Polity & Governance · GS - II

Examine the challenges involved in ensuring justice, accountability and rehabilitation for victims of large-scale communal violence in India.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 30/10/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

1984 anti-Sikh riots; communal violence; rule of law; institutional accountability; police reforms; judicial process; victim rehabilitation; constitutional safeguards; social harmony

Model Answer

Introduction

The 1984 anti-Sikh riots, which followed the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, remain a significant example of the challenges involved in addressing large-scale communal violence. Ensuring justice requires accountability, impartial investigation and long-term rehabilitation.

Key Challenges

1. Delayed Justice: Delays in investigation, prosecution and judicial proceedings can weaken public confidence in institutions.

2. Institutional Accountability: Allegations of police negligence, administrative failures and political interference require impartial investigation.

3. Evidence and Witness Protection: Inadequate documentation, intimidation and loss of evidence can obstruct prosecution.

4. Rehabilitation: Victims require compensation, livelihood support, housing, education and psychological assistance.

5. Social Reconciliation: Communal violence can create long-term mistrust and social divisions.

Way Forward

Independent investigations, witness protection, time-bound trials, police reforms and effective implementation of rehabilitation schemes are essential. Political accountability must be pursued through constitutional and legal processes rather than unverified allegations.

Conclusion

Justice for victims must remain independent of political considerations. Strengthening institutions, protecting rights and ensuring accountability are essential for upholding constitutional values and social harmony.

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