# Society & Social Justice · GS - II

**Examine the constitutional safeguards available to tribal communities against exploitation and displacement. Discuss the role of administrative accountability and institutional mechanisms in protecting tribal rights.**

| EXAM YEAR | PAPER | SUBJECT |
|---|---|---|
| DAILY PRACTICE 06/11/2026 | GS - II | Society & Social Justice |

| MARKS | WORD LIMIT |
|---|---|
| 10 | ~150 words |

## Answer Hint

**Fifth Schedule, Sixth Schedule, Article 244, Article 338A, PESA Act 1996, Forest Rights Act 2006, land alienation, displacement, tribal self-governance, Gram Sabha powers, police accountability, access to justice and protection of vulnerable communities.**

## Model Answer

### Introduction

Tribal communities often face challenges involving land alienation, displacement, exploitation and inadequate access to public institutions. The Constitution provides special safeguards to protect their rights and interests.

### Constitutional and Legal Safeguards

Article 244 and the Fifth and Sixth Schedules provide special administrative arrangements for tribal areas. The Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 strengthens Gram Sabha participation, while the Forest Rights Act, 2006 recognises individual and community forest rights. Article 338A establishes the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes.

### Importance of Administrative Accountability

Effective implementation requires transparent land records, protection against illegal land transfers, accessible grievance redressal and impartial police investigations. Institutional failures can deepen insecurity and weaken public trust.

**Way Forward**

Strengthening Gram Sabhas, legal aid, independent investigations, social audits and community participation can improve accountability. Tribal representatives should have meaningful involvement in decisions affecting their land and livelihoods.

**Conclusion**

Constitutional safeguards must translate into effective grassroots protection. Responsive administration, access to justice and respect for tribal self-governance are essential for inclusive development.

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