



FLAMES LAW ENTRANCE ACADEMY

FREE CLAT MOCK-01 2025

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Maximum Marks- 120

Maximum Time- 120 Mins.

- No clarification on the question paper can be sought. Answer the questions as they are.
- There are 120 multiple choice objective type questions.
- There is negative marking of 0.25 for every incorrect answer. Each question carries **ONE** mark. **Total marks are 120**
- You have to indicate the correct answer by darkening one of the four responses provided, with a **BALL PEN (BLUE OR BLACK)** in the **OMR Answer Sheet**.

Example: For the question, "Who is the prime minister of India?", the correct answer is (b). The student has to darken the corresponding circle as indicated below:

- (a) Rajnath Singh (b) Narendra Modi (c) Nitin Gadkari (d) Venkiah Naidu

Right Method



Wrong Methods



- Answering the questions by any method other than the method indicated above shall be considered incorrect and no marks will be awarded for the same.
- More than one response to a question shall be counted as wrong.
- Do not write anything on the OMR Answer Sheet other than the details required and, in the spaces, provided for.
- The use of any unfair means by any candidate shall result in the cancellation of his/her candidature.

ALL THE BEST !

READING COMPREHENSION

Passage 1 - Deep hostilities around educational curriculum and campus activism have made it clear that identity and ideology, the shaping forces behind the humanities, are looming larger than ever worldwide and, in fact, have started to play greater roles than the force of hard data and science in our bizarrely post-truth era. What this implies is that even if and when the means of persuasion and communication are taken over by AI, the end and the goal will remain firmly rooted in real human subjectivities. These are the subjectivities we seek for our private and public selves and, crucially, the identity that we seek to pass on to posterity through teaching, curricula, educational policy, and in the work we publish on academic and public forums.

In the two worlds I've known well — in India and in the United States of America — I've experienced the adaptation and the exclusion of identities, both conscious and unconscious, in research and teaching in the humanities in many direct and indirect ways. Being on the margin in one situation — a brown non-Westerner — has sharpened my consciousness of privilege in the other as an educated, urban, upper-caste Hindu man. In the US, the previous edition of this battle seemed to be about culture wars — whether the opening of the canon was brought about by the closing of the American mind or by the dread of the onslaught of mediocrity in the name of multiculturalism. The sanctity of the canon has doubtless mutated over the last few decades, as have the tone, pitch, and locus of the culture wars. The formulation of classics as a discipline has been interrogated by the work of figures such as Dan-el Padilla Peralta; Emily Wilson has performed her Homer translations on YouTube with a cardboard crown, cat ears, and a dishevelled wig. But if social media has nourished the resentment of #cancelculture that has sometimes amounted to a refusal to read texts by anyone who doesn't look like the reader, real power in the world of policy and curriculum has almost completely swung to the other extreme. The legislative, pedagogic, and administrative in many parts of the US have now become unrelenting in their multi-pronged attack on critical race theory and on multiculturalist and decolonising projects in the humanities and the social sciences.

This attack on critical race theory in the US and on the pluralist reality of the Indian State as we've experienced them directly are both, on one level, about the discomfort of the privileged that immediately becomes a narrative of denial. The perverse and disturbing fact is that the power of the humanities is indispensable to this very denial. The reconstruction of history as a fictional project in order to change its very philosophy and rhetoric is a terrifying abuse of key humanistic disciplines that also reveals the fundamental power of these disciplines in making and breaking meaning, symbol, and identity. The most lasting — and perhaps the most dangerous — evidence of the importance of the humanities and the imaginative social sciences are the ugliest wars that derive from them.

[Excerpted from, *Ideology's Assault* by Saikat Majumdar, Telegraph India]

Q1. What is the author's perception of himself, as stated in the above passage?

- a. Ostracised
- b. Minority
- c. Privileged
- d. Both B and C

Q2. What does the author suggest is a current battleground in academic settings?

- a. Technological innovation
- b. Curriculum and identity
- c. Hard data and science

d. Multiculturalism

Q3. Which of the following can be an appropriate title for the given passage?

- a. The importance of teaching in an AI world
- b. Identity through Education
- c. Culture war in the US
- d. None of the above

Q4. Which of the following is synonymous with the word 'rhetoric' as used in the above passage?

- a. Affinity
- b. Enumeration
- c. Conservation
- d. Oratory

Q5. In the US, what is the focus of the attack on critical race theory and multiculturalism in the humanities?

- a. Preservation of the canon
- b. Denial of humanities' significance
- c. #CancelCulture
- d. Legislative measures

Passage 2 - N.R. Narayana Murthy's recent endorsement of a 70-hour work week opens up space to engage with it critically. It is imperative to delve into the profound implications it holds for class dynamics, gender disparities, and the psychological well-being of the workforce.

Murthy's exhortation echoes a perspective deeply rooted in privilege. The luxury to choose to work extended hours is a prerogative that not everyone possesses. For individuals from economically weaker backgrounds and lower castes, the concept of choice is eclipsed by the stark reality of necessity. Working 70 hours a week becomes less about personal ambition and more about the fundamental need to make ends meet. How ethical is it to put the burden of productivity on those who are already at the receiving end? The International Labour Organization has consistently highlighted the disproportionate impact of long working hours on vulnerable groups. Their reports shed light on how such labour dynamics perpetuate an economic hierarchy that disproportionately affects those with fewer resources, reinforcing systemic inequalities.

Murthy's vision of a 70-hour work week also seems to be framed within the context of traditional male privilege. Men, historically shielded from the domestic responsibilities that women shoulder, can afford to dedicate extensive hours to their professional lives. On the contrary, women find themselves navigating a double burden, juggling not only their professional commitments but also the extensive responsibilities of household management. World Bank data make it evident that the gender disparities in the workforce contribute to an uneven distribution of labour responsibilities. Advocating a 70-hour work week without addressing inherent gender inequities would perpetuate male privilege and do a disservice to the principles of equality and inclusion in a democratic country.

This debate is not confined merely to economic and gender disparities; it transcends into the realm of mental well-being. Research from the World Health Organization and mental health institutions underscore the negative impact of overworking on mental health. Employees subjected to prolonged working hours often find themselves trapped in a cycle where the boundaries between professional and personal life blur, leaving little room for creative endeavours and rejuvenation. Such conditions foster an

environment ripe for burnout, eroding not only mental health but also overall productivity. Interwoven with these challenges is the harsh reality of burgeoning youth unemployment. The narrative of working longer hours to secure financial stability is rendered hollow when the job market itself is a harsh terrain to navigate. The focus should be on creating avenues for meaningful employment rather than coercing individuals into an unsustainable and mentally-taxing work regime.

[Excerpted from, *All work, No Play* by Anjali Chauhan, Telegraph India]

Q6. What is the author's attitude towards the 70-hour work week in the given passage?

- a. Reproving
- b. Optimistic
- c. Sceptical
- d. None of the above

Q7. According to the passage, what impact can prolonged working hours have on mental health?

- a. Improved mental resilience
- b. Creative endeavours and rejuvenation
- c. A cycle leading to burnout
- d. Mental well-being unaffected

Q8. What is the main topic of the given passage?

- a. A feminist critique of work labour
- b. Impact of overworking on mental health
- c. Disproportionate burden of working on the underprivileged
- d. All of the above

Q9. How does the author characterize N.R. Narayana Murthy's perspective on a 70-hour work week?

- a. Progressive
- b. Inclusive
- c. Rooted in privilege
- d. Gender-neutral

Q10. What is the correct synonym of the word exhortation as used in the above passage?

- a. Urging
- b. Outcome
- c. Utilization
- d. Employment

Passage 3 - To gain legitimacy, any global order needs to fulfil two conditions. First, a convergence among the major powers of the day, and, second, successfully presenting the outcome as a global public good to the rest of the world. The global nuclear order (GNO) was no exception but, today, it is under strain.

Today's nuclear world is no longer a bipolar world. The U.S. faces a more assertive China, determined to regain influence, regionally and globally. This rivalry is different from the Cold War because both economies are closely intertwined and further, and China is an economic and technological peer rival. China has resented the U.S.'s naval presence in the South China and East China Seas and since the last Taiwan Strait crisis in 1996, has steadily built up its naval and missile capabilities.

Changing geopolitics has taken its toll on the treaties between the U.S. and Russia. In 2002, the U.S. withdrew from the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty and in 2019, from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty on grounds that Russia was violating it. The only remaining agreement, New START, will lapse in 2026; its verification meetings were suspended during the COVID-19 outbreak and never resumed. Strategic stability talks began in 2021 following the Geneva meeting between Presidents Joe Biden and Vladimir Putin, but collapsed with the Ukraine war. Last year, Russia de-ratified the CTBT to bring it on a par with the U.S., raising concerns about the resumption of nuclear testing. As U.S. relations with Russia went into a nosedive, the U.S. is facing a new situation of two nuclear peer rivals who are exploring new roles for more usable weapons. Moreover, Russian nuclear sabre rattling to warn the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the U.S. against escalation in Ukraine has revived nuclear concerns. The old definitions of strategic stability no longer hold.

The Cold War convergence on non-proliferation has run its course; also, nuclear weapons technology is a 75-year-old technology. The U.S. has always had a pragmatic streak shaping its policy approaches. It turned a blind eye when Israel went nuclear in the 1960s-70s and again, when China helped Pakistan with its nuclear programme in the 1980s. More recently, the nuclear submarine AUKUS deal (Australia, U.S., U.K.) with Australia, a non-nuclear weapon state, is raising concerns in the NPT community.

During the 1970s, South Korea began to actively consider a nuclear weapons programme, spurred by the U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam. However, France withdrew its offer to supply a reprocessing plant to South Korea under U.S. pressure in 1975-76 and South Korea was persuaded to join the NPT.

[Excerpted from, *The Global Nuclear Order Is Under Strain* by Rakesh Sood, The Hindu]

Q11. What are the two conditions mentioned in the passage that a global order needs to fulfil to gain legitimacy?

- a. Economic stability and technological advancement
- b. Major powers' convergence and presenting outcomes as a global public good
- c. Bipolar distribution of power and strategic stability
- d. Rivalry and technological peer competition

Q12. Which treaty was withdrawn by the U.S. in 2002, citing violations by Russia?

- a. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)
- b. Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty
- c. Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty
- d. New START

Q13. Which of the following statements is not incorrect:

I. During the 1970s, South Korea began to actively consider a nuclear weapons programme, spurred by the U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam.

II. China has resented the U.S.'s naval presence in the South China and East China Seas and since the last Taiwan Strait crisis in 1986, has steadily built up its naval and missile capabilities.

III. US turned a blind eye when Israel went nuclear in the 1960s-70s and again, when China helped Pakistan with its nuclear programme in the 1980s.

- a. I and III
- b. I and II
- c. II and III
- d. All of the above

Q14. What raised concerns in the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) community according to the passage?

- a. North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) expansion
- b. AUKUS deal with Australia
- c. Strategic stability talks
- d. U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam

Q15. What is the writing style of the given passage?

- a. Analytical
- b. Expository
- c. Factual
- d. None of the above

Passage 4 - The air around me crackles with diamond-like dust with every breath. It is cold, but clear on this mountainside, in the midst of what is essentially an Arctic desert. The extremely dry, freezing air almost instantly turns the fog of moisture from my mouth and nose into tiny, sparkling crystals of ice. I am standing just below the peak of Zeppelinfjellet in Svalbard, the Norwegian archipelago in the Arctic Ocean. Beneath me is the town of Ny-Ålesund, a tiny settlement situated around 765 miles from the North Pole.

With the mountain rising on one side, and a fjord on the other, it is a breathtakingly beautiful place. It is perhaps also one of the best places on the planet to take a breath – situated far from major sources of pollution in the almost untouched Arctic environment, the air here is some of the cleanest in the world.

The town's residents are largely scientists who come here precisely for this reason. In 1989, a research station was built on Zeppelinfjellet's flanks at an altitude of 472m (1,548ft) to help researchers monitor atmospheric pollution. More recently the Zeppelin Observatory, as the research station is called, has become a crucial site for measuring greenhouse gas levels that are driving climate change.

But there are also signs that the air quality here may be changing. Occasionally atmospheric currents carry air from Europe and North America to this part of Svalbard, bringing pollution from these regions with it. Not only are researchers seeing levels of certain pollutants increasing, there are signs of new types of pollution being carried on the wind that are worrying scientists.

[Extracted from with edits and revision, *The town with the cleanest air in the world* by Anna Filipova, BBC]

Q16. What figure of speech is used in the first paragraph of the given passage?

- a. Personification
- b. Alliteration
- c. Imagery
- d. Metaphor

Q17. Where is Zeppelinfjellet located?

- a. Antarctic Peninsula
- b. Greenland
- c. Svalbard
- d. Himalayas

Q18. Which of the following could be an appropriate source for the given passage?

- a. Environmental Science Journal

- b. Travel magazine
- c. Geography Journal
- d. None of the above

Q19. What is the potential concern mentioned in the passage regarding air quality in Ny-Ålesund?

- a. Decreasing greenhouse gas levels
- b. Introduction of new pollutants
- c. Lack of scientific research
- d. Overpopulation in the region

Q20. What is the main occupation of the residents of Ny-Ålesund?

- a. Farmers
- b. Tour guides
- c. Scientists
- d. Fishermen

Passage 5 - It is 2024, and we have learnt that in a month when 146 legislators are suspended from parliament, the biggest news can still surround the pros and cons of the tragic art of mimicry. Little blurs the lines between the joke, the jester, serious political events unfolding and the business of narrating them. But who gets to tell the joke?

On September 29, the comedian Varun Grover said in Kolkata, “In today’s India, the most dangerous job is that of a comedian’s.” Four days later, his longtime collaborator, the comedian Sanjay Rajoura, was among 100 people raided and questioned by Delhi Police’s special branch over connections with the news site, NewsClick.

NewsClick is accused of having terror connections – largely bolstered by an unsubstantiated line in a New York Times piece over its financial backer’s China ties. Its founder and an HR head have been in jail since. And a few days ago, NewsClick released a statement on how its employees’ salaries were held by central agencies’ freezing action on its accounts. Many of these employees had already had their devices seized by police in the October raids.

It is as close to brow-beating an enterprise to fold up as it gets. Perhaps Grover is wrong. Perhaps the most dangerous job is that of a journalist’s – and the lone comedian who has thrown in their lot with journalists. It is a matter of some significance, therefore, that there are so many of those lone comedians who have thrown in their lot with journalists, today.

On YouTube, on X, on Instagram and that ancient gossip haunt, Facebook, political satirists have been launching no-holds-barred spiels on the nitty gritty of polarising politics, unwieldy policies and the intolerant government.

India is 161st out of 180 countries on the world press freedom index. At a time when news organisations are labouring under changing digital landscapes, malicious defamation suits and prohibitive laws that make functioning a pain, you feel as if a handful of the online satirists of the day have taken over the onus of speaking truth to power – even if it comes with a dose of snideness.

[Excerpted from, *In 2024, India Will Bank on Political Satirists – Its Remaining Truth-Tellers* by Soumashree Sarkar, The Wire]

Q21. What event prompted Varun Grover to remark, "In today’s India, the most dangerous job is that of a comedian’s"?

- a. A political rally
- b. Raids on comedians

- c. NewsClick controversy
- d. Cannot be determined

Q22. What accusation is levied against NewsClick, leading to legal actions and arrests?

- a. Spreading fake news
- b. Financial links to China
- c. Promoting hate speech
- d. Political bias in reporting

Q23. What role have online satirists taken in India's current media landscape according to the passage?

- a. Promoting government propaganda
- b. Ignoring political issues
- c. Speaking truth to power
- d. Avoiding controversial topics

Q24. Identify the sentence with the correct use of the relative pronoun:

- a. The person whom I met at the conference is an expert in artificial intelligence.
- b. This is the house that I have lived in since childhood.
- c. She is the one who I admire for her dedication to her work.
- d. The book, which I borrowed from the library, is on the shelf.

Q25. Choose the sentence that correctly uses the idiomatic expression:

"Hit the nail on the head."

- a. She was able to hit the nail on the head when explaining the complex scientific concept.
- b. The detective discovered a clue that hit the nail on the foot of the investigation.
- c. The team's strategy missed the nail on the head during the championship game.
- d. His speech hit the nail on the head, addressing the key issues of the community

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

The reactions of the world to a Palestinian state have been one of collective amnesia. States that have ignored the Palestinians for the last decade or more — the entire period when Mr. Netanyahu was in power in Israel, and some Gulf and Arab States, which went ahead normalising relations with Israel through the Abraham Accords without even a fig leaf of an assurance of a two-state solution — have all of a sudden discovered the virtue of a two-state solution; one that has rapidly eroded before our eyes since the failure of the Barak-Clinton-Arafat summit in July [X].

In a single state, Israel needs to give equal rights to Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza to remain as a democracy. If so, Israel will stop being Jewish since Jews will be reduced to 50% of the population or less. To preserve its Jewish majority, if equal rights are not conceded, Palestinians will become second-class citizens and Israel will be an apartheid state since de facto occupation will continue and status quo

will persist. Consequently, the option is between a two-state solution or driving the Palestinians out of West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem by ethnic cleansing. Public pronouncements of Israeli leadership and government action, especially the ground operations on over 1.4 million Palestinians in [Y], all point to ethnic cleansing. In fact, the Israeli ad hoc judge in the ICJ joined the majority ruling to call on Israeli senior officials and Ministers to desist from an incitement to genocide.

Over the last decade or more, Israelis have increasingly been insulated from developments in the Occupied Territories, thereby eroding support in Israel for a two-state solution. With the rise of the right wing in Israel, strong Israeli grass-root people's organisations such as Peace Now, which supported the Oslo Accords, have lost nearly all support among the Israelis. After the attack by Hamas, whatever remains of this is disappearing. But the onus has always been on the Palestinians to keep proving to the world that they support a two-state solution while Israel has never been questioned. In 2017, even Hamas revised their 1988 Charter to recognise a two-state solution based on 1967 borders. Earlier, Hamas had signed agreements to that effect with Fatah and other factions.

Q26. What is the name of the declaration which led the Jewish people to settle in the erstwhile Palestine and ask for a national home for Jewish people?

- a. Boulogne Declaration
- b. Balfour Declaration
- c. Declaration of Jerusalem
- d. Declaration of Philadelphia

Q27. What is the stance of the western countries on the issue of two-state solution?

- a. U.S. is firmly supportive of the line of two-state solution.
- b. European nations are supportive of the cause of the two-state solution whereas the US is silent on this issue in order to stand in uniformity with the line taken by Israel.
- c. Western countries are generally not in favour of the two-state solution.
- d. Both a & b.

Q28. Which of the following will be redacted as [X]?

- a. 1997
- b. 1999

- c. 1995
- d. 2000

Q29. Which of the following will be redacted as [Y]?

- a. Gaza City
- b. Khan Yunis
- c. Rafah
- d. Jabalia

Q30. Why is Hamas not categorised as a terrorist organisation by India?

- a. Because India maintains diplomatic relations with the state of Palestine.
- b. Because of pressure of various human rights organisation.
- c. Because Israel also hasn't designated a lot of Pakistan based organisations as terrorist and also to maintain balance its ties with Israel and other Middle-Eastern countries.
- d. Both a & b.

In perhaps one of the most informal sessions at the Raisina Dialogue this year in New Delhi, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar Friday responded to questions from a diverse panel of experts about India-China relations and colonial hangovers in international bodies like the United Nations (UN).

Speaking during a session at the Raisina Dialogue titled 'The Wonk Tank: Where Expertise Meets Authority', Jaishankar peppered his responses with jokes, sharp one-liners, and references to cricket, often drawing laughter from the audience.

"All these indices on ratings of democratic norms and free press...are the equivalent of sledging in cricket. It's meant to psych you. I'm saying that particularly looking at Michael [Fullilove]," he said, turning to the executive director of Australia's Lowy Institute.

The Modi government has often scoffed at India's low rankings on the Electoral Democracy Index and Reporters Without Borders (RSF) Press Index over the last few years. Last May, when India ranked below Afghanistan in the RSF Press Index, Jaishankar said this was the result of "mind games". Fullilove asked the Indian foreign minister whether there is a middle ground between India and China at a time when the two countries remain in a border standoff since 2020.

He cautioned that China could play "mind games". "The mind games which will be played would be that

this is just between [India and China] — that the other 190 odd countries in the world don't exist in our relationship. That will be the mind game that will be played and I don't think we should play it. If there are other factors that can be harnessed by me [India], to get on better terms for an equilibrium, why should I forgo that right?" he asked.

The need to reform the UN featured prominently in many sessions at the three-day Raisina Dialogue, especially when India has been pushing for a permanent seat on the UN Security Council. There are five permanent members in the UNSC with veto powers — China, France, Russia, the UK, and the US. The remaining 10 in the council are non-permanent members who enjoy rotational two-year terms. One of the experts on the panel, however, warned that UNSC reforms may not materialise by the time Global South leadership in other international platforms like the G20 will end up passing the baton onto the West.

"There's been a wonderful run of Global South leadership of the G20 from Indonesia, India, Brazil to South Africa. But as we look at 2026, the picture looks different — it goes to the US," Vinjamuri explained. "And by 2026, the UN Security Council probably won't have been reformed."

The inclusion of the [Y] in the G20 had notably taken place during India's G20 Presidency last year.

Q31. When was the Raisina Dialogue inaugurated?

- a. 2018
- b. 2015
- c. 2013
- d. 2016

Q32. Which organisation founded the Raisina Dialogues?

- a. Ministry of External Affairs
- b. Centre for Civil Society
- c. Gateway House: Indian Council on Global Relations
- d. Observer Research Foundation

Q33. Why is there a need to expand the UNSC?

- a. Because the P5 countries are always acting recklessly and misusing their veto powers.
- b. Because the current system is heavily influenced by the political system which got formed post WWII.
- c. Because there is a lack of representation of various regions of the world in such a powerful committee of the United Nations

d. Both b & c.

Q34. Which of the following will be redacted as [X]?

- a. ASEAN
- b. African Union
- c. BIMSTEC
- d. European Union

Q35. What is the major barrier in India's way of getting the permanent membership of the UNSC?

- a. The P5 countries are not supportive of India's demand for permanent membership at UN.
- b. China is not supportive of India's demand for a permanent seat at UNSC as it believes doing so would put its own hegemony in Asia and around the world at jeopardy.
- c. The Third World countries are not in favour of India's demand.
- d. Both a & c.

The Union government's recent decision to end the free movement regime (FMR) with Myanmar has rattled civil society in Nagaland – so much so that a powerful students' body, the Naga Students Federation (NSF), has shot off an appeal to the United Nations seeking its "immediate intervention". NSF president Medovi Rhi said, "This arbitrary intervention by the Indian government will certainly affect the ongoing Naga peace talks as the Central government also needs to be equally sincere and committed to bring peace."

Medovi said India's termination of the FMR understanding with Myanmar as per which people of the border areas on either side are allowed free movement till a 16 km radius will "once more divide the Naga people".

Last week, when New Delhi's decision to remove the FMR agreement along Nagaland's 215-km border with Myanmar reached the state, widespread civil society opposition came to the surface. Representative bodies of several Naga tribes including the Eastern Nagaland People's Organisation (ENPO) expressed their views differing with the Centre's decision. Reminding the UN about conducting "a plebiscite on May 16, 1951 wherein 99.9 per cent (of Nagas) wanted Independence from India", NSF's letter to the UN secretary general urged not only the international body but the government of India to also "explore the

possibilities for a fresh referendum under the supervision of international bodies”.

In [X], the Nagaland assembly had taken a resolution to urge the Narendra Modi government to intervene when the Myanmar government had announced its fencing exercise along that border.

Q36. Which of the following will be redacted as [X]?

- a. 2019
- b. 2015
- c. 2021
- d. 2017

Q37. India's shares its longest border with which of the following country?

- a. Pakistan
- b. China
- c. Myanmar
- d. Bangladesh

Q38. When did Burma gain independence from the British?

- a. 1947
- b. 1951
- c. 1938
- d. 1948

Q39. Which of the following state does not share its land border with Myanmar?

- a. Arunachal Pradesh
- b. Manipur
- c. Tripura
- d. Mizoram

Q40. Why is India ending its FMR with Myanmar?

- a. In order to make Myanmar's Junta government to toe its line on the issues related to South Asia especially China.
- b. In order to stop the Rohingyas from entering India

- c. In order to ensure the internal security of the country and to maintain the demographic structure of India's North Eastern States.
- d. None of the above

India is preparing to firm up its presence in space. After launching the Gaganyaan mission, the Indian Space Research Organisation plans to set up the country's first space station by 2035 and put a human on the Moon by [X]. These missions, "to be completed in the new 'Amrit Kaal'" according to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, are important successors to Gaganyaan, which will send a human mission to space. ISRO will simultaneously conceptualise these projects while working on the human spaceflight capabilities of Gaganyaan.

The Bharatiya Antariksha Station (BAS) is the official name for the Indian orbital space station, a project unveiled in 2019 by the then ISRO chief K. Sivan. It was initially supposed to be completed by 2030, but the Covid pandemic delayed the timeline. The first module of the space station will be propelled into orbit by 2028, ISRO chairman S. Somanath said at an event in December 2023. Currently, two space stations are operational in the Earth's orbit — the ISS, launched as a collaboration between five space agencies in the US, Canada, Japan, Europe, and Russia, and the Tiangong Space Station, which China launched in 2021.

Modi and Somanath have said that ISRO plans to send a man to the Moon by [X]. While there have been few updates regarding the programme's details, India did sign the Artemis Accords in [Y]. The NASA website states that through the Artemis mission, NASA plans to land the first woman, the first person of colour, and the first international partner astronaut on the Moon.

Q41. Which of the following will be redacted as [X]?

- a. 2045
- b. 2047
- c. 2035
- d. 2040

Q42. ISS was launched in which year?

- a. 1998
- b. 2000

- c. 1996
- d. 2003

Q43. Why is there a need for India to launch its own station in space?

- a. Because it is a status symbol of a growing power.
- b. Because other global powers have also done the same, therefore it is imperative for India to do the same.
- c. Because China has already launched its own space station and additionally having its own space station would help India in improving its various sectors and help its future space missions.
- d. Both a & b.

Q44. When was the Artemis Accord signed by India also redacted as [Y]?

- a. 2020
- b. 2019
- c. 2023
- d. 2022

Q45. What is the purpose of the Artemis Accords?

- a. To bring harmony among countries, limit the race to go to space and bring sustainable methods which do not harm the Earth.
- b. The accords are an international agreement to further space exploration, moon landings specifically, through international cooperation.
- c. The accords are a just a way for NASA to signify its supremacy in space.
- d. The accords are meant to control the human urge to colonise the moon in the future.

Two years after Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, cooperation with global partners has become more important than ever before. In this year's Raisina Dialogue in New Delhi, we, the eight Nordic-Baltic countries, are participating in it together as representatives of the Nordic-Baltic cooperation, the NB8. Our message is clear: in times of turmoil and conflict, the world needs more trust, dialogue and cooperation. Let us join forces to protect and defend peace and stability, to oppose aggression, to maintain a rules-based world order, and to strengthen a world economy based on free trade, sustainability and long-term partnerships.

We represent the governments of eight countries of the north: Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, [X], Norway and Sweden. We are linked geographically, and we share deep historical, social, economic and cultural ties. Our advanced economies are outward-looking, innovation-driven, complementary and fully integrated into the world's largest single market area, the European Common Market. Taken together, the size of the Nordic-Baltic economies would qualify not only for the G-20 but also the G-10. The Nordic-Baltic cooperation with India spans fields as diverse as innovation, green transition, maritime, health, intellectual property rights, new technologies, space cooperation and artificial intelligence, student exchanges, culture and tourism. Trade and investment figures between our region and India are steadily increasing. Jointly, India and the Nordic-Baltic countries are coming together in pursuit of common goals. In a time of geopolitical shifts, the security of the Nordic-Baltic region and the Indo-Pacific is interlinked. Today, it is more essential than ever to work together to uphold international law, and to build capacity to tackle both traditional and non-traditional security threats, be it in India's neighbourhood or in our own. We recognise India's increasingly important role in international politics. India has taken on important global responsibilities. Indian leadership, as illustrated not least through the successfully concluded G-20 presidency, is increasingly important for global security and prosperity.

Two years on, it is clear that Russia has totally underestimated Ukraine as well as the support and determination of the international community. Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has presented an ambitious peace formula for a comprehensive, just and lasting peace, based on international law and the UN Charter. The peace formula, which has received broad international support, includes issues of global concern such as energy and food security, environmental consequences and justice. We fully support Ukraine's diplomatic efforts for peace and welcome the increasing number of countries and international organisations taking part in the peace formula meetings — most recently in Davos, Switzerland in January, where there were 83 participants.

Our visit represents the first joint high-level NB8 delegation outside Europe. We have chosen India as our first destination, for many good reasons. Building on our strong commitment to the multilateral system, we want to increase dialogue and cooperation on the issues that dominate India's and other global partners' agendas.

Q46. Which of the following will be redacted as [X]?

- a. Poland
- b. Austria

- c. Lithuania
- d. Netherlands

Q47. How many of the eight above mentioned countries are not a member of NATO officially?

- a. Two
- b. One
- c. Three
- d. None of the above

Q48. Why do the Baltic countries want to improve their relations with India?

- a. In order to promote trade and other relations with India as it is one of the fastest growing economies of the world and an emerging leader of the world.
- b. In order to continue purchasing oil at a discounted rate from India.
- c. In order to push India away from the axis of Russia and persuade it to support the cause of Ukraine and other European nations.
- d. Both a & b.

Q49. Which of the following country was not a founding member of the NATO?

- a. Iceland
- b. Denmark
- c. Latvia
- d. Norway

Q50. What is India's stance on the ongoing Russian-Ukraine conflict?

- a. India is firmly in support of Ukraine as it supports a rule-based world order.
- b. India is firmly supporting Russia as it is India's old ally.
- c. India's stance has been balanced as it does not want to disturb its relation with Russia and has good trade relations with it and on the other hand it has been cautious of not being too supportive of Russia's actions in order to balance its ties with other European nations.
- d. India has been critical of Russian action in order to balance its ties with US and other European countries but there still exists backchannel talks with Russia in order to look after the welfare of the Indian diaspora. living in Russia.

In its report presented to Parliament on February 8, the Standing Committee on Communications and Information Technology has raised concerns about the dominance of fintech apps owned by foreign entities in the Indian ecosystem and recommended that local players be promoted. It mentioned that the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) commanded a 73.5% share of the total digital payments in terms of volume in FY 2022-23. However, its share in terms of value was only 6.67% in the same period.

The Committee in its report emphasised that digital payment apps must be effectively regulated as the use of digital platforms to make payments in India is on the rise. It noted that it will be more 'feasible' for regulatory bodies such as the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to control local apps, as compared with foreign apps, which operate in multiple jurisdictions. The Committee observed that fintech companies, apps and platforms that are owned by foreign entities, such as Walmart-backed [X] and [Y], dominate the Indian fintech sector. [X] commands the leading market share in volume terms, followed by [Y], at 46.91% and 36.39% respectively. This is for the period between October to November 2023. On the other hand, NPCI's [Z] UPI's market share (in terms of volume) stood at a mere 0.22%. NPCI's data for December last year show that a total of 5,642.66 million transactions were initiated by customers using [X], while another 4,375 million used [Y] and only about 24.30 million used BHIM

The Committee's recommendations are also largely in tune with the NPCI issuing a 30% volume cap on transactions facilitated using UPI, back in November 2020. That is, the total number of transactions initiated by any third-party app (like [X] and Amazon Pay) individually, could not exceed 30% of the overall transactions made using the interfaces cumulatively over three preceding months. Apps exceeding the specified cap were given two years to comply with the directive in a phased manner.

The fraud to sales ratio, which represents the total number of fraudulent transactions in comparison to the total number of transactions in a financial year, has largely remained around 0.0015%. The trend is notwithstanding the rise in volume of the payment mode in the last five years. In the ongoing financial year (till September 2023) the figure stood at 0.0016%. The percentage of users affected by UPI frauds stood at 0.0189%.

Mckinsey's Global Payments Report (September 2023) observed that instant payments in India were only expected to contribute less than 10% of future revenue growth because no fees are charged for the interface (UPI). It however, noted that "although UPI generates minimal transaction fees, these revenues still represent an uplift from no-fee cash events, and the paperless process eliminates the hidden costs of

managing cash transactions,” adding, “the associated change in consumer behaviour has enhanced security and increased access to digital commerce channels”. For perspective, printing and ensuring availability of cash too entails certain costs for the exchequer, thus, the analogous comparison with transaction costs for digital payments.

Q51. Who heads the Standing Committee on Communications and Information Technology?

- a. Tejasvi Surya
- b. Karti P. Chidambaram
- c. Jayadev Galla
- d. Jadhav Prataprao Ganpatrao

Q52. Which of the following will be redacted as [X]?

- a. BHIM
- b. Paytm
- c. PhonePe
- d. Google Pay

Q53. What are the reasons for the growth of the UPI payments in India?

- a. People are following the culture of the western nations and hence the reason.
- b. Easy and cheap availability of internet coupled with accessibility for the linkage of bank accounts has helped in the surge of the UPI payments.
- c. Demonetisation was also a reason for the growth of UPI payments coupled with government’s push for a cashless economy.
- d. Both b & c.

Q54. Why are the Indian companies market share less vis-a-vis that of the foreign companies?

- a. Because the foreign companies were launched before the Indian companies and were easily accessible to common users on their mobile phones.
- b. Because of promotion of these foreign companies much more than that of the Indian companies.
- c. Because of the number of investments these companies have done in promotion and marketing of these apps, which the Indian companies cannot match.
- d. Both a & c.

Q55. Which of the following will be redacted as [Z]?

- a. Paytm
- b. PhonePe
- c. Bhim
- d. None of the above

LEGAL REASONING

Q56-60. According to the IPC, Section 420 states that whoever cheats and thereby dishonestly induces the person deceived to deliver any property to any person, or to make, alter or destroy the whole or any part of a valuable security, or anything which is signed or sealed, and which is capable of being converted into a valuable security, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to seven years, and shall also be liable to fine.

Making of a false representation is one of the essential ingredients to institute the offence of cheating under Section 420 IPC. In order to bring a case for the offence of cheating, it is not merely satisfactory to prove that a false representation had been made, but it is further necessary to prove that the representation was false to the knowledge of the accused and was made in order to deceive the complainant.

Section 415 of IPC states: whoever, by deceiving any person, fraudulently or dishonestly induces the person so deceived to deliver any property to any person, or to consent that any person shall retain any property, or intentionally induces the person so deceived to do or omit to do anything which he would not do or omit if he were not so deceived, and which act or omission causes or is likely to cause damage or harm to that person in body, mind, reputation or property, is said to "cheat".

Source: <https://lawrato.com/indian-kanoon/ipc/section-420>

Q56. Raghav had the bones of an extremely huge mammal in his possession. An archeologist friend visiting him mentioned in passing that the bones could belong to an extinct dinosaur and, thus, could be extremely valuable, knowing that they were absolutely devoid of any value. Is the friend liable for cheating?

- a. Yes.
- b. No.
- c. Yes, if the bones were actually devoid of value.
- d. Insufficient Data.

Q57. Raghav had the bones of an extremely huge mammal. An archeologist friend visiting him mentioned in passing that the bones could belong to an extinct dinosaur and, thus, could be extremely valuable. Following this advice, Raghav ensured that the bones are not thrown out. However, the friend realized only after a few days that statement made by him was false. Is the friend liable for cheating?

- a. Yes.
- b. No.
- c. Yes, if the bones were actually devoid of value.
- d. Insufficient Data.

Q58. Nideovon is a shopkeeper selling electronics like TV and washing machines. One day, he was visited by Rudolph who claims to be an Income Tax officer. Rudolph does so with the intention of benefiting from any favour that Nideovon may make due to his position. Nideovon is extra cautious while selling him stuff so that he keeps Rudolph happy and, upon bargaining, readily gives him a special discount which was nothing different from what he had given quite a few of his customers. Turns out, Rudolph was not an IT officer.

- a. Rudolph has cheated Nideovon as he misrepresented himself to be an officer.
- b. Rudolph has cheated Nideovon as he was given special discount due to his pretended position.
- c. Rudolph has not cheated Nideovon as the latter did not give any extra discount.
- d. Both a and b.

Q59. Nideovon is a shopkeeper selling electronics like TV and washing machines. One day, he visited by Rudolph who Nideovon assumes to be an Income Tax officer. Nideovon is extra cautious while selling him stuff and, upon bargaining, gives him a special discount due to his post. Rudolph is actually a manager.

- a. Rudolph has cheated Nideovon as he misrepresented himself to be an officer.
- b. Rudolph has cheated Nideovon as he was given special discount.
- c. Rudolph has not cheated Nideovon.
- d. Both a and b.

Q60. Brijesh sold a piece of land to Krati claiming that he had title to it, even though he had no title to it, believing that he shall get the title by the time the deal goes through.

- a. Brijesh has not cheated as he believed he would get the title.
- b. Brijesh has cheated since he represented that he had the title.
- c. Brijesh would have cheated only if he does not get the title.
- d. Both a and c.

Q61-65. The Bharatiya Sakshya Bill, 2023, recently introduced in Parliament, aims to replace the long-standing Indian Evidence Act. This move has sparked discussions and debates across various circles, and one of the key changes is that the Bill allows for evidence of digital records (such as email) to be given in court.

As far as admissibility of electronic records is concerned, the position has not undergone much change. After amendment to Indian Evidence Act in 2000 provided that electronic records could have been presented in evidence using the device which produced the electronic record (eg. the laptop on which a document is stored) and that other computer outputs made from such device – which would otherwise be secondary evidence – were made admissible by bringing it to the same level as primary evidence. The present bill has codified this and Clause 61 says that: “Nothing in the Adhinyam shall apply to deny the admissibility of an electronic or digital record in the evidence on the ground that it is an electronic or digital record and such record shall have the same legal effect, validity and enforceability as paper records.”

The major changes are brought in the aspect of secondary evidence which need closer look. The clause has been modified to include information produced by or stored in communication devices as well. Information created through intermediaries has also been included, which is a positive step. A format of the certificate required under this Section has also been prescribed in the Schedule of the Bill. Along with a certificate to given by the operator of the computer, it also requires a certificate to be given by an expert, which is required for both primary and secondary evidence. It is puzzling as to why an expert’s certificate

is required at the stage of admissibility of evidence itself. As per the Schedule as also the clause, the expert is only supposed to certify that the computer output has been derived from the respective computer device. Thus, a person intending to give electronic evidence would be required to first contact an expert, hand over the computer device and request them to generate the computer output and take a certificate. But why then the certificate has to be given by expert itself? This is obviously absurd and would cause undue hardships for no understandable reason. If a person is required to take the computer device to an expert to get the output, why would they not simply take the device to court as primary evidence? The ease of producing digital evidence which was intended by this clause goes completely missing because of the requirement of the expert's certificate.

It is puzzling as to why these changes have been attempted in the clause, which was otherwise sufficient to cover secondary evidence for electronic records. True, certain clarifications were required to be codified for certain provisions. But it does not appear that there was any pressing need to require an expert's certificate for every computer output intended to be brought into evidence and it is necessary that sufficient debate takes place before bill is settled.

Source: <https://www.barandbench.com/columns/what-the-new-evidence-bill-proposes-for-electronic-records>

Q61. A was accused of committing murder on B and C, a witness intends to bring electronic communication can happened between A and C that is relevant to the case at hand and C wants to present this electronic device (mobile phone) as evidence. Can C present that mobile phone as evidence? (Answer considering the fact that 2023 Bill has not been passed).

- No, since bill has not been passed, the mobile phone cannot be presented as evidence.
- Yes, even though bill has not been passed, mobile phone can be used as evidence.
- Data Inadequate.
- None of the above.

Q62. Raj sent a mail to Raju asking to buy 5 bombs to be used to make a Diwali. Raju in furtherance makes a mail to Rajiv asking for 5 bombs to have a lot of firecrackers this coming festival, to be celebrated by Raj. Later, there is bombing in city and Raj is made accused of same. Raju can't retrieve the mail sent to him nor the same can be accessed from Raj' device. But the mail sent to Rajiv can be found and after taking certificate from expert, it was intended that it should be made as secondary evidence. Can such a communication be permissible as evidence?

- Yes, such communication between intermediaries cannot be accepted.
- No, it is not a direct communication and is coming from 3rd party.
- No, communication with Raju was lost and hence communication with Rajiv cannot be reliable.
- Both b and c.

Q63. Suppose in Q6, 2023 bill, as given in current form has been passed and now C wants to present this mobile device as evidence in court and C directly goes to court to present the evidence to speed up the process of examination of same without any prior formality. Can such an evidence be accepted by court?

- Yes, the evidence can be accepted to do complete justice and for fairness.
- Yes, C has followed the procedure which is required to be followed to present electronic evidence.
- No, such mobile phone as evidence cannot be accepted in the first place.
- No, the proper procedure for admissibility of evidence has not been followed.

Q64. What is the biggest concern that has been highlighted in current draft of bill?

- a. It unnecessarily introduces electronic evidences as admissible which can now be admitted in court.
- b. The current draft takes away the ease of producing of electronic evidences by introducing a requirement of expert certificate.
- c. The various amendments brought with regard to electronic evidences are problematic.
- d. All of the above.

Q65. The original Indian Evidence Act was drafted in 1872, who had drafted that act?

- a. James Fitzjames Stephen.
- b. Thomas Babington Macaulay.
- c. William Bentick II.
- d. Henry Maine.

Q66-70. The Supreme Court has flouted the centuries-old established law on habeas corpus by the manner in which it has handled the recent cases under this writ relating to Kashmir. The Writ Jurisdiction of Supreme Court can be conjured under Article 32 of the Constitution for the infringement of central rights ensured under Part – III of the Constitution.

‘Habeas Corpus’ literally means “to have a body of”. This writ is used to release a person who has been unlawfully detained or imprisoned. By virtue of this writ, the Court directs the person so detained to be brought before it to examine the legality of his detention. If the Court concludes that the detention was unlawful, then it directs the person to be released immediately.

Couple of essential perspectives identifying with this writ of habeas corpus are:

1. Who may apply: It has been expressed by courts in different cases that the detainee or the confined, as well as whatever other individual who knows about the benefits of the case, and is familiar with the actualities and circumstances and has perceived enthusiasm for moving of such application before the Supreme or High court can apply under Art. 32 and Art. 226 of the Constitution.
2. Inappropriate arguing: The entire object of procedures for a writ of Habeas Corpus is to make them quick, to keep them as free from detail as could be expected under the circumstances and to keep them as straightforward as could reasonably be expected.
3. Res Judicata: So far as Indian Law is concerned, it is genuinely all around settled that no second suit for a writ of habeas corpus on the same grounds is viable if a prior suit is dismissed by the court. Elective cure: Habeas corpus being a writ obviously or right might be denied if there is no cause appeared. It, notwithstanding, can't be declined on the ground that another possible remedy is accessible to the applicant.
4. Conditions for refusal: There might be conditions under which the habeas corpus might be denied which are as per the following: (a) at the point when the detainment is in nexus with the request or choice rendered by the court, (b) at the point when the individual or power i.e. detainer does not go under the regional ward of the court, (c) at the point when the detenu has as of now been without set, (d) at the point when the detainment has been accepted by expulsion of deformities, (e) at the point when the writ is looked for amid crisis circumstances, (f) at the point when the request has been released by a capable court subsequent to investigating the benefits.

Source: <https://www.drishitias.com/daily-news-analysis/habeas-corpus-cases-in-jammu-kashmir>

Q66. A was detained wrongfully by B and was not being released by him. Family member of A files habeas corpus petition asking for release of A before high court, can high court grant such a relief?

- a. Yes, high court has power to grant such relief.
- b. No, only supreme court has power to take the writ of habeas corpus.
- c. No, family member cannot in the first place file writ of habeas corpus as it can only be filed by detainee

or person confined.
d. Both b and c.

Q67. Ajay was inappropriately detained by Kundra and he filed habeas corpus petition in High Court asking that he should be released from clutches of Kundra but High Court denies that. Ajay appeals against this decision to Supreme Court but Kundra says such appeal is barred by principle of res judicata, whether contention of Kundra is right?

- Yes, once denied, the petition is barred by doctrine of res judicata.
- No, such an appeal to supreme court is not barred by principle of res judicata.
- No, one has right to approach supreme court in all matters especially when there has been violation of fundamental rights.
- Yes, since high court has rejected relief, supreme court shouldn't take up the said matter.

Q68. Which writ is issued to ask public office to perform a function which it is not performing which otherwise it is required to perform?

- Writ of Mandamus.
- Writ of Certiorari.
- Writ of Quo Warranto.
- Writ of Prohibition.

Q69. Aman was going on a road when suddenly he was illegally detained by Gujjar. He applied to supreme court under writ of habeas corpus asking for his release. Supreme Court said since Aman had an alternative remedy to file this petition before high court, we won't grant this particular relief and high court should consider the present matter, whether the decision of supreme court sound?

- Yes, supreme court has power to transfer matter to other courts for consideration.
- No, supreme court cannot be grant relief merely because alternative remedy was available.
- Yes, petition of habeas corpus should first be filed to high court before consideration by supreme court.
- None of the above.

Q70. Which of the following is false as per the passage?

- The habeas corpus petition cannot be denied merely at the point when the detainment is in nexus with the request or choice rendered by the court.
- The habeas corpus petition can be denied at the point when the detenu has as of now been without set.
- 'Habeas Corpus' literally means "to have a body of". This writ is used to release a person who has been unlawfully detained or imprisoned.
- The Writ Jurisdiction of Supreme Court can be conjured under Article 32 of the Constitution for the infringement of central rights ensured under Part – III of the Constitution.

Q71-75. The MCG decided unanimously in favour of imposing a closure of meat shops every Tuesday citing religious sentiments. The decision of MCG raises Constitutional dissection as the Corporation (MCG) constitutes 'State' under Article 12 of the Indian Constitution. The particular direction given out by the MCG brings into question a citizen's right to practice any profession or to carry on any occupation, trade, or business as expressly provided under Article 19 (1) (g) of Part III of the Indian Constitution. No right under Part III is absolute and free from restrictions. Therefore, Article 19 (6) of the Constitution permits the state to impose reasonable restriction in the 'interest of general public'.

If a person owning a meat shop is guaranteed the right under Article 19(1) (g), it is pertinent to decide

whether meat sales/meat shops constitutes 'profession', 'occupation', 'trade' or 'business', because only if it constitutes any one of these will he/she enjoy protection under Article 19(1) (g).

Once established that meat shops function as a 'trade', the question of whether the MCG is justified to prohibit the sale of meat on a particular day of is the second question to be answered.

The Supreme Court has held that the restrictions laid down under Article 19 have to be tested on the anvil of the test of proportionality and that the Articles 19 and 21 of the Constitution mandate that any 'State action' should satisfy five important criteria, which are : (a) State actions to be backing by a law, (b) legitimacy of purpose, (c) A rational connection of the act and object, (d) The necessity of the action, and finally (e) when the above four are established, then the test of proportionality.

Source: [Religious Beliefs; Closure Of Meat Shops And Article 19\(1\)\(g\) Of The Constitution Of India \(livelaw.in\)](http://livelaw.in)

Q71. The Ajanta Municipal Corporation is empowered under Dimdima Municipal Corporation Act passed by the state of Dimdima to remove the prostitutes from certain demarcated locality of the city without giving them opportunity to be heard, for the convenience of general public and public health. Can this provision be challenged under Article 19 (1) (g) of the Constitution?

- No because the authorities are empowered to facilitate the public health.
- No because the prostitution is not a profession for the purposes of Article 19 (1) (g) of the Constitution.
- Yes because the prostitutes are not given the reasonable right to be heard.
- Data Inadequate.

Q72. The state government of Bhangarh in the Union of Bairagistan came up with a rule that the government teachers of first and second grades will not provide the service private tuition for any cash or kind. The said rule was made to regulate the services of the government teachers and uplift the level of education in the government schools. Shanti, a second grade teachers, who provides free tuition to the children of poor families nearby her house, challenged the government's action stating that it is violative of her Fundamental Right under Article 19 (1) (g) of the Constitution. Can she claim her Fundamental Right?

- She cannot claim her right as the government's action is justiciable on the ground of public interest.
- She can claim her right as the government's action of unreasonable and discriminatory.
- She cannot claim her right as the government's action is to promote education in government schools.
- She can claim her right as she is providing the tuition for free.

Q73. Internet services were completely suspended in Jammu and Kashmir by the Central Government in apprehension that it might promote the frivolous and illegal activities in the valley. Sajid, a Tradesperson, who runs an e-commerce business of pashmina, challenged the said Order claiming that it is an infringement to his right under Article 19 (1) (g). Decide the matter as per the given information in the passage.

- The act of the government is justified under Article 19 (6) to put reasonable restrictions.
- The act of the government is not justified as it is not causing any public inconvenience or public disorder.
- The act of the government is not justified as it is based on mere apprehension.
- The act of the government is justified as it may cause grievous risk to others' right to life.

Q74. The central government of Union of Ujalapur is very concern of the health issues among the consumers of tobacco products, such as, bidis. It put a ban on the manufacturing of bidi to curb the spread of diseases caused by Bidis. Considering that the law of the Union of Ujalapur is pari materia

to the law of the Union of India. Can this action of government be covered under reasonable restrictions under Article 19 (6) under public health?

- a. No, because total prohibition does not amount to reasonable restriction.
- b. No because it is against the economic health of the state.
- c. Yes, because consumption of bidis is causing grave health issues.
- d. Yes, because it causes inconvenience to the general public.

Q75. The state government of Kunthala in the Union of Mahismati amended Kunthala Police Act, which prohibited dance performance in the eating areas and bars with proviso, which says such dance practices are permitted in hotels not below three stars. The objective of the amendment is to enforce them to obtain license. Considering that the law of the Union of Mahismati is pari materia to the law of the Union of India. How do you see the amendment in the Act?

- a. The amendment is constitutional as the objective of the amendment is to curb unauthorized trade.
- b. The amendment is not constitutional as it is discriminatory and arbitrary.
- c. The amendment is constitutional as the alleged act is detrimental to public health and women's safety.
- d. The amendment is not constitutional as the amendment is abridging the right to trade of those place and the dancers.

Q76-80. "A bunch of anonymous letters were received by a woman. A mere glance through those letters is enough. Any reader can perceive the foul smell of the author's filthy intentions. The victim's modesty gets hurt, injured, outraged, and terribly insulted" These remarks were made in judgment [MM Haries vs. State of Kerala] delivered in 2005 by Justice K. Hema of Kerala High Court. Today, letters are replaced by social media which has made the criminal act easier to be committed and get away with. Many women from all walks of life face online abuse and they are not sure how to deal with it.

The above judgment in MM Haries is on a petition filed by a person accused of sending anonymous abusive letters to a woman police officer. In that case, the charge sheet was laid against him under Section 292, 294(b) and 506(1) of IPC. The contentions raised by the accused was that these provisions are not attracted in this case. The court refused to quash the crime observing that an offence under section 509 IPC is prima facie made out. This section is thankfully, a gender neutral as far as offender is concerned. The court found that 'writing of letter' to a woman, intending to insult her modesty can be construed as 'making a gesture' under section 509 IPC.

Section 509 of the Indian Penal Code [After 2013 amendment] reads thus: "Word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman: Whoever, intending to insult the modesty of any woman, utters any word, makes any sound or gesture, or exhibits any object, intending that such word or sound shall be heard, or that such gesture or object shall be seen, by such woman, or intrudes upon the privacy of such woman, shall be punished with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, and also with fine."

The court noted the dictionary meaning of the word 'gesture' and said: "A gesture need not necessarily involve any body language. It is not necessary that a person uses anybody signs to make a gesture. He can convey or express his intentions by sending a doctor, writing a letter or by making a phone call etc. In fact, the intentions of a person can be best expressed by way of writing a letter and there will be proof also for such an act. Therefore, going by the dictionary meaning, it has to be concluded that writing of a letter can be treated as 'making a gesture' since by such act, the writer expresses his attitude or conveys his intentions."

Source: <https://www.livelaw.in/know-the-law/section-509-ipc-as-statutory-remedy-available-to-women-who-face-online-abuse->

[163298#:~:text=%22A%20bunch%20of%20anonymous%20letters.in%20judgment%20%5BMM%20Haries%20vs.](#)

Q76. X really liked a girl of his class. He proposed her but she denied, which hurt X's ego and he wanted to take revenge. He made a poster and wrote nasty things about the girl with a clear intention to outrage her modesty, but did not reveal her name, but the poster was such that the girl will know it is about her. Can X be made liable under section 509?

- Yes, X had made a poster with a clear intention to outrage her modesty.
- No, although X made a poster, he did not reveal the name.
- Yes, X made the poster to take revenge.
- No, X is not liable because he did not gesture anything to the girl.

Q77. X and Y studied in John's Boys school and were best friends. One day they got into fight, and in the middle of the dining hall X said many things which were sufficient to breach the privacy and modesty of X. Determine the liability of X under Section 509 as per the passage.

- X is not liable because he doesn't satisfy all the ingredients under section 509.
- X is liable because he satisfies all the ingredients under section 509.
- X is liable because the offence is gender neutral one.
- X is not liable because he was the best friend of Y.

Q78. P was in love with Q. With the hope that Q might fall for him too, he wrote a love letter to Q, but unfortunately the uncle of Q saw that letter. Q's family being very conservative, insulted, abused and even took the phone of Q. Q full of rage against P for her dire situation files a complaint against P under section 509. Determine P's liability.

- P is liable because his letter outraged the modesty of Q.
- P is not liable because what happened with Q was not P's fault.
- P is liable because he should not have written the letter.
- P is not liable because whatever happened with Q cannot be deemed as outraging her modesty.

Q79. T and U fought with each other. In utmost belligerence, T makes a poster, wrote very personal things about U and sent it to U's home with the clear intention to outrage her modesty, but the poster was received by her father, who tears and throws away the poster before U gets to see it. Determine the liability of T as per the passage.

- T is not liable because he has not outraged the modesty of a women.
- T is liable because he intended to outrage someone's modesty.
- T is not liable because U did not get to see the poster T has created.
- T is liable because at least one person other than T has seen the poster about U.

Q80. M and O were in a relationship. M fell in love with some other girl and had to leave O; which was enough to make O furious. In order to take revenge, O hacked the Facebook account of M and posted few personal things on his behalf that was enough to outrage his modesty. Determine the liability of O under Section 509 as per the passage.

- O is liable because section 509 is gender neutral.
- O is liable because her actions do come under the scope of 'gesture'.
- O is not liable because, for the world the posts from M's Facebook account were posted by M himself.
- O is not liable because the ingredients of section 509 are not satisfied.

Q81-85. In January, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs released a new order notifying amendments in the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) rules for companies. The new rules also state that all agencies implementing CSR activities will have to be registered with the government. With these amendments, now, companies will have to be answerable for their social responsibility like never before. The key changes are: Organisations intending to undertake CSR initiatives will have to register themselves with the Central Government, with effect from April 1. They have to fill Form and submitted electronically by the entity and shall be verified digitally. After registration with government happen, organisations with net worth of Rs 500 crore or more, turnover of Rs 1,000 crore or more, net profit of Rs 5 crore or more, will have to spend 2 per cent of their average profits of the previous three years on CSR activities every year. In case an organisation fails to spend 2 per cent on CSR activities, it will have to state the reasons for not being able to do so. If the unspent amount doesn't relate to any ongoing project, the organisation will have to transfer it to a fund notified by the government. The new rules restrict a registered public charitable trust to conduct CSR projects through private trusts on their behalf. An entity registered with the purpose of promoting charitable causes and is prohibited from distributing dividends to shareholders is a Section 8 company. Any organisation with a CSR obligation of Rs 10 crore or more for three previous financial years will have to hire an independent agency to conduct an impact assessment of all those projects that have an outlay of Rs 1 crore or more. An organisation also needs to ensure that administrative overheads don't exceed 5 per cent of the total CSR expenditure for the fiscal. If there's a surplus from CSR activities, that will not be a part of the business profit. That money will have to be invested into the same project or transferred to an unspent CSR account.

Source: [Key Features of Amended CSR Rules, 2021 - India CSR](#)

Q81. MSM and Company Pvt. Ltd, an unregistered firm was a manufacturing company indulged in business activity of preparing perfumed soaps. It has another two subsidiary companies which produce chemicals to be used in these soaps. The company had a turnover of Rs. 5000 crore per year and earn profits Rs. 50 lakh per month. But due to competition in market, the net worth of the company slows down to Rs. 100 crore and it started getting into losses. For the year 2020, the company decided not to invest in CSR activities fund and collect more profits first. Decide:

- The company has to invest in CSR funds as it is mandatory requirement and it cannot escape from CSR liability in any circumstances.
- The company need not invest in CSR funds as it was going into losses and can escape the liability of CSR for the time being till it restore to stable financial conditions.
- The company has to invest CSR funds as it has fulfilled the eligibility criteria of net worth, profits and turnover for the specified financial year 2020.
- The company need not invest in CSR funds as it is not a mandatory requirement and they can escape from CSR liabilities as they are not registered with the government.

Q82. Gupta and Sons Pvt. Ltd., registered company, was owned by Mr. Anil Gupta and it was in dispute with his step brother who claimed to be the owner of the company. This issue went to the court and the court decided to divide the share of the company equally among the two brothers along with the profits, debts, assets and other liabilities. It was done accordingly and two parent companies were formed Gupta and Sons Pvt. Ltd. and Gupta & Son Pvt. Ltd. Turnover for both companies was above 1500 Crore Rs. For financial year 2020, no CSR fund was spend by original Gupta and Sons Company. Since the property is divided, Anil Gupta claimed the CSR fund to be spent by both companies and not by only one. But his brother refused to do so. Decide:

- Both companies Gupta and Sons Pvt. Ltd. and Gupta & Son Pvt. Ltd. must spend 2 percent of profits on CSR activities individually as they are no more considered to be single unit.

- b. Only company Gupta and Sons Pvt. Ltd. has to spend 2 percent of profits on CSR activities because it is the parent company and is solely responsible for CSR funds.
- c. Both companies Gupta and Sons Pvt. Ltd. and Gupta & Son Pvt. Ltd. has to spent 1 percent of profits on CSR activities individually as property is divided among the brothers equally.
- d. Only company Gupta & Son Pvt. Ltd. has to spend 2 percent of profits on CSR activities because it is the subsidiary company of Gupta and Sons Pvt. Ltd. and is solely responsible for CSR funds.

Q83. Birla & Group was a well-known public company indulged in forming of white chemical bricks for home structuring. It was earning a good profit of Rs. 3000 crore per annum. It conducted its CSR activities via its own Birla Pvt. Trust which shows amount spent to be much than the actual spending. The new amendments by the government were introduced to stop such private trusts to conduct CSR activities for the public companies. Thus, Birla & Group stuck in a bad condition and decided to spend 5 percent of total profits to escape such mismanagement in the company. What intent do government have behind such amendment?

- a. This amendment could have been brought by the government to ensure that no such private trusts exist and no such mismanagement can be done by companies in CSR activities.
- b. This amendment could have been brought by the government to ensure that private trusts no more act as CSR implementing agencies of public companies and hence be converted to registered public trusts.
- c. This amendment could have been brought by the government to ensure that more and more CSR fund can be collected by the public companies and to balance out the non-CSR activities of other private companies.
- d. This amendment could have been brought by the government to ensure that more economical advantages can be given to public companies as compared to private companies.

Q84. AK & Infotechs Company was well established public company in IT related profiles. The company was in good competition with other IT companies and has achieved great success rate in less amount of exposure. By time, the company expanded its business in other foreign countries and has made strong economical base. Company had net worth of Rs. 1000 crore and invest in CSR activities with average more than 2 percent of profits per annum. But due to sudden fall in price for IT products in market, company seeks losses and was indebted. Soon in six months time period, it got insolvent and bankrupt. For the financial year 2020, company was unable to pay the CSR funds. But in one year time span, it recovered back to the position. Decide:

- a. The company has to spent mandatorily the CSR amount from its assets or profits as it was having the net worth of Rs. 1000 crore and cannot escape from such liability.
- b. The company need not spent the CSR fund as it was not in stable position to spend the required amount and can escape the liability under these circumstances.
- c. The company has to spend the CSR amount mandatorily as it was doing good in past and was having sufficient amount for such CSR funds to be taken out.
- d. The company need not spend the CSR amount till it recovers to the best of its position both financially and socially in the market and can escape CSR liability for a while.

Q85. What can be the best possible explanation for incorporating the concept of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in Indian scenario?

- a. Corporate Social Responsibility is to be there on both private and public companies to seek overall economic and social growth of the Indian Corporate Sector.
- b. Corporate Social Responsibility serves the interests of society by taking responsibility for the impact

- of their activities on various stakeholders and the environment in all aspects of their operations.
- c. Corporate Social Responsibility is to increase social awareness among the society and its people regarding their duties towards the social need of the society as a whole.
- d. Corporate Social Responsibility is to achieve the target of sustainable development and get economic condition of the country to be much better with overall growth

CRITICAL REASONING

Air India's deal to buy 470 planes from France's Airbus and the United States' Boeing is important not just because it is the largest biggest purchase by any carrier but also because it has geo-economic and geopolitical ramifications. Tata group chairman N Chandrasekaran said the \$70-billion deal happened at a time when the airliner plans to become "a world-class proposition." The purchase, which beats the previous record of American Airlines' 460-plane deal in 2011, would modernise Air India's fleet and help it to "dramatically" expand its network, he told the media. Air India has retired most of its older planes; it plans to induct the first new aircraft into service by the end of this calendar year. This is the best piece of news about Air India in the last few years.

As a public sector carrier, it was beset with a host of problems, from mounting losses to its marginalisation in the business. Privatisation didn't end its woes; in 2022, it recorded its lowest-ever market share—8.7 per cent. In the last few months too, it hit the headlines for wrong reasons—the so-called peegate. The announcement regarding purchase of hundreds of aircraft has not just given a new profile to the airline but also informed the world that the India Story is vibrant and interesting. Also, this enhances the image of corporate India against the backdrop of the controversies over the Adani Group. Further, the deal brings India closer to the Western camp. US President Joe Biden, French President Emmanuel Macron, and UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak welcomed Air India's deals. Sunak has pointed out that Airbus will manufacture the wings in the UK and A350 aircraft will be powered by Rolls-Royce's XWB engines. He is happy because his country's aerospace industry employs more than 111,000 people. On his part, President Biden noted that the sale of over 200 Boeing aircraft will support over a million jobs in the US and help Air India meet its transportation demands, according to a White House release.

The release also highlighted "the strength of the US-India economic partnership." President Macron emphasized not just the economic aspect of the deal but also said that the Air India-Airbus contract "marks a new stage in India and France's strategic partnership." It may be recalled that India is already buying Rafale fighter aircraft from France. The dominant domestic market place IndiGo is also reportedly in the process of buying 500 jets. In fact, Indian carriers are said to be on a shopping spree, intending to buy

almost 1,700 aircraft in the next few years. While an imminent boom in the aviation sector is heartening, there are a few things the authorities must ensure. The first and foremost is infrastructure. Airport expansion must be high on the priority list. Generally, our airports are crowded and badly managed. Also, the Government must expedite reforms so that smaller towns also get access to air travel. And, of course, passenger behaviour has to improve.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from The Hindustan Times]

Q86. Which of the following metaphorical titles best represents the passage?

- a. A New Dawn for Air India: The Story of a Phoenix Rising from the Ashes
- b. A Sky Full of Opportunities: The Bright Future of India's Aviation Sector
- c. The Flight to Western Dominance: India's Strategic Partnership with the West
- d. From Peegate to Profit: The Journey of Air India to Record-Breaking Success

Q87. What specific feature of the Air India deal with Airbus and Boeing has a positive impact on the UK, as mentioned in the passage?

- a. The fact that Airbus will manufacture the wings in the UK
- b. The number of planes being purchased by Air India
- c. The engines that will be used in the A350 aircraft
- d. The additional jobs that will be created in India's aviation sector.

Q88. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's arguments?

- a. Air India's purchase of new aircraft will lead to increased air traffic and congestion at airports.
- b. Tata group's profits are negatively impacted by the \$70-billion deal.
- c. The purchase of new aircraft will have an impact on Air India's market share or reputation.
- d. The purchase of hundreds of aircraft by Air India does not represent a positive sign for India's economy.

Q89. What is the main infrastructure challenge that the authorities must address to ensure the success of the recent aircraft purchase by Indian carriers?

- a. Improving passenger behaviour
- b. Accelerating economic reforms
- c. Expanding airport facilities
- d. Enhancing aircraft manufacturing capabilities

Q90. Which of the following statements would be most relevant to the passage's discussion of Air India's recent aircraft purchase?

- a. Air India has launched a new customer loyalty program.
- b. The cost of airline tickets has increased due to rising fuel prices.
- c. The new aircraft purchased by Air India will modernize its fleet and help it to expand its network.
- d. The price of Airbus and Boeing stock has risen in response to Air India's purchase.

The National Statistical Office's latest release of GDP data estimates a further deceleration in growth in the October-December 2022 quarter, a slowdown that the government's Chief Economic Adviser (CEA) has attributed largely to an upward revision in the year-earlier period's figures. Gross domestic product is posited to have expanded by 4.4% from the year-earlier quarter, an appreciable deceleration from the 6.3% pace logged in the preceding three months and lagging the 5.2% growth of the October-December 2021 period as well. Gross Value Added (GVA) growth slowed to 4.6%, from the second quarter's 5.5%, as the estimates for manufacturing suggested a continuing contraction (minus 1.1%), albeit narrower than July-September's shrinkage (minus 3.6%). Sequentially too manufacturing appears to have shrunk (minus 2.4%). Growth in three of the five services sectors including the crucial trade, hotels, transport and communications as well as the financial, real estate and professional services categories also slowed sharply from the second quarter, signalling that the pent-up demand seen in the contact-intensive sectors, which had been worst hit by the COVID19 pandemic, had begun to wane.

On the expenditure front, the mainstay private final consumption expenditure lost some momentum with its percentage share of overall GDP easing to 61.6%, from 63% in the year-earlier quarter. That this happened in the traditional festival quarter when consumption spending usually peaks ought to be cause for concern and suggests that the relentless pace of retail inflation is eroding consumptive capacity. The CEA, however, has suggested that if the year-earlier manufacturing output data used to calculate the year-on-year growth had remained unrevised, the sector would have actually logged an expansion of 3.8%, instead of the 1.1% shrinkage that the NSO estimates show. Similarly, he has asserted that private consumption spending would have logged third-quarter growth of about 6%, instead of 2.1% that the latest NSO release indicates, if the data prior to revision had been used instead. Still, even at 6%, consumption spending growth would lag the second quarter's 8.8% expansion, making it clear that momentum is flagging. Gross fixed capital formation, which reflects investment by businesses in new capacity,

contracted sequentially, with its share of GDP slipping to 31.8%, from 34.2% in the July-September period.

With global demand weakening considerably and unlikely to recover over the course of 2023, and the risks from likely unfavourable weather conditions raising uncertainty over farm output in the coming months, policy makers will need to do all they can to buttress domestic demand. That the data revisions have essentially made it that much harder to draw meaningful conclusions, spotlights the challenges to crafting policy solutions, as top central bank officials have frequently pointed out.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from The Indian Express]

Q91. Which of the following best describes the main message of the passage?

- a. The Indian economy is experiencing robust growth in all sectors.
- b. The Indian government is taking necessary measures to boost the economy.
- c. The latest GDP data shows a deceleration in growth in the October-December 2022 quarter.
- d. The data revisions have made it easier to draw meaningful conclusions about the Indian economy.

Q92. Which of the following is NOT an inference that can be drawn from the passage?

- a. The Indian economy has been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- b. The revision of year-earlier data has affected the accuracy of the latest GDP estimates.
- c. The festival quarter usually sees an increase in consumption spending.
- d. Global demand is likely to recover over the course of 2023.

Q93. Which of the following options would strengthen the author's argument in the passage?

- a. The government should focus on increasing taxes to boost GDP growth.
- b. The NSO data is unreliable and should not be taken seriously.
- c. Policy makers should take measures to increase domestic demand to counter the weakening global demand.
- d. The contraction in gross fixed capital formation is temporary and will recover soon.

Q94. Which of the following can be concluded from the information present in the passage?

- a. India's manufacturing sector has shown signs of growth in the October-December 2022 quarter.
- b. The festival season did not lead to an increase in private consumption expenditure in the year-earlier quarter.

- c. Global demand is likely to recover over the course of 2023.
- d. The Indian government has announced policy solutions to boost domestic demand.

Q95. Which of the following best describes the impact of the current economic situation on the retail industry in India?

- a. The retail industry in India is experiencing a surge in growth due to increased consumer demand.
- b. The retail industry in India is stagnant due to low consumer demand and rising inflation.
- c. The retail industry in India is expected to recover soon due to government policies aimed at boosting domestic demand.
- d. The passage does not provide enough information to determine the impact of the current economic situation on the retail industry.

I recently came across the alarming news of the first-ever case of a plant fungus called *Chondrostereum purpureum* infecting a human in Kolkata, India. 61-year-old man experienced symptoms such as hoarseness, cough, fatigue, and difficulties swallowing, leading to the discovery of the fungal infection. *Chondrostereum purpureum* is known for causing Silver leaf disease in plants, particularly in rose family species, but this is the first reported case of the fungus infecting a human. This might signal a new danger for the human race, as it could be the start of a phenomenon where plant fungi adapt to invade human cells by evading the process of 'phagocytosis'.

The case was detected by Soma Dutta and Ujjwayini Ray of Consultant Apollo Multispecialty Hospitals in Kolkata, who published their findings in the journal *Medical Mycology Case Reports*. This new threat raises concerns that many such instances may occur in the future, especially in individuals with compromised immune systems, as witnessed during the COVID-19 pandemic when many in India contracted secondary fungal infections from black fungus, resulting in over 4,500 deaths. Rising temperatures due to global warming are considered one of the major reasons for this new threat, as most fungi thrive in temperatures ranging from 12°C to 30°C, while many species are thermotolerant and can withstand higher temperatures. Global warming can change the distribution of heat-tolerant and susceptible fungal species, favoring thermotolerant varieties and facilitating their spread and contact with human populations.

Some fungi may exploit a natural selection-adaptation strategy, adapting to higher temperatures through thermal selection. The narrowing thermal difference between the human body and its surroundings due to

global warming increases the chance of the prevalence of fungal diseases. As a result, fungal infections are expected to pose a greater threat to humans in the coming years due to rising temperatures caused by climate change and growing resistance to the limited treatments available.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from The Hindu]

Q96. Based on the passage, which of the following statements best represents the conclusion?

- Chondrostereum purpureum, a plant fungus, has infected a human for the first time, possibly indicating a new danger for the human race.
- The case of Chondrostereum purpureum infection in Kolkata may lead to an increase in the number of fungal infections worldwide.
- Fungal infections are expected to pose a greater threat to humans in the coming years due to rising temperatures caused by climate change and growing resistance to the limited treatments available.
- Global warming plays a crucial role in the spread of fungal infections by increasing the prevalence of thermotolerant fungal species and narrowing the thermal difference between the human body and its surroundings.

Q97. Which of the following assumptions is necessary for the argument to hold that fungal infections are expected to pose a greater threat to humans in the coming years due to rising temperatures caused by climate change and growing resistance to the limited treatments available?

- The first-ever case of Chondrostereum purpureum infection in a human represents a widespread trend in fungal infections.
- The ability of fungi to adapt to higher temperatures through thermal selection will continue to increase over time.
- The increasing prevalence of fungal diseases is directly proportional to the rise in global temperatures.
- Global warming will continue to cause a rise in temperatures, facilitating the spread and contact of thermotolerant fungal species with human populations.

Q98. Which of the following can be inferred about the potential implications of the Chondrostereum purpureum infection in humans?

- The infection will inevitably lead to a global pandemic similar to COVID-19.
- Global warming is the sole cause of the Chondrostereum purpureum infection in humans.
- The Chondrostereum purpureum infection will only affect individuals with compromised immune

systems.

d. The increasing prevalence of fungal infections in humans may be influenced by rising global temperatures and fungi adaptation.

Q99. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument that the increasing prevalence of fungal infections in humans is influenced by rising global temperatures and fungi adaptation?

- a. The frequency of *Chondrostereum purpureum* infections in plants has remained constant in recent years.
- b. The distribution of thermotolerant fungal species has expanded, leading to increased contact with human populations in warmer climates.
- c. A new antifungal medication has been developed to specifically target *Chondrostereum purpureum* infections in humans.
- d. The majority of people who have contracted secondary fungal infections have a history of exposure to plants in the rose family.

Q100. Which of the following pieces of information would be most crucial to evaluate the argument that fungal infections are expected to pose a greater threat to humans in the coming years due to rising temperatures caused by climate change and growing resistance to limited treatments available?

- a. The percentage of individuals who have experienced symptoms similar to those of the 61-year-old man in the reported case.
- b. The rate at which new antifungal medications are being developed and their effectiveness against various fungal infections.
- c. The extent to which global warming affects the distribution of heat-tolerant and susceptible fungal species and their adaptation strategies.
- d. The increase in global temperatures and its relation to the prevalence of respiratory diseases other than fungal infections.

The inability of the Group of Twenty foreign ministers, who met in Delhi this week, to agree on a final statement was no surprise. Given the current polarised world environment amid the continuing war in Ukraine, expectations from the G20 meeting were not too high. Yet, the fact that the foreign ministers

could not agree to reiterate a formulation on Ukraine that they had articulated at the G20 summit in Bali, Indonesia, last November underlines the deepening great power conflict and worsening crisis of multilateralism. The principal reason for the diplomatic failure at Delhi was the decision by Russia to walk away from the Bali consensus and China's decision to support it. As the Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov put it, the Bali Formula was a "thing of the past".

Three months ago, when the Bali summit took place, the Russian invasion of Ukraine was in a disarray as it rapidly lost ground in the areas that it had occupied. Since then Russia has reinforced its defensive lines in Ukraine and is now in the middle of a renewed military offensive. Moscow has also successfully consolidated its expansive strategic partnership with Beijing. President Vladimir Putin appears confident that time is on his side and that a prolonged war would exhaust Ukraine, divide the West and allow Moscow to prevail, if at a massive cost to Russia. Meanwhile, US President Joe Biden has reaffirmed that the US and the West will stand by Ukraine for "as long as it takes". The diplomatic room for Delhi, which led the effort in Bali to produce a consensus that all sides could live with, had clearly shrunk in the last few weeks. India, which has the responsibility to lead the G20 at this difficult juncture, is not ready to throw in the towel. It is confident that there is much time before the G20 leaders arrive in Delhi for the September summit. If the ground situation has altered in the few weeks since the Bali summit and led to a dissipation of the consensus, there is no reason to believe the current dynamic situation in Ukraine will remain unchanged in the next few months.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who addressed the G20 foreign ministers, was realistic enough to recognise the profound crisis in multilateralism today. At the same time, though, the PM underlined India's twin ambitions — to continue the campaign to reform multilateralism and to get the world to take greater cognisance of the challenges faced by the "Global South". Acknowledging the difficulties in producing a consensus on Ukraine, External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar pointed to agreement among the foreign ministers on a number of issues of interest to India and the developing world. These include food and energy security, cooperation to counter terrorism, climate change, global health and disaster management. India is right to remain optimistic and committed to a sustained effort to make the G20 summit in September a success.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from The Hindustan Times]

Q101. What is the main focus of the article? Choose the best answer.

- a. The G20 summit held in Delhi was a failure due to disagreements over Ukraine.
- b. India is optimistic about achieving consensus on multilateralism despite difficulties.

- c. The G20 foreign ministers discussed various issues including food and energy security, counter-terrorism, climate change, global health, and disaster management.
- d. Russia and China walked away from the Bali consensus on Ukraine, leading to diplomatic failure at the recent G20 meeting in Delhi.

Q102. What can be inferred about Russia's strategy towards Ukraine from the information in the passage?

- a. Russia's military offensive in Ukraine has been successful in occupying more territories.
- b. Russia's confidence about prolonged war in Ukraine would be beneficial for itself even if this costs.
- c. Russia has been unable to consolidate its strategic partnership with China due to the ongoing conflict in Ukraine.
- d. Russia is interested in reaching a diplomatic agreement with Ukraine to end the ongoing conflict.

Q103. Which of the following strengthens the author's argument about India's role in leading the G20 at the current juncture?

- a. India has been a member of the G20 since its inception in 1999.
- b. India has successfully dealt with its own domestic challenges of poverty reduction and economic growth.
- c. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has frequently engaged with world leaders and attended international forums to discuss global issues.
- d. External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar highlighted that the G20 foreign ministers had agreed on a number of issues of interest to India and the developing world

Q104. Which of the following weakens the author's arguments in the passage?

- a. The G20 foreign ministers should have put more pressure on Russia to abide by the Bali consensus.
- b. The worsening crisis of multilateralism is due to India's lack of leadership and inability to bring about consensus.
- c. The US and the West will not be able to stand by Ukraine for much longer due to their own internal challenges.
- d. The fact that China supported Russia's decision to walk away from the Bali consensus suggests that India's efforts to reform multilateralism may not be successful.

Q105. Which of the following must necessarily be true based on the author's arguments in the passage?

- a. The G20 foreign ministers meeting in Delhi this week failed to reach a consensus due to the worsening crisis of multilateralism and the deepening great power conflict.
- b. India's twin ambitions are to continue the campaign to reform multilateralism and to get the world to take greater cognisance of the challenges faced by the "Global North".
- c. The Russian invasion of Ukraine was in a disarray three months ago when the Bali summit took place.
- d. The G20 leaders arriving in Delhi for the September summit will face difficulties in producing a consensus on Ukraine.

As a consequentialist, I believe that the end justifies the means. We can adapt our actions to suit different situations and contexts, rather than blindly following a set of rules. It recognizes that life is complex and that sometimes difficult choices must be made.

By focusing on the outcome, we can make decisions that are in the best interest of the greater good, rather than being bound by strict rules that may not always be applicable. If the end justifies the means, individuals are accountable for their own actions and the consequences that result from them. This encourages people to take responsibility for their decisions and to think critically about the impact of their actions.

By prioritizing the outcome over the means, individuals and organizations are encouraged to think outside the box and take risks. This can lead to new discoveries, technologies, and solutions that benefit society as a whole.

By focusing on the outcome, we can make decisions that promote the greatest amount of good for the greatest number of people. This is particularly important in situations where resources are limited or where difficult choices must be made. What may have been considered ethical in the past may not be in the present.

By focusing on the outcome, we can adapt our ethical framework to suit the changing needs of society. In contrast, the deontological view prioritizes following a set of rules or principles, duties, regardless of the outcome. This can potentially lead to situations where the "right" thing to do may not align with the greater good or may cause harm to others.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from The Times of India]

Q106. The Trolley Problem is a classic thought experiment. A trolley is hurtling towards five people on a track, and the only way to stop it is to divert it onto a track where only one person is standing. Suppose a consequentialist X, is the one who has to decide the next course of action. What would s/he do and why?

- a. X will divert the trolley as a consequentialist will not bother that one life will be killed while achieving a bigger objective.
- b. X will not divert the trolley as that would mean s/he will be responsible for the death of a person.
- c. X will let the trolley go its own course as there's no end to this situation even if thought critically; the situation ends in death of people anyways.
- d. X will divert the trolley as that will earn a beneficial result quantitatively.

Q107. Which of the following can be inferred from the views of the author?

- a. Consequentialists don't think much about the one individual in particular.
- b. The ethical value of an action is contingent upon the resultant effect it generates.
- c. While there exist regulations, these are inadequate in overseeing the operations of the universe.
- d. There is a lack of inherent morality within the universe.

Q108. The government of a country has recently passed a law that allows 24X7 surveillance of the phones of citizens in order to ensure internal security. Now various people receive the news differently –

1. The Chief of Police argues that the government's actions are justified as they will prevent any potential threats and reduce the risk of terrorism.
2. The Civil Liberties Advocates argue that the policies are based on the assumption that everyone is a potential threat until proven otherwise, and that this violates the principle of innocent until proven guilty.
3. A group of people support this as they feel that this step would prevent the underage and the youth in general, from watching pornographic videos.
4. The biggest businessman of the country who thinks that the duty of the government is to create a safe environment for people and business supports this idea. He also believes that this step can earn him foreign investments as a stable and safe business environment will be created.
5. The journalists section who feels that this can mean stifling of the freedom of the press.

Who are exhibiting consequentialist and deontological views?

- a. Consequentialist views – 1, 3 and 4; Deontological Views – 2 and 5
- b. Consequentialist views – 1, 3 and 5; Deontological Views – 2 and 4
- c. Consequentialist views – 1, 3 and 4; Deontological Views – 2, 4 and 5
- d. Consequentialist views – 1, 2 and 3; Deontological Views – 4 and 5

Q109. Which of the following can be a fitting conclusion to the given arguments of the author?

- a. According to the consequentialist perspective, the most genuine and accurate representation of the workings of the universe is captured, unlike the deontological standpoint.
- b. The consequentialist perspective, which stands in contrast to the deontological viewpoint, operates beyond the bounds of morality and consistently seeks to advance. Unlike the latter, it isn't constrained by moral principles but rather prioritizes the outcome or consequences of an action.
- c. The consequentialist view, which prioritizes the potential outcomes over the associated risks, has played a significant role in the development of humans as a societal species, allowing for progress and advancement.
- d. The consequentialist view, by recognizing the complexity of life and the need for difficult choices, provides a realistic and flexible approach to decision-making that prioritizes outcomes in the best interest of society while promoting personal responsibility and accountability.

Q110. Which of the following statements is wrong as per the passage?

- a. Consequentialism always takes into account the inherent value of certain actions or principles.
- b. By the “right” thing, the author refers to the moral and ethical thing to do in a certain situation.
- c. It can be inferred from the passage that a person too obsessed with the risk a situation entails can't bring out unique solutions.
- d. The author assumes that the parameters and variables of life are constantly evolving and changing.

QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE

Q111-115. Study the following information carefully and answer the questions given below.

There are 400 students in the school some of them like three different subjects Botany, English and Physical. The number of students like only Physical in the school is 85. Out of 18.75% of the students likes only English. Out of 5% of the students likes all the three subjects. Number of students who like both Botany and Physical but not English is equal to the number of students who likes all the

subjects together. The number of students like only Botany in the school is 105. The number of students like both English and Physical but not Botany is 50% more than the number of students like both Botany and Physical but not English. Out of 6.25% of the students likes both English and Botany but not Physical.

Q111. What is the difference between the number of students like at least two subjects and the number of students like at most one subject?

- a. 200
- b. 220
- c. 210
- d. 230

Q112. Find the number of students does not like any subject?

- a. 60
- b. 40
- c. 50
- d. 70

Q113. The number of students like both Physical and English but not Botany is approximately what percent of the total number of students like only Botany?

- a. 26.57%
- b. 27.57%
- c. 24.57%
- d. 28.57%

Q114. What is the difference between the number of students like both Botany and English but not Physical and the number of students like only Physical?

- a. 50
- b. 60
- c. 40
- d. 70

Q115. What is the ratio of the number of students like Botany to number of students like English?

- a. 17:15
- b. 14:9
- c. 12:7
- d. 15:11

Q116-120. Study the following information carefully and answer the questions given below.

A company has four departments MCH, AH, SM and CA. The number of male employees in MCH department is double the number of female employees in AH department. The number of female employees in CA department is 50% of the number of female employees in MCH department. Total number of employees in CA department is 360. The number of male employees in SM department is 60 more than the number of female employees in CA. The number of male employees in AH department is equal to the total number of employees in CA department. Total number of employees in MCH is 80 more than the total number of employees in AH. The number of female employees in SM is 50% of the number of male employees in AH department. The number of male to female employees in SM department is 11:9.

Q116. What is the total number of employees in the company?

- a. 1800
- b. 1600
- c. 2000
- d. 1400

Q117. The number of female employees in AH is what percent of the total number of employees in SM?

- a. 20%
- b. 25%
- c. 30%
- d. 35%

Q118. What is the difference between the total number of male employees and female employees in all the departments together?

- a. 210
- b. 220
- c. 230
- d. 240

Q119. The number of male employees in CA department is approximately what percent of the total number of employees in MCH?

- a. 36%
- b. 39%
- c. 42%
- d. 45%

Q120. Ratio of the number of undergraduate to postgraduate employees in SM department is 3:2. Out of 45% of male employees in SM departments is postgraduate. Find the number of female postgraduate employees in SM department.

- a. 59
- b. 61
- c. 63
- d. 65