

Attempt any two questions from those given below. Each question carries 15 marks.

- 1) Does secrecy create a dilemma in a democracy? What are the different aspects of this dilemma? Discuss it in detail with reference to the article by Rahul Sagar. Do you think there is a way to resolve this dilemma from within the democratic process? What would that be? What role does the court, the legislative, and the media can play in this process?
- 2) Ronald Dworkin believes that normal democratic procedures and criminal laws are sufficient to combat the risks and dangers related to terrorism. Is he justified in believing so? If no, then why not? Discuss this in detail with reference to his article "The threat to patriotism".
- 3) Suppose a person X knows an information 'I' about a person Y which Y thought was a secret. What are the spheres of action that the knowledge of 'I' opens up for X? Imagine all the possible actions that X can engage in? What aspect or specific character of secrecy opens up this sphere of action? What is wrong with such collection of information? Now imagine that Z and X work together. Z comes to know secretly that X knows 'I', and he reveals this information publicly. Is he justified in doing so? Will your analysis change if 'I' relates to national security?
- 4) Are liberty and security quantifiable goods? How can they be quantified and what kind of valuation system would you use? Who does the quantification? Is it same across individuals? What are the limits of such kinds of reasoning? Discuss this in reference to the trade-off thesis.
- 5) Imagine that you as a class are supposed to create a new social and political order, that you have the decision making powers, the powers to punish and make people abide by the rules. What forms of rules would you base the society on? What would be the aims of your society? How would key decisions be made in your society? What kind of punishment rules would there be? On what rules punishment be based on? What role would dissent and disagreement play in the society? What kind of rules would govern situations of emergency? Provide proper examples and justification for your decisions.
- 6) One of the key fallouts of the recent Paris attacks, critiques argue, would be that concern about individual privacy against state surveillance would reduce, that demands of state accountability will reduce, that emergencies only tend to enhance the power of an already powerful state. Discuss this statement in detail, by providing appropriate examples, with respect to conceptions of positive and negative liberty, state secrecy, security, and public accountability of the state.