

LEGALEDGE TEST SERIES
MOCK COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST 2024-25
MOCK CLAT 21

TR ID.

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(In Figures)



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Duration of Test : 2 Hours (120 Minutes)

Maximum Marks : 120

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.
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.

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SECTION-A : ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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

Passage (Q.1-Q.6): For the second successive month, India's goods exports grew last month, albeit with a mild 3.1% uptick from a 1% rise in December. This marks only the fourth month of growth in outbound shipments in 2023-24, and the overall value of merchandise exports this year is down 4.9% at about \$354 billion. While January's \$36.9 billion exports are above this year's monthly average, they are 4% lower than December's tally. To be clear, such sequential, post-Christmas demand dip is not unusual and all of the decline cannot be ascribed to the elephant haunting global trade corridors — the Houthi rebels' orchestrated disruptions of shipping lines' operations around the Red Sea hitting goods flow to the European and U.S. markets. January's trade numbers, to that extent, suggest that the impact so far is not overtly worrying, although a few key segments seem to be feeling some pain. Engineering goods' exports growth faltered to a little over 4% in January while the labour-intensive gems and jewellery slipped into a mild contraction, dropping 1.3%.

Apart from the lack of a broader discernible impact from the Red Sea shenanigans yet, the sharp decline in the goods trade deficit is notable as it hit a nine-month low of \$17.5 billion — just three months after touching a record high of nearly \$30 billion. The flip side is that the recent import bill compression has been driven by some **slack** in imports of items such as project goods and electronics which suggest weakening of investment and consumption impulses in the economy. The government has exuded confidence that India will match its record export performance of \$776 billion in 2022-23, this year as well, despite multiple global headwinds. On the goods front, though, attaining last year's \$451 billion tally looks difficult, especially with cooling commodity prices. Exports of services, reckoned to be up 6.3% this year, may still help bring the overall export figure for the year close to \$760-odd billion if they sustain this pace. The outlook for the coming year remains mired in uncertainty and risks. There are weak or mixed signals about demand trends from economies such as the U.S. and Germany, even as the U.K. recorded the sharpest sequential jump in retail sales since July 2020. Interest rate cuts remain elusive for now. Finally, despite the U.S.-led Operation Prosperity Guardian to protect commercial traffic through the Red Sea, shippers have warned that the Houthi factor could compel the use of longer routes for several more months. Longer delivery times apart, the spiked shipping rates and operational costs of exports could force some price hikes and deter already frail demand in some markets and make prospective buyers look for more competitive options for Indian wares.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from, <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/red-sea-blues-the-hindu-editorial-on-indias-goods-exports/article67863882.ece>]

1. Given the nuanced impact of geopolitical tensions on India's export sectors, as highlighted by the Houthi rebels' disruptions, which sector's performance best encapsulates the overall resilience of India's export economy?
 - (a) The consistent growth in the technology services sector, unaffected by physical shipping disruptions, showcases the adaptability and resilience of India's export economy in the face of geopolitical tensions.
 - (b) The agricultural sector, with its reliance on seasonal cycles and vulnerability to international market fluctuations, serves as a litmus test for assessing the resilience of India's export economy amidst geopolitical upheavals.
 - (c) The performance of the engineering goods sector, with its modest growth despite logistical challenges, mirrors the broader resilience and vulnerabilities within India's export economy in navigating geopolitical tensions.
 - (d) The luxury goods sector, often seen as less susceptible to market fluctuations, ironically provides the clearest insight into the resilience of India's export economy under geopolitical stress.

2. Considering the economic indicators presented, what could be a potential long-term consequence of continued import bill compression for India's economy?
 - (a) Enhanced economic stability through reduced reliance on foreign goods, fostering a more self-sufficient industrial base that could insulate the economy from global market volatilities.
 - (b) A gradual weakening of the domestic investment and consumption landscape, as indicated by a reduction in imports of critical goods like project goods and electronics, which could stifle economic growth and innovation.
 - (c) An inadvertent bolstering of India's trade surplus, leading to a stronger currency that could, paradoxically, make Indian exports less competitive on the global stage, impacting export-driven sectors negatively.
 - (d) Increased global competitiveness for Indian exports due to lowered import costs, indirectly driving up demand for domestically produced goods and services internationally.

3. In the context of the passage, the term "slack" most closely connotes which of the following in relation to India's economic activity?
 - (a) A strategic easing of economic policies aimed at reducing import dependency and encouraging local production.
 - (b) A decrease or slowdown in economic activity, particularly in investment and consumption, leading to reduced import demand.
 - (c) An increase in economic resilience through diversification of import sources and reduction of vulnerability to global market fluctuations.
 - (d) The intentional manipulation of import tariffs to protect domestic industries, thereby influencing the overall trade deficit.

4. Given the passage's insights into India's trade dynamics, including the nuanced impact of geopolitical tensions and sector-specific performances, what strategic focus should India prioritize to navigate future global trade uncertainties effectively?
 - (a) Intensify research and development in high-growth potential sectors like renewable energy and biotechnology to create new export niches that are less susceptible to geopolitical risks and global market fluctuations.
 - (b) Aggressively pursue bilateral trade agreements with countries less affected by geopolitical tensions, particularly focusing on markets in Africa and South America, to diversify trade partners and reduce dependency on traditional markets.
 - (c) Allocate substantial resources to the development of alternative shipping routes and logistics infrastructure to circumvent regions prone to geopolitical disruptions, ensuring uninterrupted access to key markets.
 - (d) Focus on enhancing domestic consumption and investment to make the economy more inward-looking, thereby reducing its vulnerability to external shocks and global trade dynamics.

5. Analyzing the passage's discourse on India's trade performance and future outlook, what underlying economic principle can be inferred as crucial for India to enhance its export competitiveness in the volatile global market?
 - (a) The principle of comparative advantage, by specializing in the production of goods and services where India has a lower opportunity cost, thereby maximizing the efficiency and competitiveness of its exports.
 - (b) The principle of protectionism, by implementing tariffs and trade barriers to shield domestic industries from foreign competition, thus fostering self-sufficiency and reducing reliance on volatile global markets.
 - (c) The principle of supply and demand, by adjusting export volumes to match international market demands more closely, thereby optimizing export revenues without overreliance on any single market or sector.
 - (d) The principle of elasticity of demand, by focusing on products and services with inelastic demand to ensure stable export revenues even in the face of global market fluctuations and geopolitical tensions.

6. Considering the passage's detailed examination of India's trade dynamics, which innovative policy measure could best support the strategic diversification and resilience of India's export sectors in light of global economic uncertainties?
- (a) Implementing advanced digital trade facilitation platforms to streamline export processes, reduce costs, and improve access to international markets, particularly for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).
 - (b) Launching a government-backed export credit insurance scheme to provide financial protection for exporters against the risks of payment defaults in volatile markets, encouraging more aggressive pursuit of international opportunities.
 - (c) Establishing strategic trade alliances with countries in regions less affected by geopolitical tensions, creating a collaborative framework for market access, and shared logistics solutions to mitigate disruptions.
 - (d) Investing in blockchain technology for supply chain transparency and security, enhancing the trustworthiness and efficiency of India's export goods, especially in sectors sensitive to geopolitical risks.

Passage (Q.7-Q.12): A gilded unicorn atop a silver baton from the regalia of Scotland's Usher of the White Rod the Trustees and Factor and Commissioner of the Walker Trust / National Museums Scotland This spring, a new Scottish museum will honor the unicorn—the country's national animal—by tracing its mythical hoofprints through history.

The Perth Museum opens to the public on March 30, and its debut exhibition is simply titled "Unicorn." It's billed as the United Kingdom's first major show to survey the magical creature's cultural history from antiquity to the present day.

"The unicorn has been an enduring yet **enigmatic** symbol throughout the ages; a component of medieval medicine, an emblem of Scottish royalty, a beloved children's character, and icon of the LGBTQI+ community," writes the museum in a statement.

This tapestry fragment, woven around 1500, made of wool and silk © Victoria and Albert Museum, London The museum's ode to the unicorn will feature manuscripts, paintings, coins, sculptures, illustrations, tapestries and even shop signs. As Artnet's Min Chen reports, the collection is made up of both historical loans and objects of local significance.

References to unicorns date back thousands of years. The Greek historian Ctesias mentioned them around 400 B.C.E., when he described a horse-like creature with a white body and a pointed horn on its forehead. The Bible also refers to a similar being, called a re'em, which some versions translate as "unicorn."

"By the 12th century, the unicorn had made its first appearance in Scotland, placed on the royal coat of arms by William I (also known as William the Lion)," wrote BBC Travel's Mike MacEacheran in 2019. "The unicorn became the symbol of purity and power that Scottish kings and nobility identified with in the 15th century."

In time, it became the country's national animal. As Malcolm Offord, the U.K.'s government minister for Scotland, says in the statement, the unicorn has come to represent Scotland's "enchancing history, culture and landscape."

To showcase the creature's long history, "Unicorn" will include artistic objects spanning centuries and mediums. Renaissance artist Luca Longhi's famed Lady and the Unicorn painting will highlight the "enduring symbolism of the unicorn through the Middle Ages and beyond," per the museum. Also on view is a 19th-century wand topped with a silver unicorn, which was produced around the time of George IV's coronation in 1821. It was even used in Charles III's coronation last year.

Some of the artifacts in the exhibition are composed of animal horns—just not unicorns'. "People once believed that the tusk of the dolphin-like narwhal, found in Arctic waters, came from unicorns," according to the museum. The show will include an Elizabethan pendant made of narwhal horn and gold, called the "Danny Jewel," and an intricately carved 12th-century narwhal tusk.

Alongside historical items, the exhibition will also feature contemporary representations of the unicorn: Toys, films and video games illustrate how the creature is "a familiar but shifting cultural icon," says J.P. Reid, senior new projects officer at Culture Perth and Kinross, the trust that co-manages the museum. "Unicorn" will end with six newly commissioned works exploring how the unicorn became a symbol in the LGBTQ community.

“With a long, complex and often contradictory history, the unicorn has been a popular subject for contemporary artists, writers, musicians, filmmakers and activists,” adds Reid. “It is a symbol through which ideas like authenticity, belief, gender and nationalism can be explored.”

The Perth Museum is the result of a £27 million (roughly \$34 million) transformation of Perth’s former City Hall. It will permanently house the famous “Stone of Destiny,” which has been used in coronations for centuries.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from, <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/see-an-artistic-history-of-the-unicorn-scotlands-odd-national-animal-180983652/>]

7. What does the Perth Museum's exhibition "Unicorn" aim to showcase about the cultural history of unicorns?
 - (a) The exhibition primarily focuses on the artistic representation of unicorns in medieval Europe, ignoring their global significance and historical changes in symbolism.
 - (b) It endeavors to highlight the role of unicorns in Scottish national identity and their representation in modern LGBTQI+ community symbols, without acknowledging their ancient mythical origins.
 - (c) The exhibition aims to trace the evolution of the unicorn's symbolism from antiquity to the present day, covering its roles in medieval medicine, royal emblems, and contemporary culture.
 - (d) It restricts its display to the literal historical existence of unicorns, using artifacts to argue against their mythical status and prove their physical presence in history.

8. Based on the exhibition's inclusion of diverse unicorn representations, what can be inferred about the unicorn's role in cultural narratives?
 - (a) Unicorns have consistently been portrayed as real, tangible creatures throughout history, with a singular, unchanging symbolism in all cultures.
 - (b) The unicorn symbol has been flexible, adapting to various cultural needs and narratives, from medieval royalty to modern social symbols.
 - (c) Unicorns are exclusively a modern cultural icon, with no historical significance before the 19th century, reflecting contemporary fantasies more than historical beliefs.
 - (d) The exhibition demonstrates a static view of the unicorn, suggesting that its significance and representation have remained unchanged since the middle Ages.

9. What does the inclusion of the narwhal tusk in the exhibition suggest about historical perceptions of unicorns?
 - (a) It indicates a common misunderstanding in the past, where actual animal parts were often misattributed to mythical creatures due to the lack of scientific knowledge.
 - (b) The narwhal tusk's inclusion purely serves as an artistic representation, showing how unicorns were imagined in various forms of medieval artwork.
 - (c) It suggests that unicorns were once believed to physically exist, and narwhal tusks were definitive proof of their existence, used exclusively in royal ceremonies.
 - (d) The exhibition uses the narwhal tusk to argue against the mythical status of unicorns, presenting it as evidence that unicorns were merely a misinterpretation of existing animals.

10. Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the significance of the unicorn in Scottish culture?
 - (a) The unicorn is merely a decorative figure in Scottish history, lacking any deeper cultural or historical significance.
 - (b) It represents a bridge between Scotland's mythological past and its present-day cultural identity, embodying a range of values and symbols across time.
 - (c) Scotland's adoption of the unicorn as a national symbol is a recent phenomenon, spurred by contemporary cultural trends rather than historical roots.
 - (d) The unicorn's role in Scottish culture is confined to its appearance in medieval tapestries and artifacts, with no relevance to modern Scotland.

11. What title best encapsulates the central theme of the passage?
- (a) "Medieval Scotland: The Age of Unicorns"
 - (b) "Unicorns: Mythology to Modernity in Scottish Culture"
 - (c) "The Artistic Evolution of the Unicorn in Europe"
 - (d) "Scotland's New Museum: A Home for Historical Artifacts"
12. In the context of the passage, what is the most appropriate meaning of the term "enigmatic" as used to describe the unicorn?
- (a) Possessing a clear, well-understood history and symbolism that leaves no room for interpretation or mystery.
 - (b) Characterized by mystery and ambiguity, reflecting a complex and often elusive significance that transcends simple explanation.
 - (c) Exhibiting a singular, universally accepted role in folklore and cultural narratives without variation or contradiction.
 - (d) Lacking any real historical basis or cultural impact, thus rendering its study irrelevant to understanding Scottish history.

Passage (Q.13-Q.18): On a Saturday morning at my local pool, three one-year-old babies get ready for their weekly swim lesson, their mothers carefully outfitting them in colourful swimwear. One of them, a girl, smiles gleefully at the red ruffle resting below her chin. Another, a boy, escapes his mother's hold and swiftly runs naked to the end of the locker room, shrieking with anticipation. The third, another boy, softly protests the entire ritual. His brow is set in a knot, despite his mother's attempts to encourage his enthusiasm. In soothing motherese, she points out the smiling turtles and happy fish that form a little underwater parade on his swim trunks. But his assessment remains static, and his mood does not budge. Eventually, all three babies and their mothers wander out to the pool, towels and toys in tow. But it is not simply pool toys that differentiate these babies' experience. Another variable is also in play, and it has been on full display as they get ready to swim. It's what developmental scientists call temperament.

Psychologists define temperament as individual differences in emotional, bodily and attentional reactions to sights, sounds, smells, tastes, touch, etc, as well as in the self-regulation of emotion, behaviour and attention. Within the first few days of life, babies make their inborn temperament known to parents. Some babies are sunny and agreeable, some sober, some without any predictable sleeping and eating patterns, some incessantly cranky, and others fully adaptable to the changing circumstances that surround them. In 1956, the psychiatrists Alexander Thomas and Stella Chess, struck by the blame placed on mothers for child outcomes, launched the New York Longitudinal Study to investigate infants' innate dispositions and their effect on long-term development including personality, school achievement, peer relationships, parent-child interactions and mental health. They recruited 133 infants (66 males, 67 females) from 82 white, middle-class families, and collected data on them in childhood, adolescence and young adulthood for 32 years. Their goal was to understand how children contributed to their own development, and to identify whether and how child temperament interacts with the environment to produce specific outcomes.

Thomas and Chess identified nine dimensions of temperament: activity level, regularity, approach, adaptability, intensity, sensory threshold, mood, distractibility and persistence. Using these dimensions, they distinguished three broad temperamental types: easy, difficult and slow-to-warm-up. Most babies, roughly 40 per cent, fit the category of 'easy' meaning they were generally in a positive mood, adapted well to new situations and routines, and were quickly soothed when upset. A smaller proportion, about 10 per cent, were 'difficult' due to their generally negative and intense reactions to minor events, the length of time required to calm down, and their lack of predictable eating, sleeping and digestive rhythms. Another 15 per cent were described as 'slow-to-warm up' due to their overall uneasiness and apprehension in new situations – a sort of chronic vigilance – but also their ability to adapt with time and support. If you're doing the math, you will have noticed that about one-third of infants could not be classified using this system, suggesting that some babies had mixed dispositions or that these initial dimensions needed to be refined or extended.

13. What role does the description of the babies' behaviors in the swimming pool play in the context of the passage?
- It serves as a prelude to the explanation of temperament types defined by Thomas and Chess.
 - It illustrates the direct influence of environmental factors on infant temperament.
 - It offers a practical example of the variability in infant temperaments.
 - It challenges the traditional views on the predictability of infant behavior.
14. How did the New York Longitudinal Study by Thomas and Chess aim to challenge existing perceptions about child development?
- By proving the ineffectiveness of traditional parenting methods on child temperament.
 - By emphasizing the role of genetic factors over environmental in shaping temperament.
 - By demonstrating the importance of social and economic factors in child development.
 - By questioning the belief that mothers are primarily responsible for child outcomes.
15. In what ways did the findings of Thomas and Chess's study contribute to our understanding of temperament in infants?
- By highlighting the role of parenting styles in shaping infant temperament.
 - By categorizing infants into distinct temperament types based on behavioral patterns.
 - By disproving earlier theories that temperament is solely determined by upbringing.
 - By focusing on the impact of cultural factors on the development of temperament.
16. How does the passage describe the 'difficult' temperamental type identified by Thomas and Chess?
- As infants who show a high level of activity and persistence in new environments.
 - As infants with unpredictable eating and sleeping patterns and intense reactions.
 - As infants who are easily adaptable but often in a negative mood.
 - As infants exhibiting chronic vigilance and uneasiness in unfamiliar settings.
17. What is the significance of the point that about one-third of infants could not be classified using Thomas and Chess's system?
- It indicates the need for a more comprehensive system to encompass a wider range of temperaments.
 - It suggests that the study's methodology was flawed and the results are unreliable.
 - It implies that external factors, rather than temperament, play a larger role in child development.
 - It reflects the unique adaptability of infants that cannot be captured by fixed categories.
18. What can be inferred about the approach of developmental scientists towards understanding child temperament, based on the passage?
- They prioritize genetic factors over environmental influences in shaping temperament.
 - They view temperament as a static trait that remains consistent throughout life.
 - They believe that temperament is largely influenced by cultural and social contexts.
 - They consider temperament as an innate characteristic that varies among individuals.

Passage (Q.19-Q.24): The world is still haunted by 20th-century crimes so grave that any attempt to bring the perpetrators to justice seems feeble. The trials at Nuremberg in 1945-46 did little to salve wounds left by the Holocaust. And the Tokyo trials of alleged Japanese war criminals, which lasted two and a half years from 1946-48, have not stopped outpourings of anger across Asia whenever, for example, a senior Japanese politician visits Yasukuni, a Tokyo shrine to the war-dead, including convicted war criminals.

The aftermath of wars has taken on fresh significance with conflicts raging in Israel, Sudan and Ukraine. In much of Asia, the Second World War, which was followed by tribunals that tried to dispense justice, is still unfinished business. Japan's trials concluded 75 years ago.

In a meticulously researched history, Gary Bass, a professor at Princeton (and former journalist for The Economist), looks at why attempts to produce a shared sense of justice failed.

Like Nuremberg, Japan's tribunal was for the most serious war criminals, those guilty not just of breaking the laws of war but, in addition, of "crimes against peace" (ie, planning the war). This was controversial then and remains so. For America the greatest crime was the attack on Pearl Harbour in Hawaii and elsewhere in December 1941. But, as aggressors always do—think Vladimir Putin in Ukraine—the accused pleaded that they and Japan acted in self-defence. Even some of the 11 judges from different Allied countries disputed whether Japan's aggression was actually a crime. Radhabinod Pal from India, for example, argued the law lets each country decide what counts as self-defence.

Few doubted that Japanese troops had been guilty of outrageous war crimes, exhaustively covered at the trials, which heard months of harrowing testimony, including about the "rape" of Nanjing, China, in 1937 and the Bataan death march of prisoners-of-war in the Philippines in 1942. The issue with these and other horrors was not whether they were crimes, but where responsibility lay—with the individual soldier, his immediate commander, his general, the prime minister or the man who had appointed the prime minister, Emperor Hirohito.

Before the tribunal convened it had been decided not to indict the emperor. This led to a feud between the bibulous chief American prosecutor, Joseph Keenan, and the court's president, Sir William Webb, a pompous and cantankerous Australian. Webb found himself at odds with most of the other judges. They failed to reach unanimous verdicts.

Of the 25 defendants who survived the trial, all were convicted and seven were hanged, including the prime minister, Tojo Hideki. But some of the judges dissented, including Pal, who argued in a 1,230-page objection that all the defendants were innocent. Pal became a hero to many Japanese for saying the trials represented "formalised vengeance" and could bring "only an ephemeral satisfaction, with every possibility of ultimate regret".

His dissent also covered events beyond the scope of the trial: what he called the "inhuman blasts" at Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. The killing of tens of thousands of civilians in these attacks, seen by many as militarily unnecessary, was not a war crime. That will always make the Tokyo trials seem lopsided to many Japanese.

Mr Bass's assertion that the tribunals' failure played an important and largely negative role in the making of modern Asia is true enough. But would it have made a difference had, say, the emperor been put on trial? It is hard to believe that would have made the outcome more palatable in Japan, or that it would have changed much in the prosperous democratic country that Japan has become.

In Tokyo justice was always going to be tempered with compromise and political expediency. For all their flaws, the trials were not the problem. The war was.

19. How does the passage evaluate the long-term impact of the Tokyo trials on modern Asia, considering the author's views on the role of these trials in shaping the region's post-war history?
 - (a) The trials fostered a sense of closure and justice, contributing positively to Asia's post-war healing.
 - (b) They played a crucial role in establishing legal precedents for future international war crime tribunals.
 - (c) The trials are viewed as an important but flawed step in the pursuit of justice in post-war Asia.
 - (d) They are seen as largely inconsequential in the broader scope of Asia's post-war development and progress.
20. What is the primary focus of Gary Bass's research, as mentioned in the passage, and how does it relate to the broader context of post-World War II justice?
 - (a) Assessing the legal foundations of the Tokyo trials and their alignment with international war crime laws.
 - (b) Evaluating the effectiveness of the Tokyo trials in delivering justice for World War II atrocities.
 - (c) Investigating the role of individual judges in shaping the outcomes of the Tokyo trials.
 - (d) Analyzing the implications of not indicting Emperor Hirohito on post-war justice perceptions.

21. How does the passage illustrate the controversy surrounding the classification of Japan's actions in World War II, particularly in relation to the concept of "crimes against peace"?
- (a) By highlighting the unanimous agreement among the Allied judges about Japan's guilt in crimes against peace.
 - (b) Through the portrayal of differing opinions among judges regarding Japan's defensive stance in the war.
 - (c) By emphasizing the role of American perspectives in defining Japan's actions as crimes against peace.
 - (d) Focusing on the influence of international law in unanimously condemning Japan's wartime actions.
22. In the context of the Tokyo trials, what dilemma did the exemption of Emperor Hirohito from indictment pose, and how did it impact the proceedings and perceptions of justice?
- (a) It led to a lack of unanimity among judges, causing internal conflicts and questioning the trials' legitimacy.
 - (b) The exemption highlighted the limitations of the tribunal in addressing high-level war crimes.
 - (c) It created a perception that the trials were more about political expediency than actual justice.
 - (d) This decision resulted in the overshadowing of lesser war crimes and a focus on major offenses.
23. How does Radhabinod Pal's dissent during the Tokyo trials reflect a broader critique of the nature of these tribunals, and what implications does his stance have for the interpretation of justice in the aftermath of World War II?
- (a) Pal's dissent underscored the inherent biases in the tribunals, suggesting a victor's justice perspective.
 - (b) It highlighted the lack of legal precedent for crimes against peace, questioning the tribunal's legitimacy.
 - (c) Pal's stance was a critique of the tribunal's failure to address all war crimes equally, including those by the Allies.
 - (d) His dissent emphasized the subjective nature of justice, arguing for a more nuanced understanding of wartime actions.
24. What rationale does the author provide for the decision not to prosecute the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki as war crimes, and how does this impact the perceived fairness of the Tokyo trials?
- (a) The bombings were considered militarily unnecessary, leading to a perception of the trials as biased.
 - (b) The bombings were viewed as acts of self-defense, influencing the trials' focus on Japanese war crimes.
 - (c) The bombings were seen as retributive justice, affecting the trials' impartiality in historical perspective.
 - (d) The bombings were perceived as unavoidable collateral damage, questioning the tribunal's overall fairness.

SECTION -B : CURRENT AFFAIRS, INCLUDING GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Directions (Q.25-Q.52): Read the information carefully and answer the questions.

Passage (Q.25-30): Naval Commanders' Conference 2024

The [a] edition of the Biannual Naval Commanders' Conference 2024 was conducted from 05 to 08 March 2024. The Conference is an institutional forum that enables deliberations on important maritime security issues at the Military-Strategic level. The inaugural session of the Conference was held onboard the aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya. Follow-on proceedings were conducted at [X], in hybrid format, on 07 and 08 March 2024. The Hon'ble Raksha Mantri, presided over the inaugural session, with other Chief & secretary and other senior MoD officials and Naval Commanders in attendance.

Commending the brave and prompt response by the Indian Navy to recent incidents and developments in West Asia and the adjoining seas, the Raksha Mantri exhorted the Commanders to remain poised for operations across the spectrum of conflict. He underscored the leadership role expected of the Indian Navy towards ensuring peace and prosperity in the Indian Ocean Region. In addition, the Hon'ble Raksha Mantri emphasised the importance of Tri-Services Jointness and Integration to favourably shape and influence the future battlespace.

The proceedings at [X] on 07-08 March 2024 included review of major operational, materiel, infrastructure, Logistics and personnel related initiatives.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=2012965#:~:text=The%20first%20edition%20of%20the%20Military%2DStrategic%20level.>

25. What has been redacted by [X] in this passage?
(a) Chennai (b) Bangalore (c) New Delhi (d) Hyderabad
26. Consider the following statements:
I. Naval Detachment Minicoy was set up in the early 1980s under the operational command of the Naval Officer-in-Charge (Lakshadweep).
II. INS Jatayu is the second naval base in Lakshadweep after INS Dweep prakshak in Kavaratti.
(a) Only I is correct. (b) Only II is correct.
(c) Both I & II are incorrect. (d) Both I & II are correct.
27. What out of the following event took place on the sidelines of the conference on 08 March 2024?
(a) Military parade (b) Sagar Manthan (c) Naval exercise (d) Cultural festival
28. When was the first edition of the Biannual Naval Commanders' Conference 2024 conducted?
(a) January 2024 (b) February 2024 (c) March 2024 (d) April 2024
29. What was emphasized by the Defence Minister during the conference regarding the Indian Navy's role?
(a) Leading operations in the South China Sea
(b) Ensuring peace and prosperity in the Indian Ocean Region
(c) Enhancing cyber warfare capabilities
(d) Strengthening border security with Pakistan
30. Who out of the following else engaged with the Naval Commanders during the conference?
(a) Foreign dignitaries
(b) Bollywood actors
(c) Service Chiefs of the Indian Army and Indian Air Force
(d) Representatives from the United Nations

Passage (Q.31-36): National Science Day

The special day is observed on February 28 to commemorate the discovery of the Raman Effect by Indian Scientist CV Raman. Science is significant in the lives of each and every person on earth. Even sometimes when we do not know, we may be using science and its applications in our daily lives. It is important to acknowledge the ways science and its applications have simplified our lives and how easier it has made things for us. Every year, National Science Day is observed to raise awareness about the importance of science in our lives and also acknowledge the efforts of the scientists who work in exploring more ways by which science can be implemented to make our lives simpler and easier.

National Science Day is observed on the day Indian Physicist Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman discovered the Raman Effect. The Raman Effect is the phenomenon where light gets scattered when passed through a transparent material, leading to changes in wavelength and energy. In [X], on February 28, CV Raman discovered the Raman Effect. He also received the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930 due to his significant contribution in the field of Physics. Commemorating the discovery, National Science Day is observed on February 28 every year.

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/lifestyle/festivals/national-science-day-2024-date-history-and-significance-of-the-day-101709026280787.html>

31. What has been redacted by [X] in this passage?
(a) 1930 (b) 1932 (c) 1928 (d) 1926
32. Consider the following statements about the national science day:
I. The theme for the National Science Day 2024 is Indigenous Technologies for Viksit Bharat. The day is observed to raise awareness about the importance of scientific applications in our daily lives.
II. The day also aims to celebrate and acknowledge the efforts and achievements of scientists in human welfare.
(a) Only I is correct. (b) Only II is correct.
(c) Both I & II are incorrect. (d) Both I & II are correct.
33. In which of the following year was the first National Science Day observed?
(a) 1930 (b) 1928 (c) 1987 (d) 2020
34. What organization proposed the idea of National Science Day in India?
(a) Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)
(b) National Council for Science and Technology Communication (NCSTC)
(c) World Health Organization (WHO)
(d) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
35. What was the strategic focus of the theme for National Science Day 2024?
(a) International collaboration in science
(b) Promoting STEM education
(c) Addressing challenges through home-grown technologies
(d) Space exploration missions
36. Which of the following was the first Indian to receive the Nobel Prize award for Physics in the field of science?
(a) Satyendra Nath Bose (b) A.P.J Abdul Kalam
(c) Srinivasa Ramanujan (d) CV Raman

Passage (Q.37-42): National Horticulture Fair 2024

A 3-day mega event of National Horticulture Fair 2024 organised at ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Hesaraghatta, [X] from 5th March 2024 concluded on 7th March 2024, with the gracious presence of Ms. Shobha Karandlaje, Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Govt. of India.

The Minister, stated that the farmers are eager to see the variety of fruit, vegetable, flower, and medicinal crops displayed, as the country transitioned from a food grain deficit to surplus production during the green revolution.

Horticultural crop production in the country has surpassed food grain production, ensuring nutritional security. Ms. Karandlaje emphasized the importance of adopting climate-resilient crop varieties and technologies to help farmers sustain production in adverse conditions. She urged farmers to focus on value addition to meet international demand. The Minister highlighted central government schemes and financial support for farmers and women empowerment. She expressed concerns about pesticide residue rejections and the need to raise awareness among farmers. She also highlighted the use of advanced technologies like drones, high-yielding varieties, and high-density planting systems to make farming more profitable. These measures aim to meet the growing global demand for Indian produce.

Dr. Prakash Patil, Director (Acting), ICAR- Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bengaluru, welcomed over 70,000 visitors from 22 states at the NHF 2024 fair.

<https://icar.org.in/national-horticulture-fair-2024-icar-ihr-bengaluru-concludes>

37. what has been redacted by [X] in this passage?
(a) Chennai (b) New Delhi (c) Bengaluru (d) Jaipur
38. What aspect did the Minister emphasize for farmers to sustain production in adverse conditions as per the above article?
(a) Financial support
(b) Crop diversity
(c) Climate-resilient crop varieties and technologies
(d) Urban farming
39. Where is the headquarters of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) located?
(a) New Delhi (b) Chennai (c) Hyderabad (d) Lucknow
40. Consider the following statements:
I. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is an autonomous organisation under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India.
II. Dr. Prakash Patil, Director (Acting), ICAR- Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bengaluru, welcomed over 70,000 visitors from 22 states at the NHF 2024 fair.
(a) Only I is correct. (b) Both I & II are correct.
(c) Only II is correct. (d) Both I & II are incorrect.
41. What out of the following did the Minister Urge farmers to focus on as per the above article?
(a) Reducing crop production (b) Value addition to meet international demand
(c) Limiting crop diversity (d) Reducing agricultural exports
42. What advanced technologies were highlighted by the Minister to make farming more profitable as per the above article?
(a) Use of manual labor
(b) Traditional farming methods
(c) Drones, high-yielding varieties, and high-density planting systems
(d) Organic farming practices

Passage (Q.43-48): France Enshrines the Right to Abortion in Its Constitution

France became the world's first country to enshrine abortion rights in its constitution on Monday, the culmination of an effort that began in direct response to the US Supreme Court's decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*.

Lawmakers from both houses of the French Parliament voted [X] in favor of the measure, easily clearing the three-fifths majority needed to amend the French constitution.

Monday's vote, held during a special gathering of lawmakers at the Palace of Versailles, southwest of Paris, was the final step in the legislative process. The French Senate and National Assembly each overwhelmingly approved the amendment earlier this year.

The amendment states that there is a "guaranteed freedom" to abortion in France. Some groups and lawmakers had called for stronger language to explicitly call abortion a "right."

Lawmakers hailed the move as a history-making way for France to send a clear signal of support on reproductive rights, with abortion under threat in the United States, as well as in parts of Europe, like Hungary, where far-right parties have come to power.

Prime Minister [a] said before the vote that lawmakers had a "moral debt" to women who were, in the past, forced to endure illegal abortions.

<https://www.cnn.com/2024/03/04/europe/france-abortion-constitution-intl/index.html>

43. What has been redacted by [X] in this passage?
(a) 710 to 122 (b) 780 to 22 (c) 780 to 72 (d) 710 to 172
44. Who is the present Prime Minister of France?
(a) Frans Timmermans (b) Mikhail Mishustin
(c) Mark Rutte (d) Gabriel Attal
45. consider the following statements about the abortion constitution:
I. Both houses of Parliament, the National Assembly and the Senate, have already adopted a bill to amend Article 34 of the constitution to specify a woman's right to an abortion is guaranteed.
II. Emmanuel Macron is the current President of the France.
(a) Only I is correct. (b) Both I & II are correct.
(c) Only II is correct. (d) Both I & II are incorrect.
46. Which court ruling in the United States prompted the activism for abortion rights in France?
(a) Obergefell v. Hodges (b) *Roe v. Wade*
(c) *Brown v. Board of Education* (d) *Citizens United v. FEC*
47. Who out of the following described France as being "at the forefront" regarding abortion rights?
(a) Emmanuel Macron (b) Gabriel Attal
(c) Yael Braun-Pivet (d) Adolf josh
48. Women have had a legal right to abortion in France_____.
(a) since a 1982 law (b) since a 1994 law
(c) since a 1999 law (d) since a 1974 law

Passage (Q.49-52): Maia-Sultanganj Port Trial

India-Bangladesh relations have evolved across various domains, including political, economic, cultural, and strategic ties over the years. Now, to boost trade and connectivity between India and Bangladesh, the first trial movement of vessels between Maia Port in India and Sultanganj Port in Bangladesh on Indo Bangladesh Protocol (IBP) Route no. 5 & 6 is set to take place on February 12, 2024. The vessels will be flagged off by the Minister of State for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, [X], from Maia Inland Customs Port in West Bengal at 10:30 AM. This development is in line with the Act East Policy of the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's government.

The waterway route from Maia (IBP route) to Dhubri (NW-2) via Aricha will reduce the distance by around 930 kilometers compared to the existing waterway route from Dhulian-Maia-Kolkata-IBP-Dhubri. With this move, 2.6 MTPA of export cargo to Bangladesh is expected to shift from road to waterways.

The riverine distance between Port of Call Maia in India and Port of Call Sultanganj in Bangladesh is 16 kilometers, out of which 4.5 kilometers of waterways are in India and the rest 11.5 kilometers are in Bangladesh. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=2005001#:~:text=Now%2C%20to%20boost%20trade%20and,place%20on%20February%2012%2C%202024>.

49. Who is the present Prime Minister of Bangladesh?
- (a) Sheikh Mujibur Rahman (b) Sajeeb Wazed
(c) Sheikh Hasina (d) Saima Wazed
50. Consider the following statements:
- I. Bangladesh is India's biggest trade partner in South Asia and India is the second biggest trade partner of Bangladesh in Asia in FY 2022-23.
- II. India is Bangladesh's largest export destination in Asia, with approx USD 2 billion of Bangladeshi exports to India in FY 2022-23.
- (a) Only I is correct. (b) Both I and II are incorrect.
(c) Only II is correct. (d) Both I and II are correct.
51. What has been redacted by [X] in this passage?
- (a) Shantanu Thakur (b) Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
(c) Naunand Kanwar (d) Rajendra Singh Rathore
52. How many states of the Indian Union, share their boundary with Bangladesh?
- (a) Four (b) Five (c) Three (d) Seven

SECTION – C: LEGAL REASONING

Directions (Q.53-Q.84): Read the comprehension carefully and answer the questions.

Passage (Q.53-Q.57): Freedom of speech and expression is a fundamental right enshrined in Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution of India, available only to Indian citizens. It allows individuals to express their views and opinions through any medium, such as words, writing, printing, pictures, films, etc. However, this right is not absolute and can be subject to reasonable restrictions imposed by the government under Article 19(2) for reasons such as the sovereignty and integrity of India, security of the state, friendly relations with foreign states, public order, decency and morality, contempt of court, defamation, and incitement to an offence.

Over the years, several landmark judgments have expanded the scope of freedom of speech and expression. In the case of *Romesh Thappar v. State of Madras* (1950), the Supreme Court declared that the freedom of the press is a part of freedom of speech and expression. The Court emphasized that without free political discussion, no public education, essential for the proper functioning of the process of government, is possible.

In the case of *Sakal Papers Ltd. V. Union of India* (1962), the Supreme Court struck down the Daily Newspapers (Price and Page) Order, 1960, which fixed the number of pages and size a newspaper could publish at a price. The Court held that it was a violation of Article 19(1)(a) and was not a reasonable restriction under Article 19(2).

In *Tata Press Ltd. Vs. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.*, the Supreme Court held that commercial speech, including advertising, is also a part of the freedom of speech and expression. The Court noted that advertising is a form of dissemination of information regarding the product advertised, and the public at large benefits from the information made available through advertisements.

However, the freedom of speech and expression can be restricted on several grounds. For instance, reasonable restrictions can be imposed in the interest of the security of the state, as in the case of *People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) v. Union of India*. The Court noted that the occurrence of public emergency and the interest of public safety are prerequisites for the application of the provisions of Section 5(2) of The Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

In conclusion, while the right to freedom of speech and expression is a cornerstone of democracy, it is not absolute and is subject to reasonable restrictions. The Indian judiciary has played a significant role in interpreting and expanding the scope of this right, ensuring that it adapts to changing societal contexts and technological advancements.

53. A prominent international artist, Alex, who is a foreign citizen currently residing in India on a long-term visa, creates a series of controversial digital art pieces that critique certain government policies. These artworks quickly gain traction online, leading to a debate on their legality. The government argues that Alex's artworks violate Indian laws as he is not entitled to the freedom of speech and expression, being a foreigner. Based on Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution of India, does Alex have the right to freedom of speech and expression while residing in India?
- (a) Yes, because as a long-term resident, Alex should be entitled to the same rights as Indian citizens.
 - (b) No, because the right to freedom of speech and expression under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution of India is available only to Indian citizens.
 - (c) Yes, because Alex's art pieces fall under the realm of creative expression, which should be universally protected.
 - (d) No, because Alex's art pieces could potentially cause public unrest, which would warrant a restriction on his freedom of speech.

54. A highly-respected daily newspaper, "The Herald", is based in the state of Indrapur. "The Herald" recently published an op-ed criticizing the state government's handling of the economy, leading to widespread public debate and protests against the government. In response, the state government invokes a previously dormant regulation prohibiting newspapers from publishing content that "disturbs the public peace." Consequently, "The Herald" is barred from printing any further copies.
- Can the state government of Indrapur restrict the freedom of the press in this manner?
- (a) Yes, because the state government has the right to maintain public peace and order.
 - (b) No, because the freedom of the press is part of freedom of speech and expression, and without free political discussion, no public education, essential for the proper functioning of the process of government, is possible.
 - (c) Yes, because the right to criticize the government is not absolute and can be curtailed if it leads to widespread public unrest.
 - (d) No, because the regulation invoked by the state government is dormant and cannot be applied arbitrarily.
55. Techbharat, a leading technology firm, launched a ground breaking new product. To reach a wide audience, they initiated a vigorous advertising campaign, including print, digital, and TV ads. However, the state government of Netra, concerned about Techbharat's near-monopoly in the technology sector, invoked a state regulation barring all forms of advertisement for the company's products within the state.
- Can the state government of Netra lawfully impose this advertising ban?
- (a) Yes, because the state government has a duty to prevent the creation of monopolies and ensure fair competition.
 - (b) No, because advertising is a form of dissemination of information regarding the product advertised, and the public at large benefits from the information made available through advertisements.
 - (c) Yes, because commercial speech can be regulated to protect the interests of consumers and maintain fair competition in the market.
 - (d) No, because commercial speech, including advertising, is also a part of the freedom of speech and expression, and cannot be banned outright.
56. Aaditya, a vocal critic of the state government, is a leading journalist in the state of Vishal Pradesh. His incisive reports uncovering alleged corruption in the government have created a stir and led to mass protests. Worried about the unrest, the state government, citing "public safety", intercepts and monitors Aaditya's private communication under Section 5(2) of The Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.
- Is the state government's action justified?
- (a) Yes, because Aaditya's reports are causing mass protests, which poses a threat to public safety.
 - (b) No, because Aaditya is exercising his right to freedom of speech and expression, which includes the freedom of the press.
 - (c) Yes, because the state government has the power to intercept and monitor any form of communication if it deems it necessary for the maintenance of public order.
 - (d) No, because the occurrence of public emergency and the interest of public safety are prerequisites for the application of the provisions of Section 5(2) of The Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, and in this case, there is no public emergency.

57. The Central Government, citing concerns over "paper wastage", passes a legislation known as "The Print Media Regulation Act, 2023". The law mandates that no newspaper or magazine can exceed ten pages per issue, irrespective of the price it wishes to charge. Express Journal, a prominent national newspaper known for its extensive coverage, challenges this law in court, arguing that it infringes upon their freedom of speech and expression.

Based on the ruling in *Sakal Papers Ltd. V. Union of India* (1962), will the court likely strike down "The Print Media Regulation Act, 2023"?

- (a) Yes, because the act restricts the ability of newspapers and magazines to provide extensive coverage and detailed analysis.
- (b) No, because the act is intended to prevent paper wastage, which is in public interest.
- (c) Yes, because the act limits the ability of newspapers and magazines to charge a price they deem fit for their content.
- (d) No, because the act is a violation of Article 19(1)(a) and is not a reasonable restriction under Article 19(2).

Passage (Q.58-Q.62) Negligence, a significant aspect of tort law, is derived from the Latin word 'negligentia', meaning 'failing to pick up'. In legal terms, it signifies the failure to exercise a standard of care that a reasonable person should have exercised in a particular situation. Negligence can be categorized into three forms: nonfeasance (failure to do something that should have been done), misfeasance (not doing an action properly), and malfeasance (doing something that should not have been done in the first place).

To establish negligence, six essential elements must be satisfied: duty of care, the duty must be towards the plaintiff, breach of duty to take care, actual cause or cause in fact, proximate cause, and consequential harm to the plaintiff.

In the case of *Stansbele vs Troman* (1948), the court held that a decorator was liable for leaving a house open, leading to theft, thereby breaching his duty of care. In *Ramesh Kumar Nayak vs Union of India* (1994), the postal authorities were held liable for failing to maintain the compound wall of a post office, which collapsed and caused injuries.

Negligence can be differentiated into civil and criminal negligence. Civil negligence occurs when a person fails to exercise ordinary care or due diligence, while criminal negligence relates to conduct so extreme and rash that it diverges from the way an ordinarily prudent person would act. The burden of proof and the consequences vary between the two.

Several defenses are available in a suit for negligence, including contributory negligence by the plaintiff, an act of God, and inevitable accident. In the case of *Brown v. Kendal* (1850), the court ruled that an injury caused while separating fighting dogs was a result of an inevitable accident.

The doctrine of 'Res ipsa loquitur', meaning 'the thing speaks for itself', is often applied in negligence cases. This doctrine shifts the burden of proof from the plaintiff to the defendant, provided certain circumstantial facts are presented.

In conclusion, negligence in tort law is a complex field with various nuances. It requires a careful examination of the duty of care, the breach of that duty, and the resulting harm. The defenses available provide a balance, ensuring that liability is assigned where due, considering the circumstances of each case.

58. Raj is an experienced electrician working in a large office building. One day, while replacing a faulty wire on the 5th floor, he leaves his tools, including a large wrench, unattended on a window ledge. A strong wind causes the wrench to fall, which injures Sid, a passer-by, walking on the pavement below. Sid decides to sue Raj for negligence.
- The question for consideration is whether Sid can successfully sue Raj for negligence.
- (a) Yes, because Raj is an experienced electrician and should have known the risk associated with leaving his tools unattended at a height.
 - (b) No, because Raj did not directly cause the wrench to fall; it was the wind.
 - (c) Yes, because Raj failed to exercise a standard of care that a reasonable person should have exercised in that particular situation.
 - (d) No, because Sid should have avoided walking under a window where work was ongoing.
59. Shyam, a postal worker, notices severe damage to the compound wall of his post office, which could potentially endanger pedestrians. Despite notifying his superiors, the authorities fail to take action for a month. One day, the wall collapses, injuring Sita, a pedestrian passing by. Subsequently, Sita decides to sue the postal authorities for negligence.
- The question for consideration is whether Sita can successfully sue the postal authorities for negligence.
- (a) Yes, because the postal authorities failed to maintain the compound wall despite being notified of its dangerous condition.
 - (b) No, because Sita should have been aware of the wall's condition and avoided passing by.
 - (c) Yes, because the postal authorities have a duty to maintain their premises, and their failure resulted in Sita's injuries.
 - (d) No, because the wall's collapse was an act of God and beyond the control of the postal authorities.
60. Dr. Agarwal, a renowned neurosurgeon, was to operate on Jyoti, a 35-year-old woman suffering from a brain tumor. Due to an emergency, Dr. Agarwal had to leave midway during the operation, delegating the rest to his less-experienced junior, Dr. Bhatia, without informing Jyoti or her family. Unfortunately, due to lack of experience, Dr. Bhatia makes an error, leading to a permanent paralysis in Jyoti. Jyoti's family decides to sue Dr. Agarwal.
- The question is whether Jyoti's family can hold Dr. Agarwal accountable for negligence and, if so, would it be considered civil or criminal negligence?
- (a) Yes, it is civil negligence because Dr. Agarwal failed to exercise ordinary care by not informing Jyoti and her family about the change in surgeons.
 - (b) No, it is not negligence because Dr. Agarwal had to leave due to an emergency.
 - (c) Yes, it is criminal negligence because Dr. Agarwal's act was extremely rash by allowing a less experienced doctor to take over a critical operation.
 - (d) No, it is not negligence because Dr. Bhatia, not Dr. Agarwal, made the error leading to Jyoti's paralysis.

61. Lisa, a professional dog trainer, was training her dog, Max, in a public park. Due to sudden thunder and lightning, Max became very agitated and ran off, with Lisa trying to catch him. In the process, Max and another dog named Buddy got into a fight. Brian, the owner of Buddy, tried to separate the fighting dogs using a stick, but in his struggle, accidentally hit Sara, a passerby, causing her to fall and break her arm. Sara decides to file a negligence lawsuit against Brian.
- The question is whether Sara can successfully sue Brian for negligence, or whether any defenses are applicable in this case?
- (a) Yes, Sara can successfully sue Brian for negligence as he should have been more careful while trying to separate the dogs.
 - (b) No, Brian can claim the defense of an act of God, as the sudden thunder and lightning caused the dogs to fight, which led to the accident.
 - (c) Yes, but only if she can prove that Brian acted recklessly and that she did not contribute to her injury by being in close proximity to the fighting dogs.
 - (d) No, Brian can claim the defense of an inevitable accident as he was trying to separate the fighting dogs and unintentionally hit Sara.
62. Mary, a passerby, is injured when a piano falls from a building. The piano was being hoisted by workers employed by XYZ Movers Ltd. Mary is unable to identify the exact person responsible or provide concrete evidence of their negligence. She decides to sue XYZ Movers Ltd. Under the doctrine of 'Res Ipsa Loquitur'. Given this scenario, can Mary succeed in her suit against XYZ Movers Ltd.?
- (a) Yes, because Mary was injured, which is enough to prove negligence.
 - (b) No, because Mary has failed to identify the specific person responsible for the incident.
 - (c) No, because accidents can happen even without negligence.
 - (d) Yes, because the accident is of such a nature that it implies negligence.

Passage (Q.63-Q.68) Acceptance of an offer is what a lighted match is to a train of gunpowder. It produced something which cannot be recalled or undone. Contract Act lays down that the communication of acceptance is complete as against the proposer when it is put in the course of transmission to him so as to be out of the power of the acceptor.

The communication can be expressed or implied. However, if the offer is such that the offeree has to act upon them by mere acting upon the offer, the offer is said to be accepted.

When the parties are in direct communication, the contract is complete only when the acceptance is received by the offeror. Thus, the contract is concluded at the place where the offeror hears the words of acceptance.

The communication of a revocation is complete, as against the person who makes it when it is put into a course of transmission to the person to whom it is made, so as to be out of the power of the person who makes it; as against the person to whom it is made, when it comes to his knowledge.

63. Rishi in Canada offers to purchase a bar of gold from Sunak in Delhi. Sunak accepts by letter, but the letter is lost in transit. Sunak sends the bar to Rishi by value-paid post. When the parcel reaches Rishi the price of gold has fallen. Is Rishi bound to accept the parcel?
- (a) Rishi is not bound to accept the offer as the transfer of gold bar from one country to another is illegal according to Indian law.
 - (b) Rishi is bound to accept the offer as he is who first made the offer and there is a valid acceptance.
 - (c) Rishi is not bound to accept the offer as there is no Communication of acceptance is received by him.
 - (d) Rishi is bound to accept the Offer as when Sunak posted his acceptance the contract came into existence.

64. Manya stock-broker in Delhi made an offer by teleprinter to a stock-broker in Calcutta who immediately accepted the offer by teleprinter. Due to a technical fault, the message of acceptance was not received in Delhi. Is there a contract between the stockbrokers?
- (a) Yes, there is a contract between Manya and the stockbroker as Manya sends the acceptance and it is out of his power.
 - (b) No, there is no valid contract between manya and the stockbroker as manya has not received the acceptance.
 - (c) Yes, there is a valid contract Between Manya and the Stockbroker as clearly the offer is accepted and it is immaterial whether it comes to knowledge of manya or not.
 - (d) No, there is no valid Contract between Manya and the Stockbroker as the break of machinery is the fault of the telex office, not manya.
65. An offer made by Aditya is accepted by Priya, but shortly thereafter Priya changes her mind and sought to revoke her acceptance by giving a telex to Aditya; however, the telex message did not reach Aditya due to some fault in the machine in office, whether there occurred a concluded contract or not?
- (a) Yes, the contract is concluded when the acceptance is put in the Course of transmission.
 - (b) No, the Contract is not concluded as Priya made her revocation and put in the course of direct transmission so the revocation reached before the acceptance.
 - (c) No, the contract is not concluded as the revocation is complete as it was put in the course of transmission.
 - (d) Yes, the contract is concluded as the revocation did not come to the knowledge of Aditya.
66. Mani sends a letter to Piyush stating that he is willing to purchase from him, a certain quantity of goods for a total consideration of Rs. 80,000. Mani sends, along with his letter, a cheque, on account of advance payment, for the aforesaid amount. The cheque is credited by Piyush to his bank account. Piyush, later on, refuses to sell the goods. Mani sued Piyush, claiming damages for the breach of contract. Piyush defends the suit on the ground that there is no contract as there is no valid acceptance.
- (a) There exists a valid contract as the act of Piyush by crediting the cheque to his bank account itself indicates that he accepted the offer.
 - (b) There exists no valid contract as Piyush has yet to send the valid acceptance and merely crediting the cheque in his bank account is not a valid acceptance.
 - (c) There exists a valid contract as Piyush is about to accept the offer after taking time to reconsider his option.
 - (d) There exists no valid contract as the acceptance did not come to the knowledge of mani.
67. Vidhya, from the territory of Punjab, makes an oral offer to sell certain goods to Bala who is standing on the territory of Haryana. Bala immediately communicates his acceptance to Vidhya. Bala, later on, commits a breach of contract. Vidhya institutes a suit in the civil court of Punjab. Bala argues that the court of Punjab has no jurisdiction to decide the dispute. Is Bala correct in his argument?
- (a) Yes, Bala is Correct in his argument as the acceptance is communicated from Haryana so the Haryana court has the jurisdiction to try the matter.
 - (b) No, Bala is Incorrect in his argument as the acceptance is received in Punjab so the Punjab court has jurisdiction to try the matter.
 - (c) Yes, Bala is correct in his argument as in the case of contract the jurisdiction lies where the offeree lives.
 - (d) No, Bala is Incorrect in his argument as in the case of the contract the jurisdiction lies where the Offeror Lives.

68. Suppose in the above states matter both Vidya and Bala Communicated through telephone and due to the passing of a train nearby Vidhya doesn't hear the acceptance. Whether there is a binding contract between the parties, where she alleges that she has not heard the words of acceptance because of the passing of the train at that time?
- (a) In this case, there is a binding contract between Vidhya and Bala as the acceptance is put in course of transmission.
 - (b) In this case, there is a binding contract as communication was made between the parties it is immaterial whether Vidhya heard it or not.
 - (c) In this case there is no binding contract as communication of acceptance was not received by Vidhya.
 - (d) In this case there is no binding contract as the transaction is still in the negotiation stage and Vidhya still has to receive the acceptance.

Passage (Q.69-Q.72): An assault is a threat or attempt to do a corporeal hurt to another, coupled with an apparent physical ability and intention to do the act. Actual contact is not necessary in an assault. But it is not every threat, where there is no actual personal violence that constitutes an assault; there must, in all cases, be means of carrying that threat into effect. Any gesture calculated to excite, in the party threatened, a reasonable apprehension that the party threatening intends immediately to offer violence, or, in the language of the Indian Penal Code, is about to use criminal force to the person threatened, constitute, if coupled with a present ability to carry such intention into execution, an assault in law. The intention as well as the act makes an assault. Three elements must be established in order to establish tortuous assault: first, the plaintiff apprehended immediate physical contact, second, the plaintiff had reasonable apprehension (the requisite state of mind) and third, the defendant's act of interference was intentional (the defendant intended the resulting apprehension). While the law varies by jurisdiction, contact is often defined as harmful if it objectively intends to injure, disfigure, impair, or cause pain. The act is deemed offensive if it would offend a reasonable person's sense of personal dignity.

(Source: <https://www.legalserviceindia.com/legal/article-5443-assault-and-battery-in-law-of-torts.html>)

69. Recently, T was struck by a car in which he lost both of his arms. He moved to another city after a few months. He had some disagreements with the landlord because he was asking for twice what the going rate was for flats. T became even more enraged because he had already lost his job due to his disability and warned the landlord that he would shoot him dead by the end of the day if he did not lower the rent to a reasonable amount. The landlord reported T for assault after hearing T's caution. Comment.
- (a) T will be held accountable for assault that he caused by threatening to shoot the landlord.
 - (b) T shall not be held liable because he was justified in threatening the landlord given the high price he demanded for the apartment.
 - (c) T shall not be held liable as he only threatened the landlord to get him to lower the prices and had no malice in his intention.
 - (d) Given that T lacked the necessary ability to perform the asserted act, he shall not be held accountable.
70. W was dating P, one of the boys in her class. She had been seeing him for the previous two months. Nobody was aware of the same thing. W's best friend noticed something when she saw one of her messages with P. So, she confronted her and demanded that she tell her everything. W was adamant about not talking to her friend about it, but her friend persuaded her and threatened to throw her off a cliff if W refused. Describe W's legal options for suing her friend for assault.
- (a) Since W's friend threatened to throw her off a cliff, she will be held accountable for the tort of assault.
 - (b) W's friend is not liable for assault because there was no malicious intent in this particular instance.
 - (c) Since W's friend lacked the physical strength to throw W off the cliff, she cannot be legally liable for assault.
 - (d) Since W had a reasonable fear that she would be thrown off the cliff, W's friend will be held accountable for assault.

71. By the end of the month, M had his final exams due. As a result, he used to attend his tuition classes on alternate days. With only two weeks until the exam, his teacher instructed him to study the two biology chapters and come prepared for the exam. Because he had already failed his internal exams, the teacher warned him that if he did not come prepared, he would beat the shit out of him. M was terrified by this and planned to file an assault case against his teacher. Comment.
- (a) M's claims will be upheld because he had reasonable grounds to believe that he would suffer physical harm.
 - (b) M's claims will not be upheld because the teacher had a legitimate reason to warn him in order to make him prepare for the exam.
 - (c) Since the fear of harm must be immediate in nature, M's claims cannot be upheld.
 - (d) Since the teacher didn't intend to physically beat M, his claims cannot be upheld.
72. Z and V shared a flat. They frequently quarrelled over who would use the washroom first. They consequently made the decision that V would get up early and go to the bathroom, and Z would follow him. They agreed that if either of them missed their turn on any given day, they would not be permitted to use it again until the other person had finished using it. The following morning, Z decided to use the restroom when he noticed that V was still asleep. V rushed to the bathroom as soon as Z grabbed the towel from the balcony. This infuriated Z, who yelled "you are dead today" as he pointed his wooden scale in V's direction as V came out from the bathroom. Comment on whether or not an assault occurred.
- (a) Because all of the requirements for assault are met in the given case, it is reasonable to assert that the assault occurred.
 - (b) There was no assault because it was agreed that they would both use the restroom in turns.
 - (c) Assault has not occurred because such fights between roommates are common and should not be taken seriously.
 - (d) Z committed the assault because he intended to injure his roommate V.

Passage (Q.73-Q.78): The Supreme Court has held that the principle that the evidence of an injured witness has to be placed at a higher pedestal may not apply to a case of private defence when the accused is also injured. It was the contention of the accused persons that their plea of private defence was neither investigated by the police nor considered by the courts below in the correct perspective. It is also asserted that though there was a considerable delay in registering the FIR and submitting it to the concerned magistrate, no explanation was provided by the Investigating Officer. The FIR number was also missing from the injury reports which was corroborated by prosecution witnesses. It was averred that it appeared from the circumstances that the FIR was ante-dated.

Dealing with the contention of the accused that the ingredients of S. 149 IPC were not met, the Court cited *Ranjit Singh v. State of Punjab* (2013) 16 SCC 752 to assert that in order to establish a case under S. 149, it is imperative for the prosecution to prove - existence of assembly with atleast 5members; the common object for everyone; the object being unlawful; and an offence committed by one such member. The Court opined that, since the provision involves a deeming fiction, a higher degree of onus is to be bestowed on the prosecution.

<https://enalsar.informaticsglobal.com:2278/top-stories/murder-trial-supreme-court-evidence-of-injured-witness-accused-private-defence-186429> Live Law dated 27/11/21

73. X went to the market to buy some snacks for himself, but the shopkeeper kept him waiting for a very long time due to huge rush in the store; infuriated by the same X picked up a bottle of ketchup and hit the shopkeeper in his head thereby severely injuring him. Retaliating to X's action, the shopkeeper also punches him back thereby breaking X's teeth. Determine X's liability under section 149 of IPC, when the shopkeeper is being called as the witness in the given case.
- (a) X is not liable since all the ingredient of section 149 are not satisfied.
 - (b) X is liable because he has injured the shopkeeper with the ketchup bottle.
 - (c) X is not liable since the testimony of the shopkeeper would not be placed at a higher pedestal.
 - (d) X is liable since all the ingredients of section 149 are satisfied.

74. Suppose in the previous question, X went to buy snacks along with his friends, Y and Z. With the rest of the facts remaining the same, would your answer to the previous question change?
- (a) Yes, X is liable under section 149.
 - (b) No, X is liable under section 149.
 - (c) Yes, X is not liable under section 149.
 - (d) No, X is not liable under section 149.
75. P, Q and R went to the central library; when they were looking for books to read, they came across a very rare 1st edition of Lord of the Rings, signed by J.R.R Tolkien himself. Since P was enamoured of English classics, he decided to steal that book and keep it in his own library. Q being the best friend of P, hyped him up to do what he wanted to but R being a very moral person resisted their decision. Later when they were trying to escape with the book; they all got caught for theft. Determine collective liability of P, Q and R under section 149.
- (a) They are not liable since the ingredients under section 149 are not fulfilled.
 - (b) They are liable since the ingredients under section 149 are fulfilled.
 - (c) Only P is liable since it was his idea to steal the book.
 - (d) Only P and Q are liable since there was a common object between these two only and R is not liable
76. Suppose in the previous question, even Q resisted to the idea of stealing the book along with R; nevertheless, P attempted the same and got caught. With the rest of the facts remaining the same, would your answer to the previous question change?
- (a) Yes, they will not be liable under section 149 of IPC.
 - (b) No, they will not be liable under section 149 of IPC.
 - (c) Yes, but not all will be liable under section 149 of IPC.
 - (d) No, but not all will be liable under section 149 of IPC.
77. R, S, T, U and V were playing cricket in the neighbourhood playground. When it was R's turn to bat, S, T, U and V came up with a prank that S will bowl a water balloon filled with dirty water towards R and when he will strike it with his bat, he will get dirty. S, skilfully executed the plan which left R, bamboozled first and then very angry; R rushed towards T and hit him in his leg; T retaliated by hitting R in the head with the wicket. Later in the evening, R filed a complaint against all of them who were there till the end, under section 149 and declared himself as the primary witness and rest of them except T as secondary witness. Determine their liability under section 149 of the IPC.
- (a) They all are liable under section 149 of IPC since there was a common objective between them.
 - (b) They all are not liable under section 149 of IPC since there was an unlawful assembly.
 - (c) They all are liable under section 149 of IPC since all the ingredients are satisfied.
 - (d) They are not liable under section 149 of IPC some of the ingredients are not satisfied.
78. Suppose in the previous question, V left the playground as soon they made the plan to prank R. With the rest of the facts remaining the same, would your answer to the previous question change?
- (a) Yes, they will not be liable under section 149 of IPC.
 - (b) No, they will not be liable under section 149 of IPC.
 - (c) Yes, they will be liable under section 149 of IPC.
 - (d) No, they will be liable under section 149 of IPC.

Passage (Q.79-Q.84): False imprisonment may be defined as an act of the defendant which causes the unlawful confinement of the plaintiff. To constitute false imprisonment certain factors such as probable cause for imprisonment, knowledge of the plaintiff for imprisonment, intention of the defendant while causing imprisonment and period of confinement matters. There is no requirement that the plaintiff claiming another person for false imprisonment was aware of his restraint on his freedom at the time of his confinement. A private individual, a police officer or any public authority can falsely imprison a person as well.

For imprisonment it is not necessary that the person should be put behind bars, but he should be confined in such an area from where there are no possible ways of escape except the will of the person who is confining the person within that area. It is not the degree of the imprisonment that matters but it is the absence of lawful authority to justify unlawful confinement which is of relevance. False arrest is the arrest of the individual by the police officer or private person without lawful authority. Although we call it false arrest, it is a part of false imprisonment only. False arrest and false imprisonment are virtually indistinguishable except in their terminology and have been held by the courts as a single tort. However short the period of unlawful detention an action for false imprisonment will always lie, provided that the other requirements of the torts are satisfied. Confinement for a very short period, say fifteen minutes is sufficient to create liability of false imprisonment. The period of confinement is generally of no relevance except in the estimation of damages.

(Source: https://www.legalserviceindia.com/articles/fal_torts.htm)

79. Samay was a police officer, he was honest and also worked regularly. One time, he had to go on a night patrol, he was very sleepy and also needed to go check in an office where he got some complaint about something. He went in to check and found someone drunk there who was causing disturbance. The person came to police station with Samay. Now, he was persuaded by the police to just stay there until he sobered up, but he did not know that Samay was not going to let him go even if he tried to leave. Can this be false imprisonment?
- (a) No, because he was not aware that he was being falsely imprisoned.
 - (b) No, because there was no force used here, as he was only kept there at his will.
 - (c) Yes, because he was not allowed to leave and that counts as false imprisonment.
 - (d) No, because he was not confined unlawfully or falsely by Samay.
80. Arjun really liked Kera. Kera was not really fond of Arjun as such, however, since it was valentine's day, she decides to go out on a date with him so she could tell him that she was not interested in him. But, when she told Arjun this, he took out a rope and tied her hands to the table and told her she could not leave. They were in an open roof café. Later on, in three minutes he let her go, with a warning. Can this be considered a false imprisonment?
- (a) No, because the time was too short for it to be an imprisonment.
 - (b) No, because there was no total restraint on escaping, she was in an open roof café.
 - (c) Yes, because he had tied her hands and she could not leave.
 - (d) Yes, because the time does not matter, she could only leave when he would let her.
81. Sanskar was a police officer; he also was a part time private detective. He needed extra income so he had taken up the job for the same. One Pawan hired him to work for him; he needed to know certain details about his daughter and her whereabouts. Sanskar once found the daughter in a bar consuming some contraband, he was told to stop her from doing that, and so he held her hand and prevented her from leaving. Later on, he called the father, Pawan, and let her go with him. Can this be called false imprisonment?
- (a) No, because there was no total restraint, she could have left.
 - (b) No, because there was no total restraint, she could have removed her hands from his and left.
 - (c) Yes, because the time does not matter here, she was not allowed to leave.
 - (d) No, he was a detective, and so he had authority here.
82. Suppose in the previous question, instead of acting in his capacity of a private detective, he was acting in the authority of a police officer, and he had found about a drug cartel that was being operated in the city by some rich kids, then he crashed at the party and found one girl smoking marijuana, then he just put the handcuff on her and stopped her from escaping. Can this be called false imprisonment?
- (a) No, because there was no false imprisonment; she was doing an illegal thing.
 - (b) No, because since he was a police officer, he had authority, and so, no liability arises here.
 - (c) Yes, because he wrongly prevented her from leaving the room.
 - (d) Yes, because she could not have left without his permission.

83. Pence was a big traveller, and he travelled around the world all the time. Once, he was in a remote village in a faraway country. He needed to cross a river that was on his way towards his destination. Now, he had to take a ferry or a personal reserved boat, and he found the boat more suitable. He took the boat to the other side and then talked about the cost of the same; the boat owner said 5 cents, but Pence refused, saying that it was too much, and so the boat owner did not let him leave until he paid. Can Pence claim false imprisonment here?
- (a) No, because he was in the wrong here, and the boat owner had a reason to stop him from leaving.
 - (b) No, because we do not know for how long he was held back, and so he cannot claim false imprisonment.
 - (c) Yes, because he was held back and was not allowed to leave.
 - (d) Yes, because he was at the mercy of the boat owner on when he could leave or not.
84. Kalia was a very petty thief, but he was also notorious for murdering a woman a few years back. Since the police did not have any concrete evidence against him, they had to let him go, but he continued with his crimes. One such time, he was walking in a place full of small children, and someone intimated to the police that he might kidnap someone because he was a notorious criminal. The police came and prevented him from leaving. Can Kalia claim that he was falsely imprisoned?
- (a) No, because he was a notorious criminal anyways, the police had a reason to prevent him from leaving.
 - (b) No, because he was going to commit a crime, and so he could not claim any such thing.
 - (c) Yes, he can because the police did not have any evidence regarding his committing the said crime.
 - (d) Yes, because he might not have kidnapped anyone and so was falsely imprisoned.

SECTION D: LOGICAL REASONING

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

Passage (Q.85–Q.90): Space used to be the final frontier but its increasing exploration has changed that, replacing a romantic notion with narratives with financial, socio-economic, and geopolitical implications. Space technologies and space flight are expensive, risky endeavours that only national agencies were suited to engage in for decades. This is no longer true as private sector players are increasingly expected to complement, augment, and/or lead the way by identifying market opportunities and innovating rapidly. India started on this path in 2020 with state-led reforms that opened its space sector to private companies, then releasing the ‘Geospatial Guidelines’ and later the ‘Indian Space Policy’, creating the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe), and passing the Telecommunications Act 2023 that, among other departures from the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, provided for satellite broadband services. On February 21, the government opened the door to 100% foreign direct investments (FDI) in the “manufacturing of components and systems/sub-systems for satellites, ground segment and user segment” — up to 74% in satellite-manufacturing, operations, and data products; and up to 49% in launch vehicles, space ports, and their corresponding systems. As such, by stepping out of the way and allowing substantial FDI via the automatic route, the government has taken the logical next step in spurring the contributions of private space flight operators, technology-developers, and application designers to the national space economy, in line with ambitions outlined in the Space Policy.

The decision gives India the ability to take advantage of its less vitiated foreign ties to catch up with China’s more advanced position as a space power. While the Chinese programme benefits from not-inconsiderable private sector participation, its ability to attract foreign investments is hamstrung by its belligerent foreign policies and the Xi Jinping administration’s plan to modernise the military by, among other things, adapting civilian technologies for military use, though other countries, including the U.S., have similar policies. According to IN-SPACe chairman Pawan K. Goenka, a “significant” slice of the \$37.1 billion that the space sector raised worldwide in 2021-23 went to space start-ups. Against this extended backdrop, new investments can add to India’s space economy by improving start-ups’ access to talent and capital; effecting a better balance between upstream and downstream opportunities, versus the current skew in favour of the former; boosting local manufacturing; and improving investor confidence. Finally, to sustain these winds of change, the government must keep the regulatory environment clear, reduce red tape, increase public support, and ease Indian companies’ ability to access foreign markets.

85. Which of the following is the primary argument of the author?
- (a) Steps taken by India are supposed to benefit its long-term vision to become a space super power, as these steps are expected to bring inflows into India’s economy.
 - (b) To effectively compete with China, India has taken major steps to realize its long-term vision of becoming a space super power.
 - (c) With major changes around India’s space economy, it can be expected that India is on the path to become a space super power.
 - (d) Although the steps taken by India are going to benefit its space program and economy, the government must ensure that the regulatory environment remains conducive.
86. Given the recent opening of India's space sector to 100% foreign direct investments in certain areas, what criterion would be most important in assessing the effectiveness of this policy in boosting the national space economy?
- (a) The number of foreign companies entering the Indian space sector annually.
 - (b) The annual percentage increase in India's overall space sector investments.
 - (c) The amount of technological innovation contributed by foreign investments.
 - (d) The growth in the number of high-skilled jobs created in the space sector.

87. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument that India's regulatory changes will attract significant foreign direct investment into its space sector?
- (a) India has a growing number of engineering graduates specializing in aerospace every year.
 - (b) Several leading global space firms have expressed interest in investing in India's space sector.
 - (c) India's government has committed to doubling its own investment in space research by 2025.
 - (d) International treaties facilitate the transfer of space technology to India without restrictions.
88. What information would most seriously undermine the optimism regarding the impact of foreign direct investments on India's space economy?
- (a) A slight increase in bureaucratic hurdles for foreign investors.
 - (b) Evidence of a global downturn in space sector investments.
 - (c) Reports of significant advancements in competing countries' space programs.
 - (d) A recent policy shift in major economies towards protectionist trade measures.
89. Which of the following best describes the expected causal relationship between India's introduction of the Telecommunications Act 2023 and the growth of satellite broadband services in the country?
- (a) The Act will directly increase consumer demand for satellite broadband services.
 - (b) The Act provides a regulatory framework that encourages investment in satellite broadband.
 - (c) The Act mandates the use of satellite broadband services in remote areas.
 - (d) The Act solely focuses on improving the quality of existing broadband services.
90. Despite the aggressive push towards attracting foreign investments in India's space sector, what could be a potential reason for a lack of immediate investment influx, considering the geopolitical and economic factors mentioned?
- (a) Global investors are unaware of the policy changes in India's space sector.
 - (b) Existing regulatory processes in India are perceived as overly complex and time-consuming.
 - (c) Foreign investors are fully satisfied with their current investments in other countries' space sectors.
 - (d) The global space market is currently oversaturated with investment opportunities.

Passage (Q.91 – Q.96): It is good news for India that the latest National Family Health Survey showed a total fertility rate of 2.01. The population has reached replacement level, or stability; further decrease in the TFR would mean a decline in the population. So, even though excessive population growth had long been a cause for grave concern for Indian governments, it seems that years of effort to control it is beginning to pay off. This is a welcome change. That is why it was rather intriguing that the Union finance minister should announce plans at the interim budget for a 'high-powered' committee that would be mandated to address 'comprehensively' the challenges arising from 'fast population growth' and 'demographic change'. The issue was flagged under 'societal changes', suggesting an intention on the part of the government to alter society by controlling the population. This notion becomes unavoidable in the political context created by the Narendra Modi-led government. Apart from various Bharatiya Janata Party politicians' expressed desire to control the population, often pointing indisputably to the country's largest minority community for its growth, the citizenship laws the government promulgated are alone enough to underline the intended thrust of societal change. Population control, once again with the same community as target, is the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's favourite programme too.

Yet successive reports show that the decline in TFR of the minority community in question has been dramatic and sharp. Research also indicates that the TFR varies from region to region, but is the same across religions and economic and educational standards within a particular place. If Bihar has a TFR of around 3.0 while in numerous states it has dropped below 2.0, it is a stretch to place the onus on a particular community. It is far more important for the government to concentrate on education and women's empowerment, especially for disadvantaged segments, with sensitiveness and an inclusive attitude, if it wishes for population stability.

Widespread information and accessibility of birth control methods, better education, urbanisation, small families and economic necessity have led to the gradual drop in TFR over decades. What contributes to it is the rising cost of education combined with an aspirational society and more working women. Societal change will come from these; population control is important, but not central. Unless there is a hidden message in the programme.

91. Which of the following paradoxes is mentioned in the passage?
- (a) The plan to constitute a high-powered committee to address the population challenge despite declining TFR.
 - (b) TFR not reaching adequate numbers for the minority despite declining TFR for the country as a whole.
 - (c) Varying TFR across the country despite the same TFR across religions and economic and educational standards.
 - (d) No effort by the government to control the population despite increasing TFR across the country.
92. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument that the government's focus on a 'high-powered' committee for population control may not align with the actual demographic trends and needs of India?
- (a) The government has historically prioritized population control over educational initiatives.
 - (b) Recent studies show that the Total Fertility Rate (TFR) is declining across all communities in India.
 - (c) Economic improvements have been shown to naturally lead to lower fertility rates.
 - (d) The majority of the population supports the government's initiative for a 'high-powered' committee.
93. Which of the following is the author likely to agree with?
- I. Proposed high-powered committee would effectively address the challenge of population explosion.
 - II. One particular community is responsible for the explosive population growth in India.
 - III. For population stability, the government should focus on education and women's empowerment
- (a) Only I and II
 - (b) Only III
 - (c) Only I and III
 - (d) Only II and III
94. On what basis should the effectiveness of focusing on education and women's empowerment over direct population control measures be evaluated, according to the passage?
- (a) The rate at which the Total Fertility Rate (TFR) declines in urban versus rural areas.
 - (b) The increase in women's participation in the workforce and higher education levels.
 - (c) Changes in the population's age distribution and dependency ratios over time.
 - (d) The degree of accessibility and use of birth control methods across different communities.
95. What can be inferred about the author's view on the impact of urbanization and economic factors on Total Fertility Rate (TFR)?
- (a) Urbanization inherently leads to a reduction in TFR due to increased living costs.
 - (b) Economic prosperity is the sole determinant of TFR reduction in urban areas.
 - (c) The aspirational society and the rising cost of education contribute to TFR decline.
 - (d) TFR is unaffected by urbanization and economic factors in developing countries.
96. Which piece of evidence from the passage most directly supports the argument that attempts to bring demographic changes in India should not be focused on a single community?
- (a) Reports suggesting that decline in TFR of the community in the question, is dramatic and sharp.
 - (b) The government's introduction of citizenship laws intended to manage societal change.
 - (c) The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) for the minority community has seen a dramatic increase.
 - (d) Some states have a TFR below 2.0, indicating a general trend towards population stability.

Passage (Q.97 – Q.102): A little over three-quarters of the total number of prisoners in December, 2022 had not faced trial, many of them for years. A solution seems to have arrived with the Supreme Court's acceptance of the Centre's standard operating procedure for the release of economically backward under-trial prisoners and convicts past their release date. According to this, the government will reimburse the bail amount up to Rs 40,000 for under-trial prisoners and the fine for convicts up to Rs 25,000 once their economic status is assessed by the committee to be empowered for this task in each district.

For higher amounts, the committee will exercise its discretion. Since offences under certain laws as those against corruption, money-laundering, drug-related crimes, sexual abuse of children or under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) will not receive this relief, the amounts appear to be reasonable. What seems implied, however, is that anyone detained for or charged with these offences can be imprisoned without trial for an indeterminate period, since the Indian penal system is not known for following schedules in allowing applications for bail or submitting charge-sheets.

The Centre's proposal, if executed systematically and without delay, would be a remarkable help in thinning out the population in the country's overcrowded prisons, besides bringing the justice of free movement to thousands of under-trial prisoners. The Supreme Court has repeatedly emphasized the fundamental right to personal liberty, pointing out that bail should be the rule and jail the exception. Ironically enough, the SOP would be for those who have been granted bail but are unable to pay it. It might be asked why courts should impose bonds that the arrested person would obviously be unable to pay, but more important is another issue. The majority of under-trial prisoners are disadvantaged, coming from scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, other backward classes and minority communities. Either deprivation pushes them into crime — that cannot account for the numbers — or, shamefully for the social machines in control, most of them are victims of prejudice or frame-ups. It is for this huge population that the Centre's solution will bring just relief.

97. Consider the following statement from the passage
“The center has excluded offences under certain laws as those against corruption, money-laundering, drug-related crimes, sexual abuse of children or under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) from receiving the relief under standard operating procedure for the release of economically backward under-trial prisoners and convicts past their release date.”
Which of the following is an underlying assumption?
- (a) The crimes excluded from relief are committed by people that don't make majority of the prison population
 - (b) The crimes excluded from relief are not eligible for bail as they are crimes of high magnitude.
 - (c) The crimes excluded from relief are committed by persons not economically disadvantaged.
 - (d) The crimes excluded from relief are committed by persons who are economically disadvantaged.
98. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument that the Supreme Court's acceptance of the Centre's SOP will effectively reduce the overcrowded prison population?
- (a) A significant percentage of under-trial prisoners are detained for non-violent offenses.
 - (b) The majority of under-trial prisoners have been incarcerated for more than one year.
 - (c) Previous initiatives to reduce bail amounts did not significantly decrease prison overcrowding.
 - (d) Economic assessments are efficiently conducted, ensuring swift release of eligible prisoners.
99. Which evidence would most seriously weaken the claim that the exclusion of certain crimes from the bail reimbursement scheme is reasonable?
- (a) Most under-trial prisoners for excluded crimes come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds.
 - (b) The crime rate for offenses excluded from the scheme has been steadily decreasing.
 - (c) A small percentage of prisoners for excluded crimes are eventually found innocent.
 - (d) Other countries have successfully included similar crimes in their bail reimbursement schemes.
100. What information is most critical for evaluating the effectiveness of the Centre's SOP in ensuring the release of economically backward under-trial prisoners?
- (a) The number of under-trial prisoners released since the SOP was implemented.
 - (b) The average duration under-trial prisoners spend in jail before release under the SOP.
 - (c) The total budget allocated by the government for the SOP implementation.
 - (d) Comparison of the current prison population to that before the SOP's implementation.

101. Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the relationship between economic status and the likelihood of remaining incarcerated without trial?
- Economic status does not significantly influence the duration of pre-trial incarceration.
 - Wealthier individuals are more likely to be granted bail than economically backward individuals.
 - The justice system is designed to favor individuals of higher economic status.
 - Individuals of lower economic status are disproportionately affected by pre-trial detention.
102. Which situation would most closely parallel the Supreme Court's rationale for prioritizing personal liberty and making bail the rule rather than the exception, in a completely different context (e.g., education or healthcare)?
- A policy that ensures all students have the right to attend their neighborhood school.
 - A healthcare system where emergency services are provided unconditionally to all individuals.
 - A university implementing a needs-blind admission policy to ensure equal opportunity for all.
 - Governments providing free internet access to ensure everyone can access online education resources.

Passage (Q.103 – Q.108): The recommendation of the Central Board of Trustees of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) for a 0.1-percentage-point increase in provident fund (PF) deposits for 2023-24 should not be surprising, as it is in tune with what the EPFO did last year. However, the recommended rate of 8.25% is 0.4-percentage points lower than in 2018-19, a pre-election year like 2023-24. If cleared by the Union Finance Ministry, it will involve the transfer of a record ₹1,07,000 crore to EPF members. But the development has not pleased those with a long-standing demand for an increase in the minimum pension of ₹1,000. When in the opposition, the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party had demanded that the pension be raised to ₹3,000 (the UPA government had proposed ₹1,000 a month). On coming to power in 2014, the BJP carried out faithfully, with effect from September 2014, what was finalised by its predecessor, benefitting approximately 20.5 lakh pensioners. Months ago, the Finance Ministry had rejected a proposal to double the minimum pension amount, citing a "huge rise" in the budgetary support needed under the Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995. There is one more component in the budgetary support which refers to the Central government's contribution at 1.16% of wages up to an amount of ₹15,000 a month. For FY2024-25, the Ministry has projected ₹10,950 crore as budgetary support against the revised estimate of ₹ 9,760 crore for the current year. The Finance Ministry calculates that a 100% rise in the minimum pension would be more than the proportionate increase in the overall budgetary support as numerous pensioners had received much less than ₹1,000 as monthly pension till 2014.

Describing the EPS as a "Defined Contribution-Defined Benefit" social security scheme, the government said in the Rajya Sabha that all benefits were paid out of accumulations through contributions, and as per the fund's valuation as on March 31, 2019, there was "an actuarial deficit." However, this argument has been virtually demolished in the EPFO's annual report (2022-23). Notwithstanding its reasons not to hike the minimum pension, the government must note that the difference between the minimum and original pension was about ₹970 crore for 2022-23. So, the doubling of minimum pension is no strain. There are other key issues too such as equating the amount of spouse pension on a par with what a member-pensioner gets. In the case of higher PF pension, the rules have been framed after the 2022 Supreme Court judgment wherein most of the pre-2014 retirees would not be covered; there are around four lakh such applications for higher pension. A more expansive approach to PF pension matters will help senior citizens.

103. What can be inferred about the potential financial impact on the government's budget of raising the minimum pension to ₹3,000, based on the Finance Ministry's projections and the actuarial deficit mentioned?
- The increase would significantly strain the government's budget due to high costs.
 - Minimal impact on the budget, as the actuarial deficit has been overstated.
 - A manageable increase in budgetary support, given prudent financial planning and adjustments.
 - The need for a substantial reallocation of funds within the budget to accommodate the increase.

104. Which piece of evidence would most strengthen the argument that the increase in provident fund deposits for 2023-24, although lower than in 2018-19, aligns with the EPFO's historical approach to interest rate adjustments?
- (a) Historical data showing a steady increase in PF rates over the last decade.
 - (b) A statement from the EPFO citing economic conditions as a factor in rate determination.
 - (c) Evidence of similar 0.1-percentage-point increases in years preceding election periods.
 - (d) Comparison of EPFO's rate adjustments with those of similar organizations in other countries.
105. What information could most effectively weaken the government's position on not increasing the minimum pension due to the purported "huge rise" in budgetary support needed under the Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995?
- (a) The EPS has historically managed large surpluses without requiring increased government support.
 - (b) Other countries have successfully increased minimum pensions without significant budgetary impacts.
 - (c) A recent audit showing administrative inefficiencies leading to unnecessary expenditures in the EPS.
 - (d) Data indicating that the increase in minimum pension would only marginally affect the EPS budget.
106. Which evaluation would best determine the impact of the recommended rate of 8.25% on EPF members, considering the context of previous years and the financial implications for the government?
- (a) Analyzing the trend of EPF rates over the past decade and comparing it with inflation rates.
 - (b) Assessing the government's fiscal health and its ability to sustain increased EPF contributions.
 - (c) Surveying EPF members on their satisfaction with the current and past interest rates.
 - (d) Calculating the compound interest on average EPF contributions at 8.25% over 30 years.
107. How can the apparent contradiction between the EPFO's annual report stating there is no actuarial deficit to prevent a minimum pension hike and the government's insistence on a significant budgetary challenge be resolved?
- (a) By reevaluating the actuarial assumptions used in the EPFO's annual report.
 - (b) Conducting an independent audit of both the EPFO's finances and government's budgetary projections.
 - (c) Increasing the government's contribution to the EPS without raising the minimum pension.
 - (d) Implementing cost-saving measures within the EPS to offset the increase in the minimum pension.
108. Given the trends in provident fund interest rates and government pension policies, what might be a likely future development for EPF members' benefits or pension schemes?
- (a) A gradual decrease in provident fund interest rates due to economic pressures.
 - (b) Introduction of a flexible pension scheme allowing for personalized retirement planning.
 - (c) Implementation of a tiered pension system based on members' contribution history.
 - (d) An eventual increase in the minimum pension due to public and political pressure.

SECTION - E: QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

Directions (Q.109-Q.120): Study the following information carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Directions (Q.109-Q.114) In an Art Institution, 4 types of instruments is being taught- Guitar, Tabla, Flute and Piano. There are 88 Guitars in the institute and the ratio of Electric to Normal guitar is 3:5. There are 42 sets of Tabla in the institute and the ratio of Delhi to Banaras Tabla is 4:3. The number of Flutes available in the institute is 72 and the ratio of Bass to Contrabass Flutes is 7:5. There are 32 Pianos in the institute and the ratio of Console to Digital Pianos is 1:3.

109. What is the sum of the number of Delhi Tabla and Electric Guitars available in the institute?
(a) 52 (b) 48 (c) 55 (d) 57
110. Approximately what percent of the total Tabla in the institute are Delhi Tabla?
(a) 57% (b) 66% (c) 56% (d) 59%
111. What is the ratio between the number of Console Pianos and the number of Contrabass Flutes?
(a) 8:13 (b) 4:17 (c) 4:15 (d) 7:15
112. If the fees of the Flute classes for Bass Flute is Rs.1200 per month and that of the Contrabass Flute is Rs.1500 per month and it is known that all flutes are engaged, then find the total amount of fees collected by the institute from the students who joined the flute classes.
(a) Rs.95040 (b) Rs.95400 (c) Rs.90450 (d) Rs.94500
113. The number of guitars in the institute is how much percent more than the number of flutes in The institute?
(a) 22.22% (b) 12.5% (c) 18% (d) 15%
114. If in the next session, the institute buys 8 more Pianos, but the ratio of Console to Digital Pianos remains the same, then find the difference between the two types of pianos in the Next session.
(a) 30 (b) 10 (c) 20 (d) 25

Directions (Q.115-Q.120) There are 800 seats available in a train A and the ratio between Sleeper and AC seats is 5:3. For each class, there is a quota for senior citizens. The number of seats available for adults in train A is 30% less than the number of sleeper seats in the train. There are 900 seats available in train B, out of them only 400 seats are reserved for adults. The number of sleeper coach seats in Train B is 150 more than seats reserved for senior citizens in the train. The ratio of adults to senior citizen seats in train C is 7:3. A total of 1000 AC coach seats are available in all the trains together. The total number of seats in train C is 850. Consider only two types of people traveling on all these trains: adults and senior citizens.

115. What is the percentage of sleeper coach seats in Train B?
(a) 81.78% (b) 76.48% (c) 72.22% (d) 73.13%
116. What is the difference between the number of AC coach seats of Train C and Train A?
(a) 150 (b) 200 (c) 105 (d) 225
117. What is the ratio between the number of seats reserved for senior citizens in Train B and the number of seats reserved for senior citizens in Train A?
(a) 9:10 (b) 10:9 (c) 9:16 (d) 10:11
118. What percentage of seats are reserved for adults in train A?
(a) 43.33% (b) 43.25% (c) 43.5% (d) 43.75%

119. If in Train A, 225 seats are reserved for senior citizens in the sleeper coach, then find the percentage of seats in the sleeper coach reserved for adults.
- (a) 55% (b) 65% (c) 70% (d) 54%
120. What fraction of the total seats available in all the trains together are reserved for AC coach seats.
- (a) $\frac{21}{50}$ (b) $\frac{20}{51}$ (c) $\frac{23}{50}$ (d) $\frac{17}{51}$

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