

**GS FOUNDATION PROGRAM 2024***to be filled by the student:***BATCH: D10**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ForumIAS Roll No: 19100 \_\_\_\_\_

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Email Id: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile No. \_\_\_\_\_

*For Office Use Only***Feedbacks:**

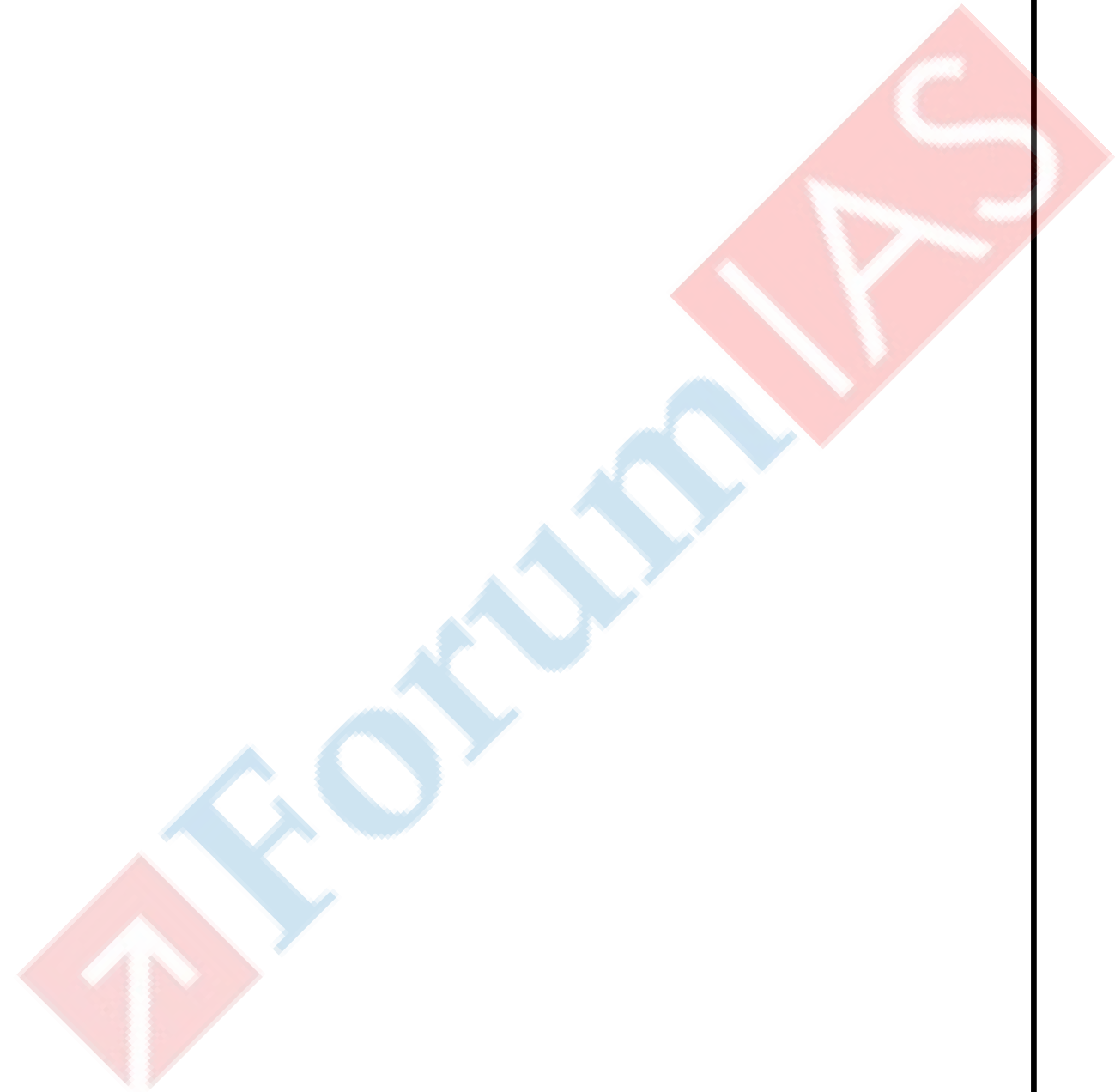
	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average	Immediate Efforts/Improvement Required
Content					
Presentation					
Structure					
Consistency					
Revision/Recall					

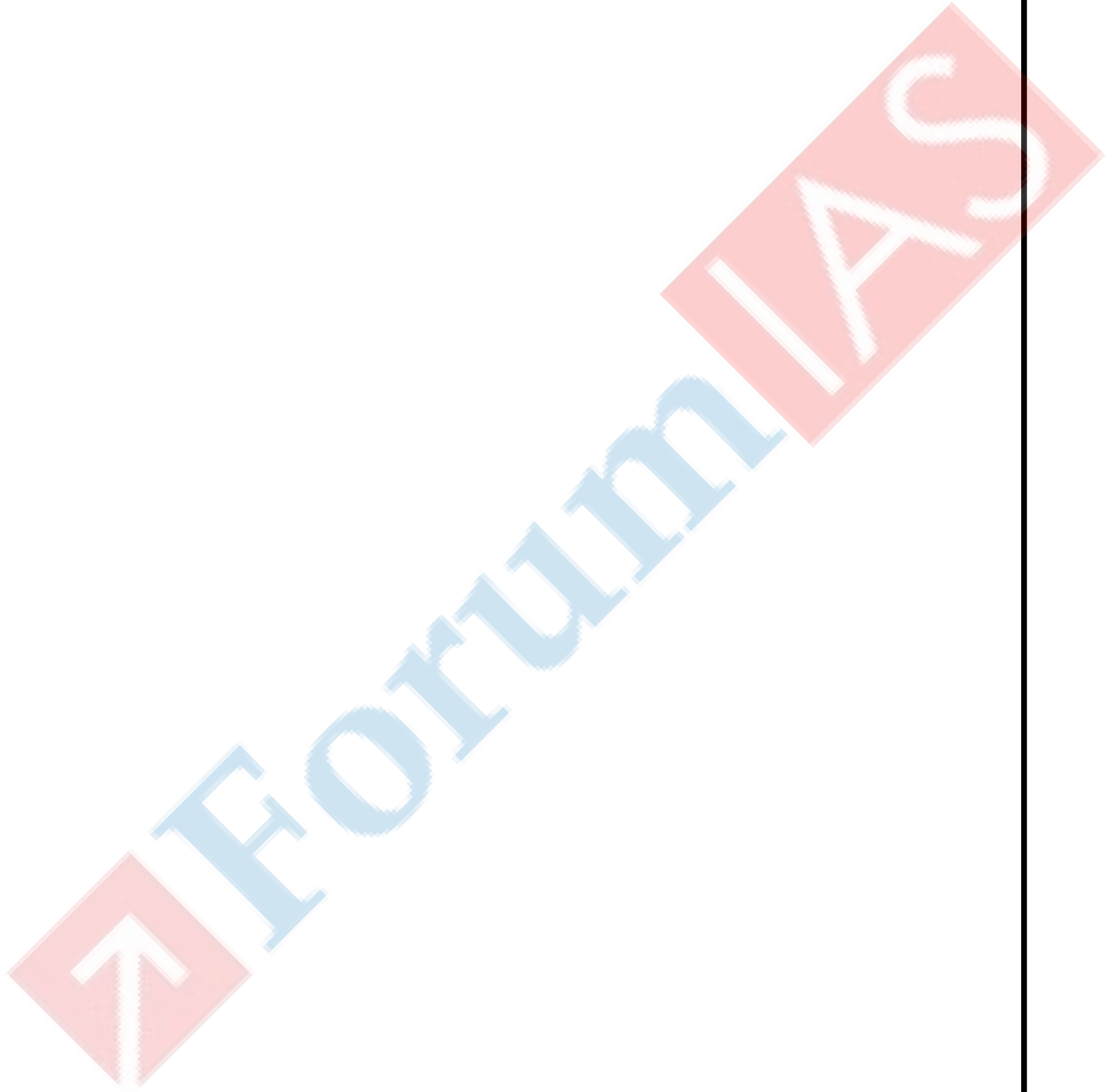
**Marks:**

Subjective	Objective	Total

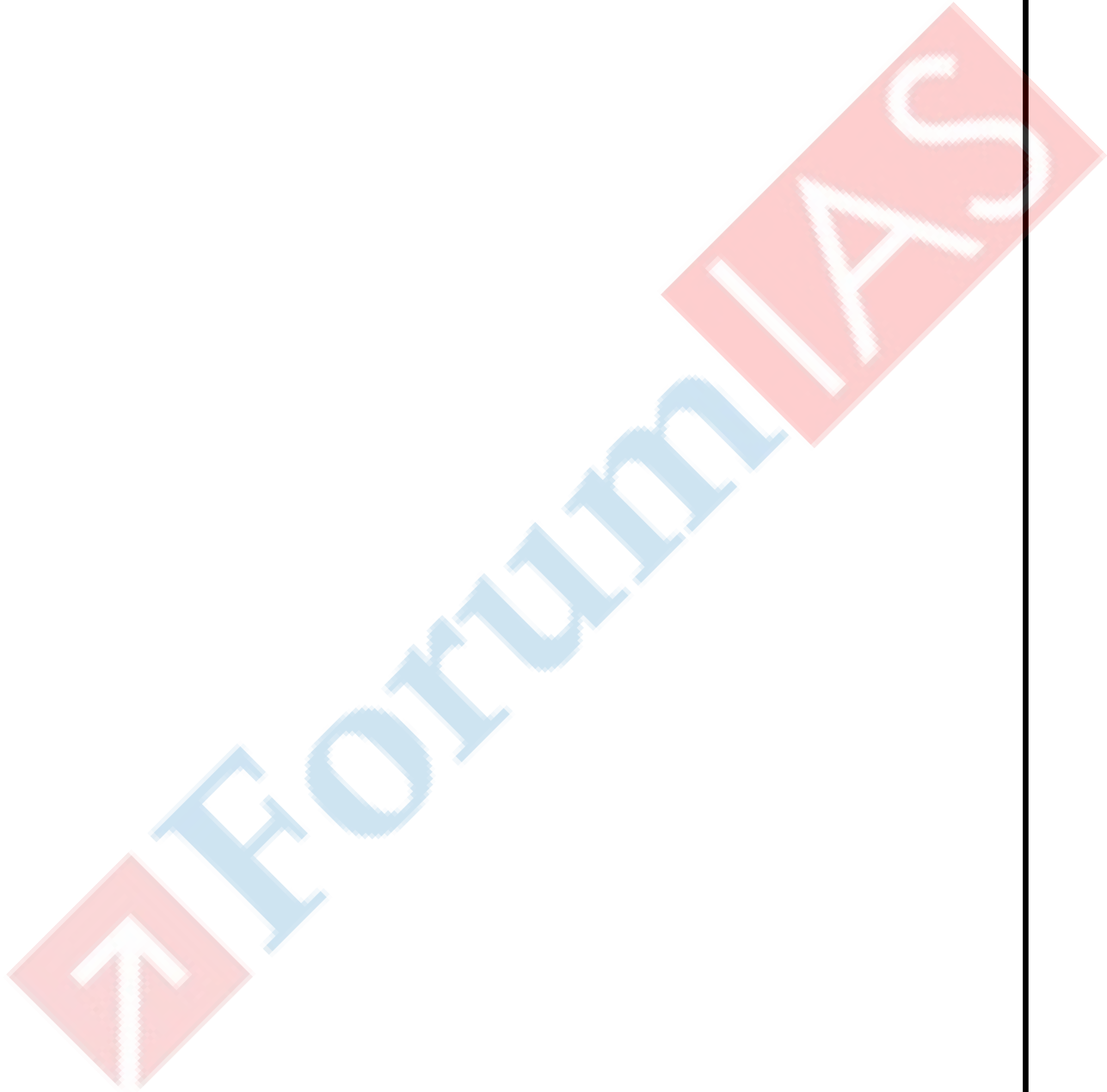
**Subjective Questions:**

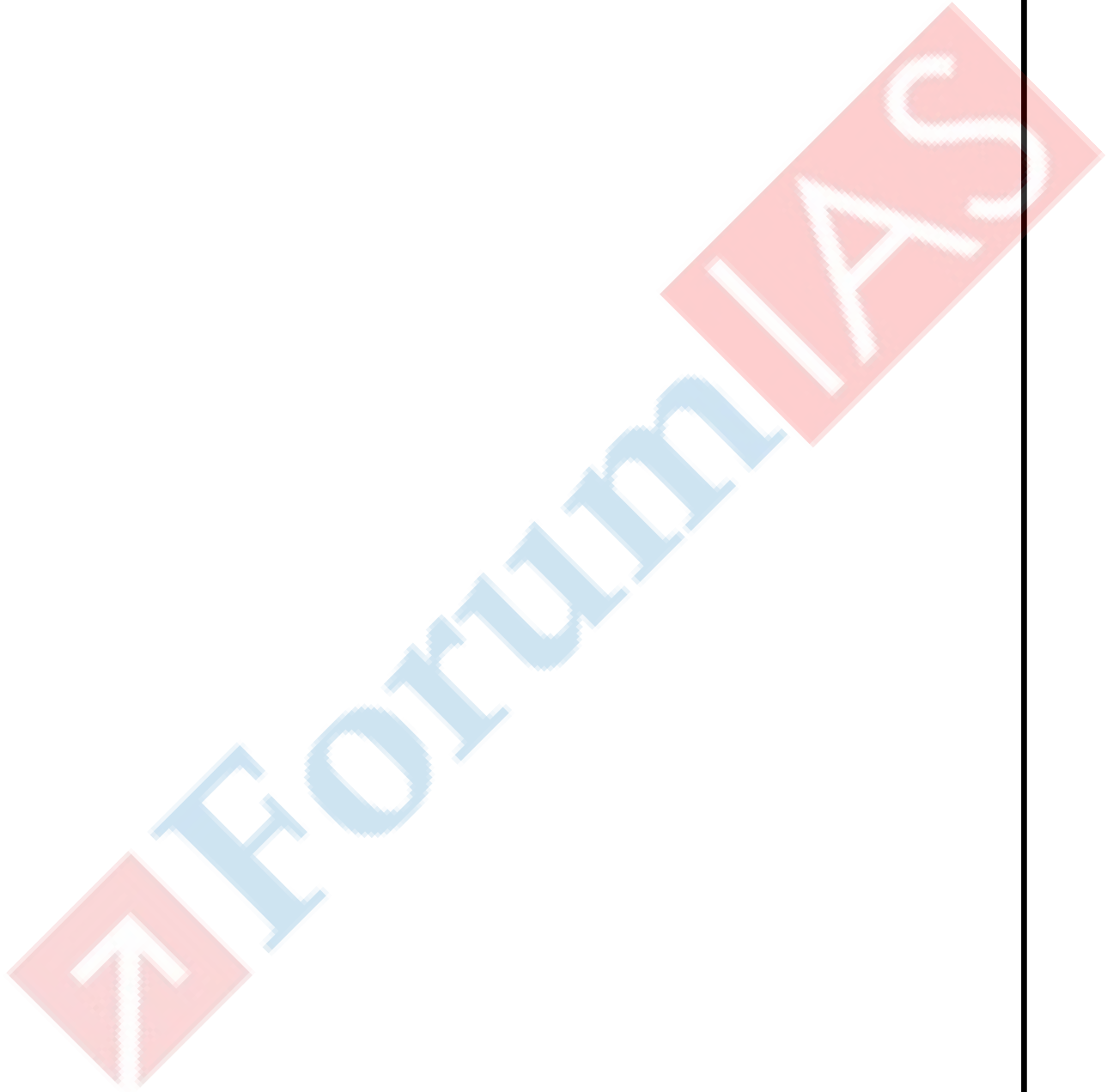
**Q.1) Q.1) Analyse the objectives of Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) for China. What are India's concerns about BRI? (10 marks, 150 words)**





**Q.2) Define Gross domestic product (GDP). Also, explain various methods to calculate the GDP. (10 marks, 150 words)**





**Objective Questions:**

**Q.1)** In which of the following situations, the GDP of a country will be equal to its GNP?

- a) When there is no net depreciation in the value of capital assets
- b) When the net factor income from abroad is positive
- c) When the factor cost become equal to market price after adjustments
- d) When there is no net factor income from abroad

**Q.2)** Which of the following is **incorrect** with reference to the term “Potential GDP”?

- a) It is the level of output which any economy can produce at a constant inflation rate.
- b) Potential GDP helps in the calculation of the GDP gap.
- c) Inflation and recession are the only determinants of potential GDP.
- d) Higher level of capital formation can lead to increase in potential GDP

**Q.3)** With reference to Article 18, consider the following statements:

1. It prohibits the state from conferring an academic distinction on a foreigner.
2. National awards like Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan are not considered as titles under Article 18.

Which of the statements given above is/are **not** correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Q.4)** Consider the following statements with respect to the Padma Awards:

1. These awards are considered as ‘title’ for the purpose of article 18 of the Constitution of India.
2. The Padma Awards Committee is headed by the President of India.
3. Any citizen of India can send recommendations for nominations.
4. All Government servants are eligible for Padma Awards.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

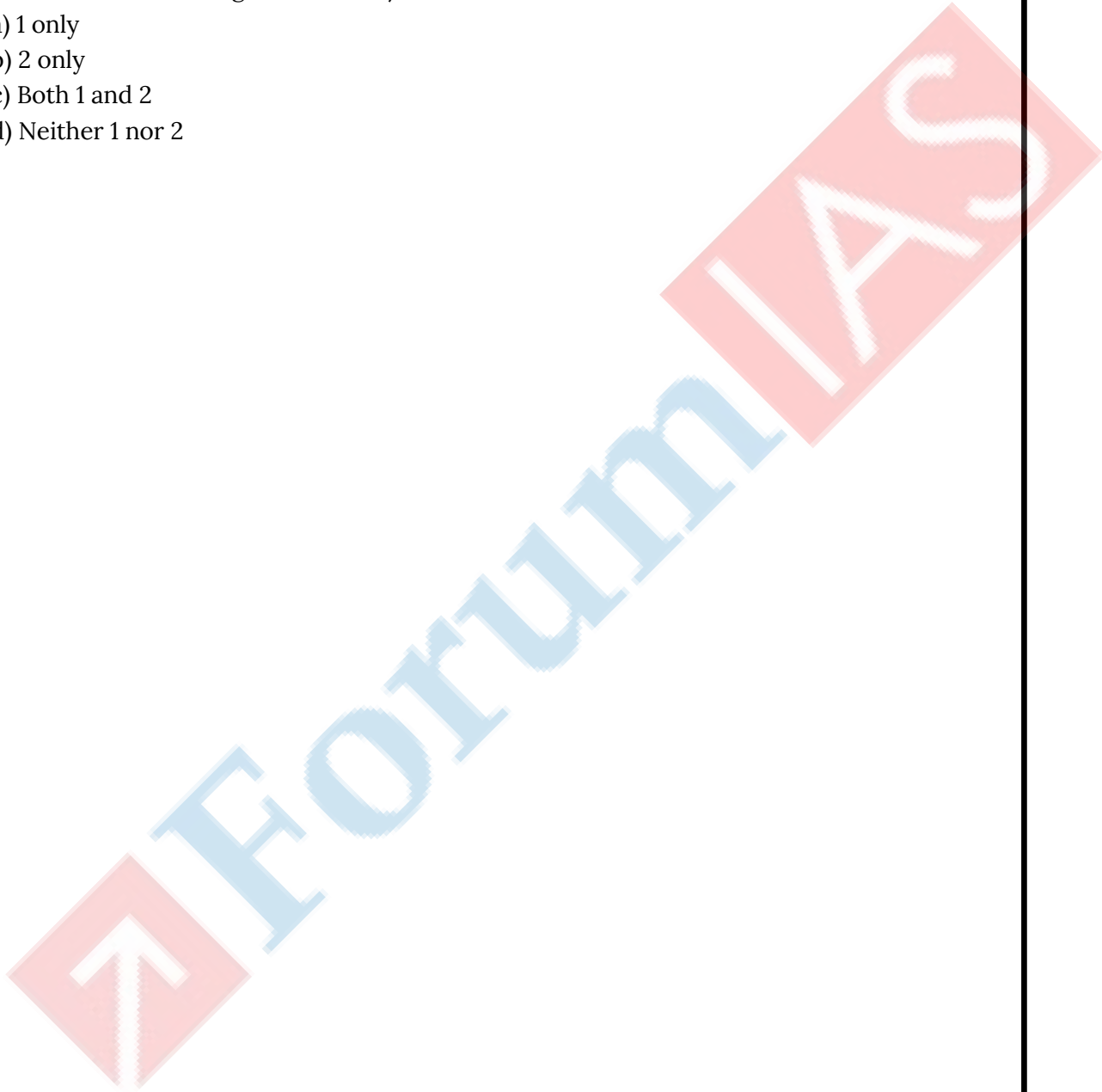
- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 3 only
- c) 2 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2 and 4 only

**Q.5)** Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution of India allows prescribing residence as a requirement for jobs in a particular state.
2. Article 16 of the Constitution of India provides for equality of opportunity for all citizens in public employment only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2



## GS Foundation Program 2024 | D10 | Benchmark Assignment #34

### Subjective Questions:

**Q.1) Analyse the objectives of Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) for China. What are India's concerns about BRI?**

#### APPROACH:

1. Introduction
2. Discuss multiple objectives of BRI for China.
3. Explain India's concerns about BRI.
4. Conclusion

**Ans.** China proposed the **Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in 2013** to improve connectivity and cooperation on a transcontinental scale. Sometimes referred to as the **New Silk Road**, it is one of the most ambitious infrastructure projects ever conceived.

The BRI comprises a **Silk Road Economic Belt – a trans-continental passage** that links China with southeast Asia, south Asia, Central Asia, Russia and Europe by land – and a 21st century **Maritime Silk Road, a sea route** connecting China's coastal regions with southeast and south Asia, the South Pacific, the Middle East and Eastern Africa, all the way to Europe.

#### Objectives of BRI for China:

1. China has both **geopolitical and economic motivations** behind the initiative. Current Chinese government has promoted a vision of a more assertive China. Country's leadership is trying to open new markets for export of its goods.
2. **To increase trade and investment:** It will improve the bilateral and multilateral co-operation mechanisms especially through policy communication, infrastructure connectivity, trade facilitation and capital flow.
3. **To enhance financial co-operation in the region to fund infrastructure:** China aims to strengthen co-operation with international organizations including international financial organizations and institutions, work actively to promote the development of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the New Development Bank, put the Silk Road Fund to effective use, and attract international capital for the creation of a financial co-operation platform.
4. **To gain access to natural resources:** BRI will help China gain international co-operation on energy and resources and production chains and increase local processing and conversion.
5. **To strengthen transport infrastructure:** It will develop multi-modal transportation that integrates expressways, railways, waterways, and airways, build international logistics thoroughfares, and strengthen infrastructure development along major routes and at major ports of entry.



6. **To deepen cultural exchanges in the region:** China with the help of BRI can conduct extensive international co-operation in the areas of education, science, technology, culture, sports, tourism, environmental protection, health care, and traditional Chinese medicine.
7. While infrastructure investment is a key aspect of the BRI, China states that it is **much broader in its objectives**, encompassing all aspects of the sustainable growth for itself and including **more balanced regional growth, the upgrading of its industry and greener economic growth** at home.

### India's concerns about BRI

1. India has **security concerns regarding "String of Pearls" geo-economic strategy** whereby China creates unsustainable debt burdens for its Indian Ocean neighbours in order to seize control of regional choke points.
2. India has also opposed BRI because a key component – the **China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) – passes through PoK raising concerns regarding the violation of India's territorial integrity and sovereignty**. This corridor further attempts to connect China's Xinjiang autonomous region with Pakistan's Balochistan Province.
3. Ministry of External Affairs from time to time has expressed serious concerns about the **possibility of BRI resulting in unsustainable debt burdens**. For example, in some recipient **countries like Sri Lanka** the increasing Chinese debt is a cause of concern not just for the country but has implications for the region.
4. BRI is **not based on principles such as good governance, rule of law and transparency**. Connectivity initiatives must be based on universally recognized international norms, openness and equality, and must be pursued in a manner that respects sovereignty and territorial integrity.
5. Through BRI, China will **gain an advantage over India in the neighbourhood and extended neighbourhood** and India has to play a secondary role to China, thus with some suggesting India will have no alternative but to prefer a **US-orientated world order**.

Although, India has decided not be part of BRI, but it **needs to response and evolve strategies** to BRI. Some of its response and strategies such as being part of the **quadrilateral grouping QUAD and Necklace of Diamond and India-middle east-Europe economic corridor recently launched in G20** is a welcome move and many other such strategies should be explored.

**Q.2) Define Gross domestic product (GDP). Also, explain various methods to calculate the GDP.**

**Answer:**

Gross Domestic Product is the final sum of all the Goods and Services produced within the boundaries of a nation in a given time period.. As such, it also measures the income earned from that production or the total amount spent on final goods and services (fewer imports).

**GDP can be determined via three primary methods, which are:**

1. **The Expenditure Approach:** Also known as the spending approach, **calculates spending by the different groups** that participate in the economy. The U.S. GDP is

primarily measured based on the expenditure approach. This approach can be calculated using the following formula:

- a.  $GDP = C + G + I + NX$
  - b. C=consumption; G=government spending; I=investment; and NX=net exports
2. **Output or value-added method:** This approach estimates the **total value of economic output and deducts the cost of intermediate goods** that are consumed in the process (like those of materials and services). The output approach to calculate GDP sums the gross value added of various sectors, plus taxes and fewer subsidies on products.
  3. **The Income Approach:** The income approach represents a kind of middle ground between the two other approaches to calculating GDP. The income approach **calculates the income earned by all the factors of production in an economy**, including the wages paid to labor, the rent earned by land, the return on capital in the form of interest, and corporate profits. It uses the following formula:
    - a.  $GDP = \text{Total National Income} + \text{Sales Taxes} + \text{Depreciation} + \text{Net Foreign Factor Income}$

GDP is an accurate indicator of the size of an economy and the GDP growth rate is probably the single best indicator of economic growth. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the single standard indicator used across the globe to indicate the health of a nation's economy.

### Objective Questions:

Q.1) In which of the following situations, the GDP of a country will be equal to its GNP?

- a) When there is no net depreciation in the value of capital assets
- b) When the net factor income from abroad is positive
- c) When the factor cost become equal to market price after adjustments
- d) When there is no net factor income from abroad

Ans) d

Exp) Option d is correct.

$GNP = GDP + \text{Net factor income from abroad.}$

Thus, GDP of a country will be equal to GNP of the country when there is **no net factor income from abroad.**

Q.2) Which of the following is **incorrect** with reference to the term "Potential GDP"?

- a) It is the level of output which any economy can produce at a constant inflation rate.
- b) Potential GDP helps in the calculation of the GDP gap.
- c) Inflation and recession are the only determinants of potential GDP.
- d) Higher level of capital formation can lead to increase in potential GDP

Ans) c

Exp) Option c is correct

**Statement a is correct. Potential gross domestic product (GDP)** is the level of output which any economy can produce at a constant inflation rate.

**Statement b is correct.** The **GDP gap** is defined as the difference between potential GDP and real GDP.

**Statement c is incorrect.** Apart from **inflation and recession, capital stock, the potential labour force depending on demographic factors and participation rates**, the non-accelerating inflation rate of unemployment, and the level of labour efficiency also help determine this potential output.

**Statement d is correct. Higher level of capital formation can lead to increase in potential GDP.**

**Q.3)** With reference to Article 18, consider the following statements:

1. It prohibits the state from conferring an academic distinction on a foreigner.
2. National awards like Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan are not considered as titles under Article 18.

Which of the statements given above is/are **not** correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Ans) a**

**Exp) Option a is the correct answer.**

Article 18 abolishes titles and makes four provisions in that regard:

(a) **Statement 1 is incorrect.** It prohibits the state from conferring any title (**except a military or academic distinction**) on anybody, whether a citizen or a foreigner.

(b) It prohibits a citizen of India from accepting any title from any foreign state.

(c) A foreigner holding any office of profit or trust under the state cannot accept any title from any foreign state without the consent of the president.

(d) No citizen or foreigner holding any office of profit or trust under the State is to accept any present, emolument or office from or under any foreign State without the consent of the president.

**Statement 2 is correct.** In 1996, the Supreme Court upheld the constitutional validity of the National Awards—Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri. It ruled that these awards do not amount to ‘titles’ within the meaning of Article 18 that prohibits only hereditary titles of nobility.

**Q.4)** Consider the following statements with respect to the Padma Awards:

1. These awards are considered as ‘title’ for the purpose of article 18 of the Constitution of India.
2. The Padma Awards Committee is headed by the President of India.
3. Any citizen of India can send recommendations for nominations.
4. All Government servants are eligible for Padma Awards.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 3 only
- c) 2 and 4 only
- d) 1, 2 and 4 only

**Ans) b**

**Exp) Option b is correct**

**Statement 1 is incorrect:** In Balaji Raghavan vs Union of India case, the supreme court of India held that ‘the Bharat Ratna and the Padma awards cannot be categorized under Article 18(1) as they are not titles but merely an honorary award’.

**Statement 2 is incorrect.** The Padma Awards Committee is headed by the Cabinet Secretary and includes Home Secretary, Secretary to the President and four to six eminent persons as members. The recommendations of the committee are submitted to the Prime Minister and the President of India for approval.

**Statement 3 is correct.** The nomination process is open to the public. Even self-nomination can be made. The government allows common citizens to submit nominations for Padma Awards. The nominations, when invited, can be submitted online on the official Padma Awards website, padmaawards.gov.in.

**Statement 4 is incorrect.** All persons without distinction of race, occupation, position or sex are eligible for these awards. However, **Government servants** including those working with PSUs, except doctors and scientists, **are not eligible for these Awards**

**Q.5) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Constitution of India allows prescribing residence as a requirement for jobs in a particular state.
2. Article 16 of the Constitution of India provides for equality of opportunity for all citizens in public employment only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Ans) c**

**Exp) Option c is correct.**

**Statement 1 is correct.** The Constitution of India allows prescribing residence as a requirement for jobs in a particular state. Article 16 (3) of the Constitution of India provides an exception by saying that Parliament may make a law “prescribing” a requirement of residence for jobs in a particular state. However, this power vests solely in the Parliament, and not state legislatures.

**Statement 2 is correct.** Article 16 of the Constitution of India provides for equality of opportunity for all citizens in public employment only. Article 16 (1) states that there shall be equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters relating to employment or appointment to any office under the State. Further, Article 16 (2) says that, no citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth, residence or any of them, be ineligible for, or discriminated against in respect or, any employment or office under the State.

