

LEGALEDGE TEST SERIES
MOCK COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST 2024-25
MOCK CLAT 24

TR ID.

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(In Figures)



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Duration of Test : 2 Hours (120 Minutes)

Maximum Marks : 120

1. Separate carbonised Optical Mark Reader (OMR) Response Sheet is supplied along with this Questions Booklet and the carbon copy has to be detached and taken by the candidates.
2. In case of any discrepancy in the question booklet (QB), please request the invigilator for replacement of a fresh packet of QB with OMR. Do not use the previous OMR response Sheet for a fresh booklet so obtained.
3. Candidates will not be given a second blank OMR response Sheet under any circumstance. Hence, OMR response Sheet shall be handled carefully.
4. Answer all questions. No clarification can be sought on the Questions Paper
5. Possession of electronic devices in any form is strictly prohibited in the examination Hall.
6. The use of any unfair means by any candidate shall result in the cancellation of his/her examination.
7. Impersonation is an offense and the candidate, apart from disqualification, will be liable to be prosecuted.
8. The test Paper for Five Year integrated Law Programme is for 120 marks containing 120 multiple Choice Questions.
9. There will be Negative marking for multiple choice objective type questions. 0.25 marks will be deducted for every wrong answer or where candidates have marked more than one response.
10. Use **BLACK/BLUE BALL POINT PEN** only for writing the roll No. and other details on OMR response Sheet.
11. Use **BLACK/BLUE BALL POINT PEN** for shading the circles. Indicate only the most appropriate answer by shading from the options provided. The answer circle should be shaded completely without leaving any space.
12. As the responses cannot be modified/corrected on the OMR Response Sheet, candidates have to take necessary precautions before marking the appropriate circle.
13. The candidate should retain the Admit Card duly Signed by the invigilator, as the same has to be produced at the time of Admission.
14. Handle the OMR response Sheet with care. Do not fold.
15. Ensure that invigilator puts his/her signature in the space provided on the OMR response Sheet. Candidate should sign in the space provided on the OMR response Sheet.
16. The candidate should write Question Paper booklet No., and OMR response Sheet No., and sign in the space/column provided in the attendance sheet.
17. Return the Original Page of OMR response Sheet to the invigilator after the examination.
18. The candidate shall not write anything on the OMR response Sheet other than the details required and in the spaces provided for.

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SECTION-A : ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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

Passage (Q.1-Q.6): November 29, 2020, marks the 150th anniversary of the Elementary Education Act of 1870, which required children in England to attend school. As historian Sascha Auerbach explains, this move led to some pitched battles between authorities and working-class parents.

While other scholars have demonstrated that many working-class English people supported elementary education, that didn't mean that all families were willing or able to send their kids to school consistently. Auerbach writes that lawmakers and education officials assumed from the start that they would need to use coercive methods to achieve universal education. After the passage of the 1870 act, London alone hired hundreds of school attendance officers, generally known as "Visitors."

In September 1872, a Visitor named Mr. Hill arrived at the Manchester home of a student who had missed classes. He was greeted by the boy's older brother, Thomas, who "obstructed Hill and kicked him, and assisted his father to escape," according to court records. This, Auerbach writes, was an extreme case. But resistance was common. The London School Board legally prosecuted more than 10,000 violations of attendance bylaws every year.

And that represented just a fraction of the conflicts over school attendance between officials and working-class families, many of which were resolved informally during officers' visits. Many parents also quietly obtained fake medical excuses, or birth certificates that showed children being older than they were.

"Although it may seem to contemporary eyes that any mother or father who denied their child the benefits of education was doing them a great disservice, working-class Victorian householders clearly felt differently," Auerbach writes. "For them, labor, more so than education, determined the survival of the household and the fate of the family."

Sometimes, instead of evading the law, parents made this argument explicitly. They insisted that children were "needed at home" for childcare and domestic work, or that the family needed them to earn wages.

An account in the Daily Mail described a girl "of not more than ten" arriving at a truancy enforcement meeting with an infant in tow to represent her mother before the officials. The girl explained that she was responsible for taking the infant to the hospital each week.

"She's consumptive, like her father died of," the girl tells the officials, explaining that her mother couldn't do it herself. "She's out charring, and it's all we have."

And it seems that officials also understood these difficulties. The only legally permissible excuse for children to miss school was illness, but by the 1890s, authorities often allowed parents to keep their kids from school for other reasons. In particular, older girls were likely to be permitted to stay home to attend to domestic responsibilities, a duty that fit with Victorian middle-class norms.

Today, these same competing demands keep some children out of school, both in developing countries and—particularly during the current pandemic—developed ones like the United States, too.

1. According to the passage, what assumption did lawmakers and education officials make regarding the implementation of the Elementary Education Act of 1870?
 - (a) They assumed that all families would readily accept and comply with the new education laws.
 - (b) They believed coercive methods would be necessary to ensure universal education compliance.
 - (c) They anticipated widespread enthusiasm for education reform among working-class families.
 - (d) They expected minimal resistance due to the perceived benefits of elementary education.

2. The passage mentions the case of Mr. Hill's visit to a Manchester home in September 1872. What does this incident illustrate about the response of some working-class families to school attendance laws?
 - (a) It demonstrates the willingness of families to engage in physical altercations to resist school laws.
 - (b) It shows the common use of legal tactics by families to counter school attendance officers.
 - (c) It reflects the occasional instances of extreme resistance to educational authorities.
 - (d) It indicates a widespread trend of aggression towards education officials in working-class areas.

3. How did the London School Board respond to violations of attendance bylaws, and what does this indicate about the enforcement of the Elementary Education Act of 1870?
 - (a) They implemented stricter laws to intensify educational enforcement across London.
 - (b) They legally prosecuted over 10,000 violations of attendance bylaws annually.
 - (c) They focused on educating parents about the importance of school attendance.
 - (d) They hired additional school attendance officers to ensure better compliance.

4. What strategies did some working-class parents employ to avoid sending their children to school, as detailed in the passage?
 - (a) Parents often engaged in direct confrontations with school attendance officers.
 - (b) Some parents obtained fake medical excuses or altered birth certificates for their children.
 - (c) They frequently organized protests against the school attendance laws.
 - (d) Parents primarily negotiated with schools for flexible attendance schedules.

5. The passage describes a specific example involving a young girl representing her mother at a truancy enforcement meeting. What does this example reveal about the challenges faced by working-class families in adhering to school attendance laws?
 - (a) It highlights the lack of understanding of the importance of education among working-class families.
 - (b) It illustrates the economic necessity of children contributing to the household income.
 - (c) It shows the working-class families' preference for domestic responsibilities over education.
 - (d) It demonstrates the challenges of managing health issues within working-class families.

6. How did the enforcement of school attendance laws evolve by the 1890s, especially in the case of older girls, and what societal norms does this reflect according to the passage?
 - (a) Authorities became more lenient, often allowing older girls to stay home for domestic duties.
 - (b) The laws were strictly enforced, with no exceptions for domestic responsibilities of older girls.
 - (c) Educational authorities increased penalties for non-attendance to improve compliance.
 - (d) School attendance became mandatory for all children, regardless of gender and household needs.

Passage (Q.7-Q.12): Copper can destroy harmful virus and bacteria. It is interesting that Ayurveda knew this, when bacteria were unknown to science. Ayurveda recommends storing water in copper vessels. Ancient Egyptians used copper vessels to keep water fresh. Even today, management of Siva temple at Rameswaram uses large sized Copper vessels to store water brought from river Ganges to offer to lord Siva. Water, stored thus, stays fresh for years together. According to scientists, copper vessel can be the answer to kill the 'E-Coli' bacteria which causes food poisoning. Scientists have carried out research on copper and concluded that copper ions kill these harmful bacteria, a capability not found in any other metals including gold. It is interesting to see

that a research group from Southampton University found that Coli 157 bacteria can live happily in stainless steel vessels for months together, while copper vessel at room temperature can kill them in just four hours. Copper, which is an **unadulterated** metal, is popular as a serving and ritualistic vessel in Hinduism. Due to the absence of any mixture, it helps clean the impurities both externally and internally. Known as Tamra (Sanskrit) in Charaka Samhita, this metal is believed to have the ability to modulate the Doshas (energetic forces), especially the Pitta dosha (it controls metabolism).

Consuming more raisins and other copper-high foods is an excellent way of getting a natural dose. You can also take a multiple vitamin tablet that has copper in it. Or you can simply buy a copper metal glass or vessel, fill it with cold water at bedtime, and drink it first thing the next morning, just like the ancient Indians did in the past. Ancient Indians used to throw copper coins in rivers, lakes, ponds and wells. Today's generation, without thinking of the meaning behind this act, are ignorantly throwing nickel, aluminum coins into rivers, which is of no use and in fact detrimental to the environment. The idea behind throwing coins into water is not about the blind faith of river worship but to kill the harmful bacteria in water with copper (copper coins were used in ancient past and still made in the USA and other western countries) and this purified water would be useful for living beings within the water and the humans and creatures drinking it would remain healthy. If someone suffers from excess heat in body due to Mars in their horoscope, it is advised to wear a copper bangle/bracelet on active hand's wrist.

Copper is known for its property of synthesizing phospholipids which help in formation of nerve coating (myelin). Copper is a known anti-oxidant and anti-carcinogenic agent which helps in slowing down the ageing process by preventing cell damage. Copper water (ionic electrolyte) helps maintain balance of acid-alkaline (pH balance) in body. Positively charged water regulates the Thyroid Gland functioning. Internal wounds, ulcers, piles, skin diseases, respiratory disorders, rheumatism can be cured with copper water. However, just like anything else, excess of copper in the human body can be detrimental to health as well. An adult should not take a dose of more than 10mg daily if consuming in a tablet form. Copper poisoning (copper toxicity) can be caused by consuming acidic products or drinks cooked in uncoated copper cookware.

[Source: <https://www.sanskritimagazine.com/why-copper-was-used-by-our-ancestors/> and <https://www.exoticindiaart.com/article/copper-the-sacred-metal/>]

7. What is the main idea that is conveyed through the passage?
 - (a) Copper element or metal is stated to have religious, scientific, astrological and nutritional utilities under religious texts and in researches.
 - (b) Copper is an element which is preferred for it being a good conductor of heat and electricity and having scientific properties for the nervous system.
 - (c) Copper is an element which has deep significance in religious and nutritional utilities but still requires scientific validation despite validated in religious texts.
 - (d) Copper has been discovered as an essential element in the bodily functions with no known disadvantages in any form for consumption in any researches or religious texts.

8. What does the word “unadulterated” mean in the context of the passage?
 - (a) Absence of any maturity.
 - (b) Tainted and diminished.
 - (c) Infected and weakened.
 - (d) Pure and unalloyed.

9. Which of these can be inferred from the passage?
 - (a) It is impossible to find a way to store river water for longer periods of time.
 - (b) Detrimental microorganisms have been eliminated by normal copper metal.
 - (c) There is a generalized benefit of throwing coins of every metal in any water body.
 - (d) There was little knowledge of copper's bodily benefits in the pre-scientific age.

10. Which of these is not an advantage for copper mentioned in different religious texts or astrological items?
- (a) It balances the energetic forces in the human body with a specific benefit for improving metabolism.
 - (b) It can lead to noxious effects in the organs of the human body when acidic drinks are stored in it.
 - (c) It can purify water to eliminate harmful bacteria and viruses making it potable for humans and all living creatures alike.
 - (d) It can reduce the excessive heating effects of the planet Mars on a person if worn on the active wrist.
11. Which of these cannot be stored or cooked in a copper vessel according to the passage?
- (a) Alkaline products or drinks.
 - (b) Sweet or bitter products or drinks.
 - (c) Astringent products or drinks.
 - (d) Acidic products or drinks.
12. Which of these is an apt title from the passage?
- (a) Copper: Conducting good health and electricity.
 - (b) Copper: benefits galore in multifarious fields.
 - (c) Copper: Without an iota of utility-shortcoming.
 - (d) Copper: An amalgamation of science and astrology.

Passage (Q.13-Q.18): In my senior year of college, I began my first job as a social worker, counseling victims of sexual assault. I began every morning determined to help my clients, who had experienced major trauma. But in sessions, I felt powerless, like there was never enough I could do for them. And by the time I left each evening, all I could feel was rage for my clients who had been sexually abused—especially when they were children. I wondered why their abuse hadn't been prevented; why we weren't stopping it before it began.

Unfortunately, I would later find out that preventing child sexual abuse is a divisive endeavor. Harassment—and hate mail—I've received as a scholar studying those questions I first had as a counselor offers a troubling explanation: too many people are more interested in punishment than in preventing childhood sexual abuse in the first place.

The U.S. spends more than \$5.4 billion annually on incarcerating adults who commit sexual offenses against children. But our policies are glaringly inadequate when it comes to stopping child abuse before it occurs because preventive measures remain grossly underdeveloped and underfunded; the federal budget only included \$2 million for research to prevent child sexual abuse in 2022. As I learned firsthand while counseling victims years ago, our approach is not working.

After I began my career in research, studying strategies for violence prevention, I learned about people who are attracted to children but have never harmed a child. I instantly had so many questions. I wanted to know more about them to aid in broader prevention efforts. Unable to find existing research on the subject, I decided to conduct it myself and interviewed 42 such individuals.

Here is what I learned: When these study participants realized they were attracted to children, they were usually horrified. They worried they were “monsters” destined to abuse a child. This fear often led them to ask for help. But those who told loved ones about their attractions risked abandonment; those who told a therapist risked being denied care, outed to family or mistakenly reported to the police. Because these experiences were common, others refused to reach out for support, even if they wanted help to stop themselves from acting on their attractions.

My findings indicate that making help more available to people who are attracted to children can prevent abuse. But increasing the availability of help for these individuals means increasing education about attractions to children among people who have these attractions, their friends and family, mental health care providers and beyond. We should of course continue condemning child sexual abuse, but we simultaneously need to broaden awareness that people with attractions to children are not doomed to abuse; they can consistently make positive choices and help keep children safe.

These are not popular messages.

So to spread awareness, I wrote a book about my research. But after its publication, an interview I gave, in which I talked about both my research and being transgender, went viral via the far-right, anti-LGBTQ+ Twitter (now X) account Libs of TikTok and then national news. News and social media stories highlighted that I am nonbinary and twisted my words, providing little context and implying that I advocate for, rather than against, child sexual abuse. As misinformation spread about me, I began to receive many personal threats and messages of outrage.

13. What impact did the viral spread of misinformation about the author and their research have, as described in the passage?
 - (a) It led to increased funding and support for the author's research.
 - (b) It resulted in a widespread public debate on child sexual abuse prevention.
 - (c) It caused the author to receive personal threats and messages of outrage.
 - (d) It prompted the author to revise their research methods and focus.
14. What was the primary motivation behind the author's transition from a social worker to a researcher in the field of sexual abuse prevention?
 - (a) To explore more effective ways of punishing those who commit child sexual abuse.
 - (b) To understand and prevent child sexual abuse before it occurs.
 - (c) To address the inadequacies in the current counseling methods for victims.
 - (d) To challenge the societal stigma associated with attractions to children.
15. Based on the passage, how does the author characterize the current state of policies and funding concerning the prevention of child sexual abuse in the United States?
 - (a) As adequately funded but poorly executed in practical application.
 - (b) As primarily focused on punitive measures rather than prevention.
 - (c) As successful in certain areas but lacking in nationwide coordination.
 - (d) As underdeveloped and underfunded in terms of prevention strategies.
16. What challenge did the author encounter when trying to study individuals who are attracted to children but have never harmed a child?
 - (a) Difficulty in finding participants willing to disclose their attractions.
 - (b) Lack of previous research on the subject to guide the study.
 - (c) Resistance from the academic community to study such a sensitive topic.
 - (d) Ethical concerns about the potential harm of such research to participants.
17. According to the passage, what are the common reactions and consequences faced by individuals who realize they are attracted to children and seek help?
 - (a) They often receive support and guidance from mental health professionals.
 - (b) They risk abandonment if they disclose their attractions to loved ones.
 - (c) They are usually encouraged to participate in community support groups.
 - (d) They find ample resources and programs specifically designed for their situation.
18. How does the author propose to prevent child sexual abuse, as indicated by the findings of their research?
 - (a) By implementing stricter laws and penalties for those who commit child sexual abuse.
 - (b) By increasing public awareness and education about child sexual abuse.
 - (c) By making help more available to people who are attracted to children.
 - (d) By providing more funding for the incarceration of sexual offenders.

Passage (Q.19-Q.24): If you lined up 1000 randomly selected people from across the earth, none of them would share the exact same skin tone. You could arrange them from darkest to lightest and there wouldn't be a single tie. Of course, the continuity of skin tone hasn't stopped humans from assigning each other to discrete skin-color categories like black and white—categories that have no basis in biology but nonetheless go on to determine the social, political, and economic well-being of their members.

Categorical labeling is a tool that humans use to resolve the impossible complexity of the environments we grapple to perceive. Like so many human faculties, it's adaptive and miraculous, but it also contributes to some of the deepest problems that we face concerning reduction of a multi-faceted person to a binary or a monotonous existence. Researchers began to study the cognitive effects of labeling in the 1930s when linguist Benjamin Whorf proposed the linguistic relativity hypothesis. According to his hypothesis, the words we use to describe what we see aren't just idle placeholders; they determine what we see. According to one **apocryphal** account, the Inuit can distinguish between dozens of different types of snow that the rest of us perceive, simply, as "snow," because they have a different label for each type.

Labels shape more than our perception of color; they also change how we perceive more complex targets, like people. Jennifer Eberhardt, a social psychologist at Stanford, and her colleagues showed white college students pictures of a man who was racially ambiguous; he could have plausibly fallen into the white category or the black category. For half the students, the face was described as belonging to a white man, and for the other half, it was described as belonging to a black man.

The long-term consequences of labeling a child smart or slow are profound. In another classic study, Rosenthal and Lenore Jacobson told teachers at an elementary school that some of their students had scored in the top 20% of a test designed to identify academic bloomers—students who were expected to enter a period of intense intellectual development over the following year. In fact, the students were selected randomly, and they performed no differently from their unselected peers on a genuine academic test. A year after convincing the teachers that some of their students were due to bloom, Rosenthal and Jacobson returned to the school and administered the same test. The results were astonishing among the younger children: the "bloomers," who were no different from their peers a year ago, now outperformed their unselected peers by 10-15 IQ points. The teachers fostered the intellectual development of the bloomers, producing a self-fulfilling prophecy in which the students who were deceptively expected to bloom actually outperformed their peers.

[Source: <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/alternative-truths/201005/why-its-dangerous-label-people>]

19. What is the central thesis in the extract given above?
- (a) Labeling of persons on the basis of color, intelligence etc. is a cognitive tool which has benefits to reduce complexity in the drudgery of life.
 - (b) Labeling persons on the basis of certain characteristics of mind and skin has no beneficial aspects related to it.
 - (c) Labeling a person on the basis of bodily and mind-related characteristics is a cognitive distortion which is detrimental in its entirety.
 - (d) Labeling persons on the basis of characteristics like skin colour and intelligence is a complexity reduction tool but has deep repercussions.
20. Which of these cannot be inferred from the passage?
- (a) There is little basis in the biological realm for the labeling of skin tone as binary.
 - (b) There are multifarious layers to the analysis of persons which may defy simple labeling.
 - (c) Labeling done on children for positive or negative traits can have intense ramifications.
 - (d) There was a team of three researchers who did a study on school children and effect of labeling on them.

21. What was the result of labeling some young children as bloomers in a study by researchers?
- (a) They actually surpassed their peers despite not being extraordinary.
 - (b) They came at par with their peers despite having no special capabilities.
 - (c) They actually lagged in their comparison with peers despite being of similar abilities.
 - (d) They actually surpassed their seniors despite not being extraordinary.
22. What does the word “apocryphal” mean in the context of the passage?
- (a) Mythical.
 - (b) Accurate.
 - (c) Factual.
 - (d) Genuine.
23. What is the disadvantage and peril of excessive use of the tool of labeling in accordance with the passage?
- (a) It makes kids prone to depression in adulthood.
 - (b) It makes intricate persons into tedious ones.
 - (c) It makes people into a replica of the label imposed on them.
 - (d) It makes people to be in resentment of the label imposed on them.
24. What was the selection criterion for the students who were chosen by Rosenthal and Jacobson for their study?
- (a) They were chosen keeping their academic abilities in mind.
 - (b) They were chosen for their specific traits over their peers.
 - (c) They were chosen without any specificity, at random.
 - (d) They were chosen after a quiz on a specific criterion.

SECTION -B : CURRENT AFFAIRS, INCLUDING GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

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

Passage (Q.25-Q.30): Global Human Development Index

India's human development index (HDI) value saw an increase from 0.633 to 0.644 in 2022, placing the country in the medium human development category, just as in previous years

India has bettered its ranking on a global UN measure of well-being and quality of life of citizens, making progress for the first time since slipping in 2020 and 2021, according to the just-released 2023/24 Human Development Report titled, "[a]". The world's fifth-largest economy has been placed [X], the report said, as India's human development index (HDI) value saw an increase from 0.633 to 0.644 in 2022, placing the country in the medium human development category, just as in previous years.

The HDI is a composite index computed based on three parameters – life expectancy, mean years of schooling and average incomes – in contrast to gross domestic product (GDP), which is a gauge only of incomes or output in an economy.

In 2022, India saw improvements across all HDI indicators – life expectancy, education and Gross National Income (GNI) per capita. Life expectancy rose from 67.2 to 67.7 years, expected years of schooling reached [z], mean years of schooling increased to 6.57 and GNI per capita saw an increase from \$6,542 to \$6,951, the report said.

<https://www.hindustantimes.com>

25. What has been redacted by [X] in this passage?
(a) 134 out of 193 countries (b) 124 out of 193 countries
(c) 134 out of 183 countries (d) 124 out of 133 countries
26. What is the title of the 2023/24 Human Development Report?
(a) "Global Recovery Amidst Crisis"
(b) "Breaking the Gridlock: Reimagining Cooperation in a Polarized World"
(c) "Building Back Better"
(d) "Pathways to Prosperity"
27. How many years in a row did the global HDI value fall before the release of the 2023/24 HDR?
(a) One (b) Two (c) Three (d) Four
28. Consider the following statements:
I. India's HDI value has increased to 0.644 in 2022, placing the country 134 out of 193 countries and territories in the just released 2023/24 Human Development Report (HDR) titled, "Breaking the Gridlock: Reimagining Cooperation in a Polarized World."
II. All the member countries in the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) have surpassed their 2019 HDI level. But among least developed countries, only one in two have recovered their already low pre-crisis HDI levels.
(a) Only II is correct. (b) Both I & II are incorrect.
(c) Only I is correct. (d) Both I & II are correct.
29. What is the expected years of schooling in India according to the 2023/24 HDR?
(a) 11.5 years (b) 12.0 years (c) 12.6 years (d) 13.0 years

30. Which countries have surpassed their 2019 HDI level according to the report?
- (a) Only SAARC countries
 - (b) Only least developed countries
 - (c) All member countries of the OECD
 - (d) Only one in two least developed countries

Passage (Q.31-Q.36): UP's Green Hydrogen Policy

The Uttar Pradesh government on Tuesday approved a green hydrogen policy, and a proposal for setting up two units of 800 MW in [a] in collaboration with NTPC at a cost of Rs 8,624 crore. The decisions were taken at a Cabinet meeting presided by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. "So far, hydrogen production technology has relied on electricity or gas, known as gray hydrogen. A significant effort is now underway to transition from gray hydrogen to green hydrogen. The policy outlines an ambitious goal to produce one million metric tonne of green hydrogen annually within the [X]," an official release quoted Energy Minister AK Sharma as saying.

The green hydrogen policy has been set for 5 years. Industries establishing themselves within this timeframe will receive subsidies and other incentives totalling Rs five thousand and forty-five crore.

"These industries will be eligible for subsidies ranging from 10 to 30 per cent on capital expenditure, with the first five industries enjoying discounts of up to 40 per cent. Additionally, the policy includes provisions for energy banking, offering a 100 per cent rebate on intrastate electricity charges and billing and transmission charges for interstate transactions," Sharma said. Moreover, there is a provision for a 100 per cent exemption in electricity duty, he added.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com>

31. What has been redacted by [X] in this passage?
- (a) next 4 years, by 2028
 - (b) next 5 years, by 2029
 - (c) next 6 years, by 2030
 - (d) next 10 years, by 2035
32. Where did the Uttar Pradesh government approve the establishment of two units of 800 MW in collaboration with NTPC?
- (a) Lucknow
 - (b) Kanpur
 - (c) Anpara
 - (d) Varanasi
33. What is the goal outlined in the green hydrogen policy approved by the Uttar Pradesh government?
- (a) To produce 500,000 metric tonnes of green hydrogen annually by 2025
 - (b) To produce 750,000 metric tonnes of green hydrogen annually by 2030
 - (c) To produce one million metric tonnes of green hydrogen annually by 2028
 - (d) To produce two million metric tonnes of green hydrogen annually by 2035
34. How much subsidy will industries establishing themselves within the specified timeframe receive according to the green hydrogen policy?
- (a) Rs 1,000 crore
 - (b) Rs 3,500 crore
 - (c) Rs 5,045 crore
 - (d) Rs 7,500 crore
35. Consider the following statements:
- I. UP government has approved recently a green hydrogen policy, and a proposal for setting up two units of 800 MW in Anpara in collaboration with NTPC at a cost of Rs 8,624 crore.
 - II. The green hydrogen policy has been set for 6 years. Industries establishing themselves within this timeframe will receive subsidies and other incentives totalling Rs 6050 crore.
- (a) Only I is correct.
 - (b) Only II is correct.
 - (c) Both I & II are correct.
 - (d) Both I & II are incorrect.

36. Where will the coal mine be acquired from for the production of cost-effective electricity in Anpara?
- (a) WCL (Western Coalfields Ltd) (b) SECL (South Eastern Coalfields Ltd)
(c) MCL (Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd) (d) NCL (Northern Coalfields Ltd)

Passage (Q.37-Q.42): India's First Underwater Metro

Commercial services of the country's first underwater metro train commenced in Kolkata on March 15 with hundreds of passengers erupting into jubilation on their first ride. A train began its journey from the Howrah Maidan station on the East-West metro corridor of Kolkata at 7 am. In the Howrah Maidan to Esplanade section, a total of 130 services will be available daily from Monday to Saturday. The trains will run at 12-15 minute intervals in both directions, according to a statement issued by the Metro Railway earlier.

As the train entered the under-river stretch, passengers on board erupted in joy while a section of commuters started raising slogans - "this is Modi's guarantee" and some enthusiastically rushed to the window to get a glimpse of the illumination of the tunnel wall under the [X]. A special illumination of the inner wall of the tunnels under the river with blue light has been arranged to give the effects of water around the moving rake.

The under-river section of the tunnel is 520 metres long, and a train took around 45 seconds to cross it. According to the statement issued by the Metro Railway, the 4.8-km stretch of East-West Metro from Howrah Maidan to Esplanade has been built at a cost of Rs 4,965 crore.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com>

37. What has been redacted by [X] in this passage?
- (a) Hooghly river (b) Damodar river (c) Teesta river (d) Mahananda river
38. What is the deepest metro station in the country located in the newly inaugurated section?
- (a) Kochi Metro station (b) Salem Metro station
(c) Howrah Metro station (d) Salt Lake Sector V Metro station
39. The work for the East-West corridor began in 2009 and tunneling under the Hooghly river commenced in which year?
- (a) 2012 (b) 2020 (c) 2017 (d) 2016
40. Which of the following statement is incorrect about the India's First Underwater Metro?
- (a) The commercial services began after PM Modi had on March 6 inaugurated the Howrah Maidan-Esplanade section of Kolkata Metro's East-West corridor, heralding India's first venture into underwater metro services.
(b) The underwater metro will connect Howrah and Salt Lake, and will have six stations, three of which are underground.
(c) The under-river section of the tunnel is 520 metres long, and a train took around 45 seconds to cross it.
(d) The metro tunnel, beneath the mighty Damodar River, is a remarkable feat of engineering that spans a distance of 19.6 kilometers.
41. Which of the following is the first metro system of India?
- (a) Kolkata Metro (b) Mumbai Metro
(c) Pune Metro (d) Bangalore Metro
42. Consider the following statements:
- I. The foundation stone of the Kolkata Metro project was laid by Indira Gandhi, on 29 December 1972, and construction work started in 1973–74.
II. Metro Railway, Kolkata is the first underground Metro in India.
- (a) Only I is correct. (b) Both I & II are correct.
(c) Only II is correct. (d) Both I & II are incorrect.

Passage (Q.43-Q.48): Ranji Trophy 2024

India's domestic giants end their eight-year drought to become Ranji champions for the [X] In the end, it needed the home team's bowlers to turn 'khadoos' — the hard-nosed attitude generally associated with Mumbai's batters — and break the back of Vidarbha's resistance to lift the coveted Ranji Trophy for a record-extending [X].

For 255 balls on Thursday, Vidarbha skipper Akshay Wadkar and young all-rounder Harsh Dubey kept the hosts at bay with a 130-run partnership at the Wankhede Stadium. A wicketless morning session on the final day had left Mumbai's players feeling restive even though they had the cushion of 537 runs to defend and a first-innings lead. The resistance, however, was spoiling a party that had been on hold for eight long years.

But as has often been the case during Mumbai's 2023/24 campaign, it was Tanush Kotian — the player of the tournament with 502 runs and 29 wickets — who rose up to the challenge and trapped Wadkar in front of his stumps. The resolute innings of 102 (119b, 9x4, 1x6) had shown that victory needed to be earned the hard way and that is how it should be in a final.

As it so often happens in cricket, one wicket heralds the arrival of another; here, though, it brought five.
<https://www.hindustantimes.com>

43. What has been redacted by [X] in this passage?
(a) 42nd time (b) 22nd time (c) 24th time (d) 18th time
44. Who scored the most runs in Ranji Trophy history?
(a) Sachin Tendulkar (b) Wasim Jaffer (c) Virat Kohli (d) Sourav Ganguly
45. Consider the following statements about the Ranji Trophy?
I. The Ranji Trophy is named after one of India's first test cricketers, Ranjitsinhji, who played for England and Sussex.
II. Largely regional in nature, the Ranji Trophy can be summed up as a domestic first class cricket series played by various regional teams against one another. The series was announced in 1934, and the initial fixtures took place in 1934-35. Maharaja Bhupinder Singh of Patiala donated the trophy.
(a) Only I is correct. (b) Only II is correct.
(c) Both I & II are correct. (d) Both I & II are incorrect.
46. Before 2023-24 edition, when was the Mumbai won the Ranji Trophy title?
(a) 2021-2022 (b) 2019-2020 (c) 2017-2018 (d) 2015-2016
47. How many total teams participated in Ranji Trophy cricket tournament 2023-24?
(a) 38 (b) 34 (c) 36 (d) 30
48. In which of the following year the famous Ranji Trophy in cricket was started in India?
(a) 1927 (b) 1934 (c) 1930 (d) 1942

Passage (Q.49-Q.52): Global Resources Outlook Report

The world is in the midst of a triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution and waste. The global economy is consuming ever more natural resources, while the world is not on track to meet the Sustainable Development Goals.

The scientific community has never before been more aligned or more resolute on the need for urgent global transformation towards the sustainable use of resources. This 2024 edition of the Global Resources Outlook sheds light on how resources are essential to the effective implementation of the Agenda 2030 and multilateral environmental agreements to tackle the triple planetary crisis. The report brings together the best available data, modelling and assessments to analyse trends, impacts and distributional effects of resource use. It builds on more

than 15 years of work by the International Resource Panel, including scientific assessments and inputs from countries, a vast network of stakeholders in the field and regional experts.

The report illustrates how, since the 2019 edition of this report, rising trends in global resource use have continued or accelerated. The report also shows how demand for resources is expected to continue increasing in the coming decades. This means that, without urgent and concerted action, by 2060 resource extraction could rise by 60% from 2020 levels – driving increasing damage and risks.

<https://www.unep.org>

49. What has been the trend in the extraction of Earth's natural resources over the past five decades, according to the Global Resources Outlook Report?
- (a) It has remained constant (b) It has doubled
(c) It has tripled (d) It has decreased
50. Which organization hosted the International Resource Panel that published the 2024 Global Resource Outlook?
- (a) World Bank
(b) UN Environment Programme (UNEP)
(c) International Monetary Fund (IMF)
(d) World Trade Organization (WTO)
51. Which income group of countries has more than doubled resource use in the past 50 years, According to the 2024 Global Resource Outlook?
- (a) Low-income countries (b) Middle-income countries
(c) High-income countries (d) Upper middle-income countries
52. According to the 2024 Global Resource Outlook, what strategy is suggested to reduce global resource use by around 30% compared to historical trends?
- (a) Increase resource extraction
(b) Implement stronger regulations on resource extraction
(c) Focus on lowering resource and material consumption levels
(d) Ignore resource consumption patterns

SECTION – C: LEGAL REASONING

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

Passage (Q.53-Q.57): The Supreme Court held that government servants cannot be denied their annual increment merely because they retired the very next day after earning the same. A Division Bench of Justices **MR Shah** and **CT Ravikumar** disapproved of the decision of a single-judge of the Karnataka High Court which stated that the increment is in the form of incentive and, therefore, when employees are not in service, there is no question of granting them any annual increment. The Court upheld the decision of the Division Bench of the High Court which had overruled the findings of single-judge. **"Merely because, the government servant has retired on the very next day, how can he be denied the annual increment which he has earned and/or is entitled to for rendering the service with good conduct and efficiently in the preceding one year,"** the order stated. By way of background, the appellant-employer had denied annual increments to the respondent-employees on the ground that they had retired the very next day of the increment becoming due. The appellants had relied upon Regulation 40(1) of the *Karnataka Electricity Board Employees Service Regulations 1997*, which provides that an increment accrues from the day after it is earned. Therefore, the appellant had denied the annual increment on the ground that the on the day on which the increment accrued, the employees were not in service. According to the Bench, denying a government servant the same would amount to punishing a person for no fault of his own. Therefore, the Court stated that the moment a government servant has rendered service for a specified period with good conduct, in a time scale, he is entitled to the annual increment and it can be said that he has earned the annual increment. *"The entitlement to receive increment therefore crystallizes when the government servant completes requisite length of service with good conduct and becomes payable on the succeeding day. In the present case the word "accrue" should be understood liberally and would mean payable on the succeeding day,"* the Court observed.

(Source:<https://www.barandbench.com/news/litigation/government-servants-cant-be-denied-annual-increment-because-retired-next-day-supreme-court>)

53. Which decision of the Karnataka High Court did the Division Bench of the Supreme Court disapprove of in the case regarding denial of annual increment to government servants who retired the very next day after earning it?
- (a) The decision of a single-judge of the Karnataka High Court which stated that the increment is in the form of incentive and, therefore, when employees are not in service, there is no question of granting them any annual increment.
 - (b) The decision of a single-judge of the Karnataka High Court which held that government servants are not entitled to annual increment if they retire on the day the increment becomes due.
 - (c) The decision of a Division Bench of the Karnataka High Court which overruled the findings of a single-judge and upheld the denial of annual increment to government servants who retired on the day the increment accrued.
 - (d) The decision of a Division Bench of the Karnataka High Court which stated that the annual increment should be denied to government servants who retire the very next day after earning it, as per Regulation 40(1) of the Karnataka Electricity Board Employees Service Regulations 1997.
54. Y worked for the government as the operations head of a defense company. He had spent the previous eighteen years working there. His son was also employed by the same company and had been for the past three years. This year was supposed to be his father's retirement. In recognition of his excellent performance and loyalty to the company, the company decided to give him a thirty percent annual increment. However, due to Y's poor health, he was forced to retire immediately after his raise was announced. The company has now refused to pay him the raise. Determine whether they are qualified to do so.
- (a) They are qualified to do so because his increment was contingent on his future performance in the company.
 - (b) They are not eligible because it was not stated that continuing service was required in order to earn the increment amount.
 - (c) They are not permitted to do so if Y promised to rejoin once his health improves.
 - (d) They are not entitled to do so because the increment was given as a result of his excellent performance during his tenure with the company.

55. W was ABZ Private Limited's senior manager. He started out as a junior assistant, was promoted to junior manager after eight years, and then after five years of excellent service, was promoted to senior manager of the company. It was time for him to retire when his raise was due. Given that he would no longer be employed, the company claimed there was no reason to pay him the increment, so he was not given the requested amount. Comment on the company's claims.
- (a) Given that continuing the service was necessary for W to receive his annual increment, the company made the right decision.
 - (b) W will receive the annual raise, in accordance with Regulation 40(1) of the Karnataka Electricity Board Employees Service Regulations 1997.
 - (c) W does not fall under the purview of the employees who will still be paid the increment amount after their retirement on the very next day, so the company made the right decision.
 - (d) Since the increment was based on W's consistent good behavior over the course of his employment, the company did not make the most suitable decision.
56. T worked for a specific government company as a legal consultant. He had been employed for the previous seven years. He had previously worked for a private company. He had intended to work for the current company for an additional five years. He was very old and suffering from certain ailments so his son persuaded him to retire and stop working. He complied with his son's request and left the service in the middle of the year because he had to relocate due to his son's employment in a different city. The company made an announcement about increments at the end of that specific fiscal year. Determine if T is qualified to make the same claim.
- (a) Given that T retired before the increment announcement, he is not eligible to claim it.
 - (b) T must at least be eligible for the increment based on the six months he spent working in the particular year.
 - (c) Due to his prior employment with a private company, T is ineligible to receive the annual increment.
 - (d) Given that T has been employed for the past seven years, he is qualified to receive the annual increment.
57. The organization where R worked revealed the names of the employees who were awarded the 2022 annual increment. R wasn't among them. He was upset about this because he was the senior most employee. The company reasoned that he had taken more than the stipulated number of leaves and had also caused the company to lose clients as a result of his reckless conduct. Read the passage carefully and determine whether R is eligible for the annual increment.
- (a) R is eligible for the annual increment because he is the company's most senior employee.
 - (b) R is not eligible for the annual increment because his behavior was not appropriate enough to merit one.
 - (c) R is only eligible for the annual increment if he does not retire after earning it.
 - (d) The information provided in the passage is insufficient to determine whether R is eligible for the annual increment.

Passage (Q.58-Q.62): Section 153A of the IPC, criminalizes the promotion of enmity between groups of people on grounds such as religion and race, place of birth, residence, language, etc. and acts that are prejudicial to maintaining harmony prescribing the punishment in such cases which may be imprisonment up to five years and fine. The intention has been a crucial and important factor in this offence. Mens Rea has got to be proved for proving the commission of the offence. Extending the scope of its 2022 order beyond three states, the Supreme Court directed all states and Union Territories to register cases against those making hate speeches even if no complaint has been made. A bench of Justices KM Joseph and BV Nagarathna termed hate speeches a "serious offence capable of affecting secular fabric of the country". The bench said its October 21, 2022 order shall be made applicable irrespective of religion and warned any delay in registering cases will be treated as contempt of the court. "Where have we reached in the name of religion? What have we reduced religion to be really tragic," the apex court had then observed and directed Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Uttarakhand to crack down hard on those making hate speeches, calling them shocking for a country that is religion-neutral. Holding that the Constitution of India envisages a secular nation, the court had directed Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Delhi to promptly register criminal cases against the offenders without waiting for a

complaint to be filed. The bench also said, "The judges are apolitical and not concerned with Party A or Party B and the only thing they have in mind is the Constitution of India". It said the court has been entertaining petitions against hate speeches in different parts of the country for larger public good and to ensure establishment of rule of law. The apex court warned any delay on the part of the administration in taking action on this very serious issue will invite the court's contempt.

(Source: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2023/apr/28/register-cases-against-those-making-hate-speeches-even-without-a-complaintsc-directstates-uts-2570307.html>)

58. Which of the following is true about Section 153A of the IPC bases on your understanding of the given passage?
- (a) It only criminalizes acts that are prejudicial to maintaining harmony, not the promotion of enmity between groups of people.
 - (b) The punishment prescribed in such cases is imprisonment up to ten years and fine.
 - (c) Mens Rea is not necessary to prove for the commission of the offence.
 - (d) It criminalizes the promotion of enmity between groups of people on grounds such as religion and race, place of birth, residence, language, etc. and acts that are prejudicial to maintaining harmony
59. Y was dissatisfied with the newly enacted motor vehicle act. As a result, he stood in front of the parliament building and began accusing the legislature. It was a Sunday morning, so there were few people on the road, but the police were encircling the parliament building. When they overheard Y hurling insults, they arrested him for hate speech. Determine the hate speech offense.
- (a) There has been no hate speech because the necessary conditions have not been met.
 - (b) Given that Y attempted to incite hatred against the legislature, hate speech occurred.
 - (c) Hate speech occurred because the necessary conditions were met in the given case.
 - (d) He merely attempted to voice his displeasure with the recently passed law; no hate speech was made.
60. In the park, N was having fun with his friends. N, an American child who identified as Christian, had moved to India as a result of his father's job transfer. N's mother noticed that the children he was playing with were black when she arrived to pick him up. Additionally, she discovered that some of the kids were Jewish. When she learned this, she became enraged and began to criticize Jews, saying that they had once served as Christians' servants and that N should not associate with such a low caste of people. If there has been any hate speech, please comment.
- (a) Given that such speech was not published, there has been no hate speech.
 - (b) N's mother tried to incite animosity between Christians and Jews, and as a result, hate speech has occurred.
 - (c) Given that she just said what was true, hate speech is not apparent from the case's facts.
 - (d) She did have malicious intentions; she just wanted to keep her son safe, so no hate speech was transmitted.
61. A political party was holding a rally. V opposed the specific party whose rally was taking place because he backed the opposition. Both parties had different ideals because they belonged to different religious groups. As a result, V began to play religious music from the opposition party during the rally, which caused the rally's participants to support the opposition. The political party whose rally was still going on found this offensive and filed a complaint for hate speech. Comment.
- (a) Since there was no instance of promoting animosity, there has been no hate speech.
 - (b) The playing of the opposing party's religious music has been used as a means of hate speech.
 - (c) There has been no hate speech because voters have the right to support any political party they choose.
 - (d) Since V insulted the religion of the political party whose rally was taking place by playing religious music from the opposing political party, there has been hate speech.

62. G was assigned an academic project to research India's history. He decided to conduct research and write an article about the religious conflict between the two castes Y and Z, which began in the 1870s and is still going on today. His article was published in a national newspaper because it was so well-informed. This triggered the two castes, who filed a hate speech complaint against G. Comment.
- (a) Instead of G, the newspaper that published such an article should face consequences.
 - (b) G must be held accountable because riots between the two groups occurred as a result of his article.
 - (c) G should not be held accountable because he never requested that his article be published.
 - (d) G should not be held accountable because he had no intention of inciting rivalry between the two groups.

Passage (Q.63-Q.67): Child grooming incidents have increased with the advent of the Internet, where such incidents are increasingly taking place online, through public chat rooms and social media. In India too, such instances have been reported in the past. Last year, two teenagers were arrested in Kolkata for kidnapping and rape of a 15-year-old girl whom they had befriended on Facebook.

At present, the law in India to protect minor children from sexual offences is The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO), which is gender neutral. Section 11 (vi) of POCSO provides that a person who entices a child for pornographic purposes or gratification, with sexual intent is said to commit sexual harassment upon a child. Further, section 11(iv) of POCSO states that a person is said to commit sexual harassment when such person "repeatedly or constantly follows or watches or contacts a child either directly or through electronic, digital or any other means" with sexual intent.

Section 67B(c) of Information Technology Act, 2008 also punishes the enticement of children in an online relationship with the purpose of publishing or transmitting material depicting children in sexually explicit act in electronic form. These provisions, however, do not use the term 'grooming' explicitly.

To make laws against grooming more robust in India, 'grooming' needs to be explicitly recognized as an offence in India. The legislature must formulate a definition of 'grooming' to avoid any ambiguity in the meaning of the term. In June 2016, the International Labour Organisation issued Terminology Guidelines for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse to bring about consensus on terminology related to sexual exploitation and sexual abuse against children. The Guidelines define 'grooming' as "the process of establishing/building a relationship with a child either in person or through the use of the Internet or other digital technologies to facilitate either online or offline sexual contact with that person." India could adopt this definition to ensure that the country's understanding of 'grooming' is in line with international standards.

63. Mrinalini was a 12-year-old Indian schoolgirl. She was bullied at school on a daily basis because of her dark skin. She began to feel lonely and depressed because there was not a single student there who is friends with her. Despite her parents' restriction on her using electronic devices, she secretly used her mother's phone at night and opened her Chatbook account. She discovered that there are many people to talk to without meeting them in person. She instantly made a different account and began using the application, claiming to be over the age of 18. When she received a friend request from an unknown man, she added him as a friend and began speaking with him. The profile was a fake, created by Naman. He talked to Mrinalini and convinced her to share her naked pictures. Mrinalini joyfully gave the pictures, however Naman uploaded them on an obscene website. Now, decide if Naman will be held accountable for any offense.
- (a) Yes, Naman will be held liable under section 67B(c) of Information Technology Act, 2008.
 - (b) Naman will be held liable under section 11(iv) of POCSO to commit sexual harassment upon a child.
 - (c) Naman will not be held liable as Mrinalini herself shared the pictures and under no undue influence.
 - (d) Naman can be held liable for the offence of grooming.

64. Assume that Sunita, whom Mrinalini connected with on Chatbook, persuades Mrinalini to leave her house and come live with her, claiming that she will provide her with a better lifestyle and that she has a number of children who are residing with her. There would be no color discrimination. Mrinalini left a message for her parents stating that she is leaving with Sunita and will return if she does not enjoy living with her. Sunita shall be charged with what crime?
- (a) Sunita will be held liable for the purpose of grooming as she facilitated an online or sexual contact with Mrinalini.
 - (b) Sunita will be held liable under Section 67B(c) of Information Technology Act, 2008.
 - (c) Sunita will be held liable under section 11 (vi) of The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO)
 - (d) Sunita is not liable for an offence under either the POCSO or the IT Act.
65. Assume Mrinalini meets Michal, one of his classmates, on Chatbook and begins conversing with him on a daily basis. Things swiftly intensified when all Mrinalini did most of the time was talk to Michal, but Michal refuses to know her in person whenever he encounters her at school because Mrinalini used a fictitious identity to create an account on Chatbook. Michal asks Mrinalini for semi-naked photographs. Mrinalini initially objected, but subsequently agreed to share. In the present instance, what is Michal's liability?
- (a) Michal cannot be held liable for any offence on account of him being a minor.
 - (b) Michal will be held liable under the provisions of POCSO as the act is gender sensitive.
 - (c) Michal cannot be held liable for any offence as Mrinalini operated a fake profile that states she is a major giving consent rationally.
 - (d) Michal will be held liable under Section 11 (vi) of The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO).
66. Natu, who is 20 years old, was hired as Mathematics teacher in a school. Chirayu, a 12-year-old student, enjoyed studying Mathematics. Chirayu also takes personal tutoring from Miss Natu at her home. One day Natu groped Chirayu's private parts with sexual intent while teaching him, and told her that this type of touch is a bad touch. Chirayu went home and told his mother about it. Chirayu's mother filed a complaint against Ms. Natu in the POCSO Act, 2012 special court. Will Ms. Natu be held accountable for any offence under the POCSO Act, 2012?
- (a) Ms. Natu will not be held liable because a woman cannot commit the offence according to POCSO Act, 2012.
 - (b) Ms. Natu will not be held liable because she is a teacher and can touch Chirayu.
 - (c) Ms. Natu will be liable under the act because the act applies to both men and women irrespective of their gender.
 - (d) Ms. Natu shall be held accountable for sexually harassing Chirayu.
67. If Natwarlal, the personal tutor of Chirayu, a 10th class student, engages in consensual sexual acts, will Natwarlal be held accountable under POCSO?
- (a) No, Natwarlal cannot be held liable for the offence of sexual harassment as age of Chirayu cannot be ascertained.
 - (b) Yes, Natwarlal will be held liable for the offence of sexual harassment as a 10th class student will be presumed to be a minor.
 - (c) Yes, even if the act was consensual, Chirayu is a child and hence, his act will be punishable under the provisions of POCSO.
 - (d) No, since the act is gender neutral, Natwarlal cannot be punished under POCSO for engaging in a sexual activity with the child of same gender.

Passage (Q.68-Q.72): Unless the contrary is specified, every criminal offence requires both a criminal act, expressed in Latin as the actus reus, and a criminal intention, expressed as mens rea.

Mens rea is often described as the “mental element” in a crime. It can include what used to be known as “malice aforethought”, ie conscious planning or intent, as well as something culpable but less deliberate, such as recklessness or negligence.

A crime which does not require any proof of mens rea to secure a conviction is known as a one of “absolute liability”.

A crime in which one or more elements (but not all) of the actus reus requires no proof of mens rea, or that requires the defence to disprove criminal intent once the prosecution have established an initial case, is known as one of “strict liability”. A statute creating such an offence needs to state expressly (or by necessary implication) that the offence does not require proof of mens rea. Otherwise, such a requirement will be implied into the statute.

A famous case about mens rea is Sweet v Parsley [1970] AC 132 in which the House of Lords ruled that: “Mens rea is an essential ingredient of every offence unless some reason can be found for holding that it is not necessary, and the court ought not to hold that an offence is an absolute offence unless it appears that must have been the intention of Parliament”.

In his judgment Lord Diplock cites with approval the analysis of Stephen J (sitting in the Court of Crown Cases Reserved) in the earlier case of R v Tolson (1889) 23 QBD 168, 187 that: “The full definition of every crime contains expressly or by implication a proposition as to a state of mind. Therefore, if the mental element of any conduct alleged to be a crime is proved to have been absent in any given case, the crime so defined is not committed; or, again, if a crime is fully defined, nothing amounts to that crime which does not satisfy that definition.”

[Source: <https://www.iclr.co.uk/knowledge/glossary/mens-rea-and-actus-reus/>]

68. John, a business owner, has been charged with selling counterfeit products. He claims that he had no intention of selling fake goods and that the supplier he bought the products from had assured him that they were authentic. However, the prosecution argues that John should have known that the products were fake based on the low price he paid for them and the poor quality of the packaging. The case goes to court and John is found guilty. What is the basis for John’s guilt in this case?
- (a) John is guilty because he intended to sell fake goods.
 - (b) John is guilty because he was not reckless in selling the goods without properly checking their authenticity.
 - (c) John is guilty because he was negligent in selling the goods without properly checking their authenticity.
 - (d) John is not guilty because he had no intention of selling fake goods.
69. A person, X, owned a construction company. One day, while constructing a building, X decided to cut corners on safety regulations to save money, putting all the workers in danger. One of the workers, Y, was seriously injured in a construction accident and X was charged with the crime of causing bodily harm through negligence. The prosecution argued that X had a “criminal intention” in cutting corners on safety regulations and was therefore guilty of the crime. X claimed that he did not have any criminal intention, but rather acted recklessly in his desire to save money. Which of the following best describes the situation?
- (a) X is guilty of the crime because he acted recklessly and was aware that his actions were likely to cause harm.
 - (b) X is guilty of the crime because he acted with criminal intention.
 - (c) X is not guilty of the crime because he acted recklessly, but without any intention to cause harm.
 - (d) X is not guilty of the crime because he did not act with any criminal intention, but rather acted impulsively without thinking about the consequences.

70. John is an experienced mechanic who runs his own auto repair shop. One day, a customer, Mr. X, brings his car to John's shop for repair. John knows that the car has a defect that makes it prone to catching fire, but he decides not to tell Mr. X about it because he wants to keep the repair job for himself. A few days after Mr. X picks up his car, it catches fire and burns down to ashes and also injuring Mr. X. Mr. X is devastated and sues John for compensation for the loss of his car and injuries caused due to the reckless behaviour of John. Which of the following best describes the situation with respect to mens rea?
- (a) John is not guilty because he did not intend to cause harm to Mr. X's car.
 - (b) John is guilty of absolute liability because he failed to inform Mr. X of the defect in his car.
 - (c) John is guilty of strict liability because he knew about the defect in Mr. X's car, but failed to inform him.
 - (d) John is guilty of recklessness because he failed to inform Mr. X of the defect in his car, even though he did not intend for the car to catch fire.
71. In State X, a new statute has been enacted, the "Environmental Protection Act," aimed at reducing pollution in the state's water bodies. Section 5 of this Act prohibits the discharge of any industrial waste into rivers and lakes without obtaining prior approval from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). However, the statute does not explicitly mention anything about the requirement of proving mens rea for violating this provision. Subsequently, a manufacturing company, ABC Industries, is found guilty of discharging untreated industrial waste into a river without obtaining approval from the EPA. ABC Industries contends that since the statute does not expressly state that the offence does not require proof of mens rea, the prosecution must establish criminal intent for conviction.
- Which legal principle can be best applied to determine ABC Industries' liability in this case?
- (a) ABC Industries cannot be held liable because the statute does not expressly mention the absence of mens rea requirement, thereby implying the need for not proving criminal intent.
 - (b) ABC Industries can be held strictly liable as the statute does not expressly states that the offence does not require proof of mens rea; and so, the prosecution must establish criminal intent.
 - (c) ABC Industries can be convicted under absolute liability since the statute prohibits the discharge of industrial waste without prior approval, irrespective of criminal intent.
 - (d) ABC Industries cannot be convicted unless the prosecution proves beyond a reasonable doubt that the discharge of industrial waste was done with criminal intent, as the absence of mens rea requirement must be explicitly stated in the statute.
72. In a similar situation as given above, under what condition will the company be held liable under the principle of absolute liability?
- (a) XYZ Corporation can be convicted under absolute liability in case the statute prohibits the discharge of industrial waste without prior approval, liability is imposed irrespective of criminal intent.
 - (b) XYZ Corporation cannot be convicted under absolute liability in case the statute prohibits the discharge of industrial waste without prior approval, irrespective of criminal intent.
 - (c) XYZ Corporation can be convicted under absolute liability in case the statute prohibits the discharge of industrial waste without prior approval and required proof of mens rea.
 - (d) Cannot be determined

Passage (Q.73-Q.78): A misrepresentation is a false statement of a material fact completed by one party which affects the other party's decision in relation to a contract. If the misrepresentation is recognized, the contract can be declared void and, depending on the condition, the unfavourably impacted party may seek damages. In such a contract arrangement, the party who made the misrepresentation becomes the defendant, and the aggrieved party is the plaintiff.

Fraudulent misrepresentation will happen when a false representation is intently formed, and therefore the party making the representation, let's say X knew it was false. If the person making the statement believes the statement to be accurate, it cannot be a fraudulent misrepresentation.

Negligent misrepresentation under the Misrepresentation Act 1967 happens when a declaration is formed by one contracting party to another negligently.

Innocent misrepresentation is a statement of a material fact made by one party to induce a contract with another party, without the knowledge of its falsity, but with due care. The remedy is usually termination or rescission of the contract.

[Source-<https://www.legalserviceindia.com/legal/article-7817-misrepresentation-under-the-indian-contract-act.->

html#:~:text=A%20misrepresentation%20is%20a%20false,impacted%20party%20may%20seek%20damages.]

73. Sushma owned a popular beauty parlour and earned a handsome income from it. One day, a customer complained about strange noises from the pipes and seeing shadowy figures moving around the parlour. Sushma, who believed in ghosts and apparitions, became frightened. Wanting to sell the parlour as soon as possible, she chose not to disclose the incident involving the ghost to potential buyers as the information might affect the sale of the parlour. However, the buyers sued her for misrepresentation, claiming that she withheld important facts. Will they succeed?
- (a) Yes, because she failed to disclose the ghost story to the buyers.
 - (b) Yes, because she misrepresented the parlour by concealing a significant fact.
 - (c) No, because there is no evidence to prove the existence of a ghost.
 - (d) No, because there is no indication of fraud, only omission of information.
74. Pawan owned a magnificent, white horse, which he had cherished since childhood. However, having to leave India permanently and relocate to the Netherlands, he couldn't take the horse along. Consequently, he decided to sell it. Finding an interested buyer, they arranged to see the horse and finalized the contract. Unbeknownst to both Pawan and the buyers, and after the examination of the horse, the horse had swallowed poison and tragically died before the contract could be executed. Subsequently, the buyer sued Pawan for misrepresentation. Will he succeed?
- (a) No, because Pawan had no reason to believe that the horse would have swallowed the poison.
 - (b) Yes, because Pawan had no reason to believe that the horse would have swallowed the poison.
 - (c) Yes, it is negligent misrepresentation because he did not bother to check.
 - (d) The buyer was defrauded and so, he should be given the claim and damages.
75. Pratham was a prominent powerlifter, frequently participating in competitions and often emerging victorious. He also attended numerous events for inspiration and to enhance his skills. During one such exhibition, he encountered Salman, a renowned bodybuilder. Salman claimed to possess a secret and rare ingredient that greatly enhanced his strength, allowing him to lift more weight. Seeing Pratham Intrigued, Salman decided to sell the substance to him. However, Pratham later discovered that it was nothing more than crushed sugar. Can he sue Salman for misrepresentation?
- (a) No, because Salman himself used the product so, indicating his belief in its effectiveness.
 - (b) Yes, because Salman made a false representation to Pratham.
 - (c) No, because Pratham should have exercised caution under the principle of "buyer beware."
 - (d) Yes, because Salman not knowingly sold the wrong product.
76. Suhana private limited was a very famous travel company. The company had ties and collaborations with various other travel agencies in the other parts of the world. Chinmayi wanted to travel safe around the world and so was looking for cheap accommodations and flight tickets along with the guides to help her in the new places. The company did not tell her that the flight was a bit low on fuel. Due to which the flight had to do an emergency landing on a water body before it could reach its final destination. Can Chinmayi sue the travel company for misrepresentation?
- (a) No, because there are no reasons for them to believe the flight would not have reached the destination.
 - (b) Yes, because she was defrauded as they landed in water instead of her destination.
 - (c) No, because the company themselves did believe that the flight would not make it, thus they did not have any malicious intention.
 - (d) Yes, because Chinmayi would not have taken the flight had she known about the low fuel situation.

77. Mehak wanted to buy a parcel of land to build her dream house. She contacted a real-estate agent who was the best in the town, Phil Dunphy. Phil was a very famous and successful real estate agent. He showed Mehak a parcel of land and the latter liked it instantly. The contract was finalized after Phil told her that he checked duly that all the taxes were cleared, and Mehak bought the land. Soon, the municipal corporation office sent a notice to Mehak that the land had pending transactions and will have to be paid for her to be able to build a house. She sued Phil for misrepresenting the land to her. Phil claimed he also did not know. What will he be charged with?
- (a) He being a real estate agent should have been careful as his actions and work made Mehak buy the land.
 - (b) Fraudulent misrepresentation because he wanted to defraud Mehak.
 - (c) Innocent misrepresentation as he himself did not know that there were pending transactions.
 - (d) Negligent misrepresentation as he was negligent and did not check for the same.
78. Suppose in the previous question there was a custom that the real estate agents had to check for pending taxes and transactions before selling the house. Now, Phil was very good friends with the actual owner of the land and the latter told him that the taxes were cleared, so he did not cross check it and he did not mention it to Mehak. Phil believed the same. What will be your answer now?
- (a) He, being a real estate agent, should have been careful as his actions and work made Mehak buy the land.
 - (b) For fraudulent misrepresentation, as he had a reason to believe that the taxes were not paid.
 - (c) For negligent misrepresentation because it was his duty to check for the pending taxes.
 - (d) For innocent misrepresentation because he did not have any knowledge of the pending taxes.

Passage (Q.79-Q.84): An Arrest is an act of taking a person into custody as they may be suspected or accused of a crime or an offence. The term Arrest has been defined neither in the CrPC (The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973) nor IPC (Indian Penal Code, 1860). The definition has not been provided even in any enactments dealing with Criminal Offences. The only indication of what an arrest constitute can be made out of Section 46 of CrPC, which deals with 'How an arrest is made'. If a person commits a non-cognizable offence, then a warrant is necessary to be issued. The police cannot make such kind of arrest without a warrant. The warrant is issued by a Judge or a Magistrate on behalf of the state. An arrest warrant authorizes the arrest or detention of a person or the capture or seizure of an individual's property. A type of arrest is a Private Arrest in which a person is arrested by another person. The private person must have reasonable cause to arrest a person, and it should be most likely done when the private person has witnessed the crime being committed by a person and not when he is under the opinion or suspicion that a crime could have been committed by such a person. Section 42(1) says that when a person has committed a non-cognizable offence and refuses to give his name or address or gives a false name and address on the demand of the officer, he may be arrested by such officer to ascertain his correct name or residence.

79. A was walking on the side of the road, and he saw a nearby vendor selling some fruitcakes. He wanted to buy the fruitcakes, but upon checking his pockets, he realized he did not have any money. Despite this, he took one fruitcake and decided to run away as fast as he could to avoid getting caught. A police officer saw him and caught him stealing, and put him in jail. Assume that stealing is non cognizable offence; is the police officer right to catch him and put him in jail?
- (a) No, because he needed an arrest warrant, and he did not obtain one, so he cannot do that.
 - (b) No, as he did not know whether A had even committed the offense, and he just arrested him.
 - (c) Yes, as he was a police officer discharging his duties, and thus he did nothing wrong.
 - (d) A should have been punished, so the police officer did nothing wrong, as A stole a fruitcake.
80. Uday Shetty was a very notorious gangster in the town of Udupiku. He also was the gang leader of a big gang and had a lot of people working under him. One day he went to travel to another state for some smuggling business which is a cognizable offence. At the airport, the police suspected something unusual, and they also knew someone was going to smuggle drugs, as he was looking around in a suspicious way, so they decided to inquire further. They asked him for his name and residence and some ID proof, but he refused to give same. The police took him into custody under section 42(1). Can the police do so?

- (a) No, because the crime they were suspecting him of was a cognizable offence.
(b) No, because they did not have any arrest warrant to take him into custody.
(c) Yes, because they can arrest someone if the person refuses to cooperate with their inquiries.
(d) No, because this gives police a lot of arbitrary power.
81. Sundaram was a habitual offender and had been caught by the police many times for theft, pickpocketing, and other similar offenses. One day, while he was going to a nearby shop to buy essentials, his neighbor Surekh saw him and noticed something unusual about his behavior, finding it suspicious. Surekh detained Sundaram because he suspected that Sundaram might steal something again, given his history as a habitual offender. Is this a valid arrest by a private person under CrPC?
(a) No, because there was no crime committed by Sundaram.
(b) No, because he merely caught him because he thought he was a habitual thief anyways.
(c) Yes, because since Sundaram was a thief anyways, it was reasonable to suspect he might steal something again.
(d) A private person cannot arrest someone. It goes against the legal provisions.
82. In the previous question, if Surekh had seen Sundaram put something secretly in his bag and then called the police on him after detaining him to prevent him from running, would that have been valid?
(a) Yes, because now he had a reasonable apprehension to arrest him as he saw him stealing himself.
(b) No, because he should have called the police first instead of arresting him himself.
(c) The police should get a warrant first and then arrest Sundaram.
(d) An arrest by a private person is valid under CrPC.
83. Manju was a drug dealer, and she was also very notorious; she mostly used to sell drugs to a bunch of school-going underage children. She was on the police's radar for a very long time. One fine day, after getting a complaint from someone against her, the police decided to arrest her and obtained an arrest warrant. While arresting her, the police also seized the money she had from selling drugs and the remaining drugs. Manju claimed that the police did not have a right to do so. Is she right in saying so?
(a) No, because the police had obtained a warrant, so they could do whatever they wanted.
(b) No, because the police had the power to seize property, as the passage mentions.
(c) The police as a public servant was merely discharging their duties, and so she cannot claim they were doing the wrong thing.
(d) While arresting a drug dealer, the police can seize the drugs as well, and it is a well-known rule.
84. Suppose in the previous question, Manju was also detained by the police officers as they were worried she might run away and escape as they got to know that she also belonged to a major drug cartel. Manju claimed that they could not detain her. Can she claim the same?
(a) No, because the passage mentions that an arrest warrant authorizes detaining a person as well.
(b) No, because detaining her was necessary to prevent her from running away.
(c) No, because the police had a reasonable apprehension that she might escape, and they needed to make sure that did not happen.
(d) Yes, as she was a woman, and so she could not have been detained.

SECTION D: LOGICAL REASONING

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

Passage (Q.85-Q.90): Data from the recent periodic labour force survey indicate that there has been a significant increase in the number of unpaid family workers in rural as well as in urban India. Compared to data from the PLFS 2017-18, the proportion of unpaid labour in rural India has increased from 54.7 million to 94.5 million; in the urban areas, the figure has risen from 7.4 million to 9.1 million. The combined increase has been from 62 million to 104 million workers. An astounding 82% of the growth in this constituency during this period has been accounted for by women. Of the 104 million such workers, about 70 million are illiterate or have finished primary school. Another 24.3 million have completed secondary or higher secondary education. About 7.5 million of such workers are graduates. The data thus reveal that there has been a spike in uneducated, low-skilled labour marked by a large proportion of women. This is also borne out by data on the female labour force participation rate in India, which is very low — at around 30% — compared to most other developing nations. These workers are typically underemployed and have low productivity. The data are suggestive of jobless growth. The shining India of 7% growth is not creating an adequate number of jobs and leaves a large part of India untouched.

High rates of growth in gross domestic product are always projected as a testament to a booming economy. Yet, they are hardly indicative of the precarious conditions of a large part of India's population. For a country like India, with a massive and growing young labour force, the real measure of the strength of economic development must lie in the creation of new jobs that pay enough. These new jobs must be adequate in quantity as well as in quality and would require modern skills and prior exposure to higher education. The level of wages received and the incidence of social insurance are also important markers of the strength of economic development. It is becoming increasingly clear that the much talked about demographic dividend of India is rapidly turning into a demographic deadweight. Given the national and global economic situation, only the very bright and innovative will have the opportunity to go abroad. The bulk of the residual labour force would have to eke out a low-level existence in a stagnant labour market. Indian policymakers simply refuse to go beyond the illusive lure of aggregate macroeconomic growth.

85. Which of the following effectively weakens the author's argument?
- (a) Despite increase in unpaid family workers as shown by PLFS, India has been able to achieve its GDP growth target.
 - (b) PLFS failed to include areas of mining sector while collating data on unpaid family workers.
 - (c) PLFS is not the only criterion to measure the quantum of unpaid family workers.
 - (d) Many of workers marked as unpaid family workers are employed informal sectors not covered by PLFS.
86. The passage suggests a discrepancy between India's GDP growth and the conditions of its labor force. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument that high GDP growth does not necessarily indicate improved conditions for the majority of the labor force?
- (a) A significant portion of GDP growth is attributed to technological advancements in a few industries.
 - (b) Many high-paying jobs have been created, but they are inaccessible to most of the labor force.
 - (c) The increase in GDP is paralleled by an increase in exports of manufactured goods.
 - (d) Rural and urban areas have shown different rates of economic growth and development.
87. According to the passage, a significant portion of unpaid family workers in India are either illiterate or have only primary education. What implication does this have for the relationship between educational attainment and employment opportunities in the current Indian labor market?
- (a) Higher educational levels are not required for most available job opportunities.
 - (b) Education has minimal impact on securing better employment in the current market.
 - (c) Unpaid family work is often the only option for those with limited education.
 - (d) Vocational training is more valued than formal education in the job market.

88. The passage indicates that a substantial increase in unpaid family workers comprises women. What does this suggest about the trends in female labor force participation in India compared to other developing countries?
- (a) Female labor force participation in India is comparatively higher due to unpaid family work.
 - (b) Women in India are more likely to be employed in informal sectors than other countries.
 - (c) Indian women's participation in the labor force is primarily in unpaid roles, unlike other developing countries.
 - (d) The trend in India reflects a global pattern in developing countries regarding female employment.
89. The increase in unpaid family labor, especially among women, is highlighted in the passage. Which of the following conclusions about the nature of economic development in India is best supported by this information?
- (a) Economic growth in India disproportionately benefits the educated and skilled labor force.
 - (b) The informal sector is becoming the primary employer in the Indian economy.
 - (c) Economic development in India is not translating into equitable job opportunities.
 - (d) Women's economic empowerment is a significant focus of India's development strategy.
90. The passage mentions the transformation of India's demographic dividend into a demographic deadweight. What can be inferred about the potential challenges faced by the young labor force in India from this statement?
- (a) There is a significant mismatch between the skills of the young labor force and job market demands.
 - (b) The young labor force is predominantly seeking employment opportunities abroad.
 - (c) Entrepreneurship is the primary aspiration of the young labor force in India.
 - (d) Educational institutions are adequately preparing the youth for the current job market.

Passage (Q.91-Q.96): The museum has changed from the days of the magic cabinet, that repository of wonders. It now connects the present with the past and future, inviting visitors to infer narratives, to see, hear, even interact with, aspects of history, science or nature through multiple modes which grow more sophisticated with technological advances. The Museum of the Word, about to be opened in February, promises a display that will offer an immersive experience of the evolution of Indian languages. Inaugurating newer dimensions in Calcutta's cultural and educational scene, it is being set up in the Belvedere House of the National Library. Although plans for a Centre of the Word with a slightly different focus, together with a project report, had been made in 2010, the concept had lain dormant until 2020. The Museum of the Word will focus on India's linguistic variety, drawing out through the use of projectors, graphics, virtual reality tools, interactive games and selected artefacts the many facets of language, and its impact on and response to society.

Moving from non-verbal communication through oral traditions to manuscripts, printed books and electronic texts, the museum aims to preserve the histories of languages, scripts and literature, and thus celebrate India's plural traditions of speech and writing. It will present notable scholars, poets and writers too, which should arouse awareness of their relevance to the present, and the history of printing, the role of public libraries and the history of Belvedere House. This is not just a remarkable addition to the cultural horizon but also a symbol of hope, because it draws attention to diversity. More, its presence would neutralise the kind of fears associated with Ray Bradbury's Fahrenheit 451, in which civilisation was being destroyed by burning books. To save it, each person memorised a whole book, for only by saving the 'word' could human society regenerate itself. Instead, the Museum of the Word would symbolise the dynamic and multi-layered processes of civilisation.

Or much of it. The museum will present the 22 official languages of India, which is a huge venture for any institution. And this is certainly an institution, and that, too, under the Union culture ministry. India's languages have come from multiple sources and assessments of their numbers may vary from, say, 780 to 456. The 2001 census identified 122 major languages and 1599 other languages. The celebration of diversity is also an institutionalisation of India's linguistic histories; the narrowing cannot be helped no doubt, but the result is the same. A sense of broader horizons in India's universe of languages could be created to avoid rigidity. Speakers whose mother-tongues do not fall within the 22 represented languages, who might have felt the stress of communicating in school or at work in a tongue they were not born into, should feel at home in the museum too. For plurality also means inclusion, a welcoming into the vast world of the word.

91. What information, if confirmed, would most weaken the argument that the Museum of the Word adequately represents India's linguistic diversity?
- (a) The museum will mainly feature languages that are widely spoken and globally recognized.
 - (b) Limited resources prevent the museum from featuring all of India's minor languages.
 - (c) The museum's focus will be more on historical languages than on contemporary ones.
 - (d) Interactive exhibits primarily use English and Hindi, limiting accessibility for diverse visitors.
92. What can be inferred about the potential impact of the Museum of the Word on Calcutta's cultural and educational scene?
- (a) It will solely focus on preserving historical manuscripts and printed books.
 - (b) The museum will primarily serve as a repository for India's official languages.
 - (c) It will enhance cultural and educational diversity through varied linguistic representations.
 - (d) Primarily, it will be an attraction for tourists interested in Indian languages.
93. The argument that the museum of the word will contribute to preserving the histories of India's languages, scripts, and literature cannot be true unless which of the following is true?
- (a) The museum will educate people on linguistic histories, necessary for the preservation of linguistic histories.
 - (b) The representation of all Indian languages is necessary for complete preservation.
 - (c) Calcutta is primarily the land of the learned and the scholar, helping preserve the linguistic history of India.
 - (d) Museums serve the purpose of entertaining the visitors and updating them about historical aspects of a country.
94. Which piece of information, if true, would most strengthen the argument that the Museum of the Word represents a symbol of hope against the fears portrayed in Ray Bradbury's "Fahrenheit 451"?
- (a) The museum will feature a special exhibit on the history of book burning.
 - (b) An interactive exhibit allows visitors to virtually experience the world of "Fahrenheit 451".
 - (c) The museum plans to digitize and preserve endangered manuscripts and books.
 - (d) Prominent scholars have endorsed the museum's approach to language preservation.
95. What is the implied cause-and-effect relationship between the establishment of the Museum of the Word and the promotion of linguistic plurality in India?
- (a) The museum's focus on India's linguistic diversity will increase public interest in lesser-known languages.
 - (b) Exhibiting artifacts will directly lead to the revitalization of endangered languages in India.
 - (c) The museum's interactive experiences will encourage the learning of multiple Indian languages.
 - (d) The museum's representation of 22 official languages will standardize these languages nationally.
96. The author is likely to disagree with each of the following except that
- (a) The speakers of languages not represented among the 22 official languages might feel excluded from the museum experience.
 - (b) The establishment of the Museum of the Word in Calcutta's Belvedere House contributes to the cultural and educational enrichment of the city.
 - (c) The transformation of museums from traditional repositories of wonders to dynamic spaces that connect the past, present, and future, is not positive.
 - (d) The representation of all Indian languages at the Museum of the word is necessary for complete preservation of linguistic history.

Passage (Q.97-Q.102): As the world prepares to enter 2024, South Asia stands on the cusp of a critical moment in its complex democratic journey. Five of the region's countries — India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Bhutan — will vote to elect their next leader and government next year. The elections in Bangladesh on January 7, Pakistan on February 8, and India between March and May will, in particular, hold significance beyond national boundaries, with spillover effects for all of South Asia and beyond. Combined, the three nations are home to nearly two billion people, including some of the world's youngest populations. In the long arc of history, all three countries are relatively young democracies. Their paths since Independence have varied significantly: Pakistan and Bangladesh have had to navigate military coups even as civilian governments have consistently ruled India. Differences among these nations, which have led to multiple, bloody wars, have long left South Asia as one of the planet's least integrated regions, despite geographical contiguity and historical bonds. Yet, today, they are united by a shared set of challenges that are testing their commitment to the democratic ideals of their respective founding fathers.

In Pakistan, the military establishment is firmly in charge behind the scenes, seemingly puppeteering an election in which the man who appears to be the nation's most popular leader, the former prime minister, Imran Khan, would, in all probability, not be able to contest. Mr Khan has filed his nomination papers for the election but faces a series of court cases and convictions that will need to be overturned to have a shot at power again. The flaws in Pakistan's democracy are well-known and acknowledged globally. But even Bangladesh and India are no longer viewed in the wider world as models of secular, liberal democratic ideals in the Global South. The principal Opposition party in Bangladesh is boycotting the vote; a foregone conclusion appears likely in the upcoming election with the Awami League helmed by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Wajed expected to return to power. Meanwhile, India, which Prime Minister Narendra Modi describes as the mother of democracy, is on a rocky footing. There are allegations that the independent pillars of Indian democracy — law enforcement agencies, the media, as well as some other influential institutions — have lost their sheen.

This matters to each of the three countries, but also to South Asia and the world. Neighbours — whether people or nations — often serve as mirrors to each other. If the commitment to democratic principles slips across the region, that could set in motion a broader spiral that reduces the political pressure on each system to improve. As three of the world's largest developing nations, what happens in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh also serves as an example to the wider Global South. What message they send will resonate around the world, from Asia to Africa to Latin America. Capitals around the planet will thus be watching the poll battles in these three countries.

97. Considering the passage's discussion of democratic challenges in South Asia, which of the following, if true, would most seriously weaken the argument that the upcoming elections in India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh will significantly impact the democratic norms in the entire South Asian region?
- (a) The recent increase in voter turnout in these countries indicates a strengthening of democratic engagement among citizens.
 - (b) International observers have recognized improvements in election transparency in South Asia over the past decade.
 - (c) Historically, regional elections have had minimal influence on neighboring countries' political systems and democratic values.
 - (d) There is a growing trend of youth involvement in politics, suggesting a shift towards more vibrant democracies.
98. The passage implies that the military's behind-the-scenes control in Pakistan is detrimental to the country's democratic process. Which of the following is an assumption upon which this implication relies?
- (a) Rule by the military properly reflects the decisions taken by democratically elected government.
 - (b) Civilian governments inherently possess more democratic legitimacy than military establishments do.
 - (c) the rule by the democratically elected government is not the same as the rule by the military influenced politics.
 - (d) Military control in politics universally leads to more democratic freedom in a nation.

99. The author suggests that the lack of secular, liberal democratic ideals in Bangladesh and India has global implications. Which of the following points to a potential flaw in this line of reasoning?
- (a) Global democratic trends are influenced by a multitude of factors beyond individual national ideologies.
 - (b) The historical context of Bangladesh and India differs significantly from other global democracies.
 - (c) Other nations in the Global South have successfully maintained secular, liberal democracies.
 - (d) The economic progress of a country is not always aligned with its democratic ideals.
100. In the context of the passage, which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument that the electoral boycott by the principal Opposition party in Bangladesh could undermine the legitimacy of the upcoming election?
- (a) Surveys show that a significant majority of the population doesn't support the boycotting party's political agenda.
 - (b) International observers have previously noted the importance of opposition participation in fair elections.
 - (c) Past elections without significant opposition have led to international questioning of their legitimacy.
 - (d) The boycotting party has a substantial number of seats in the current parliament, indicating wide public support.
101. Based on the passage, which of the following can most reasonably be inferred about the role of media and law enforcement agencies in India's democracy under the current government?
- (a) Media and law enforcement agencies have been completely controlled by the government.
 - (b) These institutions have faced challenges in maintaining their independence and objectivity.
 - (c) The media's freedom has improved, leading to more transparent governance.
 - (d) Law enforcement agencies have been instrumental in strengthening India's democratic principles.
102. If it were found that Imran Khan, despite legal hurdles, could contest in Pakistan's election, how would this development most likely affect the overall argument presented in the passage about the state of democracy in South Asia?
- (a) It would reinforce the view that democratic processes in South Asia are largely unimpeded by political influences.
 - (b) This would suggest a strengthening of democratic norms, countering the idea of military dominance in politics.
 - (c) It would undermine the passage's argument by demonstrating that electoral process in Pakistan is not as bad as it stated to be.
 - (d) This could indicate an increased respect for legal processes and democratic principles in Pakistan.

Passage (Q.103-Q.108): The Supreme Court, with Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud at the helm since November 2022, took several initiatives this year for reforming the justice delivery system. The most significant one was aimed at reducing the pendency of cases as the country's courts are clogged with crores of lawsuits. The resultant delayed justice is one of the main grievances of the litigants and is often equated with denial of justice. Thus, it is laudable that the SC disposed of 52,191 cases till December 15 this year, an increase of 33 per cent compared to 2022, when 39,800 cases were decided. It is the highest number since the Integrated Case Management Information System was launched in 2017.

The SC harnessed technology to achieve this feat. Strategic reforms, such as reducing the timeframe for verification and listing of cases from 10 days to seven, helped the court 'set a new standard for timely and efficient justice delivery', as the SC has noted. Giving primacy to personal liberty, the apex court ensured that matters such as bail, habeas corpus, eviction and demolition were processed in one day and listed immediately. Notably, for the first time, such proceedings were also taken up during the summer vacation. Forming specialised Benches to handle particular types of cases also proved effective in streamlining the process.

Some other key litigant-friendly interventions included the setting up of a hybrid hearing system, an RTI portal and the e-SCR (electronic version of Supreme Court reports), which provides online access to thousands of judgments. The SC linkage with the National Judicial Data Grid has enabled the tracking of cases on a real-time basis, thus reducing opacity and increasing the judges' accountability. The high courts should take a leaf out of the SC book and expedite trial proceedings.

103. What can be inferred about the role of technology in the Supreme Court's strategy to reduce case pendency, as discussed in the passage?
- (a) Technology primarily facilitated quicker verification and listing of cases.
 - (b) It enabled real-time tracking of cases, enhancing judicial transparency.
 - (c) Technology was used to expedite the processing of personal liberty cases.
 - (d) It played a secondary role to strategic reforms in reducing case pendency.
104. Based on the passage, which of the following is a likely consequence of the Supreme Court's initiative to reduce the timeframe for verification and listing of cases?
- (a) Increased overall efficiency in the court's case handling processes.
 - (b) Decreased number of cases disposed of by the Supreme Court.
 - (c) Enhanced focus on high-profile cases at the expense of smaller ones.
 - (d) Improved litigant satisfaction due to faster court proceedings.
105. The passage suggests several measures taken by the Supreme Court for efficient justice delivery. Which measure directly addresses the issue of delayed justice for cases involving personal liberty?
- (a) Setting up a hybrid hearing system for quicker case resolution.
 - (b) Processing and immediate listing of bail and habeas corpus matters.
 - (c) Introduction of the e-SCR for online access to court judgments.
 - (d) Forming specialized Benches for specific types of cases.
106. Considering the Supreme Court's performance in 2023 as mentioned in the passage, what assumption underlies the comparison of case disposals between 2023 and 2022?
- (a) The number of cases filed in both years was approximately the same.
 - (b) The complexity of cases handled in 2023 was higher than that in 2022.
 - (c) There was an increase in the resources at the disposal of the Supreme Court's in 2023.
 - (d) Strategic reforms implemented were not the primary factor for improved disposal rates.
107. How does the introduction of the e-SCR and linkage with the National Judicial Data Grid, as mentioned in the passage, contribute to the transparency and accountability in the judiciary?
- (a) By ensuring faster resolution of cases, particularly those related to personal liberty.
 - (b) By providing real-time tracking of cases and online access to court judgments.
 - (c) By enabling specialized Benches to focus on specific types of cases efficiently.
 - (d) By reducing the timeframe for verification and listing of cases to seven days.
108. What rationale can be derived from the passage for the Supreme Court's decision to form specialized Benches for handling specific types of cases?
- (a) To facilitate the rapid disposal of a backlog of cases by assigning them to expert judges.
 - (b) To increase the transparency and accountability of the judiciary in complex cases.
 - (c) To integrate technology more effectively into the judicial decision-making process.
 - (d) To expedite the verification and listing process for all types of court cases.

SECTION - E : QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

Directions (Q.109-Q.114): Students in a school are divided into 4 groups namely Group A, Group B Group C and Group D. In Group A there are 710 students out of which 30% are girls. Total number of students in group A are 11.25% less than that of group B and 25% of the students in group B are girls. In group C girls are 13 less than that in group B which is 20% of the total. The average students of Group D and group C are equal to the average students in group A and group B. 40% of students in group D are girls.

109. What is the total number of boys in the school?
(a) 1510 (b) 2780 (c) 2190 (d) 1921
110. What is the total number of boys in Group A?
(a) 497 (b) 487 (c) 507 (d) None of these
111. What is the average number of girls in all 4 groups combined?
(a) 206 (b) 204 (c) 209 (d) None of these
112. What is the ratio of number of girls in group D to the number of boys in group B?
(a) 23 : 80 (b) 23 : 83 (c) 1:1 (d) None of these
113. What is the difference between the number of boys in Group D and the number of girls in Group C?
(a) 178 (b) 158 (c) 168 (d) 138
114. If 80% of the girls and 70% of the boys passed the examination, then what is the overall pass percentage of the school?
(a) 71.5% (b) 72.75% (c) 73.25% (d) 75%

Directions (Q.115-Q.120): In a town called "T", Umesh, Sunil, and Ramesh are wholesalers of books. They specialize in the most selling genres: SSC, Banking, and Railways. In the year 2020, the total number of books sold in the month of January of these exams are 1500, 1000 and 1400 respectively. Sunil and Umesh sold an average 650 books of SSC while Umesh sold 100 more banking books than SSC books. Each of Sunil and Ramesh sold 350 books on banking. Sunil sold 100 more banking books than railways. Ramesh sold a greater number of railway books as compared to SSC. Umesh sold 150 less railway books than banking books.

115. What was the number of books sold by Sunil for SSC, Banking and Railways in the month of January 2020?
(a) 1700 (b) 1800 (c) 1500 (d) 1900
116. What is the difference between the number of banking books sold by Umesh and Ramesh in January 2020?
(a) 0 (b) 50 (c) 100 (d) None of these
117. The sum of the number of SSC books sold by Ramesh and Railway books sold by Umesh is what percent of the number of SSC books sold by Sunil?
(a) 27.27% (b) 29.62% (c) 31.82% (d) 33.33%
118. If Umesh decides to increase his sales by 20% for each category in February 2020 as compared to January 2020, how many books will he sell in February 2020?
(a) 720 (b) 780 (c) 840 (d) 900
119. If Sunil sold 10% more SSC books in January 2020 compared to December 2019, how many SSC books did he sell in December 2019?
(a) 990 (b) 1100 (c) 1200 (d) 1000
120. If the price of a Banking, SSC and Railway book is Rs. 240, Rs. 180 and Rs. 120 respectively, the find the total price of SSC books sold by Sunil, Railway books sold by Ramesh and Banking books sold by Umesh?
(a) Rs. 400000 (b) Rs. 370000 (c) Rs. 390000 (d) Rs. 420000

Notes:

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