

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

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): The evils of communism from a first person perspective during the time of Mikhail Gorbachev in present-day Russia are any modern democratic person's nightmare. She states: he ordered the army to shoot and kill its own population who were so hungry and deprived that it eventually started acting out in 1989, December. Most people on the street were teens and young adults. I was there: I was a teen. They called us out "for support" then blocked our exit and shoot as many as they could, to induce fear. That's it. They shot and killed their own kids and families and friends.

If you expressed your disagreement with any of his policies - or someone said you did - you would be taken from home and most probably never be seen again. We had money. But we had no food in the shops. There were lines of hundreds of people waiting at night in the freezing east European winters for yoghurt - and you only had a limited ratio available. I was not allowed to speak to any foreign child. We had no electricity and no heat in the middle of winter. The reaction of privileged persons would be: "Put another sweater on". No one was allowed out. No one was allowed in. Desperate people trying to escape were shot at the border.

All properties were confiscated. They belonged to the "loved communist party" now. People were forced to move in tiny square flats that were mostly still under construction at the time of the move. Want it or not. Some did, some didn't. Some died in their houses when they were being demolished. Some died of ire and broken hearts.

You had to marry with a proper citizen and have many kids, all possible children you can conceive, and work for the country in a state job and any alternative lifestyle would label you as unwanted with potential life and death consequences. Never listen to certain radio stations also: you could go to jail for it. We had few hours of TV programmes, meaning few hours of seeing that face above on the screen trying to articulate some words in his native language. A lot of children were abandoned and "growing" (relatively) or rather dying in some orphanages that were worse than anything most of us will ever see in their lives. I can go on and on. I was lucky - so to speak - that the regime was changed at some point. If it didn't change, I would've been one of the people missing fairly soon. I'd never take this from any country I'd find myself in, therefore I avoid communist ones like plague. I don't even travel there for a weekend. Whoever says this may work, either has no hope for humanity, or doesn't know what we're talking about.

Additionally, previous dictators like Stalin were heartless dictators murdering millions. He brought in crude measures such as Collectivization: agricultural policy in which the peasants were forced to give up the individual ownership of land, livestock, farms seeds, equipment etc. Stalin believed that the collective consciousness of the peasantry was the trigger to transform Soviet Union into an industrial powerhouse. As a result of his policy, millions died in the forgotten Holocaust: Ukraine famine of 1932-33, also called Holodomor.

[Source: Teodora Greywoolf, <https://www.quora.com/Why-is-communism-considered-evil-by-some-people>]

1. What is the central thesis in the extract given above?
 - (a) Quality of life in a communist country is disciplined and keeps people patriotic towards their nation.
 - (b) Communist countries have severe and callous consequences for normal citizens' rights and property ownership.
 - (c) There is a first-person narration from an ex-citizen of a communist country which balances between difficulties and advantages alike.
 - (d) Communist countries are rightful in dealing ruthlessly with dissenters and forcing people to work and live without private property or occupation.

2. Which of these cannot be inferred from the passage?
 - (a) Even the expression of normal criticism would have been punished with extremity under Gorbachev.
 - (b) Deciding not to have children or not working in a government occupation could lead to life termination.
 - (c) Radio-hearing and television was all controlled and regulated with repercussions for violators.
 - (d) There was absence of any threat to the narrator's life during the time of Gorbachev ruling the country.
3. What does the word "ire" mean in the context of the passage?
 - (a) Tranquility.
 - (b) Serenity.
 - (c) Quietude.
 - (d) Indignation.
4. Which of these conveys the tone and style of the passage above?
 - (a) Populist and Analytical.
 - (b) Obsequious and Objective.
 - (c) Euphemistic and Expository.
 - (d) Emotional and Narrative.
5. What would happen to the people who were in dissent with the regime in power in the times of Gorbachev?
 - (a) They would be arrested or abducted and in all probability be led to their extermination.
 - (b) They would be celebrated and their concerns will be taken into consideration in priority.
 - (c) They would be given a complaint number and then be sent to other territories.
 - (d) They would be snatched away and will be tried in a court and then sentenced to a punishment according to their crimes.
6. Which of these is not an atrocity of former Soviet Union leader, Joseph Stalin, as mentioned in the passage?
 - (a) There was forcible giving-up of the private land of peasants.
 - (b) There were brutal killings of persons in coldblooded manner.
 - (c) There was a huge famine in the territory of Ukraine due to collectivism policy.
 - (d) There were several million people driven away out of the country.

Passage (Q.7-Q.12): Theatre has become a slow art. It takes time to write a play, and then additional time to get someone to produce it; no wonder, then, that current events are most likely to show up in cabaret and standup. (Political theatre's version of super-timeliness tends to be, like, the past five years.) And drama requires a certain slowness from us, too. You can casually wander out of a movie, pause a television show, check social media as you read a book, or—I don't know—knit. But the scant hundred minutes of Sarah Gancher's Off Broadway play "**Russian Troll Farm**," for instance, have to unfold in the molasses time of unadulterated, undistracted viewing. Luckily, that fight for our scattered attention, and even the topical delay, can become part of the show itself.

Gancher's "workplace comedy," now at the Vineyard Theatre, is set during the six-month run-up to the 2016 Presidential election, and dramatizes Russian cyber interference by the Internet Research Agency, in St. Petersburg. For years, the real-life Russian company used bogus social-media accounts to sow fake news and real division, apparently manufacturing millions of tweets' worth of institutional mistrust and norm-eroding nastiness. (In Gancher's play, we hear a supervisor exhorting her underlings to normalize the word "pussy" to diminish Americans' shock at Donald Trump's hot-mike vulgarities.) Despite the intervening insurrections and invasions, the world of "Russian Troll Farm" doesn't feel that distant. Perhaps you recognize the still constant drip of conspiracy theories in your own feeds, or maybe you saw this very play, which aired online during the pandemic shutdown, just before the election in 2020.

Gancher is best known as a collaborating playwright on group-written musicals: she shaped both "The Lucky Ones" and "Hundred Days" with the husband-and-wife band the Bengsons; she co-wrote "Mission Drift" with the collective the TEAM. There are no songs in this project, so Gancher provides the orchestrated din of social-media chatter. The earlier production of "Russian Troll Farm"—co-created by TheaterWorks Hartford, the Civilians, and TheatreSquared, a company in Fayetteville, Arkansas—was one of the notable successes of the streaming-theatre era. (It won an Obie.) The characters appeared in familiar Zoom boxes, their faces uncomfortably close; as you looked at your screen, you could see the reflection of your own face, a ghost among

machines. The Russian trolls were trying to lead normal lives—fall in love, keep their day jobs—while being sucked into the relentless online maw, but so were we all, and that bad-mirror symmetry was key to the show’s effectiveness. (Its co-directors, Jared Mezzocchi and Elizabeth Williamson, worked on this version as the video and projection designer and the dramaturge, respectively.)

Now that “Farm” has been translated to three dimensions, in a strangely glossy production by the director Darko Tresnjak, it takes a bit more to recognize our reflections onstage. (We can almost see them: Alexander Dodge has designed a set that looks as white and gleaming as an Apple Store.) The Russian trolls are still the same, but with mostly new actors playing them. There’s the story-obsessed screenwriter Nikolai (Hadi Tabbal), the ex-journalist Masha (Renata Friedman), the robotic Egor (Haskell King, the only holdover, and excellent again), the rambunctious sociopath Steve (John Lavelle), and the group’s ice-queen supervisor, Ljuba (Christine Lahti).

7. What is the central theme of Sarah Gancher's play "Russian Troll Farm" as discussed in the passage?
 - (a) The enduring power of theater to reflect and critique contemporary social issues.
 - (b) The personal and professional challenges faced by individuals working within controversial sectors.
 - (c) The impact of cyber interference on public perception and the democratic process.
 - (d) The evolution of digital communication and its effect on traditional forms of media.
8. According to the passage, how does the play "Russian Troll Farm" reflect the challenges of modern theatre in engaging audience attention?
 - (a) By incorporating real-time social media interactions into the narrative structure of the play.
 - (b) Through the depiction of characters who navigate the complexities of digital misinformation.
 - (c) By demanding undivided attention in an era of easy distraction and multimedia multitasking.
 - (d) Utilizing a unique stage design that mirrors contemporary technological environments.
9. What does the passage suggest about the role of the Internet Research Agency in the context of the 2016 Presidential election?
 - (a) It played a minimal role in influencing public opinion through social media platforms.
 - (b) It was responsible for creating and spreading misinformation to manipulate public discourse.
 - (c) It focused primarily on enhancing the digital campaign strategies of specific candidates.
 - (d) It acted as a neutral observer, reporting on the election without bias or interference.
10. How does the passage describe the impact of "Russian Troll Farm" when it was performed online during the pandemic shutdown?
 - (a) It significantly increased awareness about the dangers of online misinformation and cyber interference.
 - (b) It offered a novel viewing experience by integrating audience interaction with the performance.
 - (c) It achieved notable success by creating a reflective experience of online and real-life parallels.
 - (d) It changed public opinion about the effectiveness of online theatre as an educational tool.
11. In what ways does the passage indicate the transformation of "Russian Troll Farm" from an online to a three-dimensional stage production?
 - (a) By adapting the play’s content to reflect changes in the political landscape since its online debut.
 - (b) Through the introduction of a new cast and a set designed to mimic a modern technology store.
 - (c) By incorporating live audience feedback into the performance to enhance interactivity.
 - (d) By shifting the narrative focus from global cyber interference to personal stories of the trolls.
12. Based on the passage, how does the play's portrayal of the characters' personal lives contribute to its thematic exploration of online interference and real-life consequences?
 - (a) By showing how their involvement in cyber operations affects their interpersonal relationships.
 - (b) Highlighting the moral dilemmas faced by the characters as they execute their tasks.
 - (c) Demonstrating the characters' struggle to maintain normalcy amidst their clandestine activities.
 - (d) Illustrating the psychological impact of engaging in disinformation campaigns on the trolls.

Passage (Q.13-Q.18): The uppermost portion of the Sun's atmosphere is called the corona. It extends many thousands of kilometers above the visible surface of the Sun, gradually transforming into the solar wind that flows outward through our solar system. The solar wind is really just an extension of the Sun's atmosphere that engulfs all of the planets. Earth actually orbits within the atmosphere of a star!

We normally cannot see the corona. The surface of the Sun is far too bright to allow a glimpse of the much fainter solar atmosphere. During a total solar eclipse, the corona briefly comes into view as the Moon blocks out the light from the solar surface. The corona is **wispy**, white streamers of plasma (charged gas) that radiate out from the surface of the Sun.

The corona is much hotter than the Sun's surface, about 1 million °C compared to 5,500 °C (9,940 °F). Researchers aren't sure exactly why the corona is so hot. It's possible that millions of Nano flares, which are tiny explosions happening at the solar surface, are creating the energy that heats up the corona. Another idea is that solar tornadoes, which are giant vertical spirals of plasma that interact with the Sun's magnetic field, could also lead to high coronal temperatures.

Because of the high temperatures in the corona, particles are moving at a high enough speed to escape the Sun's gravity and travel through space as solar wind. When there are solar flares from the corona, larger than normal amounts of energy interact with our atmosphere, causing disruptions to power grids and satellite communications. Astronomers study the corona to better understand how solar storms impact Earth. They use a special instrument called a coronagraph to view the corona and watch for solar flares. Studying the Sun has been attempted by India as well. Aditya-L1 is an Indian satellite dedicated to the comprehensive study of the Sun. It has 7 distinct payloads developed, all developed indigenously. Five by ISRO and two by Indian academic institutes in collaboration with ISRO.

Aditya in Sanskrit means the Sun. L1 here refers to Lagrange Point 1 of the Sun-Earth system. For common understanding, L1 is a location in space where the gravitational forces of two celestial bodies, such as the Sun and Earth, are in equilibrium. This allows an object placed there to remain relatively stable with respect to both celestial bodies.

The strategic placement at the L1 Lagrange point ensures that Aditya-L1 can maintain a constant, uninterrupted view of the Sun. This location also allows the satellite to access solar radiation and magnetic storms before they are influenced by Earth's magnetic field and atmosphere. Additionally, the L1 point's gravitational stability minimizes the need for frequent orbital maintenance efforts, optimizing the satellite's operational efficiency. Aditya-L1 will stay approximately 1.5 million km away from Earth, directed towards the Sun, which is about 1% of the Earth-Sun distance. The Sun is a giant sphere of gas and Aditya-L1 would study the outer atmosphere of the Sun. Aditya-L1 will neither land on the Sun nor approach the Sun any closer.

[Source: <https://scied.ucar.edu/learning-zone/sun-space-weather/corona>]

13. What is the main point conveyed through the passage?
- (a) The Sun's corona is an excessively hot gaseous zone which will be observed and studied by India through Aditya L1.
 - (b) The Sun's corona is an excessively hot gaseous zone which will be studied by India through Aditya L1 by mooring on it.
 - (c) The Sun's corona is the reason for much interference in the atmosphere of Earth which will be studied by a joint worldly mission Aditya L1.
 - (d) The Sun's corona is an excessively hot gaseous zone which is difficult to approach but an attempt to land on it will be made by Aditya L1.

14. Which of these is not supported by the passage?
- (a) The Sun's solar flares surround Earth as it revolves around it.
 - (b) The Sun's surface is hotter than the coronal atmosphere surrounding it.
 - (c) A glance of the Sun's corona can be taken when there is an eclipse.
 - (d) Aditya L1 will observe and study the Sun's corona from a very farther point.
15. Which of these is the reason that there is some interference in certain forms of communication observed on Earth due to the Sun?
- (a) Excessive energy from solar flares or winds from the Sun's Coronal atmosphere.
 - (b) Excessive gravitational pull from the atomic fusion from the Sun's surface reaching its corona and engulfing the planets.
 - (c) Excessive energy from the Nano fission reactions happening on the surface of the Sun.
 - (d) Excessive energy from the galaxy flares from the Milky Way galaxy of which Sun is a part.
16. What does the word "wispy" mean in the context of the passage?
- (a) Very fine and light with undefined limits.
 - (b) Clear and distinct.
 - (c) Easily perceived with defined limits and dimensions.
 - (d) Dim with no particles in its vicinity.
17. Which of these is a conclusion from the passage?
- (a) Aditya L1 will be instrumental in understanding the nature of solar flares affecting Earth.
 - (b) The Sun's corona can be approached by a metallic instrument with the highest melting point.
 - (c) The Sun's corona will be studied by the mission Aditya 1 which will be a joint effort from India and its neighbours.
 - (d) Aditya L1 will get a view of the Sun and its surface from a distance halfway between the Sun and the Earth.
18. What is the primary focus of the Aditya-L1 satellite mission?
- (a) Studying the interior structure of the Sun
 - (b) Investigating the solar wind and its impact on Earth
 - (c) Examining the Sun's outer atmosphere, particularly the corona
 - (d) Analyzing the effects of solar flares on satellite communications

Passage (Q.19-Q.24): Nelken was a brave piece of programming for Valentine's Day. The choreographer Pina Bausch famously dug into traumatic relations between the sexes, but although this 1982 work goes to some dark places, it's festooned in flowers and ends in something like hope.

The title means carnations – 8,000 silk blooms in vivid shades of pink cover the stage, stalks piercing the floor. At first, dancers step delicately between them – we hear the deliberate clunk of sole and heel. But as things turn frenetic, voices become ragged, bodies shine with effort and flowers lie trampled and crestfallen.

Working before Germany was unified, designer Peter Pabst was also inspired by slavering guard dogs on the border between east and west. Bausch was intrigued by combining hounds and flowers: here, four Alsatians periodically bark and whimper, their tongues a disconcerting carnation-pink.

Rather than excavate romance, Nelken seals a connection between parent and child, state and subject. Bausch built richly strange stage images, which in this piece gesture at power and dependence. An overly controlling game of grandmother's footsteps; capricious commands ("Pray! Tickle!"); men burying their faces in a heap of chopped onions or kissing the reddening cheek they have just slapped. Bausch's women are always chic; here, the men caper in pastel cocktail frocks – to be ordered back into suit and tie is a kind of shaming.

The soundtrack ripples Schubert and Gershwin, Sophie Tucker and Billie Holiday: swoonsome music from the era of Bausch's parents. It's a complicated nostalgia – music that soothes but can also infantilise. Fun repeatedly turns fearful – frocked-up men scamper like bunnies, until a guard demands their passport (“Thank you. You may continue to hop”). Treated like fitful children – whether by parents or officials – people respond with furious resentment, caught in a whiplash of contradiction.

Bausch's works demand both personality and technique, and a new generation of Tanztheater Wuppertal dancers delivers, alongside plush veteran Aida Vainieri. They perform a beguiling mime of the four seasons, teach us simple gestures that become a hug. Finally, arms arched high, they share their dance origin stories – tales of happenstance that became a sustaining life.

19. What the primary theme of Pina Bausch's choreography in "Nelken" is as depicted in the passage?
 - (a) The aesthetic interplay between nature's beauty and the harshness of human interaction.
 - (b) The exploration of romantic love through traditional dance and vivid stage imagery.
 - (c) The intricate relationship dynamics between authority figures and subordinates.
 - (d) The connection between personal freedom and societal constraints as expressed through dance.
20. How does the stage design contribute to the overall narrative of "Nelken"?
 - (a) By using flowers to purely decorate the stage, adding beauty to the performance.
 - (b) Through the transformation of the stage with silk carnations, symbolizing fragility and resilience.
 - (c) By reflecting the division between East and West Germany with the placement of flowers.
 - (d) Highlighting the contrast between natural beauty and human conflict through the trampled flowers.
21. In what way does "Nelken" differ from traditional explorations of romantic themes according to the passage?
 - (a) By focusing solely on the aesthetic beauty of flowers to symbolize love.
 - (b) Through its depiction of the complex dynamics between authority and individual freedom.
 - (c) By using a vibrant stage design and music to enhance the romantic narrative.
 - (d) It emphasizes the celebration of romantic love in all its forms and complexities.
22. How do the elements of music selected for "Nelken" reflect on the thematic concerns of the piece?
 - (a) They provide a backdrop of classical harmony to underscore the beauty of the floral stage.
 - (b) The music choices underscore a sense of nostalgia and complexity in human relationships.
 - (c) They serve primarily to enhance the visual spectacle of the dance and set design.
 - (d) The soundtrack is designed to contrast sharply with the visual themes of the performance.
23. What role do the Alsatians play in the choreography of "Nelken" as described in the passage?
 - (a) They symbolize the pure, untainted love between humans and nature through their presence.
 - (b) The Alsatians add a layer of unpredictability and tension, reflecting societal controls.
 - (c) They represent the traditional role of pets in enhancing the aesthetic of performances.
 - (d) The dogs are used to provide a contrast to the delicate beauty of the flowers.
24. How does the passage describe the interaction between the dancers and the stage elements in "Nelken"?
 - (a) Dancers move cautiously among the flowers, highlighting a delicate balance between human and nature.
 - (b) The interaction signifies a joyful celebration of life, with dancers enhancing the floral beauty.
 - (c) Dancers initially navigate the flowers carefully, but the interaction grows more chaotic over time.
 - (d) It focuses on the harmonious integration of human movement with natural beauty throughout.

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): National Civil Service Day 2024

To acknowledge and honour the work of civil servants engaged in public service, the backbone of the nation's administration, the Government of India celebrates National Civil Services Day on April 21 every year in India. This day commemorates the address given by [a], the first Home Minister of Independent India, to probationary officers in [x], where he referred to civil servants as 'the steel frame of India,' thereby serving as a reminder to reflect on their services and reaffirm their commitment to serving citizens.

The observance of the day entails the recognition and motivation of civil service officers, the evaluation of departmental performance, and the presentation of awards for excellence in public administration. Each year on this occasion, the Prime Minister confers the Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration upon districts and implementing units for their exemplary achievements in priority programme implementation and innovation categories. National Civil Service Day is celebrated annually on April 21st in India, and this year, in 2024, it'll be observed on a Sunday. It is a day dedicated to highlighting the important role of civil services in promoting citizen-centred governance.

<https://indianexpress.com>

25. Consider the following statements:
- The origin of National Civil Service Day dates back to the speech by the first Home Minister of Independent India, Shri Jagjivan ram.
 - On April 21st, 1949, Patel addressed the probationers of Administrative Services Officers at Metcalf House in Delhi and referred to the civil servants as the steel frame of India in 1949.
- (a) Only I is correct. (b) Only II is correct.
(c) Both I & II are incorrect. (d) Both I & II are correct.
26. What is the theme of the National Civil Service Day 2024?
- (a) Strengthening Governance Structures
(b) Fostering Innovation in Public Administration
(c) Enhancing Citizen Engagement in Policy Making
(d) None of these
27. When was the first National Civil Services Day celebrated?
- (a) 21 April 2006 (b) 21 April 2001
(c) 1 April 2006 (d) 1 April 2001
28. Which of the following Article of the Indian Constitution is related to expenses of Public Service Commissions?
- (a) Article 302 (b) Article 322 (c) Article 320 (d) Article 312
29. On the occasion of National Civil Service Day, the Prime Minister confers the Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration to:
- (a) Individual civil servants for their outstanding contributions.
(b) States for their exceptional governance initiatives.
(c) Districts and implementing units for exemplary achievements in priority programme implementation and innovation categories.
(d) International organizations for their collaboration with the government in public service projects.

30. In which of the following year Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel addressed the probationers of Administrative Services Officers at Metcalf House in Delhi and referred to the civil servants as the steel frame of India?
(a) 1942 (b) 1939 (c) 1949 (d) 1947

Passage (Q.31-Q.36): Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar award

Amitabh Bachchan was honoured with the Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Puraskar on April [a], Wednesday, at Mumbai's Vile Parle area. Big B received the award on the memorial day of Deenanath Mangeshkar, the theatre-music veteran and father of Mangeshkar siblings. Apart from Big B, music maestro [x] received Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Puraskar for his contribution to Indian music. The event took place on April [a] in Mumbai with members of Mangeshkar family and other dignitaries in attendance. Singer Usha Mangeshkar presented the award to Amitabh Bachchan. Asha Bhosle, who was supposed to present the award, gave it a miss as she is unwell.

Speaking at the event, Amitabh Bachchan said, "I'm fortunate to receive this award today. I never really regarded myself worthy of such an award, but Hridayanath ji tried hard so that I could come here. He even invited me for this ceremony last year." Amitabh Bachchan, in his speech, said that his father, Harivansh Rai Bachchan, a celebrated Hindi poet, loved Lata Mangeshkar's voice and compared it to 'shehad ki dhaar'. "The sweetness in her voice was honey and as the flow of honey never breaks, her 'swar' never breaks. Whenever someone hits the right chord, our soul meets with 'paramatma'. And Lata Mangeshkar ji's 'swar' joins us with God," he added.

<https://www.indiatoday.in>

31. What has been redacted by [x] in this passage
(a) Pritam Chakraborty (b) RD Burman
(c) AR Rahman (d) Amit Trivedi
32. What is the primary criterion for receiving the Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Puraskar?
(a) Longevity in the film industry
(b) Exceptional contribution to music
(c) Path-breaking contribution towards the nation, its people, and society
(d) Personal relationship with the Mangeshkar family
33. What was the award received by Marathi writer Manjiri Phadke in 2024?
(a) Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Puraskar
(b) Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Puraskar (Vagvilasini Puraskar)
(c) Vishesh Sangeet Puraskar
(d) None of these
34. In which of the following year Lata mangeshkar got Bharat Ratna Award?
(a) 2001 (b) 2003 (c) 2004 (d) 2005
35. What day is celebrated as the memorial day of Deenanath Mangeshkar?
(a) April 24 (b) April 1 (c) March 15 (d) May 10
36. Who was honored with the first Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Puraskar?
(a) Amitabh Bachchan
(b) Prime Minister Narendra Modi
(c) Asha Bhosle
(d) AR Rahman

Passage (Q.37-Q.42): Lok Sabha Elections 2024

As many as 360(21%) out of 1,710 candidates contesting in phase-4 of Lok Sabha elections have declared criminal cases against them, according to Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) report. While 274 candidates (16 %) have serious cases pending against them, 17 declared that they were convicted. 11 candidates declared that they are facing charges under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code, which pertains to the offense of murder.

Furthermore, a total of thirty candidates have disclosed that they are confronting legal cases filed against them under Section 307 of the IPC, which deals with the crime of attempted murder.

The data also reveals that among the major political parties, all 3 AIMIM's candidates have cases against them. Shiv Sena follows with 67% (2 out of 3) of their candidates having criminal records. BRS and INC have 59% (10 out of 17) and 57% (35 out of 61) of their candidates with criminal cases, respectively. BJP also has 57 % (40 out of 70) of their candidates declaring criminal cases against themselves. TDP has 53 % (9 out of 17) of their candidates with criminal records, while both BJD and RJD have 50 % (2 out of 4) of their candidates in the same category. Shivsena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) also has 50% (2 out of 4) of their candidates with declared criminal cases. YSRCP has 48 % (12 out of 25) of their candidates with criminal records.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com>

37. Consider the following statements:
- The 18th Lok Sabha will have 543 members chosen over the course of 44 days (April 19 to June 1) and seven phases of voting.
 - The voting for the 18th Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly will occur in a single phase on May 13, and the counting of votes is scheduled for June 4, 2024.
- (a) Only I is incorrect. (b) Both I & II are correct.
(c) Only II is incorrect. (d) Both I & II are incorrect.
38. Which of the following Indian states are going to hold state assembly elections along with the Lok Sabha elections in 2024?
- (a) Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, and Sikkim
(b) Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Manipur
(c) Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, and Sikkim
(d) Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha, and Sikkim
39. Which article in the Indian Constitution grants individuals the right to vote, underscoring the principle of adult suffrage?
- (a) Article 326 (b) Article 327
(c) Article 328 (d) Article 329
40. Which of the following statements is not correct about, Section 126 in The Representation of the People Act, 1951?
- (a) Any person who contravenes the provisions of sub-section (1) shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine, or with both.
(b) In this section, the expression “election matter” means any matter intended or calculated to influence or affect the result of an election.
(c) No person shall convene, hold, attend, join or address any public meeting or procession in connection with an election.
(d) All the given statements are correct.

41. Choose the incorrect statement:
- (a) The Election Commission of India is a constitutional body established by the Constitution of India empowered to conduct free and fair elections in India.
 - (b) The Election commission is headed by a Chief Election Commissioner and consists of two other Election Commissioners.
 - (c) The headquarters of election commission of India is located in New Delhi.
 - (d) The Election Commission of India (EC) was established on 25 January 1949 in accordance with constitutional provisions (Article 320).
42. Which one of the following Indian states will not going to conduct state assembly election simultaneously with Lok Sabha election in 2024?
- (a) Sikkim (b) Odisha (c) Arunachal Pradesh (d) Manipur

Passage (Q.43-Q.48): Pakistan Taliban Conflict

Pakistan cultivated the Taliban against the U.S.-and India-backed Afghan government. When the Afghan government of President [1] collapsed in 2021 in the midst of America's withdrawal from Afghanistan and the Taliban's return to power, Pakistan expected to deepen its strategic presence in South Asia through a client regime in Kabul. But the opposite happened. Historically, Afghan governments have not had very good relations with Pakistan, given their disputed border, the Durand Line. When the Taliban were an insurgency, they needed Pakistan and Pakistan needed them as a counterweight to the government in Kabul. But today, the Taliban are the government in Kabul. Besides, the return of the Taliban to power in Afghanistan strengthened the TTP, also known as the Pakistani Taliban. The Afghan Taliban and the TTP are two different organisations but ideological brothers — both Pashtun, and who follow the strident Deobandi interpretation of Islam and believe in the rule of the Sunni Islamic clergy. In other words, what the TTP wants to achieve in Pakistan is what the Afghan Taliban have already achieved in Afghanistan. The Afghan Taliban have not severed their ties with the TTP despite Pakistan's calls and threats, which has put both countries on a collision course. Pakistan has no quick fixes. It has a history of supporting Islamist insurgency, which has come back to haunt the state in one way or the other. In Afghanistan, this policy is facing its latest blowback.

<https://www.thehindu.com>

43. What has been redacted by [1] in this passage?
- (a) Mohammed Omar (b) Mohammed Akhtar Mansour
 - (c) Ashraf Ghani (d) Ahmad Shah Durrani
44. consider the following statements:
- I. Hibatullah Akhundzada is the current leader of Taliban.
 - II. The "Talibani Emirate of Afghanistan" is the official name given to the Taliban.
- (a) Only I is correct. (b) Only II is correct.
 - (c) Both I & II are correct. (d) Both I & II are incorrect.
45. Which militant group, often likened to the Taliban of Pakistan, has been engaged in a prolonged insurgency against the nation, causing concern within Pakistan?
- (a) Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (b) Lashkar-e-Taliban
 - (c) Taliban-e-Pakistan (d) Muslim League-Nawaz
46. Which Line is the International land border that stretches for about 1,600 miles (2,600 km) between Afghanistan and Pakistan?
- (a) Radcliffe Line (b) Durand Line (c) McMahon Line (d) Hindenburg Line
47. Which two countries, in addition to Pakistan, were among the only three nations to extend recognition to the Taliban during their rule?
- (a) Iraq and Iran (b) United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia
 - (c) Iran and Saudi Arabia (d) Russia and Saudi Arabia

48. What is the theme of the International Day of Victims of Terrorism 2023?
- (a) Build a Peaceful Future
 - (b) Finding Hope
 - (c) Legacy: Finding Hope and Building a Peaceful Future
 - (d) None of these

Passage (Q.49-Q.52): India to Deliver BrahMos Missiles to Philippines

India delivered the BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles to the Philippines Friday as part of a \$375-million deal signed in 2022. The delivery of the missiles was also announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at an election rally in Damoh in Madhya Pradesh where he congratulated people of the country for this. An IAF C-17 Globemaster transport aircraft and a chartered aircraft delivered the missile system to the Philippines Marine Corps. Sources said three batteries of the weapon system would be deployed by the Philippines in their coastal area amid tensions with China in the South China Sea. Defence sources said that deliveries of some of the missile storage facility items had begun last month, but the actual deliveries of the missiles began Friday.

The deal for a shore-based variant of an anti-ship cruise missile marked India's first major export order. The missile has a range of around [a] km. BrahMos Aerospace is a joint venture between [1] and Russia's NPO Mashinostroyeniya. The supersonic cruise missile has been operationalised in all three wings of the Indian armed forces. Brahmos Aerospace Pvt Ltd is looking to export the missile system and its compact next generation version BrahMos NG to at least [x] countries including South Africa, Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Egypt.

<https://indianexpress.com>

49. What has been redacted by [1] in this passage?
- (a) Council of Industrial and Scientific Research
 - (b) Indian Academy of Sciences
 - (c) Defence Research and Development Organisation
 - (d) Indian Space Research Organisation
50. consider the following statements:
- I. BrahMos NG is a next-generation smaller, lighter version of the weapon system which can be deployed on a range of military platforms.
 - II. The trials for it were scheduled to be held in the first half of 2026.
- (a) Only II is correct.
 - (b) Both I & II are correct.
 - (c) Both I & II are incorrect.
 - (d) Only I is correct.
51. Who is the current president of Philippines?
- (a) Bongbong Marcos
 - (b) Yoon Suk yeol
 - (c) Joko Widodo
 - (d) Tsai Ing-wen
52. Which of the following statements is not true?
- (a) Recently, the Ministry of Defence signed contracts with BrahMos Aerospace Private Limited to procure BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles and procurement of ship-borne BrahMos systems at a cost of Rs 19,518.65 crore and Rs 988.07 crore respectively.
 - (b) Brahmos Aerospace Pvt Ltd is looking to export the missile system and its compact next generation version BrahMos NG to at least 30 countries.
 - (c) The original version of the Brahmos missile had a range of 290 km, which, combined with its supersonic speed of around 2.8 Mach (over 3,450 km/h), made it a highly effective weapon, according to military experts.
 - (d) BrahMos Aerospace is a joint venture between Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Russia's NPO Mashinostroyeniya.

SECTION – C: LEGAL REASONING

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

Passage (Q.53-Q.57): The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare proposes to finalise the National Pharmacy Commission Bill, 2023 for setting up the National Pharmacy Commission and repealing the Pharmacy Act, 1948.

Section 3. (1) The Central Government shall constitute the Commission, to be known as the National Pharmacy Commission, with effect from such date as it may, by notification, appoint, for exercising such powers and discharging such duties as are laid down under this Act. (2) The Commission shall be a body corporate by the name aforesaid, having perpetual succession and a common seal with power, subject to the provisions of this Act, to acquire, hold and dispose of property, both movable and immovable, and to contract, and shall, by the said name, sue or be sued. (3) The head office of the National Pharmacy Commission shall be at New Delhi. The National Pharmacy Commission shall consist of a Chairperson, thirteen ex officio Members and fourteen part-time Members as follows, namely: — a. The Chairperson shall be a pharmacy academician and a registered pharmacist having outstanding ability, proven administrative capacity and integrity and possessing a postgraduate degree in pharmacy profession from any University with experience of not less than fifteen years in the field of pharmacy, out of which at least ten years shall be as a pharmacy leader in the area of pharmacy education, to be appointed by the Central Government. Section 10. (1) The Commission shall take all such steps as it may think fit for ensuring coordinated and integrated development of pharmacy education and maintenance of the standards of delivery of services, with periodic revisions, as may be specified by regulations.

[Source: <https://main.mohfw.gov.in/?q=newshighlights-165>]

53. Currently, the regulation of pharmacies in Mumbai, India is fragmented, with multiple authorities overseeing different aspects of the pharmaceutical sector. A National Pharmacy Commission would streamline and consolidate these regulatory functions, ensuring a more cohesive and efficient oversight. This is established with its head office in the heart of Mumbai (being the commercial capital consisting of pharmaceutical giants) by the central government under the 2023 law. There are many protests which happen when the commission begins performing its functions for pharmacy education. Is the establishment of the Commission valid in light of the passage?
- (a) Yes, because the commission should have been established by the state government under section 3.
 - (b) No, because the commission is not supposed to perform functions of regulation of pharmacy education under section 10.
 - (c) Yes, because there must have been approval of pharmacy lobby based in New Delhi under section 3.
 - (d) No, because the seat of the Commission should have been in New Delhi under section 3.
54. The central government has made a strategic decision to appoint a seasoned and experienced government servant by the name of Mr. Prabhat Kishore as the Chairman of the National Pharmacy Commission. The selected government servant possesses a wealth of regulatory expertise gained through years of service in relevant government departments. With a background in public administration and a track record of effectively managing regulatory frameworks, the appointee is well-equipped to lead the National Pharmacy Commission in navigating the complex landscape of pharmaceutical oversight. He possesses a postgraduate degree in pharmacy and with experience of seventeen years in dealing with health related issues involving pharmacy education leaders (institutions) along with registration as a pharmacist. Is his appointment valid?
- (a) Yes, because the chairman had registration in pharmacy along with a postgraduate degree and required experience.
 - (b) No, because the Mr. Kishore's experience was inadequate in the required filed for being appointed as chairman.
 - (c) Yes, because all the requirements of section 3 are being met by the appointment of Mr. Prabhat Kishore.
 - (d) No, because the chairman must be a pharmacy academician, not a government servant, under section 3.

55. India has emerged as a major hub for pharmaceutical manufacturing, contributing significantly to the global pharmaceutical market. With the industry's growth, there is an increasing need for robust regulatory mechanisms to ensure that manufacturing practices adhere to high standards, guaranteeing the quality of pharmaceutical products. The central government has established the National Pharmacy Commission in 2023 to take a lead role in regulating and enhancing the manufacturing of pharmaceuticals. Is the establishment of the commission valid in light of the passage?
- Yes, because the 2023 law indicates the major functions of the commission to be regulation of pharmacy manufacturing.
 - No, because the 2023 law indicates the allied functions of the commission are regulation of services given during pharmacy manufacturing.
 - Yes, because the 2023 law states that the Commission is to be established by replacing an Act which deals with manufacturing.
 - No, because the 2023 law indicates the major functions of the Commission to be regulation of pharmacy education.
56. Can the National Pharmaceutical Commission enter into contracts in its own name according to the passage?
- Yes, because it is body corporate with a seal capable of contracting under section 3.
 - No, because it is a government body which cannot be connected with contracting in its own under section 3.
 - Yes, because it is a statutory authority with a distinct legal entity with a seal capable of contracting under the Companies Act 2013 and Pharmacy Act, 1948.
 - No, because it is statutory authority connected to regulation which cannot enter into commercial transactions.
57. Dr. Prakash Dubey is appointed as the chairman of the National Pharmacy Commission by the central government. He is a noted pharmacist academician for twenty years. He is registered as a pharmacist. He had been a noted education leader for twelve years. He was gold medalist in his undergraduate pharmacy degree after which he continuously worked for decades with no break in career. Is his appointment valid in light of the passage?
- Yes, because he was a pharmacy academician for more than fifteen years having registration with leadership experience for more than ten years.
 - No, because there is requirement of being a pharmacy education leader for more than ten years under section 3.
 - Yes, because the entire requirement criteria under section 3 of the National Pharmacy Commission law 2023 are being met.
 - No, because there is requirement of a postgraduate degree in pharmacy under section 3.

Passage (Q.58-Q.61): The expression 'law' which is used in Article 13 has been given a wider connotation so as to include any ordinance, order, bye-laws, rule, regulation, notification, custom or usage having in the territory of India the force of law. This means that not only a piece of legislation but any of the things mentioned here can be challenged as infringing a Fundamental Right.

It is clear from the wordings of clause (3)(a) of Article 13 of the Constitution that it includes both the laws made by legislature as well as those orders or notifications which abridge or take away any of the fundamental rights given in Part III of the Constitution would be void. Article 13 consists of two parts.

They are:

- Pre constitutional laws [Article 13(1)]
- Post constitutional laws [Article 13(2)]

Retrospective effect: Article 13, Constitution of India 1950

- (1) All laws in force in the territory of India immediately before the commencement of this Constitution, in so far as they are inconsistent with the provisions of this Part, shall, to the extent of such inconsistency, be void.

The doctrine of eclipse: This doctrine simply states that any law which is contrary to fundamental rights enshrined in Part III of the constitution is not void but becomes unenforceable, i.e. it becomes dormant for an infinite period of time until the inconsistency is removed from it.

The doctrine of severability: From the word severability, it is clear that it means to separate. According to this doctrine, not the whole act is considered void but only the impugned part which is contrary to the provisions of Part III is considered void provided that the impugned act is separable.

Future Laws: According to Article 13 of the constitution, the state is not allowed to enact any law which is in contravention to Part III of the Constitution of India. However, if such law is made it will be declared as void. It should be noted that the word 'law' under Article 13 did not include the constitutional amendments made by Parliament through Article 368 of the Constitution. However, the SC in Keshvanand Bharti case, while dealing with the powers of the parliament under article 368 held that the parliament has the right to make any amendments in parts of the constitution including part III except the basic features such as democracy, rule of law, etc.

58. Imagine that the state law of Travancore and Kochi, for Christians, allowed only male subjects to inherit the property and in the absence of any male subject, the property will go to the state exchequer. After independence, in the year 1951, same was challenged being derogatory of the Article Article 15 (discrimination on the basis of sex) of the Indian constitution. Decide based on the given information in the passage and question stem.
- (a) Yes, it is derogatory to Article 15, hence, it is void.
 - (b) No, it is a personal law; therefore no 'equality clause' is applicable here.
 - (c) Yes, since it is only applicable for Christians hence, valid.
 - (d) No, as retrospective application of article 13 are not allowed.
59. In light of the given information in the passage, which of the following statements is/are not correct?
- (a) Article 13 clause (1) does not give retrospective effect to the application of fundamental rights.
 - (b) Article 13 clause (1) talks only about its prospective effect.
 - (c) Both (a) and (b)
 - (d) Only (a) and not (b).
60. All laws in contravention to the provisions of the constitution before the commencement of the constitution become void. Is this statement correct with reference to Article 13?
- (a) No, any law in contravention with the constitution is considered as void since the enactment of that law itself.
 - (b) Yes, any law in contravention with the provisions of the constitution before the commencement of the constitution is void.
 - (c) Article 13 has nothing to do with the laws before the commencement of the constitution.
 - (d) No, as any existing law which is in conflict with any of the provisions enshrined in part III of the constitution, at the time of commencement of constitution, will be declared as void.
61. Assertion (A): The power to amend the Constitution under Article 368 also included the power to amend fundamental rights.
Reasoning (R): The word "law" in Article 13 does not include Constitutional amendment which is made in exercise of constituent power.
- (a) Both A and R are correct, but R does not explain A.
 - (b) A is correct, but R is incorrect.
 - (c) Both A and R are correct.
 - (d) Both A and R are incorrect.

Passage (Q.62-Q.65): When the Khairlanji Massacre took place in 2006, I was in a boarding school, in class 8. When I heard about it, I asked a friend who, like me, belongs to the Scheduled Caste community, what exactly had happened. He told me that four members of a family from the Scheduled Caste community had been brutally attacked in Khairlanji village near Nagpur in eastern Maharashtra. Two women had been raped, brutally beaten and lynched to death, while the two sons of one of the women were also killed in front of the whole village.

Though there are laws in place to address and prevent caste atrocities, including The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955, they fail because of the lack of proper implementation. In many cases, the state tries to cover up discrimination and violence and escape from responsibility, which leads to the further harassment of the victims. This shows a lack of commitment to the cause of establishing justice and equality in society.

Stressing on the importance of social consciousness, B.R. Ambedkar in *Ranade, Gandhi and Jinnah*, an address he delivered in 1943, had said,

“The idea of making a gift of fundamental rights to every individual, no doubt, is laudable. The question is how to make them effective? The prevalent view is that once rights are enacted in a law, then they are safeguarded. This again is an unwarranted assumption. And experience proves that rights are not protected by law but the social and moral conscience of society. If social conscience is such that it is to recognize the rights which law chooses to enact, rights will be safe and secure. But the fundamental rights are opposed by the community. No parliament, no judiciary can guarantee them in the real sense of the words.”

(Source: <https://thewire.in/>)

62. Suman is an environmental activist who lives by the mantra "save the environment, preserve the life." She is a member of Sadhguru's "Save Soil" worldwide campaign, which aims to create a deliberate, conscious reaction to impending soil extinction. What, according to the author, may genuinely assist a person in understanding the value of soil and preventing disrupting nature in any way?
- People's will, supported by strong legislative intent, may bring about positive change in the attitude of people towards conserving environment.
 - It can only be accomplished if individuals are willing to do so.
 - It is impossible to accomplish without enacting strict criminal penalties for those who are careless with the subject of depletion of the environment.
 - Enforcing the legislation will not help since the community is hostile to it.
63. Against their parents' wishes, Chandini and Ujjwal chose to marry. They were well aware of the consequences of their decision, knowing that both of their families would be opposed to the marriage because they came from a generation of orthodox thinkers. Inter caste marriage is a crime to them. Who is responsible for safeguarding such individuals in such situations?
- In the absence of constitutional safeguards, regulations forbidding atrocities against such individuals must be implemented.
 - The state must be held accountable for preventing caste atrocities.
 - The state is unconcerned about achieving justice and equality in society.
 - Individuals should refrain from marrying beyond their caste until the legislature passes an ordinance protecting them from such abuses.
64. Choose a statement that illustrates an anomaly from the context of the passage:
- The Indian state has failed to address and effectively deal with structural social hierarchy and its ill effects on society.
 - State has become a “bystanders of horror”.
 - The state and dominant caste groups insist on denying the existence of caste discrimination, arguing that it is a thing of the past and that one needs to look at the future and forget history.
 - Every caste atrocity do not adds to the trauma of the community as a collective.
- (a) I & II (b) III & IV (c) III & II (d) None of the above.

65. Assertion: Fundamental rights implementation must pass the social and moral conscience test; only then can the genuine substance of law enactment be seen in society.
Reason: The social and moral consciousness of society protects rights, not the law.
- Both A and R are true but R is not correct explanation of A.
 - Both A and R are true and R is correct explanation of A.
 - A is true but R is false.
 - A is false but R is true.

Passage (Q.66-Q.70): Dowry death is defined in Section 304B of the Indian Penal Code, 1860. Also Section 113B of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 states the presumption as to dowry death. Section 304B of the Indian Penal Code states that if a woman dies, within seven years of marriage, by any burns or bodily injury or it was revealed that before her marriage she was exposed to cruelty or harassment by her husband or any other relative of the husband in connection to demand dowry, then the death of the woman will be considered as a dowry death. Punishment for dowry death attracts a minimum sentence of imprisonment for seven years or a maximum sentence of imprisonment for life.

Essential ingredients for the above offence are:

- Death should be caused by burns or bodily injury or by any other circumstances.
- Death must occur within seven years of marriage.
- It must be revealed that soon before her death she was exposed to cruelty or harassment by her husband or his relatives; and
- The cruelty or harassment on her should be in connection with the demand for dowry.

As per Section 2 of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, dowry is any property or valuable security directly or indirectly agreed to be given – (a) by one party to a marriage to the other party to the marriage; or (b) by the parent of either party to a marriage or by any other person, to either party to the marriage or to any other person, at or before or any time after the marriage in connection with the marriage of the said parties.

66. Priya and Abeer married against their parents' wishes. When Priya ran away from home to marry Abeer, she took 50 lakhs from her father's locker and handed it to him so that they can set up some business and live their life peacefully. But Abeer spent all the money in stupid bets. Priya committed suicide after 10 years of marriage due to Abeer's constant and persistent taunts that they could have brought monetary help from his father if she could have resolved all of their issues. Determine whether Priya's death will be considered dowry death.
- It will amount to dowry death as Priya committed suicide because of Abeer's illogical demands.
 - No, Abeer is not liable for Priya's death as he only asked Priya to resolve issues with his father.
 - There is no dowry death as it was after 10 years of marriage.
 - There is no question of dowry death as it was a plain suicide.
67. Savitri and Ashok have been married for two years. Ashok used to mock Savitri for bringing such little dowry. After three years of marriage, Savitri met with an accident and died while crossing the road as Ashok walked ahead to buy some flowers. As Savitri died within seven years of their marriage, Ashok was arrested for dowry death. Determine Ashok's liability.
- Ashok is liable for Savitri's death as she was depressed because of the torture.
 - Ashok is not liable for Savitri's death as it was merely not an accident.
 - Ashok is not liable dowry death as it was an accident.
 - Ashok is liable as it amounts to abetment to suicide as he intently left Savitri alone to cross a busy road.
68. In the above example, suppose it is known that, aside from mentally torturing Savitri on many occasions in order to bring less dowry, Ashok is always ready to find new ways to harm Savitri indirectly. So, knowing Savitri's phobia of heights, he accompanied her to a nearby cliff one day. He brought Savitri to the cliff's edge, where she collapsed and fell off the cliff. Accusation of dowry death are alleged on Ashok. Will this amounts to dowry death?
- Ashok is liable for the death of Savitri as the incidence will be covered death under other circumstances.
 - Ashok is not liable as Savitri herself fell off the cliff.
 - Ashok is liable as he purposely took Savitri to the cliff knowing Savitri's phobia of heights.
 - Ashok is not liable as it was not a suicide but an accident.

69. Joshua and Kashish had been married for two years. Joshua always taunted Kashish for dark skin and made fun of her, and he also used to taunt her for bringing less dowry as he had only married her for money and nothing else. The taunts on dowry bothered her the least but the taunts on her complexion killed her from inside the most. Annoyed at the constant taunts on her complexion, Kashish committed suicide after six years of her marriage. Joshua was held for dowry death. Decide whether Joshua is liable for dowry death.
- (a) Joshua is liable for Kashish's death as he constantly taunts her of dark skin bringing less dowry.
 - (b) Joshua is not liable for Kashish's death and hence can be held accountable for dowry death.
 - (c) Joshua is liable for the death as it happened because of dowry demand and racism.
 - (d) Joshua is not liable as it was not a case dowry death.
70. Urfi and Naved had been dating for five years before deciding to marry. Since Urfi hails from a wealthy family, Naved persuaded her to accept financial assistance from her father in order to establish his business. Urfi stated, I can introduce you to my father and you can yourself pitch him for investing in your startup. Naved nailed his presentation, and urfi's father handed Naved an amount of Rs 1 crore on the condition that he repay the money with a 5% interest rate, to which Naved accepted and subsequently called off the marriage with Urfi when his startup began to earn profits and was well-regarded in the market. Urfi then launched a dowry demand complaint against Naved and alleged that Naved has asked for dowry from her father. Will she succeed?
- (a) Naved is liable for dowry demand since he demanded financial assistance from Urfi's father in order to marry Urfi.
 - (b) Naved is not responsible for asking for dowry because it is plainly a business transaction between him and Urfi's father.
 - (c) Naved is responsible since he cancelled the wedding with Urfi after taking her money.
 - (d) Naved is not accountable because he never assaulted Urfi or made any dowry demands for the purpose of marriage.

Passage (Q.71-Q.75): The 2019 Act expands the scope of the definition of 'consumer' so as to include the consumers involved in online transactions and it now squarely covers the e-commerce businesses within its ambit. The 2019 Act has also widened the definition of 'unfair trade practices' as compared to the 1986 Act which now includes within its ambit online misleading advertisements; the practice of not issuing bill/memo for the goods and services; failing to take back defective goods or deactivate defective services and refund the amount within the stipulated time mentioned in the bill or memo or within 30 days in the absence of such stipulation; and disclosing personal information of a consumer unless such disclosure is in accordance with law.

The 2019 Act has also introduced the concept of 'unfair contract' which includes those contracts which favour the manufacturers or service providers and are against the interest of the consumers such as contracts requiring manifestly excessive security deposits to be given by a consumer for the performance of contractual obligations; imposing any penalty on the consumer for a breach of the contract, which is wholly disproportionate to the loss occurred due to such breach to the other party to the contract. Such unfair consumer contracts are now covered under the 2019 Act and a complaint in this regard can now be filed by a consumer.

Another major introduction in the 2019 Act is the concept of 'product liability' which covers within its ambit the product manufacturer, product service provider and product seller, for any claim for compensation. The term 'product liability' is defined by the 2019 Act as the responsibility of a product manufacturer or product seller, of any product or service, related to the product to compensate for any harm caused to a consumer by such defective product manufactured or sold or by deficiency in services relating to the product. Also, the product seller has now been defined to include a person who is involved in placing the product for a commercial purpose and as such would include e-commerce platforms as well. Therefore, the ground commonly taken by e-commerce websites that they merely act as 'platforms' or 'aggregators' will now not be tenable before the court anymore. Under the 2019 Act, manufacturers will be liable in product liability action even where they successfully prove that they were not negligent or fraudulent in making the express warranty of a product. However, certain exceptions have been provided under the 2019 Act from liability claims, such as, that the product seller will not be liable where the product has been misused, altered or modified.

71. Madhur Sweets is a well-known sweet brand famous across the state of Gujarat for its dairy products sourced directly from their organic farm. However, their competitors have spread a rumor in the market that the company's recently launched product in 2020, "Madhur Pure Ghee 1 Liter," actually delivers only 990ml. The buyer now wishes to file a consumer complaint and seeks compensation from Madhur Sweets. Decide.
- (a) The buyer will not succeed as the difference is minimal and hence will not be covered under the concept of product liability.
 - (b) The buyer will succeed as it is the responsibility of a product manufacturer to compensate for any harm caused to a consumer by deficiency in services relating to the product.
 - (c) The buyer will succeed and get compensation as it is a manufacturing defect.
 - (d) The buyer will not succeed as the loss occurred to him will be covered by the seller and not the manufacturer.
72. The energy drink manufacturer Beera claims in an online advertisement aired on YouTube that after a single dose, a customer would feel energised and won't sleep for eight hours straight. Since there were no gaps between his examinations, Nishant had not gotten enough rest in recent days. He had another exam to prepare for tomorrow, so he took a Beera shot to keep him awake. He didn't fall asleep for three hours, though. Nishant accused Beera of deceiving its customers and launched a lawsuit under Consumer Protection Bill, 2019. Decide.
- (a) These kind of promises are not covered under the ambit of the Consumer Protection Bill, 2019.
 - (b) Beera has just mentioned the benefits and it is part of its marketing strategy which is justified.
 - (c) Nishant's suit is valid as no company can communicate false claims through its advertisement and the case is valid under the Consumer Protection Bill, 2019.
 - (d) Nishant had not taken rest and that should also be considered a valid argument in favor of Beera manufacturer.
73. The first slide of the website's disclaimer states that the firm only takes returns if there is a size issue; in any other circumstance, no request for the same would be accepted. Zia purchased a dress for her brother's wedding. The garment had a hole when it was delivered to Zia. Zia now wants to return the dress, but is unable to do so due to the company's return policy. What options does she currently have under the 2019 law?
- (a) Zia cannot return the dress as there was no mention of return policy on the website; thus, her filing of the return was not feasible
 - (b) Zia can return the dress and would get compensation as the ecommerce is now covered under the ambit of Consumer Protection Act, 2019.
 - (c) Zia cannot return the dress now as she agreed with the terms and condition of the website.
 - (d) Zia can return the dress as she did not agree to receive a defective dress.
74. Mrinalini wanted to purchase some artificial jewelry for her wedding-related events. She came across an Instagram post from her friend Samiksha, offering wedding jewelry for rent. When inquiring about the cost, Mrinalini was shocked to learn that Samiksha wanted a security deposit of Rs. 20,000, which was excessive and double the cost of the rental. In her defense, Samiksha said that clients usually do not return the pieces as provided, hence she charges double. Under the authority of the 2019 Consumer Protection Bill, Mrinalini wants to bring a lawsuit. Can she do so?
- (a) Lawful Security deposits are not covered under the ambit of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019
 - (b) Yes. Security deposits are covered under the ambit of Consumer Protection Act, 2019.
 - (c) As Samiksha is providing jewellery on rent, any amount of security deposit is feasible as it is at the discretion of the owner of the goods/service.
 - (d) Samiksha charging high deposit is valid as client usually do not return the pieces as provided and return pieces with defects.

75. A strawberry flavoured protein shake was manufactured by "Shakes 'n' Shop". The protein shake was meant to be taken with just curd. Sonia took the shake with milk and got a sore throat. Sonia filed a suit against "Shakes 'n' Shop". Decide.
- (a) "Shakes 'n' Shop" would be held liable as the shake caused harm to Sonia.
 - (b) "Shakes 'n' Shop" won't be held liable as Sonia should have checked the ingredients prior to intake.
 - (c) "Shakes 'n' Shop" would be held liable as defective product liability is covered under the ambit of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019.
 - (d) Shakes 'n' Shop" won't be held liable as there is no defect in the product offered to Sonia.

Passage (Q.76-Q.79): The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) 2023 is a legislative reform introduced to replace the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) of 1973, aiming to modernize and enhance the procedural framework governing the criminal justice system in India.

The Constitution and CrPC prohibit detention in police custody beyond 24 hours. The Magistrate is empowered to extend it up to 15 days in case investigation cannot be completed within 24 hours. He may further extend judicial custody beyond 15 days if he is satisfied that adequate grounds exist to do so. However, overall detention cannot exceed 60 or 90 days (depending on the offence). The BNSS modifies this procedure.

One significant change is the expansion of possible duration of police custody beyond the initial 15 days of the arrest, according to Bharatiya Nyaya (Second) Sanhita Bill, 2023.

The change implies that the prescribed 15-day period of custody can now be split into shorter periods of custody sought over the period of 40 days for offences punishable upto 10 years or 60 days for offences punishable with 11 years or more. This will make the police less circumspect while making an arrest in complex cases or serious crimes, as the right of the police to have police custody will not be limited to the first 15 days.

Police custody is a well-documented site for torture. Expanding the duration of such custody heightens the risk of such police excesses and consequently also increases the risk of forced confessions and the fabrication of evidence.

The reason to restrict police custody was the recognition that it is oppressive and enables police to extract false statements from accused persons.

[Extracted with revisions from <https://www.thequint.com/news/law/criminal-law-bills-bns-parliament-civil-liberty-rights#read-more>]

76. Aditya is arrested on January 1, 2024, for an offence punishable up to 10 years under the Bharatiya Nyaya (Second) Sanhita Bill, 2023. According to the new provision, if Aditya's custody is split into two periods, what is the last possible date for the completion of his police custody?
- (a) February 9, 2024. (b) March 1, 2024. (c) February 1, 2024. (d) March 15, 2024.
77. Considering the potential risks outlined in the principle due to the extended police custody duration, which of the following consequences is the primary concern emphasized in the statement?
- (a) Elevation of the likelihood of coerced admissions and the creation of false proof.
 - (b) Escalation of the chances for accused individuals to escape during prolonged custody.
 - (c) Intensification of the risk for delayed investigations and prolonged legal proceedings.
 - (d) Amplification of the opportunity for thorough.
78. Vikram is arrested under the Bharatiya Nyaya (Second) Sanhita Bill, 2023, for an offence punishable up to 5 years. How does the new provision impact the duration of Vikram's police custody?
- (a) Vikram can be held in custody for a maximum of 15 days.
 - (b) Vikram can be held in custody for a maximum of 40 days.
 - (c) Vikram can be held in custody for a maximum of 60 days.
 - (d) Vikram cannot be held in custody as his offence is punishable up to 5 years.

79. Assertion: The expansion of police custody duration under the Bharatiya Nyaya (Second) Sanhita Bill, 2023, raises concerns about potential abuses and risks, including forced confessions and evidence fabrication.
Reasoning: The extension of this duration beyond the initial 15 days heightens the risk of police excesses, increasing the likelihood of coerced admissions and the creation of false evidence.
- Both the assertion and reasoning are correct, and the reasoning is a valid explanation for the assertion.
 - Both the assertion and reasoning are correct, but the reasoning is not a valid explanation for the assertion.
 - The assertion is correct, but the reasoning is incorrect.
 - The assertion is incorrect, but the reasoning is correct.

Passage (Q.80-Q.84): Under Section 445 of the IPC: A person is said to commit “house-breaking” who commits house-trespass if he effects his entrance into the house or any part of it in any of the six ways hereinafter described;

Or if, being in the house or any part of it for the purpose of committing an offence, or having committed an offence therein, he quits the house or any part of it in any of it in such six ways, that is to say:

- If he enters or quits through a passage made by himself, or by any abettor of the house-trespass, in order to the committing of the house-trespass.
- If he enters or quits through any passage not intended by any person, other than himself or an abettor of the offence, for human entrance; or through any passage to which he has obtained access by scaling or climbing over any wall or building.
- If he enters or quits through any passage which he or any abettor of the house-trespass has opened, in order to the committing of the house-trespass by any means by which that passage was not intended by the occupier of the house to be opened.
- If he enters or quits by opening any lock in order to the committing of the house-trespass, or in order to the quitting of the house after a house-trespass.
- If he effects his entrance or departure by using criminal force or committing an assault, or by threatening any person with assault.
- If he enters or quits by any passage which he knows to have been fastened against such entrance or departure, and to have been unfastened by himself or by an abettor of the house-trespass.

House trespass would constitute lurking house trespass when the person committing house trespass has taken precaution to conceal such trespass from a person who has a right to exclude or eject the trespasser from the building which is subject matter of the trespass.

[Source:https://www.indiacode.nic.in/show-data?actid=AC_CEN_5_23_00037_186045_1523266765688&orderno=502]

80. Mr. Sharma and his family had gone on a weekend trip, leaving their house unattended. The incident came to light when a concerned neighbor noticed a broken window and called the local police. The neighbor had become suspicious after hearing the sound of glass shattering, followed by unusual noises coming from the Sharma residence. The police arrived promptly at the scene and found evidence of a forced entry through a ground floor window. The intruders had broken a large window pane and entered the house, ransacking rooms in search of valuable items. They exited through the main door. Upon inspecting the crime scene, it was discovered that the burglars had stolen various items, including jewelry, electronics, and cash. Mr. Sharma estimated the total loss to be approximately 1,50,000 INR. Will it be qualified as house-breaking in light of the passage?
- Yes, because he entered through a passage made by him for house-trespass.
 - No, because there was no quitting through the passage made for committing theft.
 - Yes, because he entered through a passage which was unfastened by him.
 - No, because there was theft committed by taking away of movable property from possession.

81. Mr. Arvind Singh, the homeowner, and his family were sound asleep when an intruder managed to scale the 8-foot-tall brick wall that surrounded their property. The wall was a part of the house's security measures but was not equipped with any security cameras or motion sensors. The intruder's climb went unnoticed until the next morning when the Singh family discovered that half the wall had footprints on the outside but no footprints on the inside. Even though the intruder failed to get inside the house, distressed by the shoe signs, the Singh's immediately reported the incident to the local police station. Will it be house-breaking in light of the passage?
- (a) Yes, because there was entry into the house by climbing a wall for house trespass.
 - (b) No, because there were no valuables or property taken by the intruder which is essential under section 445.
 - (c) Yes, because there was entry into the house by some passage not intended for human entrance.
 - (d) No, because there was no entry into the house through the climb of wall.
82. Ms. Anjali Sharma, a single mother, and her teenage daughter, Riya, were at home. The house was secured with locked doors and windows, but a man, later identified as Mr. Rajesh, had been frequently observed hanging around the neighborhood. Neighbors had noticed Mr. Rajesh loitering around the Sharmas' house for several days, watching their movements and occasionally peering into their windows. One day, Rajesh entered the house unnoticed by anyone through an ajar back door and then sat on the bench in their garden. He then took an antique flower pot away with him. Which offence has been committed?
- (a) House-breaking has been committed because he entered the house through unfastening an entry point.
 - (b) House trespass has been committed because he entered the house through opening a door which was not intended to be opened through that means.
 - (c) Lurking house trespass has been committed as there was concealment from owner of the building.
 - (d) Theft has been committed because he took a movable property away with him from the possession of the house owner.
83. In the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Das, a retired couple living in a peaceful suburban neighborhood, there was some unusual activity. Some intruders used a crowbar to shatter a ground-floor window, causing glass to shatter and alarm the family. The sound of breaking glass awakened the Das family, and they were terrified to find the intruders in their home. The criminals, armed with weapons, threatened the couple and demanded they hand over their valuables, including jewelry, cash, and electronic devices. The intruders used physical force and intimidation to subdue the elderly couple when they were leaving the house. What would be the offence if the criminals had entered without force and through opening the main door?
- (a) It would be house-breaking because entry after unfastening the main door for house trespass was done.
 - (b) It would be lurking house trespass because the intruders entered after concealing themselves from the owners of the house.
 - (c) It would be house breaking because departure was affected by the use of criminal force or assault.
 - (d) It would be theft with house-breaking because the intruders took valuables from the possession of the owners.
84. In a suburban neighborhood in Chennai, India, on the evening of July 8, 2023, an unusual incident happened in the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Patel. The Patel's were away visiting family when the break-in took place. The intruder, who had prior knowledge of the neighborhood, chose their house as the target. They skillfully opened the lock of the front door from the key taken from the couple's servant's bag to gain entry into the house, leaving no visible signs of forced entry. Once inside, the intruder ransacked the home, searching for valuable items. They stole jewelry, electronics, and cash. Does it qualify as house-breaking under section 445?
- (a) Yes, because there was entry into the house by opening a lock to commit house trespass
 - (b) No, because there was entry into the house through legitimate means by authorized means.
 - (c) Yes, because there was taking away of valuables from the possession of the house owners.
 - (d) No, because there was no use of criminal force or assault and the owners were also absent.

SECTION D: LOGICAL REASONING

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

Passage (Q.85-Q.90): India and Canada are headed for an even frostier season in ties after the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)'s latest move to pare down the number of Canadian diplomats in India, from 62 to 21. While New Delhi had made its demand to equalise the numbers in each other's missions known last month, in the fiery aftermath of the Trudeau government's allegations that India had a role in the killing of Canadian national and Khalistani activist Hardeep Singh Nijjar, matters were thought to have cooled down. It had even been hoped that quiet diplomacy was at work to repair ties. However, Canada continues to hold, without proffering any further proof, that India must cooperate in its investigations against unnamed Indian officials, while India is standing by measures it has taken in reprisal: last month, after the tit-for-tat expulsions of their respective diplomats from security agencies, the Modi government suspended visas for all Canadians, and demanded the downsizing of Canadian diplomatic strength. This week, India issued an ultimatum for the removal of two thirds of those numbers with a deadline of October 31 — after which India would unilaterally withdraw diplomatic immunity. As a result, Canada's Foreign Ministry flew out 41 of its diplomats and their families, calling India's demand a violation of international law including the Vienna Convention. The MEA has retorted that the convention's Article 11.1 does authorise India to "require that the size of a mission be kept within limits". Canada has also conveyed that with staffing shortages now, consulate "in-person" visa services would no longer be provided. The Canadian Immigration Minister has added that India's moves would not deter Canada's prosecution in the Nijjar case.

The developments indicate that if there had been any diplomatic efforts to defuse the situation in the past month, they have been fruitless. Apart from the Modi-Trudeau and National Security Adviser meetings that had discussed the Nijjar case, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar had reportedly met Canadian Foreign Minister Mélanie Joly in the U.S. on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly. None of those appears to have turned the trajectory of events; attempts by Canada's "Five Eyes" Allies to mediate have not worked either. While the allies have supported Canada's claims, they have also shored up their ties with India, with possible visits by the British, U.S. and Australian leaders that will assure New Delhi. With diplomatic options exhausted for now, it is hoped a period of reflection will bring fresh counsel on how to break the logjam. Till then, students, tourists and businesspersons will suffer.

85. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
- (a) While there are significant disruptions to visas and diplomatic services, a permanent ban on all travel is highly unlikely
 - (b) As India demand that Canada downsize its diplomatic strength, role of Vienna Convention has weakened.
 - (c) The conflict described is limited to diplomatic and political issues between India and Canada, with no suffering for respective citizens.
 - (d) Allies of India and Canada have not had much influence in the bilateral conflict between the two countries.
86. Based on India's response to the allegations made by the Canadian government and the subsequent diplomatic actions, which of the following is an underlying assumption about the Indian government's decision-making process?
- (a) India assumes that reducing diplomatic ties will pressure Canada into improving its ties with Indian government.
 - (b) India believes its actions will demonstrate its strong stance against external interference.
 - (c) The Indian government is assuming that international diplomatic norms can be flexibly interpreted.
 - (d) India perceives that downsizing Canadian staff would primarily affect visa services negatively.

87. To evaluate the effectiveness of Canada's stance that India had a role in the killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar and its subsequent insistence on Indian cooperation in the investigation, which of the following would be most important to ascertain?
- (a) The extent of evidence Canada has to support its claim against Indian officials.
 - (b) How India's reduction in Canadian diplomatic staff affects bilateral relations.
 - (c) Whether other international allies support Canada's allegations against India.
 - (d) The impact of the diplomatic row on Indian and Canadian civilian populations.
88. Given the series of events and diplomatic exchanges detailed in the passage, what can be inferred about the impact of international law and conventions, such as the Vienna Convention, on handling diplomatic disputes between nations?
- (a) They act as authoritative arbiters in diplomatic conflicts, providing conclusive legal rulings.
 - (b) Conventions like the Vienna Convention are often leveraged as strategic tools in diplomatic negotiations.
 - (c) These laws tend to be undermined by the political and economic leverage of the nations involved.
 - (d) Such conventions predominantly serve to facilitate the communication and basic protocols between nations.
89. Considering the response of India to Canada's allegations and actions, what potential logical flaw can be identified in India's argument regarding the downsizing of Canadian diplomatic strength in India?
- (a) The reduction in diplomatic staff may not directly impact Canada's investigative capabilities in the Nijjar case.
 - (b) Decreasing diplomatic presence assumes that such actions would force Canada to alter its stance.
 - (c) The decision to reduce staff numbers could be seen as an unrelated measure to the allegations made by Canada.
 - (d) The downsizing might not necessarily lead to an equalization of diplomatic strength between the two nations.
90. In the context of the strained diplomatic relations between India and Canada as depicted in the passage, which of the following, if true, would most strengthen Canada's position in the dispute over the Nijjar case?
- (a) Analysis reveals a pattern of involvement by Indian officials in incidents similar to Nijjar's case internationally.
 - (b) A leaked document from within India's intelligence services not supporting Canada's allegations.
 - (c) Independent forensic evidence directly links an Indian covert operation to the demise of Hardeep Singh Nijjar.
 - (d) Consistency in the Indian government's account of their activities around the Nijjar case timeline.

Passage (Q.91-Q.96): The only existing international agreement on conduct and obligations in space is the 1967 Outer Space Treaty, of which all the major spacefaring nations are signatories. The treaty declares that 'the exploration and use of outer space shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interests of all countries and shall be the province of all mankind', and that 'outer space is not subject to national appropriation by claim of sovereignty, by means of use or occupation, or by any other means.'

The treaty was never drawn up with private space companies in mind, intent on turning space into another branch of the tourist industry or on exploiting its resources for personal gain. In the late 1960s, only governmental agencies were deemed capable of space exploration, and the treaty aimed to prevent nation-states from making extraterrestrial land grabs. But there are now several private businesses exploring technologies for mining water and minerals from asteroids, while NASA's Artemis mission to return humans to the Moon, a first step towards a 'long-term presence', was developed in collaboration with commercial partners.

Despite such plans, the legal status of private property in space 'remains murky and untested', wrote Nesvold. In 2015, the US revised its position on the matter with the Commercial Space Launch Competitiveness Act, which states that US citizens who set out to extract resources from space 'shall be entitled to any asteroid resource or space resource obtained, including to possess, own, transport, use, and sell [it] in accordance with applicable

law'. The Act sought to evade possible conflict with the Outer Space Treaty by saying that such resource rights of companies would not imply any national 'sovereignty ... over, or the ownership of, any celestial body'. China and Russia, and possibly other nations with space programmes, are now drawing up their own legislation on private rights of ownership or extraction.

These rights are being granted without any public discussion; we have no idea if this is what the public wants. Nor does that permission seem to be accompanied by codified duties of care. 'Will future generations of humans in space struggle to live in a scarred, toxic landscape after years of unregulated mining, manufacturing, and waste disposal?' asked Nesvold.

The popular narrative that space is a bottomless reservoir of resources does not fit the facts. The Harvard astrophysicist Martin Elvis estimates that only about 10 near-Earth asteroids are rich enough in valuable rare-earth metals to be worth the immense cost of mining. That may not be enough to satisfy the greed and ambitions of space-mining companies – and as a result, as Elvis told Nesvold, 'we'll have piracy and rustling and claim-jumping and espionage, all going on [in space]'.

91. Which of the following true according to the passage?
- (a) The 1967 Outer Space Treaty successfully regulates all current space activities, including those by private companies.
 - (b) There are concerns about the environmental impact of unregulated space mining and the lack of public discussion on private rights of ownership in space.
 - (c) Space exploration by private companies is universally welcomed and well-regulated.
 - (d) There is an abundance of valuable resources in space, and mining them poses no significant challenges or risks.
92. Which of the following is the primary argument of the author?
- (a) The 1967 Outer Space Treaty, signed by major spacefaring nations, emphasizes that space exploration should benefit all countries
 - (b) Lack of regulations and public discourse on space exploration could lead to significant challenges and conflicts over space resources.
 - (c) The 1967 Outer Space Treaty established principles for the peaceful and equitable use of outer space, it did not anticipate the rise of private space companies.
 - (d) Disadvantages of unregulated space exploration far outweigh any advantages that might come with consensus building on space exploration
93. Given the assertion in the passage that the legal status of private property in space remains "murky and untested," which underlying assumption must hold true for the Commercial Space Launch Competitiveness Act of 2015 to effectively regulate the ownership and use of space resources by U.S. citizens?
- (a) International space law will evolve to accommodate and endorse national legislations like the U.S. Act.
 - (b) Space resources are abundant and capable of being owned and used by private entities.
 - (c) The 1967 Outer Space Treaty does not explicitly prohibit private entities from owning space resources.
 - (d) Other nations with space capabilities will not challenge or conflict with the U.S. law's provisions.
94. What inference can be made about the potential future interactions between different national and private entities in space, based on Martin Elvis' predictions of "piracy and rustling and claim-jumping and espionage"?
- (a) Increased collaboration and alliances among spacefaring nations and private entities to ensure mutual benefits.
 - (b) Heightened competition and conflict among entities over scarce high-value resources in space.
 - (c) Development of an international legal framework to regulate and mitigate disputes in space.
 - (d) Proliferation of space exploration missions focusing on surveillance and defense mechanisms.

95. The passage implies potential conflicts in space resource management and ownership laws. What logical flaw exists in assuming that national laws, like those potentially developed by China and Russia, will seamlessly integrate with or adhere to the principles of the 1967 Outer Space Treaty?
- (a) The Outer Space Treaty primarily focuses on governmental exploration, not private or commercial efforts.
 - (b) National laws may prioritize sovereign interests over international treaties, leading to conflicting legal interpretations.
 - (c) The rapid advancement of space technology outpaces the existing legal framework of the Outer Space Treaty.
 - (d) Differing economic objectives between countries could influence their interpretations and applications of the treaty.
96. Which of the following is the assumption on which the author's argument depends?
- (a) In absence of legislation and public discourse, activities of private space companies lead to positive outcomes.
 - (b) Legislation is absolutely necessary to govern the activities of companies in a particular sector.
 - (c) Space exploration and resource extraction can happen with public input and under ethical guidelines
 - (d) In absence of legislation and public discourse, the 1967 Outer Space Treaty is sufficient for governing space activities of private entities.

Passage (Q.97-Q.102): Travelling abroad can often spur bouts of “e-envy” — or jealousy over the digital ease of life elsewhere. Business leaders and tourists get an insight into how their government might drain less of their time back home. Immense pressures on the public sector, however, come not only from disgruntled citizens. With debts elevated and demands on public spending growing, governments across the world must work out how they can deliver more, with less.

The public sector already plays a prominent role in advanced economies. It employs around one in five workers while general government spending accounts for 40 per cent of gross domestic product on average. This gives it a significant bearing on national productivity. Ageing populations, climate change, and national security challenges are meanwhile bringing additional burdens on the state. Indeed, with tight budgets and rising debt interest payments, it is now even more essential that tax and spend decisions are not wasteful, and that governments find ways to become more productive.

Defining what public sector productivity means is part of the challenge. It is often equated with cutting jobs or shifting resources from lower priority departments. But this comes at a cost — dilapidated infrastructure, longer healthcare waiting lists, and administrative blunders. Instead, governments need to work smarter, both in identifying and eliminating waste, and also by extracting more — and higher quality — from their existing resources. For measure, research by McKinsey estimates that operational improvements could save the US government \$750bn per annum, without reducing the effectiveness of services.

Leveraging technology — for instance by digitising paperwork, using data to generate policy insights, and automating tasks — offers most promise for boosting long-term efficiency and quality. Many nations have already made strides in e-governance, with Scandinavia leading the way, according to UN rankings. Indeed, digital governance can streamline staffing needs, smooth compliance processes, and raise the productivity of the private sector — small businesses can lose a few working weeks per year grappling with regulation.

The reams of data collected by governments can also be cleaned and analysed to unearth inefficiencies, improve services, and even raise revenues, particularly with the aid of artificial intelligence. Ditching outdated technology — particularly fax machines, which are shockingly still used by some governments — for existing best practice is a no-brainer. Adopting newer gadgetry may have an upfront cost, but it can bring significant long-term efficiency gains.

Revamping vast bureaucratic machines while they are operating is not easy. Governments have to balance the more effective use of technology and data with privacy concerns, cyber security risks, and regulation. The skillsets to manage transformation can be lacking too. These challenges need to be overcome. The cost of not doing so means an ever-growing strain on public services, and ongoing pressure to raise taxes. In the meantime, envious travellers can at least help prod governments into action.

97. What can be most reasonably inferred about the potential impact on the private sector if the government successfully streamlines regulatory compliance processes through digital governance, based on the information in the passage?
- (a) An increase in private sector investment in digital technologies to align with streamlined government processes.
 - (b) Diminished administrative expenses for private businesses, potentially reallocating resources to other growth areas.
 - (c) Greater efficiency and sync in the government departments, leading to faster business decision-making.
 - (d) Smaller businesses gaining more from reduced regulatory burdens compared to larger corporations.
98. Given the author's claims about the challenges of revamping public sector systems, which of the following factors would be most important in evaluating the potential success of a government's initiative to adopt newer technologies in its bureaucratic functions?
- (a) The initial financial investment required for the adoption of new technologies.
 - (b) The willingness of existing public sector workforce to the new technological changes.
 - (c) The ability of new technologies to interface seamlessly with existing government systems.
 - (d) The long-term estimated costs incurred on the implementation of new technologies.
99. The passage suggests that operational improvements in the public sector could lead to significant financial savings. What assumption does the author rely on to support the argument that these savings would not necessitate a reduction in the effectiveness of public services?
- (a) Cost-cutting in the public sector is primarily achieved through technological upgrades.
 - (b) Improved efficiency directly correlates with the quality of public services provided.
 - (c) Reducing the public sector workforce is the most effective way to achieve cost savings.
 - (d) Financial savings can be redirected to other areas of public sector development.
100. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the author's assertion that leveraging technology, such as data analysis and automation, can improve public sector productivity despite rising debt interest payments and tight budgets?
- (a) A recent study indicates a strong correlation between digital transformation in the public sector and a marked increase in administrative overhead.
 - (b) An intergovernmental report reveals that governments adopting advanced analytics and AI have seen a 30% increase in tax collection efficiency.
 - (c) Surveys show high public satisfaction in countries where government services are predominantly digitalized and automated.
 - (d) Analysis of fiscal policies suggests that the integration of automation in public services correlates with a substantial growth in public expenses.
101. The passage posits that envious travelers observing more efficient digital government services abroad might prompt their own governments to improve. What potential flaw exists in the reasoning that travelers' experiences with digital services in other countries will necessarily drive significant digital transformation in their home country's public services?
- (a) Travelers might lack sufficient influence or the technical expertise to accurately assess the digital services they encounter.
 - (b) The political and bureaucratic structures of a traveler's home country might significantly differ from those they observe abroad.
 - (c) Governments often prioritize digital transformation based on internal reviews, not on anecdotal experiences of travelers.
 - (d) The financial investment required for digital transformation can be a major obstacle for many governments, regardless of public opinion.

102. Which of the following is the primary argument of the author?
- (a) The governments worldwide must enhance public sector productivity by leveraging technology to increase efficiency and quality of services
 - (b) Traveling abroad is the best way to understand how governments worldwide can improve daily life by leveraging technology.
 - (c) smarter use of existing resources and leveraging technology can boost the revenues for the governments worldwide.
 - (d) Governments should cut jobs and reduce spending to improve public sector productivity, while emphasizing partnerships with private firms.

Passage (Q.103-Q.108): In a conflict-prone border province such as Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), security forces have to tackle not only terrorism but also engage in counter-insurgency operations in a precise and just manner. The Pir Panjal Valley, comprising Poonch and Rajouri districts, has witnessed fierce encounters between security forces and militants in jungle terrain, leading to the death of 28 soldiers this year. The death of three civilians who were detained by the Army in the Poonch-Rajouri area following a deadly ambush on an Army convoy on December 21, and the fact that five other civilians were badly injured due to alleged torture by the security forces, is a severe indictment of the counter-insurgency tactics there. Such heinous actions by security forces targeting civilians in response to militant attacks are clearly problematic, on two counts. First, this increases the unpopularity of a regime that has not been democratically elected in the Union Territory where provincial elections have not been held for more than half a decade. This is a blow against counter-insurgency in an area that has been relatively more peaceful in comparison to the Kashmir Valley. In fact, the Pir Panjal region has been experiencing militancy in the last two years after relative calm for a decade and a half. Counter-insurgency operations of the kind that followed the ambush last week breed discontent among residents in a region which has not been supportive of militancy in the near past.

One of the aims of militants in the asymmetric warfare waged against Indian security forces is to provoke the forces into committing rights violations against civilians and to use grievances and indignation among them to increase their own support base. Such actions by security forces play into the hands of militants and their handlers across the border. Second, the legitimacy of force or violence and its use by the state depend on the justness of the actions. Indiscrimination in the use of violence targeting civilians without just cause only results in the questioning of that legitimacy in the eyes of the people. The J&K police have registered a murder case against unidentified persons following the deaths of the civilians and the Army has taken three senior officers off their posts while promising an inquiry. Both these agencies must now deliver justice quickly and in a firm manner. “Fake encounter” deaths and torture by security agencies in the Valley have resulted in spurts of increased militancy besides public outrage that developed into major law and order situations. The Bharatiya Janata Party-led Union government has tried to use a no-holds barred security-centric approach to tackle the problem of militancy and public anger in J&K. The repeated acts of rights violations and crimes in the name of counter-insurgency are clear evidence that this approach is not working.

103. What does the passage suggest as a possible outcome of the security forces' alleged misconduct in the Pir Panjal Valley?
- (a) Increased public support for the security forces due to their decisive actions.
 - (b) Reduced militancy in the region because of the intense security measures.
 - (c) Erosion of the legitimacy of state violence and increase in public indignation.
 - (d) Swift resolution of conflict due to the registration of a murder case against the perpetrators.

104. How does the passage critique the current counter-insurgency tactics used by the security forces in Jammu and Kashmir?
- (a) The passage approves of the security forces' methods as necessary for maintaining order and security.
 - (b) The passage suggests that the tactics used by the security forces have led to a decrease in militancy in the region.
 - (c) The passage argues that the tactics employed by the security forces result in public discontent and undermine their effectiveness.
 - (d) The passage highlights the success of the current tactics in bringing about peace and stability in Jammu and Kashmir.
105. What underlying assumption can be inferred from the passage regarding the relationship between the local population's support and the tactics used by the security forces?
- (a) The passage assumes that local support for security forces is irrelevant to the success of counter-insurgency operations.
 - (b) The passage implies that the local population's support is essential for effective counter-insurgency operations.
 - (c) The passage assumes that counter-insurgency tactics are solely responsible for public discontent in the region.
 - (d) The passage suggests that the local population's support for security forces has no impact on militancy in the region.
106. Based on the passage, what conclusion can be drawn about the impact of the no-holds-barred security-centric approach adopted by the Union government in J&K?
- (a) The passage suggests that the security-centric approach has been highly successful in achieving peace and stability in J&K.
 - (b) The passage implies that the security-centric approach has not been effective in addressing the issue of militancy in J&K.
 - (c) The passage concludes that the security-centric approach has led to a significant decrease in public outrage.
 - (d) The passage indicates that the security-centric approach has garnered widespread public support in J&K.
107. What flaw in reasoning, if any, does the passage identify in the approach of the security forces towards dealing with militancy and public anger in J&K?
- (a) The passage identifies a flaw in the security forces' lack of decisive action against militants.
 - (b) The passage points out a flaw in the security-centric approach's overreliance on public support.
 - (c) The passage highlights a flaw in the security forces' failure to take preventive measures.
 - (d) The passage suggests a flaw in the security forces' assumption that public discontent does not impact counter-insurgency efforts.
108. What can be inferred from the passage about the long-term consequences of 'fake encounter' deaths and torture by security agencies in the Valley?
- (a) The passage suggests that 'fake encounter' deaths and torture will likely lead to immediate peace and stability in the Valley.
 - (b) The passage implies that 'fake encounter' deaths and torture have no impact on the local population's sentiments.
 - (c) The passage hints that 'fake encounter' deaths and torture may result in increased militancy and public outrage.
 - (d) The passage indicates that 'fake encounter' deaths and torture are essential for maintaining law and order.

SECTION - E : QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

Directions (Q.109-Q.114): Study the following information carefully and answer the question given below.

A survey was conducted at 'The Sports Zone,' a sports academy involving a total of 'N' participants, all of whom have an interest in at least one of three sports: tennis, basketball, and volleyball. The number of individuals who enjoy tennis but not both volleyball and basketball exceeds the count of those who appreciate all three sports by 60%. Participants who prefer both volleyball and basketball are 50% fewer than those who prefer tennis alone. The number of individuals who prefer both tennis and volleyball (excluding basketball enthusiasts) is less than those who prefer both tennis and basketball (excluding volleyball enthusiasts) by 100. The total number of individuals who like exactly two sports is 900. The total count of basketball enthusiasts stands at 1300. The ratio of those who enjoy tennis to those who enjoy volleyball is 6:5. The aggregate number of individuals who like only one out of the three sports is 1300.

109. If the number of individuals who prefer both volleyball and basketball (but not tennis) is represented by x , then what is the value of x ?
 (a) 400 (b) 600 (c) 800 (d) 1000
110. How many individuals enjoy both tennis and volleyball (excluding basketball enthusiasts)?
 (a) 200 (b) 400 (c) 600 (d) 800
111. What is the total number of participants surveyed at 'The Sports Zone'?
 (a) 3200 (b) 2700 (c) 3600 (d) 3000
112. How much more is the number of individuals who like only volleyball compared to the number of individuals who like only basketball?
 (a) 400 (b) 300 (c) 500 (d) 600
113. What is the ratio of individuals who prefer both volleyball and basketball (but not tennis) to those who prefer both tennis and volleyball (excluding basketball enthusiasts)?
 (a) 2:1 (b) 2:3 (c) 3:4 (d) 4:5
114. Which of the following statements is true based on the data from 'The Sports Zone' survey?
 (a) The number of individuals who enjoy volleyball alone is 50% of the total count of basketball enthusiasts.
 (b) The sum of the number of individuals who like all three sports and the number of individuals who like only basketball is 600.
 (c) The number of individuals who prefer both volleyball and basketball (but not tennis) exceeds the count of those who appreciate all three sports by 20%.
 (d) The ratio of individuals who enjoy only tennis to those who enjoy only volleyball is 4:3.

Directions (Q.115-Q.120): Study the following information carefully and answer the question given below.

Let's analyze the selection of athletes for the Olympic Games from countries A, B, and C across the years 2010, 2014, and 2018. In 2014, the number of athletes chosen from country A was 80 fewer than those from country C in 2010. The athletes selected from country C in 2010 were twice the number chosen from country B in 2018. Furthermore, in 2014, the number of athletes from country C decreased by 20 compared to 2010. The ratio of athletes from country C in 2010 to 2018 was 5:3. The number of athletes selected from country B in 2010 and 2014 was $9y$ and $11y$, respectively. Additionally, in 2010, the number of athletes from country A was 65 fewer than from country C. Overall, the total number of athletes selected from countries A, B, and C over the three years was 450, 300, and 500, respectively.

115. How many athletes were selected from Country C in 2018?
 (a) 100 (b) 120 (c) 180 (d) 160
116. What was the combined number of selected athletes from Country A and Country C in 2014?
 (a) 300 (b) 320 (c) 330 (d) 350

117. What was the difference in the number of selected athletes from Country A and Country B in 2018?
(a) 95 (b) 65 (c) 80 (d) 45
118. What was the ratio of the total number of athletes selected from Country B in 2010 and 2014 combined to the total number of athletes selected from Country B in 2018?
(a) 3:2 (b) 2:3 (c) 2:1 (d) 5:4
119. What was the average number of athletes selected from Country C in 2010 and 2014 combined?
(a) 180 (b) 190 (c) 200 (d) 210
120. Which of the following statements is incorrect based on the athlete selection data from 2010, 2014, and 2018?
(a) The sum of the number of athletes from Country C and the number of athletes from Country A in 2010 was 335.
(b) The number of athletes from Country B in 2014 was 100.
(c) The ratio of athletes from Country C in 2010 to 2014 was 10:9.
(d) The total number of athletes selected in 2014 across all three countries is 410.

Mock Objection Form (MOF)

