

LEGALEDGE TEST SERIES
MOCK COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST 2024-25
MOCK CLAT 14

TR ID.

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

(In Figures)



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Duration of Test : 2 Hours (120 Minutes)

1. Separate carbonised Optical Mark Reader (OMR) Response Sheet is supplied along with this Questions Booklet and the carbon copy has to be detached and taken by the candidates.
2. In case of any discrepancy in the question booklet (QB), please request the invigilator for replacement of a fresh packet of QB with OMR. Do not use the previous OMR response Sheet for a fresh booklet so obtained.
3. Candidates will not be given a second blank OMR response Sheet under any circumstance. Hence, OMR response Sheet shall be handled carefully.
4. Answer all questions. No clarification can be sought on the Questions Paper
5. Possession of electronic devices in any form is strictly prohibited in the examination Hall.
6. The use of any unfair means by any candidate shall result in the cancellation of his/her examination.
7. Impersonation is an offense and the candidate, apart from disqualification, will be liable to be prosecuted.
8. The test Paper for Five Year integrated Law Programme is for 120 marks containing 120 multiple Choice Questions.
9. There will be Negative marking for multiple choice objective type questions. 0.25 marks will be deducted for every wrong answer or where candidates have marked more than one response.

Maximum Marks : 120

10. Use **BLACK/BLUE BALL POINT PEN** only for writing the roll No. and other details on OMR response Sheet.
11. Use **BLACK/BLUE BALL POINT PEN** for shading the circles. Indicate only the most appropriate answer by shading from the options provided. The answer circle should be shaded completely without leaving any space.
12. As the responses cannot be modified/corrected on the OMR Response Sheet, candidates have to take necessary precautions before marking the appropriate circle.
13. The candidate should retain the Admit Card duly Signed by the invigilator, as the same has to be produced at the time of Admission.
14. Handle the OMR response Sheet with care. Do not fold.
15. Ensure that invigilator puts his/her signature in the space provided on the OMR response Sheet. Candidate should sign in the space provided on the OMR response Sheet.
16. The candidate should write Question Paper booklet No., and OMR response Sheet No., and sign in the space/column provided in the attendance sheet.
17. Return the Original Page of OMR response Sheet to the invigilator after the examination.
18. The candidate shall not write anything on the OMR response Sheet other than the details required and in the spaces provided for.

CONTENT OF QUESTION PAPER

Subject	Q. No.	Page No.
English Language	01-24	3
Current Affairs and General Knowledge	25-53	9
Legal Reasoning	54-84	15
Logical Reasoning	85-108	24
Quantitative Techniques	109-120	31

SECTION-A : ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Directions (Q.1-Q.24): Read the passage carefully and answer the questions.

Passage (Q.1-Q.6): Like mediation, conciliation is a voluntary, flexible, confidential, and interest-based process. The parties seek to reach an amicable dispute settlement with the assistance of the conciliator, who acts as a neutral third party. The main difference between conciliation and mediation proceedings is that, at some point during the conciliation, the conciliator will be asked by the parties to provide them with a non-binding settlement proposal. A mediator, by contrast, will in most cases and as a matter of principle, refrain from making such a proposal.

Conciliation is a voluntary proceeding, where the parties involved are free to agree and attempt to resolve their dispute by conciliation. The process is flexible, allowing parties to define the time, structure and content of the conciliation proceedings. These proceedings are rarely public. They are interest-based, as the conciliator will when proposing a settlement, not only take into account the parties' legal positions, but also their; commercial, financial and / or personal interests.

The ultimate decision to agree on and enforce the settlement remains with the parties in conciliation.

- Conciliation ensures party autonomy. The parties can choose the timing, language, place, structure and content of the conciliation proceedings.
- Conciliation ensures the expertise of the decision maker. The parties are free to select their conciliator. A conciliator does not have to have a specific professional background. The parties may base their selection on criteria such as; experience, professional and / or personal expertise, availability, language and cultural skills. A conciliator should be impartial and independent.
- Conciliation is time and cost efficient. Due to the informal and flexible nature of conciliation proceedings, they can be conducted in a time and cost-efficient manner.
- Conciliation ensures confidentiality. The parties usually agree on confidentiality. Thus, disputes can be settled discretely and business secrets will remain confidential.

The conciliator will try to guide the parties to an amicable settlement. Also, the conciliator will be prepared to provide the parties with a non-binding resolution proposal. The parties are free to accept or to decline the proposal. If they accept the proposal, it will typically be written up as the settlement agreement. While the settlement agreement itself is not enforceable, it can become enforceable in Germany by having it notarized through establishment officers and/or in other countries by having it put into an arbitral award.

[Source: <https://www.dispute-resolution-hamburg.com/information/conciliation>]

1. Which of these is not supported by the passage?
 - (a) Conciliation is a mandatory process for estranged couples.
 - (b) Conciliation as a process is not too rigid, which makes it apt for parties with time constraints.
 - (c) Conciliation is a process which keeps the information secret between the parties and the conciliator.
 - (d) Conciliation ensures that there is autonomy for parties.

2. Which of these will make the settlement agreement in Germany to be enforceable?
 - (a) By putting it into an arbitral award.
 - (b) By getting it notarized by the authorities.
 - (c) By getting it notarized by the mediation members.
 - (d) By getting it stamped and registered by the authorities.

-
3. What is the style and tone of the passage?
(a) Technical. (b) Acerbic. (c) Belligerent. (d) Grandiose.
4. What can be the suitable title for the passage?
(a) Conciliation: Double-edged sword.
(b) Mediation and Conciliation: Differences and Similarities.
(c) Conciliation: Process, Benefits and Enforceability.
(d) Conciliation: German Process.
5. The nature of the conciliation proceedings as mentioned in the passage is -
(a) Private among the parties and the conciliator.
(b) Public and outside visitors are allowed.
(c) Private among the parties themselves.
(d) Public with many witnesses and others present.
6. What is the applicability of the settlement pronounced by conciliator after conciliation proceedings are over?
(a) It will be binding on the parties.
(b) It will be subject to parties' agreement.
(c) It will be subject to the approval by the Court.
(d) It will be subject to parties' agreement in Court.

Passage (Q.7-Q.12): Proteins are molecules used by the body for structure and other functions such as defence. They are formed of smaller molecules named as amino acids which each have their own role to play in the body. There are 22 types of amino acid which we use in the body. The body, being the clever thing it is, can manufacture most of these but there are 8 which it can't make. We have to get these 8 essential amino acids through nutrition. When we eat and digest proteins they are broken down into amino acids. These are used to provide structure in the body and for biochemical reactions (e.g. enzymes), defence (e.g. antibodies) and transport. The structural and functional elements in our body are constantly being broken down due to wear and tear and so need to be replaced daily.

Amino acids consumed in excess of the amounts needed for the synthesis of nitrogenous tissue constituents are not stored but are degraded; the nitrogen is excreted as urea, and the keto-acids left after removal of the amino groups are either utilized directly as sources of energy or are converted to carbohydrate or fat. Therefore, excess of protein should be avoided as it puts unnecessary strain on the excretory and digestive system of the body. Nine amino acids—histidine, isoleucine, leucine, lysine, methionine, phenylalanine, threonine, tryptophan, and valine—are not synthesized by mammals and are therefore nutritionally essential or indispensable nutrients. These are commonly called the essential amino acids.

There are 8 essential amino acids which the body absolutely needs to function properly. Protein sources which contain these are called complete proteins. Those which only contain some are called incomplete proteins. Luckily for vegetarians and vegans, these incomplete proteins can be combined together to give the full complement of essential amino acids.

Contrary to popular belief, plant-based or vegetarian diets (with dairy) can provide us with all the necessary nutrients to support muscle growth and strength. First, there is an abundance of protein-rich sources within the plant kingdom that can effectively fuel your body's need for building and maintaining muscle mass. Amaranth or rajgira and buckwheat are two such examples. Legumes like lentils, chickpeas, soy, and black beans not only provide protein but also offer an array of fiber and essential nutrients. Milk products are also a good source of getting all essential amino acids.

Additionally, nuts and seeds such as almonds, chia seeds, and hemp seeds offer not only protein but also healthy fats and minerals that support muscle development. Second, even when most plant-based proteins don't have all the essential amino acids necessary for muscle synthesis, they can be combined to create a complete protein source that supports muscle growth and repair.

[Source:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK234922/#:~:text=Nine%20amino%20acids%E2%80%9494histidine%20C%20isoleucine.called%20the%20essential%20amino%20acids.>]

7. Which of these cannot be inferred from the passage?
 - (a) There is a need for daily intake of proteins to repair the wear and tear of the body.
 - (b) There can be a combination of different vegetarian sources to get all essential amino acids.
 - (c) There can be an excess intake of protein by adults going for muscular build-up.
 - (d) Dairy products must be consumed daily by vegetarians for getting rid of any nutritional deficiency.

8. Which of these are considered the vegetarian sources of all the eight essential amino acids as stated in the passage?
 - (a) Rajgira, Buckwheat and milk products.
 - (b) Amaranth, meat and dairy products.
 - (c) Amaranth, Buckwheat and fish products.
 - (d) Rajgira, Buckwheat and sunflower seeds.

9. What is the reason that certain amino acids are called as essential for daily intake for the human body?
 - (a) Because the human body can synthesize them.
 - (b) Because they cannot be stored in the human body.
 - (c) Because they are necessary for the circulation in the body.
 - (d) Because the human body cannot synthesize them.

10. What is the central theme conveyed through the passage?
 - (a) Human body needs some essential amino acids that it cannot produce which can be obtained from some vegetarian and dairy sources.
 - (b) There are some essential amino acids which cannot be synthesized by the human body.
 - (c) The twenty-two amino acids that are responsible for structural and functional elements in our body is manufactured by the body.
 - (d) There are some amino acids which must be supplied through health supplements, as the body is unable to synthesize them.

11. Which of the following is an apt title for the passage?
 - (a) Amino acids: Essential building blocks.
 - (b) Essential Amino acids: Sources and Myths.
 - (c) Amino acids: Use in the Bodily processes.
 - (d) Essential Amino Acids: Vainness of vegetarian sources.

-
12. What is the description of proteins in relation to amino acids, as given in the passage?
- (a) The proteins containing all seven amino acids are called complete and those that do not are incomplete.
 - (b) The proteins containing all twenty-two amino acids are called as complete and those that do not are incomplete.
 - (c) The proteins containing eight specific amino acids are called as complete and those that do not are incomplete.
 - (d) The proteins containing nine essential amino acids are called as complete and those that do not are incomplete.

Passage (Q.13-Q.18): In some tough speak that raises hopes of a repeal of the oppressive sedition law, CJI NV Ramana asked why the colonial era provision used to suppress the freedom movement was necessary nearly 75 years after Independence. After petitions by two journalists who tasted first hand its chilling effect, this time a decorated soldier, retired Major General SG Vombatkere, has challenged the constitutionality of IPC 124A, which defines sedition. GoI also appeared to agree with the CJI's concerns of misuse and Attorney-General KK Venugopal suggested laying down fresh guidelines to restrict the use of sedition.

The problem with new guardrails is that the ones already erected by the Kedar Nath Singh judgment six decades ago, have had no effect. By now those guidelines should be fairly well-known to police and judicial officers, yet continue to be **wantonly** flouted. Kedar Nath had narrowed the applicability of sedition to actions inciting violence that endanger public order and security of the state. Yet it is ordinary dissenters criticising governments or public servants or those taking part in protests who get regularly booked under the “**deshdroh**” charge. State governments are the biggest misusers of sedition provisions. So, it is not clear whether they will follow any new guideline.

It's heartening, in this context, to see frequent judicial pushbacks against wrongful invocation of sedition and UAPA against dissenters and critics. It's not just SC, but lower courts have also of late stood up firmly for liberty and against state overreach. Bail for Disha Ravi in a sedition case from a sessions court, Delhi HC's bail for three anti-CAA activists in a UAPA case, some lower courts' trenchant observations on police handling of Delhi riot cases, SC's release of comedian Munawar Faruqui, are some examples. Jesuit priest Stan Swamy's tragic and wholly avoidable death in judicial custody has also given force to discourse on individual liberties. In this **propitious** judicial moment, it is possible to hope that our judges will go from sharp critiques of bad laws to striking them down. Sometimes courts have taken too long to do the right thing. The sedition law deserves a quickly administered death sentence.

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/toi-editorials/good-judicial-moment-courts-at-all-levels-are-pushing-back-against-bad-laws-sc-should-go-a-step-ahead-repeal-laws-like-sedition/?source=app&frmapp=yes>

13. According to the passage which of the following is a problem associated with laying down of stricter guidelines for use of sedition law?
- (a) The guidelines which are already laid down are sufficient.
 - (b) It will lead to increase in seditious activities in the country.
 - (c) The police and other officials do not follow the guidelines already laid down.
 - (d) None of the above.
14. According to the passage, who gets booked the most under the ‘*deshdroh*’ charges?
- (a) Dissenters of government
 - (b) Dissenters of public servant
 - (c) Protestors
 - (d) All of the above.

-
15. Which of the following is NOT TRUE according to the passage?
- (a) Attorney-General Arvind Datar suggested laying down fresh guidelines to restrict the use of sedition.
 - (b) State governments are the biggest misusers of sedition provisions.
 - (c) Major General SG Vombatkere, has challenged the constitutionality of IPC 124A, which defines sedition.
 - (d) None of the above.
16. Which of the following means the same as 'wantonly' as it is used in the passage?
- (a) superciliously
 - (b) caricature
 - (c) unprovoked
 - (d) eclectic
17. Which of the following cannot be used for replacing the word 'propitious' as it is used in the passage?
- (a) fitting
 - (b) egregious
 - (c) advantageous
 - (d) favourable
18. What can be inferred from the underlined sentence from the passage?
- The sedition law deserves a quickly administered death sentence.
- (a) There should be punishment of death for any sedition related crime.
 - (b) There should be specific addition of death sentence in the sedition law.
 - (c) There should be recommendation of death to be awarded to seditious persons.
 - (d) The sedition law in India needs to be repealed or done away with.

Passage (Q.19-Q.24): Galo Rodriguez uses his machete to dig a hole near the small stream on his farm in the north-east of Ecuador, on the cusp of the Amazon rainforest. As he digs there is nothing unusual to be seen - but when he hits 32cm below the surface, the soil releases a distinct and **pungent** smell of gasoline. More than half of his 35 hectares of land is primary forest, while the rest is sugar cane or small trees. But where he digs is devoid of trees or crops. It is covered only by grass. This area used to be smothered in oil after a nearby pipeline leaked. The oil filled his stream, killed of all of his fish and contaminated the only fresh water source he used for his cattle. The oil sat here for 10 years before the company responsible for the pipeline came to clean it up, in 2016. Rodrigo says he watched as they collected some 12-15,000 cubic metres of oil off his property, but they didn't remediate the soil. Today, in the stream just beside him, blue and green streaks of oil residue can still be seen in the water.

"For 10 or 11 years, this area didn't produce anything, so we abandoned it," says the farmer. "Now we plan to plant guavas and Chaya." Rodriguez is one of dozens of farmers in the north of Ecuador learning how to use plants to try to eliminate the oil contamination from his land. This process, known as bioremediation, uses living organisms like plants, fungi and microbes to break down pollutants, including crude oil. There are several ways this could happen, but most of the hard work to break down crude oil happens below ground, where microorganisms are concentrated around the roots of plants and mineralise, or decompose, the crude components, making it easier for plants to take up. Some contaminants can be taken in by the plant directly and stored in its shoots and roots, or can be evaporated through the leaves. The course Rodriguez attends is called "Guardians of the Soil", which is an introduction to permaculture-based bioremediation for low-income communities, founded by local resident and independent researcher, Lexie Gropper.

Ecuador's northern Amazon rainforest has seen heavy oil contamination since rich oil fields were discovered here in the 1960s. One source of contamination was by the oil company Texaco - later acquired by Chevron - which dumped billions of gallons of oil waste in the Amazon rainforest, most of which went into unlined, open-air pits in the ground. In 1993, thousands of community members filed a lawsuit against the company, saying it did not perform any adequate clean up and its drilling installations continued to contaminate the area, and demanded they pay for remediation. The oil company admitted to releasing the waste, but said it cleaned up its share of the contamination and was legally cleared of all future liabilities. Most recently, a court in the Hague

found in favour of Chevron. This has turned into one of the most complex and longest-running environmental legal battles in history.

19. According to the passage, what is bioremediation?
- (a) The process of revitalising the water bodies by using chemicals and machines.
 - (b) The process of cleaning the ocean in order to get rid of plastics contaminating The river.
 - (c) The process of contaminating the soil using living organisms like plants, fungi and microbes.
 - (d) The process of using living organisms like plants, fungi and microbes in order to break down pollutants, including crude oil, in the soil.
20. Who founded 'Guardians of the Soil'?
- (a) Lexie Gropper, a local resident and an independent researcher.
 - (b) Galo Rodriguez, a farmer.
 - (c) Dian Fossey, a research student at Brown University
 - (d) Milton Friedman, a local resident and an independent researcher
21. Where are micro-organisms present in order to facilitate the breaking down of crude oil?
- (a) Around the roots of the plants. (b) In the leaves of the plants.
 - (c) In the stem of the plants. (d) In the fruit of the plants.
22. What did the community members claim while filing a lawsuit against Chevron in 1993?
- (a) The company did not perform any effective clean up activity and continued to contaminate the area by its drilling installations.
 - (b) The company displaced thousands of community members from their ancestral lands in order to carry out its operations.
 - (c) The company was depleting the water table of the area, rapidly.
 - (d) The company was releasing untreated industrial waste into the local water bodies.
23. Which of the following is/are **TRUE** according to the passage?
- i. Due to the pipeline leak, oil filled up the near-by stream, thereby killing all of Rodriguez's fishes.
 - ii. Ecuador's northern Amazon rainforest has seen heavy oil contamination since rich oil fields were discovered here in the 1960s..
 - iii. Rodriguez' farm did not produce anything for 25-26 years after the pipeline leakage.
- (a) Only (i) (b) Only (ii) (c) Both (i) and (ii) (d) Both (ii) and (iii)
24. Which is similar in meaning to the word 'pungent', as mentioned in the passage?
- (a) Putrid (b) Strong (c) Mild (d) Stimulating

SECTION -B : CURRENT AFFAIRS, INCLUDING GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Directions (Q.25-Q.53): Read the information carefully and answer the questions.

Passage: (Q.25-Q.30) First Vaccine for Chikungunya

The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on November 9 approved the world's inaugural vaccine targeting chikungunya, a virus transmitted by infected mosquitoes, as per an APF report. The move comes as the US drug regulator identified chikungunya as "an emerging global health threat", it added.

Developed by Europe's Valneva, the vaccine will be marketed as [X]. The company has secured approval for individuals aged 18 and above, an age group that faces elevated risk of exposure, according to the FDA.

[X], administered in a single dose, contains a live, weakened version of the chikungunya virus, following the standard approach for vaccines. Two clinical trials conducted in North America on 3,500 participants revealed common side effects such as headache, fatigue, muscle and joint pain, fever, and nausea. Serious reactions were reported in 1.6 percent of recipients, with two cases requiring hospitalization.

Valneva has also submitted an application for authorization with the European Medicines Agency (EMA). The US FDA greenlight is anticipated to expedite the vaccine's deployment, particularly in countries where the chikungunya virus is prevalent.

Ref- <https://www.livemint.com/science/health/us-approves-first-chikungunya-vaccine-amid-growing-global-health-concerns-11699591959450.html>

25. What has been redacted by [X] in this passage?
(a) Ixchiq (b) SPIKEVAX (c) Sanofi (d) Pfizer
26. Who out of the following is the current director of the FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research?
(a) Dr. Vladimir Serbsky (b) Dr. Peter Marks
(c) Dr. Ivan Sechenov (d) Dr. Elena Zorina
27. Where is the Headquarters of Serum institute of India located?
(a) Hyderabad (b) New Delhi (c) Pune (d) Chennai
28. Which out of the following is the administration method for Ixchiq vaccine?
(a) Oral ingestion (b) Intravenous infusion
(c) Muscle injection (d) Subcutaneous injection
29. Consider the following statements:
I. The US Food and Drug Administration has given the green light to Ixchiq, marking the first-ever approved vaccine for chikungunya.
II. This vaccine is intended for individuals aged 18 and older who face an elevated risk of exposure to the chikungunya virus.
(a) Both I & II are correct. (b) Only I is correct.
(c) Only II is correct. (d) Both I & II are incorrect.
30. Who out of the following was the first president of USA?
(a) Thomas Jefferson (b) George Washington
(c) Martin Van Buren (d) John Tyler

Passage (Q.31-Q.36): International Space Station (ISS)

The International Space Station (ISS) is the largest human-made object in space. Operated with the support of Coalition for Deep Space Exploration (CDSE) member Boeing, the ISS is an orbiting facility that enables human health research needed for deep space exploration that cannot be simulated in terrestrial environments. This includes cognitive and behavioural conditions, sensorimotor alterations, altered immune response, bone fracture, reduced muscle mass and strength, and more.

The Space Station is also a platform for many of the technology demonstrations required for human missions to the Moon and beyond. Technologies that are being tested on the ISS include Environmental Control and Life Support Systems, water and microbial monitoring, robotic assistants, and advanced solar arrays. NASA has also announced it is preparing to build and certify Moon mission spacesuits and perform a demonstration in a spaceflight environment on the International Space Station in 2023.

The ISS has fostered the development of private sector technologies that will ultimately help with sustainable missions to the Moon and Mars. An example of this is in-space additive manufacturing (3D printing). CDSE member Made In Space (now part of Redwire) is a pioneer of 3D printing aboard the ISS.

Ref- <https://exploredeepspace.com/deep-space-mission/international-space-station/>

31. “Roscosmos” is the Government agency of which of the following country?
(a) China (b) United Kingdom (c) Russia (d) France
32. The Boeing Company is an American multinational corporation that designs, manufactures, and sells airplanes, rotorcraft, rockets, satellites, telecommunications equipment, and missiles worldwide. Where is the headquarters of Boeing located?
(a) Florida (b) Alaska (c) Texas (d) Virginia
33. Consider the following statements:
I. NASA stands for National Aeronautics and Space Administration. NASA is a U.S. government agency that is responsible for science and technology related to air and space. The Space Age started in 1957 with the launch of the Soviet satellite Sputnik.
II. NASA opened for business on October 1, 1958. The agency was created to oversee U.S. space exploration and aeronautics research.
(a) Both I & II are correct. (b) Only I is correct.
(c) Only II is correct. (d) Both I & II are incorrect.
34. Who out of the following was the first Indian to go to into space?
(a) Kalpana Chawla (b) Rakesh Sharma
(c) Sunita Williams (d) Sirisha Bandla
35. Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is the space agency of India. Who was the founder of ISRO?
(a) C. V. Raman (b) Homi J Bhabha
(c) Vikram Sarabhai (d) Satyendra Nath Bose

-
36. What out of the following technologies are being tested on the ISS for human missions to the Moon and beyond?
- (a) Advanced telescopes
 - (b) Enhancing the Roscosmos mission
 - (c) Environmental Control and Life Support Systems
 - (d) Enhancing Agricultural technologies

Passage (Q.37-Q.42): Bihar Reservation Law

The Supreme Court refused to restrain the Bihar government from making further decisions based on the data of the caste-based survey, the results of which were revealed in October last year. The top court, however, questioned the extent of the breakup of data which exists in the public domain.

A bench comprising [X] and Dipankar Dutta was hearing a batch of petitions against the Patna High Court's decision to dismiss pleas challenging the state government conducting the caste-based survey.

The petitioners sought interim direction from the court and said the matter requires an urgent hearing as the Bihar state legislature passed a bill to increase the reservations for government jobs and educational institutions to 75 per cent.

However, [X] rejected the request and instead raised questions about the public accessibility of the break-up of the survey findings.

As per the caste-based survey conducted by the Bihar government, the Other Backward Classes (OBCs) comprise 63 per cent of the state's 13-crore population. Meanwhile, Scheduled Castes account for over 19 per cent of the state's population, while Scheduled Tribes make up 1.68 per cent. The upper castes, or 'savarnas', form 15.52 per cent of Bihar's population.

Ref- <https://www.indiatoday.in/law/story/supreme-court-no-stop-bihar-government-making-decisions-based-caste-survey-2483305-2024-01-02>

37. What has been redacted by [X] in this passage?
- (a) Justices Sanjeev Khanna
 - (b) Justices DY Chandrachud
 - (c) Justices Uday Lalit
 - (d) Justices N. V. Ramana
38. How much expenditure was challenged in the petitions against the caste survey in Bihar?
- (a) Over Rs 1,000 crore
 - (b) Over Rs 500 crore
 - (c) Under Rs 100 crore
 - (d) Under Rs 50 crore
39. When did Patna High Court was established?
- (a) 1907
 - (b) 1913
 - (c) 1916
 - (d) 1934
40. Who out of the following was the first chief minister of Bihar?
- (a) Harihar Singh
 - (b) Bholu Paswan Shastri
 - (c) B. P. Mandal
 - (d) Shri Krishna Sinha

-
41. Consider the following statements:
- I. The Nitish Kumar-led Bihar government has introduced 75 per cent reservation in government jobs and educational institutions, including 10 per cent reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS).
 - II. The increase in reservations by the Bihar government reignites the conversation surrounding the '50 per cent ceiling' on reservations set by the Supreme Court (SC).
- (a) Both I & II are correct. (b) Only I is correct.
(c) Only II is correct. (d) Both I & II are incorrect.
42. Which out of the following states has undergone maximum number of President Rule from 1951 to 2019?
(a) Chhattisgarh (b) Manipur (c) Bihar (d) Madhya Pradesh

Passage (Q.43-Q.48): Project Arth Ganga

Arth Ganga is an initiative added recently to the Namami Ganga Program launched by the Government in [X]. It was decided in the meeting of National Ganga Council (NGC) held on 14th December 2019 to launch a new concept as the name Arth Ganga, which is a sustainable and viable economic development model to strengthen the river-people connect through an economic bridge. Accordingly, it was decided that the Namami Ganga mission should lead the concept of Arth Ganga with the involvement of different ministries/departments and other stakeholders, institution & community organization. So it was added as a vertical of Namami Ganga Program, in addition to the 4 verticals – Nirmal Ganga, Aviral Ganga, Jan Ganga and Gyan Ganga, existing till then.

Six pillars of Arth-Ganga identified are: Promotion of Natural Farming on 5 kms band either side of River Ganga; Monetisation and reuse of Treated water and sludge from the STPs; Improvement of Livelihood opportunities, particularly for women; Promotion of Tourism and Cultural heritage; People's Participation and Building of capacities and institutions. Implementation of these initiatives is aimed to develop sustainable development model with focus on economic activities related to river Ganga. Several activities under Arth Ganga have been taken up by National Mission for Clean Ganga in coordination with various ministries/departments and other stakeholders, to achieve the goal.

Ref- <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1984940>

43. What has been redacted by [X] in this passage?
(a) 2017 (b) 2016 (c) 2014 (d) 2018
44. Consider the following statements:
- I. PM Modi first introduced the concept during the first National Ganga Council meeting in Kanpur in 2019, where he urged for a shift from Namami Ganga, the Union Government's flagship project to clean the Ganga, to the model of Arth Ganga.
 - II. Under Arth Ganga, the government is working on six verticals. The first is Zero Budget Natural Farming, which involves chemical-free farming on 10 km on either side of the river, and the promotion of cow dung as fertiliser through the GOBARdhan scheme.
- (a) Only I is correct. (b) Only II is correct.
(c) Both I & II are incorrect. (d) Both I & II are correct.

-
45. Who is the current Director General of the National Mission for Clean Ganga?
(a) Asok Kumar (b) Ajay Kumar (c) Vinay Kumar (d) Rajeev Kumar
46. A court in the northern Indian state of _____ ordered on that the Ganges and its main tributary, the Yamuna, be accorded the status of living human entities.
(a) Himachal Pradesh (b) Uttarakhand (c) Punjab (d) Rajasthan
47. Which out of the following is NOT one of the six verticals under the Arth Ganga model?
(a) Zero Budget Natural Farming
(b) Monetization and Reuse of Sludge & Wastewater
(c) Promotion of Yoga and Meditation
(d) Livelihood Generation Opportunities
48. The second vertical under Arth Ganga focuses on the Monetization and Reuse of Sludge & Wastewater. What is its objective?
(a) Revenue generation for Urban Local Bodies
(b) Construction of dams
(c) Promotion of water pollution
(d) Urbanization of riverbanks

Passage (Q.49-Q.53): Postal Office Bill 2023

After being passed in the Rajya Sabha on December 4, the Post Office Bill, 2023, was brought to the Lok Sabha for consideration on Wednesday (December 13). Seeking to repeal the 125-year-old [X], the Bill contains provisions that allow the Centre to intercept, open, or detain any item, and deliver it to customs authorities.

The Bill aims to “consolidate and amend the law relating to Post Office in India,” which today provides many services beyond simply mail delivery, the primary concern of the [X]. The Post Office network today has become a vehicle for delivery of different citizen-centric services, which necessitated the repeal enactment of a new law, the Bill states.

Notably, Section 9 of the Bill allows the Centre to, by notification, empower any officer to “intercept, open or detain any item” in the interest of state security, friendly relations with foreign states, public order, emergency, public safety, or contravention of other laws. This provision also allows post officers to hand over postal items to customs authorities if they are suspected to contain any prohibited item, or if such items are liable to duty.

Ref- <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-law/post-office-bill-shashi-tharoor-9070808/>

49. What has been redacted by [X] in this passage?
(a) Indian Post Office Act of 1898 (b) Indian Postal Act 1892
(c) Indian Post Office Act of 1902 (d) Indian Postal Act 1894
50. What authority does the officer of the Post Office gain in case of suspicion of duty evasion or prohibited items?
(a) Authority to dispose of the item
(b) Authority to deliver the item to customs or concerned authority
(c) Authority to return the item to the sender
(d) Authority to auction the item

-
51. What condition must be met for an officer of the Post Office to incur liability regarding a service provided?
- (a) Any loss, misdelivery, delay, or damage occurred
 - (b) Acting fraudulently or wilfully causing loss, delay, or misdelivery
 - (c) The item was not delivered on time
 - (d) The sender files a complaint
52. Which of the following union ministry is responsible for postal service in India?
- (a) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
 - (b) Ministry of External Affairs
 - (c) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs
 - (d) Ministry of Communications
53. Who out of the following is the current Secretary, Department of Posts & Chairperson, postal Services Board in India?
- (a) Vineet Pandey
 - (b) Sanjeev Mishra
 - (c) Arun kumar singh
 - (d) Uday pratap singh

SECTION – C: LEGAL REASONING

Directions (Q.54-Q.84): Read the comprehension carefully and answer the questions.

Passage (Q.54-Q.60): Section 149 of Chapter XI of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule No. 3 of Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014, requires the following class of companies to appoint at least One Women Director: i) Every listed company ii) Every other public company having:- a) paid up share capital of one hundred crore rupees or more; or b) turnover of three hundred crore rupees or more: However, a company, which has been incorporated under the Act and is covered under provisions of second proviso to sub-section (1) of section 149 shall comply with such provisions within a period of six months from the date of its incorporation. Furthermore, any intermittent vacancy of a woman director shall be filled up by the Board at the earliest but not later than immediate next Board meeting or three months from the date of such vacancy whichever is later. According to Section 2 (20) of the Company Act 2013 "Company means a company incorporated under this Act or any previous Company Law.

Section 152 states: Every Director of the Company is to be appointed by the company in general meeting, unless otherwise mentioned in the Act. Further every director who is proposed to be appointed as such shall furnish his Director Identification Number issued by central government, declaration that he is not disqualified to become a director under this Act and consent to hold the office as director. Nonetheless, this consent is required to be filed with the registrar within thirty days of appointment.

Regulation 17(1) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India [SEBI] (Listing Obligation Disclosure Requirements), Regulations 2015, requires that the composition of board of directors of the listed entity shall have an optimum combination of executive (involved in regular dealings of companies) and non-executive directors (in contrast with executive directors) with at least one woman director and not less than fifty per cent of the board of directors shall comprise of non-executive directors.

Section 165 states: A person shall not hold office as a director, including any alternate directorship, in more than twenty companies at the same time. (For reckoning the limit of directorships of twenty companies, the directorship in a dormant company shall not be included) However, the maximum no. of public companies in which a person can be appointed as a director shall not exceed ten.

[Source:

https://www.independentdirectorsdatabank.in/pdf/partners/icai/Handbook_on_Role_of_Women_Directors.pdf]

54. Maitreyi is a woman who holds the office of director in nineteen companies of which eleven are public companies. She carries on the work of the director efficiently and with impeccable integrity. A regulatory authority object to her appointment as Director in accordance with the law. She states that some of the positions are alternate directorships and therefore not liable to be counted. Is the objection of the regulatory authority valid in light of the passage?
- (a) Yes, because there can be directorship of any person in only up to ten public companies under section 165.
 - (b) No, because alternate directorships are not liable to be counted under section 165 of the Act of 2013.
 - (c) Yes, because there can be no woman appointed as director in a public company in accordance with section 149.
 - (d) No, because 'there is no exceeding of twenty companies which is mentioned as threshold under section 165.

-
55. What is the time period within which the intermittent vacancy for a woman director must be filled according to the passage?
- (a) It must be filled by the immediate next Board meeting.
 - (b) It must be filled within three months of the vacancy.
 - (c) It must be filled in the next Board meeting to be convened within three months with no choice given for stringency.
 - (d) It must be filled by the longer time period chosen between the next Board meeting or three months of the vacancy.
56. Which of these will not have to compulsorily appoint a woman director in light of the passage?
- (a) Listed Company.
 - (b) Public Company with paid up share capital of hundred crore rupees or more.
 - (c) Public Company with paid up share capital of three hundred crore dollars or more.
 - (d) Public Company with paid up share capital of three hundred crore rupees or more.
57. Which of these is not a requisite which must be performed by a director for being appointed in a company under section 152?
- (a) They must furnish a director identification number issued by the state government.
 - (b) They must give declaration that there is no disqualification from being appointed as a director.
 - (c) They must give consent to be appointed as director under the requisite laws.
 - (d) They must file this consent with the office of the registrar within thirty days of appointment.
58. Which of these is excluded in the type of companies in which directorship is counted according to section 165?
- (a) Private Companies.
 - (b) Public Companies.
 - (c) Subsidiary Companies.
 - (d) Dormant Companies.
59. Which of these laws does not deal with directors in companies in accordance with the passage?
- (a) Company Law 2013.
 - (b) Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014.
 - (c) SEBI (Listing Obligation Disclosure Requirements), Regulations 2015.
 - (d) SEBI (Depositories and Participants Requirements), Regulations 2015.
60. What are the types of directors which deal with the day to day dealings of the company in accordance with the passage?
- (a) Executive Directors.
 - (b) Women Directors.
 - (c) Independent Directors.
 - (d) Non-executive Directors.

Passage (Q.61-Q.67): As per information received from Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, the Model Building Bye Laws, 2016, has been issued for guidance of the States/UTs which has a chapter on 'Rainwater Harvesting'. 33 States/UTs have adopted the rainwater harvesting provisions despite the law having only advisory value. The provisions of this chapter are applicable to all the buildings once adopted. The implementation of the rainwater harvesting policy in urban settings comes within the purview of the State Government/Urban Local Body / Urban Development Authority. As per Model Building Bye Laws- 2016, provision of rainwater harvesting is applicable to all residential plots above hundred sq.m. In order to regulate the Over-exploitation and consequent depletion of ground water, the Ministry has circulated a Model Bill to all the States/UTs to enable them to enact suitable ground water legislation for regulation of its development, which includes provision of rain water harvesting. So far, 15 States/UTs have adopted and implemented the ground water legislation on the lines of Model Bill. Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has been constituted under Section 3(3) of the 'Environment (Protection) Act, 1986' for the purpose of regulation and control of ground water development and management in the Country. CGWA is regulating ground water withdrawal by industries / infrastructure/ mining projects in the country for which guidelines/ criteria have been framed which includes rainwater harvesting as one of the provisions while issuing No Objection Certificate. Water being a State subject for legislative purposes in the Indian Constitution, initiatives on water management including conservation and water harvesting in the Country is primarily States' responsibility. In order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, Central Government provides technical and financial assistance to them through various schemes and programmes, not legislative support.

A Panchayat-level scheme, at the rural level, is working for the ground water replenishment at the state level in the following states: Haryana, Gujarat, Karnataka, MP, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and UP. This scheme works with emphasis on demand side management and behavioural change for ensuring the long-term sustainability of ground water in the country.

[Source: <https://pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=199884>]

61. In which of the states will the Model Building Bye Laws, 2016 will be compulsorily applicable?
 - (a) Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, MP, Rajasthan and UP.
 - (b) Maharashtra and Karnataka compulsorily.
 - (c) Rajasthan and Gujarat compulsorily.
 - (d) It does not have legally binding value on states.

62. Which will be needed compulsorily for any industry or infrastructure project to begin a new project in light of the passage?
 - (a) No-Objection certificate from Central Ground Water Authority.
 - (b) No-Objection certificate from Central Government.
 - (c) No-Objection Certificate from State Ground Water Authority.
 - (d) No-Objection Certificate from Central Rain Water Authority.

63. What is the function of the Central Ground Water Authority according to the passage?
 - (a) Regulation and control of ground water development and management.
 - (b) Regulation and licensing of ground water use and management.
 - (c) Regulation and management of rain water development and management.
 - (d) Regulation and management of ground water development in union territories.

-
64. Which of these are methods through which groundwater harvesting will be done in selected Panchayats of the eight states mentioned in the passage?
- (a) Methods targeting water demand and behavior to ensure lasting groundwater supplies.
 - (b) Total restriction on the water supply of the high-consumption places where there is wastage observed.
 - (c) Making water conservation to be the norm through group mimicking habits.
 - (d) Penalising the overuse of conserved rain water through monetary fines etc.
65. Can the Parliament and central government make any binding law for the conservation of rain and groundwater under the Constitution?
- (a) Yes, there can be such law made under Schedule Seven.
 - (b) No, there cannot be such a law made as water is a state legislative subject.
 - (c) Yes, there can be such a law made as water is a central legislative subject.
 - (d) No, there cannot be any such law made as a natural resource cannot be legally managed.
66. Which will be the implementing authority of any rainwater harvesting policy and legal measure in a city in India?
- (a) Central Government.
 - (b) Central Ground Water Authority.
 - (c) Panchayats.
 - (d) Urban Local body.
67. What is the size of the property on which rainwater harvesting is compulsory if the Model Law is adopted by a state as per the passage?
- (a) All residential plots above hundred sq.m.
 - (b) All commercial plots above hundred sq.m.
 - (c) All semi-owned plots above hundred sq.m.
 - (d) All business building plots above hundred sq.m.

Passage (Q.68-Q.71): A five-judge bench of the Supreme Court unanimously ruled against legalising same sex marriage in India. The bench also ruled in a 3:2 verdict against civil unions for non-heterosexual couples.

In his opinion, the CJI has left it to the Parliament to decide on the issue. The CJI and Justice Kaul batted for civil unions for non-heterosexual couples. The CJI added that the SC cannot strike down the provisions of the Special Marriage Act (SMA) or read words differently. The focus of the petitions filed is the gender-neutral interpretation of the SMA. It is a secular legislation designed to facilitate inter-caste and inter-faith marriages. The petitioners have sought a broader interpretation of the SMA to include same-sex marriages too.

There are four judgements, one each by CJI DY Chandrachud, Justice Kaul, Justice Bhat and Justice Narasimha.

The CJI, in his opinion, does not accept the Centre's stand that the issue of same sex marriage can only be dealt with the Parliament and not by the SC. He says, "The doctrine of separation of powers cannot stand in the way of enforcement of fundamental rights..."

Over the years, some verdicts have helped alter the legal landscape of LGBTQ rights. These include the 2018 'NavtejJohar' ruling, which essentially said that the LGBTQ community are equal citizens and underlined that there cannot be discrimination in law based on sexual orientation and gender.

[Extracted with revisions from <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-law/sc-verdict-on-same-sex-marriages-explained-live-8986361/>]

-
68. Santa and Banta are lawyer who argued before the court in the proceedings of the same-sex marriage decision. Santa is a biological male and Banta is a biological female. They want to get married in a court marriage since they belong to different religions, so they can only get married under the SMA. How does the Supreme Court verdict impact the rights of Santa and Banta to get married under the existing legal provisions?
- (a) The verdict doesn't impact the rights of non-heterosexual individuals as they are protected by separate anti-discrimination laws in the country.
 - (b) The verdict might significantly affect the rights of non-heterosexual individuals, potentially limiting their access to legal recognition and benefits.
 - (c) Despite the verdict, the rights of heterosexual individuals remain unchanged, as the ruling only pertains to marriage and civil unions of same sex individuals.
 - (d) The verdict enhances the rights of non-heterosexual individuals by emphasizing the need for separate legislation catering specifically to their needs.
69. Priya and Riya, two individuals of the same gender, have been in a committed relationship for the past ten years. They want to formalize their relationship through marriage. They live in a state where the Special Marriage Act (SMA) is applicable and have applied for a marriage license under this Act. Are Priya and Riya's marriage plans valid?
- (a) Priya and Riya's marriage plans are valid because the SMA now allows same-sex marriages based on the recent Supreme Court ruling, supporting a broader interpretation of the Act.
 - (b) Priya and Riya's marriage plans are invalid because the SMA explicitly prohibits same-sex marriages, irrespective of the recent Supreme Court ruling.
 - (c) Priya and Riya's marriage plans are valid because the SMA permits same-sex marriages but only under specific conditions outlined in the recent Supreme Court judgment.
 - (d) Priya and Riya's marriage plans are invalid because the SMA remains unchanged and does not address same-sex marriages despite the recent Supreme Court ruling, which does not make same-sex marriage legal
70. Sanjay and Aryan, a same-sex couple, sought legal recognition for their relationship in India. They have been together in a live-in relationship for several years and enjoyed several civil rights when they stayed abroad. After coming back to India, they faced difficulty in enforcing certain civil rights. In light of the recent Supreme Court ruling against legalizing same-sex marriage and civil unions, what legal challenges might Sanjay and Aryan face regarding their relationship?
- (a) Sanjay and Aryan can proceed with their legal recognition process as the ruling only applies to certain regions in India.
 - (b) Sanjay and Aryan will face barriers in obtaining any form of legal recognition for their same-sex relationship due to the recent Supreme Court ruling.
 - (c) Sanjay and Aryan can seek alternative legal routes for recognition that are unaffected by the Supreme Court's ruling.
 - (d) Sanjay and Aryan are exempt from the recent Supreme Court ruling as it pertains only to civil unions but not direct marriage.
71. Maninder and Faraz are biological males who love each other. They want to add each other as their emergency contacts for medical purposes along with conferring the right of deciding the course of action to be taken in case of medical incapacity of the other. These rights are ordinarily available only to spouses. In light of the recent Supreme Court ruling against legalizing same-sex marriage and civil unions, how might this decision impact the medical decision-making rights of Maninder and Faraz?

-
- (a) Non-heterosexual partners are unaffected by the ruling as their medical decision-making rights are safeguarded by specific healthcare legislation.
 - (b) The absence of legal recognition due to the Supreme Court ruling might present obstacles for non-heterosexual partners in making crucial medical decisions for each other since these rights are only available to spouses
 - (c) The Supreme Court's ruling only pertains to marriage and civil unions
 - (d) The recent Supreme Court ruling actively supports medical decision-making rights for non-heterosexual partners by outlining specific legal guidelines.

Passage (Q.72-Q.77): A Canadian court has recently ruled that a thumbs-up or other similar emojis (👍) sent as a text message can be interpreted as consent to a contract – in what is being seen as an unusual case, with courts deciding on the meaning of emojis that are now liberally used in daily online conversations.

The case here involved people from two companies, South West Terminal Ltd. (SWT) and Achter Land & Cattle Ltd., who had done business with each other in the past. SWT sued Achter, a farming company, for a breach of contract and an alleged failure on their part to deliver 87 tonnes of flax, a variety of seeds.

However, Achter claimed that they never agreed to the contract in the first place. The court ruled in SWT's favour, asking Achter to pay \$61,442.

The buyer from SWT, spoke with farmer Chris Achter on the phone and texted a picture of a contract to deliver the flax later, asking the farmer to "please confirm flax contract" in the message. Achter replied to this photo with a thumbs-up emoji. When it came time for the goods' delivery, they never reached SWT.


"The parties clearly understood these curt words were meant to be confirmation of the contract and not a mere acknowledgement of the receipt of the contract by Chris. There can be no other logical or creditable explanation because the proof is in the pudding," the court said

The Court also dismissed defence concerns that allowing the thumbs up emoji to signify acceptance "would open up the flood gates" to new interpretations of other emojis, including the 'fist bump' and 'hand shake'. In finding that the thumbs-up can be used to enter into contracts, Keene said the court "cannot (nor should it) attempt to stem the tide of technology and common usage" of emojis.

"This appears to be the new reality in Canadian society and courts will have to be ready to meet the new challenges that may arise from the use of emojis and the like."

[Extracted with revisions from <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-law/canada-court-emoji-agreement-explained-8821796/>]

72. In an email exchange, Laura, a graphic designer, offers to design a company logo for Paul, a small business owner. Paul found Laura through an online platform called UpWork where freelancers list their services and interested buyers can choose from the listing. Paul and Laura had an online meeting where Paul described what he was looking for. After the meeting, Laura sent an email to Paul. She writes, "I can create the logo based on your requirements for Rs 8000. Are you on board with this proposal?" Paul replies with a thumbs-up & smiley face emoji (😊). Can the email exchange between Paul and Laura be termed as a valid contract?
- (a) Yes, the thumbs-up emoji can confirm the contract since there was a prior discussion detailing Paul's requirements for a valid contract
 - (b) Yes, the thumbs-up emoji confirms Paul's agreement to hire Laura for her graphic designing services
 - (c) No, the thumbs-up emoji is a casual gesture and may not signify acceptance of the contract terms.
 - (d) No, sending a simple thumbs-up emoji has an ambiguous meaning and may not imply agreement to the contract.

-
73. Consider the following situation. In the previous case, Paul is an old man and went online for the first time for the purpose of looking for a graphic designer for his business logo. He is not very tech-savvy and only recently learnt how to use a smartphone. When Laura sent him an email about the proposal, he became happy about it. When he wanted to type this into the chat, a smiley face emoji appeared on the keyboard. He got excited and sent that. In these circumstances, can it be said that a contract was still formed?
- (a) Yes, because using technology is the new way of communication and Paul should have been more careful if he didn't want to accept the contract
 - (b) Yes, because Paul clearly understood the meaning of the emoji and sent it as a reply to Laura's email after having this understanding
 - (c) No, because allowing the use of emojis in such situations involving non-tech-savvy people will make it very easy to enter into contracts
 - (d) No, because allowing the use of emojis to indicate acceptance of contracts in such circumstances will open the floodgates for everyone to do so
74. Sarah is a writer who is looking for an editor to help her with her book, 'Diary of a Young Woman'. She sends an email to James, an editor, as an invitation to discuss a potential collaboration over email. After a few email exchanges back and forth to discuss the terms of their collaboration in bits and pieces, Sarah emails James, "I'm ready to start work on the project. Should I proceed?" James replies with a hand-shake emoji.  Does this constitute contract acceptance?
- (a) Yes, the hand-shake emoji signifies a mutual agreement and acceptance of the collaboration.
 - (b) No, the hand-shake emoji is simply a friendly gesture and does not confirm the contract.
 - (c) Yes, the hand-shake emoji confirms the contract because it follows a clear discussion of the collaboration terms.
 - (d) No, the hand-shake emoji does not confirm the contract because the terms of collaboration were only discussed in bits and pieces
75. Alex is a software developer for HP who is looking for a project manager to help him execute his work in a timely, professional and effective manner. He connects with Sarah, a project manager. Alex and Sarah discuss a potential collaboration over email regarding the steps to be followed. Alex emails Sarah, "I am willing to work on this project at Rs 2500 per hour. Is this agreeable to you?" Sarah replies to his email with a winking face emoji (😉). Can Sarah's response be considered as an acceptance of the contract terms proposed by Alex?
- (a) Yes, the winking face emoji signifies Sarah's playful agreement to the proposed hourly rate for the project.
 - (b) No, the winking face emoji is meant to add a light-hearted tone and therefore cannot be accepted.
 - (c) Yes, the winking face emoji confirms the contract, provided Sarah follows up with a confirmation email.
 - (d) No, the winking face emoji is open to interpretation and does not clearly indicate acceptance of the contract.
76. Mike wanted to purchase some Pashmina shawls for selling in his high-end garment store in the USA. He contacted Tasneem in Kashmir, who had a website. They continued the rest of the conversation on WhatsApp. Tasneem said that she would be willing to sell 50 shawls for Rs. 10,000 each. Mike said that his total budget was Rs. 3,00,000 only. Tasneem said that her best offer would be Rs. 6000 for 50 shawls. She then asked Mike, "Is this budget acceptable?" Mike replies with a thumbs-down emoji (👎). Is there a valid contract between Mike and Tasneem?
- (a) Yes, because the thumbs-down emoji clearly signifies Mike's rejection of the budget proposed by Tasneem
 - (b) No, because the thumbs-down emoji signifies that the counter offer by Tasneem is not acceptable to Mike.
 - (c) Yes, because the new value offered by Tasneem in her counter offer meets the budget proposed by Mike
 - (d) No, the thumbs-down emoji indicates that Mike has reservations and is unwilling to enter into a contract.

-
77. Kashish runs an Instagram store where she sells various types of jewellery. David stumbles upon Kashish's account and is impressed by the collection. Since his daughter's birthday was coming up, he decided to purchase a gift for her. He messaged Kashish and asked for the price of a necklace. Kashish replied that the cost of the necklace was Rs. 600, as indicated in the post. David replies with a thinking face emoji 🤔. Based on this interaction, can it be concluded that there is a valid contract between David and Kashish?
- (a) No, because telling the price of an object from the post amounts to an invitation to offer and if David wants to buy the necklace then he has to make an offer to Kashish
 - (b) Yes, because telling the price of the necklace constituted an offer and David's response by way of an emoji constituted the acceptance for the same
 - (c) Yes, the thinking face emoji confirms the contract if David follows up with a formal contract document
 - (d) No, the thinking face emoji is too ambiguous and does not clearly indicate acceptance or rejection of the contract terms

Passage (Q.78-Q.84): A Constitution Bench with five-to-null unanimity led by Chief Justice of India (CJI) D Y Chandrachud upheld the constitutional validity of the two Presidential Orders CO (The Constitution (Application To Jammu and Kashmir) Order) 272 and 273 of August 5 and 6, 2019 respectively by which the entire Constitution of India was made applicable to J&K, and all provisions of Article 370 were declared inoperative. The Court cited the following provisions: Article 1 of the Constitution of India provides that India is a Union of States. Section 3 of the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir declared that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India. The provision read: "Relationship of the State with the Union of India: The State of Jammu and Kashmir is and shall be an integral part of the Union of India." Section 147 of the J&K Constitution prohibited any amendment to Section 3.

The opinions of both the CJI and Justice Kaul held that Article 370 was always meant to be a "temporary" feature as stated in the marginal note. Justice Kaul held that since Article 370 is meant to be a temporary arrangement, it cannot be said that the mechanism under Article 370(3) came to an end after the State Constituent Assembly was dissolved. The CJI said that there were two aspects that showed the temporary nature of Article 370. First, it was intended as an interim arrangement until the Constituent Assembly of the State was formed since in the interim, there was needed a legal bridge between J&K and India. Once the J & K Constitution was enacted and it was adopted to be a part of India, this arrangement would not have been necessary. The legal route for the abrogation of Article 370 was twofold. First, on August 5, 2019, then President issued CO 272, which amended Article 367 of the Constitution. Article 367 deals with interpretation of the Constitution, and the CO added a new meaning to "Constituent Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir" to mean "legislative assembly of Jammu and Kashmir. Then, CO 273 was promulgated seeking the consent of Parliament (which had assumed powers of the J&K legislature after president's rule) to recommend that "all clauses of the said article 370 shall cease to be operative". Relying on the Bommai ruling by thirteen judges (minimum five to maximum any number of judges in a Constitution bench), the court said that the standard to decide the validity of the President's rule was to see whether it was not "mala fide or palpably irrational", or that the "advisability and necessity of the action was not borne in mind by the President". On this standard, the Court found the President rule under Article 356 to be valid.

[Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/key-aspects-of-article-370-verdict-unpacked-9064079/>]

78. What is the maximum strength of the constitution bench of the Supreme Court according to the passage?
- (a) Seven judges.
 - (b) Thirteen judges.
 - (c) Five judges.
 - (d) No fixed limit.

-
79. Which of these is not a provision or law involved in the application of whole of Constitution of India and laws to Jammu and Kashmir?
- (a) Presidential Orders CO (The Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order) 272.
 - (b) Presidential Orders CO (The Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order) 273.
 - (c) Article 370 to the Constitution of India.
 - (d) Article 371 to the Constitution of India.
80. The purpose of the CO 272 as promulgated for the state of Jammu and Kashmir was
- (a) To amend Article 367 and make the operability of Article 370 to be annulled by the Parliament.
 - (b) To amend Article 367 and change the reference to Constituent Assembly to the Parliament of India.
 - (c) To amend Article 367 and change the reference to Constituent Assembly to the Supreme Court of India.
 - (d) To amend Article 367 and change the reference to Constituent Assembly to legislative assembly.
81. What was the utility of Section 3 of the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir for the verdict regarding abrogation of Article 370?
- (a) It stated that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India.
 - (b) It stated that Jammu and Kashmir is temporarily appended to India.
 - (c) It stated that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of United Nations.
 - (d) It stated that Jammu and Kashmir has the power to decide on operability of Article 370.
82. Which of these is not the criterion to be borne in mind for the evaluation of President's rule under Article 356 as per Bommai ruling?
- (a) The inquiry into mala fide
 - (b) The inquiry into palpable irrationality.
 - (c) Advisability and necessity of the action was not considered.
 - (d) Advisability and redundancy of the action was not considered.
83. What was the authority under CO 273 which gave the consent for the inoperability of Article 370 to Jammu and Kashmir?
- (a) The legislative Assembly of the State.
 - (b) The President of India.
 - (c) The Supreme Court of India.
 - (d) The Parliament of India.
84. What was written in the marginal note of Article 370 which contributed to the abrogation of Article 370?
- (a) That the provision is permanent in nature.
 - (b) That the provision was provisional in nature.
 - (c) That the provision was inoperable in nature.
 - (d) That the provision was temporary in nature.

SECTION D: LOGICAL REASONING

Directions (Q.85-Q.108): Read the passage carefully and answer the questions.

Passage (Q.85-Q.90): Michael Mann's luscious but limited "Ferrari" is a fitting film to end 2023, a year dominated by brand movies ("Barbie", above all) and biopics ("Oppenheimer", "Napoleon", "Maestro"). "Ferrari" is a combination: a "brand biopic". The movie, released in America on Christmas Day and in Britain the day after, follows the sports-car firm's founder, Enzo Ferrari (played by the aptly named Adam Driver), as he grapples with the dual disarray of his company and his personal life.

The year is 1957. Ferrari's beloved son, Dino, has died of muscular dystrophy; his long-chilled marriage (and business partnership) with Laura (Penélope Cruz) has been driven to the verge of collapse by her discovery of his long-time lover; and the company faces bankruptcy, plus humiliation at the hands of an ascendant Maserati. Its drivers have to win the Mille Miglia race across Italy in order to sell more cars. If they fail, the firm will go under.

You know Enzo's type: the flawed genius, the purist in the face of change. He sells cars to win races, not the other way around. But that is not the way the wind is blowing. "The game is changing, Enzo," the boss of Maserati says, in one of the film's many flimsy lines. TV would bring mass audiences, and bigger markets. The age of the small carmaker would soon end. (In 1969, Fiat, now part of a group whose biggest shareholder part-owns The Economist's parent company, bought 50% of Ferrari, a stake later raised to 90%.)

Add the mid-century Italian decor, and this drama makes an engaging and stylish side-dish to the meat of the movie: handsome men driving handsome cars. The engines' snarls and roars alone are worth the price of admission. You can even forgive Mr Driver's absurd Italian accent, which makes him sound, at best, like an Israeli pretending to be Russian.

Films are one of the few cultural products whose earnings are commonly discussed, even celebrated. But increasingly business is in front of the camera, too, in the form of what you might call "merchandise movies", like the year's two highest-grossing titles worldwide, Mattel's "Barbie" and Nintendo's "The Super Mario Bros. Movie", and other "brand biopics", like "Air" (about a Nike training shoe), "Flamin' Hot" (Cheetos), the excellent Canadian film "Blackberry" (a smartphone), "Tetris" (a classic video game) and now "Ferrari".

These are films in which the heroes (and sometimes villains) are the inventors and businesspeople who have made the modern world—or the consumer products they created. (It is perhaps not a coincidence that Mr Mann, like Sir Ridley Scott, started out as a director of commercials.)

Audiences have long been used to product placement. As early as 1896 the Lumière brothers used Lever Brothers soap in "Washing Day in Switzerland." But the brand biopic is more like product replacement—films not as vehicles for selling brands, but brands as vehicles for selling films (some of them even about vehicles, or, like this year's video-game spinoff "Gran Turismo", virtual vehicles).

That is not to say films about brands are bad films. "Barbie" was an aesthetic delight. "Ferrari" is a pleasing blend of family drama and car porn. Some brands have become so embedded in the collective imagination as to deserve dramatic reimagining; and business, with its mix of risk, ingenuity, competition and charisma, is fertile ground for film. Just think of "The Social Network", released in 2010, an early example of the genre, or the movies ("The Wolf of Wall Street", "The Big Short") that helped establish finance as a topic worthy of Hollywood.

Even so, it is hard not to see the increasing focus on familiar brands, like that on familiar franchises, as another instance of the film business's aversion to risk. Like superhero series, brand biopics bring in a ready-made audience of consumers and fans, making them a safe-ish financial bet for studios. It is striking that so many titles are names that audiences already know. "Ferrari" rounds out a year in which all but two of the top 15 grossing American-made films were sequels, remakes, tie-ins, or spinoffs.

-
85. Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the impact of the shift from small carmakers to larger corporations on the automotive industry in the late 1960s?
- (a) It led to a significant increase in the variety and customization of car models available.
 - (b) Smaller carmakers were able to maintain their market dominance despite corporate acquisitions.
 - (c) The focus shifted from racing and performance to mass production and market expansion.
 - (d) There was a notable decrease in the overall quality and performance of cars produced.
86. The passage suggests several reasons for the popularity of brand biopics in contemporary cinema. Which of the following reasons, if true, would most strengthen the argument presented in the passage regarding this trend?
- (a) Brand biopics often feature high-profile actors, attracting a wide range of audiences.
 - (b) Consumers show increased interest in the history and story behind familiar brands.
 - (c) These films offer a new perspective on the cultural impact of popular consumer products.
 - (d) The success of early brand biopics has led to increased studio investment in similar projects.
87. Considering the information about "Ferrari," which of the following assumptions is necessary for the argument that Enzo Ferrari's character as a 'flawed genius' is central to the film's appeal?
- (a) The film accurately portrays the historical events of Enzo Ferrari's life and business.
 - (b) Audiences are generally more attracted to films about complex, multifaceted characters.
 - (c) The portrayal of personal and professional struggles is crucial to biopic storytelling.
 - (d) Adam Driver's performance as Enzo Ferrari is critical to the film's success.
88. The author mentions several films, including "Barbie" and "The Super Mario Bros. Movie", as examples of merchandise movies. Based on the passage, which of the following conclusions is best supported about the relationship between consumer products and their representation in contemporary cinema?
- (a) These films primarily serve as extended advertisements for the products they feature.
 - (b) Merchandise movies often reshape the public perception of the brands they depict.
 - (c) The main appeal of these films lies in their nostalgia factor for audiences.
 - (d) Consumer products in these films are used to critique the modern consumer culture.
89. The passage discusses the concept of 'brand biopics' and their emergence in the film industry. What can be inferred as a potential risk associated with this trend, considering the historical context and examples provided in the passage?
- (a) Over-saturation of the market could lead to diminishing interest in brand-related stories.
 - (b) Such films might overshadow traditional, non-brand-related cinematic narratives.
 - (c) The potential for factual inaccuracies could undermine the brands' reputations.
 - (d) Increased focus on brand biopics could result in a lack of original, creative content.
90. What can be inferred about the film industry's trend towards producing 'brand biopics' like "Ferrari"?
- (a) It reflects a shift towards prioritizing artistic expression over commercial success.
 - (b) It demonstrates the film industry's increasing reliance on established brands to attract audiences.
 - (c) It signifies an industry-wide effort to diversify cinematic themes and genres.
 - (d) It is a strategy to counter the declining interest in historical biopics.

Passage (Q.91-Q.96): Since 1995, when the first of the United Nations Conference of Parties (COP) was organised, it has undergone a remarkable shift in character. From stuffy, closed-door meetings peopled by bureaucrats and technocrats, they have morphed into a carnival. Officialdom has of course grown, with the UN climate secretariat bursting at the seams with reams of subsidiary bodies, ‘working groups’ and intricately convoluted agenda items. But this has been accompanied by the burgeoning of activist groups, indigenous groups, big and small business, consultancies, traders and a vast media presence. It is on the one hand fair to conclude that this is a welcome development and due to the growing awareness of how anthropogenic climate change, amplified by centuries of industrialisation, poses an existential threat to humanity. Climate denialists, vociferous and significant in power corridors even until a decade ago, are now relegated to the obscurity of the darknet, along with Flat Earthers, and their ranks filled by parvenus and the pivoting merchants of the fossil fuel era who see opportunity in the messianic espousal of renewable energy. There is no country today that will not publicly affirm its faith in the scientific assessment — that greenhouse gas emissions must be contained drastically to cap the rise in global temperatures to 1.5°C — and yet it has never inspired any sense of urgency to cut fossil fuel use, the dominant source of GHGs.

That it has taken nearly three decades for COP to acknowledge this fact, as laid out in the Dubai Consensus, suggests that political expediency and strategic second-guessing has unfortunately weaponised even climate science. Thus, countries responsible for most of the human-emitted carbon point to record temperatures and their links to rising emissions when arguing for reining in emissions from developing countries. However, they are loathe to accept this link when developing and island nations demand funds as reparations for devastations already wreaked by climate change. The Loss and Damage Fund, which received commitments worth \$750 million, and therefore cheered as a COP28-success, has only been approved on the condition that it not be considered as compensation for historical carbon pollution. Related to this is the larger concern that COP meetings are deemed as ‘historic’ only when they insert new verb phrases — phase out, phase down, transition — on cutting emissions but are banal when they consider how little money and technology have been channelled for fossil fuel de-addiction. It is time that future meetings use the science to promote justice and equity and strengthen faith in what is now one of the few working multilateral processes.

91. The passage presents a paradox where countries publicly affirm the need to contain greenhouse gas emissions, yet there's a lack of urgency to reduce fossil fuel use. Which of the following, if true, would most effectively resolve this paradox?
- (a) Many countries have long-term plans to replace fossil fuels with renewable energy sources.
 - (b) Fossil fuels are still the most cost-effective energy source for many developing countries.
 - (c) International agreements allow gradual reduction in fossil fuel use to minimize economic impact.
 - (d) Technological advancements are expected to make fossil fuels more environmentally friendly.
92. The passage criticizes the focus of COP meetings on introducing new terminologies related to emission reductions without substantial action. Identify the flaw in this argument, considering the broader context of international climate negotiations.
- (a) New terminologies often reflect evolving scientific understanding and global climate priorities.
 - (b) Such terminologies are necessary to foster a common language for international collaboration.
 - (c) Introducing new terms does not inherently imply a lack of substantive action on climate change.
 - (d) The focus on terminologies is a strategy to engage more stakeholders in climate action discussions.
93. What can be most reasonably inferred about the attitude of developed countries towards linking historical carbon emissions to financial reparations, based on their approach to the Loss and Damage Fund as described in the passage?
- (a) Developed countries acknowledge their historical responsibility and are willing to make reparations.
 - (b) They are willing to contribute to funds but resist the notion of reparations for past emissions.
 - (c) Developed countries prioritize immediate climate actions over historical emission responsibilities.
 - (d) They focus on technological solutions rather than financial reparations for historical emissions.

-
94. The passage implies that the Loss and Damage Fund, despite being considered a success, is limited by certain conditions. Which underlying assumption is critical for accepting this evaluation of the Fund's effectiveness?
- (a) The amount committed to the Fund is sufficient to meet the current climate-related damages globally.
 - (b) The Fund's operational mechanisms are efficient and transparent in allocating resources.
 - (c) Countries contributing to the Fund are doing so without any expectation of direct benefits.
 - (d) The conditions imposed on the Fund do not significantly limit its potential impact.
95. Which of the following, if true, most significantly weakens the argument that the transformation of COP meetings into more inclusive forums with diverse participation has led to more effective climate change deliberations?
- (a) Recent COP meetings have seen increased participation from small island nations, voicing their unique climate challenges.
 - (b) A study found that the majority of actionable commitments at COP were proposed by a few dominant countries.
 - (c) The presence of various interest groups at COP has led to a broader range of topics being discussed.
 - (d) Environmental NGOs have been more active in recent COP meetings, leading to greater awareness of key issues.
96. Based on the passage, what can be inferred as the primary challenge in the evolution of the United Nations Conference of Parties (COP) regarding climate change?
- (a) The COP's expansion to include diverse groups has diluted its focus on climate science.
 - (b) Political maneuvering has hindered the COP's ability to address climate justice effectively.
 - (c) The increasing number of activists has shifted the COP's focus away from scientific assessments.
 - (d) The COP's meetings have become more about terminology than actual climate action.

Passage (Q.97-Q.102): Most people do not measure their wellbeing by monitoring monthly economic indices, nor do they have to be told that gross domestic product fell by 0.3% between September and October to be aware that Britain is in the doldrums. Economists were surprised by a contraction that was steeper than forecast. But a focus on small movements in data – always subject to revision – risks losing sight of the bigger picture. The economy has stagnated in 2023 and is expected to do the same in 2024. While the rate of inflation has come down, there is still a cost of living crisis. Real wages have barely grown since the 2008 financial crisis. Productivity has been flat over the same period.

Running a balanced fiscal budget, and in the absence of sustained growth, it gets harder for the exchequer to raise revenue in line with rising demand for public services. Even when cash is increased, as with the NHS, it merely pays for catchup after years of austerity. And where budgets are frozen or cut, as in local government and “unprotected” departments, services decay or vanish altogether.

The effect is rising inequality and crime, poorer public health, and other symptoms of civic decline, putting greater pressure on services, which must then be subjected to ever tighter rationing. This is how the economics of stagnation generates toxic politics. A country that is not expanding its collective wealth, still less distributing what it earns fairly, is drawn into a zero-sum game for resources. Young and old, sick and well, employed and out of work, homeowners and renters – different priorities are sharpened into bitter rivalries. The longer an economy stagnates, the more fissiparous its society becomes. This is not the only cause of political malaise in Britain, but it is a significant factor and one that the Conservative government is more inclined to exploit than to fix.

This week's internecine squabbling over the Rwanda safety bill neatly illustrates the problem. Westminster's attention and the prime minister's political capital were consumed by factional Tory feuding over a policy that costs tens of millions of pounds for no practical gain. The benchmark of success is perhaps one symbolic flight to Kigali before a general election. The scheme is a waste of money; the gruelling parliamentary battle to implement it is a waste of time. Meanwhile, more than 7 million people are on NHS waiting lists in England. School buildings are unsafe and short of teachers. Food poverty is soaring.

The government's fixation on immigration is a diversion and a delusion. Resentment of foreigners is easily stoked in difficult economic times. But Rishi Sunak is kidding himself if he thinks a desperate, botched anti-migrant crackdown will earn him credit with voters, who are abandoning the Tories because they have systematically downgraded Britain's quality of life for more than a decade.

This week's parliamentary theatrics show the Tories deep in denial of the reasons for their unpopularity. In that respect, economic data and opinion polls tell a similar story: stagnation is not just a condition of low growth. It describes the chronic debilitation of politics under a government that is itself the biggest obstacle to renewal.

97. What can be inferred about the relationship between the public's perception of economic wellbeing and the monthly economic indices, as discussed in the passage?
- (a) People directly correlate their wellbeing with monthly economic indices, leading to immediate reactions.
 - (b) General public awareness of economic trends is not closely tied to specific monthly indices.
 - (c) Monthly economic indices are essential for the public to understand their own economic wellbeing.
 - (d) Public perception is heavily influenced by the media's interpretation of economic indices.
98. Considering the passage's discussion on fiscal budget and public services, what assumption is necessary for the argument that running a balanced fiscal budget makes it challenging to meet the rising demand for public services?
- (a) Increased public service demands can only be met through deficit spending.
 - (b) Public services are not a priority in the government's fiscal policy.
 - (c) Rising demand for services outpaces the growth in government revenue.
 - (d) Public services have become more expensive to provide over time.
99. Based on the passage, which of the following best encapsulates the effect of prolonged economic stagnation on societal dynamics and political climate?
- (a) Economic stagnation primarily impacts the public health sector and crime rates.
 - (b) It leads to increased inequality and exacerbates existing societal divisions.
 - (c) Prolonged stagnation results in a general decline in political engagement.
 - (d) Stagnation fosters a strong sense of national unity as a response to economic challenges.
100. The passage suggests a disconnect between government priorities and public needs. What question would best evaluate this argument in the context of the provided information about NHS waiting lists and immigration policies?
- (a) How does the increase in NHS waiting lists correlate with the government's immigration policies?
 - (b) Does the government's focus on immigration detract from addressing NHS waiting lists?
 - (c) Are the government's investments in immigration policies justified by public opinion?
 - (d) What role does public opinion play in shaping government priorities in healthcare and immigration?
101. In light of the passage's analysis of the current government's economic policies, what critical question can be posed about the link between these policies and the government's popularity among voters?
- (a) Have the government's economic policies been successful in improving voter satisfaction and support?
 - (b) Is the decline in the government's popularity directly attributable to its economic policies?
 - (c) How have the government's economic policies influenced the voters' perception of national stability?
 - (d) Does the government's approach to economic policy reflect a misunderstanding of voters' priorities?
102. According to the passage, what is the primary reason for the Conservative government's failure to address Britain's economic and social challenges?
- (a) The government's focus on balanced fiscal budgets over public service demands.
 - (b) Persistent economic stagnation leading to societal divisions and political malaise.
 - (c) The government's preoccupation with immigration and symbolic policies.
 - (d) Ineffective management of public services like the NHS and education.

Passage (Q.103-Q.108): Improvement in quality of the human species is not necessarily alternative to a growth in quantity. A larger population may mean greater possibilities in the division of labour and economies of scale. These possibilities may contribute to the growth of per capita income, to better levels of living, and to better education. But beyond certain points, quantity and quality may well become competitive. The question whether the allocation of available resources between quantity and quality has been on the whole well done in the history of mankind, is impossible to answer. Among other things, it implies the objectively impossible assessment of all kinds of ethical and cultural values and standards. Some facts, though, may perhaps help to give at least a general idea about what the general tendency has been. When the Neolithic Revolution occurred about ten thousand years ago, there were – as we have seen – fewer than 20 million people on the earth. In 1950 A.D. there were almost 2,500 million. Now, of the adult portion of this population, about 50 percent were totally illiterate. A mere glance at these figures immediately suggests that far too much of the available resources was used up by the quantitative increase of mankind at the expense of its qualitative improvement.

We must invest more of our resources in the qualitative improvement of man. As Julian Huxley once said, we must place meaningful quality above meaningless quantity. There must be a combined effort in both the public and the private sectors toward such a goal. In this regard it should be remembered that what is needed is not merely more technical knowledge. What man today desperately needs is the kinds of education that allows him to make wise use of the techniques he possesses. ‘We live at a time when man, lord of all things, is not Lord of himself. He feels lost amid his own abundance. A well-known and reputable economist recently wrote that ‘we do not know what the purpose of life is, but if it were happiness, then evolution could just as well have stopped a long time ago, since there is no reason to believe that men are happier than pigs or than fishes. What distinguishes men from pigs is that men have greater control over their environment, not that they are happier. Wealth is not a blessing in itself; if directed by ignorance wealth is a greater evil than poverty because it can push things more strongly than poverty in the wrong direction; if directed by wisdom and knowledge, wealth is a blessing.

There is nothing more dangerous than technical knowledge when unaccompanied by respect for human life and human values. The introduction of modern techniques in environments that are still dominated by intolerance and aggressiveness is a most alarming development. Ethical progress has to accompany technical and economic development. While teaching techniques, we have to teach also respect for the dignity and worth and indeed the sanctity of human personality. Urgent action is needed lest the last state turn out to be worse than the first.

103. The author is likely to agree with each of the following except that
- (a) The activities of human beings are not leading into happier state of human beings.
 - (b) Wealth can be both a tool to prosperity and source of misery in society.
 - (c) Technical knowledge alone cannot result into improvement unless accompanied by education to use that knowledge.
 - (d) Larger population will always be good for mankind as it results into division of labour and economies of scale
104. Which of the following is the primary argument of the author?
- (a) If human beings want to be happy then money is not the factor that they should focus on.
 - (b) The end usage of wealth determines whether the wealth was used for good purposes or evil.
 - (c) The correct usage of resources that are available to humans is achieved when they are used to help the poor.
 - (d) Using his wisdom that allows him to make wise use of his knowledge, man should allocate resources for qualitative improvements.

-
105. Which of the following strengthens the author's argument?
- (a) Without the education of effective usage technical knowledge, the efforts will not yield intended results.
 - (b) Technical knowledge of human beings is not required for qualitative improvements.
 - (c) When resources are allocated for qualitative improvement, it is generally after they have been used for quantitative increase.
 - (d) Allocation of resources for qualitative improvement is less beneficial as compared to that for quantitative needs.
106. Which of the following is correct on the basis of information in the passage?
- (a) Quantitative aspect is as important as qualitative aspect in Man's improvement.
 - (b) In the past, allocation of resources was done to satisfy quantitative increase instead of qualitative improvement.
 - (c) Man is not able to achieve qualitative improvement because Man is not in command of himself.
 - (d) Animals have greater control on themselves than human beings have on themselves.
107. On the basis of information in the passage, the inference "In the past, resources were allocated to satisfy quantitative needs of the population" can be called
- (a) Definitely false
 - (b) Data inadequate
 - (c) Probably true
 - (d) Definitely true
108. The author of the passage is most likely to agree with which of the following?
- (a) Without achieving quantitative improvement, qualitative improvement cannot be achieved.
 - (b) We must place emphasis on qualitative aspect when it comes to allocation of resources.
 - (c) Technical knowledge alone possessed by humans can help achieve the qualitative improvement for man.
 - (d) It is possible to allocate unlimited resources for both quantitative needs and qualitative improvement with any sacrifices.

SECTION - E : QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

Directions (Q.109-Q.114): Read the following information and answer the questions below.

Arjun was selected to appear for the civil services mains examination after qualifying in the prelims examination. In the mains examination, six papers - Paper I, Paper II, Paper III, Paper IV, Paper V, and Paper VI - had equal maximum marks. The number of marks scored by Arjun in Paper I is 20% less than his marks in Paper VI. The ratio of marks scored by him in Paper II to that in Paper III is 4:3, and that in Paper III to Paper V is 3:5. The number of marks scored by him in Paper IV is 31% less than that of Paper V. He scored 60 marks in Paper III. He achieved a score of 42.25% in the mains examination, and the average of marks scored by him in all the papers is 84.5

109. If P1 represents the percentage of marks in Paper III and P2 represents the percentage of marks in Paper V, then find the difference between the percentage point of paper III and paper V.
(a) 30% (b) 20% (c) 60% (d) 80%
110. What was the total of maximum marks in the examination?
(a) 1200 (b) 1500 (c) 1000 (d) 800
111. What is the difference between marks obtained by Arjun in Paper II and marks obtained by him in Paper V?
(a) 22 (b) 19 (c) 20 (d) 28
112. The number of marks obtained by the Arjun in the paper II and III together was how much more percent than the marks obtained by him in paper V?
(a) 40% (b) 20% (c) 60% (d) 50%
113. What was the average of marks obtained by Arjun in the subject V and VI together?
(a) 100 (b) 120 (c) 105 (d) 110
114. The number of marks obtained by Arjun in the paper I was how much less than that of paper VI?
(a) 31 (b) 32 (c) 12 (d) 22

Directions (Q.115-Q.120): Read the following information and answer the questions below.

In New Delhi, three friends, P, Q, and R, reside as paying guests. They allocate 30%, 25%, and 24% of their monthly salary towards the accommodations, respectively, in the specified sequence. Following these expenses, each individual saves half of the remaining amount. Notably, the monthly salary of both P and Q is identical. Furthermore, R's monthly savings surpass those of Q by Rs. 23,100. The combined expenditures on accommodations for P and Q together exceed those of R by Rs. 4200.

115. How much less is the average expenditure on accommodation for these friends compared to the average savings of all the friends?
(a) Rs. 8700 (b) Rs. 8400 (c) Rs. 9400 (d) Rs. 9100
116. What is the monthly expenditure of P and R together on accommodations?
(a) Rs. 42000 (b) Rs. 45600 (c) Rs. 33000 (d) Rs. 46800

-
117. The monthly salary of R is how much more or less than that of Q?
(a) Rs. 60000 more (b) Rs. 60000 less (c) Rs. 45000 more (d) Rs. 45000 less
118. How much more is the sum of the savings of friends P and R together than the savings of friend Q only?
(a) Rs. 48400 (b) Rs. 44100 (c) Rs. 1500 (d) Rs. 47100
119. What approximate percentage of their total monthly salary is the total monthly saving of Q and R together?
(a) 42% (b) 38% (c) 34% (d) 46%
120. What portion of P's monthly savings is equivalent to P's monthly accommodation expenses?
(a) $\frac{4}{5}$ (b) $\frac{7}{6}$ (c) $\frac{5}{6}$ (d) $\frac{6}{7}$