

LAW PREP
— Tutorial —

CLAT Rehearsal BASIC

Law Prep Mock Test Series

ENROLLMENT NO.

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Test Code : LPMTS-018-10010

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Duration of Test : 2 Hours (120 Minutes)

Maximum Marks : 120

1. This Question Booklet (QB) contains 120 (One hundred and twenty) Multiple Choice Questions.
2. You shall enter your Enrollment No. on the first page of the QB at the start of the test.
3. You have to answer ALL questions in the separate Optical Mark Reader (OMR) Response Sheet supplied along with this QB. You must READ the detailed instructions provided with the OMR Response Sheet on the reverse side of this packet BEFORE you start the test.
4. No clarification can be sought on the QB from anyone. In case of any discrepancy such as printing error or missing pages, in the QB, request the Invigilator to replace the QB and OMR Response Sheet.
5. The QB for the Undergraduate Programme is for 120 marks. Every Right Answer secures 1 mark. Every Wrong Answer results in the deduction of 0.25 mark. There shall be no deductions for Unanswered Questions.
6. The use of any unfair means shall result in your disqualification. Possession of Electronic Devices such as mobile phones, headphones, digital watches etc., is/are strictly prohibited in the test premises. Impersonation or any other unlawful practice will lead to your disqualification and possibly, appropriate action under the law.

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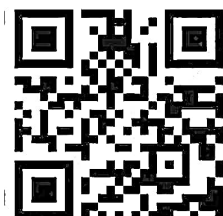


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English Language

Each set of questions in this section is based on a single passage. Please answer each question on the basis of what is stated or implied in the corresponding passage. In some instances, more than one option may be the answer to the question; in such a case, please choose the option that most accurately and comprehensively answers the question.

I. Non-Fiction

How convenient it would be if a GPS system could help us find the mind. But GPS is connected to the physical realm, whereas the mind exists in the non-physical realm – or does it? Some say that the mind is an extension of the brain, so it could be both within and without us.

Father Gregory of Nyssa, a Trinitarian theologian, pondering on the mind-body relationship, said the mind is fully integrated into our animal nature but not enclosed within the body's parameters. Joshua Moritz, in the Templeton Foundation's 'Possibilities', says because Gregory of Nyssa "originated the concept that mind is extended beyond the brain and into the surrounding environment of information, some have proposed Gregory as the patron saint of extended mind."

Socrates, writes Moritz, believed that the mind or psyche was beyond and yet within one's body. But the mind belongs to "the ideal world of forms that do not change and never die...while the essential mind is unchanging; its time spent in the body leaves some residual corporeality that clings to it."

For Apostle Paul who came 400 years after Socrates, the mind is both diffused outside the body and contained within, but it is the future glorified and resurrected body that is unchanging and immortal. Seeing the mind as a quality that is extended throughout cultures and belief systems, Paul encouraged his Roman and Corinthian readers to cultivate "the mind of Christ", and to "renew their minds" according to the mind of God and not in conformity to the mind and patterns of the surrounding Roman culture.

Cognitive philosopher Andy Clark asks, if someone consistently relies on a notebook or smartphone for an address or number, that same notebook or phone is part of that person's cognitive process of remembering, and consequently, part of that person's mind.

According to Clark and others, external technological and community based supports for cognition act as scaffolding. Just as a construction crew uses scaffolding to support a building they are working on, we use technology and the people around us to support or extend mental processes such as memory and thought, writes Moritz.

Would we be in danger of "losing" our mind if we rely too much on external resources like family, friends, devices and other aids? Can you remember telephone numbers without your cell phone? Can you do complicated calculations without a calculator? Or find your way without your GPS navigator? These tools are all part of your extended mind. Does this mean

the mind that is yours is within you, and the tools you use to extend this mind are outside of you? Can one conclude that the mind is both within and without, as one wills?

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/toi-edit-page/to-link-or-delink-neural-connections/>

1. What concept did Father Gregory of Nyssa contribute to the understanding of the mind according to the passage?
 - (a) The mind is primarily within the brain's physical confines.
 - (b) The mind exists apart from physical/biological constraints.
 - (c) The mind extends into the environment beyond the brain.
 - (d) The mind and body are distinct, non-interacting entities.

2. Which of the following statements does the author most likely agree with?
 - (a) Tech aids and social interactions don't impact cognitive processes.
 - (b) The mind solely results from brain activity, ignoring external influences.
 - (c) External tools and interactions are key to individual cognitive processes.
 - (d) The mind remains static, unaffected by experiences or external aids.

3. Which of the following is not true in context of the passage?
 - (a) Apostle Paul saw the mind as extending within and beyond the body.
 - (b) Socrates linked the mind to an unchanging realm of forms.
 - (c) Andy Clark denies technology's impact on cognitive processes.
 - (d) Excessive reliance on aids may threaten cognitive independence.

4. In the passage, what does "scaffolding" imply in relation to cognitive processes?
 - (a) A temporary structure that limits cognitive development.
 - (b) An inherent part of the brain's physical structure.
 - (c) A barrier to genuine understanding and learning.
 - (d) Supportive tools and interactions that enhance cognitive functions.

5. What is the tone of the passage?

(a) Sceptical	(b) Optimistic
(c) Neutral	(d) Critical

6. According to the passage, what is a possible consequence of relying heavily on external cognitive aids?
 - (a) Enhanced memory and cognitive capabilities without any drawbacks.
 - (b) A potential risk of diminishing our innate cognitive abilities.
 - (c) Immediate improvement in social interactions and community bonding.
 - (d) Complete independence from technology and external aids in the future.

II. Tourism

As dawn broke over Luang Prabang, saffron-robed monks trod the streets receiving alms -- but a cacophonous influx of camera-clutching tourists shattered the peace of the ancient Laotian town. The UNESCO World Heritage site welcomed visitors, with state media reporting the province hopes to attract more by the end of 2024. Tourists inject much-needed money into Laos' shaky economy but present locals with a dilemma, as foreign tour groups dominate and change cultural activities in the sleepy provincial city.

The starkest example can be seen every morning along Kounxoau Road, where monks pad barefoot to collect donations of food. What was once a simple act of communion and support between Buddhist locals and the monks has long been a draw for tourists. Now the monks have to make their way through hundreds of visitors on plastic stools offering alms as tour guides thrust mobile phones into their faces.

For decades, Luang Prabang has seen large numbers of tourists come from all over the world to witness the morning alms-giving, but locals say the ceremony now resembles a photo shoot. "They are taking more photos rather than buying anything," complained one vendor. It is a tricky balancing act, as vendors -- who sell alms baskets containing lumps of sticky rice -- both need and resent the visitors.

"If there are not enough tourists then we make a loss," she said, but admitted the dilemma. "The more tourists have come, the more our way of life is changing. Now this is more chaotic," the vendor said. Speaking to foreign journalists is not without risk in communist Laos, and the vendor, like others who spoke to AFP for this story, did so on condition of anonymity.

Luang Prabang, the country's old royal capital, is changing as foreign investment arrives alongside the tourism spike, oiled by the opening of Laos' new Chinese-funded high-speed railway. Outside the town, the arrival of a train from the Chinese border sees a flurry of activity at the town's hulking new railway station as tour guides sweep up their charges.

The station opened last year and no public buses link it to the town, but white minivans idle six rows deep on the battered paved road, while the station displays -- all in Chinese -- make the target market clear. Tourist Zhang Ying, part of a newly arrived tour group from Chongqing, told AFP she had always wanted to visit.

China financed the high-speed railway, which links the Chinese city of Kunming to the Laotian capital Vientiane -- just one of multiple projects that have put Laos deep in debt to Beijing. While their leaders promised that the train would benefit the country, locals told AFP they see little of the promised income generated by the railway.

Source: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/lifestyle/travel/tourism-boom-in-laos-ancient-town-raises-cultural-concerns-101707295428196.html>

7. What can be inferred about the local residents' view towards the tourists in Luang Prabang?
- (a) Locals universally express unwelcome attitudes towards all tourists visiting.
 - (b) Locals appreciate the economic benefits from tourism but express concerns over cultural preservation.
 - (c) Locals show a preference for tourists from specific countries based on perceived cultural similarities.
 - (d) Locals maintain an indifferent stance towards tourists as long as their local traditions remain unaffected.
8. Which of the following does the author most likely to disagree with?
- (a) Tourist influx's solely positive impact on Luang Prabang is disputed.
 - (b) High-speed railway's unmitigated local benefits are questioned.
 - (c) Alms-giving ceremony's unchanged tradition by tourism challenged.
 - (d) Unconditional necessity of foreign investment for progress doubted.
9. What is the main idea of the passage?
- (a) Luang Prabang's shift from tourism and investment, blending growth with tradition.
 - (b) Negative impacts of the Chinese-funded railway on Luang Prabang's economy.
 - (c) Globalization's role in diminishing traditional values and practices in Luang Prabang.
 - (d) Chinese investment's significant influence on Laos' tourism and economic policies.
10. Which of the following idioms best represents the "Tourists inject much-needed money into Laos' shaky economy but present locals with a dilemma" statement from the passage?
- (a) Biting the hand that feeds you
 - (b) Between a rock and a hard place
 - (c) A drop in the bucket
 - (d) All that glitters is not gold
11. What is the reaction of the local vendors to the tourists according to the passage?
- (a) Local vendors are entirely dependent on tourists for their livelihood.
 - (b) Local vendors are frustrated by tourists favouring photography over purchases.
 - (c) Local vendors believe the presence of tourists does not affect their sales.
 - (d) Local vendors are planning to boycott tourists to preserve their culture.
12. In the phrase "Tourists inject much-needed money into Laos' shaky economy," what part of speech is "inject"?
- (a) Noun
 - (b) Verb
 - (c) Adjective
 - (d) Adverb

III. *International*

Brazilian police's startling allegations that former President Jair Bolsonaro, his allies and some military officers had attempted to stage a coup, after the 2022 presidential election, expose both the structural fault lines and political challenges the young South American democracy faces. The police adds that they were involved in spreading propaganda on voter fraud, pushing for new elections, recruiting troops to organise a coup, bringing judges under surveillance and encouraging the mob to stage protests defying the results. Well before the elections, Mr. Bolsonaro had raised doubts about the election systems. He had refused to concede defeat to his leftist rival Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, while his far-right supporters continued their protests, which culminated in the January 2023 riots at Brazil's Congress, Supreme Court and Presidential office. A court has ordered Mr. Bolsonaro to surrender his passport, and three of his allies and the head of his party have been arrested. The far-right leader, under whose watch Brazil's economy tanked, social tensions rose, the health-care system crumbled under the weight of COVID-19, and institutions came under attack, says the allegations are politically motivated. But he does not have an easy way out of the mess.

Those who were in power being targeted by the system is nothing new in Brazil. Former leftist President Dilma Rousseff was impeached in 2016 on charges of violating budget rules. Lula, the incumbent President, spent 580 days in jail between his terms, on a corruption conviction, which was later annulled by the Supreme Court. While Ms. Rousseff and Lula were accused of corruption and fell prey to the powerful lobbies in Brazil's Congress and judiciary, the charges against Mr. Bolsonaro, a defender of the brutal dictatorship of 1964-1985, are far more serious. Democracy remains fragile and for the military, memories of the dictatorship are still fresh. Any attempt by politicians or officers to defy the election process and undermine democracy should be dealt with utmost seriousness. But it should be done as per the law, avoiding political vendetta. Lula returned to power on promises that he would strengthen democracy and enable prosperity and growth. His hands are full. He should also make sure that there are impartial investigations and the truth about the riots and the alleged coup plot is uncovered. Earlier, the 'car wash' scandal had exposed deep-rooted corruption in the political system, which led to the weakening of Lula's Workers' Party and the rise of the far-right. He should not allow the coup scandal to further fracture the country's polity and erode the legitimacy of its democratic system.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/a-failed-coup-on-bolsonaro-and-brazils-politics/article67829532.ece>

13. What actions were alleged against former President Jair Bolsonaro and his allies according to the Brazilian police?
- (a) Accusations of embezzlement and misappropriation of public funds throughout Bolsonaro's term.
 - (b) Charges of environmental neglect and contributing to the deforestation of the Amazon.
 - (c) Allegations of plotting a coup, disseminating voter fraud claims, and inciting election result protests.
 - (d) Allegations related to mishandling the COVID-19 crisis, leading to unnecessary fatalities.
14. How does the author suggest that past political events in Brazil might influence the handling of the allegations against Bolsonaro?
- (a) Previous impeachments and convictions should guide Bolsonaro's swift punishment.
 - (b) Political corruption history may hinder Bolsonaro's fair and impartial investigation.
 - (c) The 'car wash' scandal's history could lead to public distrust in Bolsonaro's case outcomes.
 - (d) Military's political past may prompt a military resolution to Bolsonaro's allegations.
15. Which of the following is not true in context of the passage?
- (a) Rousseff's impeachment for budget violations, Lula's jail on corruption before rehabilitation.
 - (b) Bolsonaro describes allegations as political, involving coup attempts and democracy threats.
 - (c) Bolsonaro's term is falsely praised for economic and healthcare improvements during the pandemic.
 - (d) Lula promised to enhance democracy and tackle Brazil's economic and social issues on return.
16. How does the author approach the topic of political turmoil in Brazil?
- (a) Optimistic
 - (b) Narrative
 - (c) Analytical
 - (d) Critical
17. According to the passage, what should President Lula focus on during his term to address the issues raised by the allegations against Bolsonaro?
- (a) Strengthen military defenses to safeguard democratic institutions.
 - (b) Focus on economic recovery, leaving political disputes to judiciary oversight.
 - (c) Implement thorough, impartial investigations for justice and transparency.
 - (d) Foster reconciliation with opposition to heal national divisions effectively.
18. What does the passage imply by stating "Brazil's economy tanked, social tensions rose, the health-care system crumbled under the weight of COVID-19"?
- (a) Bolsonaro's term saw economic, social, and healthcare declines amid COVID-19.
 - (b) Brazil saw growth, harmony, and healthcare success during the pandemic.
 - (c) Bolsonaro's policies were blamed for causing the global pandemic's impact.
 - (d) Brazil's unique pandemic struggle was attributed to Bolsonaro's leadership.

IV. Sci-tech

Many warming records were broken in 2023 along with climate disasters such as wildfires, cyclones, droughts, and floods. In this time, the focus of the public narrative – often with the participation of scientists – has often been on whether we crossed the ‘magical’ warming threshold of 1.5 degrees C. The best estimates, derived from data recorded by instruments, say the planet is just under this threshold.

Before we discuss the answer, let’s remember that 1.5 degrees C is not a scientific threshold. It became enshrined in the Paris Agreement after intense negotiations by member-countries of the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). But it’s not a round number by accident: it comes from a figure – 2 degrees C – European politicians found easier to aim at in the 1990s.

Now a new study has added fuel to the fire of the threshold-crossing controversy. Based on estimates of warming from palaeo-thermometry, scientists from Australia and the U.S. have said that the earth’s surface has already warmed by more than 1.5 degrees C on average over pre-industrial levels. A major caveat of the study is that the scientists have collected warming data from only one location and have extrapolated it to be indicative of the global mean temperature trend.

This said, these so-called ‘palaeo proxies’ constitute an amazing technique that uses chemical evidence stored in various organic matter, such as corals, stalactites, and stalagmites, to approximate the temperature at some point in the past. But just as insightful as this chemical evidence can be, we should remember that it is still only indirect evidence of temperature changes with respect to a baseline temperature. The evidence can’t measure the actual overall temperatures. www.lawpreptutorial.com

Researchers carefully calibrate the various chemical compounds assimilated by some species into their biogenic materials – such as calcium carbonate or chalk – in modernity to establish the relationships between those chemicals and the prevailing local temperature.

When such a biogenic material from the past is found, scientists can piece together when the biogenic material was deposited (using the quantity of certain isotopes that decay at a steady rate over time). They then study the assimilated chemicals to deduce the temperature deviations during that time period. The results are very local temperature anomaly estimates from the past, so they can’t be the basis for any scientifically robust claims about tiny deviations of past temperatures from instrumental records.

Source: https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/global-warming-15-degrees-threshold-warming-pattern-more-important/article67828916.ece?cx_testId=40&cx_testVariant=cx_1&cx_artPos=2&cx_experienceId=EXWYN0X4FG0Z#cxrecs_s

19. What would be a suitable title for the passage?
- (a) Negotiating Global Warming Limits: The Paris Agreement's Role
 - (b) Reviewing 2023: A Year of Climate Extremes
 - (c) Debating the 1.5°C Warming Threshold: A New Perspective
 - (d) Unveiling Palaeo-Thermometry: Decoding Earth's Past Temperatures

20. Based on the passage, which of the following statements is factual?
- (a) The 1.5 degrees C threshold is defined by scientific consensus as a global warming limit.
 - (b) The referenced study utilized worldwide data to assert earth's warming exceeds 1.5 degrees C.
 - (c) Initially, the Paris Agreement targeted a global warming limit of 2 degrees C.
 - (d) Palaeo proxies offer direct measurements of historical global temperatures.
21. What constitutes the evidence used in palaeo-thermometry, as described in the passage?
- (a) Direct temperature measurements from ancient thermometers.
 - (b) Chemical evidence stored in organic matter like corals and stalagmites.
 - (c) Modern temperature records extrapolated to estimate past climates.
 - (d) Fossil records of extinct species sensitive to climate changes.
22. Which opinion would the author most likely agree with?
- (a) The 1.5 degrees C threshold serves as a precise scientific benchmark for global warming.
 - (b) Instrumental records are the only reliable method to measure historical global temperatures.
 - (c) Palaeo-thermometry provides valuable but indirect evidence of past temperature changes.
 - (d) Climate disasters in 2023 have conclusively proven we've crossed the 1.5 degrees C threshold.
23. What does the phrase "added fuel to the fire" imply in the context of the passage?
- (a) Literally contributed to the increase in global wildfires.
 - (b) Introduced a new method of temperature measurement.
 - (c) Intensified the debate over the 1.5 degrees C warming threshold.
 - (d) Proved that the earth has definitively warmed by more than 1.5 degrees C.
24. What conclusion can be drawn from the passage about the use of palaeo-thermometry in global warming studies?
- (a) It is the most accurate method for determining past global temperatures.
 - (b) Its findings are too localized to make broad scientific claims about global temperatures.
 - (c) It has replaced instrumental records as the primary source of temperature data.
 - (d) Researchers have unanimously accepted its results as definitive evidence of global warming.

Current Affairs and General Knowledge

Each set of questions in this section is based on topics that arise out of the excerpted passage. Answers may be implied by facts mentioned in the passage but need not be so. Please answer each question on its own merit on the basis of your knowledge of current affairs and general knowledge.

- V. Former Bihar Chief Minister Karpoori Thakur will be conferred Bharat Ratna posthumously. The announcement from the President's office comes a day before the birth anniversary of the late socialist leader.

Calling Karpoori Thakur a 'beacon of social justice', Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that his "unwavering commitment to uplift the downtrodden and his visionary leadership have left an indelible mark on India's socio-political fabric." Taking to X, PM Modi said, "I am delighted that the Government of India has decided to confer the Bharat Ratna on the beacon of social justice, the great Jan Nayak Karpoori Thakur Ji and that too at a time when we are marking his birth centenary. This prestigious recognition is a testament to his enduring efforts as a champion for the marginalized and a stalwart of equality and empowerment. His unwavering commitment to uplift the downtrodden and his visionary leadership have left an indelible mark on India's socio-political fabric. This award not only honors his remarkable contributions but also inspires us to continue his mission of creating a more just and equitable society." As an education minister, Thakur abolished English as a compulsory subject at the matriculation level, recognising it as a barrier for many students in competitive examinations. He also established numerous schools and colleges, particularly in backward areas, and made education up to Class 8 free, significantly reducing dropout rates.

Karpoori Thakur's legacy extends beyond educational reforms. He initiated major land reforms, leading to the redistribution of land from Zamindars to landless Dalits, earning him the title "Jannayak" or People's Hero. Despite facing significant resistance and abuse from the privileged class, Thakur's policies laid the groundwork for future leaders to continue advocating for social justice

Source: <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/former-bihar-chief-minister-karpoori-thakur-to-be-awarded-bharat-ratna-posthumously-2492709-2024-01-23>

25. In 1977 during the leadership of Karpoori Thakur, which commission recommended reclassifying backward classes into extremely backward classes (including weaker sections of Muslims) and backward classes.
- (a) Jayaprakash Narain (b) Dr Rammanohar Lohia
(c) Ramnandan Mishra (d) Mungeri Lal
26. In the year 2019 Bharat Ratna was given to?
- (a) Pranab Mukherjee (b) NT Rama Rao
(c) D.H. Waghela (d) B.V. Nagarathna

27. Which article of the Constitution prohibits from using any as a prefix or suffix to the recipient's name who has been awarded Bharat Ratna?
(a) Article 17 (b) Article 18
(c) Article 21 (d) Article 22
28. The number of Bharat Ratna Awards is restricted to a maximum of _____ in a particular year?
(a) 1 (b) 2
(c) 3 (d) 4
29. Which non-Indian received Bharat Ratna?
(a) Fred Nigrit (b) Nelson Mandela
(c) Mother Teresa (d) Queen Elizabeth
- VI. Every year on January 26, India celebrates Republic Day, commemorating the adoption of the Constitution in 1950. People across the country are gearing up for a day filled with patriotic fervour, cultural displays, and parades showcasing the diversity and unity of the nation. Watching the Republic Day parade is a part of the holiday tradition. This year's parade starts with a captivating performance by 100 women artists showcasing various Indian instruments. Notably, an all-women Tri-Service contingent will participate, marking a historic first in the history of Republic Day celebrations. Upon gaining independence on 15 August 1947, India did not have an active constitution. A Drafting Committee, with Dr B.R. Ambedkar as the Chairman, was constituted on 29 August 1947. On 4 November 1947, a formal draft of the Constitution was presented to the Constituent Assembly. The Constituent Assembly engaged in multiple sessions, ultimately adopting the Constitution on 24 January 1950. On this significant day, 308 members of the Assembly signed two copies of the text, one in Hindi and the other in English, reaffirming India's status as an independent republic. The Constitution replaced the British Colonial Government of India Act (1935) as the foundational legal document. The Assembly aimed to institute the document on a day synonymous with national pride, choosing January 26.
Source:: <https://www.indiatoday.in/information/story/republic-day-2024-why-it-is-celebrated-on-january-26-2493662-2024-01-26>
30. The tableau of which state won the Republic Day celebrations?
(a) Gujarat (b) Rajasthan
(c) Odisha (d) Jharkhand
31. Which ministry won the best tableau at the Republic Day 2024?
(a) Ministry of Tourism (b) Ministry of Culture
(c) Ministry of Shipping (d) Ministry of Women & Child Development

32. Which foreign military contingent was the first to participate in the Republic Day parade?
(a) USA (b) UK
(c) France (d) Mauritius
33. The 75th Republic Day parade featured a unique installation named as _____ which showed sarees and drapes from all over India?
(a) Silk Route (b) Bharat Ki Pehchan: Textiles
(c) Anant Sutra (d) Jambodweep
34. The Non-Cooperation Movement ended abruptly in February 1922 after which movement?
(a) Anti-Rowlatt Satyagraha (b) Lahore Incident
(c) Chauri-Chaura Incident (d) Pune Incident

VII. A total of 55 stone sculptures were found in the Gyanvapi mosque complex during the survey conducted by the Archaeological Survey of India, including 15 “Shiva linga”, three sculptures of “Vishnu”, three of “Ganesh”, two of “Nandi”, two of “Krishna”, and five of “Hanuman”, the ASI report states.

The ASI, tasked by the Varanasi district court to ascertain whether the mosque was “constructed over a pre-existing structure of a Hindu temple”, has concluded that a temple “appears to have been destroyed in the 17th century, and part of it... modified and reused in the existing structure”. The ASI report — it’s in four volumes — was made public Thursday after copies of it were handed over to Hindu and Muslim litigants by the court.

As per Volume 3, one “Makara” stone sculpture, one “Dwarpala”, one “Apasmara Purusha”, one “Votive shrine”, 14 “fragments”, and seven “miscellaneous” stone sculptures were also found during the ASI survey. A total of 259 “stone objects” were found, including the 55 stone sculptures, 21 household materials, five “inscribed slabs” and 176 “architectural members”. A total of 27 terracotta objects, 23 terracotta figurines (two of gods and goddesses, 18 human figurines and three animal figurines) were also found and studied during the survey, states the report.

A total of 113 metal objects, and 93 coins — including 40 of the East India Company, 21 Victoria Queen coins and three Shah Alam Badshah-II coins — were found and studied during the survey. All objects recovered during the survey were later handed over to the Varanasi district administration, which has stored them. The report states one of the sculptures of Krishna is made of sandstone and belongs to the late medieval period. It was found in the eastern side of cellar S2, and its dimensions are: height 15 cm, width 8 cm, and thickness 5 cm. Its description reads: “The extant part depicts a headless male deity. Both the hands are broken, but the right hand appears to be raised. The left hand appears to go over the body. The right leg is extant above the knee. The left leg is broken at the hip. Based on the posture and iconographic features, it appears to be an image of Lord Krishna. He is depicted wearing necklace, yajnopavita and dhoti.” It is in “good” condition.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/lucknow/55-hindu-deity-sculptures-found-inside-gyanvapi-complex-asi-survey-report-on-mosque-9130822/>

35. Carbon dating is done by which isotope of carbon?
(a) C-21 (b) C-25
(c) C-34 (d) C-14
36. Which structure is being said to be in place which was demolished before the Gyanvapi Mosque was built?
(a) Mata Shringar Gauri (b) Vishweshwar temple
(c) Ram Temple (d) Shiva Temple
37. Gyanvapi mosque was built in which year as per popular belief?
(a) 1676 (b) 1754
(c) 1704 (d) 1669
38. Which Mughal Emperor ordered for destruction of temple at the place of Gyanvapi Mosque?
(a) Emperor Akbar (b) Emperor Aurangzeb
(c) Emperor Jahangir (d) Emperor Humayun
39. Which Section of Places of Worship Act Prevents the conversion of a place of worship, whether in full or part, from one religious denomination to another or within the same denomination?
(a) Section 2 (b) Section 3
(c) Section 4 (d) Section 5

VIII. Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday (January 22) announced the 'Pradhan Mantri Suryodaya Yojana', a government scheme under which a)_____ crore households will get rooftop solar power systems.

This isn't the first scheme for promoting the installation of rooftop solar power systems, though. In 2014, the government launched the Rooftop Solar Programme that aimed to achieve a cumulative installed capacity of 40,000 megawatts (MW) or 40 gigawatts (GW) by 2022 — watt is a unit of power and is calculated as the amount of energy used over time, specifically one Joule per second.

However, this target couldn't be achieved. As a result, the government extended the deadline from 2022 to 2026. The Pradhan Mantri Suryodaya Yojana seems to be a new attempt to help reach the target of 40 GW rooftop solar capacity. Essentially, it is a scheme that will involve installing solar power systems at rooftops for residential consumers. According to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy's website, solar power installed capacity in India has reached

around 73.31 GW as of December 2023. Meanwhile, rooftop solar installed capacity is around 11.08 GW as of December 2023.

In terms of total solar capacity, b)_____ is at the top with 18.7 GW. Gujarat is at the second position with 10.5 GW. When it comes to rooftop solar capacity, Gujarat tops the list with 2.8 GW, followed by Maharashtra by 1.7 GW.

Notably, solar power has a major share in the country's current renewable energy capacity, which stands at around 180 GW.

Source.: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/modi-launches-new-rooftop-solar-scheme-pradhan-mantri-suryodaya-yojana-9122514/>

40. India is committed to achieving how many giga-watts of renewable energy capacity by 2030?
(a) 125 GW (b) 500 GW
(c) 625 GW (d) 765 GW
41. Which scheme did the government launch for promoting rooftop solar power projects in India?
(a) NIDHI (b) KUSUM
(c) SANNIDHI (d) SRISTI
42. International Solar Alliance was conceptualized in which Conference of Parties?
(a) COP 23 (b) COP 15
(c) COP 21 (d) COP 22
43. Which of the following will come in place of a)_____ in the passage?
(a) 1 (b) 2
(c) 3 (d) 4
44. Which of the following will come in place of b)_____ in the passage?
(a) Karnataka (b) Uttar Pradesh
(c) Rajasthan (d) Madhya Pradesh

- IX. New Aadhaar cards now come with a more prominent disclaimer that Aadhaar is a proof of identity, not citizenship or date of birth, The Hindu has reported.
The move, according to the report, is a clear signal to government departments and other organisations to not use it as proof of either.
The report cites how the Election Commission of India “explicitly accepts Aadhaar as a proof of date of birth for enrolling people to vote.” The new disclaimer could push such practices to uncertainty.
Earlier in January, the Employees’ Provident Fund Organisation said it will no longer accept the Aadhaar card as proof of date of birth. This decision was made with the approval of the Central Provident Fund Commissioner.

In 2018, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology had said that Aadhaar is “per se ... not a proof of date of birth.”

In 2023, the a)_____ high court dismissed a petition seeking direction to the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) to disclose information regarding the Aadhaar card of an accused who submitted two cards with the same number but with different birth dates noting that Aadhaar was not proof of date of birth.

Source.: <https://thewire.in/government/aadhaar-uidai-citizenship-date-of-birth>

45. The Supreme Court in which case upheld the constitutional validity of Aadhaar, however it said that Aadhaar be not accepted as proof of citizenship or domicile?
- (a) Kharak Singh v. State of UP
(b) AK Gopalan v. the State of UP
(c) Justice K.S. Puttaswamy v. Union of India
(d) Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India
46. Foreign Nationals are eligible to obtain Aadhaar if they have stayed in India for how much time?
- (a) 1 year (b) 6 months
(c) 2 years (d) 3 years
47. The Indian Constitution defines citizenship in which part?
- (a) Part 1 (b) Part 2
(c) Part 3 (d) Part 4
48. Which of the following will come in place of a)_____ in the passage?
- (a) Rajasthan (b) Allahabad
(c) Delhi (d) Bombay

- X. India and France have agreed to intensify their cooperation in the Southwest Indian Ocean, building on the “joint surveillance missions” carried out from French a)_____ in 2020 and 2022 while the two countries welcomed the progress in bilateral dialogue and identification of specific opportunities for using India “as a base” for the manufacture and export of defence equipment for friendly countries in the region, the joint statement issued at the end of French President Emmanuel Macron’s visit on the bilateral talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi said.

France is the first major Western military power with which India has conducted joint patrols under which Indian Navy P-8I maritime patrol aircraft were deployed to the French island territory of a)_____. “They also welcomed the extension of those interactions in India’s maritime neighborhood. These interactions may contribute positively to the securitisation of strategic sea lanes of communication,” the joint statement said. In Jaipur, in addition to

bilateral engagements including showcasing the rich cultural heritage, arts and crafts of Rajasthan, Prime Minister hosted a dinner for the French President in the Pink City.

Over the course of the past decades, and especially since the declaration of the Strategic Partnership in 1998, India and France have developed a partnership of exceptional trust and confidence, consistency and strength, based on shared democratic values, strong belief in sovereignty and strategic autonomy, a shared commitment to a multipolar world, to rule of law and the principles of the UN Charter. Prime Minister Modi and President Macron reaffirmed their vision that the India-France Strategic Partnership can help build prosperity and resilience in their economies, advance their countries' security, and a more sustainable and healthier future for the planet, seek solutions for global challenges, reinvigorate multilateralism and help build a stable international order and a more cohesive and united world.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/modi-launches-new-rooftop-solar-scheme-pradhan-mantri-suryodaya-yojana-9122514/>

49. India and France conduct which Naval exercise together?
- (a) Exercise GARUDA (b) Exercise VARUNA
(c) Exercise SHAKTI (d) Exercise NOMADIC ELEPHANT
50. The first edition of India, France, and United Arab Emirates (UAE) Maritime Partnership Exercise commenced on 7th June 2023. Where was the exercise conducted?
- (a) North Sea (b) Gulf of Oman
(c) Andaman & Nicobar Islands (d) Mediterranean Sea
51. French jet engine maker CFM International also announced an agreement with India's Akasa Air to buy more than 300 of which of its engines?
- (a) LEAP-1B (b) Aerojet LR1
(c) Aerojet LR3 (d) XA100 ENGINE
52. Which of the following will come in place of a)_____ in the passage?
- (a) Leeward Islands (b) Maupiti
(c) Bora Bora (d) La Reunion

Legal Reasoning

Each set of questions in this section is based on the reasoning and arguments, or facts and principles set out in the preceding passage. Some of these principles may not be true in the real or legal sense, yet you must conclusively assume that they are true for the purposes of this Section. Please answer each question on the basis of what is stated or implied in the corresponding passage. Do not rely on any principle of law other than the ones supplied to you, and do not assume any facts other than those supplied to you when answering the questions. In some instances, more than one option may be the answer to the question; in such a case, please choose the option that most accurately and comprehensively answers the question.

XI. Current Affairs

In a significant judgment, the Supreme Court of India underscored the importance of adhering to status quo orders and the necessity of initiating contempt proceedings when such orders are violated, rather than merely vacating interim orders. The judgment was passed by a Bench comprising Justices Aniruddha Bose and Sanjay Kumar.

The case revolved around a trust that filed a suit against a registered society for the recovery of possession of certain premises. The Trial Court ruled in favour of the trust, leading to the initiation of execution proceedings. The society, in response, appealed to the Calcutta High Court, which resulted in a Single Judge Bench issuing a stay on the execution proceedings. Crucially, the High Court ordered the society to maintain the status quo regarding possession of the premises and prohibited the creation of any third-party interests.

Despite this clear directive, the society violated the order by renting out the premises, which led to contempt proceedings. The Court noted that the society had willfully breached the stay order by granting short-term licenses to third parties. Surprisingly, instead of pursuing contempt proceedings, the High Court chose to vacate the stay on the execution proceedings. Challenging this approach, the contemnor appealed to the Supreme Court, arguing against the High Court's decision to vacate the stay order while exercising contempt jurisdiction. The Supreme Court, in its deliberation, underscored the broader legal principle that courts have the authority not only to punish for disobedience but also to prevent contemnors from benefiting from their non-compliance. Referring to the precedent set in *Baranagore Jute Factory PLC. Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) vs. Baranagore Jute Factory PLC.*, the Court noted that it must issue directions to remedy or rectify actions taken in violation of its orders, including restitutive measures at any stage of the proceedings.

The Supreme Court observed that merely vacating the stay order did not constitute a restitutive or remedial action. It pointed out that the violation of the status quo was complete and that lifting the stay did not revert the parties to their original positions nor did it negate the benefits already accrued from the disobedience.

In its ruling, the Supreme Court held that violating a status quo order constituted 'civil contempt' under the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971. The Court found that the High Court had exceeded its contempt jurisdiction by vacating the stay order instead of addressing the

55. A shopping complex, PlazaMart, was under construction when a court order mandated a halt to all construction activities due to safety concerns, effectively requiring PlazaMart to maintain the status quo. Despite this order, PlazaMart not only continued construction but also began pre-booking shops within the complex. A local residents' association, concerned about the safety implications, filed for contempt proceedings against PlazaMart. In defense, PlazaMart argued that the pre-bookings were done to secure financial stability and did not impact safety. Which of the following statements can be correctly inferred? www.lawpreptutorial.com
- (a) Since PlazaMart only pre-booked shops and did not physically continue construction, they are not in contempt of the court order.
 - (b) PlazaMart is in contempt of the court order as pre-booking shops constitutes a violation of the status quo.
 - (c) The financial stability of PlazaMart is a valid defense against the contempt proceedings.
 - (d) The court order is irrelevant as long as PlazaMart adheres to safety standards.
56. During a legal dispute over a trademark, the court issued an order to both disputing companies, TechGen and InnovateNow, to cease all advertising that used the contested trademark until a verdict was reached. Despite this, TechGen launched a new online advertising campaign featuring the trademark, arguing that the campaign was designed and scheduled before the court's order and thus did not constitute a violation. InnovateNow filed a contempt motion against TechGen for flouting the court's directive. TechGen contends that since no new advertisements were created after the order, they complied with the spirit of the court's mandate. Assess the following assertions:
- i. TechGen's pre-scheduled online campaign does not violate the court's order since it was arranged before the order.
 - ii. By proceeding with the advertising campaign, TechGen violated the court's order to cease all use of the contested trademark in advertising.
 - iii. The timing of the campaign's creation, as opposed to its public release, determines compliance with the court's order.
 - iv. The court's order is only applicable to advertisements created after the issuance of the order.
- How many of these statements are accurate according to the legal principles discussed?
- (a) One statement
 - (b) Two statements
 - (c) Three statements
 - (d) All four statements

57. A city council implemented a regulation requiring all residential buildings over 50 years old to undergo mandatory structural assessments by certified engineers. MidTown Realty, owning several properties subject to this regulation, initiated a lawsuit challenging the ordinance's legality. The court issued a temporary stay on the enforcement of the regulation until the case could be decided. Despite the stay, MidTown Realty proceeded with demolishing one of its buildings, arguing that the structure was beyond repair and posed a safety risk. The city council filed for contempt, arguing that MidTown Realty's actions violated the stay order. MidTown Realty countered that their actions were preemptive measures to ensure public safety and that the demolition should be seen as a remedial action rather than a violation. Which of the following best reflects the legal situation?
- (a) The demolition is a violation of the stay order because it changed the status quo.
 - (b) MidTown Realty's action can be considered remedial since it addressed safety concerns.
 - (c) The stay order is irrelevant because public safety concerns override legal proceedings.
 - (d) MidTown Realty did not violate the stay order because the building was already deemed unsafe.

XII. Family Law/Hindu Succession Act, 1954

The Hindu Succession Act, 1956, and the Hindu Women's Right to Property Act, 1937, are the primary legislations governing Hindu women's property rights in India.

Section 6 of the Hindu Succession now vests equal rights and liabilities on both sons and daughters of a coparcener. Daughters have the same rights and liabilities in the coparcenary property as sons.

Section 6(3) of the 1956 Act states that the interest of a deceased coparcener in HUF property shall devolve by testamentary or intestate succession, ensuring that daughters have the same share as sons. The share of a pre-deceased woman coparcener is allotted to her surviving child, and the share of a pre-deceased child of a pre-deceased woman coparcener is allotted to his/her child.

Under Section 14 of the 1956 Act, every Hindu woman has full ownership rights over any property she acquires, whether movable or immovable, through various means like inheritance, partition, maintenance, gift, own skill or exertion, purchase, prescription, or Stridhana. She can use, transfer, or dispose of her property without needing consent from her husband, father, etc.

Section 8 of the 1956 Act outlines the general rules for the devolution of an intestate Hindu male's property, specifying that daughters, widows, and mothers have rights over the property of their intestate fathers, husbands, and sons, respectively. Sections 8 and 10 also clarify that a sister has rights on her brother's property only in the absence of his class I heirs. Additionally, a daughter's marriage does not restrict her rights over her father's property, and she has the same rights as her brothers. A divorced woman is entitled to maintenance or alimony from her husband but does not have a share in his property if he dies intestate.

Section 15 of the 1956 Act deals with the devolution of property of an intestate Hindu woman, stating that the devolution shall occur firstly upon the sons and daughters (including the children of any pre-deceased son or daughter) and the husband; secondly upon the heirs of the husband; thirdly upon the mother and father; fourthly upon the heirs of the father; and lastly upon the heirs of the mother. Thus, daughters, mothers, and husbands have rights over the property of their intestate mothers, daughters, and wives, respectively.

Source: Extracted with edits and revisions from "Property rights of women in India", <https://blog.ipleaders.in/property-rights-of-women-in-india/>

58. Anjali, a Hindu woman, acquired a property through a gift from her father. She is married and has a son. Anjali decides to sell the property to finance her new business venture. Her husband claims that she cannot sell the property without his consent. Is Anjali's husband's claim valid under the Hindu Succession Act, 1956?
- (a) Yes, since the property was a gift, her husband's consent is necessary.
 - (b) No, as per Section 14, Anjali has full ownership and can sell it without her husband's consent.
 - (c) Yes, but only if the property is considered Stridhana.
 - (d) No, unless the property is ancestral, in which case her husband's consent is required.
59. Rohit, a Hindu male, dies intestate leaving behind a property. He is survived by a daughter, a widow, and his mother. How will the property be distributed according to the Hindu Succession Act, 1956?
- (a) Equally among the daughter, widow, and mother.
 - (b) Entirely to the daughter, as she is the direct descendant.
 - (c) Primarily to the widow, and then equally among the daughter and mother.
 - (d) To the mother, as the senior-most surviving member.
60. Sunita, a Hindu woman, dies intestate. She is survived by her husband, son, daughter, and her husband's parents. How will Sunita's property be distributed according to the Hindu Succession Act, 1956?
- (a) Equally among the husband, son, and daughter.
 - (b) Entirely to the son, as the male heir.
 - (c) Primarily to the husband, then the remaining to the son and daughter.
 - (d) Among the husband, son, daughter, and the husband's parents.

61. Maya, a Hindu woman, was a coparcener in her family's HUF (Hindu Undivided Family). She predeceased her father, leaving behind a son, Arjun. Maya's father passed away intestate, leaving behind property that was part of the HUF. How should Maya's father's property be distributed in this scenario?
- (a) The entire property should be distributed equally among Maya's surviving family members, excluding Arjun.
 - (b) Arjun, as Maya's son, is entitled to Maya's share in the property.
 - (c) The property should be distributed to other surviving coparceners, excluding Maya's lineage.
 - (d) Arjun is entitled to a share only if he is the sole surviving heir.
62. Ravi, a Hindu male, dies intestate without leaving behind any Class I heirs, but is survived by his sister, Priya. Ravi owns property that he inherited from his father. Priya claims a right to the property. Is Priya entitled to inherit Ravi's property under the Hindu Succession Act, 1956?
- (a) No, as sisters are not entitled to inherit property in the absence of Class I heirs.
 - (b) Yes, but only if she is the sole surviving relative.
 - (c) Yes, as a sister, she has rights to her brother's property in the absence of Class I heirs.
 - (d) No, since the property is ancestral, it cannot be inherited by a sister.

XIII. Criminal Law/Indian Evidence Act

A witness is a person who has personally seen an event, such as a crime or an accident. Sections 118 – 134 of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, discuss who can testify as a witness, how one can testify, what statements are considered testimony, and more.

A witness must understand the questions posed to them and answer rationally to testify in court. Any person who has witnessed an event is competent to testify unless the court considers them unable to understand the questions or give rational answers, as prescribed in Section 118. Rational answers should not be expected from those of tender age, extreme old age, or with a mental disability. Generally, a lunatic does not have the capacity to testify unless their lunacy does not prevent them from understanding the question and giving a rational answer.

A small child, even as young as 6 or 7 years, can testify if the court is satisfied they can give a rational testimony. The Supreme Court has held that the testimony of a child cannot be discarded as untrue if the child has no reason to falsely implicate the accused. Therefore, a child can testify provided they are not a toddler. Section 119 of the Act states that a person unable to communicate verbally can testify through writing or signs. This includes those who have taken a vow of silence.

A judge or magistrate is not compelled to answer questions about their conduct in court or anything that came to their knowledge in court, except when asked via a special order by a Superior Court, as stated in Section 121. However, they may be examined regarding other matters that happened in their presence while acting as a judge or magistrate.

A judge before whom a case is being tried must conceal any fact he knows about the case unless he is the sole judge and cannot depose as a witness. Such a judge cannot be impartial in deciding the admissibility of his own testimony.

Section 133 of the Act states that an accomplice to a crime is competent to be a witness against the accused. The conviction based on such testimony is not illegal. An accomplice is a person who has helped the accused commit a crime. However, if a person is forced to break the law against their will, they may not be regarded as an accomplice.

The testimony of one credible witness can outweigh that given by other questionable witnesses. A witness is considered credible if he stands by his statements, and these can be proved later on. Witnesses may also need to identify the accused person, and there is no minimum number of witnesses required for this identification.

Source: Extracted with edits and revisions from "Witness under the Indian Evidence Act, 1872", <https://blog.iplayers.in/witness-under-the-evidence-act-1872/>

63. During a trial for a hit-and-run case, a bystander who witnessed the accident is called to testify. However, the defense argues that the bystander, known to have cognitive challenges, is not a competent witness as per Section 118 of the Indian Evidence Act. The bystander seems to understand the questions and gives coherent answers during the examination. Should the court consider the bystander as a competent witness?
- (a) Yes, because the bystander understands the questions and provides rational answers.
 - (b) No, because having cognitive challenges automatically disqualifies a person from being a witness.
 - (c) Yes, but only if a medical expert confirms the bystander's competence.
 - (d) No, unless the bystander's account is corroborated by other evidence.
64. During a bank robbery, Alex and Jordan were caught by the police. Alex was the mastermind and had planned the entire operation, while Jordan was a bank employee who was threatened by Alex to provide inside information. Without Jordan's reluctant assistance, the robbery would not have been successful. After their arrest, Jordan agrees to testify against Alex. In court, Jordan's testimony becomes crucial in convicting Alex. Based on Section 133 of the Act, how should Jordan's role and testimony be treated?
- (a) Jordan's testimony should be disregarded as he is an accomplice in the crime.
 - (b) Jordan should be considered an accomplice, but his testimony is still valid and can lead to Alex's conviction.
 - (c) Jordan should not be considered an accomplice as he acted under duress, and his testimony is valid.
 - (d) Both Jordan and Alex should be acquitted as Jordan's testimony as an accomplice is not admissible.

65. In a case of alleged embezzlement, the key witness is a mute individual who claims to have important information regarding the case. The defense contends that the witness cannot testify because they cannot communicate verbally. Can the witness testify through alternative means of communication?
- (a) Yes, as they can testify in writing or through signs.
 - (b) No, because the inability to speak disqualifies one from being a witness.
 - (c) Yes, but only if the written testimony is translated by a certified interpreter.
 - (d) No, unless the court appoints a special officer to assist in understanding the testimony.
66. In a high-profile bank robbery case, one of the robbers is caught and agrees to testify against his co-conspirators in exchange for a reduced sentence. The defense argues that his testimony should not be admissible because he is an accomplice to the crime. Should the court consider the testimony of the accomplice admissible?
- (a) Yes, because an accomplice to a crime is competent to be a witness against the accused as per Section 133 of the Act.
 - (b) No, because the testimony of an accomplice is always considered unreliable.
 - (c) Yes, but only if the accomplice's testimony is corroborated by other evidence.
 - (d) No, unless the accomplice is proven to be completely truthful and unbiased.
67. During a trial, a judge who presided over the initial hearings of the case is called as a witness to testify about discussions that occurred in his courtroom. The defense objects, citing that the judge cannot be compelled to testify about these matters. Is the defense's objection valid?
- (a) Yes, because judges are exempt from testifying about their conduct in court unless ordered by a Superior Court.
 - (b) No, because judges can be witnesses and testify about any matter that occurred in their courtroom.
 - (c) Yes, but only if the discussions were confidential.
 - (d) No, unless the judge personally objects to testifying.

XIV. *Transfer of Property Act*

Section 9 of the Transfer of Property Act discusses oral transfer of property, stating that a transfer of property can be made without writing in every case where writing is not expressly required by law. This section underlines the general principle that everything is permissible unless prohibited, and it has been included in the statute *ex abundanti cautela* (out of an abundance of caution).

An important observation is that a promoter of a company, though fulfilling some fiduciary duties, cannot be described as a trustee. He occupies a quasi-trustee position. A declaration by a promoter that the property held by him for the company before its incorporation doesn't constitute either mortgage, sale, lease, exchange, or deed. The company before its incorporation is not a living person, hence the provisions of Section 5 of the T.P. Act are not attracted.

The interpretation of statutes in relation to Section 9 indicates that transfer of property can be made without writing in every case where writing is not expressly required by statute. However, certain transactions like sale of tangible immovable property of value more than hundred Rupees, simple mortgage, or lease of immovable property from year to year, or for any term exceeding one year, or reserving a yearly rent, are required to be in writing.

Oral transfer of property at the time of marriage is also noteworthy. Section 9 of the T.P. Act does not apply to a case of transfer of immovable property made at the time of marriage by a Hindu. The Act recognizes oral transfers, suggesting that an oral transfer of property is a rule unless there is a law expressly requiring the transfer to be in writing. Movable property is not defined under the Transfer of Property Act, but immovable property includes land, benefits arising out of land, or things attached to the earth or permanently fastened to anything attached to the earth.

Under section 54, a sale of tangible immovable property of value more than hundred Rupees must be made by a registered instrument. In section 107, a lease of immovable property from year to year, or for any term exceeding one year, or reserving a yearly rent, must be made in writing.

In the case of *Keshri Mull v Sukan Ram*, it was held that oral gifts, though permissible under the section, are not valid without delivery of possession. It has been established that family settlements can be oral and there is no need to keep them in writing. The high court of Jammu & Kashmir has substantiated that a family arrangement need not be written and can be oral too. A relinquishment by the mother of her interest in the joint family property, even when the property consists of immovable property and the value of the share therein exceeds Rs. 100/-, can be made without writing, and a registered instrument is not required.

Source: Extracted with edits and revisions from "Oral Transfer of Property under the Transfer Of Property Act", <https://blog.iplayers.in/everything-one-needs-to-know-about-oral-transfer-of-property/>

68. Mr. Arjun, a wealthy businessman, decides to transfer a piece of ancestral land to his daughter, Ananya, on her wedding day. The land is valued at ₹150,000. He makes this transfer verbally in the presence of family members during the wedding ceremony, without any written documentation. Which of the following statements is correct?
- (a) The transfer is valid because it was made orally during a wedding ceremony.
 - (b) The transfer is invalid because it exceeds the value of ₹100,000 and requires a registered instrument.
 - (c) The transfer is valid as it is a family arrangement.
 - (d) The transfer is valid because it is an ancestral property.

69. Mr. Alok decides to lease his immovable property, a small boutique shop, to Ms. Bina for a period of 15 months. The agreed monthly rent is Rs. 10,000. They both decide to formalize this agreement verbally, without any written contract. After 6 months, a dispute arises between Mr. Alok and Ms. Bina regarding the terms of the lease. Ms. Bina claims that the lease was for 24 months, while Mr. Alok insists it was only for 15 months. In the absence of a written agreement, they seek legal advice.
- Which of the following is the most legally sound advice based on the principle stated above?
- (a) The lease is valid as it was agreed upon verbally, and the dispute should be resolved based on mutual understanding.
 - (b) The lease is invalid as it exceeds one year and should have been made in writing; hence, neither party can enforce the lease terms.
 - (c) The lease is valid for 12 months only, as verbal agreements can only be enforced up to a year.
 - (d) The lease is valid, but the terms cannot be enforced legally due to the absence of a written agreement.
70. Ms. Riya, a property dealer, agrees to sell a piece of her tangible immovable property worth Rs. 95,000 to Mr. Karan through an oral agreement. They do not execute any written document. Mr. Karan, unsure about the legality of this transaction, seeks advice on whether the sale is valid. Is the oral sale of the property by Ms. Riya to Mr. Karan legally valid?
- (a) Yes, since the property value is less than Rs. 100,000 and does not require a registered instrument.
 - (b) No, because all sales of tangible immovable property require a registered instrument, regardless of the value.
 - (c) Yes, but only if Ms. Riya delivers possession of the property to Mr. Karan.
 - (d) No, since an oral agreement without witnesses is not legally valid for property transactions.
71. Priya, a Hindu woman, orally transfers a small plot of land to her daughter, Kavita, as a wedding gift during Kavita's marriage ceremony. The land is situated in a rural area and is not formally registered in any legal document. The transfer is witnessed by several family members. Later, a dispute arises over the ownership of the land. Kavita's cousin challenges the transfer, arguing that it is not legally valid. Which of the following is the most valid reason for the transfer being legally valid or invalid?
- (a) The transfer is valid because it was made orally during a wedding ceremony.
 - (b) The transfer is invalid because it was not registered in a legal document.
 - (c) The transfer is valid because it is a traditional family arrangement.
 - (d) The transfer is invalid because it involves immovable property.

72. Rakesh verbally promises to gift his motorcycle to his friend, Amit, as a gesture of gratitude. Rakesh, however, does not hand over the motorcycle to Amit, and after a few months, he decides to sell it to someone else. Amit learns about this and claims that Rakesh had orally gifted the motorcycle to him. Is Amit's claim that the motorcycle was legally gifted to him correct?
- (a) Yes, because Rakesh made a verbal promise, which is enough for the gift to be valid.
 - (b) No, because the gift of the motorcycle needed to be made in writing.
 - (c) No, because the possession of the motorcycle was never transferred to Amit.
 - (d) Yes, because the motorcycle is movable property and can be gifted orally.

XV. Current Affairs/Criminal Law

Justice Anand Venkatesh of the Madras High Court noted that in cases emanating from an FIR, cognizance is taken by the Magistrate upon the filing of the final report, not at the FIR's registration. The court clarified that an FIR is based on information received by the police and is not a "complaint" in the legal sense.

The matter arose during a hearing of a plea seeking to transfer an investigation due to the police's failure to complete it. Another plea involved quashing an FIR because the final report had not been filed, arguing that this created a bar in taking cognizance.

The Additional Public Prosecutor informed the court that in one case, although the final report was filed, it was beyond the period of limitation, leading the court not to take cognizance and issue notice to the accused.

The court referred to a previous Madras High Court decision in *Kishore v. State*, where it was argued that there was no need for condonation as the complaint was lodged within the limitation period. However, Justice Venkatesh disagreed with this view, stating that the single judge had misunderstood the nature of information given to police under Section 154 CrPC as a complaint under Section 9d).

Justice Venkatesh emphasized that an FIR, as per Section 154 CrPC, is based on "information" and cannot be equated with a "complaint," which must be made to the court, not a police officer.

The court also discussed the Supreme Court's decision in *Sarah Mathew v Institute of Cardio Vascular Disease*, which held that the relevant date for limitation was the date of filing the complaint. However, this case was based on a complaint made to the magistrate and not on a police report.

Further, the court examined the Supreme Court's decision in *Arun Vyas v Anita Vyas*, where the cut-off date was determined as the date on which the final report was filed, not the FIR's filing date. This decision was upheld in subsequent cases.

Consequently, the court directed that in the first case, the Magistrate should grant a hearing opportunity to the accused and dispose of the petition within six weeks. In the second case, where no final report was filed since 2015, the court opined that keeping the FIR pending served no purpose and quashed it.

Source: S.468 CrPC | Reckoning Date For Limitation Is The Date Of Filing Final Report, Not Registration Of FIR: Madras High Court”, <https://www.livelaw.in/high-court/madras-high-court/madras-high-court-limitation-period-date-of-filing-final-report-not-registration-of-fir-247933?infinitescroll=1>

73. In the town of Mayfield, a local shopkeeper, Mr. Sharma, reports a suspected drug deal in his area to the police. Based on his report, the police file an FIR and begin an investigation. The investigation takes several months, and in the meantime, Mr. Sharma, frustrated with the slow pace, files a petition in the local magistrate's court urging immediate action. He argues that the court should have taken cognizance of the matter right after the FIR was filed. The magistrate, however, states that cognizance can only be taken after the filing of the final report by the police. Mr. Sharma contends that his initial report should be treated as a formal complaint and thus demands immediate court action. Which of the following should be considered valid?
- (a) The court should have taken cognizance immediately after the FIR was filed based on Mr. Sharma's initial report.
 - (b) The magistrate's decision to wait for the final report before taking cognizance is valid, as an FIR is not a formal complaint.
 - (c) Mr. Sharma's initial report holds no significance in the legal process, and the court need not consider it.
 - (d) Mr. Sharma's actions are valid, but the FIR should be treated as a formal complaint.
74. A local resident, Mr. Kumar, witnesses a burglary in his neighborhood and informs the police. Based on his information, the police file an FIR and begin an investigation. Mr. Kumar later approaches the court, arguing that his information should be treated as a legal complaint and that the court should take immediate action. The police counter that an FIR is merely an information report and not a legal complaint. Which of the following is most accurate in this context?
- (a) The information provided by Mr. Kumar is a legal complaint, and the court must act on it immediately.
 - (b) The FIR filed by the police based on Mr. Kumar's information is not a legal complaint.
 - (c) Mr. Kumar's information is irrelevant, and the court need not consider it.
 - (d) The court should treat the FIR and a legal complaint equally in all respects.

75. A local shopkeeper, Mr. Verma, calls the police to report a theft at his store. The police register an FIR based on his call. Later, Mr. Verma insists on being recognized as a complainant in court, arguing that his phone call to the police should be treated as a formal complaint. The court, however, views the FIR as mere information and not a legal complaint. Mr. Verma challenges this interpretation. Is this interpretation correct? www.lawpreptutorial.com
- (a) Mr. Verma's phone call to the police is considered a legal complaint.
 - (b) The FIR based on Mr. Verma's information is not equivalent to a formal complaint to the court.
 - (c) The court should treat the FIR and a formal complaint as the same.
 - (d) Mr. Verma's insistence has no legal basis as the FIR is sufficient for court proceedings.
76. Dr. Mehta, a renowned surgeon, was accused of medical negligence in a surgery performed on January 15, 2022. The patient's family filed a complaint with the medical council on January 20, 2023. The council, after a preliminary investigation, dismissed the complaint on February 5, 2023, stating that the complaint was filed after the limitation period. Dr. Mehta argues that the limitation period should be considered from the date of filing the complaint. The patient's family contends that the limitation period expired a year after the surgery. Which of the following is correct?
- (a) The limitation period starts from the date of the surgery, and the complaint is time-barred.
 - (b) The limitation period is counted from the date of filing the complaint, making it within the permissible time.
 - (c) The limitation period is irrelevant in cases of medical negligence.
 - (d) The complaint should have been filed within six months of the surgery.
77. In 2023, Anita filed a case against her ex-husband Arun for domestic violence that allegedly occurred in 2020. She claimed that Arun had been physically abusive during their marriage. Arun's defense was that Anita's complaint was filed beyond the limitation period for such cases. However, Anita argued that the limitation period should be considered from 2023 when she gathered the emotional strength to file the case. Consider the following statements:
- i. The limitation period for filing a domestic violence case starts from the date the victim gathers the emotional strength to file the case.
 - ii. The limitation period is calculated from the date on which the final report was filed.
 - iii. The limitation period starts from the date of the last incident of domestic violence.
 - iv. There is no limitation period for filing cases of domestic violence.
- Which of the following statements are true?
- (a) Statement iii
 - (b) Statement i
 - (c) Statements ii and iv
 - (d) Statement iv

78. After several complaints from residents about loud late-night gatherings at Raj's home, the local police decide to intervene. They approach Raj and warn him about the disturbances. Raj, feeling aggrieved by what he perceives as police overreach, decides to file a complaint against the officers for harassment. He submits his complaint directly to the police station, expecting them to take action against their own officers. The police, however, inform Raj that a complaint of this nature should be made to the court, not to the police. Raj argues that his complaint is valid and should be processed by the police. Which of the following is correct?
- (a) Raj's complaint is valid and the police are required to act on it.
 - (b) Raj must file his complaint with the court for it to be considered a legal complaint.
 - (c) The police can accept Raj's complaint but are not legally bound to act on it.
 - (d) Raj's complaint is invalid as complaints cannot be made against police officers.

XVI. Criminal Procedure Code

An Executive Magistrate has the authority to take up a case under section 107 of CrPC, only if:

- The accused person or the place where the disturbance is likely to happen falls under his jurisdiction.
- A person who ordinarily resides within jurisdiction can be called upon by the Executive Magistrate under Section 107 even if the accused person is temporarily absent. Even a temporary residence is enough.
- Two opposing parties of hostile groups cannot be proceeded against and bound over in one and the same proceeding under Section 107
- If a person is on trial under Sections 107-116 of CrPC, and his proceeding is still pending then a second set of proceedings cannot be initiated against him.

Nature of information received by the Magistrate

- The information must be clear and definite, closely associated with the person against whom the process is issued, and should disclose tangible facts and details, that could also convince the accused person on what grounds he has been brought before the court.
- There must be satisfactory evidence that the person has done something or taken some steps that indicate an intention to break the peace or that he is likely to disturb the public tranquility.
- To pass an order under section 107, the past acts of the person will not hold great relevance, there shall be evidence regarding a breach of peace that might occur in near future.

Circumstances under which a Magistrate can drop the proceedings

- A Magistrate has the power to drop the proceeding initiated under this section at any stage, even if an order is passed under section 111 or before an inquiry under section 116.
- If the magistrate receives fresh materials implying that there is no possibility of peace getting breached.

- If the material on record discloses that though there was a danger of breach of the peace at one time but subsequently, the threat has disappeared then the court can drop the proceedings and discharge the person proceeded against.
- He can also drop the proceedings if the evidence presented was found in old records and not regarding the present circumstances.
- If the inquiry conducted against that person gives no correct evidence against the person then the person called to execute the bond will be considered illegal.
- If the reports of the police make no substantial proof regarding the breach that might happen, would also lead to the drop of the proceeding against that person.
- If an order is passed without inquiry and recording evidence, the allegations would be considered not valid.
- A person cannot be compelled to execute the bond without proper inquiry and recording of evidence, one cannot be asked to carry out the bond without giving him a chance to prove why he is not liable to execute the bond.

Source: Extracted with edits and revisions from "Section 107 CrPC", <https://blog.ipleaders.in/section-107-crpc/>

79. In the town of Harmony, there is ongoing tension between two groups, the Reds and the Blues. Recently, a Red member, Jacob, who ordinarily resides in Harmony but is currently on a business trip in another state, made a provocative statement online that is likely to incite violence in Harmony. The Executive Magistrate of Harmony, Mr. Kumar, is considering taking action under Section 107 against Jacob. Which of the following actions by Mr. Kumar would be most appropriate in this situation?
- (a) Mr. Kumar can proceed against Jacob under Section 107 even though he is temporarily absent from Harmony.
 - (b) Mr. Kumar cannot proceed against Jacob as he is not physically present in Harmony.
 - (c) Mr. Kumar should wait until Jacob returns to Harmony to initiate any action.
 - (d) Mr. Kumar should proceed against another member of the Reds who is currently in Harmony.
80. In the city of Lakeview, a recent dispute arose between the Northside Residents, a local community group, and the Southside Workers, a labour union. The Executive Magistrate, Mrs. Iyer, upon receiving reports of potential violence, decides to use her authority under Section 107. However, she contemplates combining the proceedings against the leaders of both groups into a single case. During the process, Mrs. Iyer is informed that under Section 107, specific procedural guidelines must be followed. Given this information, which of the following is the most legally appropriate action for Mrs. Iyer to take?
- (a) Proceed with the combined case as initially planned.
 - (b) Initiate separate proceedings against each group's leaders.
 - (c) Drop the proceedings as it involves multiple groups.
 - (d) Refer the matter to a higher court due to its complexity.

81. Mr. Rajan, a resident of Greenfield Town, was engaged in a proceeding under Section 107 for allegedly planning to incite violence. While this proceeding was ongoing, he was involved in another incident that seemed to warrant similar charges. The Executive Magistrate of Greenfield Town, Mr. Sharma, considering the new incident, is faced with the decision of how to proceed. Based on the principles derived from the passage, consider the following statements:
- Mr. Sharma can initiate a new proceeding under Section 107 for the recent incident.
 - The ongoing proceeding against Mr. Rajan must be concluded before considering a new one.
 - Mr. Sharma is prohibited from initiating a new proceeding while the first one is pending.
 - The new incident can be incorporated into the existing proceeding without initiating a new one.
- Which of the following statements are true?
- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) Statements i and iv | (b) Statements ii and iii |
| (c) Statement iii only | (d) Statement iv only |
82. In the small town of Brookfield, an anonymous tip is received by the Executive Magistrate, Mr. Varma, suggesting that a local businessman, Mr. Arjun, is planning to incite violence at an upcoming political rally. The tip, however, is vague and lacks specific details about Mr. Arjun's alleged plans. Mr. Varma is contemplating initiating proceedings under Section 107 against Mr. Arjun based on this information. What should be Mr. Varma's course of action?
- Initiate proceedings against Mr. Arjun based on the anonymous tip.
 - Seek additional information to substantiate the anonymous tip before proceeding.
 - Disregard the anonymous tip as it lacks specificity and clear details.
 - Inform the police to monitor Mr. Arjun's activities without initiating proceedings.
83. In the city of Hillcrest, Ms. Lee, a well-known social activist, is organizing a march to raise awareness about environmental issues. The local authorities, concerned about the possibility of the march turning violent, have compiled a dossier on Ms. Lee's past activities. This dossier includes details of various peaceful protests and seminars conducted by her, but no evidence of any violent or unlawful behavior. The Executive Magistrate, Mr. Khan, is considering whether to initiate proceedings under Section 107 against Ms. Lee based on this dossier. Given the nature of the evidence, which of the following reasons would justify Mr. Khan's decision to proceed against Ms. Lee?
- Ms. Lee's history of organizing protests.
 - The lack of any evidence of violent behavior in Ms. Lee's past.
 - The potential for any large gathering to turn violent.
 - The peaceful nature of Ms. Lee's past activities.

84. In the town of Meadowfield, proceedings under Section 107 were initiated against Mr. Derek, a local community leader, due to allegations of him planning a disruptive protest. However, subsequent investigations reveal that these allegations were based on a misunderstanding and Mr. Derek had no such intentions. The Executive Magistrate, Mrs. Patel, learns about this new development. She has already issued an order under Section 111 but is now considering her options in light of the new information. Which of the following actions can Mrs. Patel legally take?
- (a) Continue with the proceedings as the order under Section 111 has already been issued.
 - (b) Drop the proceedings immediately in light of the new information.
 - (c) Wait for an inquiry under Section 116 before deciding on the course of action.
 - (d) Re-issue the order under Section 111 with modified terms.

Logical Reasoning

Each set of questions in this section is based on the reasoning and arguments set out in the preceding passage. Please answer each question on the basis of what is stated or implied in the corresponding passage. Do not rely on any information or facts other than the ones supplied to you. In some instances, more than one option may be the answer to the question; in such a case, please choose the option that most accurately and comprehensively answers the question.

XVII. Science

A recent study suggests that dogs wag their tail not only to indicate happiness but also to communicate other complex emotions. A team of researchers proposed two major theories on the evolution of tail wagging. The study suggests that when dogs experience a positive emotion, they tend to wag their tail more towards the right. However, their wagging inclines towards the left more when they have a negative emotion.

Researchers stated that wagging and arousal-related hormones or neurotransmitters might be linked in the dogs' bodies. They also mentioned that there might be a connection between the stress hormone cortisol and tail wagging. Many animals have tails and use those tails for moving (an alligator swimming), balance (a cat walking along a narrow fence), and removing pests (a horse swatting flies away from its body). But those examples contrast with domestic dogs, who use their tails primarily for communication rather than any other function.

Dogs, compared to wolves, wag their tails more often and start from a very young age, suggesting that the behaviour evolved in the line after humans started domesticating them. Thus, dogs might have adapted wagging as a way to communicate with their human masters. One study found that during food denial situations, dogs wagged their tails more when a human was present versus not, suggesting that tail wagging may also function as a requesting signal.

However, this evolution might not be deliberate. According to the study, wagging may have emerged as a by-product of another characteristic, like tameness or friendliness. The authors bred a cohort of silver foxes for over 40 generations for the research. They found that the foxes showed a dog-like tail-wagging behaviour after being selected for traits like tamability and docility. Based on this, we hypothesise that the domestication process may have led to changes at the anatomical and behavioural level that altered tail wagging behaviour in dogs.

Although these theories suggest how and why tail wagging evolved, there are many unanswered questions. They are just scratching the surface. It remains a mystery how dogs control their behaviour and how well they decipher the meaning of wagging among other dogs. They echo the concerns of other researchers that these procedures may impair the communicative repertoire of an animal (although this should be empirically tested by comparing breeds) and reduce how well a dog can express its feelings and communicate.

Source: <https://www.wionews.com/science/why-do-dogs-wag-their-tail-scientists-say-its-not-just-to-indicate-happiness-680841>

85. Which of the following is the author most likely to agree with?
- (a) Tail wagging in dogs is solely a reflexive response to immediate external stimuli.
 - (b) The directional wagging of a dog's tail serves as a nuanced form of emotional expression.
 - (c) Dogs and wolves share identical reasons for tail wagging due to their genetic link.
 - (d) The domestication process has had minimal impact on the evolution of dog behaviours.
86. Which of the following scenarios best parallels the author's reasoning about the evolution of tail wagging in dogs as a communicative behaviour?
- (a) A bird develops a unique song in captivity to attract keeper attention.
 - (b) A wild animal's fur colour for camouflage is enhanced in captivity.
 - (c) An aquarium fish swims in specific patterns when hungry, in any setting.
 - (d) A domestic cat meows more around humans than when with other cats.
87. Which of the following inferences can be correctly drawn about the relationship between dogs and humans?
- (a) Dogs have developed tail wagging primarily as a survival mechanism rather than a communicative signal.
 - (b) The process of domestication has led dogs to evolve behaviours that facilitate more nuanced communication with humans.
 - (c) Tail wagging in dogs is an innate behaviour that is not influenced by their interaction with humans.
 - (d) The domestication of dogs has had no significant effect on their ability to communicate emotional states.
88. If the author's argument that tail wagging in dogs is a nuanced form of communication is to be supported, which of the following findings would be most helpful?
- (a) Dogs wag their tails only when humans are present, suggesting human-specific communication.
 - (b) Dogs wag their tail right for joy and left for discomfort, showing emotional communication.
 - (c) Tail wagging rate in dogs remains constant, regardless of human or dog presence.
 - (d) Dogs exhibit tail wagging solely in food situations, hinting at a limited communicative scope.

89. What evidence does the author provide to support the main argument that tail wagging in dogs may have evolved as a significant form of communication?
- (a) Other animals use tails for balance, contrasting with dogs' tail wagging for communication.
 - (b) Claims suggesting tail wagging in dogs is a mere reflex, lacking communicative purpose.
 - (c) Reports indicating dogs wag tails indiscriminately, not linked to specific emotions.
 - (d) Studies showing no difference in tail wagging between dogs and wolves, even from a young age.
90. Given the content and main focus of the passage, which title best captures its essence?
- (a) "Domestic Dogs' Evolution: Tail Wagging Beyond Wolves"
 - (b) "Complex Communication: The Science of Dog Tail Wagging"
 - (c) "Tails for Balance: A Divergent Use in Dogs"
 - (d) "Food and Tail Wagging: Dog Behaviour Insights"

XVIII. Indian Stamp Act

The government intends to replace another colonial era law, the Indian Stamp Act 1899, with a new one. Accordingly, it has come out with a draft of a new bill and invited suggestions. The proposed bill aims "to align it with the modern stamp duty regime". Further terming the existing law as a pre-Constitution Act, it said that it has been amended from time to time to enable a more modern Stamp Duty regime. However, a number of provisions contained in the Indian Stamp Act, 1899 have become redundant/inoperative and hence, there is a need to re-orient the Indian Stamp Act, 1899. Accordingly, it has been proposed that the Indian Stamp Act, 1899 is repealed and a new legislation is enacted to reflect the present realities and objectives.

The Indian Stamp Act, 1899 is a fiscal statute laying down the law relating to tax levied in the form of stamps on instruments recording transactions. Stamp duties are levied by the Central Government, but within the States are collected and appropriated by the concerned States in terms of provisions of Article 268 of the Constitution. The Stamp duties on documents specified in Entry 91 of the Union List of the Seventh Schedule (viz. Bills of Exchange, cheques, promissory notes, bills of lading, letters of credit, policies of insurance, transfer of shares, debentures, proxies and receipts) are levied by the Union. Stamp duties on documents other than those mentioned above are levied and collected by the States by virtue of the legislative Entry 63 of the State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. Stamp duties other than duties or fees collected by means of judicial stamps, but not including rates of stamp duty which fall within the scope of Entry 91 of the Union List and Entry 63 of the State List mentioned above, fall within the legislative power of both the Union and the States under Entry 44 of the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule.

The move to replace the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, reflects the government's effort to update and streamline fiscal statutes to be more in line with contemporary needs and practices. The proposed new legislation aims to modernize the framework for stamp duties, making it more relevant and effective in today's context. This initiative is part of a broader effort to overhaul outdated laws and regulations, ensuring that India's legal framework is conducive to current economic and social realities.

The revision of the Stamp Act is expected to simplify the tax structure, reduce redundancies, and enhance clarity in the levy and collection of stamp duties. This reform is significant as it impacts a wide range of financial transactions and legal documents, playing a crucial role in the country's fiscal system. By aligning the stamp duty regime with modern practices, the government aims to facilitate smoother transactions, promote ease of doing business, and ensure efficient revenue collection.

Source: <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/centre-plans-to-replace-existing-stamp-act-with-a-new-law/article67749415.ece>

91. Which of the following statements, if true, would present a paradox in the context of the government's initiative to replace the Indian Stamp Act, 1899?
- (a) Despite the introduction of a new stamp duty legislation, the complexity of tax collection increases, leading to more disputes.
 - (b) The new legislation leads to a significant increase in revenue from stamp duties, surpassing expectations.
 - (c) The process of repealing the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, and enacting new legislation is completed in a remarkably short time.
 - (d) Redundant provisions from the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, are retained in the new law due to newfound relevance.
92. Which of the following would most strengthen the argument that the new legislation is necessary to modernize the stamp duty regime?
- (a) Historical analysis shows that amendments to the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, have always led to immediate increases in stamp duty collections.
 - (b) A comparative study indicates that countries with modernized stamp duty laws experience fewer legal disputes over stamp duties.
 - (c) Recent surveys reveal that the majority of businesses find the current stamp duty regime to be satisfactory and conducive to economic growth.
 - (d) Technological advancements have made many of the current provisions for stamp duty collection obsolete.
93. Given the government's aim to replace the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, with new legislation, which course of action would be most effective in ensuring the new law's objectives are met?
- (a) Conducting extensive public consultations to gather feedback on the draft bill from a wide range of stakeholders.
 - (b) Implementing the new legislation immediately without a transitional period to avoid confusion between the old and new systems.
 - (c) Limiting changes to the adjustment of stamp duty rates, while keeping the structure of the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, intact.
 - (d) Offering incentives for early adoption of the new stamp duty regulations by businesses and legal professionals.

94. Which statement serves as a foundational basis for the author's argument?
- (a) The Indian Stamp Act, 1899, establishes a rigid tax framework that lacks flexibility for modifications.
 - (b) Modernising the stamp duty system is crucial for aligning it with the current economic and legal environments.
 - (c) Stamp duties' management and allocation are solely under the Central Government's purview.
 - (d) The scope of the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, is confined to regulating the taxation of judicial documents.
95. In the passage's discussion of the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, the initial reference to its status as a fiscal statute primarily aims to _____, whereas the subsequent focus on its proposed repeal due to redundancy is intended to _____.
- (a) Acknowledge the historical significance of the Indian Stamp Act, 1899; propose its repeal due to redundancy.
 - (b) Critique the Act's inability to adapt to modern needs; suggest minor amendments for improvement.
 - (c) Highlight the Act's comprehensive coverage of fiscal statutes; argue for the preservation of its core principles.
 - (d) Underline the government's reluctance to update fiscal laws; demand a complete overhaul of the legal framework.
96. Which statement best represents the cause-and-effect relationship as presented by the author?
- (a) Because the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, has been amended over time, it no longer requires any further updates.
 - (b) The redundancy of many provisions in the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, necessitates the enactment of new legislation.
 - (c) The central government's collection of stamp duties has led directly to the proposed repeal of the Indian Stamp Act, 1899.
 - (d) State-level collection and management of stamp duties have ensured the effectiveness of the Indian Stamp Act, 1899.

XIX. Economy

Just like India's GDP data is released by the government each quarter, similarly, India's biggest and most publicly traded companies also share their financial statements once every three months. The results season, as it is often referred to, comes soon after the end of June, September, December, and March quarters. Just like GDP data tells about the state of India's macroeconomy, quarterly results show how corporate India is doing.

The latest round of quarterly results throws up a similar trend as the one in the first two quarters: Stagnating sales but rising profits for corporate India. This raises the question: If companies are not able to substantially increase sales, would they invest in fresh capacities, regardless of their profits? This is a key question because the government has been waiting for a long time for the private sector to raise investments in the economy. The broad sense emerging from the recently presented interim Budget was that the government believes it has done enough to provide momentum to the economy and the private sector can take over from here on. But will this happen if the bulk of the listed companies — especially the non-financial ones — struggle to register better sales?

The two most important variables are total income growth (the top-line) and net profits (the bottom-line) growth. The biggest contributor to total income is the total sales by a company. Of course, the total sales depend on both the quantity of goods being sold as well as the prices at which they are being sold. At the start of the earnings season, investors and analysts have some expectations from all companies. Not surprisingly, the stock markets take their cue from these numbers and often react sharply to quarterly filings. www.lawpreptutorial.com

There are three key takeaways: Stagnating sales, rising profits, and a sharp divergence between the sales performance of the financial and non-financial companies. Corporate India seems to face a challenge in expanding its business. Elevated margins, however, ensure robust profit growth.

The financial results also show that there is a big difference between the top-line growth of finance companies and non-finance companies. Indeed, data shows that non-finance companies have been struggling to raise their revenues. One key reason pulling down the revenue growth of non-financial companies is the deflation in commodity prices. Deflation is the exact opposite of inflation and refers to a trend where prices fall relative to where they were a year ago.

However, even if one removes the effect of deflation on prices, the improvement is marginal. That India's real GDP in each of these quarters grew at anywhere between 7 to 8%, shows how underwhelming a performance it is by the non-financial companies in terms of sales.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explainspeaking-corporate-earnings-9147977/>

97. Based on the passage, which of the following, if true, would most weaken the argument that non-financial companies' stagnating sales are a significant barrier to their investment in new capacities?
- (a) Non-financial companies are prioritising profit reinvestment into research and development over capacity expansion.
 - (b) Non-financial companies possess ample cash reserves, allowing for new investments independent of sales performance.
 - (c) The government's introduction of significant tax incentives for new investments targets non-financial companies specifically.
 - (d) A recent upward trend in consumer demand is noted across sectors typically dominated by non-financial companies.
98. Which of the following falls closest to the underlying assumption in the passage?
- (a) Performance gaps between financial and non-financial firms arise from external market forces.
 - (b) A company's health and future investment potential are primarily indicated by its sales growth.
 - (c) Government efforts to boost the economy have not effectively encouraged private sector investment.
 - (d) Non-financial companies are less adept at adapting to market changes compared to financial companies.
99. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument that the disparity in top-line growth between financial and non-financial companies signifies a challenge for the broader economy?
- (a) Surveys indicate rising consumer confidence in the financial sector over the non-financial sector.
 - (b) Non-financial companies are increasingly automating to cut costs and boost margins.
 - (c) Regulatory changes have recently favoured financial companies over non-financial ones.
 - (d) Government has upped infrastructure spending, a domain typically led by non-financial firms.
100. Which of the following best identifies a potential flaw in the author's reasoning?
- (a) Assuming stagnating sales impact only non-financial companies, not affecting financial ones.
 - (b) Implying sales growth as the sole healthy economy indicator, ignoring employment and investment.
 - (c) Believing government efforts alone can boost private investment without global economic context.
 - (d) Relying on quarterly results to judge corporate health, ignoring long-term trends and market dynamics.

101. Which of the following pieces of evidence is cited by the author?
- (a) Historical data on economic growth rates across countries with similar GDPs.
 - (b) Statistical link between non-financial companies' sales growth and economic health.
 - (c) Reports on deflation in commodity prices affecting non-financial companies' revenue.
 - (d) Surveys showing consumer confidence declines impacting sales across sectors.
102. Which statement best represents the primary argument made by the author in the passage?
- (a) Government fiscal policies fail to significantly boost corporate investments.
 - (b) Corporate India shows a trend of stagnating sales with rising profits in quarterly results.
 - (c) Performance gap between financial and non-financial firms signals economic disparities.
 - (d) Commodity price deflation critically hampers corporate India's expansion efforts.

XX. Environment

Misinformation is when people share false information or selectively present data about fossil fuel emissions or climate change that doesn't give the full picture, potentially influencing how others think about the issue. It doesn't have to be deliberate — some misinformation can be the result of a simple mistake, or a misunderstanding of a complex subject.

An example is greenwashing, a way that businesses make their environmental credentials seem more environmentally friendly than they actually are. Some fashion brands, for example, tout their use of renewable, natural fibers and recyclable packaging, distracting from the countless racks of fast, disposable fashion they produce every few weeks.

Disinformation, on the other hand, is when climate deniers and other groups or official organizations deliberately publicize false information or spread hoaxes to further their own agenda against climate science and government policies intended to benefit the environment.

Major fossil fuel companies like Shell, Exxon Mobil, BP and the Global Climate Coalition, a front group for companies with links to fossil fuel industry that was disbanded in 2002, have been accused of discrediting climate science or hiding their continued fossil fuel investments with lobbying and feel-good ads since the late 1970s.

Groups like The Empowerment Alliance in the US or the Responsible Energy Citizen Coalition in Europe, for example, use a tactic known as astroturfing — allegedly acting like a spontaneous grassroots movement — to support natural gas derived from fossil fuels and discredit green policies, often with funding from unclear sources.

Misinformation and lies are also published by certain media outlets, or promoted by populist politicians. When cyclone-fueled flooding caused more than 40 fatalities in Brazil in September 2023, government opponents and a prominent journalist blamed the deaths on dam failures in an attempt to turn attention away from efforts to mitigate the extreme effects of global heating.

Social media, along with manipulated photos or videos, have made the spread of such misinformation even easier — especially when linked with conspiracy theories, like the recent backlash against sustainable urban planning trend 15-minute cities.

As greenhouse gas emissions and global temperatures hit one record high after another, time is running out to address global heating. Most scientists agree that we need to act now, but climate misinformation is leading people to question proven climate science — that humanity has triggered climate change — and cast doubt on solutions, undermining public support for the fight against climate change.

In 2022, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change recognized for the first time that rhetoric and misinformation on climate change and the deliberate undermining of science have contributed to misperceptions of the scientific consensus, uncertainty, disregarded risk and urgency, and dissent. Many media organisations also have dedicated resources to climate reporting and dispelling environment myths and deception.

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/environment/global-warming/what-is-climate-misinformation-and-why-does-it-matter/articleshow/107100948.cms>

103. What is the central theme that the author is trying to convey?
- (a) The effectiveness of international agreements on reducing fossil fuel emissions.
 - (b) The role of fashion brands in promoting sustainable environmental practices.
 - (c) The impact of misinformation and disinformation on public perception of climate change.
 - (d) The significance of scientific advancements in combating global warming.
104. Which of the following pieces of evidence is cited by the author?
- (a) The effectiveness of renewable energy sources in reducing carbon footprints.
 - (b) The participation of major fossil fuel companies in climate change denial campaigns.
 - (c) The unanimous global agreement on the immediate need to reduce fossil fuel emissions.
 - (d) The influence of social media influencers in promoting eco-friendly lifestyles.
105. Which of the following, if true, would weaken the argument that misinformation about climate change is mostly unintentional?
- (a) Researchers find that a majority of the public can differentiate between factual and misleading information on climate change.
 - (b) A significant number of articles and reports on climate change are peer-reviewed and based on solid scientific evidence.
 - (c) Documentation reveals that some fossil fuel companies have intentionally funded campaigns to discredit climate science.
 - (d) Advances in educational curricula have increased scientific literacy regarding climate change among the younger population.

106. Which of the following is the author most likely to disagree with?
- (a) Social media has an undeniable role in facilitating the rapid spread of climate misinformation.
 - (b) Misinformation regarding climate change is predominantly a result of unintentional errors.
 - (c) Fossil fuel companies have not significantly contributed to the spread of climate misinformation.
 - (d) Astroturfing is a tactic used to falsely represent grassroots support for fossil fuels.
107. In the passage, which of the following is presented as an argument, and which as an assertion?
- (a) Argument: The dissemination of misinformation about climate change is an unavoidable consequence of the digital age; Assertion: Social media platforms are inherently incapable of regulating climate misinformation effectively.
 - (b) Argument: Misinformation and disinformation are significant barriers to global climate action efforts; Assertion: Greenwashing by fashion brands is a deliberate tactic to mislead consumers about their environmental impact.
 - (c) Argument: Public scepticism towards climate action is primarily due to a lack of scientific literacy; Assertion: Enhancing educational programs will directly result in increased public support for climate initiatives.
 - (d) Argument: The role of fossil fuel companies in spreading disinformation is a minor concern in the broader context of climate change; Assertion: Most misinformation is spread by individuals rather than organized groups.
108. Based on the information provided, which statement can be inferred as the conclusion of the passage?
- (a) The primary solution to climate change lies in technological innovation rather than information accuracy.
 - (b) Misinformation significantly delays the global effort required to address the challenges of climate change.
 - (c) Social media platforms should be held solely responsible for the spread of climate misinformation.
 - (d) Public support for climate action is largely unaffected by misinformation and disinformation.

Quantitative Techniques

Each set of questions in this section is based on a single passage, graph or other representation. Please answer each question by deriving information from such passage, graph, or other representation, or applying mathematical operations on such information as required by the question.

- XXI.** Study the following information carefully and answer the questions given below. There are 400 students in the school some of them like three different subjects Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The number of students like only Physics in the school is 85. Out of 18.75% of the students likes only Chemistry. Out of 5% of the students likes all the three subjects. Number of students who like both Biology and Physics but not chemistry is equal to the number of students who likes all the subjects together. The number of students like only Biology in the school is 105. The number of students like both Chemistry and Physics but not biology is 50% more than the number of students like both Biology and Physics but not chemistry. Out of 6.25% of the students likes both Chemistry and Biology but not physics.
109. What is the difference between the number of students like at least two subjects and the number of students like at most one subject?
(a) 200 (b) 220
(c) 210 (d) 230
110. Find the number of students does not like any subject?
(a) 60 (b) 40
(c) 50 (d) 70
111. The number of students like both Physics and Chemistry but not biology is approximately what percent of the total number of students like only Biology?
(a) 26.57% (b) 27.57%
(c) 24.57% (d) 28.57%
112. What is the difference between the number of students like both Biology and Chemistry but not physics and the number of students like only Physics?
(a) 50 (b) 60
(c) 40 (d) 70
113. What is the ratio of the number of students like Biology to number of students like Chemistry?
(a) 17:15 (b) 14:9
(c) 12:7 (d) 15:11

- XXII.** Krishna invested some money under 20% per annum simple interest in Axis bank. At the end of one – year, he withdrew all amount from the Axis bank and invested in Bandhan bank at the rate of R % per annum under compound interest compounded annually for two years and received Rs. 57600 as total interest from the Bandhan bank. The first year's interest at Bandhan bank was Rs. 24000.
114. In starting, how much money had Krishna invested in Axis bank?
(a) Rs. 60000 (b) Rs. 75000
(c) Rs. 10000 (d) Rs. 50000
115. Total how much interest did Krishna get from the Axis bank and the Bandhan bank together?
(a) Rs. 68600 (b) Rs. 67600
(c) Rs. 64600 (d) Rs. 71200
116. If the rate of interest was interchanged i.e. Axis bank had offered R% per annum simple interest and Bandhan bank had offered 20% per annum compound interest then how much less money Krishan would have received at the end of 3 years?
(a) Rs. 16800 (b) Rs. 15800
(c) Rs. 14800 (d) Rs. 16400
117. If Krishan had invested the sum of money only in Axis bank for 3 years under 20% per annum simple interest then at the end of 3 years, total how much simple interest he would have received from the Axis bank?
(a) Rs. 25000 (b) Rs. 30000
(c) Rs. 40000 (d) Rs. 20000
- XXIII.** Amravati express after travelling 125 km meet with an accident due to which it proceeds at 75% of its original speed and arrived at its destination 35 minutes late but had the accident had taken place 30 km further then the train would have arrived at its destination 25 minutes late. Amravati express crosses a pole with its original speed in 45 seconds and crosses Samjhauta express which is 20% longer than Amravati express and is coming from the opposite direction in 0.9 minutes.
118. What is the time taken by Amravati express to cover a distance of 270 km with its original speed?
(a) 5.5 hours (b) 4.5 hours
(c) 3.5 hours (d) 4 hours

119. Find the time taken by Samjhauta express to cover the total distance travelled by Amravati express?
- (a) 4.2 hours (b) 5.4 hours
(c) 4.6 hours (d) 4.8 hours
120. Time taken by Samjhauta express to cross a platform is 1.584 minutes. Find the length of the platform.
- (a) 380 metres (b) 450 metres
(c) 480 metres (d) 420 metres

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