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India Judicial Services (AIJS) on the lines of central Civil Services has been debated for decades and remains contentious. Discuss.

The central government is mooted the All India Judicial Services (AIJS) on the same lines as the Civil Service. The question of AIJS had first popped up in 1958 Law Commission Report. From then on various Law Commissions have proposed for a centralised judicial service for the lower courts → district and subordinate courts.

Advantages :

- ① Uniformity in lower echelons of judiciary
- ② Break barriers of regionalism and language — through the cadre system, as in the Civil Services
- ③ More efficiency in disposing cases → This is a move in the direction of making ease of doing business better, through smoother dispute resolution

Criticisms :

- ① A challenge to federalism — Appointments to lower courts are provided as state subjects. Centre should not encroach upon states' jurisdiction.
- ② Problems in reservation → Reservations based on state-wise populations will take a hit. The uniformity in appointments will adversely affect those in categories.

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- ③ Language barrier → Lower courts function efficiently because of the operations in the local language. A centralised judiciary will be a hurdle to this.
- ④ Separation of Powers → A centralised judicial service will go against separation of powers, since the executive is taking over the function of appointment to the judiciary.

There should be a balance between the pros and cons in the move for All India Judicial Services. It should take into confidence of the stakeholders before going ahead with the decision.