Polity & Governance · GS - II

Right of movement and residence throughout the territory of India are freely available to Indian citizens, but these rights are not absolute. Comment.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
2022	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Articles 19(1)(d) and 19(1)(e) guarantee citizens the freedom to move freely and reside or settle anywhere in India. Under Articles 19(5), reasonable restrictions may be imposed in the interests of the general public and for protecting the interests of Scheduled Tribes.

Model Answer

Introduction

The Constitution promotes national integration by allowing citizens to move and reside throughout India. However, these freedoms are subject to reasonable constitutional restrictions.

Body

Constitutional Provisions

Article 19(1)(d) guarantees the freedom of movement throughout India, while Article 19(1)(e) guarantees the freedom to reside and settle in any part of the country.

Permissible Restrictions

1. Public Interest: Under Article 19(5), reasonable restrictions may be imposed to protect public health, safety and the interests of the general public.

2. Tribal Protection: Restrictions may protect Scheduled Tribes from exploitation and preserve their land, culture and traditional rights.

3. Security and Public Order: Legally authorised restrictions may apply in sensitive or disturbed areas, subject to constitutional safeguards.

4. Regulatory Measures: Certain areas require permits or special permissions under applicable laws to protect vulnerable communities and sensitive regions.

Conclusion

These freedoms promote unity and individual liberty, but their exercise must be balanced with public welfare, security and the protection of vulnerable communities. Restrictions must be reasonable, lawful and constitutionally justified.