# Defence & Security · GS - III

**Examine the key features of the Agnipath Scheme and discuss the implications of extending the service tenure of Agniveers on military recruitment and personnel welfare.**

| EXAM YEAR | PAPER | SUBJECT |
|---|---|---|
| DAILY PRACTICE 05/11/2026 | GS - III | Defence & Security |

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

## Answer Hint

**Agnipath Scheme, four-year engagement, Seva Nidhi package, regular cadre absorption, military preparedness, personnel welfare, family-related restrictions, policy flexibility, operational requirements.**

## Model Answer

### Introduction

The Agnipath Scheme, introduced in 2022, aims to create a younger and more technologically adaptable armed forces through short-term recruitment of personnel known as Agniveers.

### Key Features of the Scheme

Agniveers are initially recruited for four years, including training. After this period, up to 25% of a batch may be selected for regular service, subject to organisational requirements and performance. Others receive a Seva Nidhi package and certain post-service benefits.

### Implications of Service Extension

An optional two-year extension could improve continuity, retain trained personnel and reduce the need for repeated recruitment and training. It may also strengthen operational experience and provide greater financial

stability to selected personnel.

However, extended service requires clear rules concerning pay, career progression, family welfare and eligibility for permanent absorption. Any relaxation of marriage-related restrictions should be assessed in the context of service conditions, operational demands and equal treatment.

**Conclusion**

A flexible Agnipath framework can support military preparedness while protecting personnel welfare. Reforms should be transparent, consistent and aligned with the long-term requirements of the armed forces.

BECOME IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP