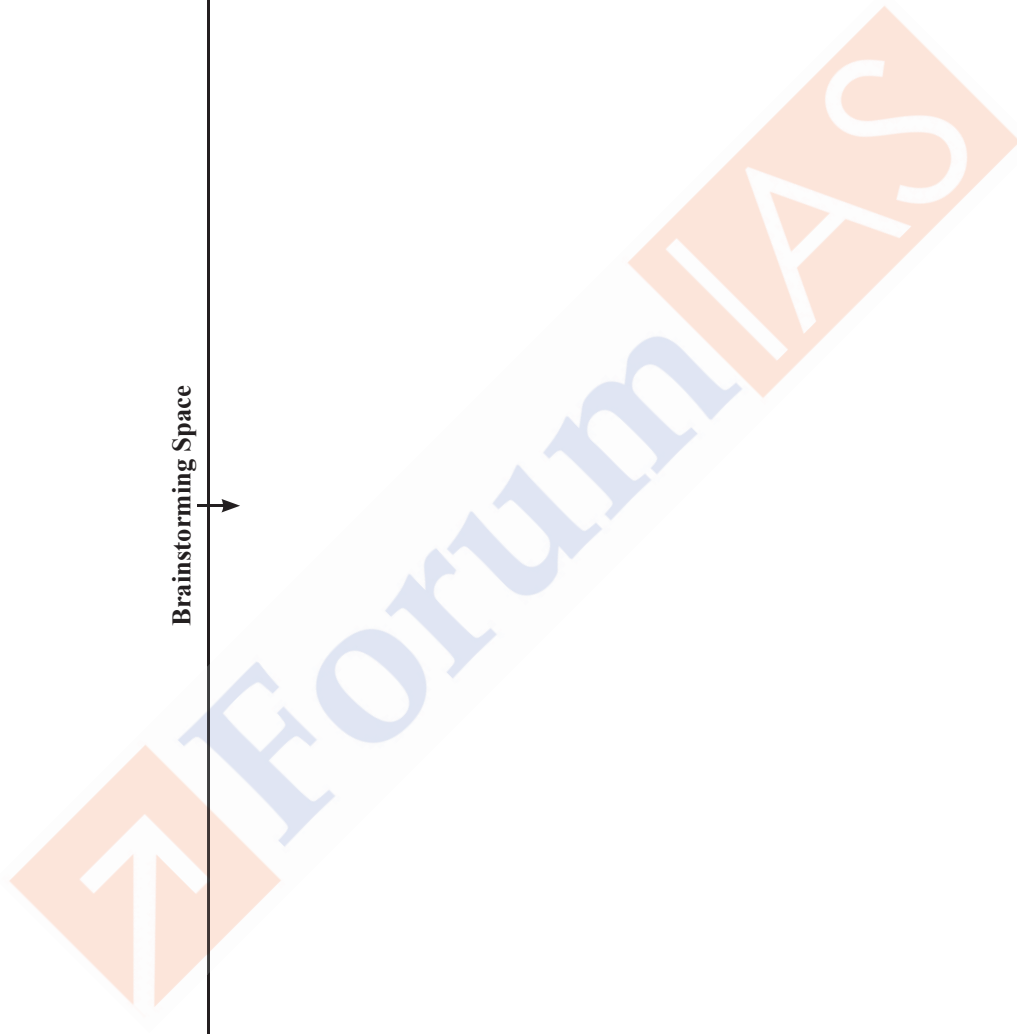
Brainstorming Space



Q.34) Examine the scope of Fundamental Rights in the light of the latest judgement of the Supreme Court on Right to Privacy.

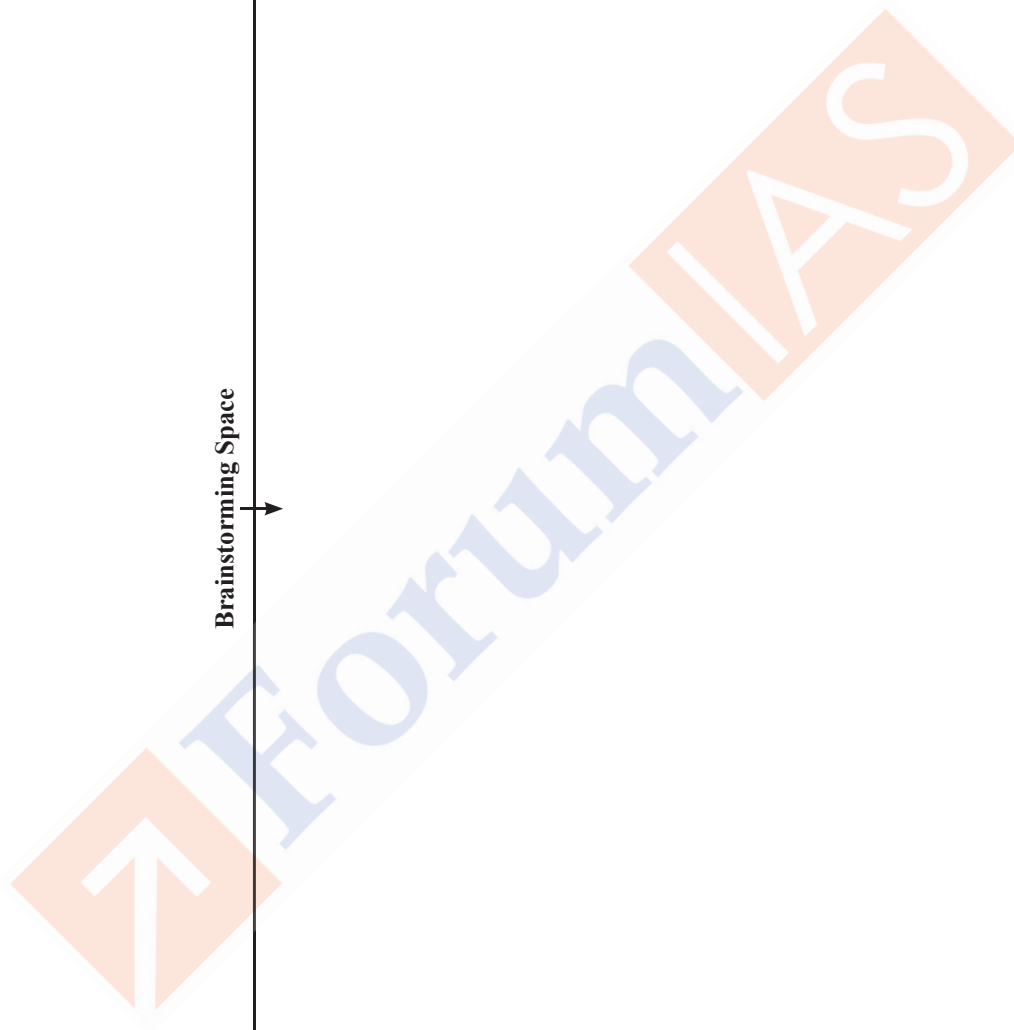
(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2017]

Brainstorming Space



Q.35) To what extent is Article 370 of the Indian Constitution, bearing marginal note 'Temporary provision with respect to the State of Jammu and Kashmir', temporary? Discuss the future prospects of this provision. (12.5 Marks, 200 Words) [2016]

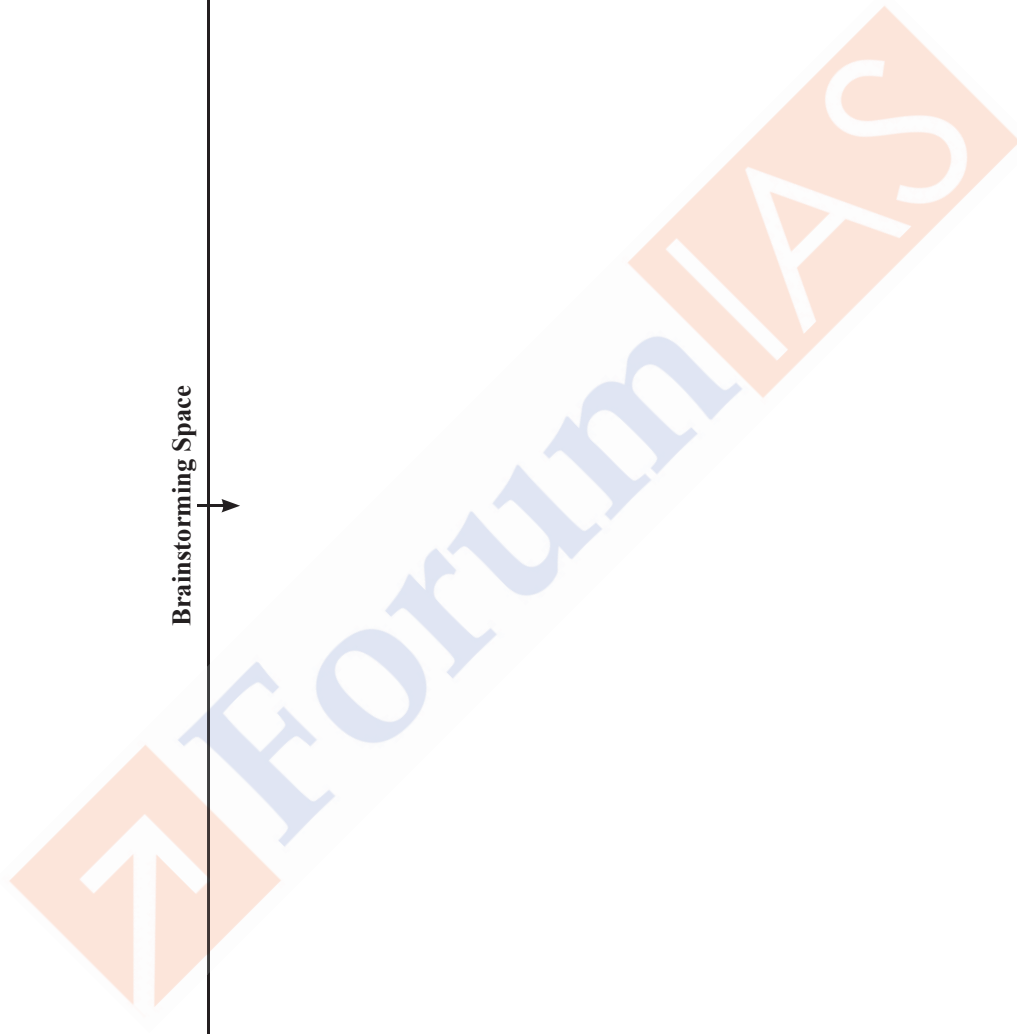
Brainstorming Space



Q.36) Discuss each adjective attached to the word 'Republic' in the preamble. Are they defensible in the present circumstances?

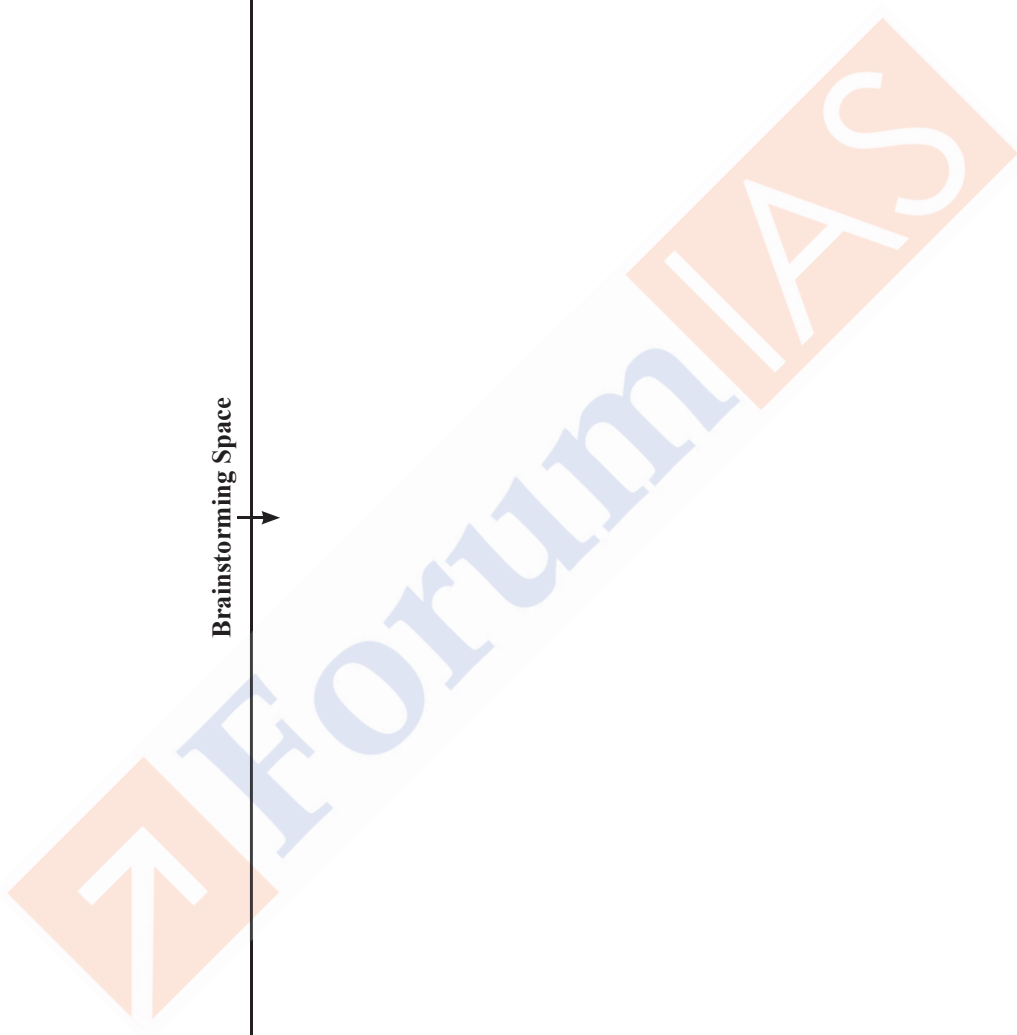
(12.5 Marks, 200 Words) [2016]

Brainstorming Space



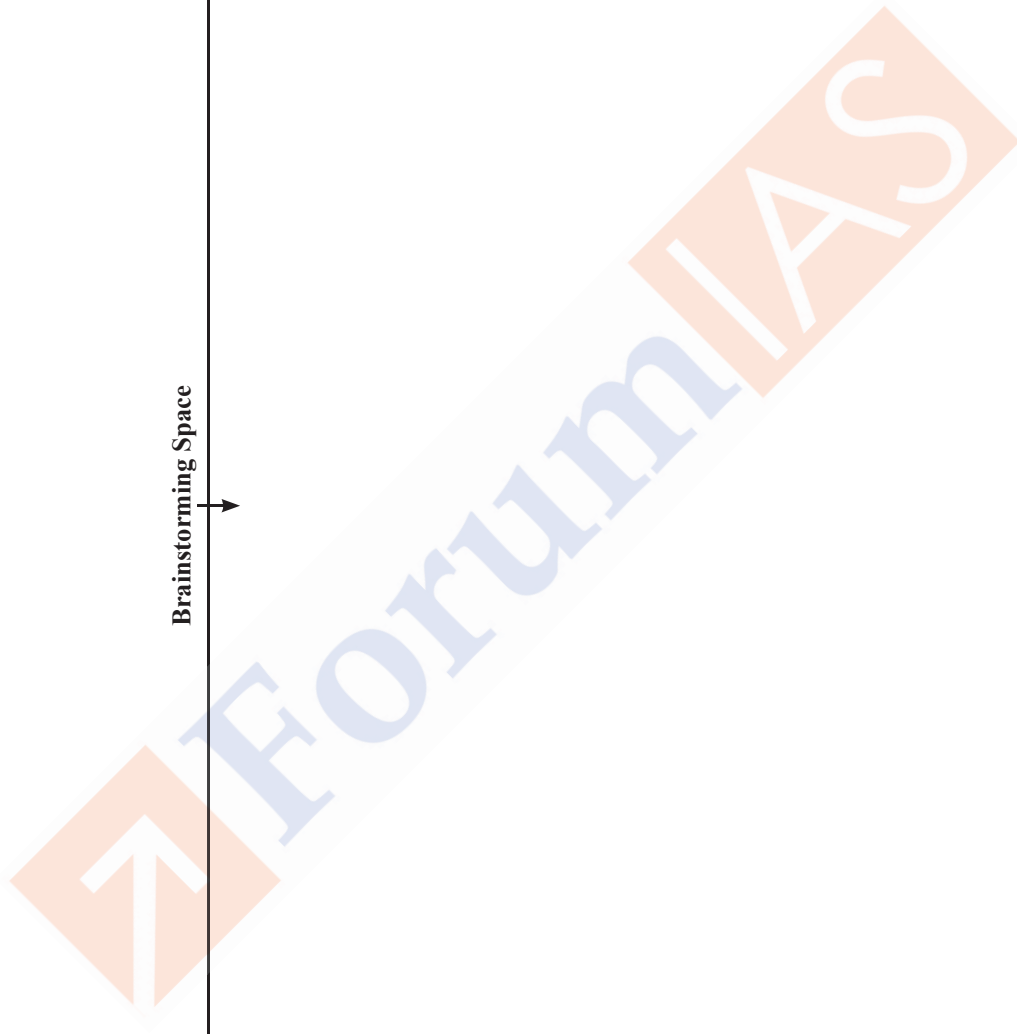
Q.37) Discuss the possible factors that inhibit India from enacting for its citizens a uniform civil code as provided for in the Directive Principles of State Policy. (15 Marks, 200 Words) [2015]

Brainstorming Space



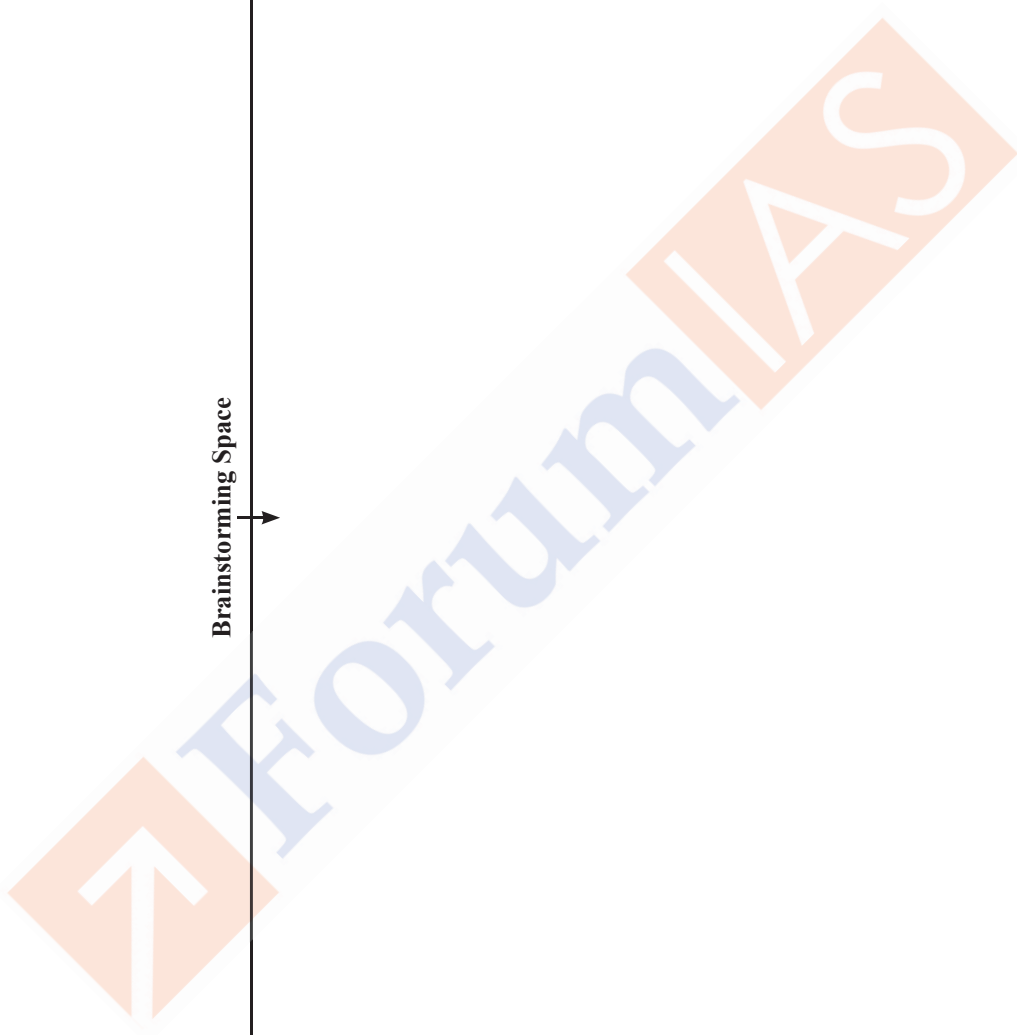
Q.38) Does the right to clean environment entail legal regulations on burning crackers during Diwali? Discuss in the light of Article 21 and Judgement(s) of the Apex Court. (15 Marks, 200 Words) [2015]

Brainstorming Space



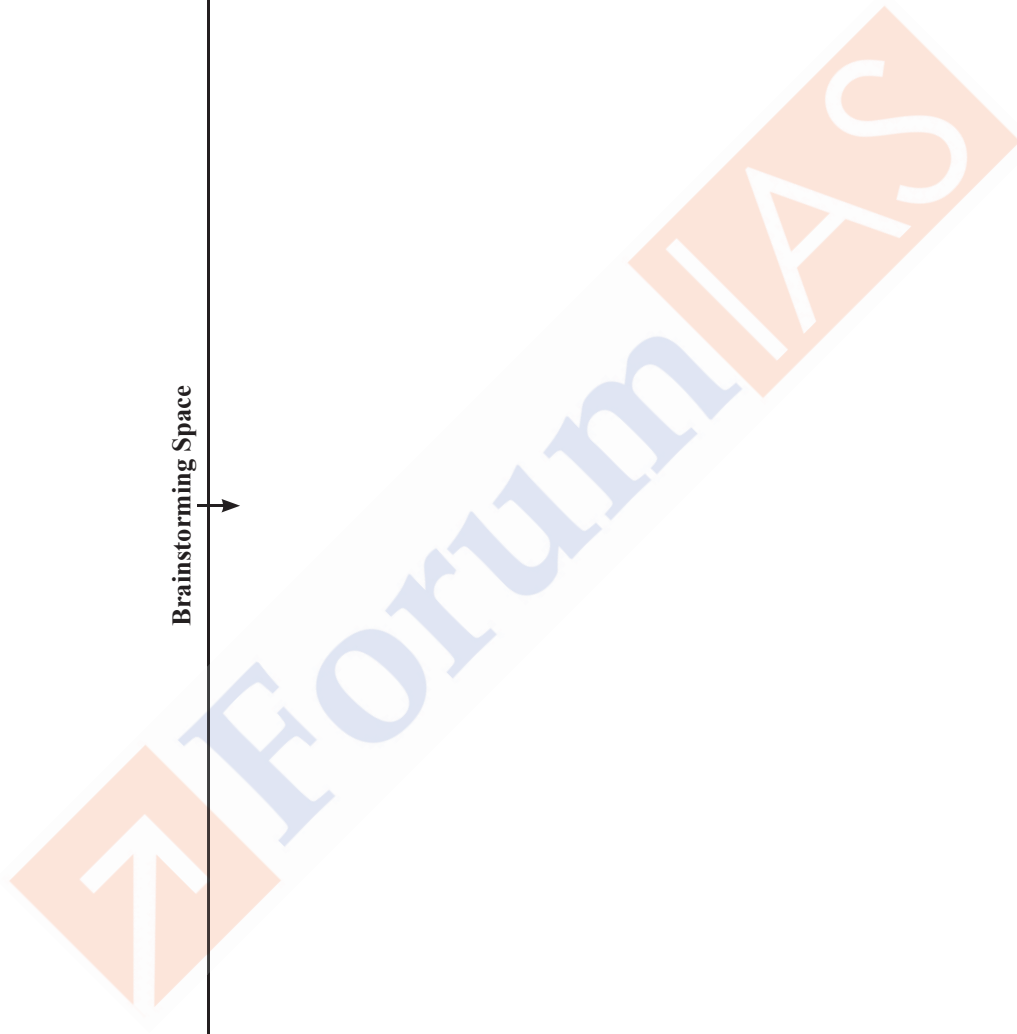
Q.39) What do you understand by the concept 'freedom of speech and expression'? Does it cover hate speech also? Why do the films in India stand on a slightly different plane? (10 Marks, 200 Words) [2014]

Brainstorming Space



Q.40) Discuss Section 66A of IT Act, with reference to its alleged violation of Article 19 of the Constitution. (10 Marks, 200 Words) [2013]

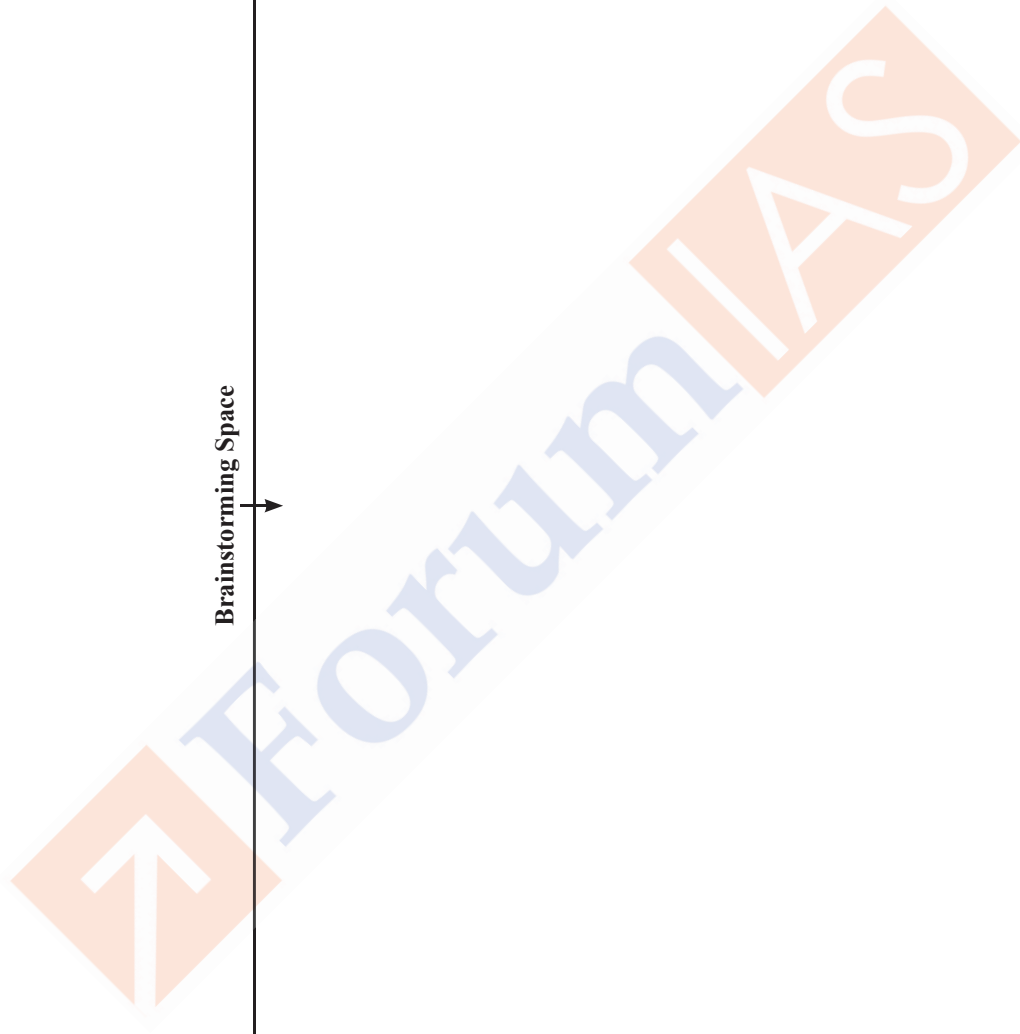
Brainstorming Space



Q.41) Recent directives from Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas are perceived by the 'Nagas' as a threat to override the exceptional status enjoyed by the State. Discuss in light of Article 371A.

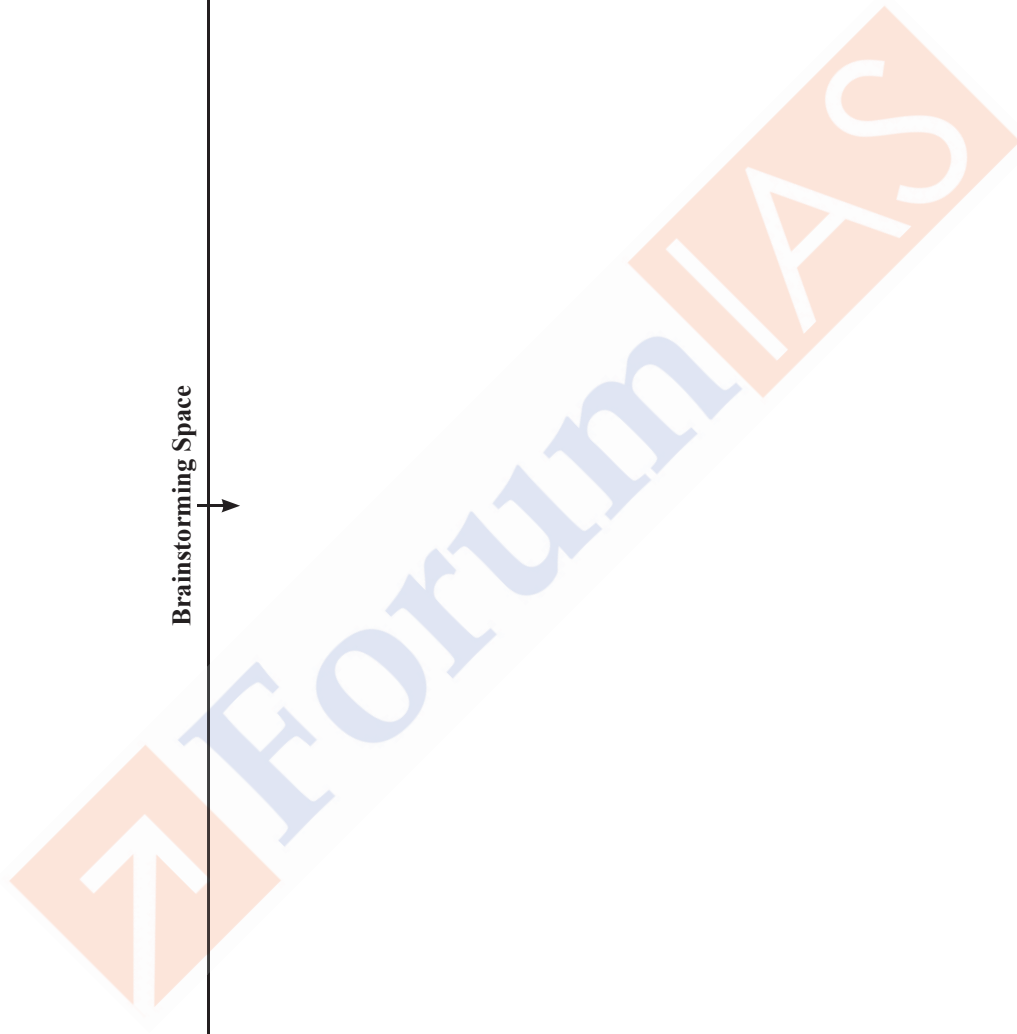
(10 Marks, 200 Words) [2013]

Brainstorming Space



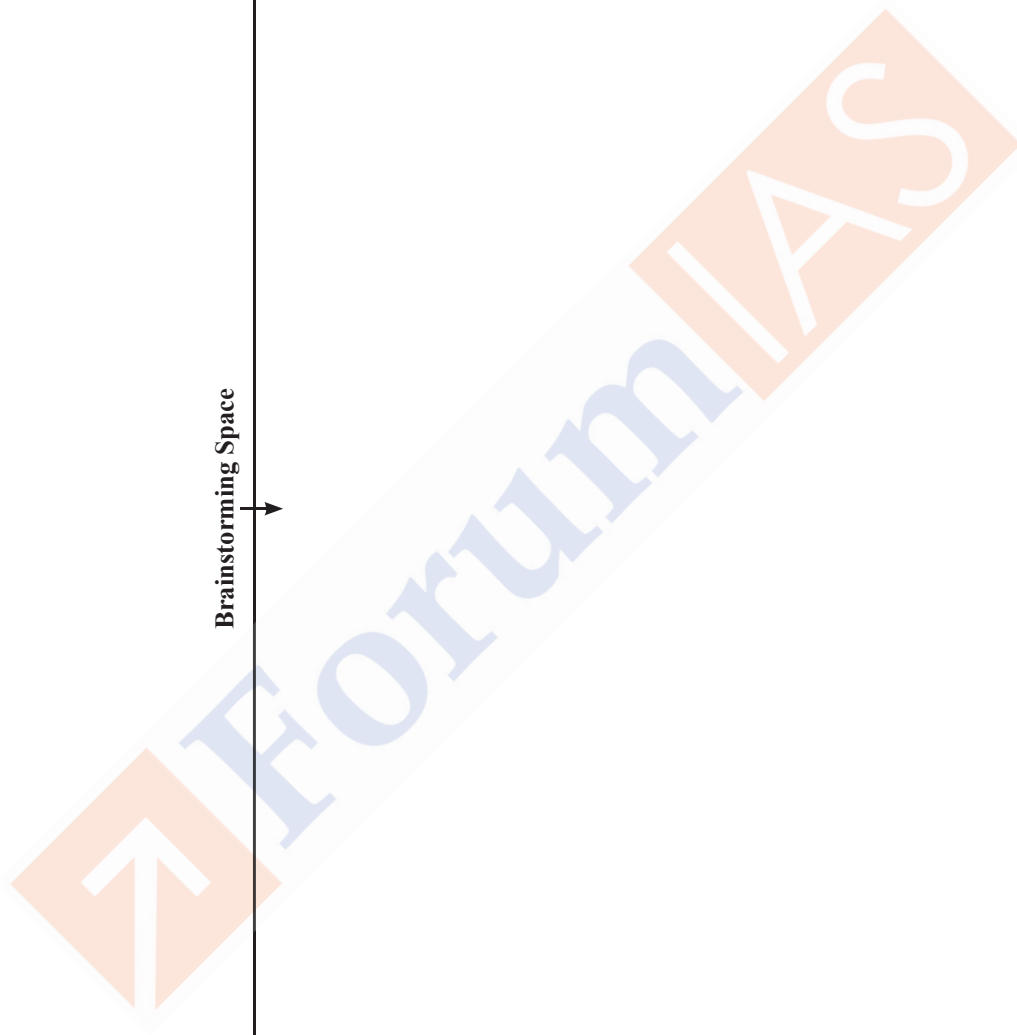
Q.42) Essentially all that is contained in Part IV-A of the Constitution is just a codification of tasks integral to the Indian way of life. Critically examine. (15 Marks, 250 Words) [2011]

Brainstorming Space



Q.43) Enumerate the fundamental duties incorporated in the Constitution after the 42nd amendment. (15 Marks, 150 Words) [2008]

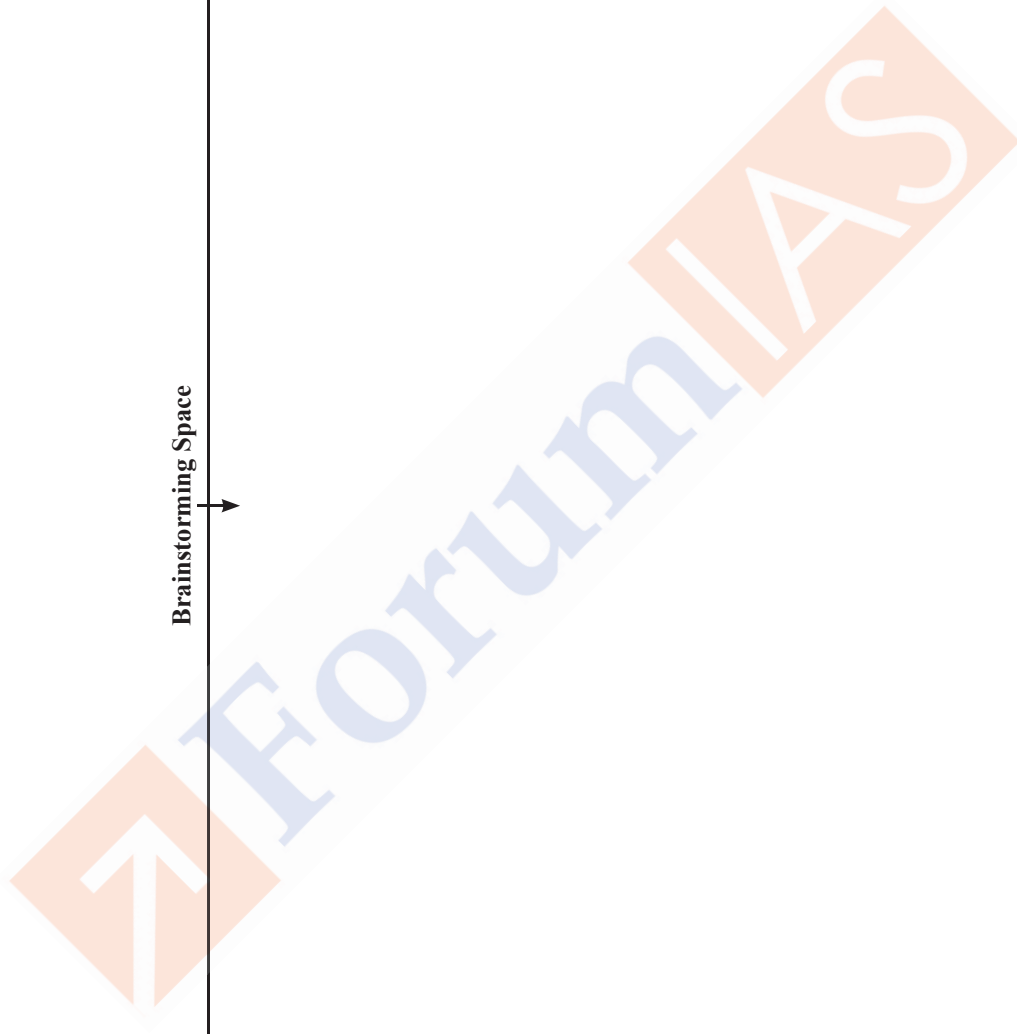
Brainstorming Space



Q.44) Bring out the differences between the Fundamental Rights and the Directive Principles of State Policy. Discuss some measures taken by governments for implementation of DPSP.

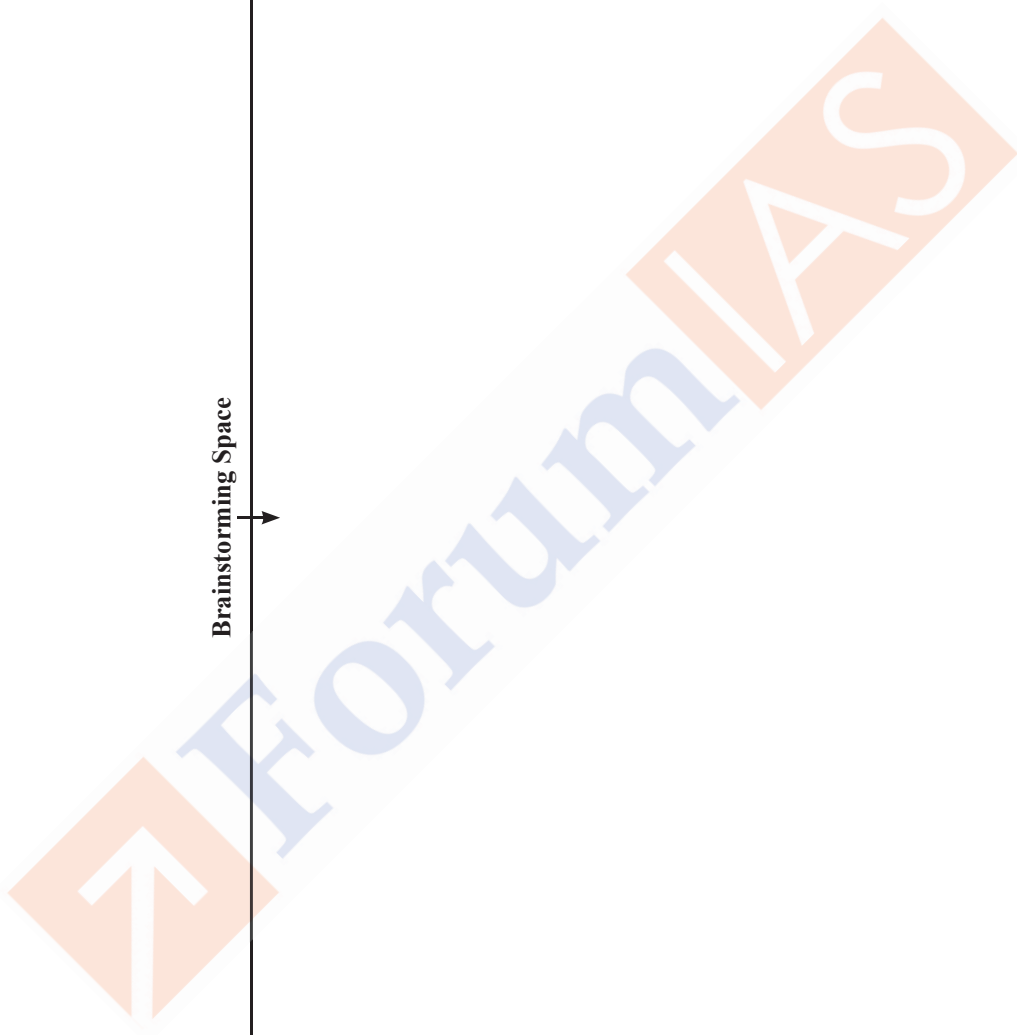
(15 Marks, 150 Words) [2007]

Brainstorming Space



Q.45) What is right to life and personal liberty? How have the courts expanded its meaning in recent years? (20 Marks, 250 Words) [2006]

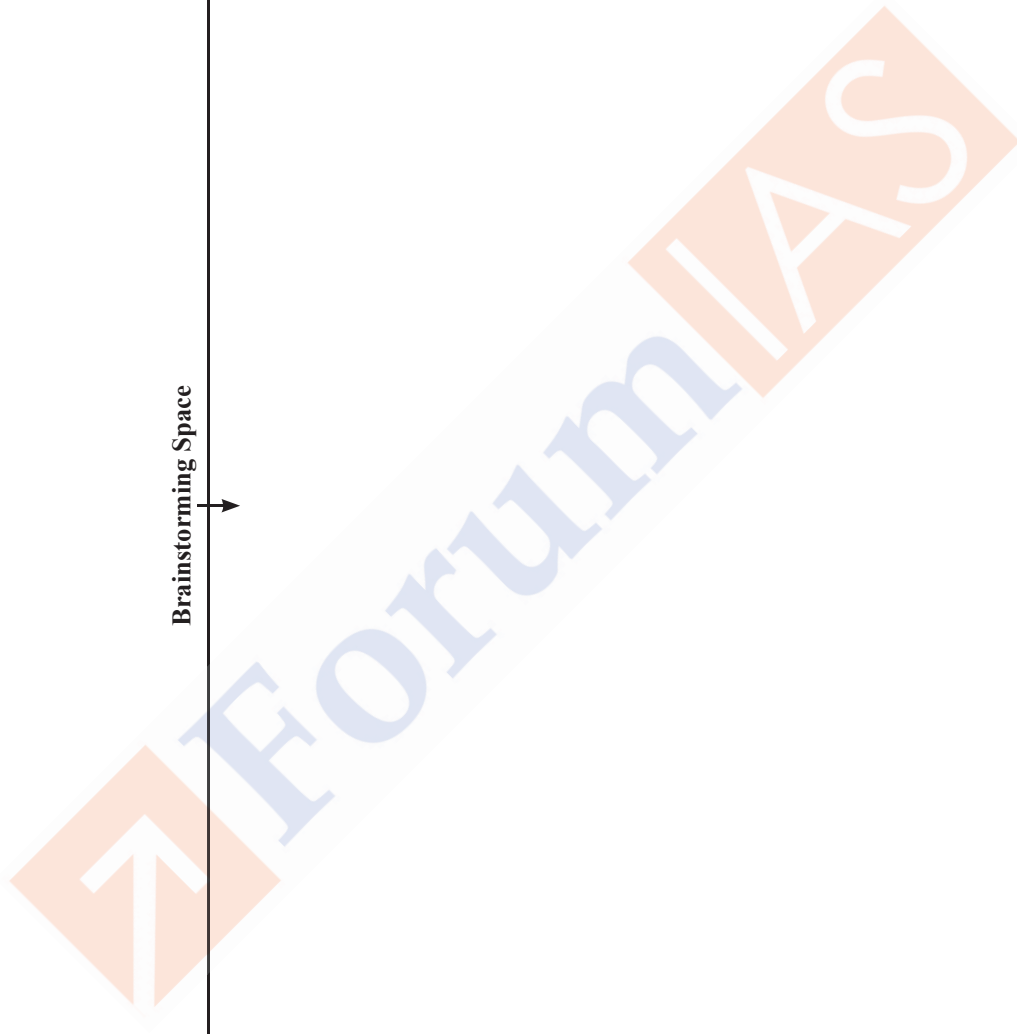
Brainstorming Space



Q.46) Give your views on the right to freedom of religions as enshrined in the Indian Constitution. Do they make India a secular State?

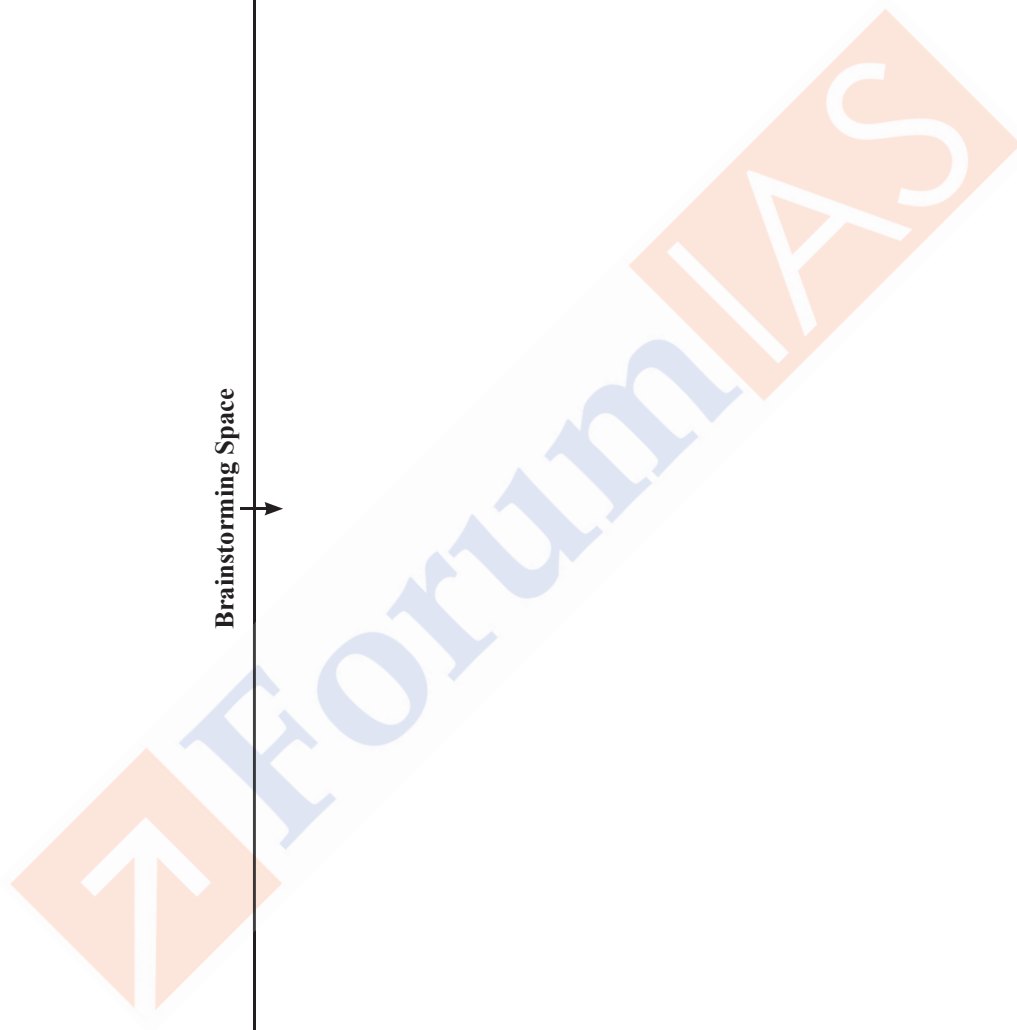
(20 Marks, 250 Words) [2005]

Brainstorming Space



Q.47) What are the constitutional limitations on the free movements of Indians throughout the country? (15 Marks, 150 Words) [2005]

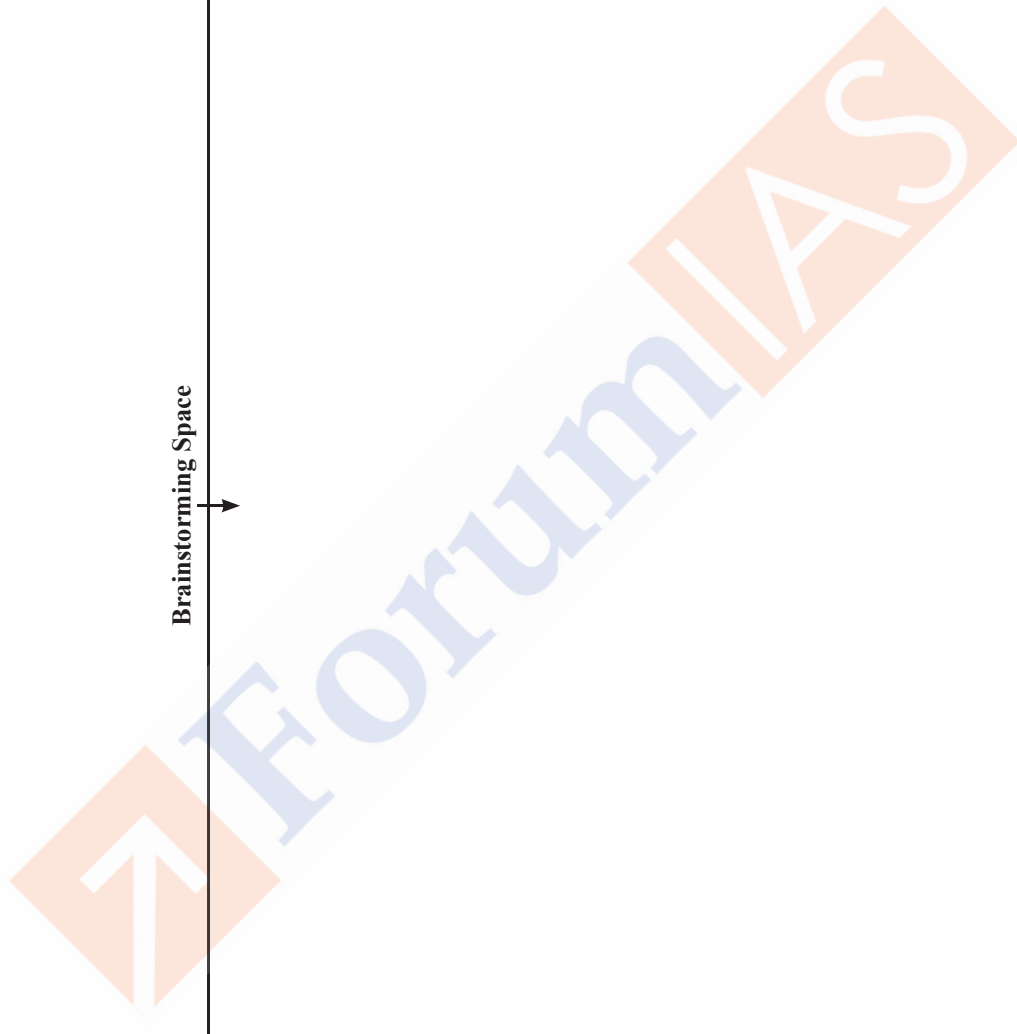
Brainstorming Space



Q.48) What is the significance of a preamble to a constitution? Bring out the philosophy of the Indian polity as enshrined in the preamble.

(20 Marks, 250 Words) [2004]

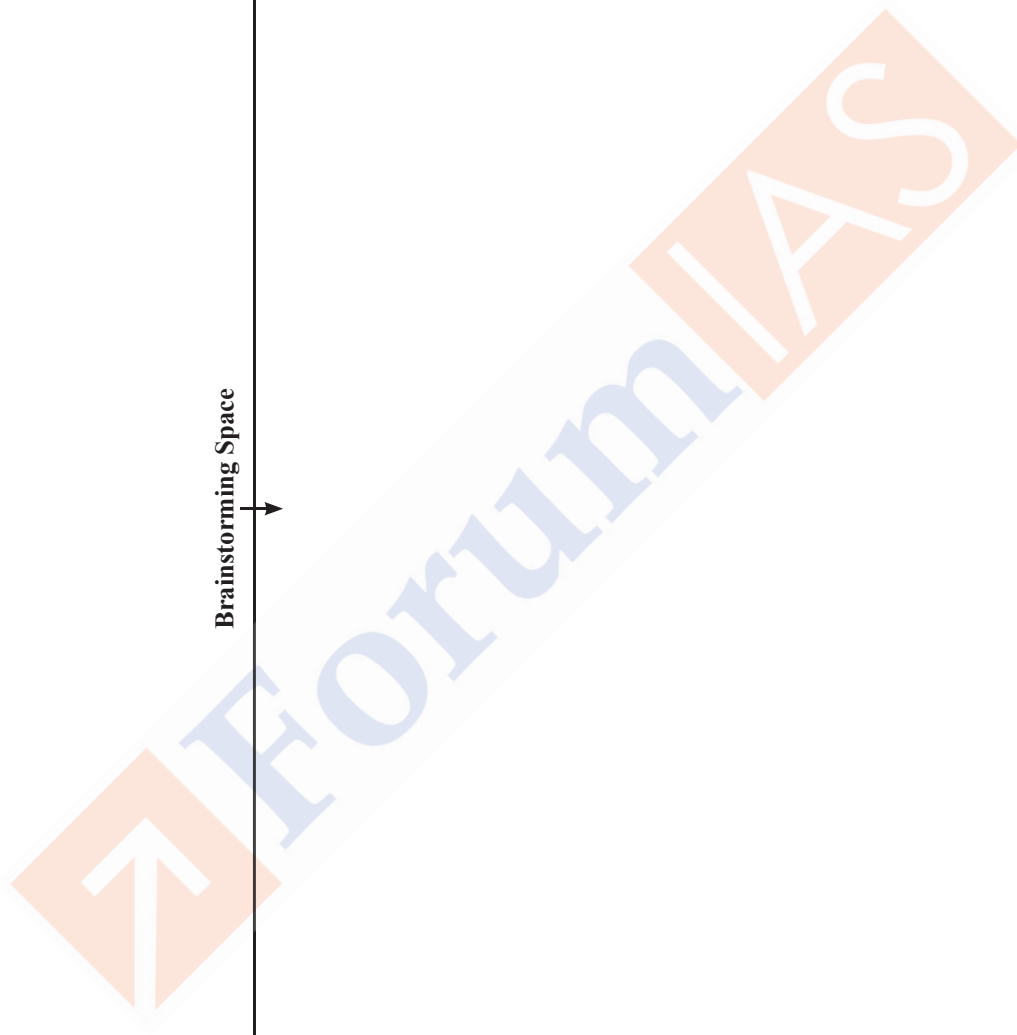
Brainstorming Space



Q.49) Discuss how the Constitution of India provides equal rights.

(20 Marks, 250 Words) [2004]

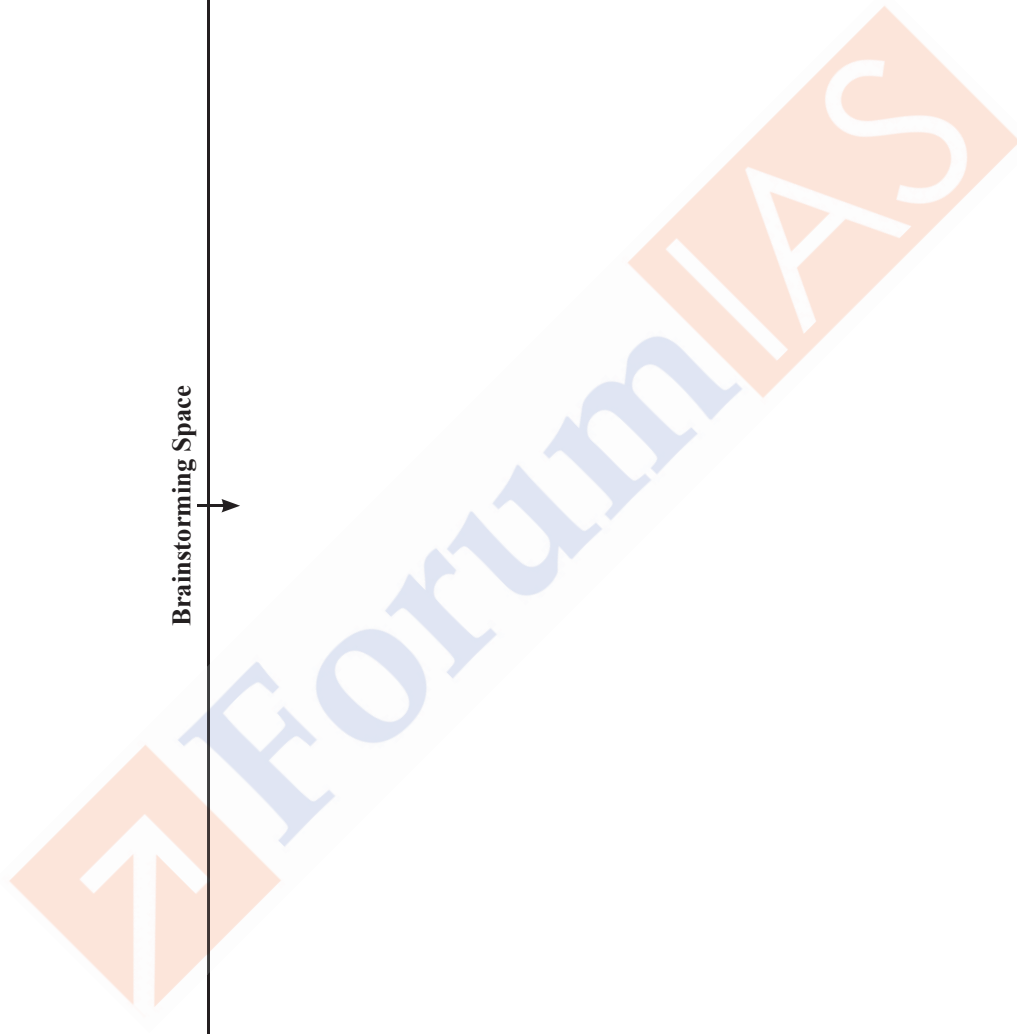
Brainstorming Space



Q.50) Identify the major Fundamental Duties.

(15 Marks, 150 Words) [2003]

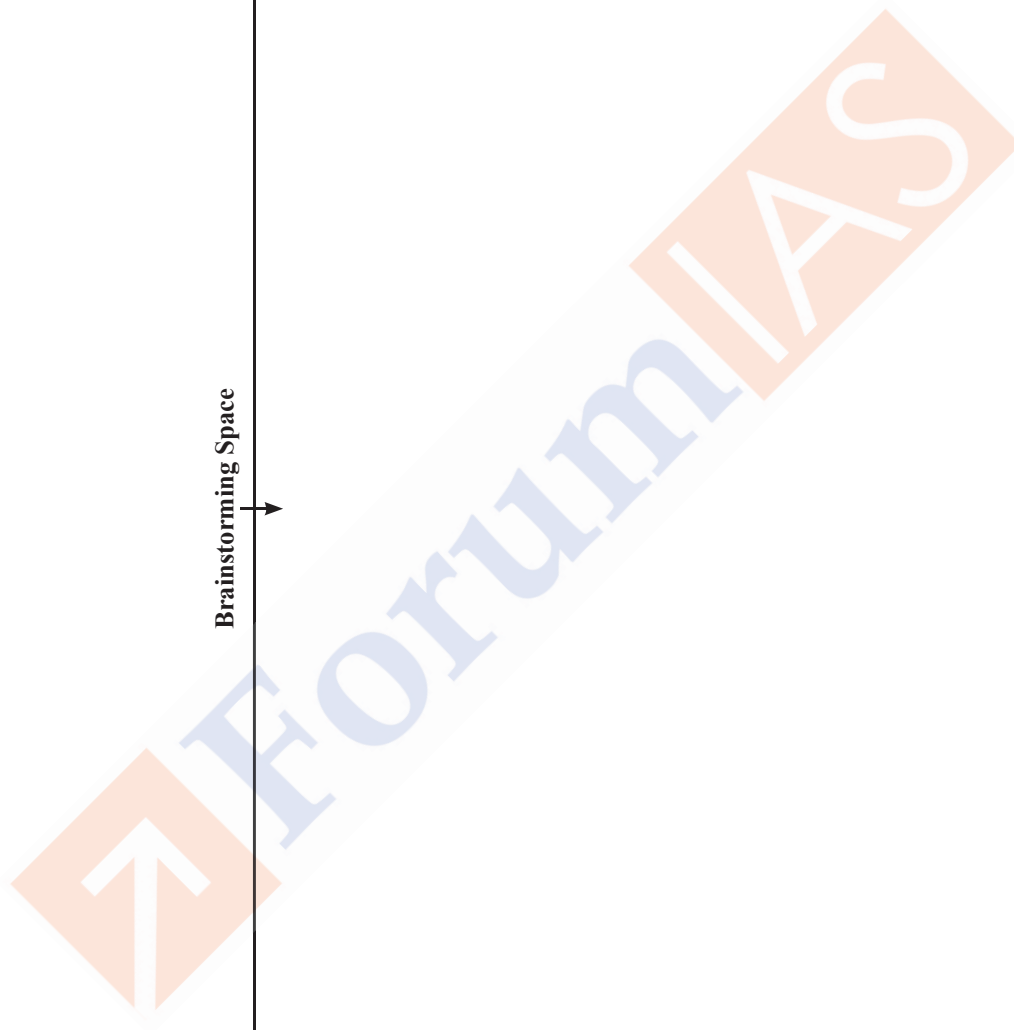
Brainstorming Space



Q.51) Why does the Constitution of India provide different forms of Oaths for the President, the Ministers, the legislators and the members of the judiciary? Discuss their significance.

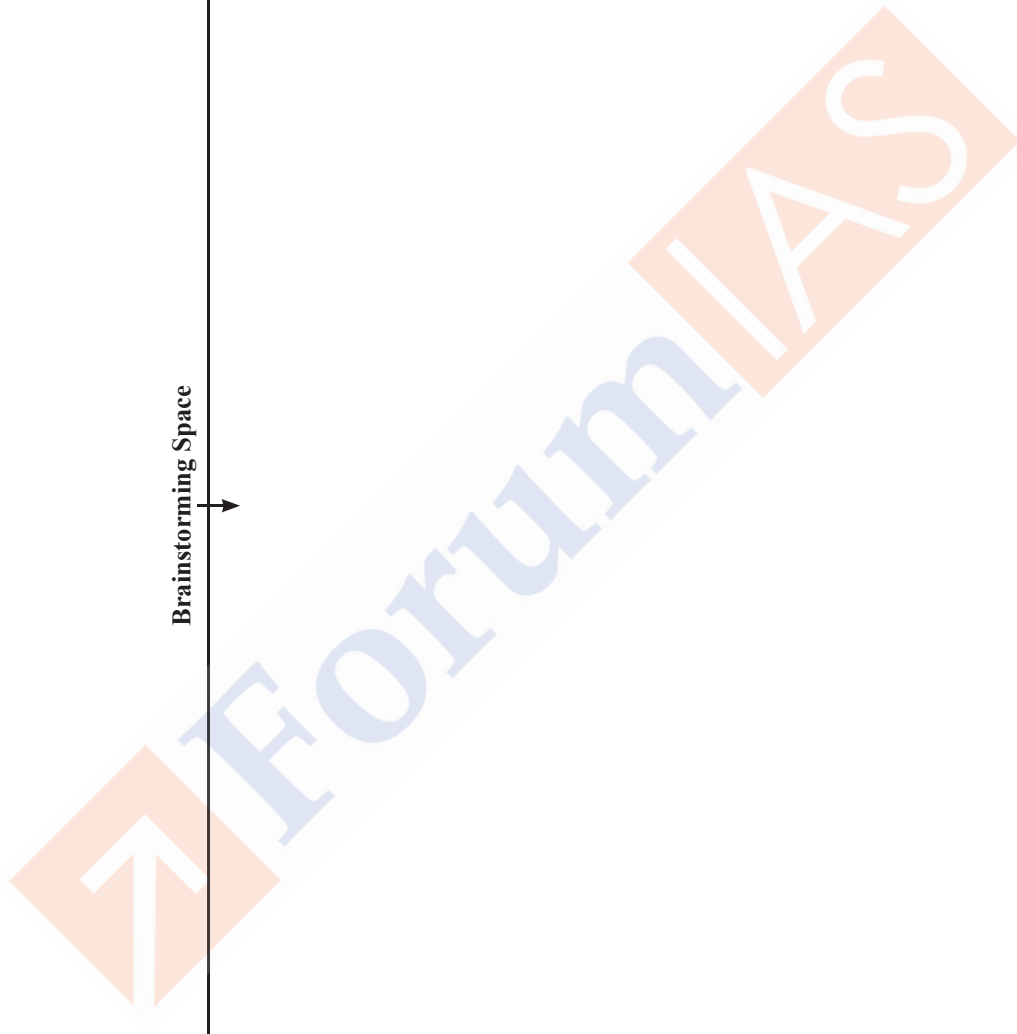
(20 Marks, 250 Words) [2002]

Brainstorming Space



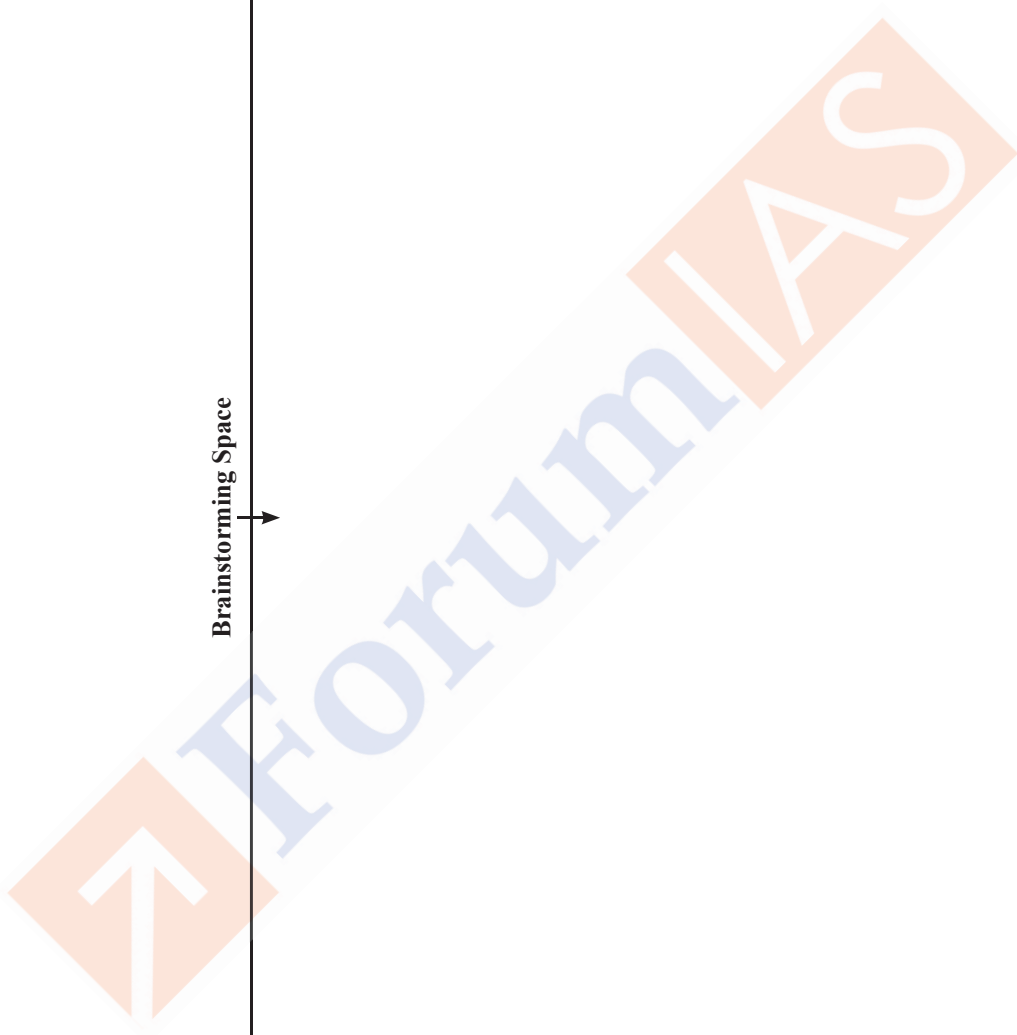
Q.52) Discuss the constitutional provisions relating to the non-justiciable directives binding upon the states. (15 Marks, 150 Words) [2002]

Brainstorming Space



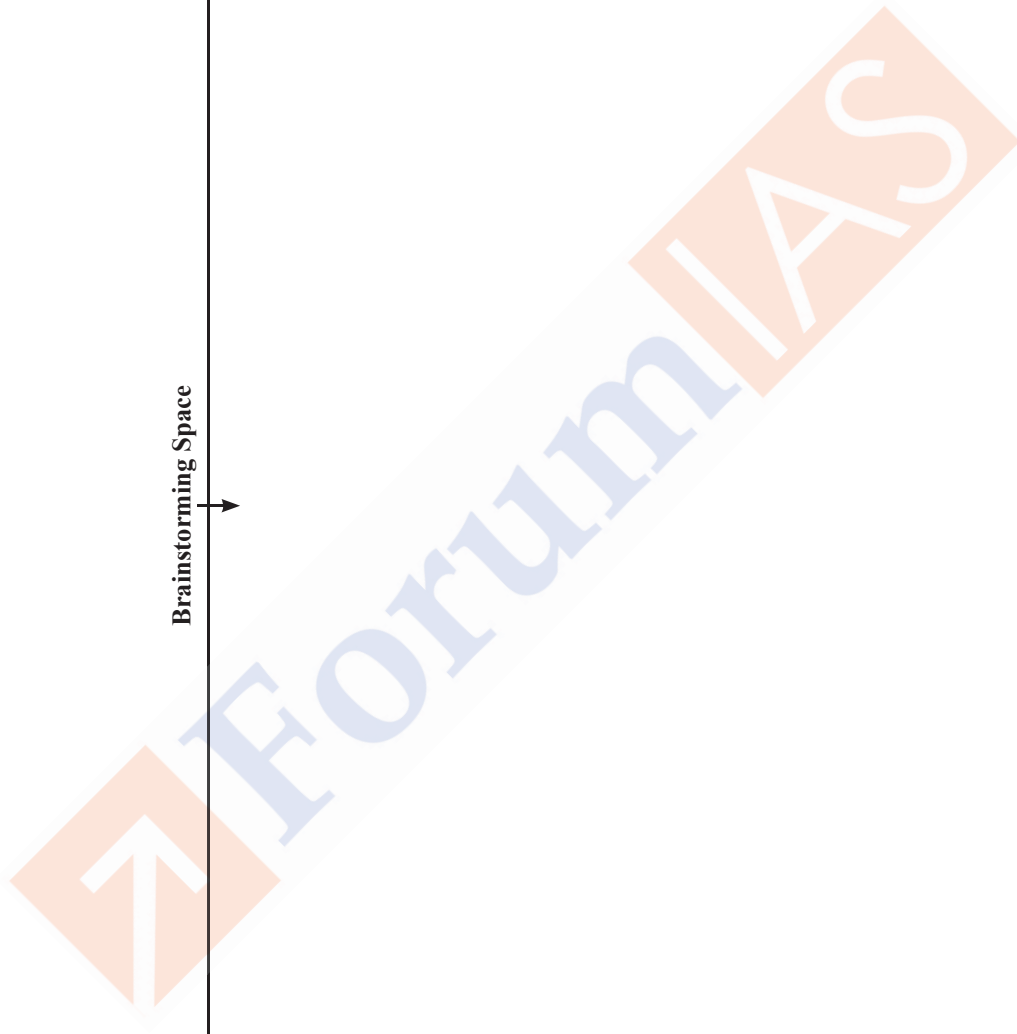
Q.53) What is the constitutional position of Directive Principles of State Policy? How has it been interpreted by the judiciary after the emergency in 1975-77? (20 Marks, 250 Words) [2001]

Brainstorming Space



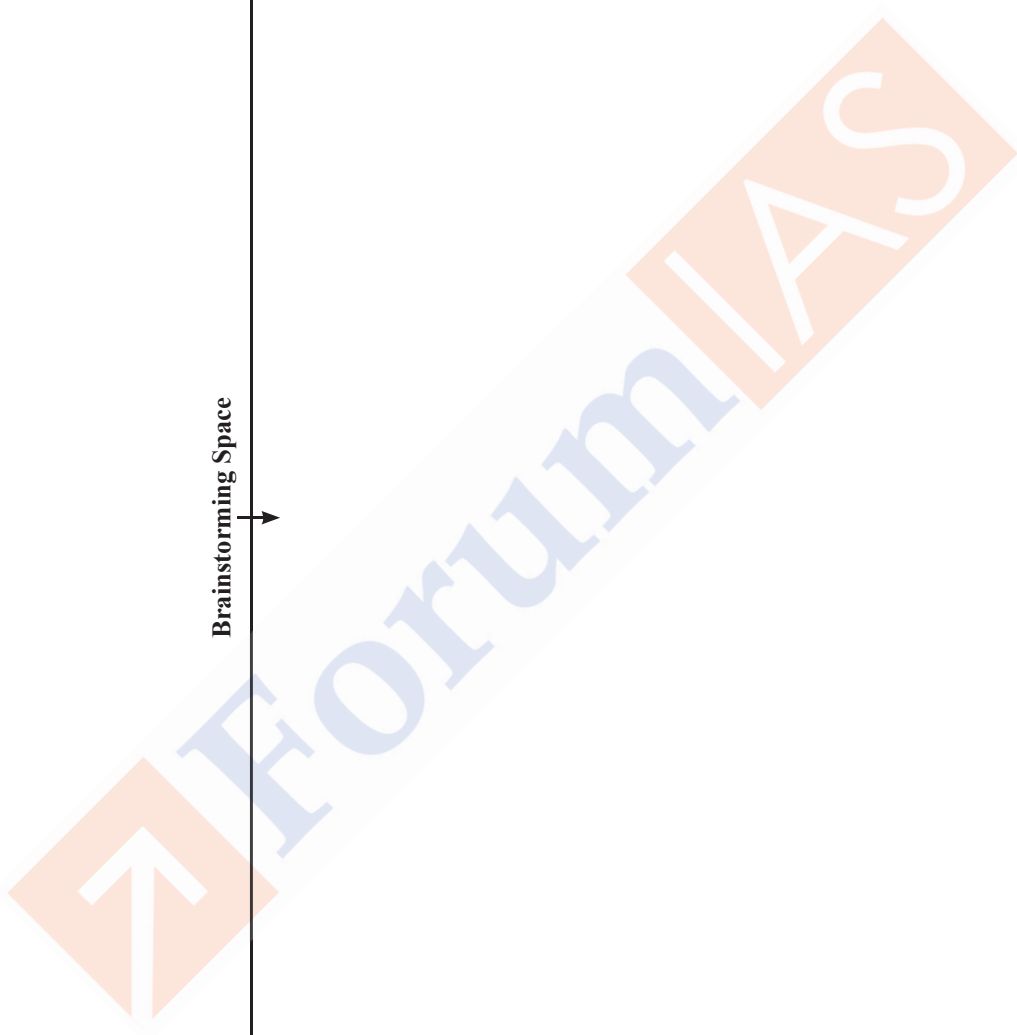
Q.54) Discuss the constitutional provisions regarding the rights of children.
(15 Marks, 150 Words) [2001]

Brainstorming Space



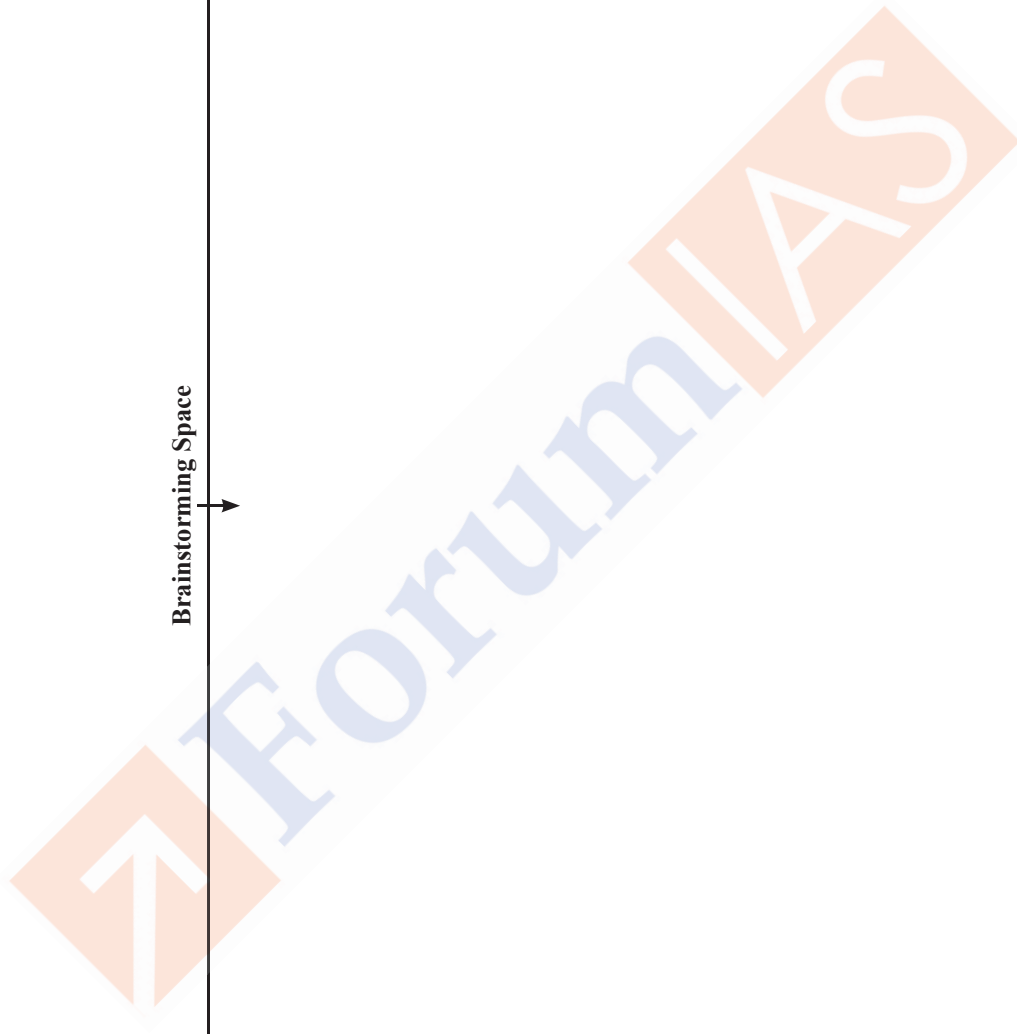
Q.55) What grounds does Article 15 of the Indian Constitution prohibit discrimination? Indicate the way the concept of 'Special protection' has qualified this prohibition. (20 Marks, 250 Words) [1999]

Brainstorming Space



Q.56) What is the importance of Directive Principles of State Policy? Mention which Directive Principles have got primacy over the Fundamental Rights. (15 Marks, 150 Words) [1999]

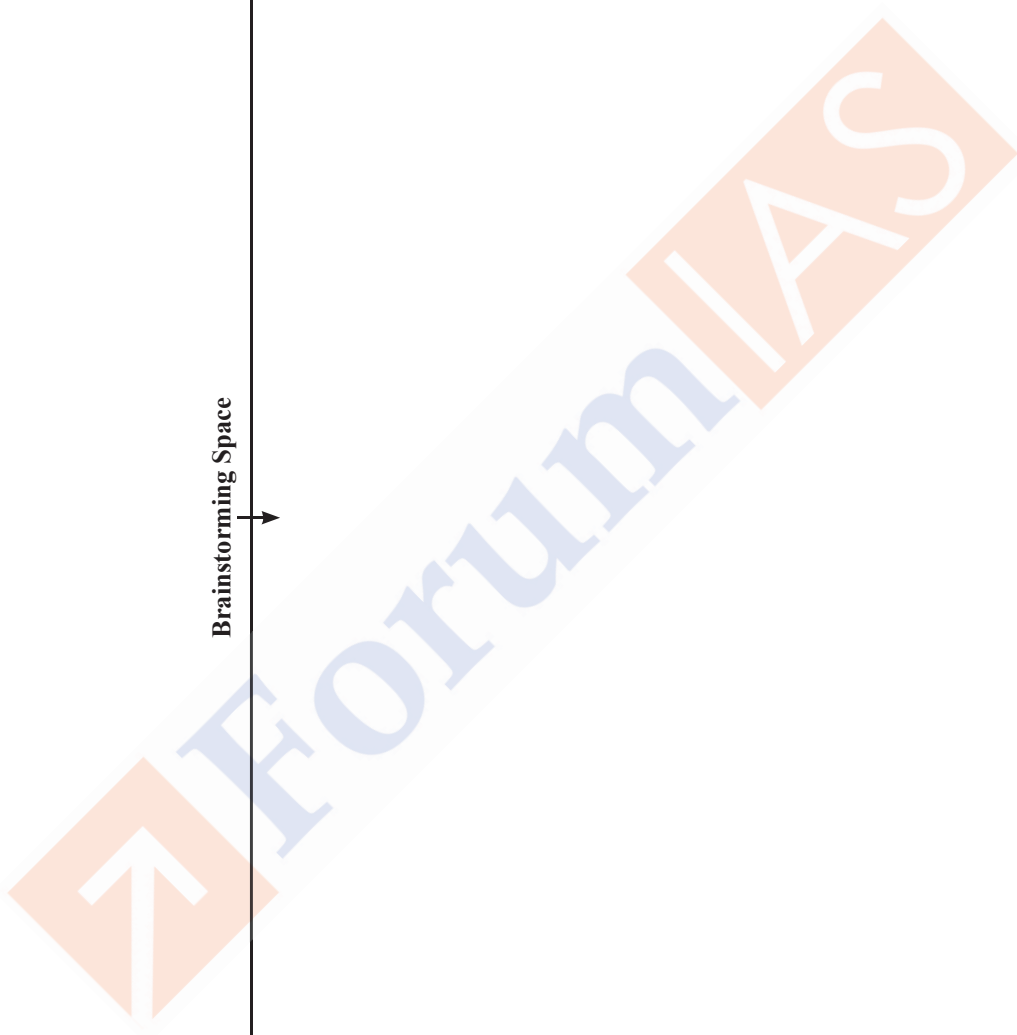
Brainstorming Space



Q.57) Briefly state the stages through which the present position of the Directive Principles vis-a-vis the Fundamental Rights has emerged.

(20 Marks, 250 Words) [1998]

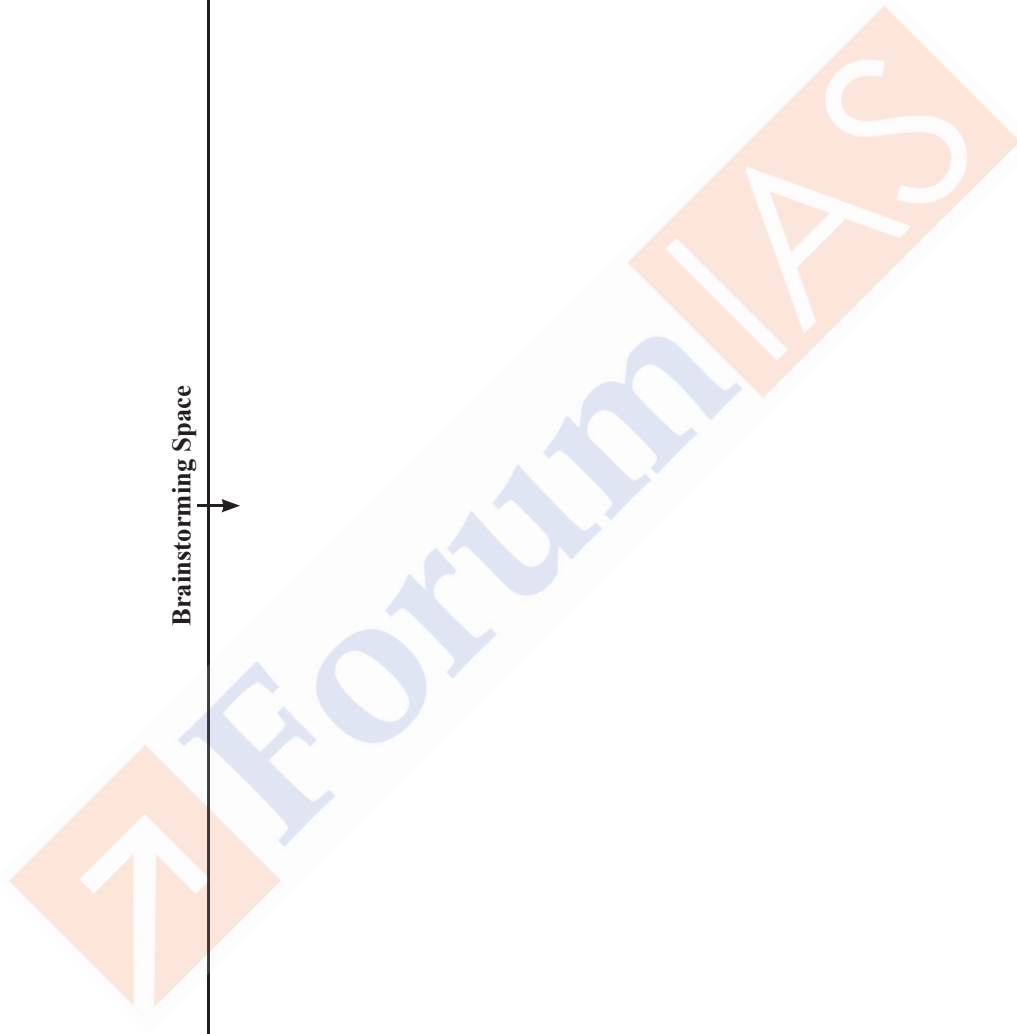
Brainstorming Space



Q.58) What do you understand by the term Rule of Law? How does the Constitution of India seek to establish it?

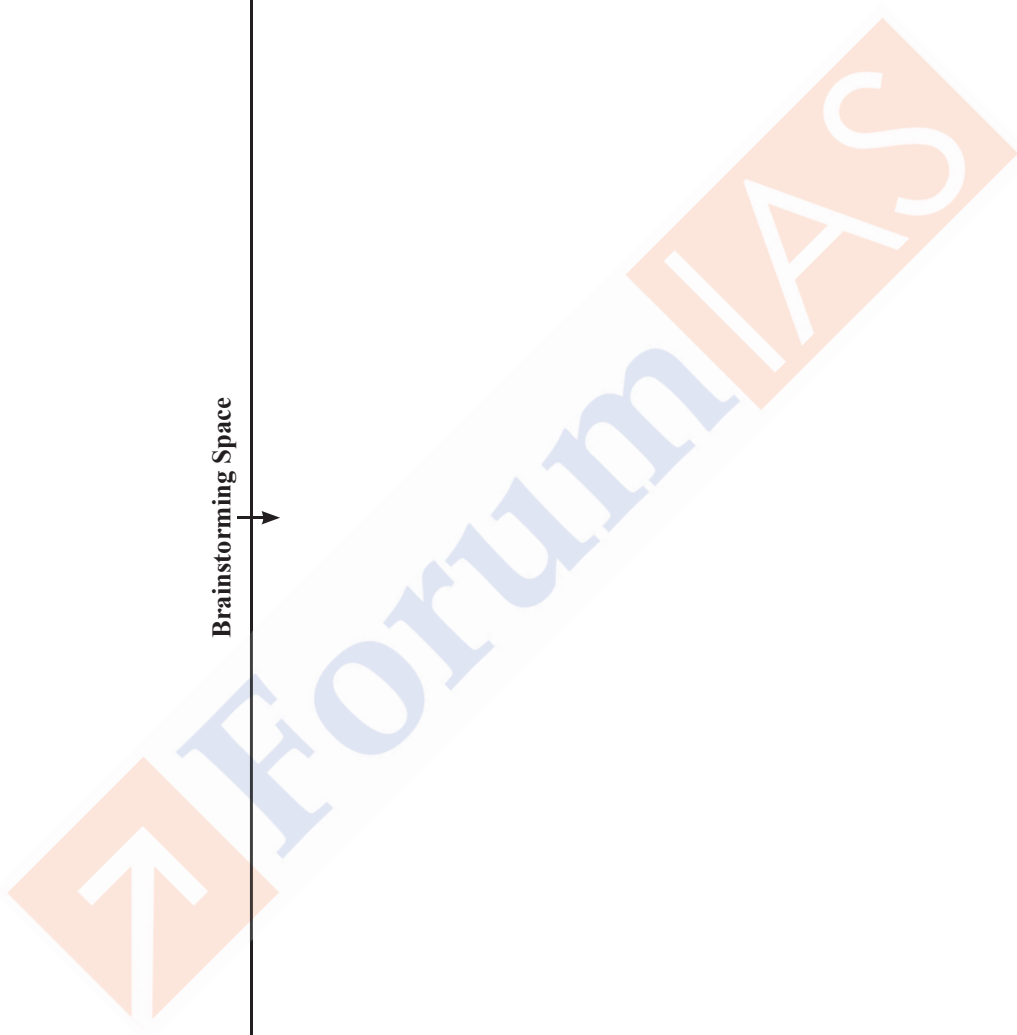
(20 Marks, 250 Words) [1996]

Brainstorming Space



Q.59) Why does the Constitution of India contain different forms of Oath for the President, the Ministers, the Legislators and the members of the Judiciary? Discuss their significance. (20 Marks, 250 Words) [1996]

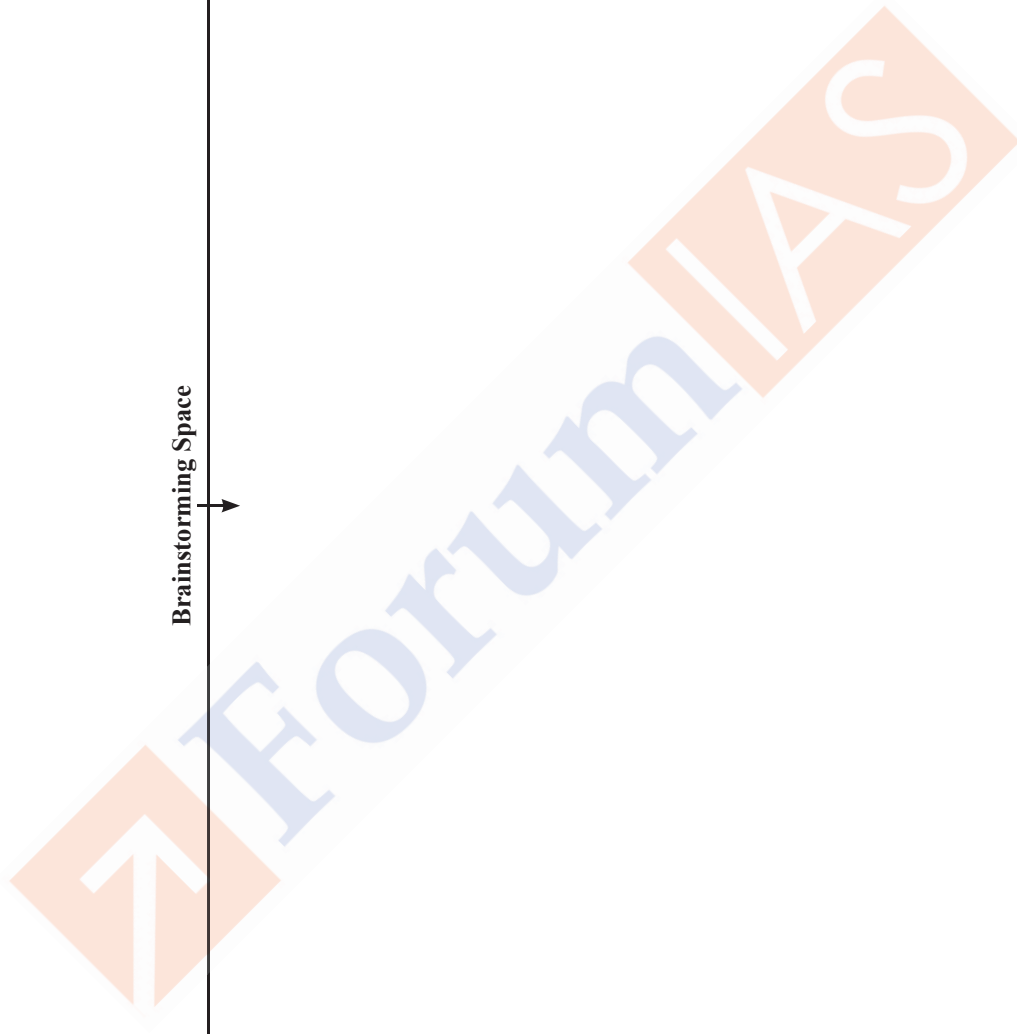
Brainstorming Space



Q.60) What are the constitutional rights of the citizens of India? What do you think about the demand of the NRI's for dual citizenship?

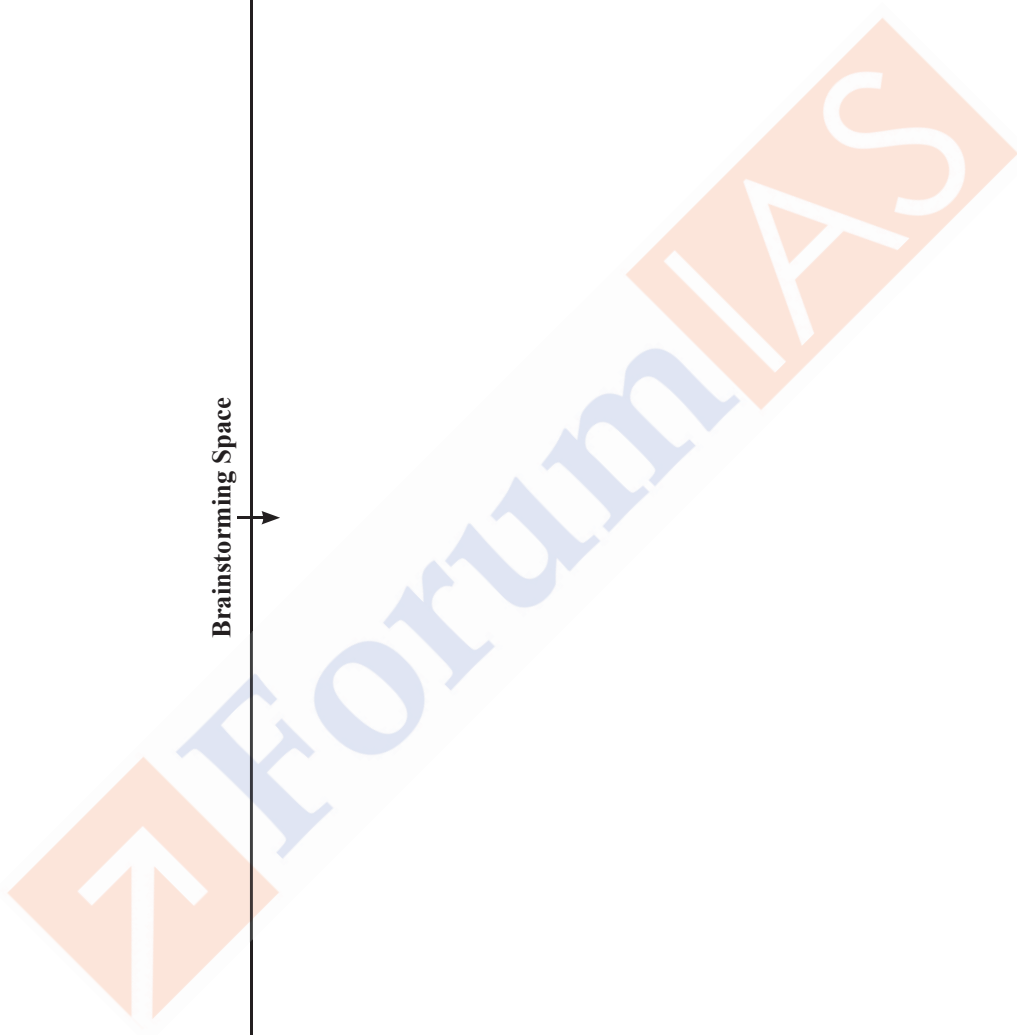
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [1995]

Brainstorming Space



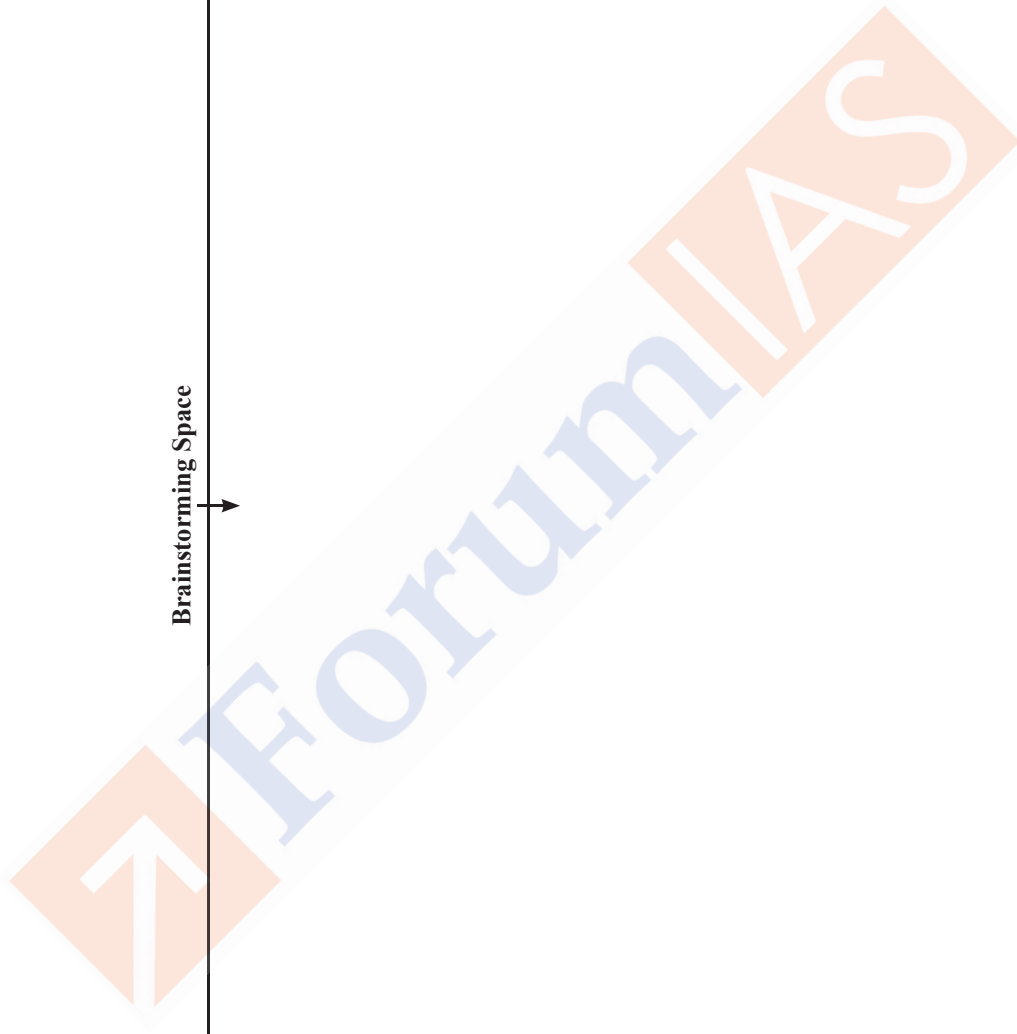
Q.61) Differentiate between the 'due process of law' and 'the procedure established by law' in the context of deprivation of personal liberty in India. (10 Marks, 150 Words) [1994]

Brainstorming Space



Q.62) Indicate the provisions of Indian Constitution relating to Secularism.
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [1994]

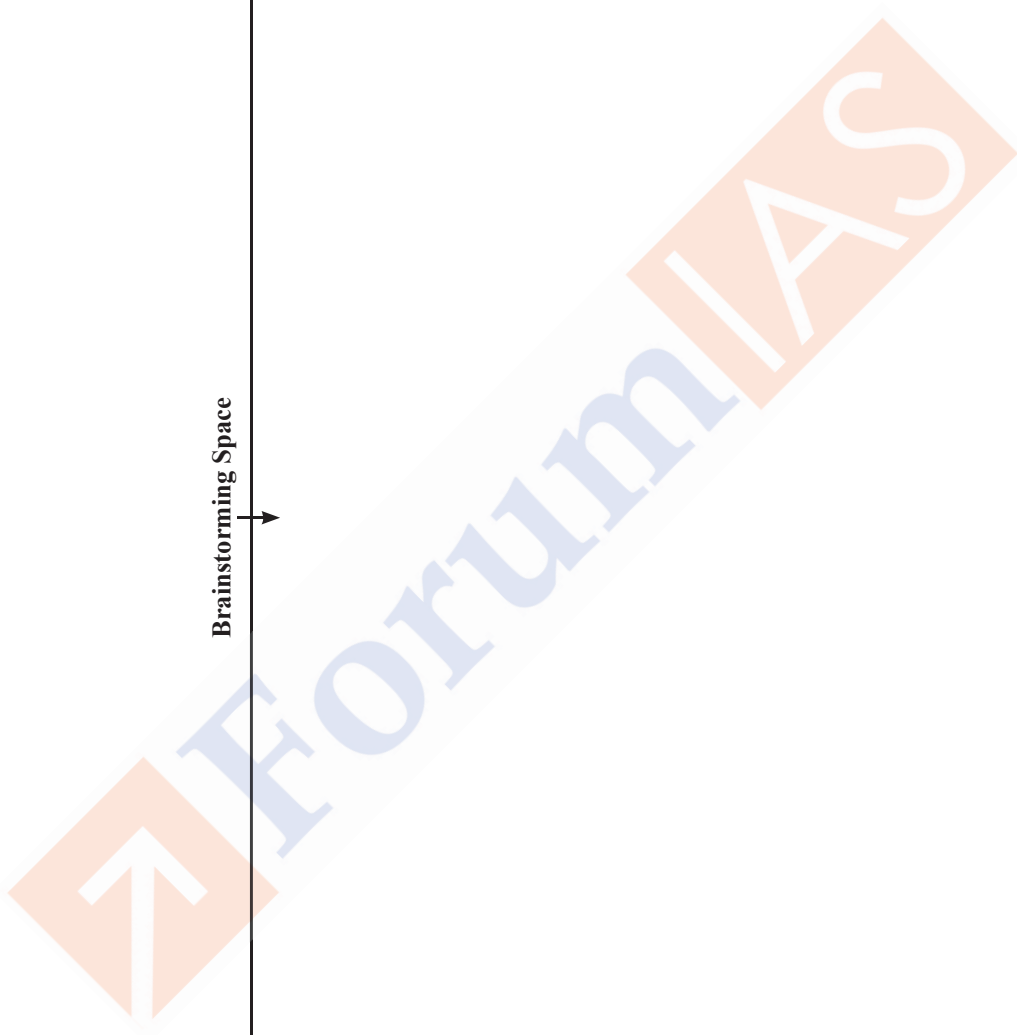
Brainstorming Space



Q.63) What are the fundamental duties and their implications?

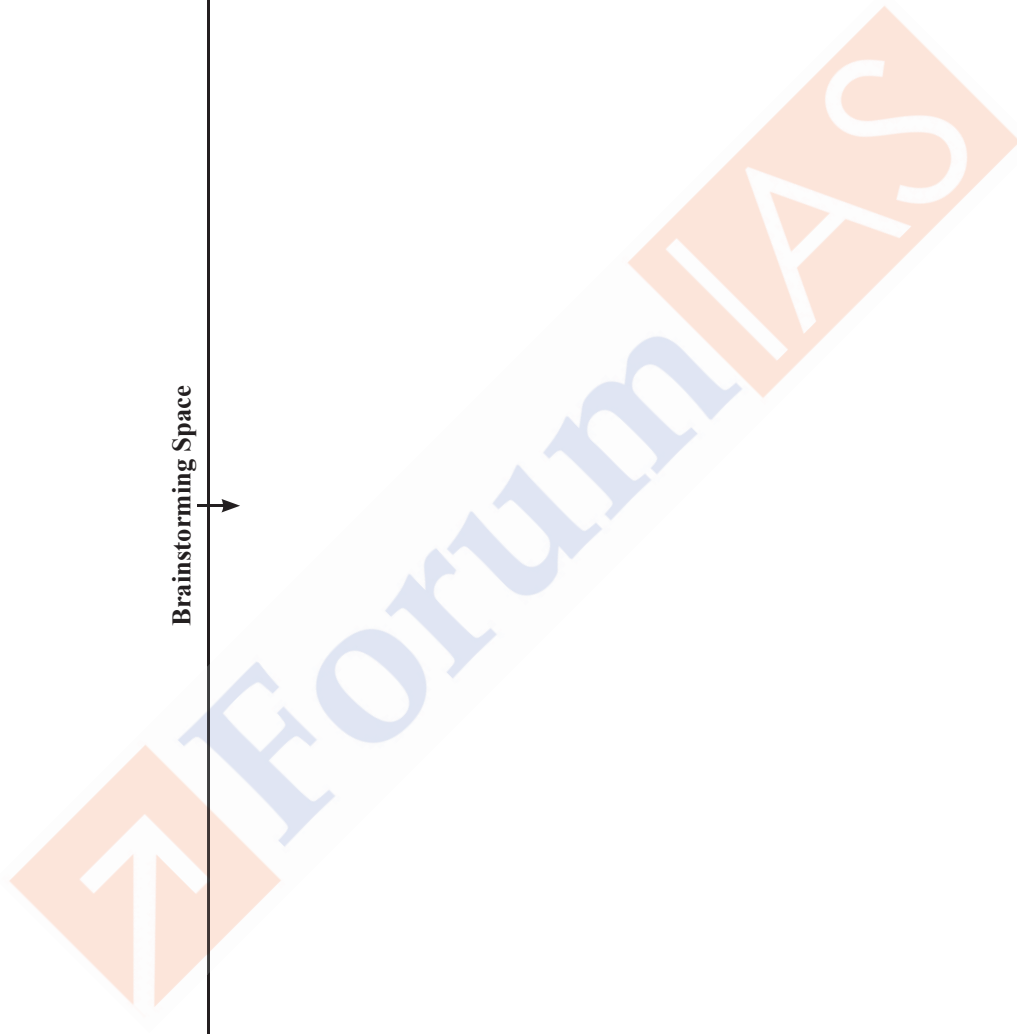
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [1993]

Brainstorming Space



Q.64) Distinguish between preventive detention and punitive detention.
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [1993]

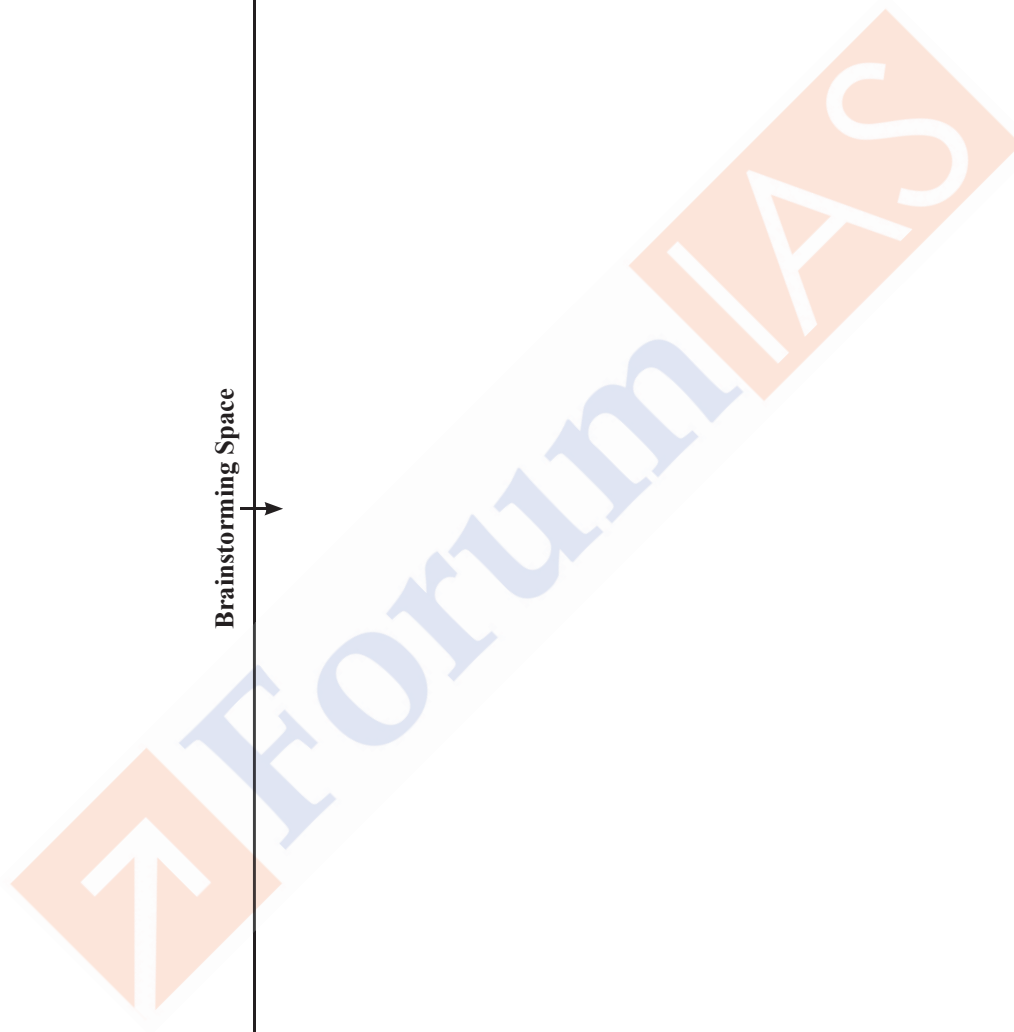
Brainstorming Space



Q.65) What are the various writs available to the citizens of India?

(10 Marks, 150 Words) [1993]

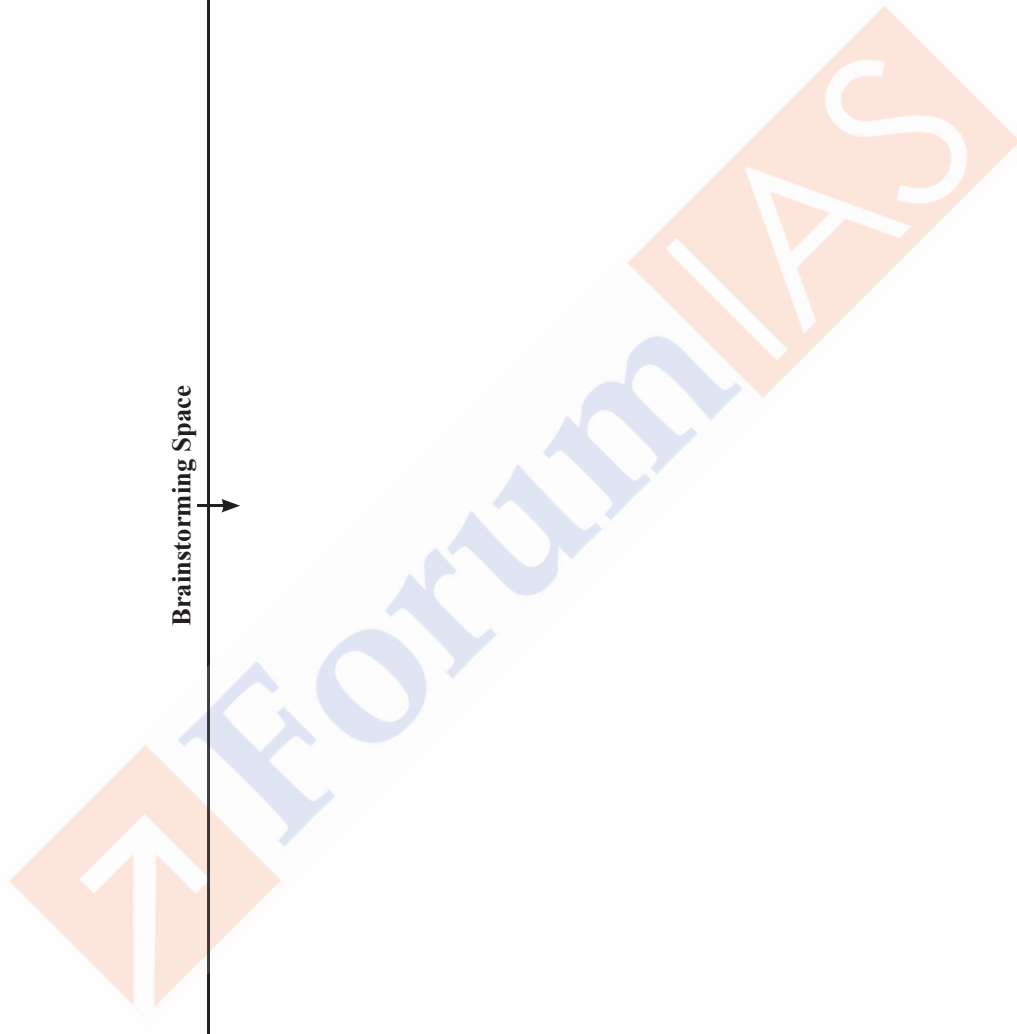
Brainstorming Space



Q.66) What is meant by 'equal protection of law'?

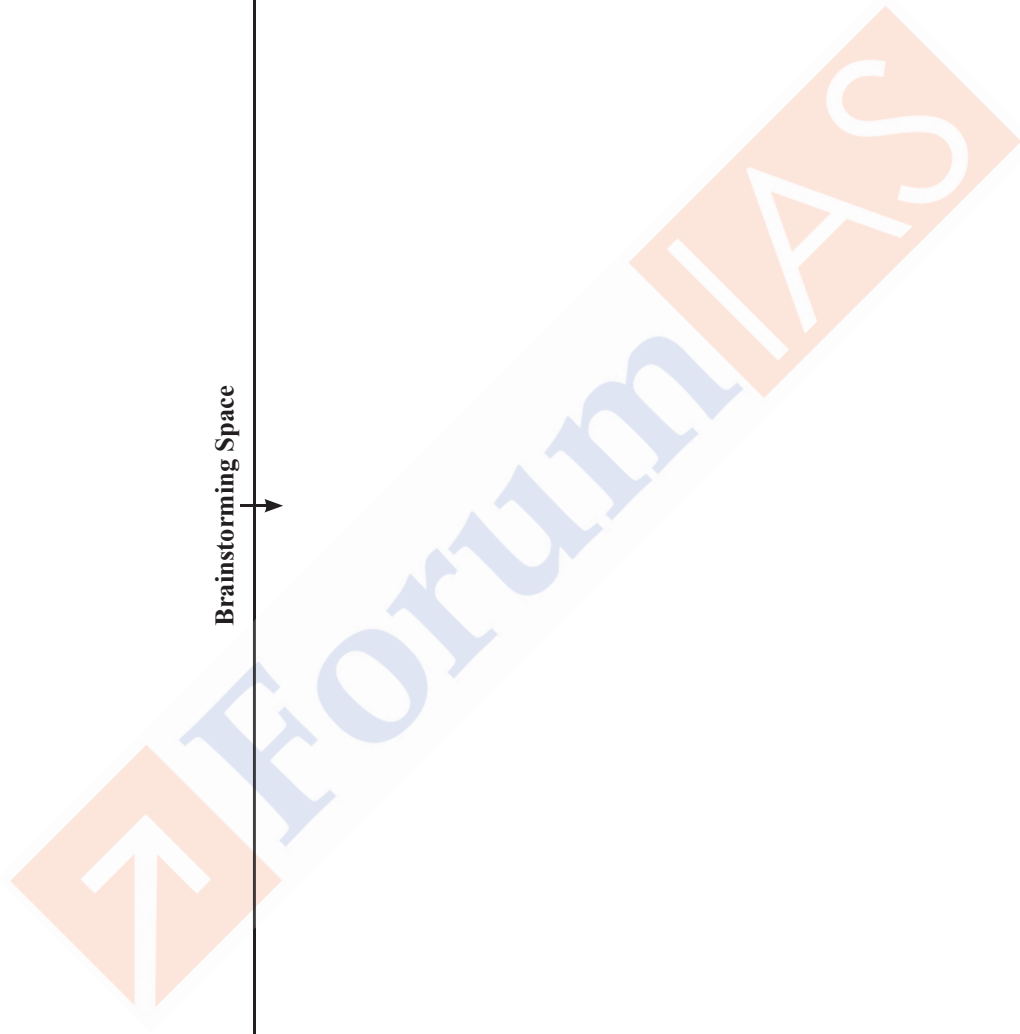
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [1993]

Brainstorming Space



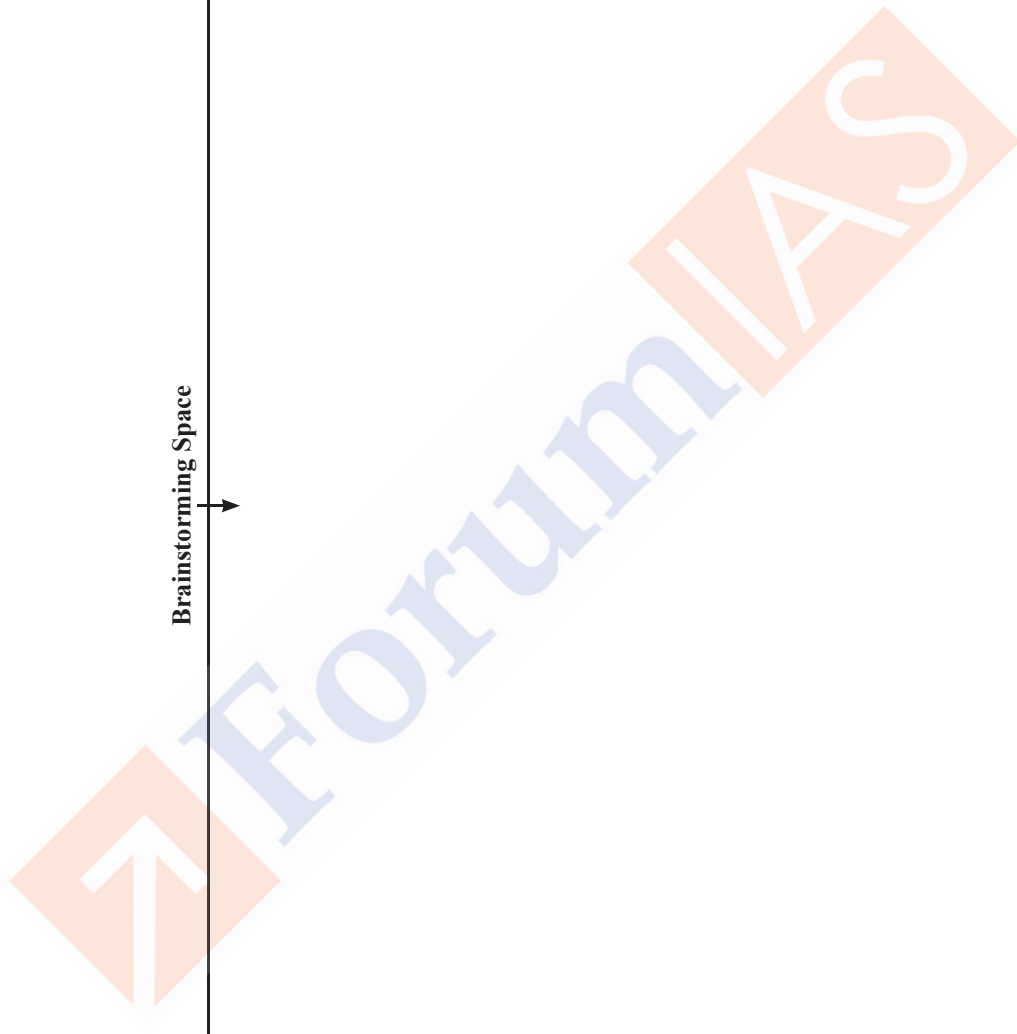
Q.67) What is the content of the 10th schedule of the Constitution of India?
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [1993]

Brainstorming Space



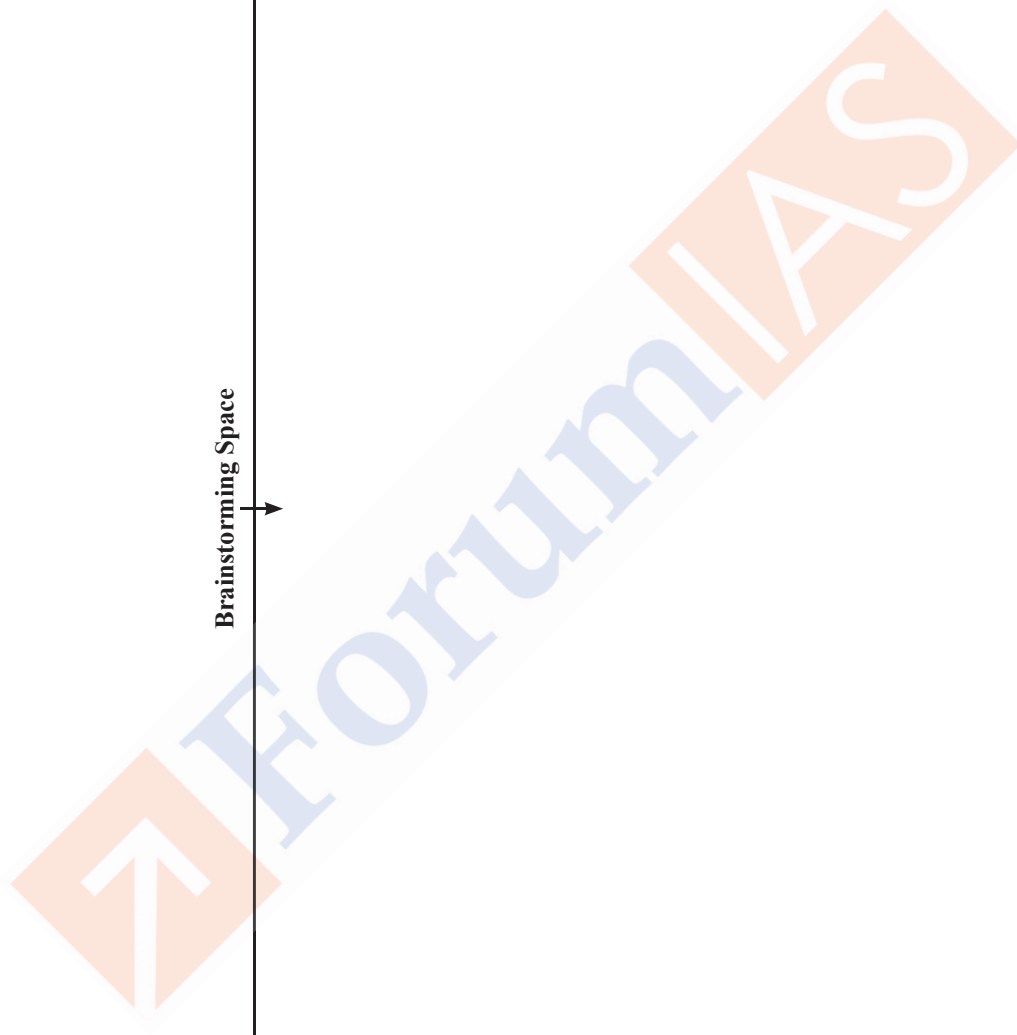
Q.68) What is the purpose of Article 24 of the Constitution of India?
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [1993]

Brainstorming Space



Q.69) Discuss the secular nature of Indian polity and the position of minorities in India. (10 Marks, 150 Words) [1991]

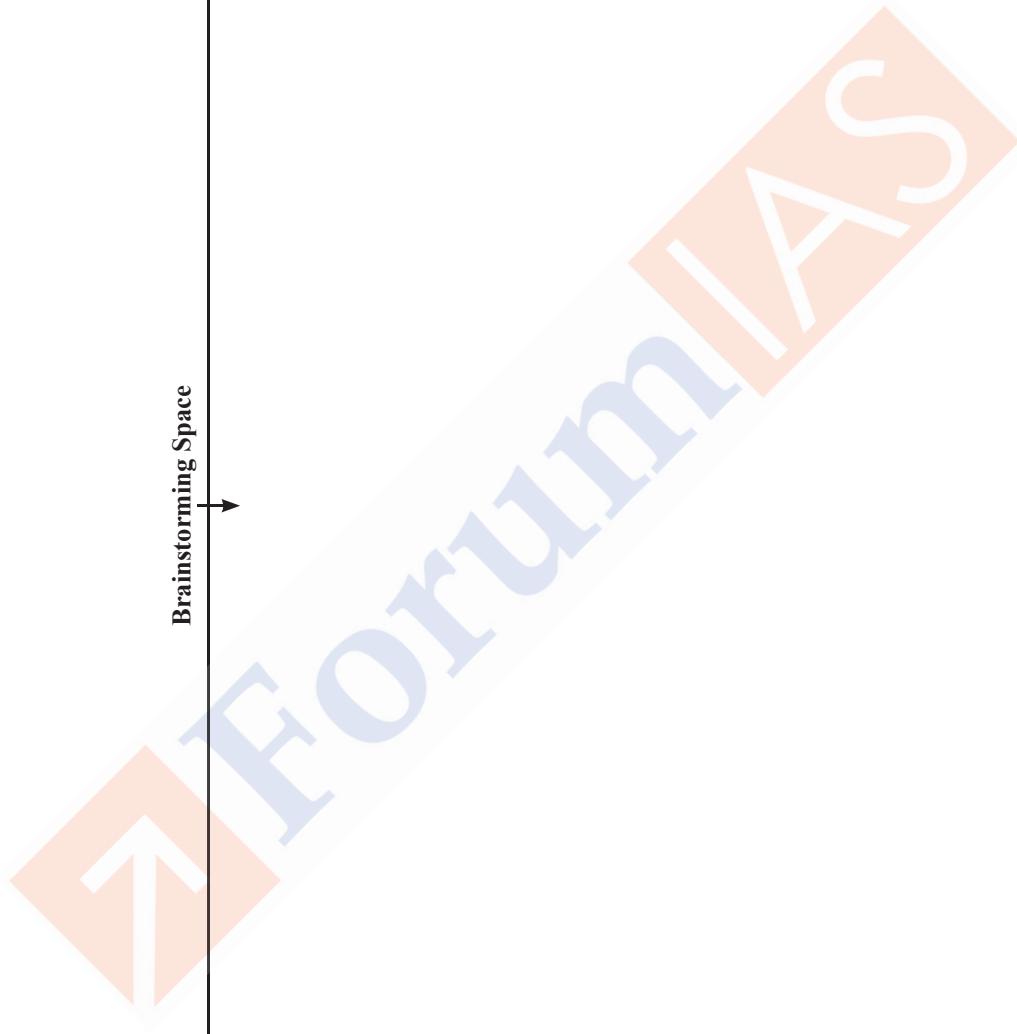
Brainstorming Space



Q.70) What are the reasonable restrictions mentioned in the Indian Constitution accompanying the fundamental rights?

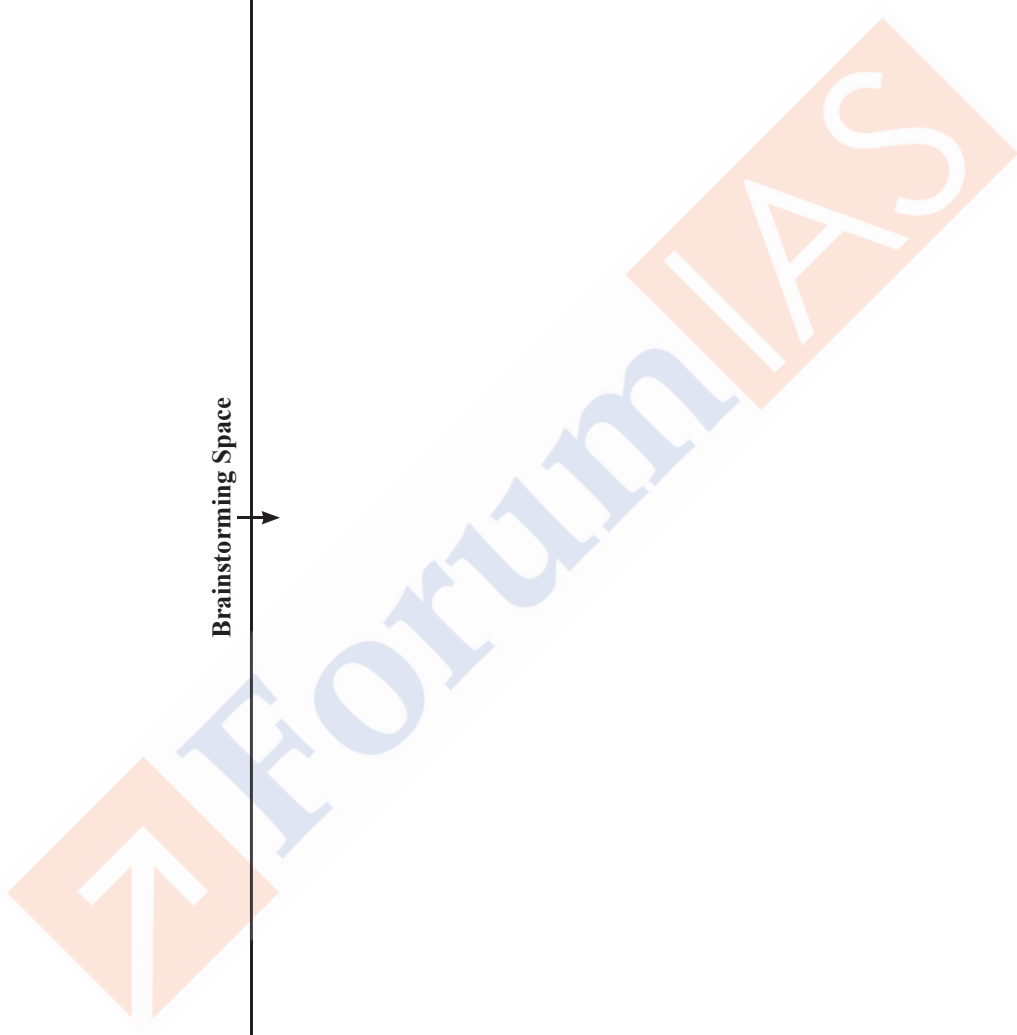
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [1990]

Brainstorming Space



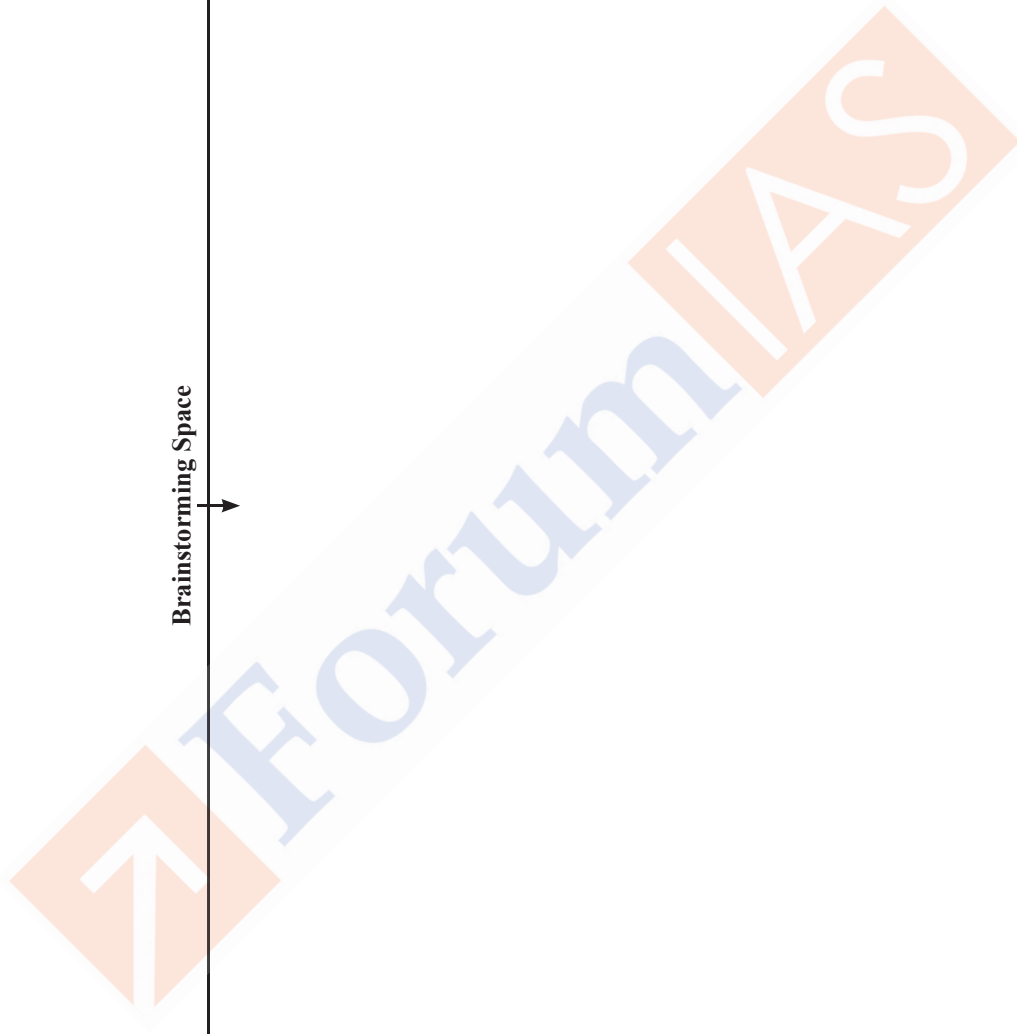
Q.71) Briefly mention why and how the Chapter on Directive Principles gained precedence over the Chapter on Fundamental Rights in the Indian Constitution. (15 Marks, 250 Words) [1987]

Brainstorming Space



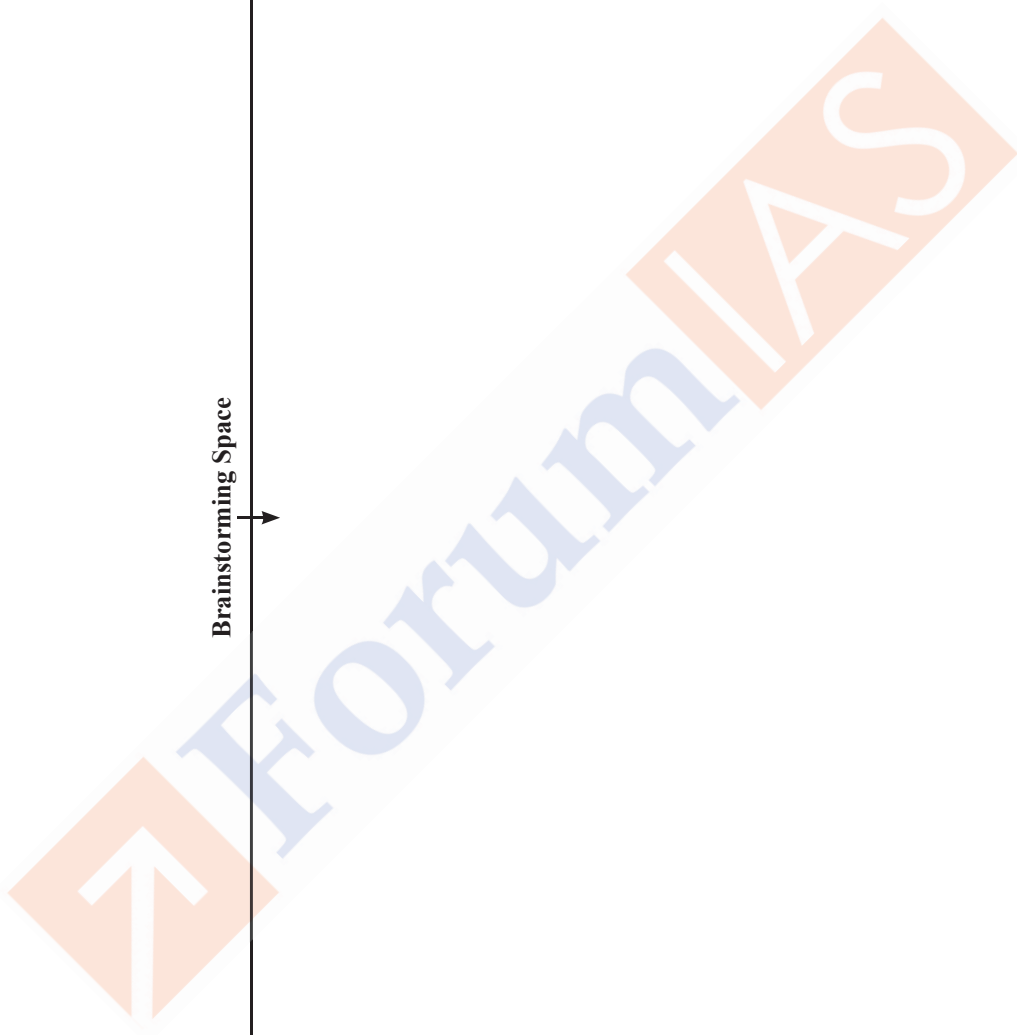
Q.72) Differentiate between the fundamental rights and directive principle of state policy, do you think that the later has been adequately implemented? (15 Marks, 250 Words) [1982]

Brainstorming Space



Q.73) Bring out the significance of the Fundamental Rights provided in the Constitution of India. The right to acquire, hold and dispose of property has ceased to be a fundamental right. Examine the purpose of the change. (15 Marks, 250 Words) [1981]

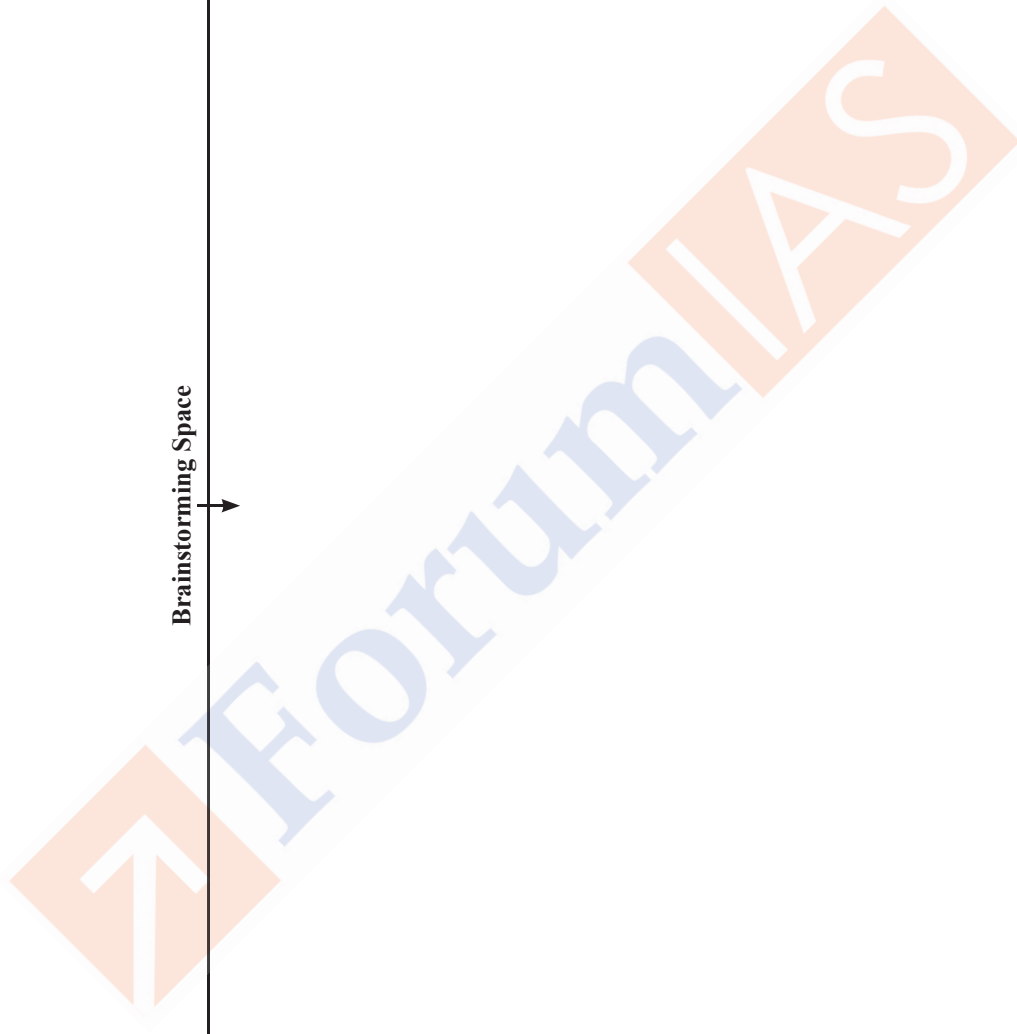
Brainstorming Space



Q.74) Examine the evolving pattern of Centre-State financial relations in the context of planned development in India. How far have the recent reforms impacted the fiscal federalism in India?

(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2025]

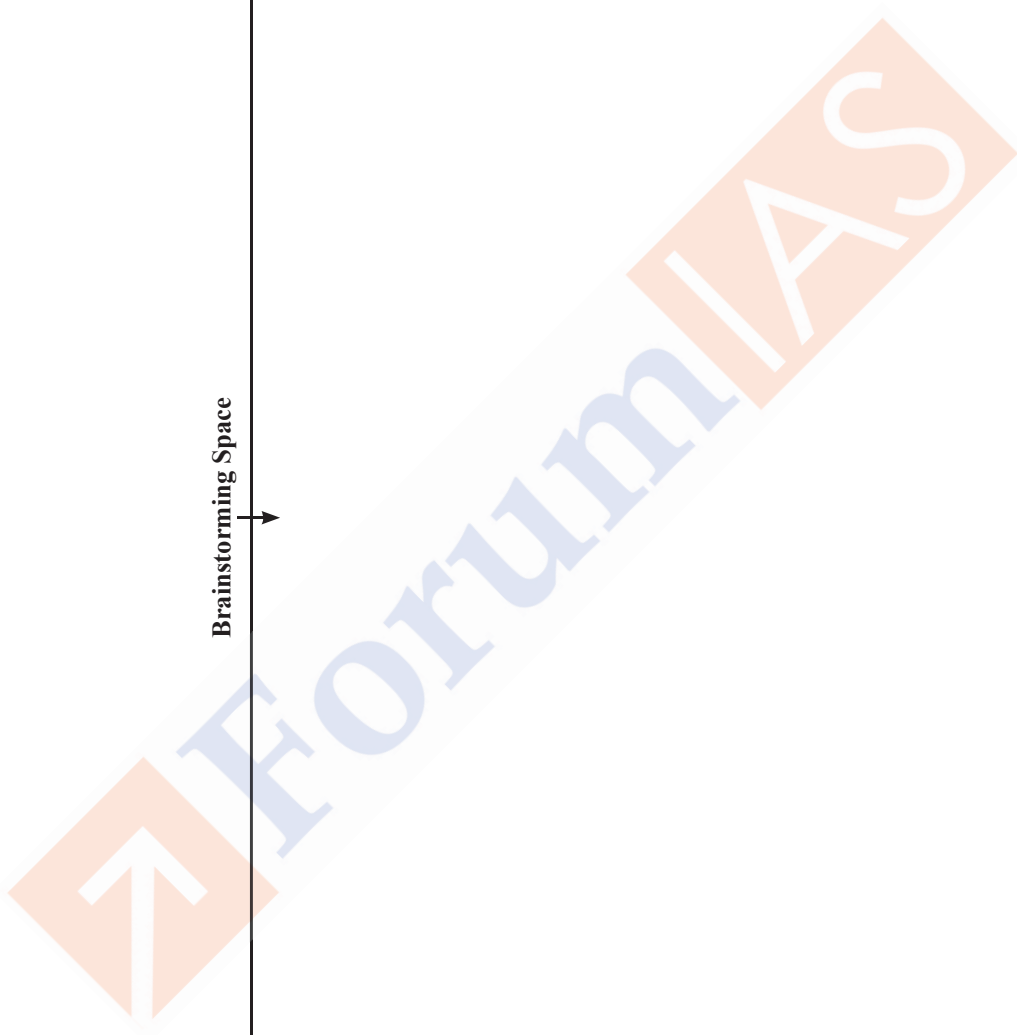
Brainstorming Space



Q.75) What changes has the Union Government recently introduced in the domain of Centre-State relations? Suggest measures to build trust between Centre and States and for strengthening federalism.

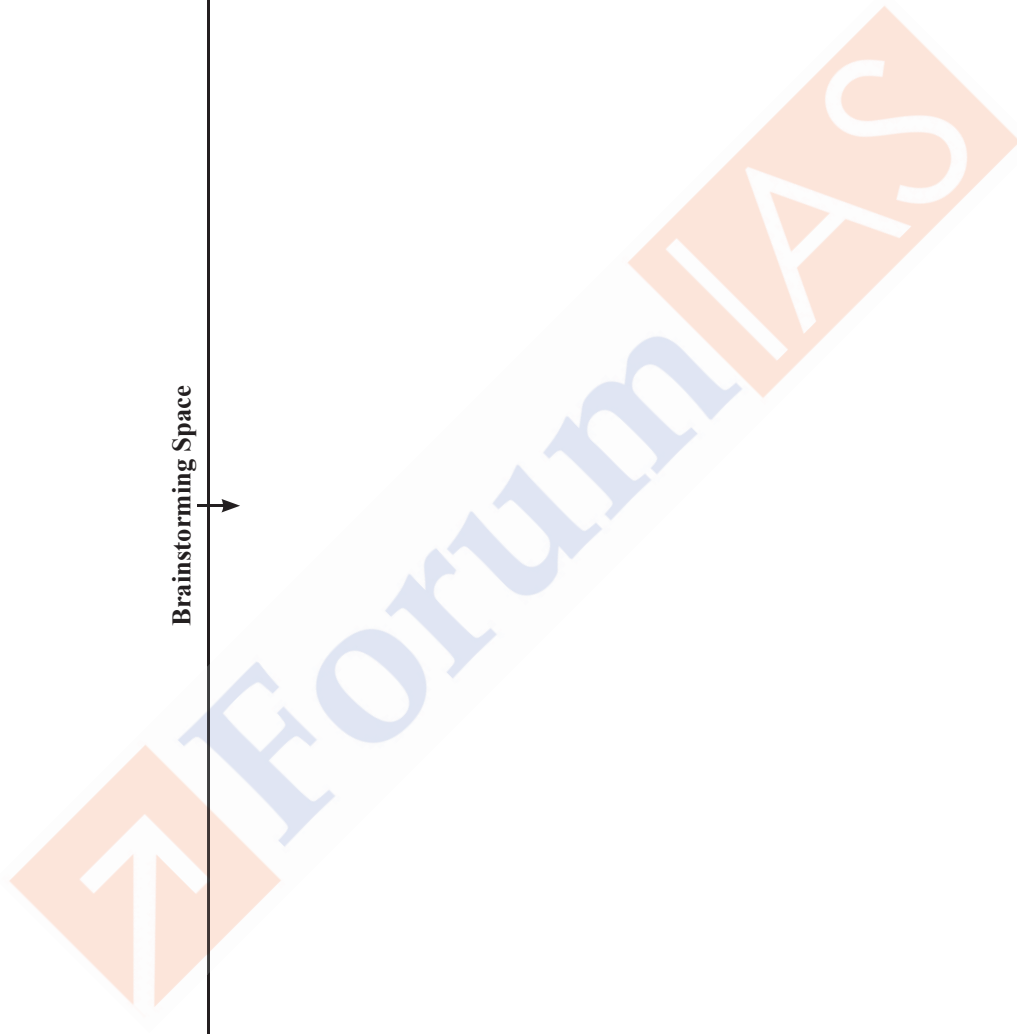
(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2024]

Brainstorming Space



Q.76) Account for the legal and political factors responsible for the reduced frequency of using Article 356 by the Union Governments since mid-1990s. (15 Marks, 250 Words) [2023]

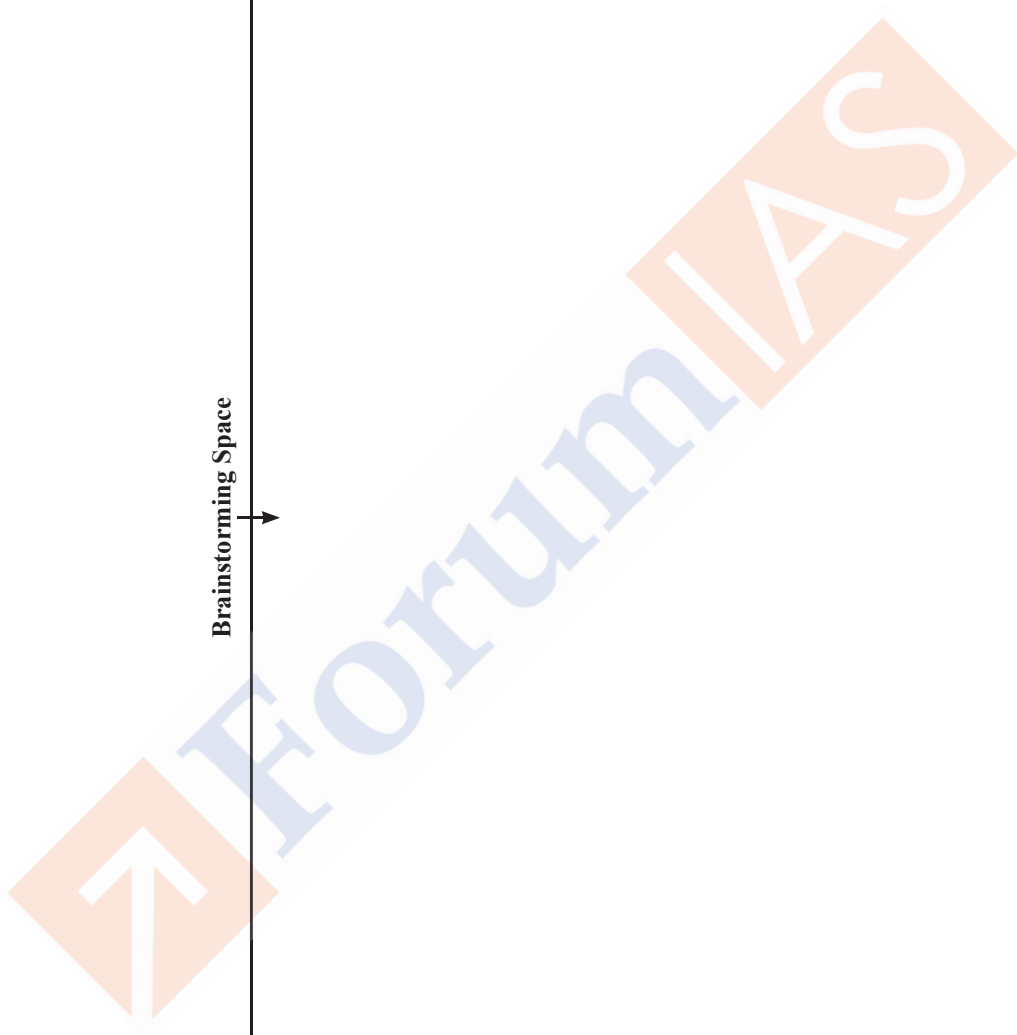
Brainstorming Space



Q.77) While the national political parties in India favour centralisation, the regional parties are in favour of state autonomy. Comment.

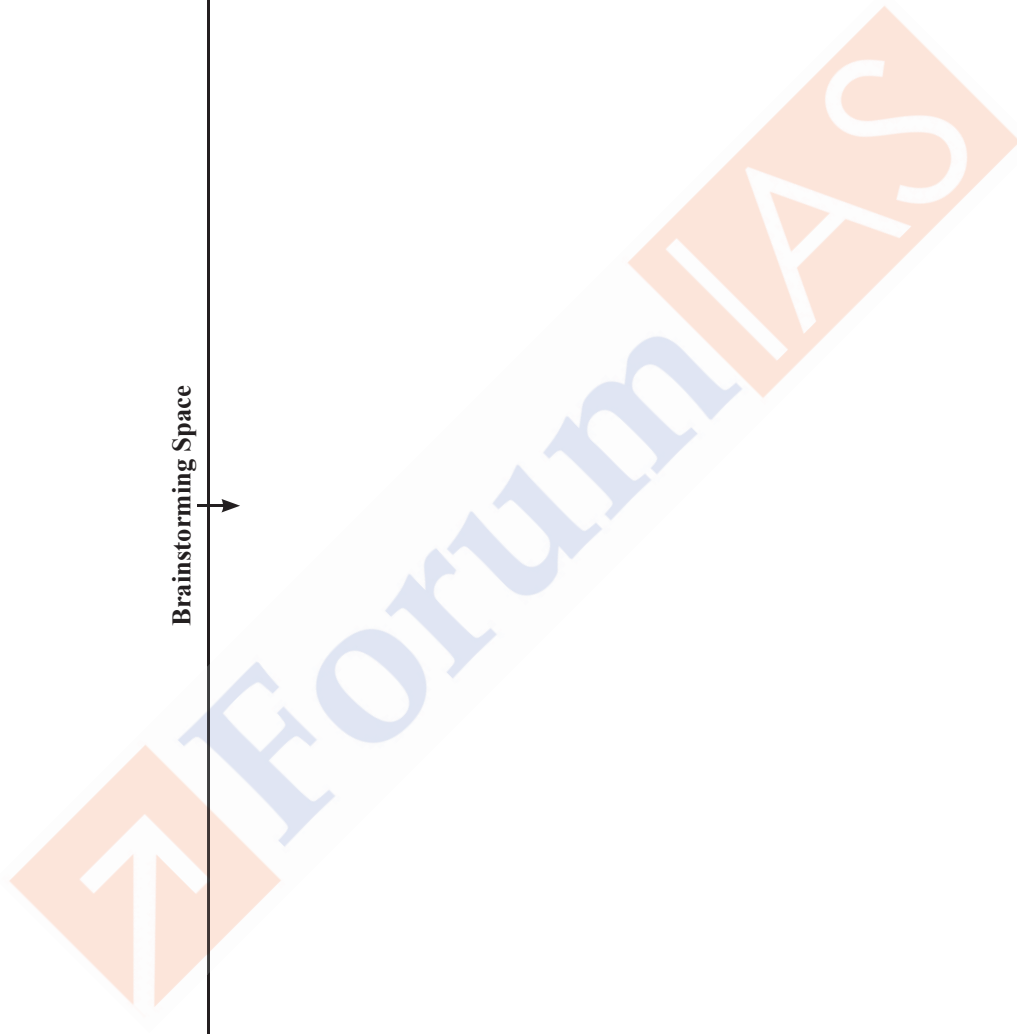
(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2022]

Brainstorming Space



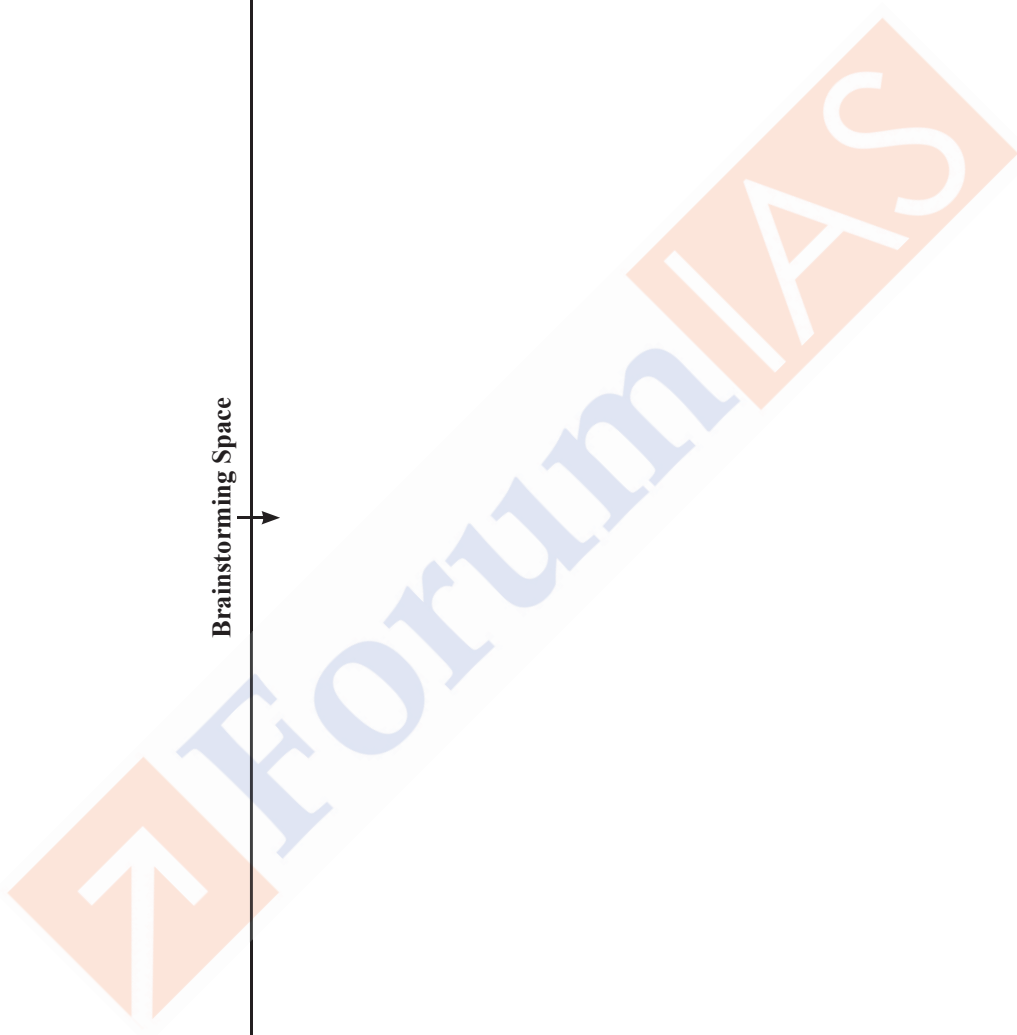
Q.78) The jurisdiction of the CBI regarding lodging an FIR and conducting probes within a particular state is being questioned. However, the power of States to withhold consent to the CBI is not absolute. Explain. (15 Marks, 250 Words) [2021]

Brainstorming Space



Q.79) How far do you think cooperation, competition and confrontation have shaped the nature of federation in India? Cite some recent examples. (10 Marks, 150 Words) [2020]

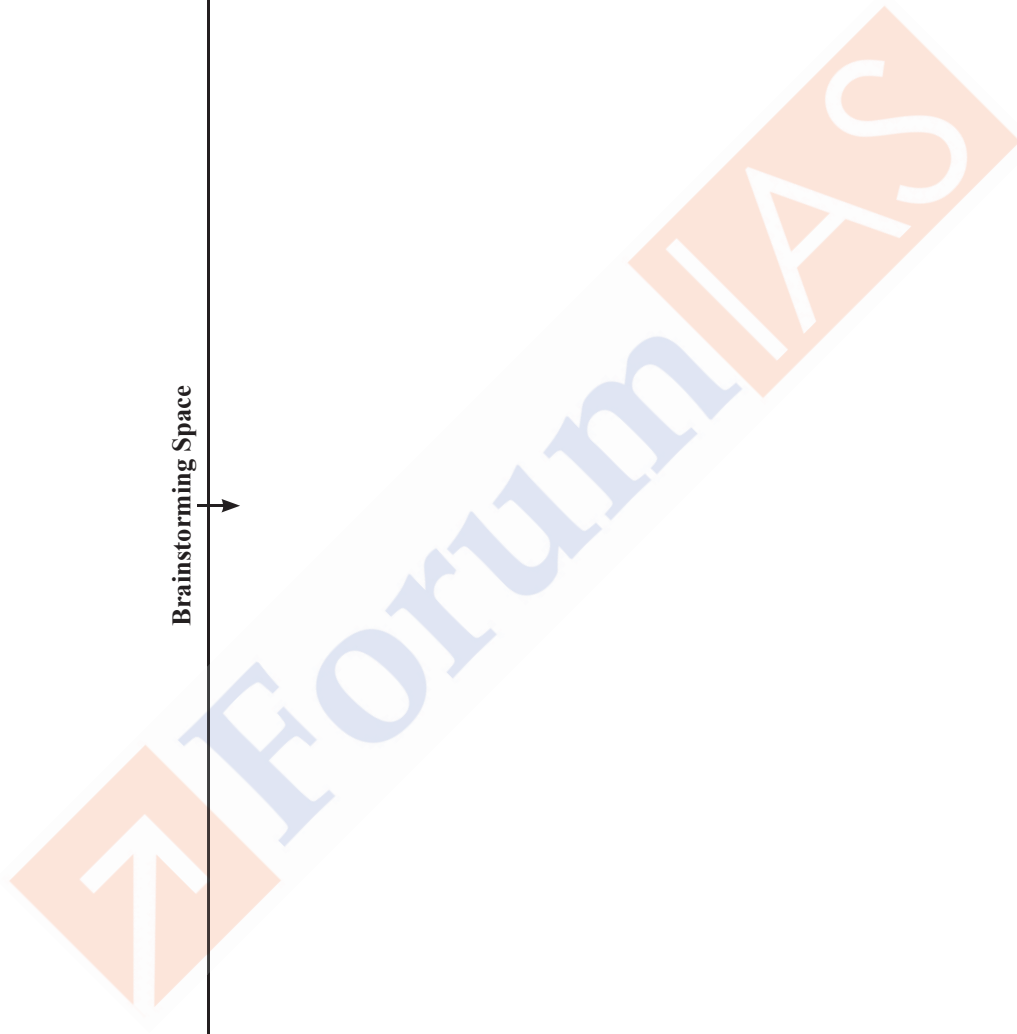
Brainstorming Space



Q.80) Under what circumstances can the Financial Emergency be proclaimed by the President of India? What consequences follow when such a declaration remains in force?

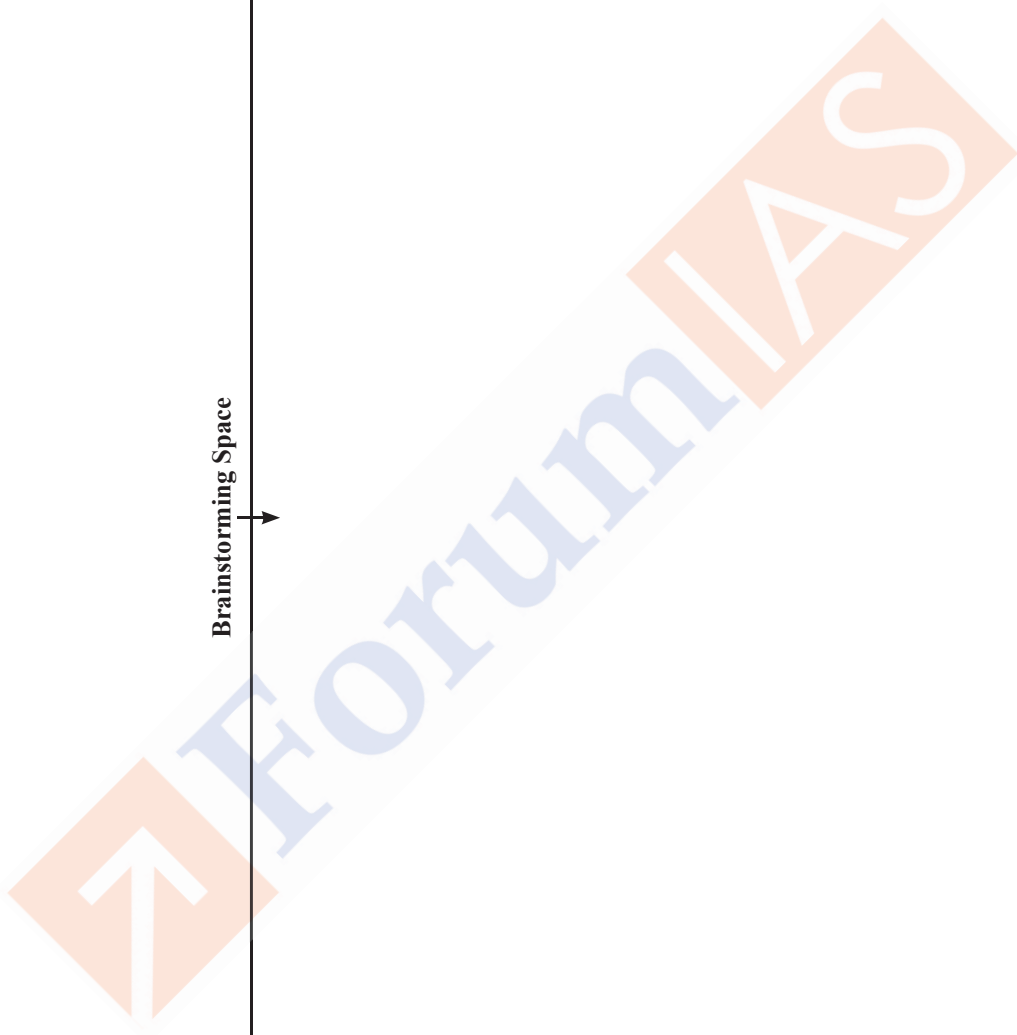
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [2018]

Brainstorming Space



Q.81) Whether the Supreme Court Judgement (July 2018) can settle the political tussle between the Lt. Governor and elected government of Delhi? Examine. (15 Marks, 250 Words) [2018]

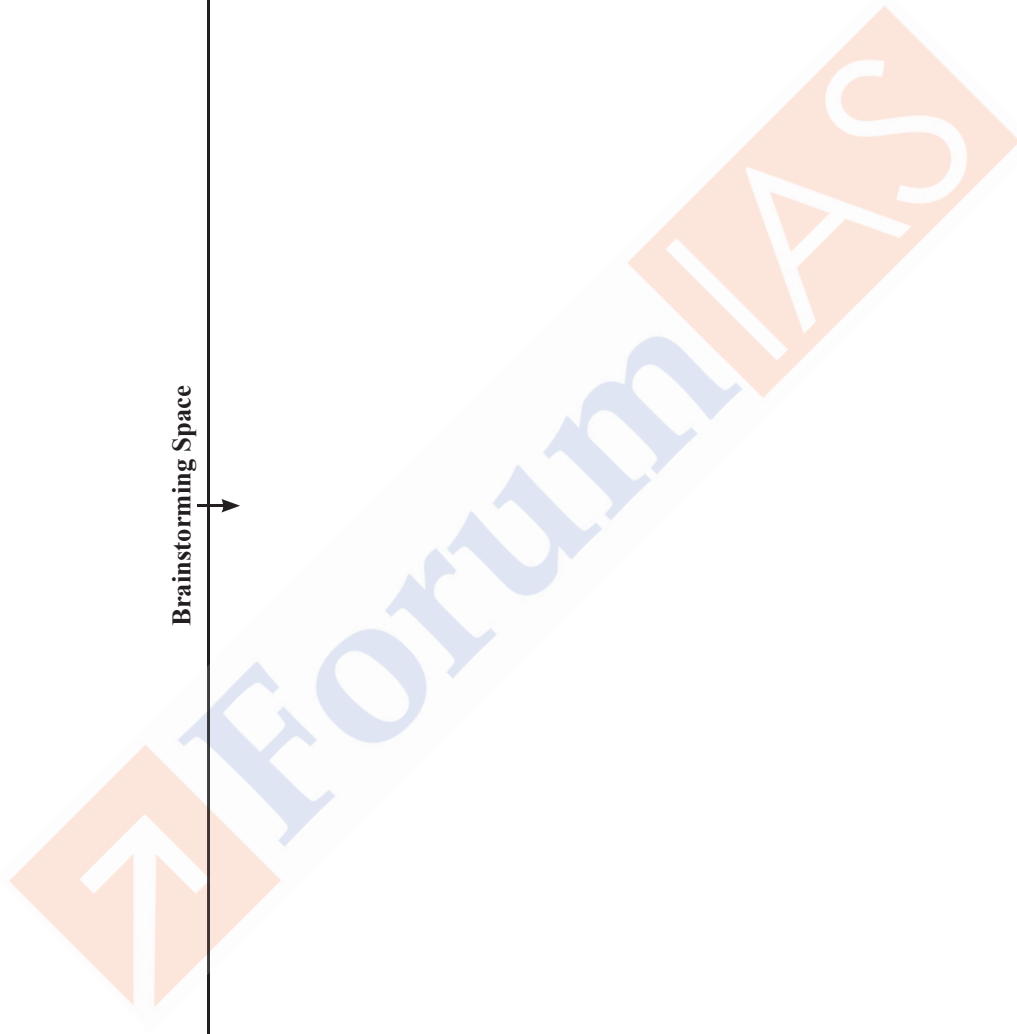
Brainstorming Space



Q.82) Discuss the essentials of the 69th Constitutional Amendment Act and anomalies that have led to conflicts between the elected representatives and the Lt. Governor in the administration of Delhi.

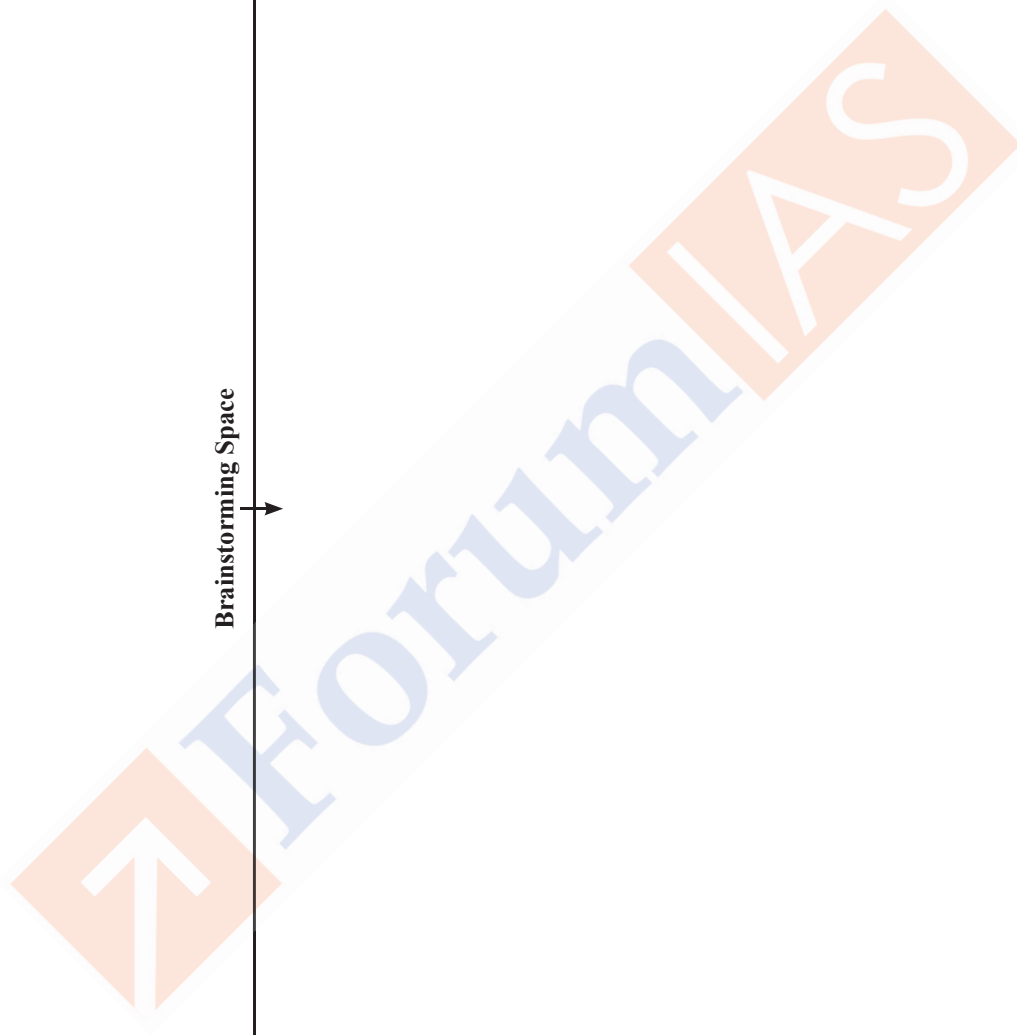
(12.5 Marks, 200 Words) [2016]

Brainstorming Space



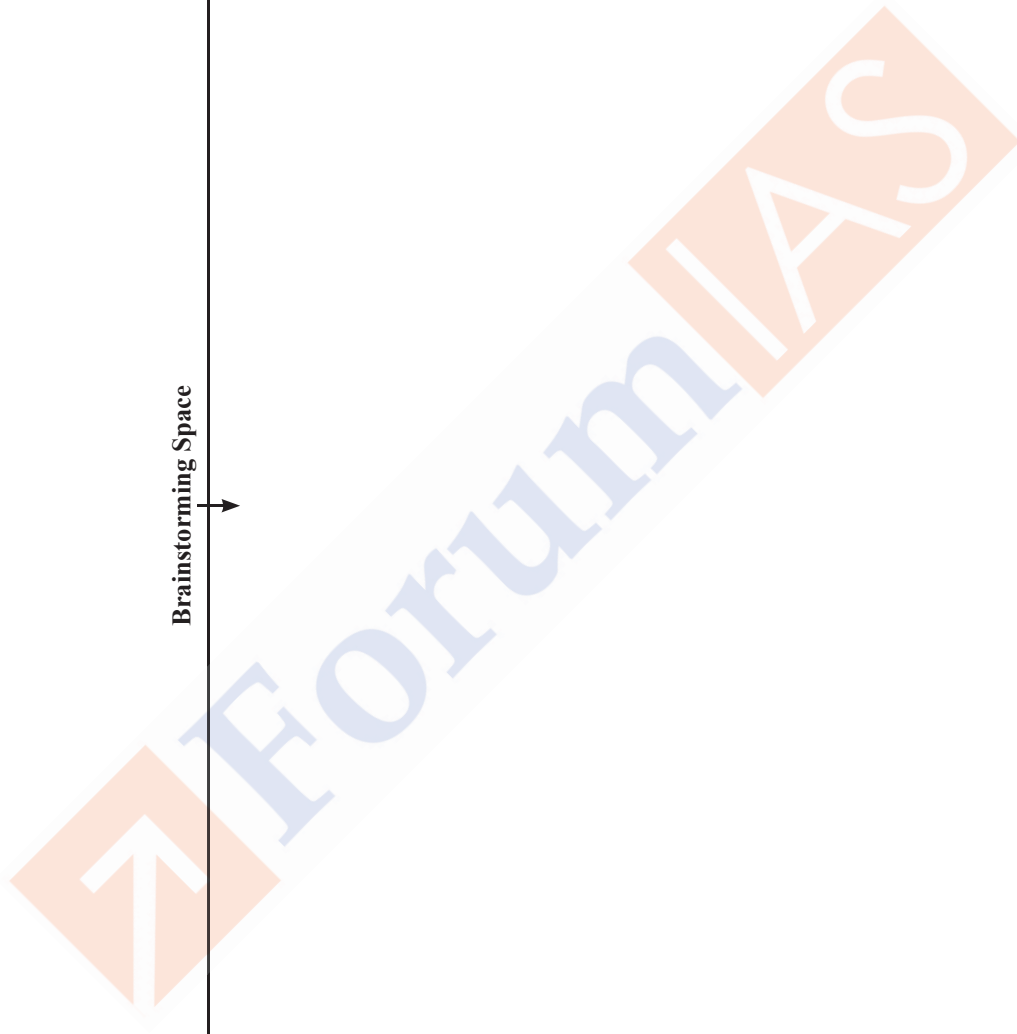
Q.83) Did the Government of India Act, 1935 lay down a federal constitution? Discuss. (12.5 Marks, 200 Words) [2016]

Brainstorming Space



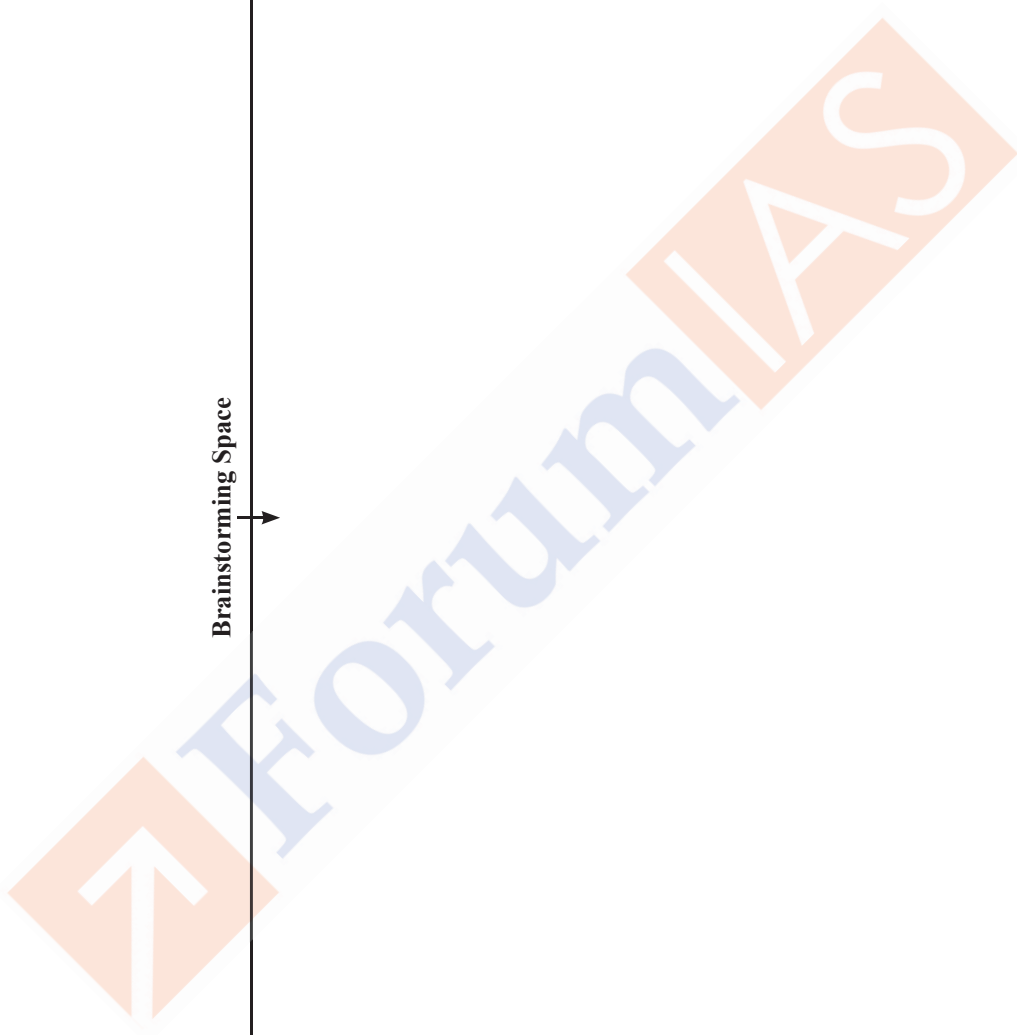
Q.84) The concept of cooperative federalism has been increasingly emphasized in recent years. Highlight the drawbacks in the existing structure and the extent to which cooperative federalism would answer the shortcomings. (15 Marks, 200 Words) [2015]

Brainstorming Space



Q.85) Though the federal principle is dominant in our constitution and that principle is one of its basic features, it is equally true that federalism under the Indian Constitution leans in favour of a strong Centre. Discuss. (10 Marks, 200 Words) [2014]

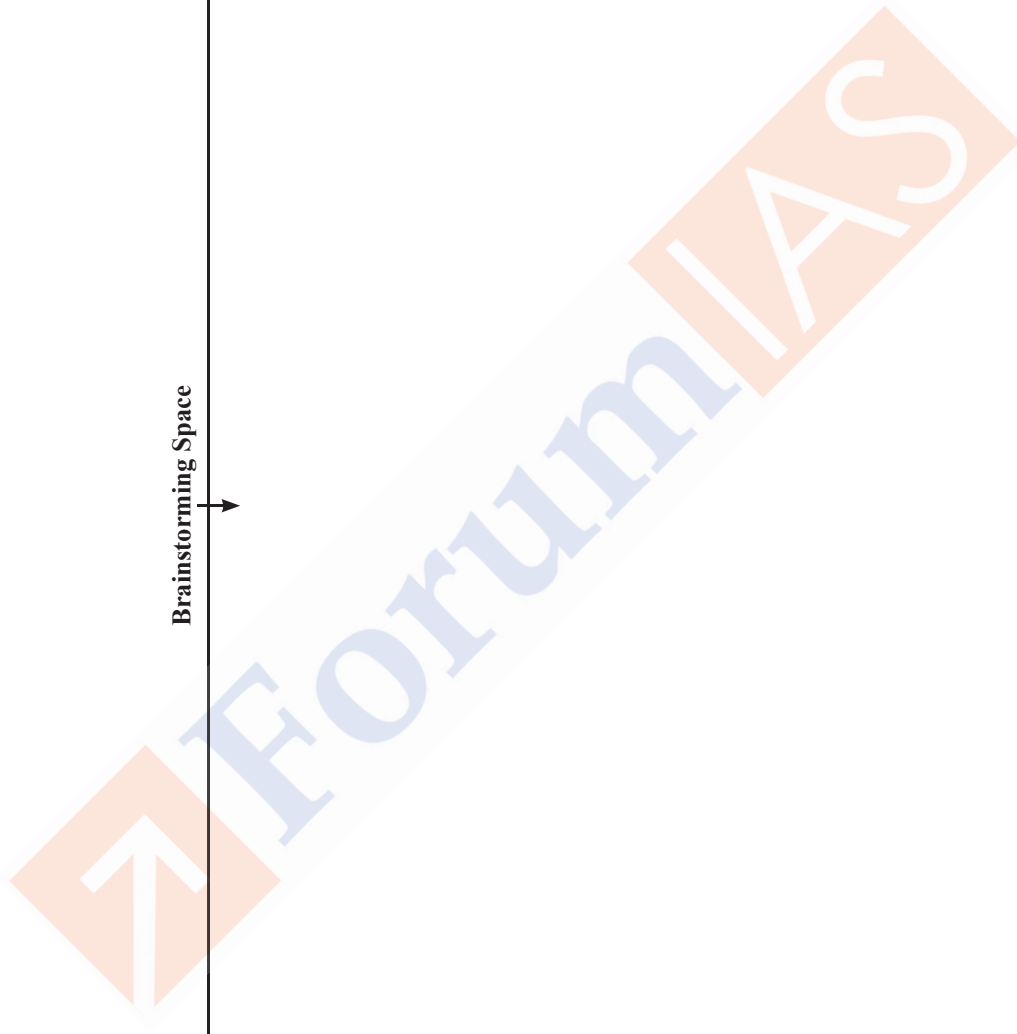
Brainstorming Space



Q.86) Constitutional mechanisms to resolve the inter-state water disputes have failed to address and solve the problems. Is the failure due to structural or process inadequacy or both? Discuss.

(10 Marks, 200 Words) [2013]

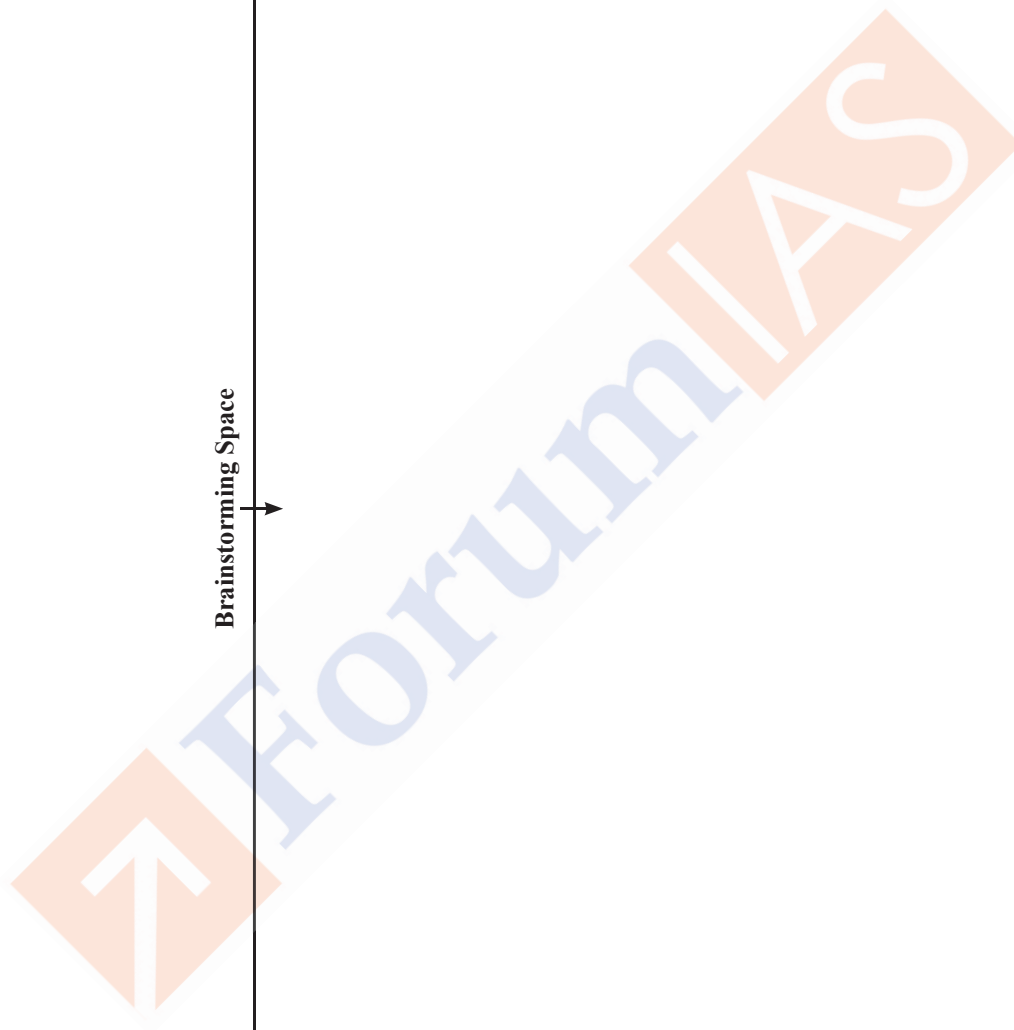
Brainstorming Space



Q.87) Disputes between the riparian states on sharing of river waters in post-Independence India are becoming increasingly complex. Analyze the major disputes with special reference to Southern states.

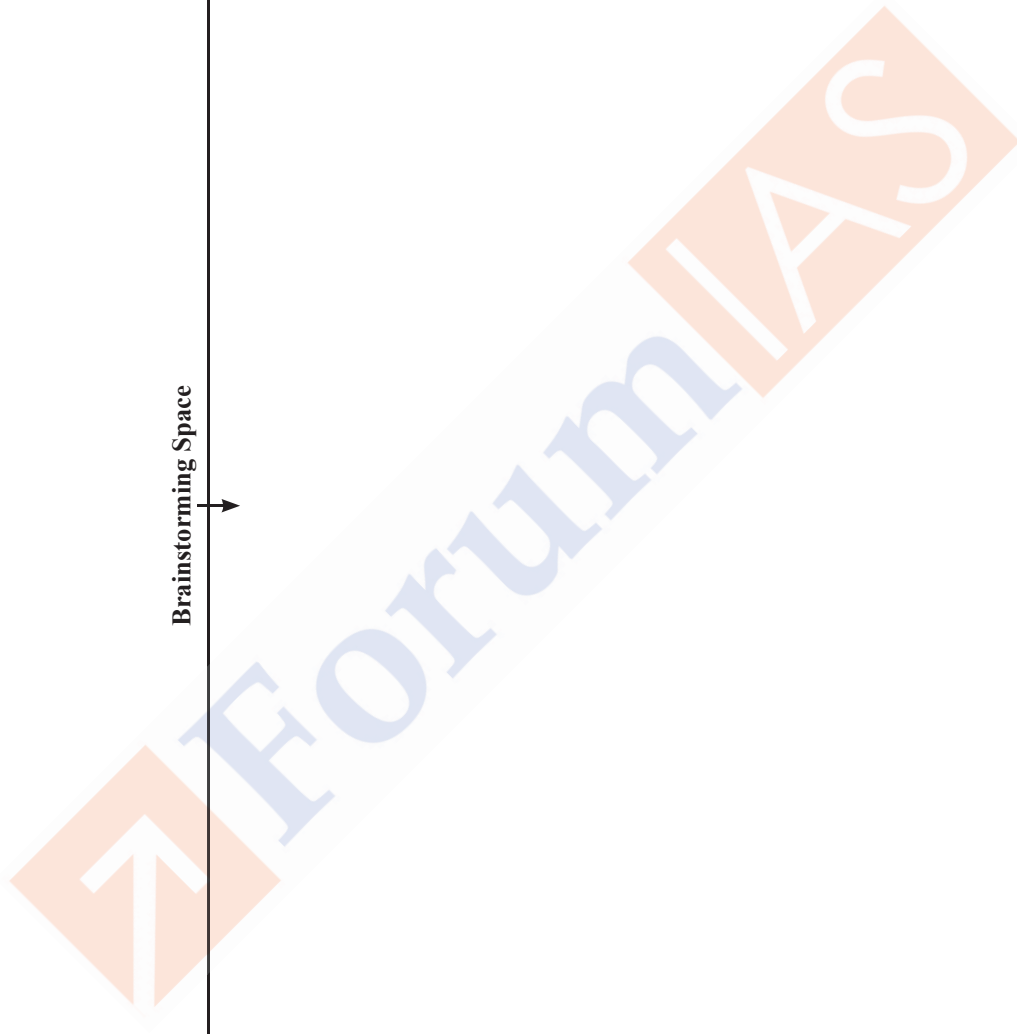
(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2010]

Brainstorming Space



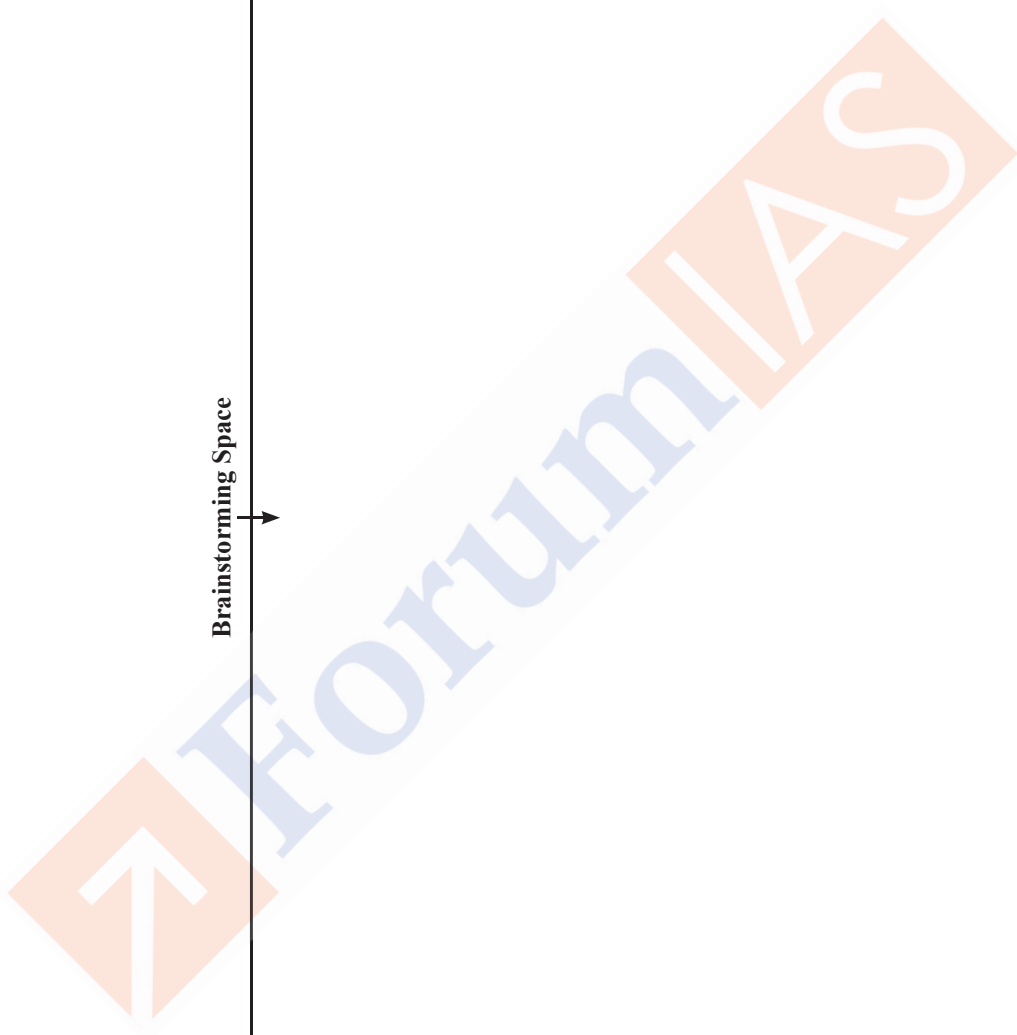
Q.88) Discuss the major extra-constitutional factors influencing the federal polity in India. (15 Marks, 250 Words) [2008]

Brainstorming Space



Q.89) Examine the demand for greater state autonomy and its impact on the smooth functioning of India polity. (10 Marks, 150 Words) [2008]

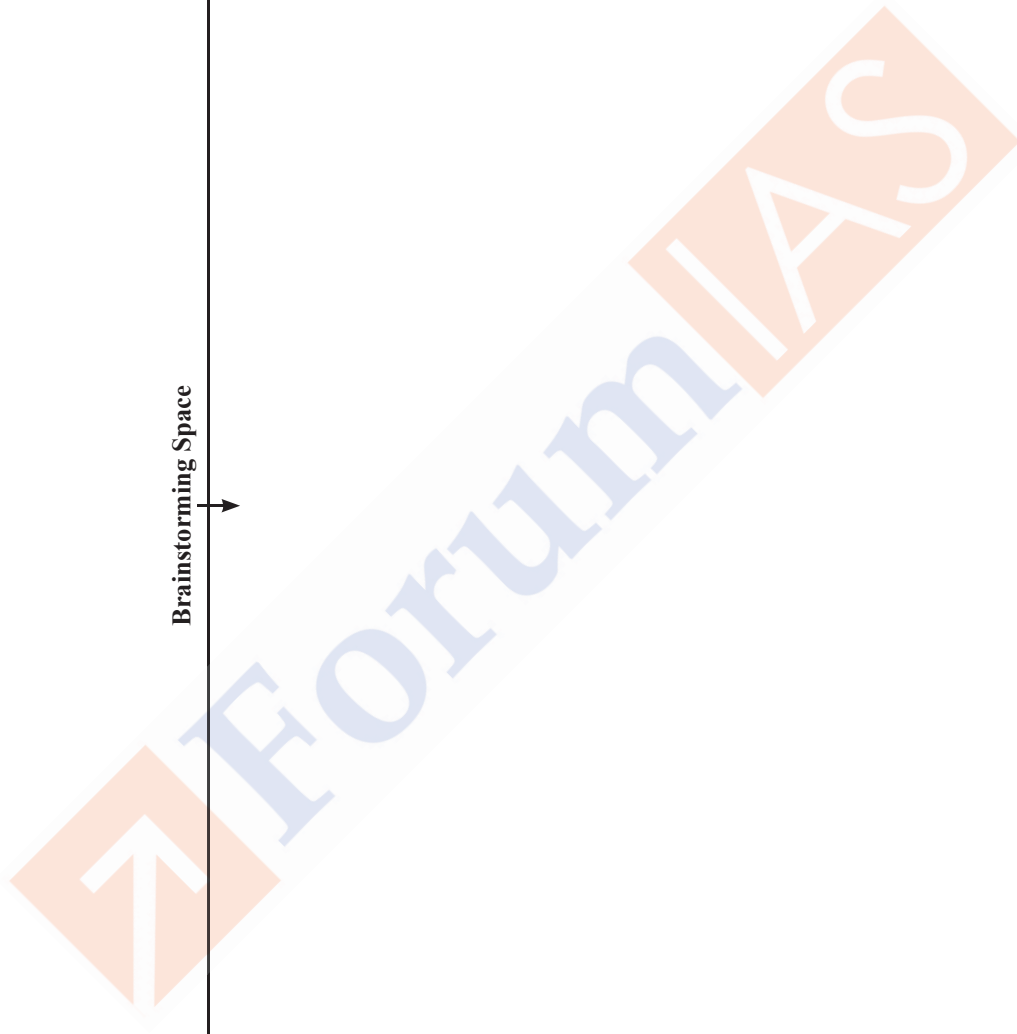
Brainstorming Space



Q.90) Comment on the financial relation between the Union and the States in India. Has post-1991 liberalization in any way affected it?

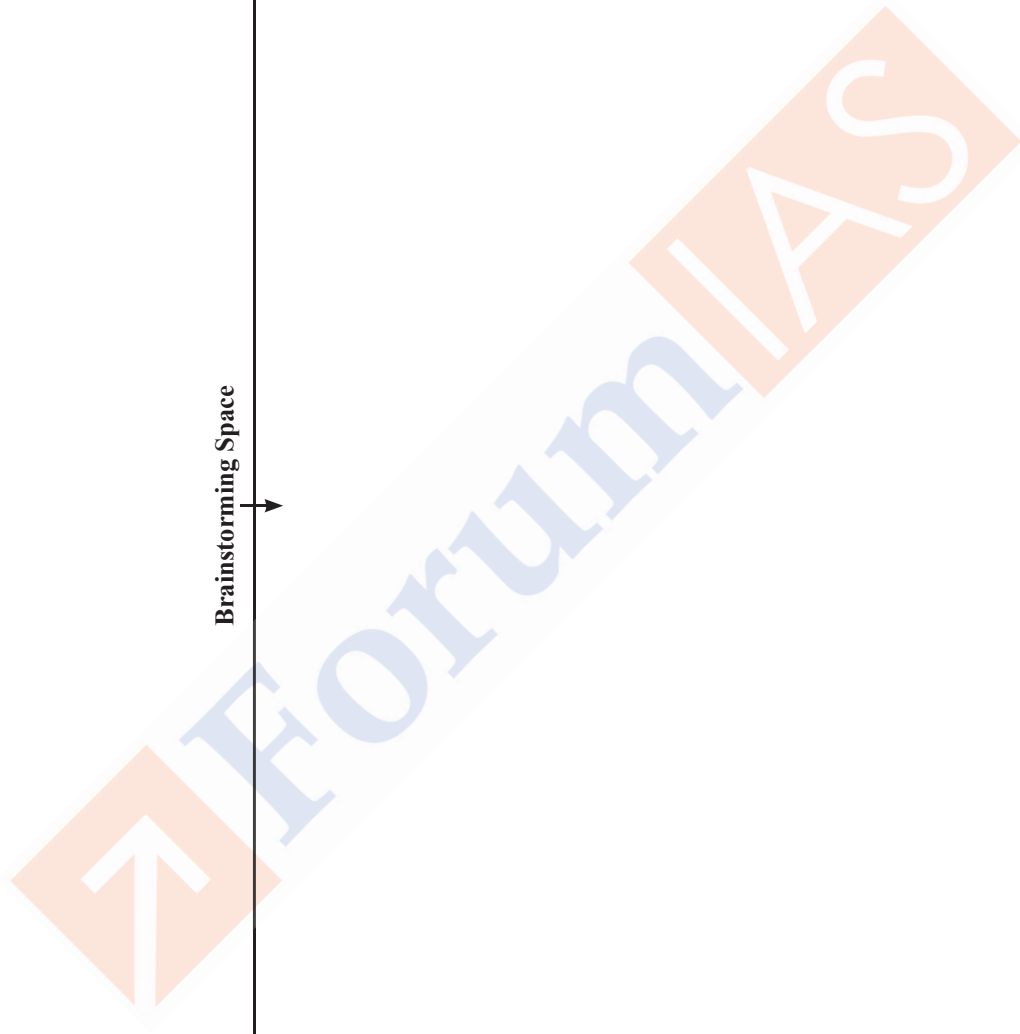
(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2005]

Brainstorming Space



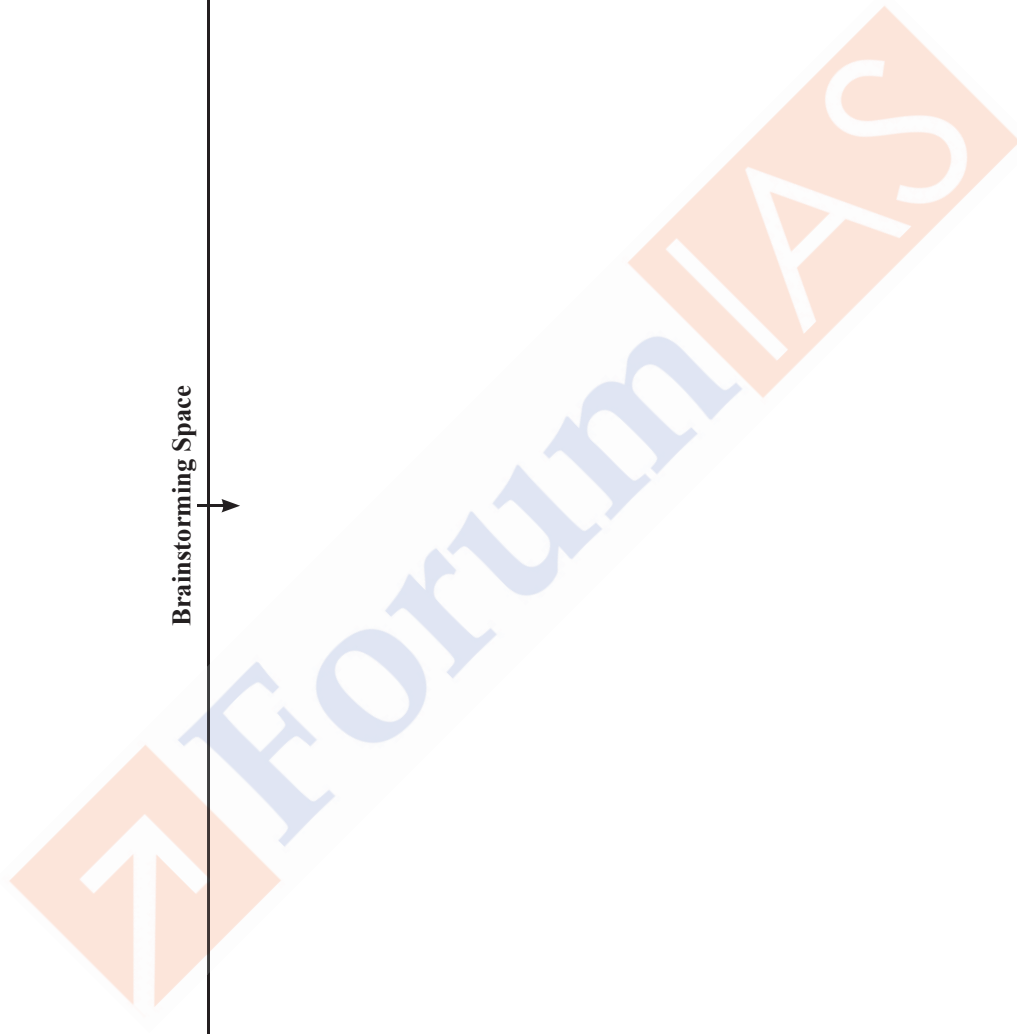
Q.91) Discuss the meaning of 'breakdown of constitutional machinery'.
What are its effects. (15 Marks, 250 Words) [2004]

Brainstorming Space



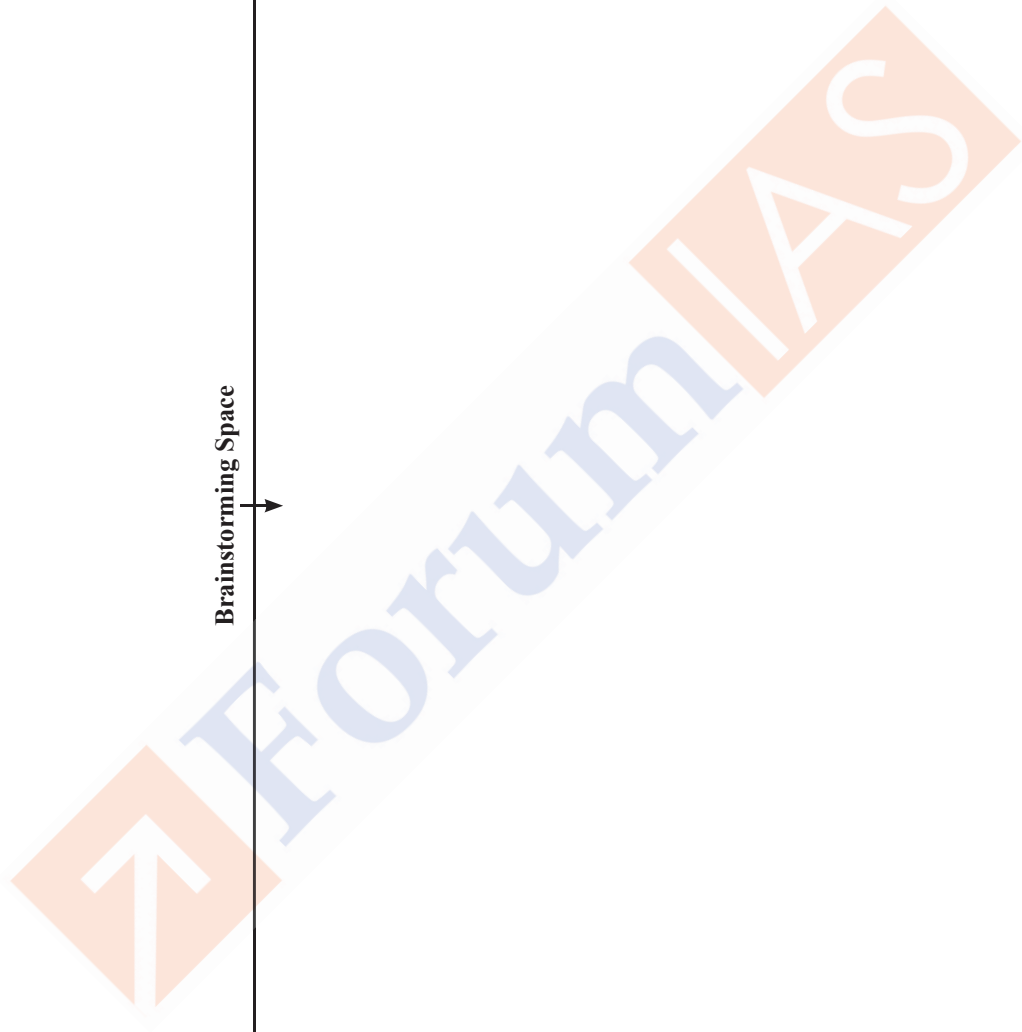
Q.92) The Inter-State river water dispute has once again assumed centre-stage after the Punjab Assembly's Bill terminating all previous accord on river waters. Discuss. (10 Marks, 150 Words) [2004]

Brainstorming Space



Q.93) Discuss the administrative relation between the centre and the states in the light of recent controversies. (15 Marks, 250 Words) [2001]

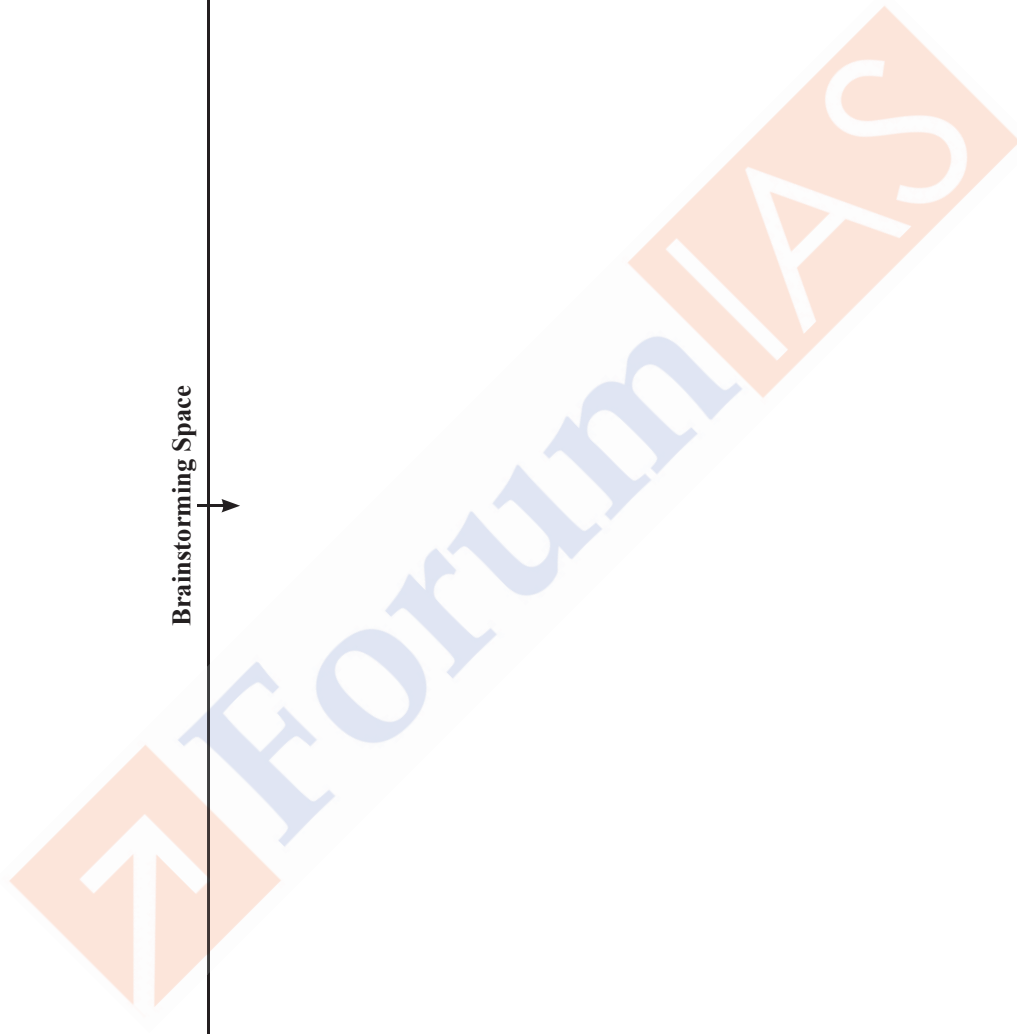
Brainstorming Space



Q.94) Examine the demand for greater State-autonomy and also its impact on the smooth functioning of the Indian polity.

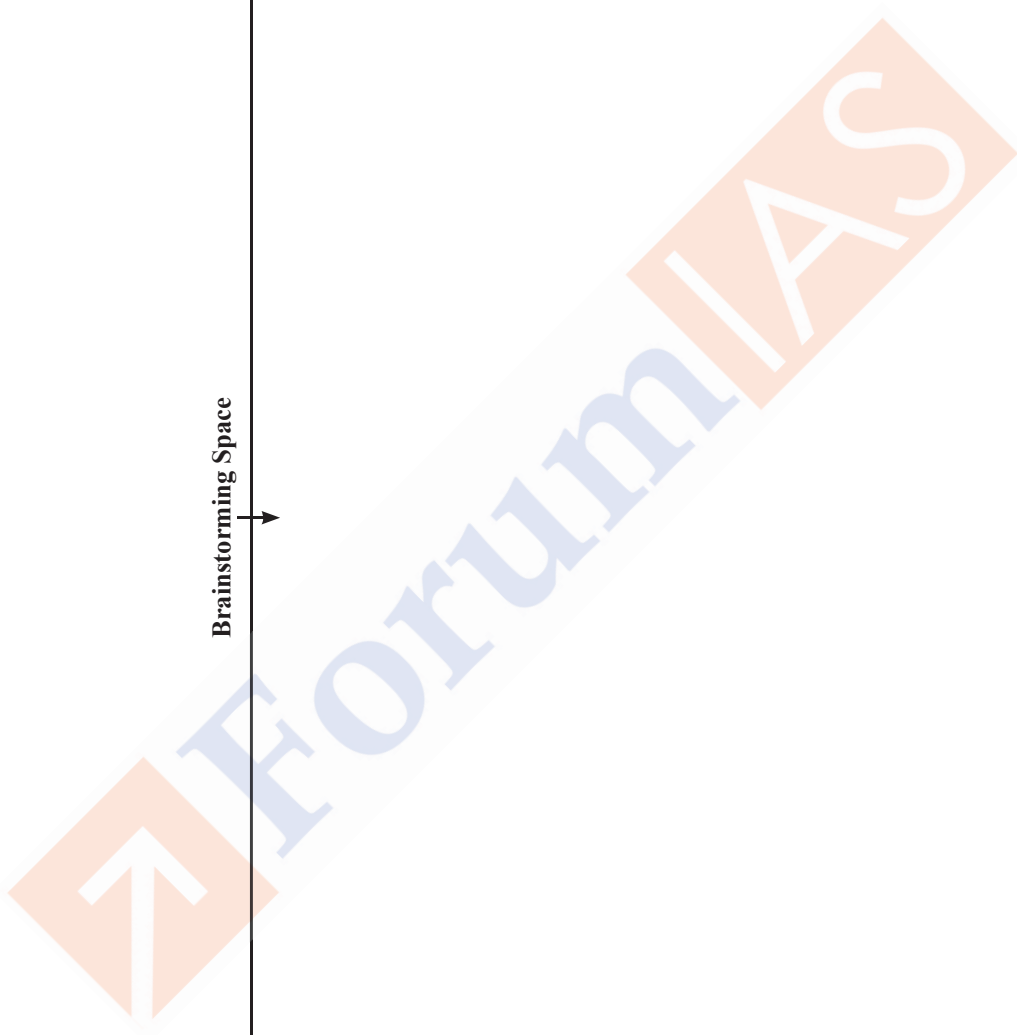
(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2000]

Brainstorming Space



Q.95) Discuss the major extra-constitutional factors influencing the working of federal polity in India. (10 Marks, 150 Words) [2000]

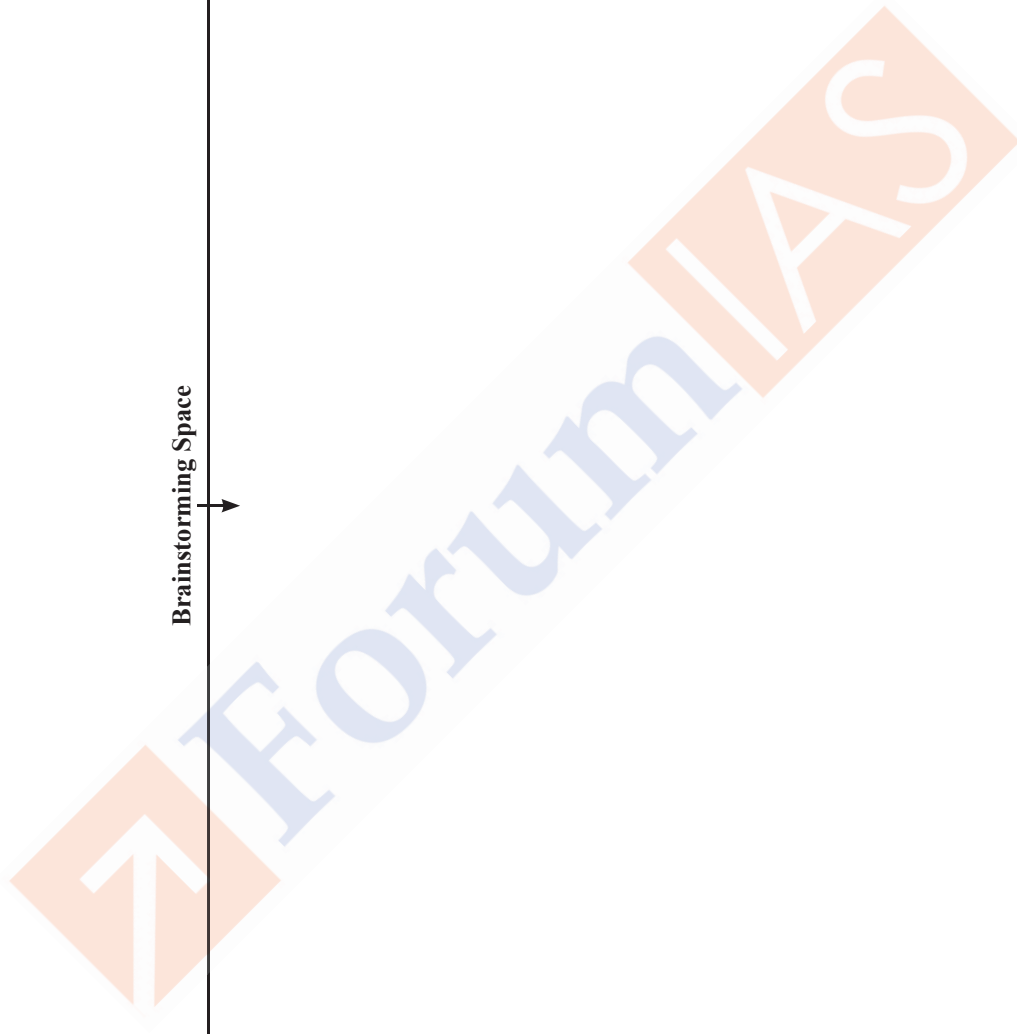
Brainstorming Space



Q.96) What is Article 356 in the Indian Constitution? Comment.

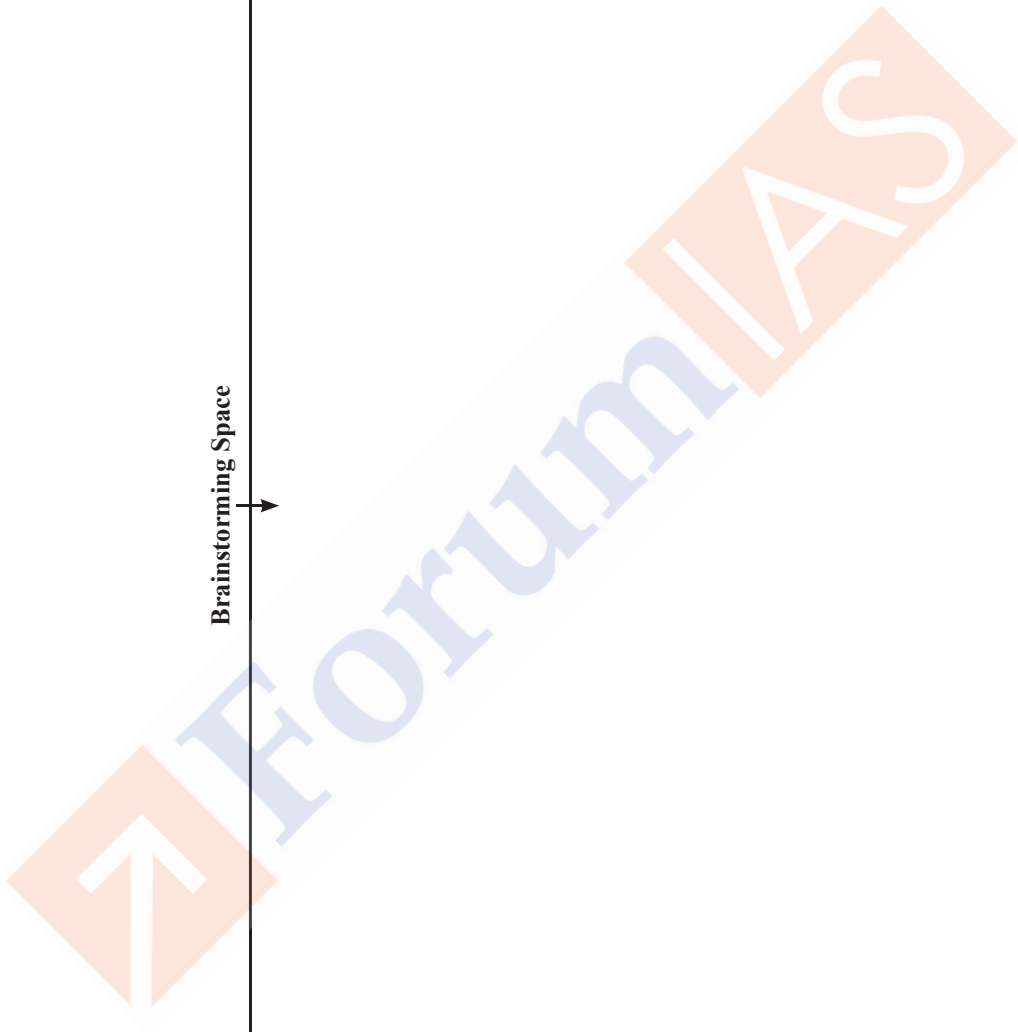
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [1997]

Brainstorming Space



Q.97) What role can the Union Government play in settling interstate water disputes? (10 Marks, 150 Words) [1996]

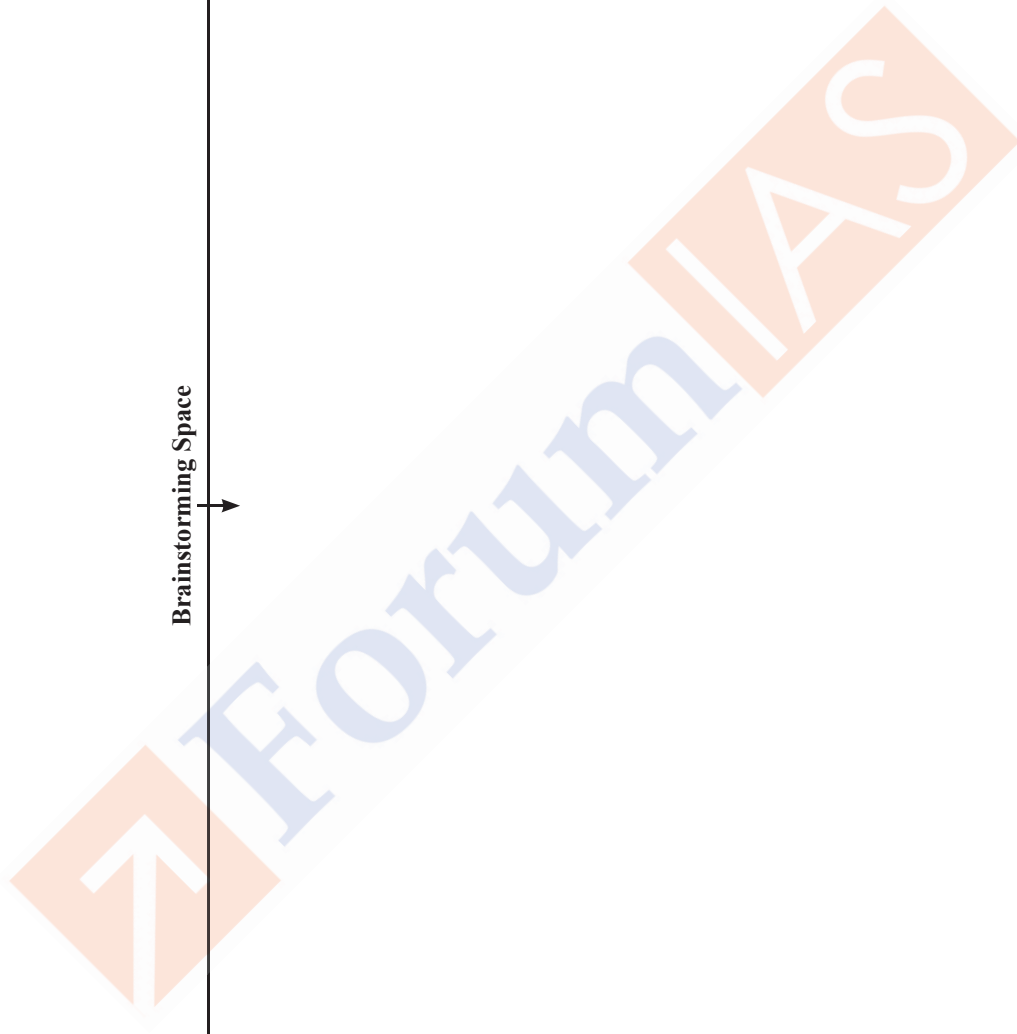
Brainstorming Space



Q.98) Describe the non-federal features of the Council of States.

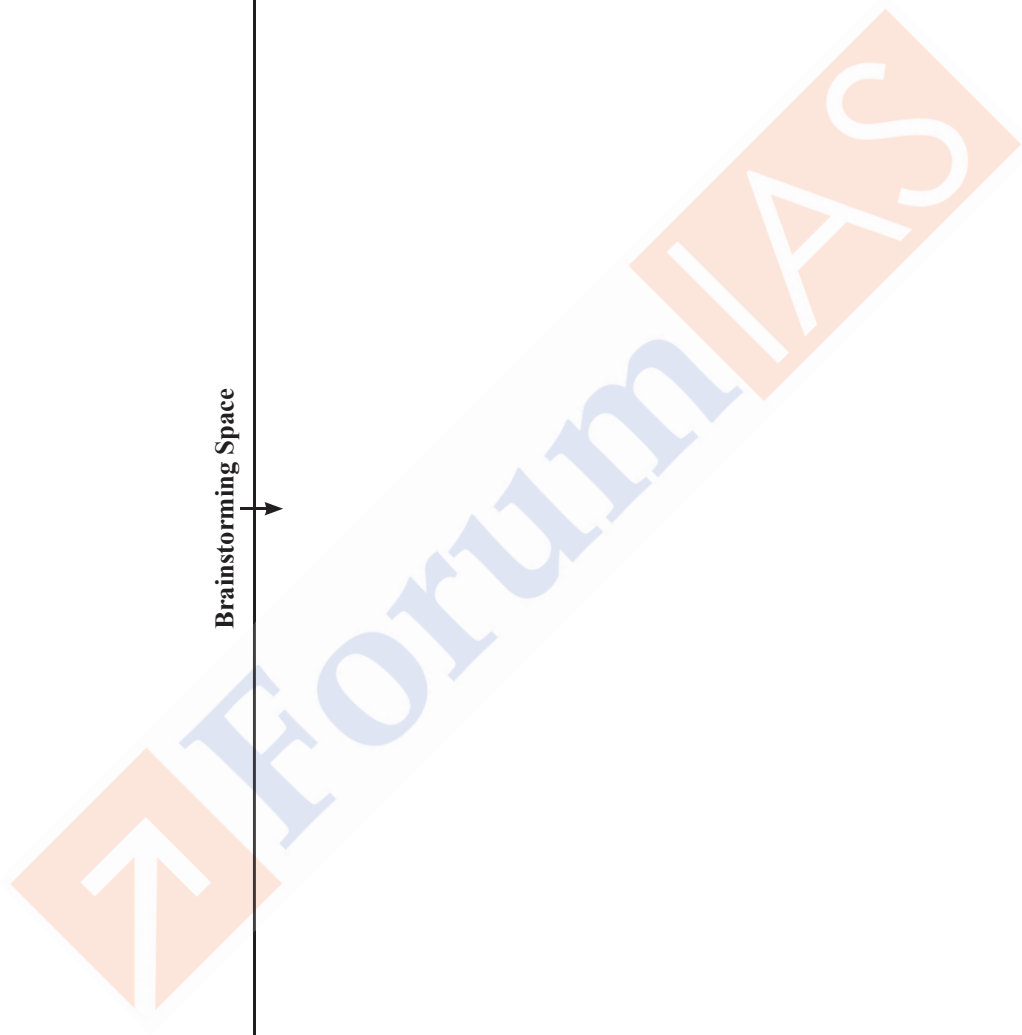
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [1995]

Brainstorming Space



Q.99) What are the essentials of a true federation? Analyse the nature of the Indian federation. (15 Marks, 250 Words) [1993]

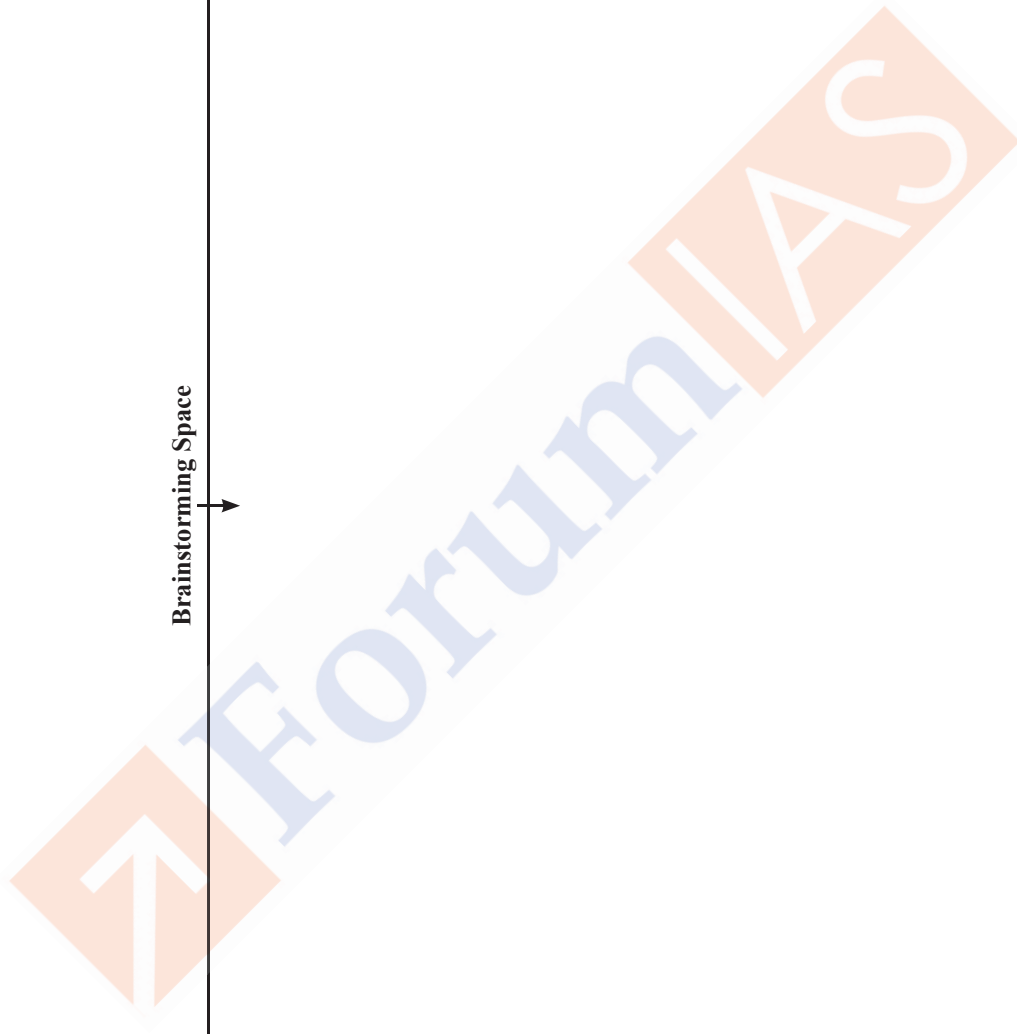
Brainstorming Space



Q.100) What are Zonal Councils? Discuss their constitution, role and importance in achieving interstate comity.

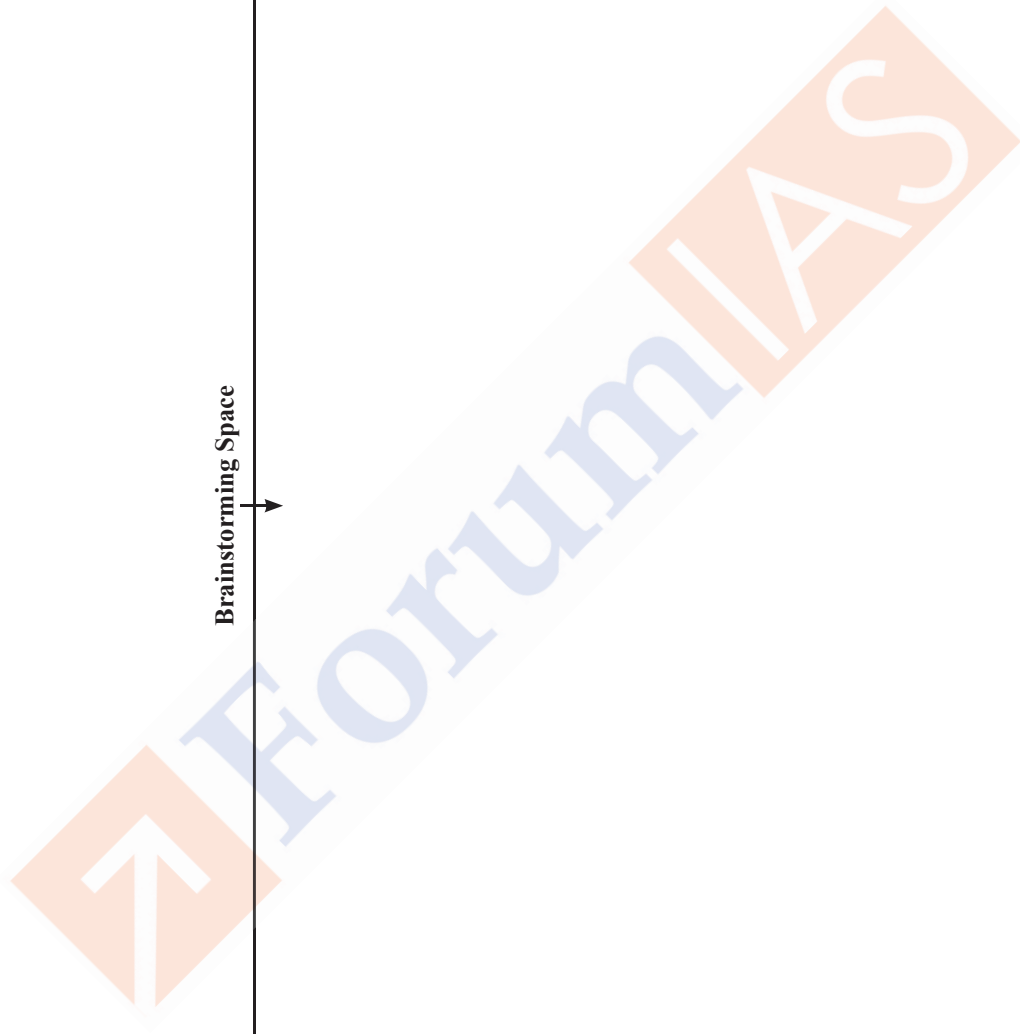
(15 Marks, 250 Words) [1992]

Brainstorming Space



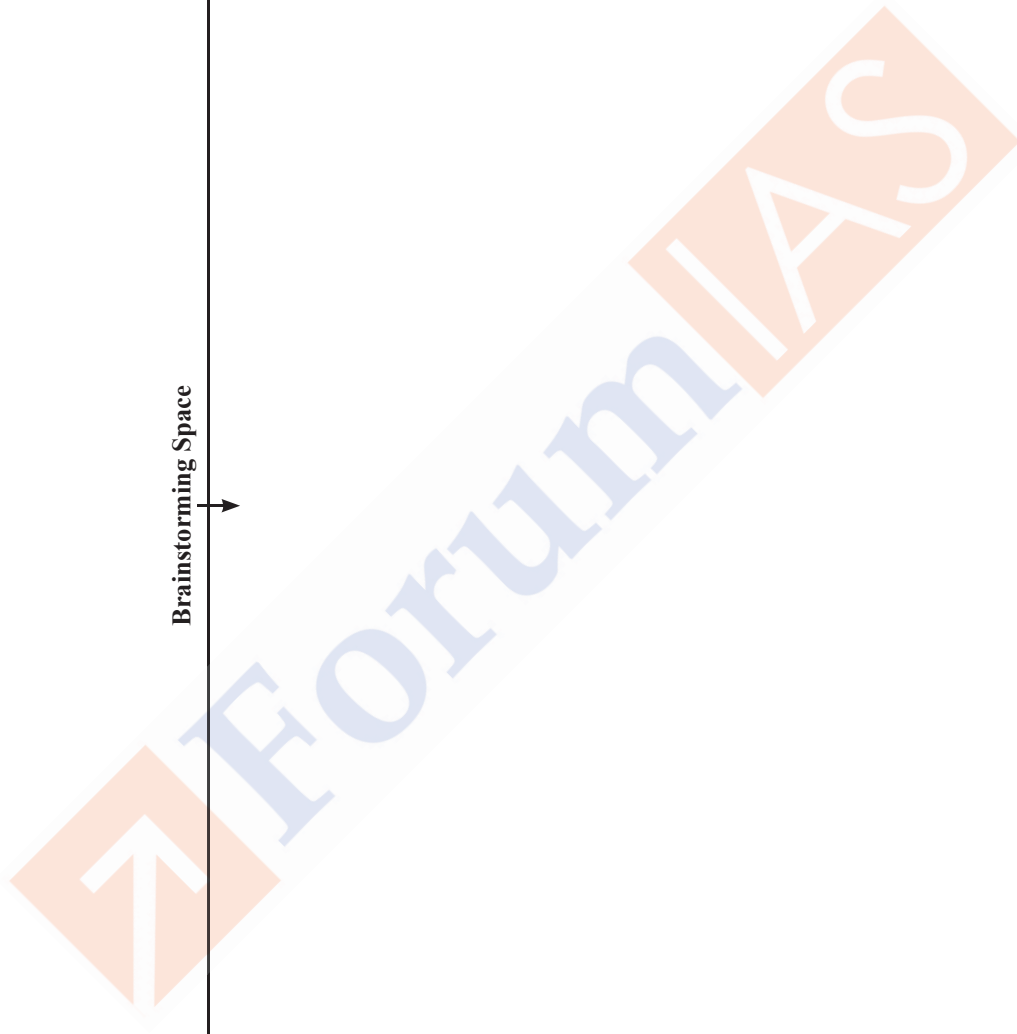
Q.101) Examine whether the grant of greater autonomy to the States would be in the interest of strengthening the integrity and promoting the economic development of the country. (15 Marks, 250 Words) [1991]

Brainstorming Space



Q.102) 'The planning operations in India have led to erosion of federalism.'
Discuss. (10 Marks, 150 Words) [1991]

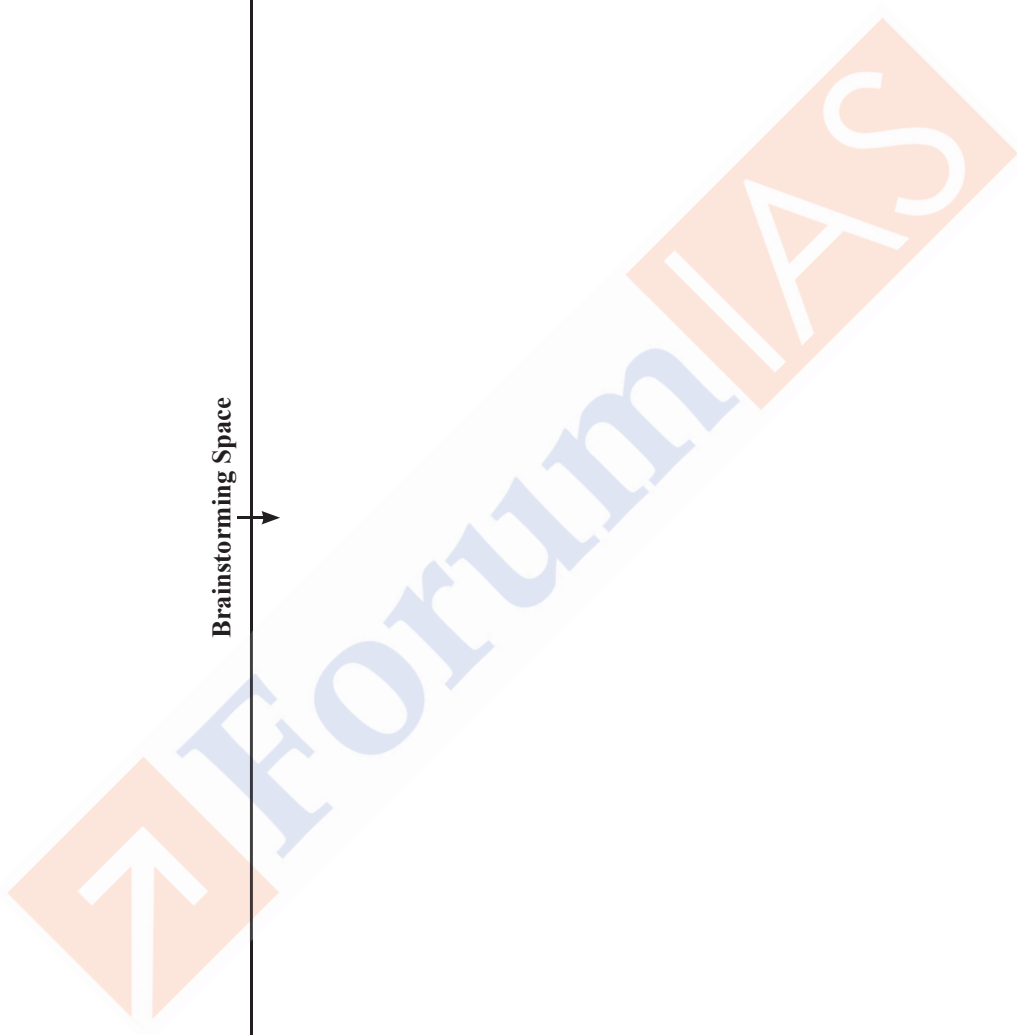
Brainstorming Space



Q.103) The emphasis in modern federations should not be one division and separation but on Collaboration and on Cooperation. Discuss the statement in the context of Indian Policy.

(15 Marks, 250 Words) [1990]

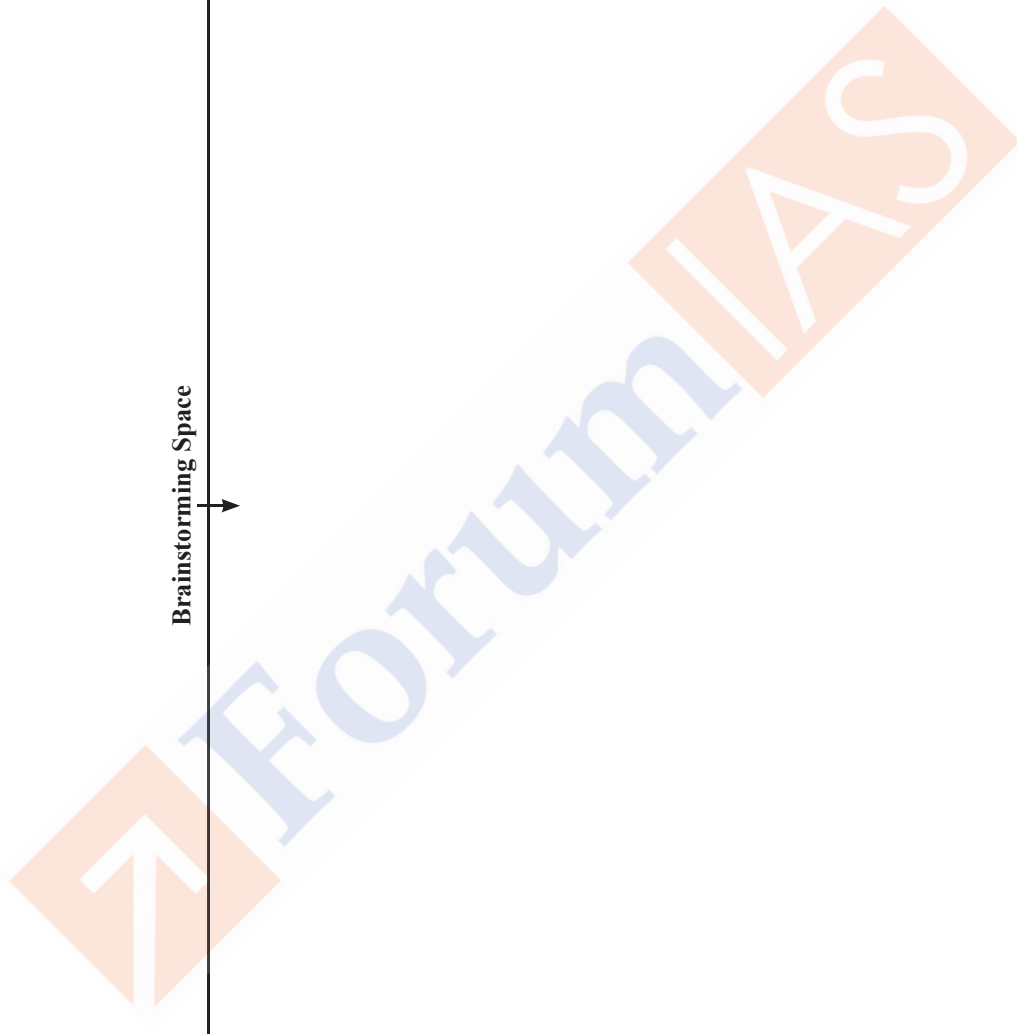
Brainstorming Space



Q.104) Explain the grounds on which the President can proclaim a state emergency. Give examples from the recent experience.

(15 Marks, 250 Words) [1985]

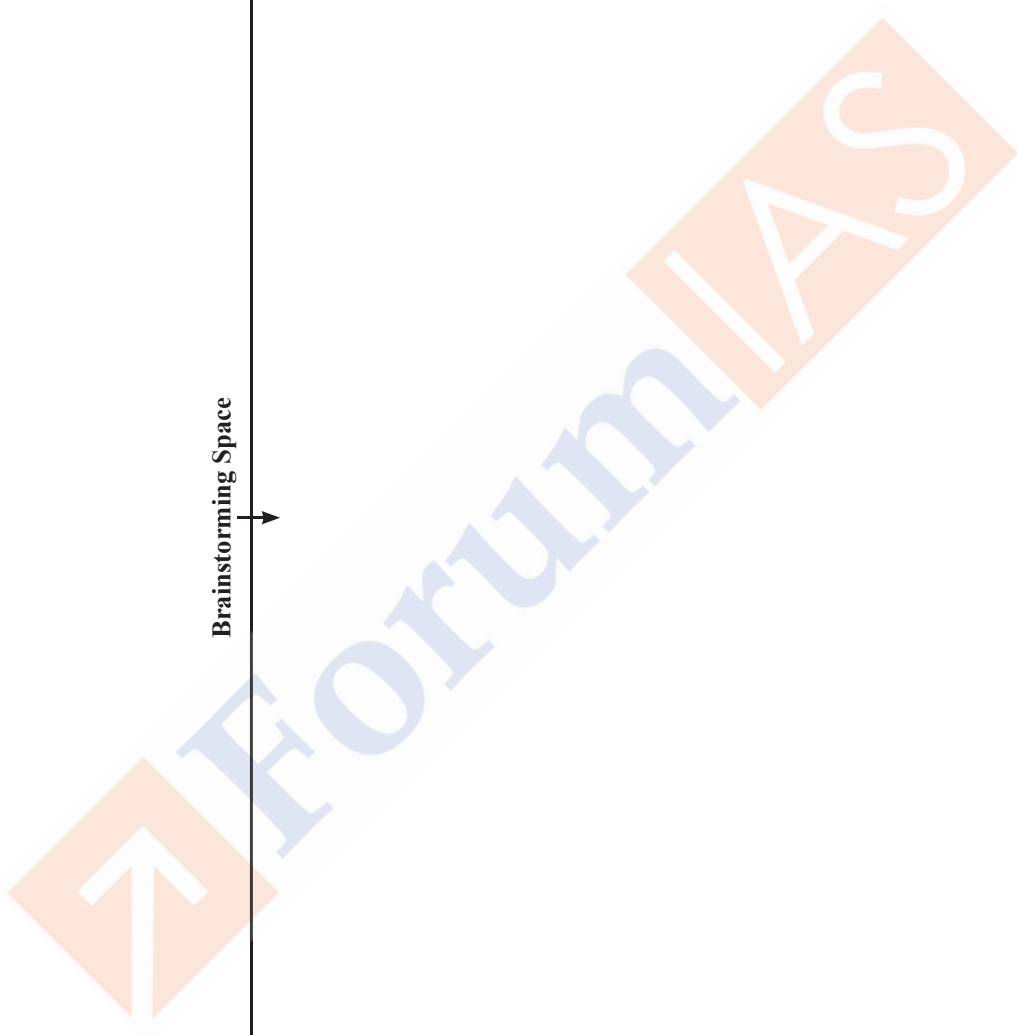
Brainstorming Space



Q.105) Many countries which achieved independence after the war have come under dictatorship or military rule. What are the forces that have enabled India to maintain a democratic system? Consider the emergency provision in the constitution.

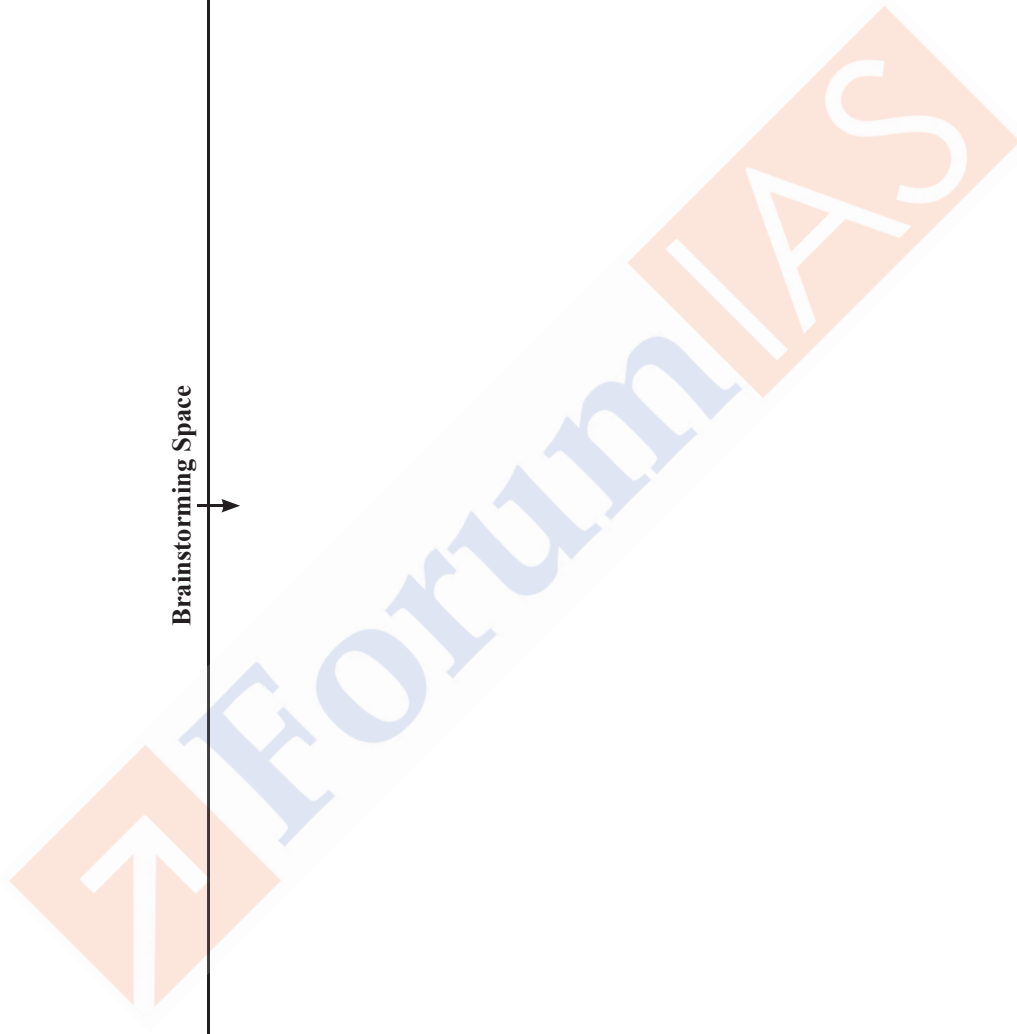
(15 Marks, 250 Words) [1983]

Brainstorming Space



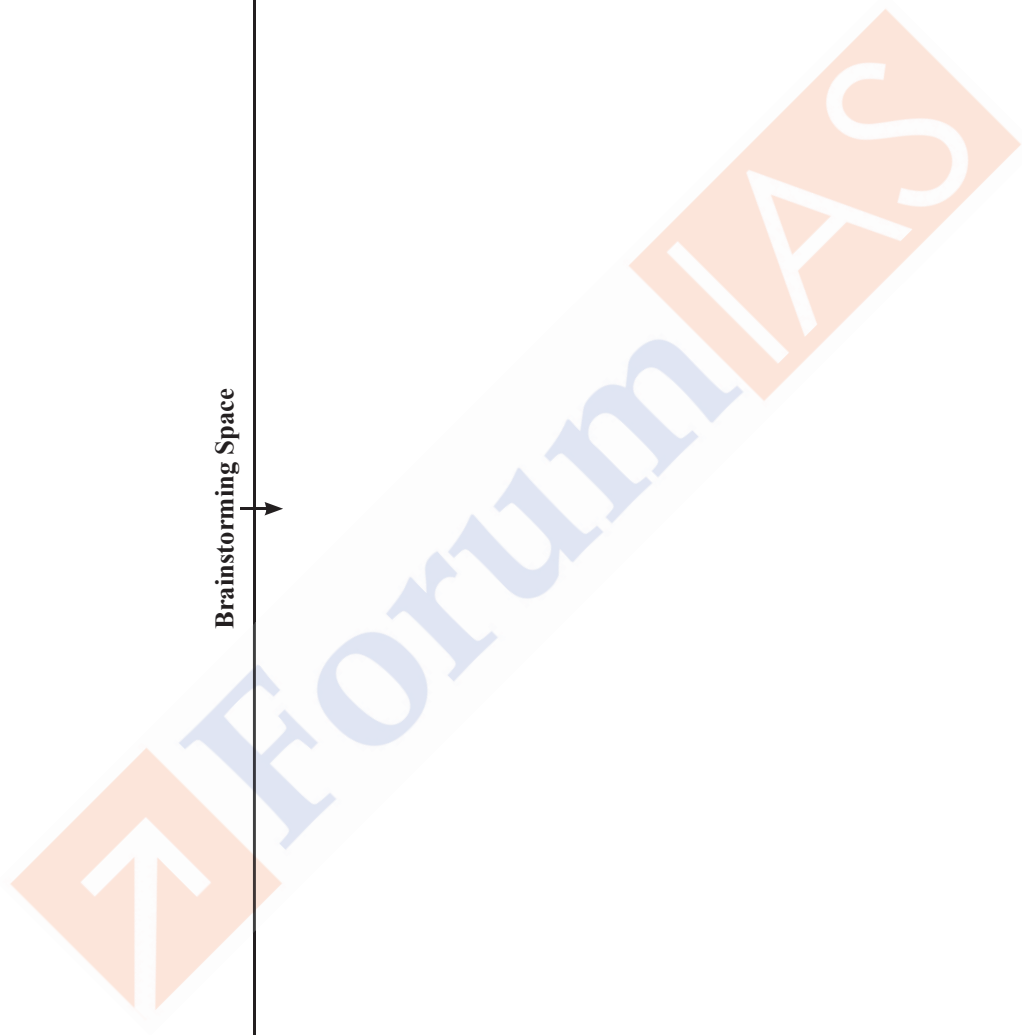
Q.106) What were the objectives in having three separate legislative lists in the Constitution of India? Can the Parliament make any law regard to any item in the state list? (15 Marks, 250 Words) [1983]

Brainstorming Space



Q.107) India is not a federation but it has definite federal features. Elucidate.
(15 Marks, 250 Words) [1982]

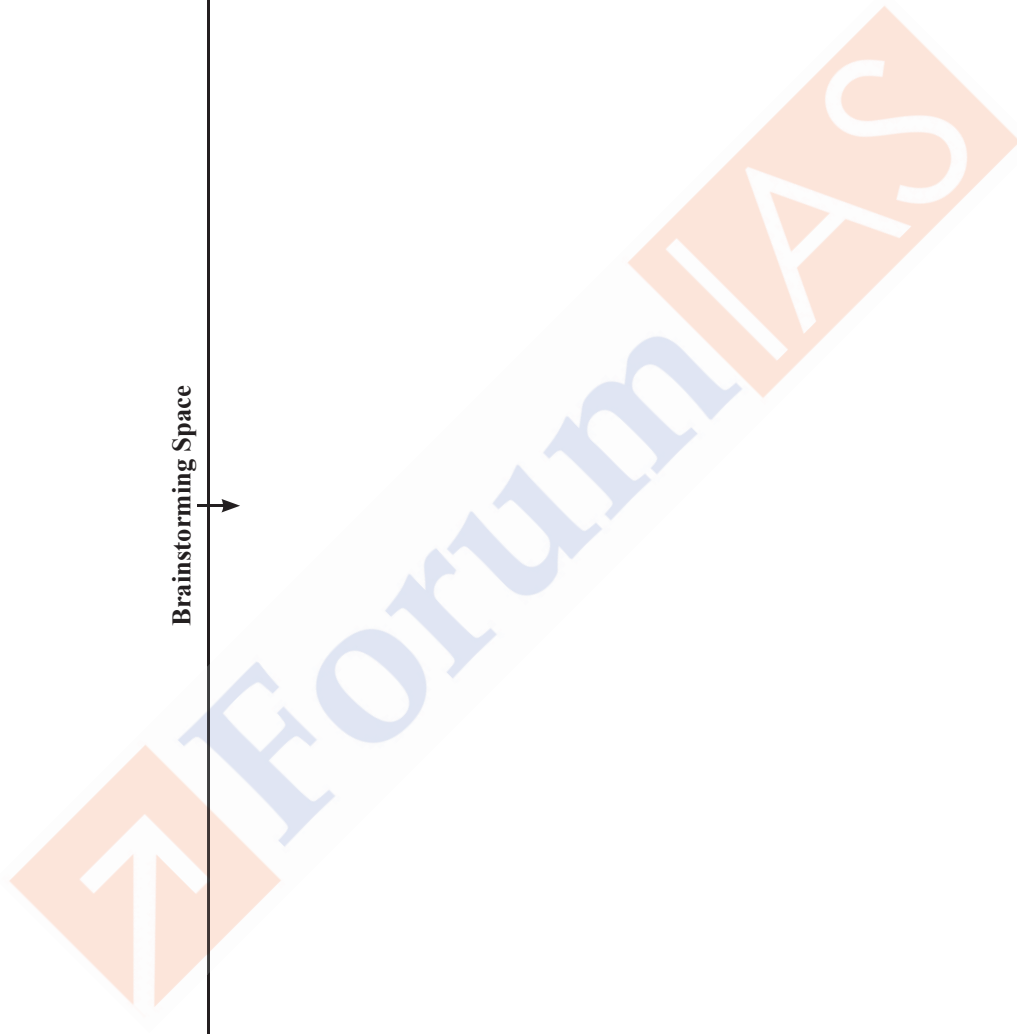
Brainstorming Space



Q.108) Planning and federalism make uneasy partners, the planning operations in India have led to the erosion of federalism. Discuss.

(15 Marks, 250 Words) [1982]

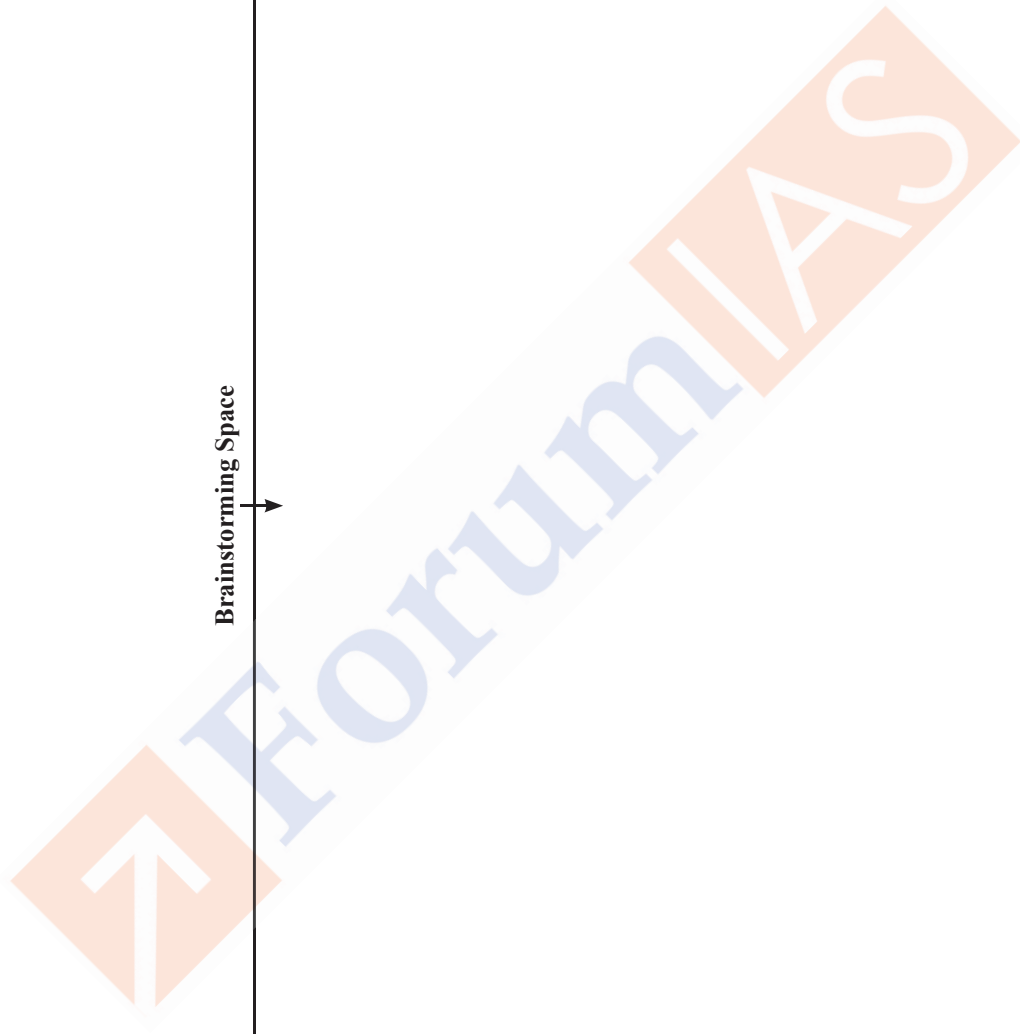
Brainstorming Space



Q.109) Analyse the causes of controversy in India, in recent years in regard to Union-State relations. What are the specific areas? Consider the main issues and offer your comments and suggestions.

(15 Marks, 250 Words) [1981]

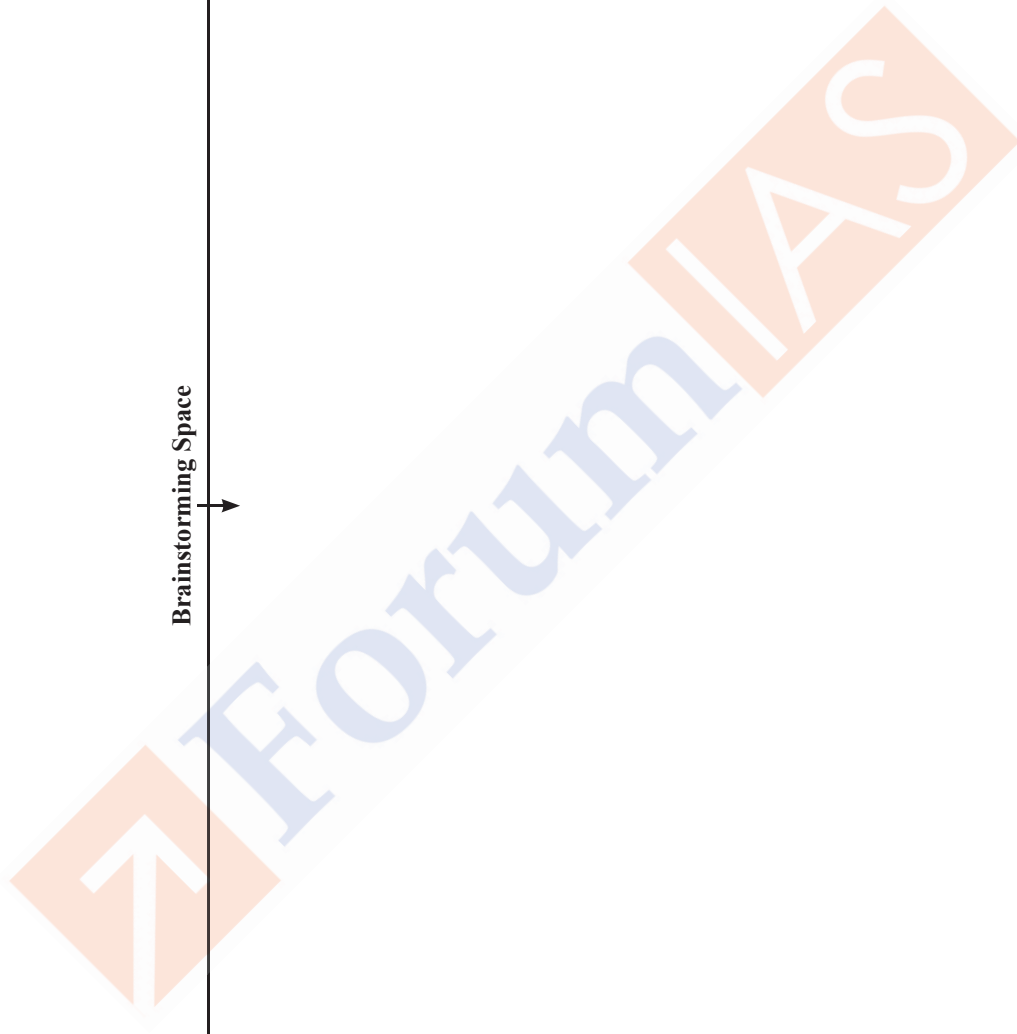
Brainstorming Space



Q.110) Why were the states of India 'reorganised' in 1950? Do you think that the policy has served the purpose which the Government had in view?

(15 Marks, 250 Words) [1980]

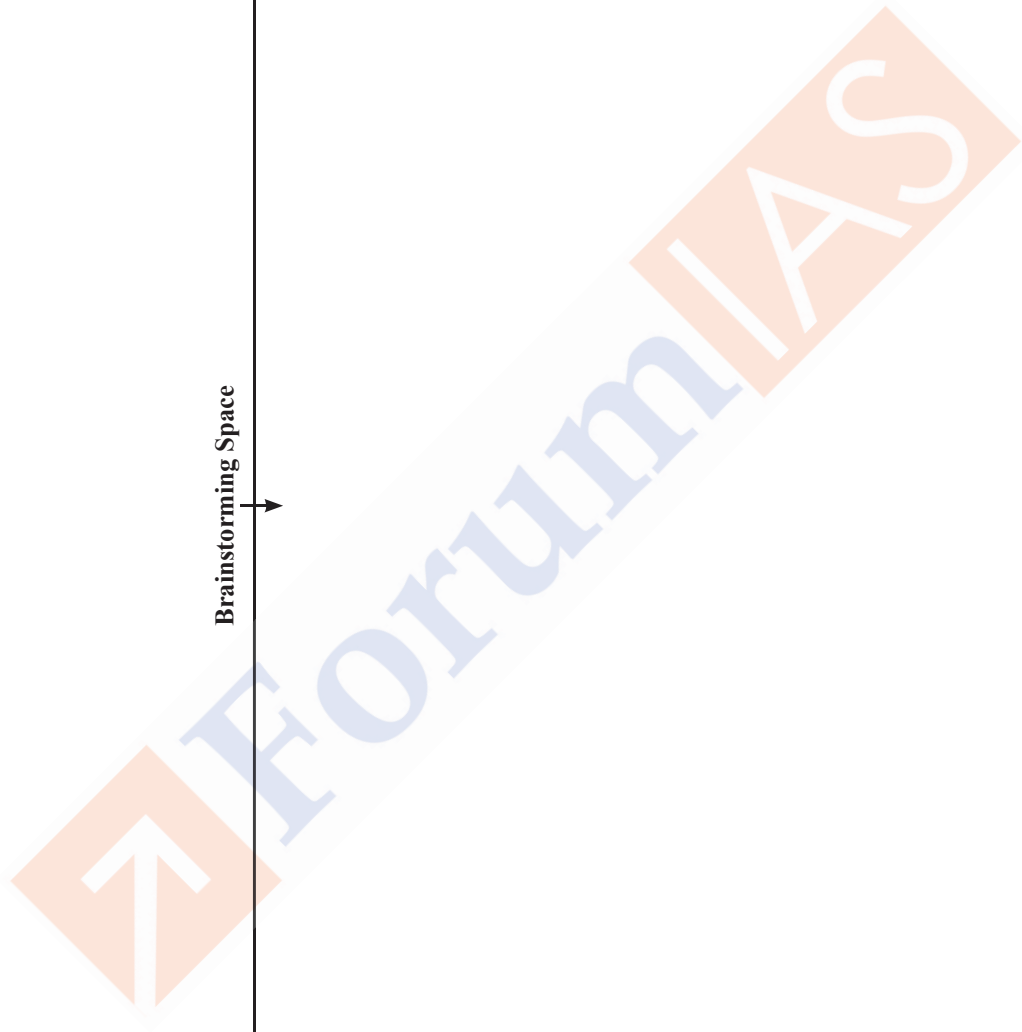
Brainstorming Space



Q.111) 'The growth of cabinet system has practically resulted in the marginalisation of the parliamentary supremacy.' Elucidate.

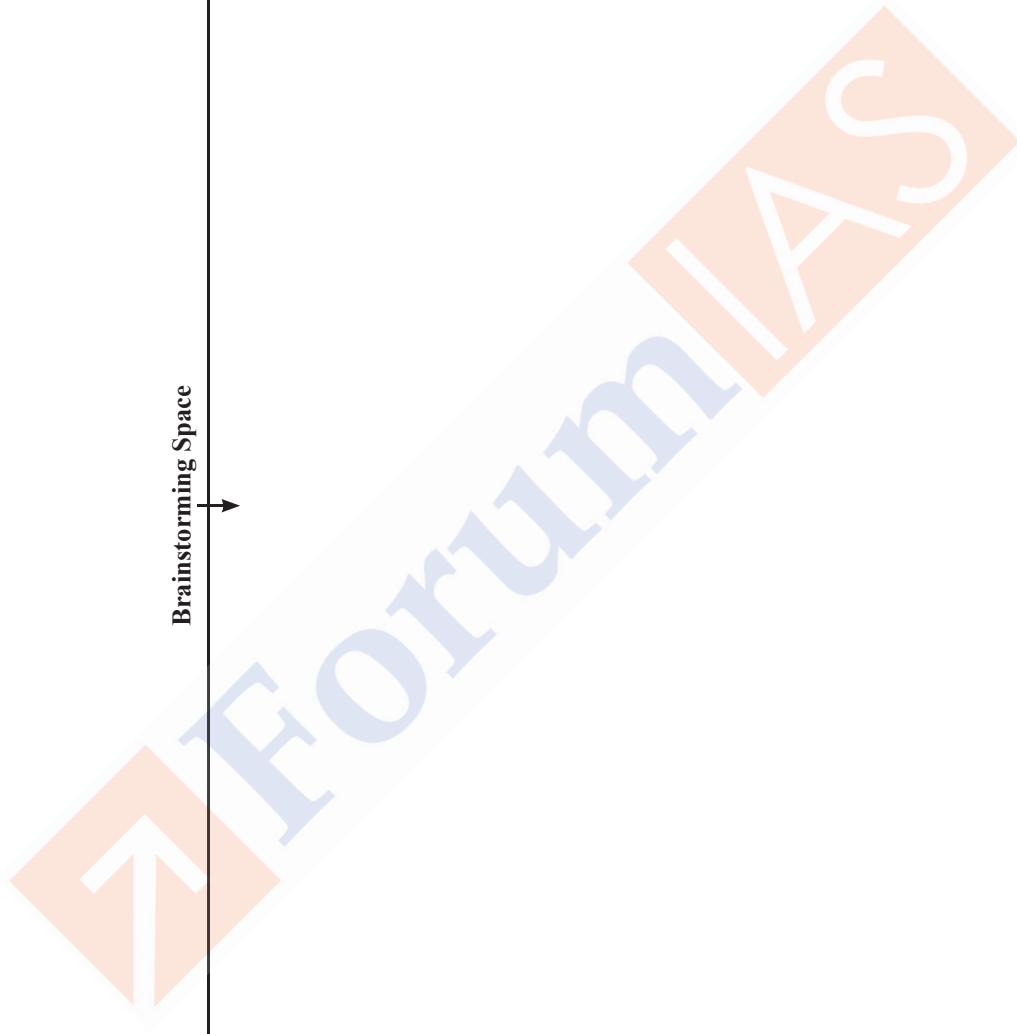
(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2024]

Brainstorming Space



Q.112) 'Constitutionally guaranteed judicial independence is a prerequisite of democracy'. Comment. (10 Marks, 150 Words) [2023]

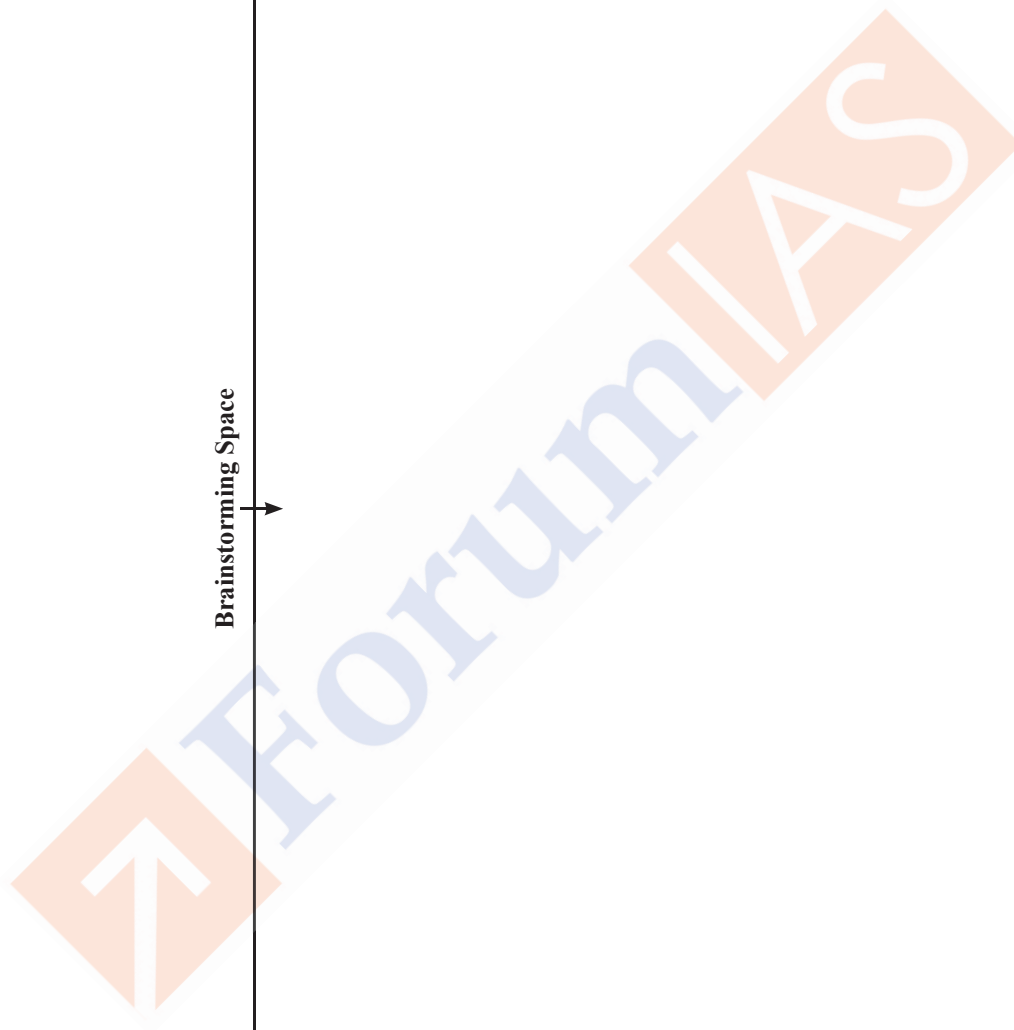
Brainstorming Space



Q.113) Judicial legislation is antithetical to the doctrine of separation of powers as envisaged in the Indian Constitution. In this context justify the filing of large number of public interest petitions.

(15 Marks, 250 Words) [2020]

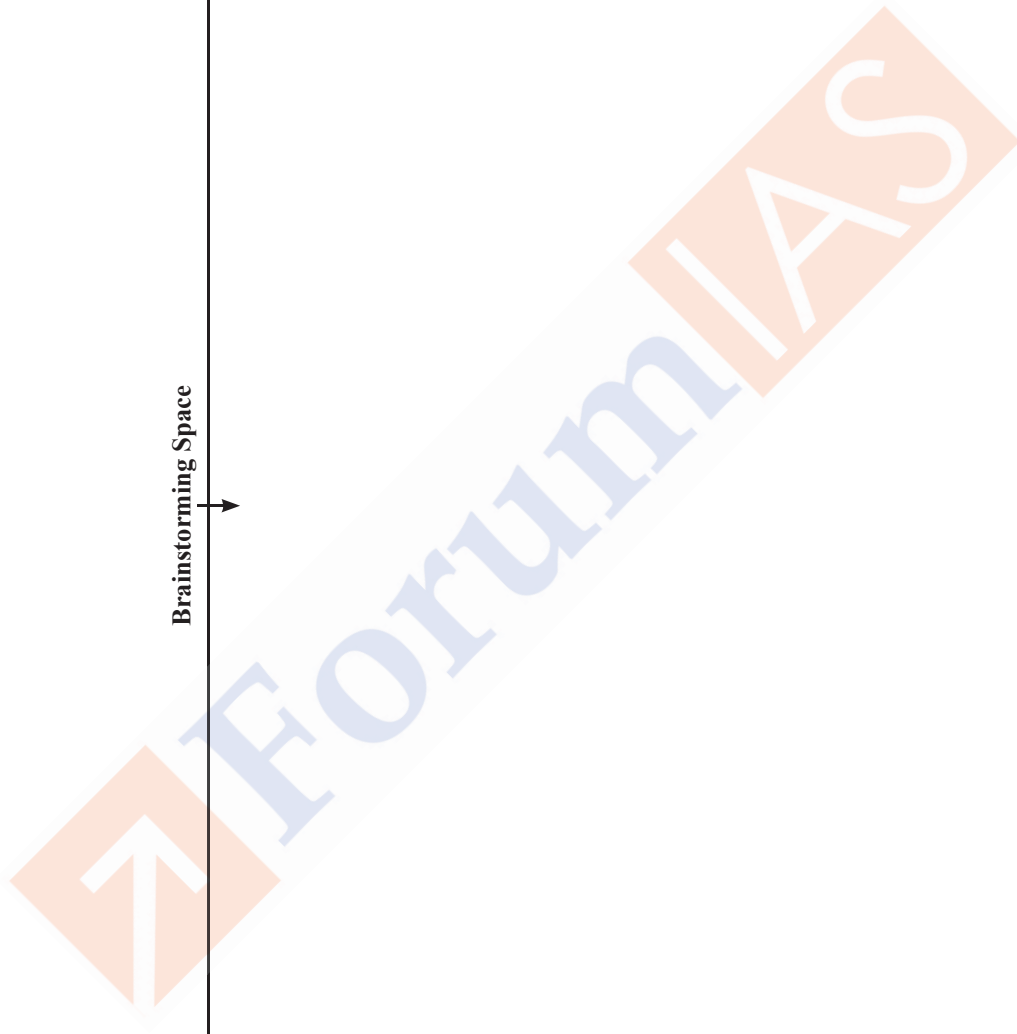
Brainstorming Space



Q.114) From the resolution of contentious issues regarding distribution of legislative powers by the courts, 'Principle of Federal Supremacy' and 'Harmonious Construction' have emerged. Explain.

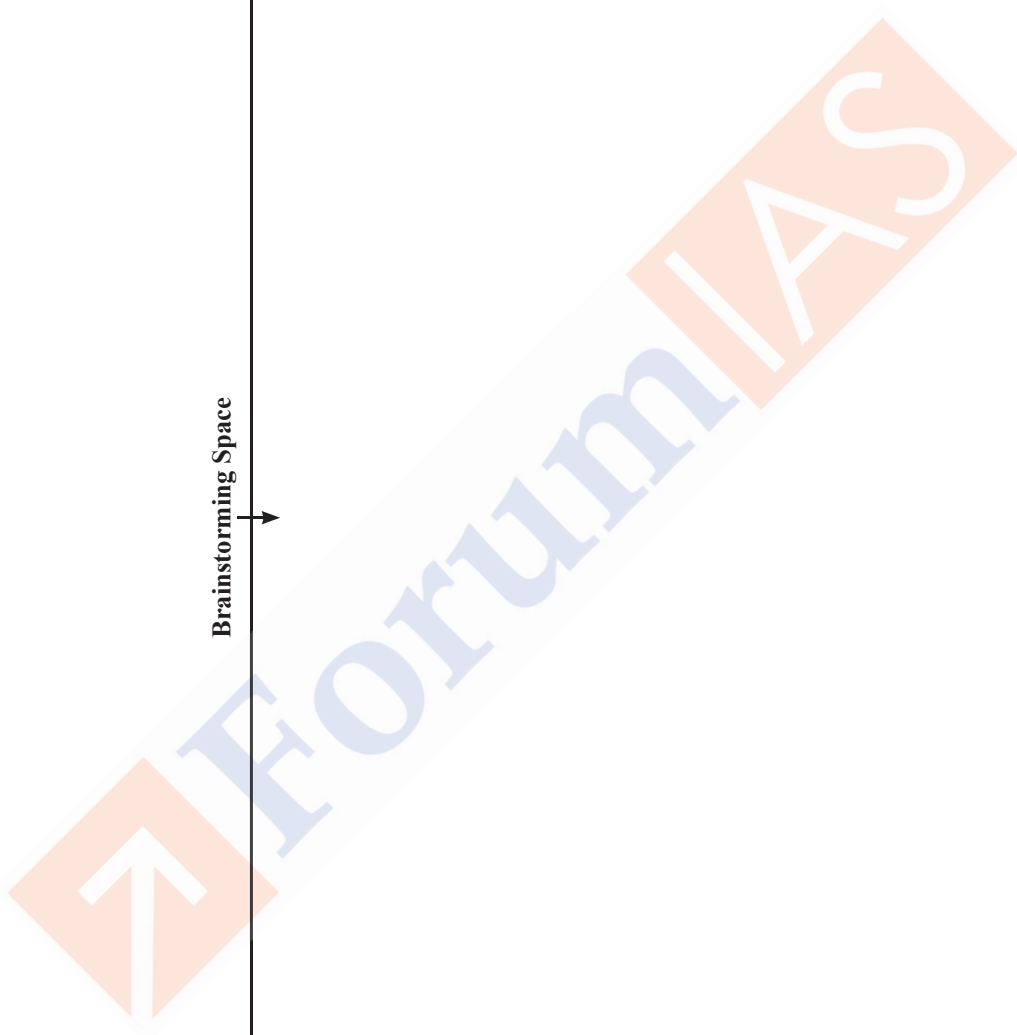
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [2019]

Brainstorming Space



Q.115) Do you think Constitution of India does not accept principle of strict separation of powers rather it is based on the principle of 'checks and balance'? Explain. (10 Marks, 150 Words) [2019]

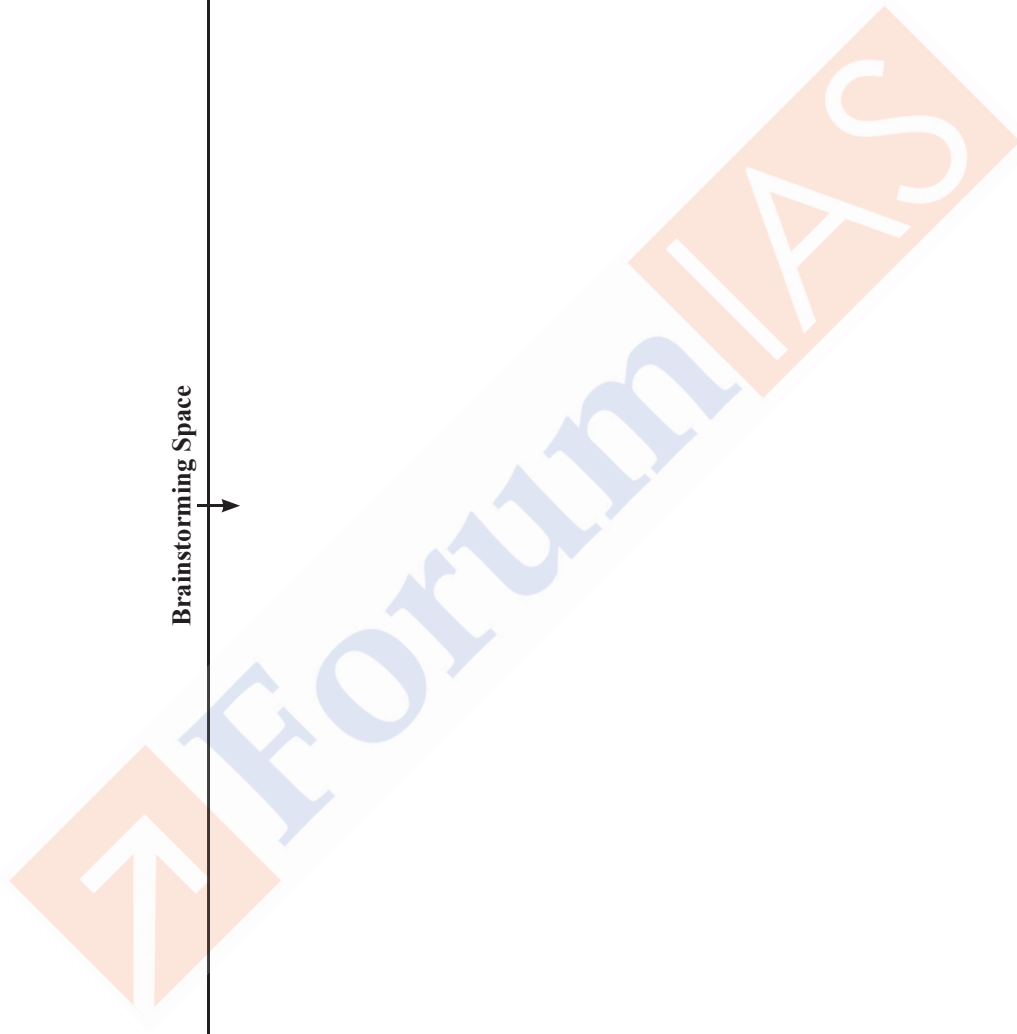
Brainstorming Space



Q.116) 'The Supreme Court of India keeps a check on arbitrary power of the Parliament in amending the Constitution.' Discuss critically.

(12.5 Marks, 200 Words) [2013]

Brainstorming Space



Q.117) Resorting to ordinances has always raised concern on violation of the spirit of separation of powers doctrine. Analyze whether the decisions of the Supreme Court on the issue have further facilitated resorting to this power. Should ordinances be repealed?

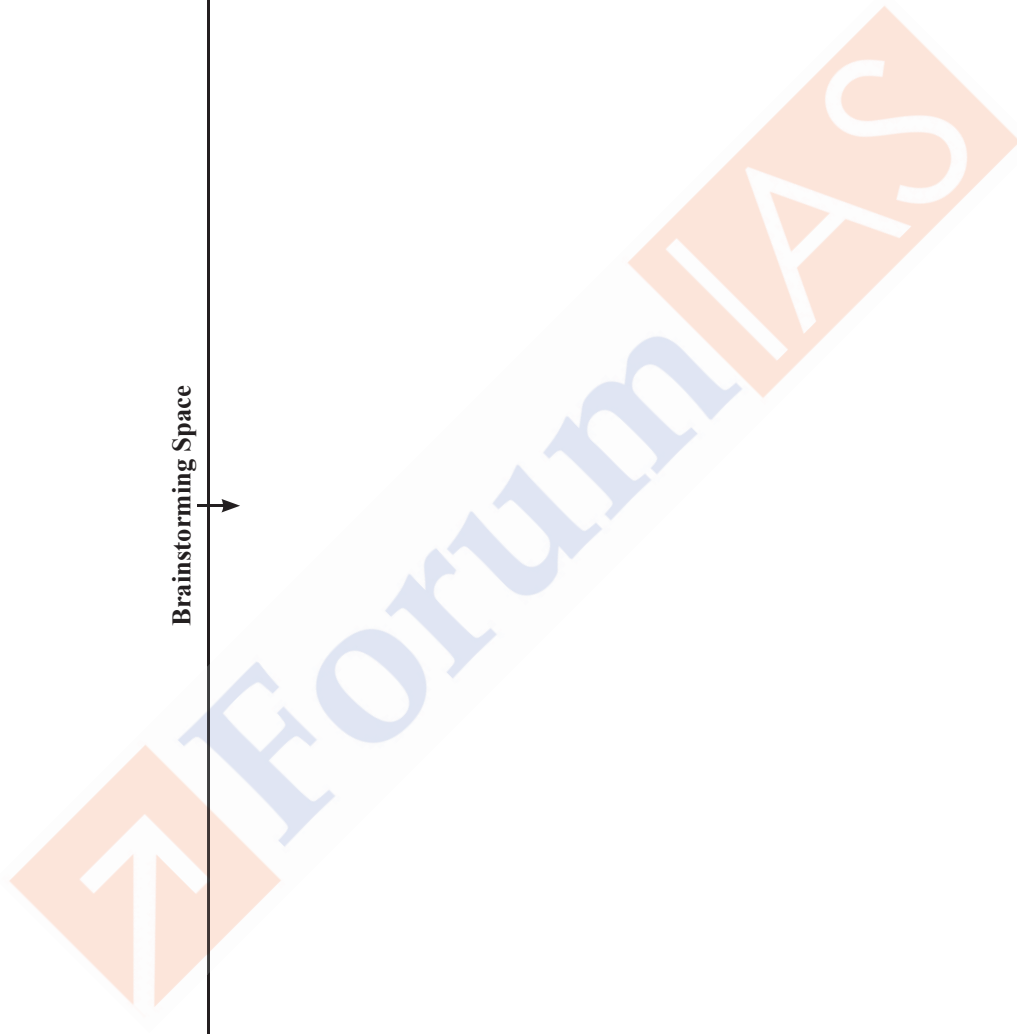
(15 Marks, 200 Words) [2015]

Brainstorming Space

Q.118) Impact of globalisation on state system and its institutions.

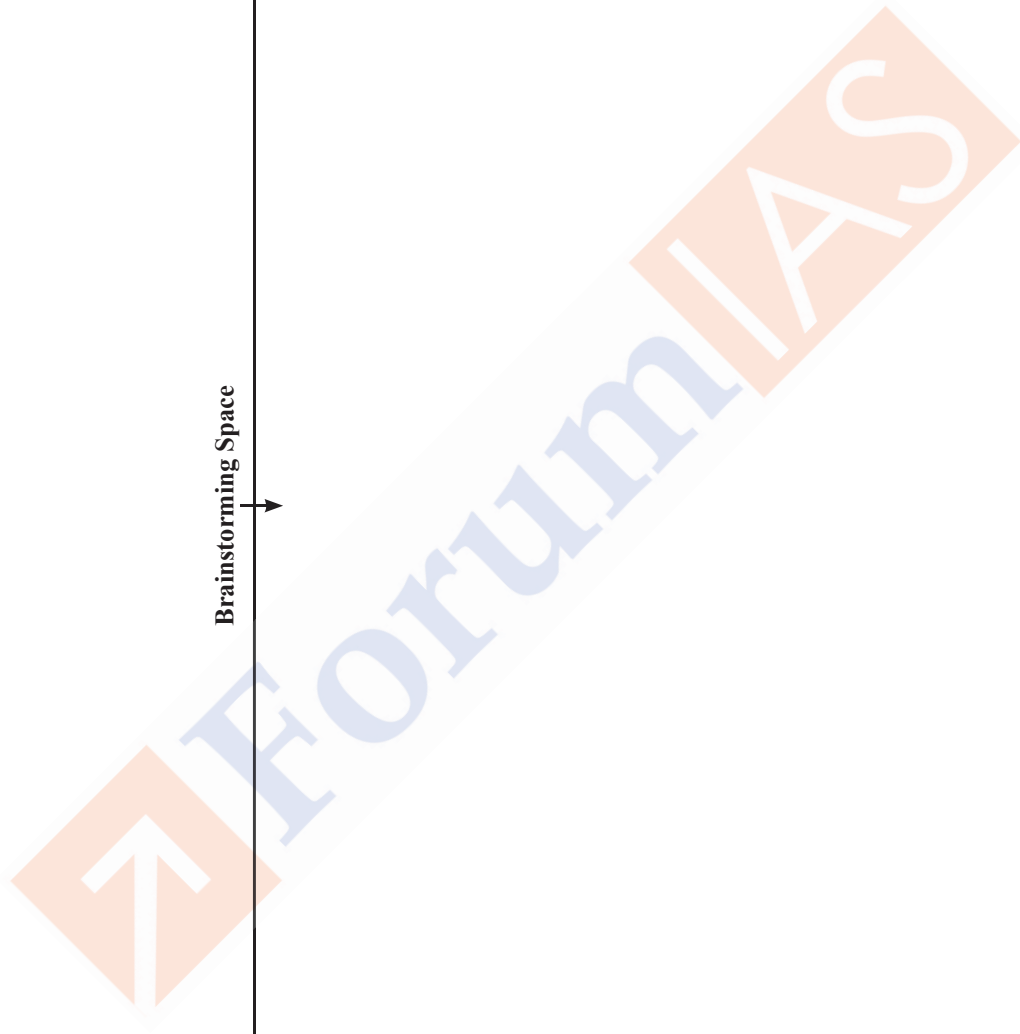
(10 Marks, 150 Words) [2007]

Brainstorming Space



Q.119) Separation of powers is essential to ensure Individual liberty. Discuss this with regard to the provisions in the Constitution and practices adopted so far. (10 Marks, 150 Words) [1983]

Brainstorming Space



Q.120) Examine the relative role of Legislature, Judiciary and the executive in the functioning of the parliamentary system of Government in India. Is it a fact that executive has been tending to be more powerful?

(10 Marks, 150 Words) [1982]

Brainstorming Space

