

LAW PREP — Tutorial —

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Test Code : LPMTS-018-10014

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Duration of Test : 2 Hours (120 Minutes)

Maximum Marks : 120

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

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English Language

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

I. Law

The Supreme Court of India has come out heavily against another archaic idea with patriarchal overtones by observing that rules which penalise women employees for getting married are unconstitutional. “Terminating employment because the woman has got married is a coarse case of gender discrimination and inequality. Acceptance of such a patriarchal rule undermines human dignity, right to non-discrimination and fair treatment.” The observations were part of an order which upheld the rights of Selina John, a former lieutenant and Permanent Commissioner Officer in the Military Nursing Service, who was discharged from service in 1988 for getting married. A Bench headed by Justice Sanjiv Khanna directed the Union Government to pay Ms. John Rs. 60 lakh in compensation within eight weeks. The government had appealed in the top court against a decision of the Lucknow Bench of the Armed Forces Tribunal which had ruled in her favour in 2016. Pointing out that her dismissal was “wrong and illegal”, the Court noted that the rule against marriage was applicable only to women nursing officers. Women have been fighting a long and uphill battle for gender parity in the Army — they were granted permanent commission after judgments in 2020 and 2021. Words to the effect that the Indian Army is encouraging more women to join the forces have to be backed by deeds.

It is not that the civilian space is much better off, and women are often asked uncomfortable personal questions at job interviews. They are quizzed about future plans on marriage and motherhood. If labour participation of women in the workforce has to increase — in the latest Periodic Labour Force data (October-December 2023), India’s is at an abysmal 19.9% for women of all ages — then barriers in education, employment, and opportunities, not to talk of bullying mindsets, have to be broken down. It is a fact that many girls, especially among the poor, have to drop out of school for various reasons, from economic to lack of proper toilets. The UN’s Gender Snapshot 2023 had provided a grim picture of where the world is on gender parity, pointing out that if course correction measures are not taken, the next generation of women will still spend a disproportionate amount of time on housework and duties compared to men, and stay off leadership roles. The schemes routinely announced by the government for girls and women will mean little on the ground if they have to abide by restrictive social and cultural norms. The Court’s words that rules making marriage of women employees and their domestic involvement a ground for disqualification are unconstitutional should be heard by all organisations so that the workplace becomes an enabler, and not a hurdle.

Source: *Extracted with edits and revisions from*
<https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/ending-discrimination-on-the-union-of-india-and-others-vs-ex-lt-selina-john-case/article67871066.ece>

1. What can be inferred about the Supreme Court of India's stance on gender equality from its decision in the case of Selina John?
 - (a) The Court views gender equality as a matter of legal interpretation rather than a societal issue.
 - (b) The Court is taking a proactive role in challenging and dismantling systemic gender biases in employment.
 - (c) The Court believes that compensation can fully rectify the injustices faced by women due to gender discrimination.
 - (d) The Court's decisions are influenced by international norms and standards rather than domestic law.

2. How does the Supreme Court's observation on employment termination due to marriage reflect broader societal issues?
 - (a) It suggests that employment laws are the primary arena where gender biases manifest.
 - (b) It underscores the prevalence of patriarchal norms in both public and private sectors.
 - (c) It implies that legal actions alone are sufficient to combat gender inequality.
 - (d) It indicates that gender discrimination is a recent phenomenon in the workforce.

3. What title best encapsulates the essence and implications of the Supreme Court's actions as discussed in the passage?
 - (a) Legal Remedies for Gender Discrimination: A New Dawn
 - (b) The Economic Impact of Gender Equality in the Workplace
 - (c) Bridging the Gap: From Legal Judgments to Societal Change
 - (d) Gender Discrimination: A Legal Analysis

4. What is the central idea conveyed by the passage regarding the Supreme Court's decision on the termination of women's employment due to marriage?
 - (a) The Supreme Court's decision is an isolated incident that addresses individual grievances without broader societal implications.
 - (b) The decision reflects a significant step towards dismantling entrenched patriarchal norms and promoting gender equality in the workplace.
 - (c) This legal ruling primarily serves to highlight the financial compensation aspects of gender discrimination cases.
 - (d) The ruling is an endorsement of traditional roles and norms that have historically governed the workplace.

5. Which of the following best summarizes the passage?
- (a) An examination of India's legal system's responsiveness to gender discrimination, highlighting a specific Supreme Court ruling as a case study.
 - (b) A critique of the Indian workforce's gender disparities, with a focus on the legal system's failures to address these issues adequately.
 - (c) An overview of gender discrimination in the workplace, emphasizing the Supreme Court's proactive role in addressing these challenges.
 - (d) A detailed account of Selina John's legal battle for compensation, underscoring the financial aspects of gender discrimination cases.
6. Which term best reflects the Supreme Court's stance on rules penalizing women for marriage, as discussed in the passage?
- (a) Endorsement
 - (b) Ambivalence
 - (c) Condemnation
 - (d) Indifference

II. Science

Scientists have no reported evidence of the true conditions in Hell, perhaps because no one has ever returned to tell the tale. Hell has been imagined as a supremely uncomfortable place, hot and hostile to bodily forms of human life.

Thanks to a huge astronomical survey of the entire sky, we have now found what may be the most hellish place in the universe.

In a new paper in *Nature Astronomy*, we describe a black hole surrounded by the largest and brightest disc of captive matter ever discovered. The object, called J0529-4351, is therefore also the brightest object found so far in the universe. www.lawpreptutorial.com

Astronomers have already found around one million fast-growing supermassive black holes across the universe, the kind that sit at the centres of galaxies and are as massive as millions or billions of Suns.

To grow rapidly, they pull stars and gas clouds out of stable orbits and drag them into a ring of orbiting material called an accretion disc. Once there, very little material escapes; the disc is a mere holding pattern for material that will soon be devoured by the black hole.

The disc is heated by friction as the material in it rubs together. Pack in enough material and the glow of the heat gets so bright that it outshines thousands of galaxies and makes the black hole's feeding frenzy visible to us on Earth, more than 12 billion light years away.

The accretion disc of J0529-4351 emits light that is 500 trillion times more intense than that of our Sun. Such a staggering amount of energy can only be released if the black hole eats about a Sun worth of material every day.

It must also have a large mass already. Our data indicate J0529-4351 is 15 to 20 billion times the mass of our Sun.

There is no need to be afraid of such black holes. The light from this monster has taken more than 12 billion years to reach us, which means it would have stopped growing long ago.

In the nearby universe, we see that supermassive black holes these days are mostly sleeping giants.

The age of the black hole feeding frenzy is over because the gas floating around in galaxies has mostly been turned into stars. And after billions of years the stars have sorted themselves into orderly patterns: they are mostly on long, neat orbits around the black holes that sleep in the cores of their galaxies.

Even if a star dove suddenly down towards the black hole, it would most likely carry out a slingshot manoeuvre and escape again in a different direction."

Source: <https://theconversation.com/the-brightest-object-in-the-universe-is-a-black-hole-that-eats-a-star-a-day-222612>

7. What insight does the discovery of J0529-4351 provide about the early universe?
 - (a) Indicates a universe characterized by calmness and minimal celestial occurrences.
 - (b) Suggests an era dominated by intense astronomical events and black holes' material consumption.
 - (c) Implies civilizations' influence on galactic formations beyond our current comprehension.
 - (d) Points to a time when black holes were smaller and exhibited less activity than observed today.

8. Which statement best captures the passage's central theme regarding the discovery of J0529-4351?
 - (a) Revises existing beliefs on the scalability and growth patterns of black holes across the cosmos.
 - (b) Emphasizes a contemporary era where black holes and stellar bodies coexist without conflict.
 - (c) Highlights the technological challenges faced in observing remote celestial bodies and phenomena.
 - (d) Illustrates the universe's evolution from a period of high activity to a more orderly cosmic environment.

9. What can be inferred about the direction of future black hole research from the passage?
 - (a) Waning interest due to their perceived inactivity and diminished role in cosmic dynamics.
 - (b) An ongoing search for even larger and more luminous black holes to redefine cosmic understanding.
 - (c) A pivot towards the study of stellar and galactic formation, moving away from black hole dynamics.
 - (d) Persistent exploration of the universe's early conditions through the lens of supermassive black holes.

10. How does the discovery of J0529-4351 alter our understanding of supermassive black holes?
 - (a) Confirms black holes' primarily dormant nature and rare material consumption.
 - (b) Highlights an era of intense activity and material consumption by black holes.
 - (c) Suggests consistent behavior of black holes without significant evolutionary changes.
 - (d) Reveals an unexpected period of growth and intense material accumulation.

11. Which figure of speech is employed in describing J0529-4351 as "the most hellish place in the universe"?
 - (a) Simile, comparing the black hole to Hell using "like" or "as."
 - (b) Metaphor, comparing J0529-4351 to Hell directly without "like" or "as."
 - (c) Personification, attributing human qualities to J0529-4351.
 - (d) Hyperbole, exaggerating J0529-4351's characteristics.

12. What does the term "accretion disc" imply about the nature of J0529-4351?
 - (a) A stable structure around the black hole, showing little activity.
 - (b) A dynamic structure characterized by intense friction and brightness.
 - (c) A barrier preventing material from being consumed by the black hole.
 - (d) A theoretical concept not yet observed in black holes.

III. Economy

Globalisation has turned the world economy into a giant, interconnected web. This has made job markets fiercely competitive and talent and opportunities in the labour market more diverse and digitally accessible.

Jobs can be widely publicised and explored online and are no longer tied to your city of birth. Add to this the rapid technological progress. We now live in a world where the skills you learned yesterday might not be enough for today's job market.

The job market is transforming, with new careers emerging as automation and artificial intelligence (AI) advances. Risks and price policies can be efficiently assessed using AI, making insurance underwriters redundant while advanced software in banking and finance mean data analysis can be automated.

Online booking has reduced demand for travel agents and desktop publishers are being replaced by user-friendly software, which allows people to create their own materials. These changes highlight the need for professionals to update their skills and adapt to a technologically evolving job market.

As a result, career paths have become fluid and multi-directional. It's no longer just about climbing the corporate ladder and getting a regular paycheck; it's about exploring different paths, switching jobs and industries and sometimes even venturing into freelancing and the gig economy.

The COVID-19 pandemic has thrown this trend into overdrive. It has highlighted the need for workers and employers to be flexible to adjust to remote work, evolving job demands and

uncertain prospects. Many people have reevaluated their career choices. They want greater work/life balance and adaptability in a changing world.

Increasingly, many workers are developing a personal brand, which involves building a narrative based on their individual skills. This is enriched through online education and skill development courses which makes them stand out in the workplace and more likely to access better opportunities.

But if employers don't provide opportunities to use these skills, employees might decide to look elsewhere.

Loyalty is defined as an employee's commitment to their organisation and its goals. It means a willingness to put in extra effort and to uphold the company's values and objectives. Loyal workers often identify strongly with their workplace, are reliable and view the organisation positively, even during tough times."

Source: <https://theconversation.com/forget-about-a-job-for-life-todays-workers-need-to-prepare-for-many-jobs-across-multiple-industries-222753>

13. What impact has technological progress had on the traditional job market according to the passage?
 - (a) It has stabilized job markets by ensuring that traditional skills remain relevant.
 - (b) It has enhanced the role of travel agents and desktop publishers by introducing advanced software.
 - (c) It has necessitated the continuous update of professional skills to adapt to technological advancements.
 - (d) It has diminished the importance of personal branding in the pursuit of career advancement.

14. Based on the passage, how has the COVID-19 pandemic influenced workers' attitudes towards their careers?
 - (a) Fostered a diminished interest in freelancing, favouring stable employment.
 - (b) Highlighted the need for work/life balance and career flexibility.
 - (c) Reinforced traditional career paths over exploring diverse industries.
 - (d) Reduced the emphasis on flexibility and remote work in job preferences.

15. Which of the following best summarizes the passage?
 - (a) Globalization reduces traditional job value, making paths more rigid.
 - (b) The pandemic reverses digital work trends, urging a traditional job return.
 - (c) Evolving markets demand skill adaptability, driven by tech and the pandemic.
 - (d) Employer focus on loyalty leads to a less dynamic job market environment.

16. What does the term "fluid and multi-directional" imply about modern career paths?
- (a) Career paths are becoming increasingly rigid and predictable.
 - (b) There is a growing trend towards specialization in one's early career.
 - (c) Careers are now more flexible, with opportunities to change roles and industries.
 - (d) Professional development is no longer necessary in today's job market.
17. How has globalization impacted the job market, according to the passage?
- (a) It has limited job opportunities to local markets only.
 - (b) Made job markets more competitive and opportunities more accessible.
 - (c) Decreased the diversity and availability of talent in the job market.
 - (d) Encouraged a return to traditional, non-digital forms of employment.
18. Which figure of speech is evident in describing the job market's transformation due to AI and automation?
- (a) Metaphor, by likening job market changes to a physical transformation.
 - (b) Hyperbole, exaggerating the impact of AI and automation on jobs.
 - (c) Personification, attributing human characteristics to the job market.
 - (d) Alliteration, repeating consonant sounds in closely connected words.

IV. Population

Overpopulation, as traditionally defined, implies an unsustainable increase in the number of people relative to available resources. However, this viewpoint tends to neglect the fact that the challenge is not merely about numbers but about the distribution and utilization of resources, which exacerbates the consequences of population growth. In India, as in many parts of the world, the unequal distribution of wealth and resources intensifies social and economic disparities. Many have argued that the focus should shift from limiting population growth to the root cause – unequal access to resources.

The term 'overpopulation,' has permeated numerous discussions regarding the Global South's delayed development, including India. Soon after Independence, it became the reason for mass hysteria due to the release of a book called "The Population Bomb" in 1968, which attempted to predict the future, by a biologist Paul Ehrlich. Ehrlich's alarmist narrative laden with concerns about overpopulation not only seized the attention of Global North due to the prevailing anxieties around scarcity in a post WWII era, it also became a compelling pretext for their intervention – through welfare plans – into scapegoating the Third World countries – who were trying to revive both their depleted populations and economies after years of colonialism and war. Thus, the rising population alongside heavy industries in the Global South became a convenient target for deflecting blame, distracting attention from the prolonged industrialization pursuits of the very nations leveling these accusations– of overpopulation and pollution.

To that effect, the reduction of overpopulation as a problem in its own right, rather than recognizing it as a symptom of underlying structural intricacies, entered the mainstream

discourse within development economics and policymaking, especially with respect to the Third World.

By definition, overpopulation is the “Situation in which the number of individuals of a given species exceeds the number that its environment can sustain.” However, this traditional framework which most policy makers as well as leaders have relied upon to alleviate the ‘population bomb’ over several decades, has fallen short of success due to its failure to recognize the problem of uneven and unfettered accumulation by a small minority of the elite, due to which resources are grossly imbalanced in their allocation and accessibility to the majority of a population.

Critics of the overpopulation rhetoric have argued that it’s rooted in a Malthusian framework. A 1798 text, *An Essay on the Principle of Population*, by English political economist Thomas Robert Malthus, suggested that the rising population’s impact on the Earth and resource consumption must be curbed by either positive checks (war, famine, disease) or preventative checks (abstinence, delaying marriage).

Source: <https://www.theswaddle.com/overpopulation-isn-t-the-real-problem-resource-inequality-is>

19. How has the narrative of overpopulation shifted according to the passage?
 - (a) From a focus on population control to addressing resource distribution.
 - (b) Maintained a steady emphasis on global birth rate reduction strategies.
 - (c) Shifted towards technological solutions for managing population growth.
 - (d) Emphasized the role of international aid in solving the overpopulation crisis.

20. What central idea is conveyed regarding the discourse on overpopulation?
 - (a) Overpopulation is primarily a consequence of unchecked population growth.
 - (b) Population control measures have been effective in mitigating overpopulation impacts.
 - (c) The overpopulation narrative serves to obscure unequal resource access and disparities.
 - (d) Concerns about overpopulation are exaggerated and not a significant global issue.

21. What implication does the critique of the overpopulation narrative have for development policies?
 - (a) Policies should prioritize technological innovation above all else.
 - (b) Development strategies must emphasize global birth control methods.
 - (c) Policies need to focus on equitable resource distribution and access.
 - (d) Overpopulation should be deprioritized in favor of economic growth.

22. In the context of the passage, how is the term "overpopulation" primarily utilized?
- (a) As an adjective describing the intense state of global populations.
 - (b) As a noun representing a concept of population exceeding sustainable limits.
 - (c) As a verb implying the action of populations exceeding the Earth's resources.
 - (d) As an adverb modifying the manner in which populations grow.
23. What conclusion can be drawn about the perspective on overpopulation presented in the passage?
- (a) It advocates for immediate reduction in birth rates as the sole solution.
 - (b) It highlights overpopulation as a symptom of deeper socio-economic issues.
 - (c) It dismisses concerns about overpopulation as unfounded and exaggerated.
 - (d) It suggests that overpopulation can be resolved through technological advancements alone.
24. How does the passage suggest addressing the issue of overpopulation effectively?
- (a) By focusing solely on the moral implications of population growth.
 - (b) Through international sanctions on countries with high population growth.
 - (c) By shifting the focus to equitable resource distribution and access.
 - (d) Encouraging global north countries to intervene more in global south policies.

Current Affairs and General Knowledge

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

- V. In a groundbreaking move, Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has unveiled plans for establishment of world's first 'Black Tiger Safari' near a)_____ in Mayurbhanj district. This visionary project aims to provide tourists and visitors with a rare glimpse of melanistic tigers, a rare species, commonly known as black tigers, recently spotted at a)_____ Melanistic tigers, characterized by a captivating dark stripe pattern set against a backdrop of white or golden fur, have become a recent attraction in a)_____ region. Chief Minister Patnaik expressed excitement about showcasing these majestic creatures, emphasizing that this safari would be the only place in the world to witness such a unique species. The proposed safari site, near Baripada and spanning b)_____ hectares, will be strategically located adjacent to National Highway-18. Out of this area, 100 hectares will be dedicated to the display zone, while remaining space will be utilized for essential infrastructure, including veterinary care facilities, a rescue center, staff amenities, and visitor services. It is a home to melanistic tigers: Highlighting significance of the reserve, principal chief conservator of forests, Susanta Nanda affirmed that it is the exclusive natural habitat for melanistic tigers worldwide. The chosen site, approximately 15-km from the reserve, mirrors the landscape, providing a suitable environment for these rare creatures. The safari aims to house surplus tigers from Nandankanan Zoo and rescued or orphaned tigers unfit for the wild but suitable for display in an open enclosure. This combination of conservation efforts and educational initiatives is expected to attract a substantial number of visitors, further enhancing appeal of the reserve. The CM's announcement followed the in-principle approval of the state Govt's proposal by National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA). To ensure feasibility, a committee constituted by the NTCA will conduct a thorough site visit before granting final approval. Additional regulatory clearances, including approval from the Central Zoo Authority, will follow suit. Source: <https://arunachalobserver.org/2024/02/01/worlds-1st-black-tiger-safari-proposed-near-odishas-str/>

25. White tiger have a genetic mutation called as what?
- | | |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| (a) Leucism | (b) Ankylosing spondylitis |
| (c) Albinism | (d) Aamyloidosis |

26. When did the reserve in the above passage so redacted with a)___has been declared as a Global Network of Biosphere?
(a) 2005 (b) 2007
(c) 2009 (d) 2012
27. Which state has highest number of tigers in India?
(a) Rajasthan (b) Kerala
(c) Karnataka (d) Madhya Pradesh
28. Which of the following will come in place of a)_____in the passage?
(a) Anamalai Tiger Reserve (b) Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve
(c) Bandipur Tiger Reserve (d) Similipal Tiger Reserve
29. Which of the following will come in place of b)_____in the passage?
(a) 300 (b) 400
(c) 500 (d) 200
- VI.** Fusion band a)_____, featuring vocalist b)_____, Ustad Zakir Hussain, John McLaughlin, percussionist V Selvaganesh, and violonist Ganesh Rajagopalan won big at the Grammy Awards this year. a)_____won the Grammy for Best Global Music Album for the band's latest release This Moment.
The album, comprised a total of eight songs by vocalist b)_____, tabla maestro Ustad Zakir Hussain, guitarist John McLaughlin, percussionist V Selvaganesh, and violonist Ganesh Rajagopalan. It is a)_____first new album in more than 45 years. The album was released on June 30, 2023 and was reportedly recorded separately by each member of the band. The band won the prestigious award after defeating artists like Bokante, Susana Baca, Davido and Burna Bay.
Three-time Grammy winner Ricky Kej shared the news on X (formerly Twitter) and said: "Through this album, 4 brilliant Indian musicians win Grammys!! Just amazing. India is shining in every direction.b)_____, Selvaganesh Vinayakram, Ganesh Rajagopalan, Ustad Zakhir Hussain. Usthad Zakhir Hussain won a second Grammy along with virtuoso flute player Rakesh Chaurasia. Brilliant!!!!" While Indian musicians scored big wins at the Grammys, Miley Cyrus and Taylore Swift also won big. Miley Cyrus won her first-ever Grammy award for Flowers, Taylor Swift lifted the trophy for Midnights.
Source: <https://www.businesstoday.in/trending/entertainment/story/grammys-2024-shankar-mahadevan-ustad-zakir-hussains-band-shakti-gets-best-music-album-416151-2024-02-05>
30. These awards were _____Annual grammy awards?
(a) 63rd (b) 64th
(c) 65th (d) 66th

31. Grammy Awards are presented by which academy?
(a) National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences
(b) World Record Academy
(c) USC School of Cinematic Arts
(d) Royal Academy of Music, London
32. What was the name of the album that has won the award in the Grammy's?
(a) The dynamic trio (b) The Loud Megaphone
(c) The Sunlight Across (d) This Moment
33. Which of the following will come in place of a)_____ in the passage?
(a) Sashakt (b) Samhit
(c) Shakti (d) Vidhi
34. Which of the following will come in place of b)_____ in the passage?
(a) Kumar Sanu (b) Udit Narayan
(c) Arijit Singh (d) Shankar Mahadevan

VII. The delimitation of constituencies for the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies is to be carried out on the basis of the first Census after 2026. The 2021 Census was originally postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequently due to delays on the part of the Central government. Delimitation means the process of fixing the number of seats and boundaries of territorial constituencies in each State for the Lok Sabha and Legislative assemblies. It also includes determining the seats to be reserved for Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) in these houses. This 'delimitation process' is performed by the 'Delimitation Commission' that is set up under an act of Parliament. Such an exercise was carried out after the 1951, 1961 and 1971 Census. The delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies was done according to the procedure laid down in the Delimitation Act, 2002.

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has informed that in accordance with the provisions of the Delimitation Act, 2002 (33 of 2002), the Delimitation Commission received assistance in redrawing boundaries from Associate Members from the States concerned as well as with the Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India and simultaneously suggestions were also taken from stakeholders.

The State Governments have no role in redesigning the borders of constituencies.

The seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were reserved as per the Constitutional and Legal provisions i.e. articles 330 and 332 of the Constitution of India read with sections 9(1)(c) and 9(1)(d) of the Delimitation Act, 2002.

As informed by the ECI, under the provisions of the Delimitation Act, 2002, the then Delimitation Commission had conducted public sittings in all concerned States/Union territories

to hear the suggestions/ objections received from the public/political parties/organisations or otherwise w.r.t. its draft proposals published in the Central and State Gazettes. Further, after consideration of all suggestions/objections as received w.r.t. draft proposals or in the public sittings, the Delimitation Commission published its final orders in the Central and State Gazettes for public information. The details information is already in public domain on the Commission's website <http://eci.gov.in> under the head "Delimitation". www.lawpreptutorial.com
Source: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseframePage.aspx?PRID=1910038>

35. Delimitation is also observed in European Parliament. In the EU Parliament which consists of 720 members, the number of seats is divided between how many member countries?
(a) 30 (b) 40
(c) 27 (d) 25
36. Under which Article of the Constitution, the Parliament enacts a Delimitation Act after every Census?
(a) Article 90 (b) Article 108
(c) Article 82 (d) Article 85
37. Who among the following is NOT a part of the delimitation Commission?
(a) Retired Supreme Court Judge (b) Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha
(c) Chief Election Commissioner (d) Respective State Election Commissioners
38. Recently, which state's delimitation was carried out?
(a) Manipur (b) Nagaland
(c) Mizoram (d) Assam
39. Which amendment act of 2003 provided for the delimitation of constituencies on the basis of 2001 census and not 1991 census?
(a) 82nd (b) 87th
(c) 92nd (d) 97th

- VIII.** The Interim Budget presented by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday (February 1) stressed on environment-friendly development through the promotion of 'blue economy'. "For promoting climate resilient activities for blue economy 2.0, a scheme for restoration and adaptation measures, and coastal aquaculture and mariculture with integrated and multi-sectoral approach will be launched," Sitharaman said in her speech. While the term blue economy can simply refer to economic activities related to the sea and the coasts, it is generally understood to have an element of sustainability in it. Thus, while the European Commission defines it as "all economic activities related to oceans, seas and coasts. It covers a wide range of interlinked established and emerging sectors"; the World Bank says blue economy is the "sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods, and jobs while preserving the health of ocean ecosystem." As Sitharaman said, "a scheme for restoration and adaptation measures, and coastal aquaculture and mariculture with integrated and multi-sectoral approach will be launched."
- Restoration and adaptation will ensure the health of the oceans is not harmed while carrying out economic activities. While aquaculture is a broad term that refers to the farming of aquatic plants and animals, mariculture refers to rearing and harvesting marine creatures in salt water. The Budget document refers to blue economy 2.0. A draft policy framework on India's Blue Economy was first released in July 2022. According to PIB, the policy document contained "key recommendations on National Accounting Framework for Blue Economy and Ocean Governance, Coastal Marine Spatial Planning and Tourism Priority, Marine Fisheries, Aquaculture and Fish Processing. Manufacturing, Emerging Industries, Trade, Technology, Services and Skill Development, Logistics, Infrastructure and Shipping, Coastal and Deep-Sea Mining and Offshore Energy and Security, Strategic Dimensions and International Engagement."
- When the G20 summit was hosted in New Delhi under India's presidency, the Comptroller & Auditor General of India (CAG) chaired the Engagement Group for Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) of the member countries in June 2023. Two priorities for the SAI20 deliberations were blue economy and responsible Artificial Intelligence.
- Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/everyday-explainers/interim-budget-blue-economy-2-0-what-this-means-9139321/>*

40. India has a coastline of how many kilometers?
(a) 6500 (b) 7517
(c) 8000 (d) 9150
41. Blue Economy has been described in which of the SDG's?
(a) SDG 8 (b) SDG 9
(c) SDG 10 (d) SDG 14

42. The Sagarmala Programme was launched by the government in which year?
(a) 2019 (b) 2016
(c) 2015 (d) 2020
43. The cabinet approved Umbrella scheme “Ocean Services, Technology, Observations, Resources Modelling and Science (O-SMART). This scheme encompasses how many sub-projects?
(a) 13 (b) 15
(c) 16 (d) 19
44. India formed a task force with which country on Blue Economy in 2020?
(a) Scotland (b) Norway
(c) UK (d) Russia
- IX.** On February 6, 2024, the European Union (EU) introduced via the European Commission its new proposed 2040 climate goal. It laid out a net emissions reduction target of a)_____ per cent by 2040 compared to the b)_____ baseline levels.
In September 2020, EU had announced a goal to cut greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 55 per cent below 1990 levels by 2030, compared to 40 per cent earlier. It was submitted as a second Nationally Determined Contribution to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in December 2020.
It was enshrined in the EU Climate Law in 2021, which also laid out a commitment to reach carbon neutrality by 2050. To accompany the target, the Commission released a “Fit for 55” package in 2021, which provided a set of proposals to achieve the 2030 reduction target.
The latest 2024 proposal is an interim step required by the EU Climate Law, which outlines a process to develop a 2040 target within six months of the first Global Stocktake (GST), which concluded at the 28th Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC in c)_____ in December 2023. A critical output of the GST was the call to transition away from fossil fuels. The 2040 target by the EU outlines a roadmap in line with this, stating that coal will be almost completely phased out by 2040, natural gas will rapidly decline in use and oil will be the last to be phased out. It did, however, add that a small number of fossil fuels will remain in the mix and largely be used for non-energy purposes and long-distance transport. Imports of fossil fuels will decline as the energy mix changes, at the same time the need for rapid deployment of renewable energy sources might lead to imports of raw materials and critical minerals, the target said.
The war on Ukraine led to an energy crisis in the EU, which was heavily dependent on Russia for its natural gas needs. Supplies were cut by nearly 80 per cent, forcing the Commission to diversify its energy suppliers and mix. It has since been a key importer of liquefied natural gas (LNG).
In parallel, it has seen record rises in renewable energy uptake, with wind and solar overtaking fossil gas for electricity generation in 2022.

The EU relies on the United States, the Middle East and Africa for LNG imports. Both France and the Netherlands have recently signed gas deals with Qatar and reports of deals with countries like Nigeria and Mozambique have also surfaced. While the proposed target is expected to enhance the Commission's independence from fossil fuels, these deals are expected to result in gas imports well after 2050.

Source: <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/climate-change/eu-sets-new-climate-goal-for-2040-high-ambition-yet-gaps-persist-94327#:~:text=On%20February%206%2C%202024%2C%20the,to%20the%201990%20baseline%20levels.>

45. COP28, member countries reached an agreement to operationalize which fund?
(a) Loss and Damage Fund (b) Reparable and Irreparable Fund
(c) Free and Reserve Fund (d) Redemption and Saving Fund
46. Which of the following will come in place of a)_____ in the passage?
(a) 70% (b) 80%
(c) 90% (d) 75%
47. Which of the following will come in place of b)_____ in the passage?
(a) 1995 (b) 1998
(c) 1992 (d) 1990
48. Which of the following will come in place of c)_____ in the passage?
(a) UK (b) France
(c) Norway (d) Dubai
- X.** India on Friday officially launched the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) at the iconic Eiffel Tower in France, marking a significant step towards realizing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "vision of taking UPI global."
The formal launch took place at the Republic Day reception in Paris, attended by French President Emmanuel Macron, who was the chief guest at the 75th Republic Day celebrations in New Delhi on January 26.
Taking to X, the Indian embassy in France shared, "UPI formally launched at the iconic Eiffel Tower at the huge Republic Day Reception. Implementing PM @narendramodi's announcement & the vision of taking UPI global." It also posted photos of the event.
Indian tourists can effortlessly make payments by scanning a QR code generated on the merchant's website. The Eiffel Tower has become the pioneer in France to provide UPI payment options, and this service is poised to expand to various other merchants in the tourism and retail sectors throughout France and Europe in the near future.

In July last year, while on his visit to France, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that India and France had reached an agreement to implement the UPI payment system, starting with the iconic Eiffel Tower. PM Modi highlighted that this move would enable Indian tourists in France to conduct transactions using the Indian currency, rupees.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/world/upi-launched-eiffel-tower-france-9141332/>

49. When was UPI launched in India?
(a) 2014 (b) 2015
(c) 2016 (d) 2018
50. UPI is developed by which organization?
(a) Reserve Bank of India (b) National Payments Corporation of India
(c) Indian Banks Association (d) Amazon
51. Which organization is responsible for implementing UPI in France?
(a) iDEAL (b) AestheticsPro
(c) Venture Radar (d) Lyra Collect
52. UPI was launched with how many member banks?
(a) 18 (b) 19
(c) 21 (d) 23

Legal Reasoning

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

XI. Habeas Corpus and Mandamus

Writs are nothing but written orders that are given by either the Supreme Court or the High Court. These written orders command constitutional remedies for the Indian citizens against the violation of their rights or fundamental rights. According to Article 32 of the Indian Constitution, the Supreme Court of India can issue writs whereas according to Article 226 of the Indian Constitution, High Courts can issue writs.

Habeas Corpus: The literal meaning of Habeas Corpus is 'to have the body of'. This type of writ is used when unlawful detention has occurred to enforce the fundamental right of individual liberty. When this writ is issued, a person or an authority who has arrested another person has to bring that person before the court.

Rules for Habeas Corpus: 1. The applicant should be in a custody of other. 2. Family members can file an application or stranger can also file application in public interest. 3. Formal or Informal application can be filed. 4. Same application cannot be made successively to different judges of same court, all or part of formalities and procedures should not be followed by police while making the arrest, etc.

Mandamus: Mandamus was introduced in India by the Letters Patent creating the Supreme Court in Calcutta in 1773. The Supreme Courts in the Presidency towns were empowered to issue the writ. Literal meaning of Mandamus is 'we command.' This type of writ is used when a public official or public body or corporation or lower court or tribunal or even the government has not done the needed duty or refused to do. After this writ is issued, the duty needs to be resumed.

Grounds for Mandamus: 1. Petitioner must have a right recognized by law. 2. Infringement of the right must be done. 3. Petitioner must demand the authority to perform the duty and non-performance of the duty must be present. 4. Other remedy must be absent. Petitioner must prove that a duty is owed to him and authority has not performed the duty. 5. The non-performed duty must be mandatory duty, etc.

A writ of mandamus or remedy is pre-eminently a public law remedy and is not generally available against private wrongs. It is used for enforcement of various rights of the public or to

compel the public statutory authorities to discharge their duties and to act within the bounds. It may be used to do justice when there is wrongful exercise of power or a refusal to perform duties.

Source: <https://www.legalserviceindia.com/legal/article-9960-5-types-of-writs-in-indian-constitution.html>

53. Nia was from a very poor family. She worked as a domestic help (maid) in a rich house of Kevada Thakur. Kevada Thakur is a very affluent man in the village of Raniganj. He has a business in bus travel. He also has a good connection with the local police and provides the police with monthly allowances. One day, while cleaning the house, Nia was sexually assaulted by Kevada Thakur. While going to the police station, Nia was apprehended by the police and kept in the custody of the police on order of Kevada Thakur. Evaluate the options and give the correct answer.
- (a) Habeas Corpus cannot be filed against the police.
 - (b) Habeas Corpus can be filed against the police.
 - (c) First a case needs to be registered against Kevada Thakur for sexual assault.
 - (d) Mandamus should be filed against the police.
54. Suppose in the facts of the above question, instead, while going to the police station after the horrific incident, it was not the police officials who detained Nia instead, she was detained by the servants of KevadaThakur, and she was unable to register an FIR. Evaluate the other options and give the correct answer.
- (a) Habeas Corpus should be filed against Kevada Thakur.
 - (b) Habeas Corpus cannot be filed against Kevada Thakur.
 - (c) Mandamus should be filed against Kevada Thakur.
 - (d) Nothing can be done without an FIR.
55. Suppose in the facts of the above question, instead Ramesh, who wasthe father of Nia, came to know about the incident and the fact that her daughter was detained by the servants of Kevada Thakur, he filed a Habeas Corpus petition against Kevada Thakur. Evaluate the other options and give the correct answer.
- (a) Habeas Corpus cannot be filed by Ramesh.
 - (b) Habeas Corpus can be filed by Ramesh.
 - (c) Mandamus is the appropriate writ here.
 - (d) Ramesh can file a missing person report.

56. Abdul was a resident of Gokulpur society. Gokulpur Society has a council, which is led by the secretary of the Society, Bhide. The member of society automatically becomes a member of the council. Abdul also was a member of Society. According to the Bylaws of the society, every repair is to be done with the assent of the secretary. The house of Abdul was flooded with rainwater. Even with multiple requests, no work was done as relations between Abdul and Bhide were not good. Evaluate the options and give the correct answer.
- (a) Mandamus should be filed against Bhide.
 - (b) Habeas Corpus should be filed against Bhide.
 - (c) Mandamus cannot be filed against Bhide.
 - (d) Abdul should complain against Bhide with the owner.
57. Nilofar was the resident of Raipur. She was frustrated with reading the reports of accidents due to bad roads and lightning. She searched various government contracts with the help of the Right to Information. Meanwhile, she came to know about the name of Hari Singh, who is a governmental officer and is in charge of giving governmental contracts to contractors. Hari Singh was not giving contracts. Evaluate the options and give the correct answer.
- (a) Nilofar cannot file a writ of Mandamus against Hari Singh because she is not suffering from any accident.
 - (b) Nilofar cannot file a writ of Mandamus against Hari Singh because Mandamus cannot be filed against public individuals.
 - (c) Nilofar can file a writ of mandamus.
 - (d) Nilofar should file a writ of Habeas Corpus.

XII. Current

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has challenged the single-judge judgment of the Gujarat High Court which ruled that there is no mandate under the Right to Information Act (RTI Act) to disclose Prime Minister Narendra Modi's graduation and post-graduation certificates [Arvind Kejriwal vs Gujarat University]. Single-judge Justice Biren Vaishnav had on March 31 ruled that Gujarat University need not furnish details pertaining to PM Modi's academic degree. The judge had overturned a Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) order in this regard and also imposed a fine of ₹ 25,000 on the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader for misusing the RTI Act.

In the appeal challenging this verdict, Kejriwal has contended that Justice Vaishnav erred in imposing the costs on him as he had not filed any application seeking details but had only written a letter to the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC), who in turn, suo motu ordered the varsity to disclose details of PM Modi's degree. In his appeal, Kejriwal has argued that the right to vote would become meaningless if voters were not informed about the educational qualifications and antecedents of a candidate.

The Right to Information Act, 2005, commonly known as RTI Act, is an Indian legislation that provides for the transparency and accountability of the government and its functioning. The Act empowers citizens to seek information from public authorities and is a vital tool in promoting

good governance and reducing corruption. This article aims to provide a detailed analysis of the Right to Information Act, 2005.

1. **Appeals:** The first appeal is made to a designated officer within the public authority, followed by a second appeal to the Information Commission, and finally, an appeal to the High Court.
2. **Procedure for Seeking Information:** The procedure for seeking information under the RTI Act is straightforward. The applicant must make a written request to the public authority, stating the information sought and paying the prescribed fee. The public authority must respond within 30 days, either by providing the information or by denying it and stating the reasons for denial.

Exemptions: The RTI Act provides for certain exemptions where information can be denied. These include information that:

- Jeopardizes national security
- Is related to foreign relations or intelligence activities
- Impedes the process of investigation or prosecution of a crime
- Is protected by attorney-client privilege
- Infringes on the privacy of an individual
- Impedes the process of parliamentary or legislative privilege
- Is confidential or proprietary information of a third party.

Source: <https://www.legalmantra.net/blog-detail/Detailed-Analysis-On-Right-to-Information-Act-2005>

<https://barandbench-nluo.refread.com/news/arvind-kejriwal-challenge-gujarat-high-court-judgment-exempting-pm-modi-degree-rti>

58. Manohari Sharma and Mayawati Verma were neighbours. They had a bet about their sons both studying in their final year who would score higher in their board examinations. Son of Mrs. Verma, Rahul, was the state topper in the board examinations. However, the son of Mrs. Sharma, Varun, failed the board exam. In shame of losing the bet, Mrs. Sharma refused to share the score of Varun. Mrs. Verma had the plan to file to file an RTI application. Evaluate the options and give the correct answer.
- (a) Mrs. Verma can file an RTI against the examination department because it is necessary for the outcome of the bet.
 - (b) Mrs. Verma cannot file an RTI against the examination department.
 - (c) Mrs. Verma can file an RTI against the examination department as it is the right of the neighbour to know the marks of a fellow neighbour.
 - (d) The Examination department should not entertain this trivial application.

59. The Department of Information Technology made a policy that in the RTI application if the reply to the application is not given then it must be considered that the application is denied. Matt was an American Investor who wanted to know about the future prospects of the IT industry in India. He inquired about some of the data in the sector through an RTI application. But the application was not given a reply. Matt appealed before the designated officer within the public authority. Evaluate the options and give the correct answer.
- (a) Matt cannot file an RTI because he is a foreign national.
 - (b) The policy of the Department of Information Technology is illegal.
 - (c) The RTI cannot be answered because the data is for personal benefit.
 - (d) Matt should look for online sources, not an RTI.
60. Algo Tech is a leading private company that manufactures microchips. The company fired an employee named Radha because she identified herself as a lesbian. But the official reason they gave in the court proceeding when the firing of Radha was challenged by Radha was due to the fact that they were going through a financial crisis. However, Radha was not satisfied by the justification given by them. She filed an RTI to know about the financials of Algo Tech. Evaluate the options and give the correct answer.
- (a) Algo Tech must answer the RTI application.
 - (b) Algo Tech is not required to answer the RTI.
 - (c) Radha needs to file a case under labour laws.
 - (d) They need prior court approval for filing an RTI.
61. Harish, an environmental activist interested in calculating the carbon footprint of the city for research purposes and he came to know that the forest department is not complying with the terms of environmental laws, filed an RTI application with the Forest Department seeking information about the permits issued for tree felling in a specific forest area. The Forest Department, however, did not provide a response within 30 days which is the stipulated time frame. Harish decides to appeal the lack of response. Evaluate the options and choose the most appropriate one:
- (a) The Forest Department is obligated to respond to Harish's RTI application.
 - (b) Harish is not entitled to file an RTI regarding environmental matters.
 - (c) Harish should take the matter directly to court without pursuing the RTI appeal.
 - (d) The lack of response indicates that the information sought is sensitive and cannot be disclosed.

62. Prabhu filed a case against the State Bank of India which is a government organization. regarding some dispute in his account. Harshal was the lawyer for the State Bank and was provided some confidential information by the bank. Lawyer of Prabhu, Harish, filed an RTI against the State bank for providing the said confidential information as this information was necessary for the case and paid the fees required for the information. Evaluate the option and give the correct answer.
- (a) The State Bank must provide the information as they are a public company.
 - (b) The State Bank must provide the information as the application is according to provisions of law.
 - (c) Both (a) and (b)
 - (d) The State Bank is not required to provide information.

XIII. Custom in Hindu Law

Custom can be considered as the principal source for the development of the Hindu Law. Section 3 of Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 defines custom as a rule which is followed for a long time and has obtained the force of law among people of the Hindu community. It also stated that custom must be ancient, must be reasonable, and it should not be in derogation to the laws of the country.

There are various essentials for a custom to be a valid custom and to have the force of law:

- Ancient – The custom must be ancient, which should have been established much earlier and have existed for a long time uniformly. Antiquity of a custom is an essential and foremost element of a valid custom. It must be followed by people from time immemorial.
- Invariable and continuous – It should be followed without any interruption. If a custom is not continued for a period of time or is discontinued it comes to an end and such tradition or practise is no longer considered to be a custom. www.lawpreptutorial.com
- Clear and unambiguous evidence – There should be clarity in giving the evidence of a custom. The group of people who are following it must prove it through their actions or acts or general instances for the existence of such custom. In collector of Madura v. Mootoo Ramalinga, the court held that if there is clear proof of custom, it will supersede the written text or laws.
- Reasonable – The custom must be supported by the valid reasons for being followed. To consider it as a valid custom it is necessary that such custom has been derived from a series of reasons. It has some reasonableness for its existence.
- Not opposed to morality or public policy – Customs should not be against the public policy which means it should aim at the well being of the people, good of the people. Customs should not be against the social rules. Customs should not be against the moral values or set of ethical standards that the society follows.
- Not opposed to any law – Customs to be valid and accepted in the eyes of law, it must not be in derogation with the laws of the country. It must not be forbidden by any laws or

enactment of the legislature. It is necessary that customs are collateral with the laws to be accepted as a valid custom.

A custom to be established as a law binding upon the Hindus and it is necessary that its existence have been proven before the court. A party who is claiming for the existence of a custom before the court must through the general evidence prove its existence and is consistently followed by the people of community and such a proof of custom will make it a valid and binding law for the society.

Source-<https://blog.ipleaders.in/hindu-law-custom/#>

63. A cult named "Evil Worshippers" declared a new practice that within their community, a newborn girl can now be married upon her birth. As per this practice, when a girl takes birth, her parents can get her married to any male of their choice within their community only, then the girl will go off to live with her husband when she attains puberty. When this practice was started, some people outside the cult challenged this in Court as the law provides the marriageable age to be 18 years. The cult members alleged that this is a custom and it will supersede the statutory law. Decide if this is a valid custom or not.
- (a) Yes, this is a valid custom as it satisfies all the essentials of a valid custom.
 - (b) Yes, this is a valid custom because this is followed by a community as an essential practice.
 - (c) No, this is not a valid custom because it is not an ancient practice.
 - (d) No, this is not a valid custom because it is unclear and ambiguous.
64. There was a practice that existed in a small village in India. This ancient practice provided that when a married woman became a widow, she would be burned alongside her husband's funeral pyre. This resulted in the death of countless widows as this practice has been followed since the start of their civilisation. The reasoning provided for such a practice was that a widow had no purpose in life after the death of her husband. Once, this practice was challenged in court and the villagers alleged that this was a valid custom. Decide:
- (a) This is a valid custom because it is ancient.
 - (b) This is a valid custom because it is clear and unambiguous.
 - (c) This is not a valid custom because it is not continuous.
 - (d) This is not a valid custom because it is immoral and opposed to public policy.

65. The adoption laws of India provide that adoption can only take place if the adoptive parents are older than 18 years and the child that is to be adopted should not be more than 14 years of age. Mr and Mrs Sharma, who are a married couple, both are more than 21 years of age. They do not have a child of their own. They wanted to adopt a boy who was 6 months older than 14 years. Hence, they were denied adoption of the child. They challenged this in court and stated that in their community, adoptions of children up to 18 years of age have been taking place since time immemorial and continuously. Will the court permit this adoption?
- (a) No, the court will not permit this adoption because the statutory law prohibits it.
 - (b) No, the court will not permit this adoption because the custom is not valid.
 - (c) Yes, the court will permit this adoption because the custom is valid.
 - (d) Yes, the court will permit this adoption because 6 months is not a significant time to deny adoption.
66. The XY Community had a practice from ancient times. The practice allowed 3 marriages of females since the community's beginning. The community followed Hindu religious practices, which did not allow polygamy but as per the community's specific needs, this practice evolved. The people of this community stopped following this practice for some generations due to a decline in the male population. After some centuries, people of the community started this practice again when this was challenged in the court. Does this practice qualify as a valid custom?
- (a) Yes, it is a valid custom because the practice was ancient.
 - (b) No, it is not a valid custom because the practice was not continuous.
 - (c) Yes, the custom is valid because it is unambiguous.
 - (d) No, it is not a valid custom because it is opposed to Hindu personal law.
67. There was a small community in an Indian state whose members were spread in different cities and localities. The ancient practice of the community provided that every member has to offer a sacrifice of a new-born girl to their deity once a year. This was observed as an essential practice. One member to complete this practice, kidnapped a newborn girl and killed her to offer the sacrifice. When charged for murder, he took the defence of customary practice. Is this a valid custom?
- (a) Yes, this is a valid custom because the practice was ancient.
 - (b) Yes, this is a valid custom because it is clear and continuous.
 - (c) No, this is not a valid custom because it is immoral and opposed to public policy.
 - (d) No, this is not a valid custom because it is unreasonable.

XIV. Patent Law

A patent is an exclusive right granted by the Government to the inventor to exclude others to use, make and sell an invention in a specific period of time. A patent is also available for improvement in their previous invention. There are three basic tests for any invention to be patentable:

- Firstly, the invention must be novel, meaning thereby that the invention must not be in existence.
- Secondly, the Invention must be non-obvious, i.e. the Invention must be a significant improvement to the previous one; a mere change in technology will not give the right of the patent to the inventor.
- Thirdly, the invention must be useful in a bonafide manner, meaning thereby that the Invention must not be solely used in any illegal work and is useful to the world in a bonafide manner.

An invention considered as new if, on the date of filing the application, any such invention is not known to the public in any form, i.e. oral, writing, or any other form. Anything shall not be termed as inventive if such a thing is already known to the public domain. The patent has a limited term of 20 years, which is counted from the date of filing of the patent application. A patent is a territorial right. Thus, it can only be applied in the country where it has been granted. Therefore, any legal action against infringement or infringement of patent rights can only be taken in that country. The Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) provides a way to file an international patent application in which a patent can be filed through a single patent application in a large number of countries.

Rights of Patentee:

- Right to exploit patent: A patentee has the exclusive right to make use, exercise, sell or distribute the patented article or substance in India, or to use or exercise the method or process if the patent is for a person. This right can be exercised either by the patentee himself or by his agent or licensees. The patentee's rights are exercisable only during the term of the patent.
- Right to grant license: The patentee has the discretion to transfer rights or grant licenses or enter into some other arrangement for a consideration. A license or an assignment must be in writing and registered with the Controller of Patents, for it to be legitimate and valid.
- Right to Surrender: A patentee has the right to surrender his patent, but before accepting the offer of surrender, a notice of surrender is given to persons whose name is entered in the register as having an interest in the patent and their objections, if any, considered.
- Right to sue for infringement: The patentee has a right to institute proceedings for infringement of the patent in a District Court having jurisdiction to try the suit.

Source- <https://blog.ipleaders.in/what-is-a-patent-law-in-india/>

68. Mr Virus was a scientist. Even though he was very intelligent and an expert in his field, he was an alcoholic and accordingly, had a bad reputation. He wanted to invent something that could make an alcoholic's life easier. Thus, he invented a device that could transport alcohol anywhere at any time. The device's working was complicated and it had not been invented or even thought of anywhere else, which means that the device was non-existent before Mr Virus took the initiative to invent it. Is the device patentable?
- (a) Yes, because the device was a new invention and was not in existence before.
 - (b) Yes, because the device was a whole new invention and not a mere change in technology.
 - (c) No, because the idea of the device was very popular before Mr Virus invented one, thus it cannot be termed as a novel invention.
 - (d) No, because the invention is not useful in a bona fide manner.
69. Mr Nobita was an Indian scientist. He enjoyed great reputation in the society because of his contribution in the field of science. He invented a robot which was considered a revolutionary invention in India. He patented his invention on 1st January 2023 in India. Ms Shizuka was a Japanese scientist. She learned about Mr Nobita's invention and made a copy of the invention with some mildly distinguished features to be sold in Japan. When Mr Nobita got to know about this, he filed an infringement suit against Ms Shizuka in Japan. Is it maintainable?
- (a) Yes, it is maintainable because Mr Shizuka is liable for patent infringement as she copied the invention.
 - (b) No, it is not maintainable because Mr Nobita's invention was not patentable.
 - (c) No, it is not maintainable because the patent is a territorial right.
 - (d) Yes, it is maintainable because Mr Nobita has a right to sue for the infringement.
70. Based on your understanding of the passage, decide which of the following options is correct.
- (a) If a product is in existence already, it can still be patented upon its production by someone else.
 - (b) Once a person has been granted the right to his invention in the form of a patent, he cannot transfer it to another person.
 - (c) If an invention has been patented in India, the legal right to sue for infringement cannot be granted in the United States of America.
 - (d) None of the above options are correct.

71. Mr. Verma was the patented owner of his invention, a new kind of refrigerator that could work without electricity. It was a revolutionary change and such an invention could save tons of electricity, which is a valuable resource. This invention was a significant step towards sustainable development in India. Mr Verma was granted the patent rights to his invention in May 2023, so he still had some 19 years left as the tenure of the patent. The personal manager of Mr Verma, acting as his agent, sold the patent to his rival Mr Gupta. Is this valid?
- (a) No, this is not valid because only Mr Verma had the right to sell the patent.
 - (b) Yes, this is valid because the agent of the owner can also exercise the right to sell the patent.
 - (c) No, this is not valid and Mr Gupta will be held liable for patent infringement.
 - (d) No, this is not valid because the manager had mala fide intentions in selling the patent.
72. Identify the correct inference from the following options:
- (a) The right to surrender the patent is an absolute right of the patentee and he need not inform anyone else of the surrender.
 - (b) The patent of an invention is granted by a private body.
 - (c) If on the date of filing the patent application, the society had the idea of the invention and that idea was being circulated verbally, it will still be patentable.
 - (d) None of the above.

XV. Fraud and Misrepresentation

The distinction between fraud and misrepresentation is a vital question that comes to one's mind while understanding this concept; the former refers to the intentional concealment of a material fact, while the latter refers to a genuine representation that is false. In contrast to the former, which is a factual statement made by one party with the intent that it be believed to be real, the latter is an incorrect statement made by one party that induces the other party to enter into the contract. Section 17 defines fraud. Fraud means dishonestly making a representation to gain or to cause loss. The term 'fraud' includes all activity done by a person to deceive another person.

According to Section 17, fraud is when one party convinces another party to agree on the following points:

1. Pretending that a false fact is true.
2. Actively hiding information even though you are fully aware of it.
3. Making a promise without any intention of performing it.
4. Engaging in any other similar activity with the purpose of defrauding.
5. Any such act or omission that the law declares to be fraudulent.

Section 17(1) says that fraud requires the statement to be made with knowledge of its dishonesty or without belief in its veracity by the individual concerned. However, when a material assertion turns out to be untrue, even a representor's willful ignorance of its truth or falsity is considered equivalent to knowing it to be false. This rule also applies in cases where

the representor had reason to believe his statement might be inaccurate but chose not to confirm it. When one party actively conceals vital contract-related information despite having a duty to disclose it, this is known as active concealment. Mere silence is not fraud unless there is a requirement to speak or if it is equivalent to expression. Even though the rest of the statement is correct, leaving out some of the known facts could be confusing. Unless the defendant is required to talk and conceal the details of a certain transaction or trade, mere silence or a failure to disclose facts would not amount to fraud. When one contracting party responds to and believes in the other, a duty to speak arises. Being silent about facts isn't necessarily deception. Facts that are or could be equally within the means of knowledge of both parties are not generally required to be disclosed. A person is nonetheless guilty of fraud if they remain silent despite knowing their silence would be misinterpreted. Section 17(3) mentions fraud as occurring when a promise is made with no intention of keeping it. Any future conduct or representation is not considered for this purpose; instead, it must be demonstrated that the promisor had no intention of keeping the promise when it was taken into account for this purpose.

Source- <https://blog.ipleaders.in/difference-between-fraud-and-misrepresentation/>

73. A man of 40 years named Aditya applied for a life insurance policy with an insurance company named "Jeevan Insurance Corporation". For this purpose, he contacted the branch manager of the JIC. The manager asked him about his past medical record and if he has undergone any major surgeries in the past. Aditya replied in negative and failed to mention that he had undergone a heart surgery 8 years ago but insisted that he is a healthy person now and all his current medical reports are normal. He was granted the policy. 2 years later, he died because of heart failure. When Aditya's family claimed the insurance money, JIC refused to grant the claim. Decide:
- (a) Aditya did not commit fraud as mere silence does not amount to fraud.
 - (b) Aditya did not commit fraud as he did not have any fraudulent intentions.
 - (c) Aditya committed fraud because he concealed material information.
 - (d) Aditya committed fraud because he did not pay his insurance premium on time.
74. There was a man named Mani who loved to travel. For this purpose, he needed a car that would be suitable for long-distances to travel with his family. He had a friend named Honey, who owned a seven-seater car. Mani offered Honey to purchase that car from him since Honey does not use it very often and conveyed to him that this car would be used by Mani for travelling. Honey agreed as Mani was offering a good price but did not mention that there was default in the engine. After purchasing, when Mani took the car for its first trip, the car caught fire and Mani's wife was injured. Is Honey guilty of committing fraud?
- (a) No, Honey is not guilty because he did not have a duty to speak in this case.
 - (b) No, Honey is not guilty because he did not have any fraudulent intentions.
 - (c) Yes, Honey is guilty because he pretended that a false fact is true.
 - (d) Yes, Honey is guilty because he actively concealed information from Mani.

75. Asim is a 50-year-old man who is looking for a girl for his son to marry. His son is a 21-year-old young man named Asad. Asim found a perfect girl for his son, who was both beautiful and intelligent. The girl's father only had one condition, that the groom should be perfectly healthy, both physically and mentally. Asim had suspected since Asad's childhood that he might be mentally unstable as he tried to harm himself a couple of times but did not pay any attention to it. He assured the girl's father of Asad's perfect health and they got married. After 5 months of marriage, Asad injured his wife in a fit of insanity. Is Asim liable for fraud?
- (a) Yes, he is liable because he had a reason to believe that his statement was not true.
 - (b) No, he is not liable because it was not vital information related to the contract.
 - (c) No, he is not liable because he did not have the intention to deceive the girl's father.
 - (d) Yes, he is liable because he was fully aware of his son's insanity.
76. Zainab and Dua entered into a contract for selling and purchasing of 50 litres of coconut oil. Zainab had recently set up manufacturing unit, Dua was one of her first clients. The deal was finalized on 30 November 2023 and the delivery was supposed to happen on 19 January 2024. On 17 January, Zainab packed the oil in the containers to get it ready for delivery. One day before the delivery, the oil was stolen from her factory. Dua claimed that Zainab has committed fraud. Decide if Zainab is liable for fraud:
- (a) Yes, she is liable because she made a promise that she did not have any intention to perform.
 - (b) Yes, she is liable because she had fraudulent intentions.
 - (c) No, she is not liable because she had the intention to fulfil her promise.
 - (d) No, she is not liable because she did not represent any false fact to be true.
77. A lady named Kusum wanted to sell her house. She put up an advertisement on social media with some pictures offering to sell the house. A woman named Neelam saw the advertisement and contacted Kusum for the same. Kusum asked her to come and see the house for herself. Neelam came, inspected the house inside-out and agreed to buy it. The deal was finalized and after moving in, Neelam alleged fraud against Kusum because Neelam's favourite flowers could not grow in the garden's soil. Decide if this amounts to fraud:
- (a) This amounts to fraud because Kusum has deceived Neelam.
 - (b) This does not amount to fraud because Kusum did not have a duty to speak regarding this.
 - (c) This amounts to fraud because silence amounts to fraud in this case.
 - (d) This does not amount to fraud, but it may amount to misrepresentation.

78. A man named Love was experiencing severe pain in his right leg for the past few days. He went to a local doctor named Dr. Hope to get himself checked. It turned out that he had some serious infection in his leg, which if not treated timely, could result in him losing his leg. Dr. Hope hid this fact from Love so that his treatment would go on for a longer period and Dr. Hope would continue charging him hefty amounts. When after several months of treatment, his condition kept on getting worse, Love went to see some specialized doctor, who told him about his real condition. Decide if Dr. Hope is liable for fraud or not:
- (a) No, he is not liable because he did not have the intention to deceive Love.
 - (b) No, he is not liable because his silence did not amount to fraud.
 - (c) Yes, he is liable because he has committed medical negligence.
 - (d) Yes, he is liable because he had a duty to disclose true condition of the patient.
79. Arjun's mother died recently. His mother owned a family home that was in possession of Arjun's family since generations. His mother, upon death left this house to Arjun. Arjun did not see any worth in the old house and was also in need of some money for his new business, so he decided to sell it. He contracted a deal to sell the house to one Mr Sharma. He was ready to deliver the possession of the house but suddenly, the sentiments came over him and he wanted to cancel the contract. Does this amount to fraud?
- (a) Yes, this amounts to fraud because Arjun never intended to perform his part of the contract.
 - (b) No, this does not amount to fraud because Arjun intended to fulfil his promise at the time he entered into the contract.
 - (c) Yes, this amounts to fraud because he had the intention to deceive the buyer as he was in need of money.
 - (d) No, this does not amount to fraud because he never made any false statement to the buyer.
80. Based on your understanding of the passage, identify the correct inference from the following:
- (a) Misrepresentation is intentionally deceiving a person while fraud does not require any mala fide intention.
 - (b) If a person hides information, that he himself does not know, it will not amount to fraud.
 - (c) If a person does not want to falsify some vital information related to a contract, he can choose to remain silent about it in order to avoid the liability for fraud.
 - (d) None of the above options are correct.

XVI. Arbitration

Arbitration is a procedure in which a dispute is submitted, by agreement of the parties, to one or more arbitrators who make a binding decision on the dispute. In choosing arbitration, the parties opt for a private dispute resolution procedure instead of going to court. Its principal characteristics are:

- 1. Arbitration is consensual** - Arbitration can only take place if both parties have agreed to it. In the case of future disputes arising under a contract, the parties insert an arbitration clause in the relevant contract. An existing dispute can be referred to arbitration by means of a submission agreement between the parties. In contrast to mediation, a party cannot unilaterally withdraw from arbitration.
- 2. The parties choose the arbitrator(s)** - Under the WIPO Arbitration Rules, the parties can select a sole arbitrator together. If they choose to have a three-member arbitral tribunal, each party appoints one of the arbitrators; those two persons then agree on the presiding arbitrator. Alternatively, the Center can suggest potential arbitrators with relevant expertise or directly appoint members of the arbitral tribunal. The Center maintains an extensive roster of arbitrators ranging from seasoned dispute-resolution generalists to highly specialized practitioners and experts covering the entire legal and technical spectrum of intellectual property.
- 3. Arbitration is neutral** - In addition to their selection of neutrals of appropriate nationality, parties are able to choose such important elements as the applicable law, language and venue of the arbitration. This allows them to ensure that no party enjoys a home court advantage.
- 4. Arbitration is a confidential procedure** - The WIPO Rules specifically protect the confidentiality of the existence of the arbitration, any disclosures made during that procedure, and the award. In certain circumstances, the WIPO Rules allow a party to restrict access to trade secrets or other confidential information that is submitted to the arbitral tribunal or to a confidentiality advisor to the tribunal.
- 5. The decision of the arbitral tribunal is final and easy to enforce** - Under the WIPO Rules, the parties agree to carry out the decision of the arbitral tribunal without delay. International awards are enforced by national courts under the New York Convention, which permits them to be set aside only in very limited circumstances. More than 165 States are party to this Convention.

Source: <https://www.wipo.int/amc/en/arbitration/what-is-arb.html#>

81. In a commercial contract between Company Delta and Company Sigma, a contractual dispute has arisen over intellectual property rights. The disagreement centres on the ownership of innovative technologies developed collaboratively. Company Delta, aiming for a swift resolution, expresses a preference for arbitration. Conversely, Company Sigma leans towards traditional court proceedings, seeking a more formal and public resolution. In this clash of preferences, what strategic step should Company Delta and Company Sigma undertake to address their dispute?
- (a) Company Delta can unilaterally initiate arbitration, prioritizing a swift resolution.
 - (b) Both companies must collaboratively opt for arbitration to render court proceedings unnecessary.
 - (c) Company Sigma, favouring court proceedings, can independently commence litigation.
 - (d) Either party is entitled to select arbitration independently without mutual agreement.
82. There was a long-standing contractual dispute between Tech Innovate and Code Craft. Both the companies opt for arbitration as their chosen resolution method. As per the WIPO Arbitration Rules, they must determine the composition of the arbitral tribunal. In this context, the crucial question arises that: Adhering to the WIPO Arbitration Rules, what approach should Tech Innovate and Code Craft adopt when selecting arbitrators? www.lawpreptutorial.com
- (a) Tech Innovate can unilaterally choose a sole arbitrator without input from Code Craft.
 - (b) Both parties must individually select a sole arbitrator for a balanced resolution.
 - (c) Each company appoints one arbitrator; these two then decide on the presiding arbitrator.
 - (d) Code Craft, being the respondent, has sole authority to choose the presiding arbitrator.
83. In the midst of an arbitration process between Innovate Tech and Secure Sys, sensitive information regarding proprietary software is disclosed. Both parties, being conscious of confidentiality, navigate the proceedings cautiously. In this context, a crucial question arises about the disclosure of information. According to the WIPO Rules on confidentiality, what action can a party take to safeguard trade secrets or confidential information during arbitration? Choose the most appropriate option based on the information as discussed in the passage.
- (a) The party can freely disclose confidential information without any restrictions.
 - (b) The WIPO Rules do not address the confidentiality of trade secrets.
 - (c) A party can restrict access to trade secrets, as allowed by the WIPO Rules.
 - (d) The WIPO Rules mandate public disclosure of all arbitration-related information.

84. In the domain of international business, Company Alpha is contemplating whether to include an arbitration clause in its upcoming contracts. To further bolster its stance, Company Alpha recognizes that arbitration, with its flexibility in arbitrator selection and confidentiality measures, aligns with its business goals of swift and discreet dispute resolution. The company believes that embedding arbitration clauses will not only streamline conflict resolution but also uphold the privacy and efficiency crucial for sustained business operations. The pivotal question is that how does the information provided in the passage strengthen Company Alpha's argument in favour of incorporating arbitration clauses in its contracts? Choose the most appropriate option.
- (a) The passage emphasizes the complexity of court proceedings, discouraging arbitration use.
 - (b) The passage details the neutrality and confidentiality aspects of arbitration, promoting its adoption.
 - (c) The passage suggests that arbitration is a time-consuming process, urging reliance on court proceedings.
 - (d) The passage recommends disregarding consensual decision-making in dispute resolution.

Logical Reasoning

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

XVII. Waste Picker Day

On March 1, International Waste Pickers Day, waste pickers across the world will pay homage to fellow pickers who were murdered in Colombia in 1992. The world of the informal waste picker — who is an often-forgotten, hyper-marginalised worker cohort in the waste value chain ecosystem, and an indispensable but invisible part of waste management systems in India — needs to be understood.

The International Labour Organization defines the informal sector in waste management as ‘individuals or small and micro-enterprises that intervene in waste management without being registered and without being formally charged with providing waste management services’. These workers are the primary collectors of recyclable waste, playing a critical role in waste management and resource efficiency by collecting, sorting, trading and sometimes even reinserting discarded waste back into the economy. Yet, they face systemic marginalisation due to non-recognition, non-representation, and exclusion from social security schemes and legal protection frameworks.

While reliable estimates of informal waste pickers are difficult to come by, the Centre for Science and Environment reported that the informal waste economy employs about 0.5%–2% of the urban population globally. Many are women, children and the elderly, who are often disabled, are the poorest of the urban poor, and face violence and sexual harassment often. The Periodic Labour Force Survey 2017-18 indicates that there are nearly 1.5 million waste pickers within India’s urban workforce, with half a million being women.

On average, an individual waste picker collects between 60 kg to 90 kg of waste a day in an eight to 10 hour span of time, often undertaking hazardous work without safety equipment. Their poor health, irregular work, low income, and regular harassment are compounded by their subordinate position in the caste hierarchy. Their health issues include dermatological and respiratory health issues apart from regular injuries. Waste pickers suffer existential precarity. Private sector participation in municipal solid waste management, by design, alienates them, aggravating their vulnerability and loss of rights over waste picking. As noted by the Alliance of Indian Waste Pickers (AIW) 2023 report, private sectors employ expensive machinery, offering competitive rates to waste generators such as households and businesses, which marginalises informal pickers and forces them into hazardous waste picking, such as scavenging from dump sites. This worsens their health risks, compromises

income, and lowers social status. Private players and municipal authorities often cordon off dump sites, pushing them into further vulnerability.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/understanding-the-world-of-the-informal-waste-picker/article67900913.ece>

85. Based on the passage, with which of the following statements is the author most likely to disagree?
- (a) Despite their crucial recycling role, the informal sector's waste management contributions are overlooked.
 - (b) Private sector efficiency and sustainability gains do not detrimentally affect informal waste pickers.
 - (c) Informal waste pickers, excluded from formal systems, endure health risks and social marginalisation.
 - (d) Formal waste management integration could elevate informal waste pickers' economic and social standing.
86. Based on the author's arguments, which of the following, if true, would most likely weaken the effect of the private sector's competitive rates in waste management?
- (a) Informal waste pickers' cooperatives secure contracts with municipalities, removing the need of employment by the private sector.
 - (b) Private sector's recycling cost reductions enhance profitability across the board due to technological innovations.
 - (c) Non-governmental organizations equip most informal waste pickers with health insurance and safety gear.
 - (d) Private companies now exclusively hire informal waste pickers, offering them social security and stable salaries.
87. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the main argument of the passage?
- (a) Studies have shown that formalizing waste management systems leads to a decrease in the number of waste pickers in urban areas.
 - (b) The World Health Organization has recognized the health hazards faced by informal waste pickers and advocated for their inclusion in social security schemes.
 - (c) Municipal authorities in India have implemented special programs to provide safety equipment and training to informal waste pickers.
 - (d) Legislation has been passed in several countries to ensure that waste management companies allocate a percentage of their profits towards improving the welfare of informal waste pickers.

88. Which of the following, if true, would resolve the paradox that informal waste pickers are crucial yet marginalised?
- (a) Informal waste pickers deciding to pursue alternative employment due to the hazardous conditions of waste picking.
 - (b) Governments implementing stringent regulations to ensure that private companies include informal waste pickers in their operations.
 - (c) Technology advancements allowing for the complete automation of waste collection, eliminating the need for manual labor.
 - (d) Private waste management companies increasing their service fees to cover the cost of integrating informal waste pickers.
89. What is the primary purpose of the passage?
- (a) To highlight the challenges faced by waste pickers worldwide and in India, focusing on their marginalized status and health risks.
 - (b) To discuss the history and significance of International Waste Pickers Day, particularly in Colombia.
 - (c) To analyze the economic impact of waste picking on urban populations globally.
 - (d) To advocate for increased government regulation of the waste management sector to protect waste pickers' rights and safety.
90. Based on the passage, which course of action would most effectively improve the working conditions of informal waste pickers?
- (a) Launching educational programs to raise awareness about the contributions of informal waste pickers.
 - (b) Providing safety equipment for waste pickers and safety training to ensure reduction of physical risks.
 - (c) Increasing the reliance on technological solutions to reduce the physical risks associated with waste picking.
 - (d) Encouraging private waste management companies to outsource waste collection to informal waste picker cooperatives.

XVIII. Online Shopping

It may seem so but online shopping is no longer primarily a metropolitan phenomenon. Just as growing digital literacy and widespread internet connectivity drive the trend in smaller cities and towns, significant variations are coming up in the purchasing habits, choices, and mindsets of online shoppers nationwide. A recent report has pointed out that India's online shopper is no longer a monolithic entity and businesses that sell online need different strategies for shoppers in big cities and those in small cities and towns.

The report, 'How India shops online: Consumer preferences in the metropolises and tier 1-4 cities', divides online shoppers in two distinct categories: those who live in metros and those in the rest of India. It outlines key differences in preferences of online shoppers in these two geographies which can be ignored by digital sellers at their own risk because as e-commerce grows in India these disparities are only going to harden.

Location can shape buyer preferences in radically different ways. Online shoppers in big cities where traffic jams and long distances are common features of daily life don't value what shoppers in small towns do where distances are shorter.

Urban dwellers, who prioritise speed in online shopping, are particularly drawn to prompt delivery services which meet their demand for instant gratification and are willing to pay a premium price for the same. But shoppers in the rest of India are keener on deals. These consumers are bargain and discount hunters because they live in smaller cities where speed of delivery carries little importance due to short distances.

Interestingly, the rest of India appears to be leading the purchases in the sports and fitness, home and kitchen, and health and wellness categories, whereas residents in metros focus more on grocery, electronics and fashion. The rise of social media has played a significant role in increasing awareness of these products and with an increase in demand, the platforms introduced new and affordable products to these cities. As incomes in the rest of India improved, so did the spending on these categories.

Those who live in metro cities and those in the rest of India display comparable acceptance levels of UPI payments, indicating a rise in adoption and familiarity with such payment methods.

However, 'cash on delivery' remains the preferred option among the shoppers in the rest of India to minimise the risk of frauds. This suggests that while there is growing acceptance of UPI payments due to its convenience, speed and security, there are still concerns regarding online platforms and payment methods particularly among shoppers in the rest of India.

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/retail/how-india-and-bharat-shop-for-goods-online-a-look-into-the-carts/articleshow/108135341.cms>

91. What is the central theme that the author is trying to convey?
- (a) Digital literacy and internet connectivity's critical role in fostering India's online shopping culture.
 - (b) Social media's significant influence on boosting product awareness and demand in India's smaller cities and towns.
 - (c) Tailoring business strategies to the diverse online shopping preferences of metropolitan versus non-metropolitan residents.
 - (d) The rise of UPI payments in India and the persistent preference for cash on delivery among smaller town residents.
92. Which of the following is an underlying assumption of the author's argument?
- (a) Geographical differences in shopping preferences are merely a transient aspect of India's online market.
 - (b) Diverse shopper needs across India's regions have already been effectively addressed by businesses.
 - (c) The future of online shopping in India points towards a uniformity of preferences, erasing regional distinctions.
 - (d) The specific geographical location of people can shape their preferences in life.
93. Which of the following, if true, would weaken the argument that geographical location significantly influences online shopping preferences?
- (a) A nationwide survey reveals that online shoppers across India prioritize speed of delivery over discounts, regardless of their location.
 - (b) An economic analysis finds that income levels, rather than location, are the primary driver of online shopping preferences across India.
 - (c) Recent data shows an increase in the use of digital payment methods in smaller towns, surpassing the preference for cash on delivery.
 - (d) Studies indicate that social media usage patterns are similar across metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas, leading to uniform product awareness.
94. Which of the following points most closely supports the fact that online shopping preferences in India are influenced by geographical differences?
- (a) Urban residents' preference for speed and prompt delivery services due to the challenges of city living.
 - (b) The rapid urbanisation of India's smaller cities has led to an increased demand for online shopping across the board.
 - (c) The uniform adoption of digital payment methods like UPI across both metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas.
 - (d) The global trend of increasing online shopping due to the convenience it offers over traditional shopping methods.

95. Which of the following best identifies a potential flaw in the author's reasoning?
- (a) Assuming that the preference for cash on delivery in smaller towns is solely due to a fear of fraud.
 - (b) Overlooking the impact of socio-economic factors other than location on online shopping behavior.
 - (c) Ignoring the potential for urban dwellers to also seek discounts and deals, not just speed in delivery.
 - (d) Suggesting that social media's influence on product awareness is uniform across all regions of India.
96. Which of the following scenarios most closely mirrors the author's argument regarding the impact of geographical location on online shopping preferences?
- (a) A study showing that students in rural schools perform better in science due to the tranquillity of their environment, unlike their urban counterparts.
 - (b) A survey finds that people living in colder climates prefer shopping in physical stores, while those in warmer climates prefer online shopping.
 - (c) A marketing analysis reveals that fast-food chains need to offer different menus in different countries to cater to local tastes.
 - (d) Car manufacturers observe that customers in colder regions prefer vehicles with better heating systems than those in warmer areas.

XIX. Artificial Intelligence

As a species, human beings have always been deeply innovative. Each major innovation has led to a reimagining of how we live. In the early 1900s, Albert Einstein's theories of relativity exploded our minds by explaining gravity, space, and time. In 1941, the cultivation of penicillin for therapeutic use on humans exponentially helped the fight against disease and increased life spans. In the contemporary era, especially in the last few years, it is innovations in artificial intelligence (AI) that will transform what constitutes intelligent life. For, soon, human beings will not be the only source of intelligence.

The developments in AI, especially generative AI, are transforming our conceptions of "work," "worker," and "expertise". In this column, I have written multiple articles on AI, and its deployment in many areas from legal adjudication to medical surgeries. There is a need for legal regulation without hampering innovations in AI. Therefore, it is entirely unsurprising to see that globally, the most rapid growth in market capitalization in the past 12 months has been in Nvidia — a company that is fueling the growth of advanced AI. Perhaps, Nvidia is an indicator of what kind of company will be the most valuable in the future.

It was technology-based companies that shattered the domination of traditionally natural resource-based (oil or gas) or large manufacturing behemoths in the list of the world's highest market-capitalised companies. In a recent year, Forbes' list of top five companies has

technology and oil giants at the forefront, showing that four of the world's most valuable companies are technology-based.

Importantly, Nvidia with its significant market cap was among the most valuable companies, showcasing its dramatic rise in value. Nvidia's initial foray into the human mind was through video games, where its graphics-based processing became its calling card for this market. Today, Nvidia's GPU chips are used in generative bots like OpenAI's ChatGPT and by companies like Microsoft and Amazon. Like most tech companies, Nvidia has a significant presence in India with a substantial number of employees, and globally, the company employs a large workforce.

Despite these achievements and the promise AI holds in the next phase of human evolution, there will be challenges. For instance, a major tech company's AI image generation tool faced issues with accuracy and bias, leading to its withdrawal from the market. This incident highlights the complexities and challenges in the AI innovation journey. Nonetheless, the AI revolution is poised to redefine intelligence and the kinds of companies that generate wealth, potentially making GPUs the new oil of our time.

Source: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/lifestyle/art-culture/horror-in-the-arts-from-ancient-depictions-of-death-to-modern-adaptations-in-film-and-fashion-101709288135753.html>

97. Which of the following inferences can most directly be drawn from the passage regarding the role of AI in future economies?
- (a) Companies like Nvidia, pioneering in AI and technology, will likely overshadow traditional industries in economic importance.
 - (b) AI's integration into society will face insurmountable ethical and regulatory hurdles, rendering its advancements negligible.
 - (c) The successful deployment of AI will eliminate the need for human intelligence in all professional sectors.
 - (d) Legal regulations aimed at governing AI will inevitably hinder innovation, causing a decline in AI-related advancements.
98. Which of the following statements would the author most likely agree with regarding Nvidia's role in the AI revolution?
- (a) Nvidia's market success is a fleeting trend, lacking broader economic or technological implications.
 - (b) Nvidia's AI contributions, like powering major companies' generative bots, spotlight its pivotal economic role.
 - (c) Nvidia's AI industry role is exaggerated, with its impact confined to video game graphics enhancement.
 - (d) Nvidia's triumph is rooted in aggressive marketing, not its AI technological breakthroughs.

99. Based on the author's arguments, which of the following must necessarily be true?
- (a) AI technologies have reached their peak, with no further innovations expected in the near future.
 - (b) Traditional industries will maintain their economic dominance over tech-based companies indefinitely.
 - (c) The AI revolution necessitates a legal framework to ensure ethical deployment without stifling innovation.
 - (d) Nvidia's success is solely attributable to its early focus on video gaming graphics.
100. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument that AI will redefine intelligence and the types of companies that generate wealth?
- (a) A global survey indicates that public belief in AI is increasing.
 - (b) Reports show AI-driven firms are leading stock market gains, surpassing traditional sectors.
 - (c) Research finds most tech companies, AI ones included, hitting an innovation plateau.
 - (d) New laws globally are aiming to strictly limit AI in essential sectors over ethical issues.
101. What evidence does the author provide to support the main argument?
- (a) A detailed analysis of the historical innovations like the theories of relativity and the development of penicillin.
 - (b) Statistical data showing the decline of traditional industries in comparison to tech companies.
 - (c) Examples of Nvidia's growth and Forbes' list of top companies to illustrate the shift towards tech dominance.
 - (d) Personal testimonials from industry leaders about the transformative impact of AI on society.
102. Which of the following best summarises the primary focus of the passage?
- (a) A historical overview of significant innovations and their impact on human civilization.
 - (b) The challenges and ethical considerations faced by AI technologies in modern society.
 - (c) The legal ramifications of AI innovations on global market practices and policies.
 - (d) Nvidia's rise as a tech giant and its implications for the future of AI and the economy.

XX. Wildlife and Biodiversity

It is natural for plants and animals to move across their habitats and ecosystems. But when they do it at a greater rate—either with humans for profit or through inadvertent transport through global shipments—a “biological invasion” is initiated. Invasive species breed profusely in places far away from their original ecosystem, occupy more areas, and soon alter their new territories while displacing the native species.

Biological invasions have grown to such an extent that globally, alien species are now one of the five major drivers of change in nature along with land- and sea-use change, direct exploitation of organisms, climate change, and pollution. There is no place on the planet that remains untouched by biological invasion, which is also driving thousands of species to extinction.

In September 2023, the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), an independent body comprising more than 140 member-states, released an assessment—the most comprehensive account so far—on invasive alien species and their impacts on the planet’s people and biodiversity. The “Assessment Report on Invasive Alien Species and their Control” was helmed by 86 experts from 49 countries, who dove deep into some 13,000 studies over four-and-a-half years. Its findings acknowledge the alarming fact that invasive species will continue to conquer new geographies, with deep and irreversible impacts on the natural ecosystem. www.lawpreptutorial.com

According to the new assessment report, human activities have caused translocation of some 37,000 alien species across the planet, with 200 new alien species recorded every year. “Studies with evidence of negative impacts exist for more than 3,500 of these species, which are categorised as invasive alien species. The proportion of established alien species known to be invasive varies among taxonomic groups, ranging from 6 percent of all alien plants to 22 percent of all alien invertebrates,” says the IPBES assessment. “Invasive alien species are a major threat to biodiversity and can cause irreversible damage to nature, including local and global species extinctions, and also threaten human wellbeing,” says Helen Roy, co-chair of the IPBES assessment.

This comes as the last warning for the planet. In 2019, IPBES released the first-ever “Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services” that warned, “Nature is declining globally at rates unprecedented in human history—and the rate of species extinctions is accelerating with grave impacts on people around the world now likely.” It said one million animal and plant species are under extinction, with thousands likely to disappear within decades. While the 2019 assessment flagged the threat from invasive species, it did not quantify the risk like the latest report.

Source: <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/wildlife-biodiversity/rise-of-the-invaders-94662>

103. Assuming the information in the passage is correct, which of the following would be the strongest argument that human activities are the primary drivers of the spread of invasive species?
- (a) Climate-induced migration is less impactful than human actions in the spread of invasive species across ecosystems globally.
 - (b) Biodiversity conservation efforts led by humans, while well-intentioned, inadvertently boost the cross-border movement of invasive species.
 - (c) Transport for agriculture, horticulture, and the pet trade are the primary factors in the global dissemination of invasive species.
 - (d) The role of natural disasters in species translocation is minimal compared to the extensive impact of human-related activities.
104. Which of the following reveals a flawed reasoning in the passage's argument about the impact of invasive species?
- (a) The passage fails to consider native species' adaptability to invaders, potentially overstating invasive impacts.
 - (b) Asserting global ubiquity of invasions neglects untouched, isolated ecosystems' existence.
 - (c) Focusing solely on human-driven spread ignores natural species migration's significant role.
 - (d) Claiming invasive species as a top change driver may downplay climate change and pollution effects.
105. What is an assumption made by the author regarding the global response to invasive species?
- (a) It is assumed that swift, comprehensive global action can curb and perhaps reverse the adverse effects of invasive species.
 - (b) The passage presumes current global measures are ample for countering invasive species' biodiversity and wellbeing impacts.
 - (c) The narrative suggests that invasive species proliferation is a natural, unstoppable event beyond human remedial capacity.
 - (d) The author implies that global awareness and instructional efforts on invasive species are already satisfactorily widespread.
106. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the argument that the impact of invasive species on global biodiversity is profound and escalating?
- (a) Some ecosystems have shown resilience to certain invasive species, adapting over time without significant loss in biodiversity.
 - (b) Recent studies have indicated that invasive species contribute to the extinction of native species at an unprecedented rate.
 - (c) Efforts to control invasive species in certain regions have been successful, with native species populations beginning to recover.
 - (d) Climate change has been identified as a more significant threat to biodiversity than the introduction of invasive species.

107. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the argument regarding the irreversible damage caused by invasive species?
- (a) Technological advancements have led to more effective methods of removing invasive species without harming native ecosystems.
 - (b) There has been a global decrease in the number of new invasive species introductions in the last decade.
 - (c) International trade regulations have significantly reduced the inadvertent transport of invasive species across borders.
 - (d) Many invasive species have been found to fill ecological niches that do not compete with native species, thus not harming biodiversity.
108. Based on the information provided, which statement can be inferred as the conclusion of the passage?
- (a) Human intervention is the only viable solution to mitigate the impacts of invasive species on biodiversity.
 - (b) The proliferation of invasive species does not pose a significant threat to global biodiversity.
 - (c) Invasive species represent an urgent and escalating threat to global biodiversity, necessitating immediate action.
 - (d) The study of invasive species offers valuable insights into the resilience and adaptability of ecosystems.

112. Find the difference between number laptops and number of cameras, sold by shop 'D'.
(a) 450 (b) 320
(c) 760 (d) 500
113. The difference between the number of laptops sold by shop 'A' and number of tablets sold by shop 'D' is equal to 'K'. Find the L.C.M of 'K' and 465.
(a) 9300 (b) 8800
(c) 9600 (d) 10800
114. If there is another shop Z, which deals in computer and the number of computers sold by the shop Z is the sum of number of laptops sold by A, number of tablets sold by D and number of Cameras sold by B. Find the total computers sold by Z?
(a) 7200 (b) 5200
(c) 7800 (d) 7500
- XXII.** In a shop, three types of chocolates i.e. A, B, and C are sold. People who visited shop buy at least one type of chocolate. Number of people who bought only type B chocolates is 3 times the number of people who bought all the three types of chocolates. The ratio of the number of people who bought only type A to only type B chocolates is 5:3, and the number of people who bought both type A and type C chocolates but not type B chocolates is 62% of number of people who bought only type A chocolates. Number of people who bought only type C chocolates is 265 more than number of people who bought all the three types of chocolates. Number of people who bought both type A and type B chocolates but not type C chocolates is 230% of number of people who bought all the three types of chocolates. Number of people who bought both type B and type C chocolates but not type A chocolates is 60% of number of people who bought only type B chocolates. Total number of people who bought type B chocolates is 405.
115. How many people have bought only type A chocolates?
(a) 500 (b) 300
(c) 250 (d) 150
116. Find the number of people who bought exactly two types of chocolates.
(a) 380 (b) 420
(c) 320 (d) 360
117. If the price of each type C chocolate is Rs. 12 then find the total revenue generated by shop by selling type C chocolates. (Each person can buy exactly one chocolate of each type).
(a) Rs.7320 (b) Rs.7460
(c) Rs.7180 (d) Rs.7240

118. Number of people who bought only type C chocolates is how much percent more/less than number of people who bought only type A chocolates?
- (a) 24% (b) 26%
(c) 32% (d) 30%
119. Find the ratio of number of people who bought both type B and type C chocolates but not type A chocolates to number of people who bought both type A and type B chocolates but not type C chocolates.
- (a) 12:19 (b) 8:17
(c) 18:23 (d) 5:13
120. If the ratio of type D chocolates to type E chocolates is 3:5 and type D chocolates are 60% of who only buy type B chocolates. Then find the number of chocolates of type E.
- (a) 90 (b) 150
(c) 120 (d) 100