

**LEGALEDGE TEST SERIES**  
**MOCK COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST 2024-25**  
**ALL INDIA OPEN MOCK CLAT 02**

TR ID.

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(In Figures)

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

**Duration of Test : 2 Hours (120 Minutes)****Maximum Marks : 120**

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

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**SECTION-A : ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

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

**Passage (Q.1-Q.6):** From Australia's perspective the Pacific's island states have sat for decades in its backyard. Latterly a gate-crasher has stomped in. China has shaken Australian assumptions in the Pacific.

Australia has deep ties with the Pacific islands. It was the colonial administrator in Papua New Guinea (png) until independence in 1975. During unrest in the Solomon Islands between 2003 and 2017, it provided a policing mission. It has helped plug the budget holes of island states. They are "family", as an Aussie prime minister once put it—a word tinged with paternalism. On February 8th family was celebrated in Canberra with the first-ever address to Parliament by a Pacific leader, png's James Marape.

China is one reason behind the red carpet laid out for Mr Marape. png, immediately to Australia's north, is vital to its security. But China is wooing Mr Marape with infrastructure and investment. It can point to the gleaming Chinese-built or -refurbished stadiums and police headquarters that adorn towns in Fiji, the Solomon Islands and the Cook Islands. Such overtures have helped Chinese state firms gain a hold in the Pacific. China buys or extracts about half of the region's minerals, timber and seafood. Now another bonanza beckons, for seabed minerals.

China's political gains are also striking. Since 2019 the Solomon Islands, Kiribati and Nauru have switched diplomatic allegiance from democratic Taiwan to China, helped by financial inducements to ruling politicians. Most controversially, in 2022 the Solomon Islands' Australia-resenting prime minister, Manasseh Sogavare, signed a security pact with China. Chinese police sit in the capital, Honiara. A potential military base in the Solomon Islands would represent a big threat to Australia.

Concerns in Canberra are thus understandable. China is securing resources, buying political influence and seeking military access. It hopes for regional hegemony. That would mean imposing its will on vulnerable island states, as well as destabilising the regional order; though China promises infrastructure, investment and access to a huge market, its approach can corrupt local politics.

Yet Australia's response can be heavy-handed, notably over demands that island states upgrade their security relationships with it. A case in point is tiny Tuvalu. Late last year the two countries signed a ground-breaking treaty whereby Australia promised to help the atoll nation tackle climate change while offering rights to Tuvalu's citizens to settle in Australia. The treaty also included a security agreement to stop Tuvalu falling under China's sway. But the government that negotiated the treaty has since fallen, and opposition to the security deal is building.

1. Based on the passage, what can be inferred about Australia's view on China's involvement in the Pacific Islands?
  - (a) Australia is indifferent to China's actions, focusing instead on its own policies.
  - (b) Australia views China's presence as an opportunity for regional development.
  - (c) Australia considers China's involvement a threat to regional security and stability.
  - (d) Australia is supportive of China's efforts to improve infrastructure in the Pacific.
2. What is the primary focus of the passage regarding Australia and the Pacific Island states?
  - (a) The history of Australia's colonial administration in the Pacific Island states.
  - (b) The cultural and familial ties between Australia and the Pacific Island states.
  - (c) The competition between Australia and China for influence in the Pacific.
  - (d) The economic dependency of the Pacific Island states on Australian aid.

3. How does the passage illustrate the impact of China's actions on the diplomatic relationships within the Pacific region?
  - (a) By highlighting China's role in enhancing regional cooperation through economic investments.
  - (b) Through the depiction of China's initiatives to address climate change in the Pacific.
  - (c) By showing how China's investments have led to improved infrastructure in the region.
  - (d) By detailing the shift in diplomatic allegiance of some Pacific states towards China.
  
4. What role does Australia's historical relationship with the Pacific Islands play in its response to China's recent activities, as described in the passage?
  - (a) It has led Australia to completely withdraw from the Pacific to avoid conflict with China.
  - (b) It motivates Australia to prioritize economic investments over security concerns in the Pacific.
  - (c) It underscores Australia's commitment to maintaining influence and security in the Pacific region.
  - (d) It has caused Australia to reconsider its alliances with Pacific Island states in favor of China.
  
5. According to the passage, how has China contributed to its growing influence in the Pacific Islands?
  - (a) By focusing solely on cultural exchanges to strengthen bilateral relations with the islands.
  - (b) Through significant infrastructure investments and the acquisition of strategic resources.
  - (c) By deploying military forces to ensure the security of the Pacific Island nations.
  - (d) Through exclusive economic trade agreements that favor the Pacific Islands' economies.
  
6. Which word best describes Australia's historical relationship with Pacific island states as portrayed in the passage?
  - (a) Paternalistic
  - (b) Revolutionary
  - (c) Insidious
  - (d) Intransigent

**Passage (Q.7-Q.12):** Sexual abuse of a child is a horrific and heinous crime. Every day in different parts of India cases of child sexual abuse are being reported. Many, however, continue to remain unreported. The most shocking truth about child sexual abuse in India is that in all child sexual abuse case reported in the country, which is part of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data, in 96 percent of the cases, most of the sexual abusers were known to the children. And even more disconcerting is the fact that the sexual offender is known to the family.

On analyzing the NRCB 2020 Data on Offenders Relation to Child Victims of POCSO Act (Section 4 & 6) – 2020, it **appallingly** revealed that most sexual offenders of the minor children were family member, family friends, neighbors or people known to the family and friends, or online friends on the pretext of marriage. The NCRB data of 28 Indians states and 8 Union territories for Year 2020 revealed that in the category of family friends and neighbor or people known to the family, 11,272 cases were reported. In 2019, the number of cases reported in this category was 12,864, which was a slight drop in the sexual abuse case.

Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu had the most number of sexual abuse cases where the victim knew the sexual abuser. Madhya Pradesh, a Hindi-speaking state, reported 3189 cases, Maharashtra, a Marathi speaking state, reported 2776 cases, Uttar Pradesh, another hindi-speaking state, reported 2495 cases and Tamil Nadu, a Tamil-speaking state, reported 2218. Under the Age Profile of Child Victims of POCSO Act (State/UT-wise) – 2020 of the NCRB data. There were 640 cases of sexual abuse crimes on children below the age of six, out of which a shocking 622 were girls and 18 boys. 2540 cases of sexual abuse were reported in the age group 6 to 12 years. Out of which a shocking 2395 were girls and 145 were boys. In the age group 12 to 16-years, 11029 sexual abuse cases were reported. Out of which 10949 were girls and 80 were boys. Between the age of 6 and 12-years, 2514 were girls and 113 were boys. Between the age group of above 12 to 16-years, 9318

were girls and 97 were boys. According to the NCRB data more girls are reported as sexual abuse victims than boys and in most cases the sexual abusers are known to the victims.

[Source: <https://sundayguardianlive.com/news/beware-sexual-abuse-child-relative-friend>]

7. What is the main idea conveyed through the passage?
  - (a) Child sexual abuse official data and statistics in India show that majority of the perpetrators are relatives or known to the child or the family.
  - (b) The information about child sexual offenders being relatives and known to the child in India are unfounded and lacks evidence.
  - (c) There are many children who are perpetrators of child sexual offences in the NCRB official report which is to be dealt by juvenile justice law.
  - (d) The statistics from NCRB states that child sexual abuse is equally prevalent in girls as well as boys and there must be stringent punishment made through law.
8. Which of these can be inferred from the passage?
  - (a) The actual number of child sexual abuse could be much higher in India.
  - (b) None of the states in India having a large number of sexual abuse reports are non-Hindi.
  - (c) There are several cases in which the abusers are not directly related or known to the victim.
  - (d) There is absence of any digital involvement in the child sexual abuse of persons.
9. Which of these is not an apposite interpretation of the 2020 POCSO statistics for child abuse from NCRB?
  - (a) The reported cases of child abuse are the lowest in Tamil Nadu.
  - (b) Girls are atrociously targeted more under the age of six for child abuse than boys.
  - (c) Either boys do not report sexual abuse crimes or they happen less for them.
  - (d) The number for boy sexual abuse victims is highest for 12-16 years age.
10. What does the word “appallingly” means in the context of the passage?
  - (a) Excusably.      (b) Condonably.      (c) Justifiably.      (d) Horrendously.
11. Which of these is an apt title for the passage?
  - (a) India: A haven for sexual abuse among all ages.
  - (b) India: Danger lurking for Children’s safety in vicinity.
  - (c) India: Child Sexual abuse numbers for little girls in NCRB.
  - (d) India: Child sexual abuse in seven states.
12. Which of these is a valid conclusion from the passage?
  - (a) Children must be taught about being vigilant around relatives or friends.
  - (b) There must be stringent punishment for all the perpetrators of sexual crimes.
  - (c) There must be special educational lessons for children about an ethical life.
  - (d) There must a complete ban on the meeting of all relatives or family friends with children.

**Passage (Q.13-Q.18):** A Rajput (from Sanskrit raja-putra, “progeny of a king”) is a member of one of the patrilineal clans of western, central, northern India and some parts of Greater India (modern-day Pakistan). They assert to be descendants of ruling Hindu warrior races of North India. Rajputs rose to prominence during the 6th to 12th centuries. There are several major subdivisions of Rajputs, known as vansh or vamsha, the step below the super-division jati. These vansh delineate claimed descent from various sources, and the Rajput are generally considered to be divided into three primary vansh: Suryavanshi denotes descent from the solar deity Surya, Chandravanshi from the lunar deity Chandra, and Agnivanshi from the fire deity Agni. Lesser-noted vansh include Udayvanshi, Rajvanshi, and Rishivanshi. The histories of the various vanshs were later recorded in documents known as vanshaavaliis. Beneath the vansh division are smaller and smaller subdivisions: kul, shakh (“branch”), khamp or khanp (“twig”), and nak (“twig tip”). Marriages within a kul are generally disallowed (with some flexibility for kul-mates of different gotra lineages). The kul serves as primary identity for many of the Rajput clans, and each kul is protected by a family goddess, the kuldevi. The thirty six traditional royal Rajput

clans (“kul”) are Ahirs, Agnipala, Bargujar, Balla, Bhati, Byce, Chauhan, Chawur, Dahima, Dahiya, Doda, Gahlot, Gherwal, Gora, Hun, Jaitwar, Jhala, Jat, Johiya, Kachwaha, Kirar, Mohil, Nicumpa, Pala, Paramara, Pratiha, Rathore, Solanki, Sarwya, Sengar, Sikarwar, Silar, Sisodia, Taank, Tomara and Yadavs. The Chauhans were a major ruling dynasty of India and ruled between 956 and 1192 AD, earlier over the eastern parts of the present day's Rajasthan with their capital at Ajmer and later extended their territory up to parts of modern-day Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. This Rajput dynasty was founded by Simharaj, who is famously known as the founder of the city of Ajmer. Prithviraj Chauhan was considered greatest of all Chauhan rulers. During his reign, the kingdom extended over Delhi, Ajmer, modern-day Rohilkhand, Kalinjar, Hansi, Kalpi, Mahoba etc. He conquered Bhatinda (in Punjab) from Ghaznavide (Islamic) ruler of Punjab and defeated the Islamic plunderer Muhammad of Ghor in the first battle of Tarain. However, he was defeated in the second battle of Tarain by the same plunderer, 1192 due to lack of Hindu allies. The Chauhan (also known as Nirban) are of Agnivanshi lineage. Their state was initially centered around Khetri, Khandela, Alsisar Malsisar, Srimadhapur, Alwar, Jhunjhunu, Sikar and Churu. According to clan history, the Nirwan or Nirban are with Maharana Pratap against the Islamic ruler Akbar in Haldighati Battle. Since the varna system grew rigid and birth-based in the past centuries, it has become dysfunctional. This was a social defect that crept in with time, and was not the original intention of the Varṇāśhrām system which was based on qualities, inclinations and skills. In the modern age of democracy with little scope for birth-based classification, the definition of kshatriya (warriors) given in Bhagvad Geeta (“The eternal song of the God”) is more relevant. The Geeta says in 18: 41: the varnas are distributed according to their qualities, in accordance with their guṇas (not by birth). The normal duties of Kshatriyas (or the warrior race) in the Bhagvad Geeta are valour, vigor, resourcefulness, fortitude, skill, courage, munificence, and inspirational leadership. Kshat or kshati means harm caused to someone. Kshatriya is the one who saves and protect their land and people from harm.

[Source: <https://www.indianrajputs.com/history/> and <https://www.holy-bhagavad-gita.org/chapter/18/verse/41>]

13. All of these can be inferred from the passage, except
  - (a) To be classified as warriors in the present times, the listed clans must work for protection of their land and people.
  - (b) The ancestors of the progenies of kings in India are deities representing earthly or Universal elements.
  - (c) There is hardly any engrossment of female presence among the warrior clans of the Hindus.
  - (d) There have been multiple battles between Islamic forces and warrior races of the Hindus in Indian history.
  
14. Which of these is not a quality of the warrior races as described in the Eternal song in the passage?
  - (a) They will be brave and full of strength for their people's protection.
  - (b) They will be charitable with their hoarded treasure or winnings.
  - (c) They will have resilience and determination in any skill-learning.
  - (d) They will be forgiving of the wounds given to their people or land.
  
15. Which of these is not an apposite distinction of a major Rajput ruling dynasty by the name of Chauhan as elucidated in the passage?
  - (a) They ruled various parts of India for almost two centuries, including the present capital, Delhi.
  - (b) They belonged to the thirty-six traditional clans of the warrior race who are described in a literary work.
  - (c) They laid the foundation of a major city in the present day Rajasthan and made it their capital.
  - (d) They defeated an Islamic plunderer of India in war consecutively during the twelfth century.
  
16. Which of these is an apt title for the extract given above?
  - (a) Kshatriyas or Rajputs: Warriors in History and Modernity.
  - (b) Rajputs: Hereditary Proclivity of Bravery and Valour.
  - (c) Rajputs or Kshatriyas: Lineage and Birth-Classification.
  - (d) Rajputs or Kshatriyas: Timeless Indian warrior Class.

17. Which of these can be inferred about the warrior king's defeat from the hands of an Islamic raider in India?
- (a) That there was absence of unanimity among the native Hindu rulers.
  - (b) That the Islamic plunderer was excessively powerful with a formidable army.
  - (c) That the Islamic raider was unified with his Persian and Mongolian ancestry.
  - (d) That there was lack of unity in the sub-clans of the Rajput Chauhan dynasty.
18. Which of these is a valid conclusion from the passage?
- (a) Islamic forces were much more powerful and formidable in their conquests of India.
  - (b) Anyone can be a warrior in India if they protect their people or their territory.
  - (c) Rajputs were always unsuccessful in defending their territory from harmful forces.
  - (d) Warriors do not have the involvement of women in their worship ceremonies.

**Passage (Q.19-Q.24):** A wing was ripped off a plane attempting to land at the French ski resort of Courchevel last weekend, the latest in a series of accidents at the high-altitude airport.

The plane, a single-engined Pilatus PC-12, veered off the runway, losing a wing and ending up lying on the snow. It was not carrying passengers and the two pilots reportedly only suffered concussion.

Courchevel's "Altiport", which sits at 2,007m above sea level, is the highest airport in Europe and is a coveted destination for skiers, one of very few where arriving passengers can walk straight from their plane on to the pistes. It also gives direct access to what has become the country's most luxurious mountain destination: the closest five-star hotel is just 180m from the runway. Courchevel has more hotels with the top "palace" designation than anywhere in France outside Paris, and its restaurants boast 10 Michelin stars.

However, the Altiport is also unusually challenging for pilots, with a runway just 537m long that slopes upwards to slow landing aircraft. The mountain topography means that, unlike other airports, there is no "go around" procedure (where pilots abort a landing, climb and circle round for another attempt).

The plane that crashed last Saturday was operated by European Aircraft Private Club, based in Charleroi, Belgium, which runs flights for members who share ownership of a fleet of Pilatus aircraft. This was the company's second accident at Courchevel: in 2017 another PC-12 hit the embankment before the start of the runway, damaging a wing and wheel.

In all, there have been seven accidents at the airport since 2016, one of them fatal. In that incident, in 2021, a plane caught fire, killing one passenger, after its landing gear hit the embankment.

Pilots must have special training to land at the airport, though for private (as opposed to commercial) pilots this is often completed in as little as two days. In its report into the fatal 2021 accident, the French government's Bureau of Enquiry and Analysis for Civil Aviation Safety noted "insufficient pilot experience has been identified as a contributing factor in several accidents" at Courchevel.

19. What is the altitude of Courchevel's Altiport, and why is it significant in the context of European airports?
- (a) The altitude offers unparalleled direct access to ski slopes for enthusiasts.
  - (b) At 2,007m, it stands as the highest airport in Europe, enhancing its exclusivity.
  - (c) Its elevation requires special pilot training, emphasizing safety in challenging conditions.
  - (d) The height provides scenic views, making it a unique starting point for ski trips.

20. Considering the topography of Courchevel's Altiport and its runway characteristics, what can be inferred about the challenges pilots might face when landing there compared to more conventional airports?
- (a) The short runway length demands precise speed and braking control from pilots.
  - (b) Pilots may need to navigate unpredictable weather patterns more frequently.
  - (c) The uphill slope of the runway adds an extra layer of complexity to landings.
  - (d) More fuel is required for takeoff due to the high-altitude location of the airport.
21. How does the slope of Courchevel's runway serve a specific function for aircraft upon landing?
- (a) It enhances the scenic beauty of the landing approach, making it memorable.
  - (b) The slope aids in reducing the speed of aircraft more effectively upon landing.
  - (c) It allows aircraft to take off with less engine power, conserving fuel.
  - (d) The slope provides a natural wind barrier, improving landing safety.
22. Based on the incidents described, what factor has the French government's Bureau of Enquiry and Analysis for Civil Aviation Safety identified as contributing to several accidents at Courchevel?
- (a) The unique weather patterns at high altitudes complicate landing and takeoff procedures.
  - (b) A lack of advanced navigation equipment on the aircraft using the Altiport.
  - (c) Insufficient pilot experience has been identified as a contributing factor in several accidents.
  - (d) The challenging topography around Courchevel requires more rigorous airport maintenance.
23. How does the accessibility of Courchevel for skiers compare to that of other skiing destinations mentioned in the passage?
- (a) Courchevel offers a more luxurious experience with direct runway to piste access.
  - (b) It is the only destination where skiers can walk from their plane onto the pistes.
  - (c) Courchevel's location requires less travel time from major cities than other resorts.
  - (d) The resort provides more five-star hotel options close to skiing areas than others.
24. What role does the European Aircraft Private Club play in the context of flights to Courchevel, and how has it been impacted by the airport's challenging conditions?
- (a) It provides exclusive flight services for members owning shares in a fleet of Pilatus aircraft.
  - (b) The club has faced operational challenges due to the runway's short length and slope.
  - (c) It has implemented specialized training programs for pilots flying to Courchevel.
  - (d) The club's accidents at Courchevel have led to a reevaluation of flight safety protocols.



**SECTION -B : CURRENT AFFAIRS, INCLUDING GENERAL KNOWLEDGE**

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

**Passage (Q.25-Q.30): PADMA AWARDS 2024**

Former Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu, actors Vyjayantimala Bali and Konidela Chiranjeevi, Sulabh International founder late Bindeshwar Pathak, first woman judge of Supreme Court late M Fathima Beevi were among 132 eminent persons awarded Padma awards on Thursday.

On January 23, the government had announced that it would confer the Bharat Ratna, the country's highest civilian award, on two-time Bihar chief minister Karpoori Thakur posthumously.

Among the Padma awardees, 34 are unsung heroes including India's first woman elephant mahout Parbati Baruah, famous as "Hasti Kanya", tribal environmentalist Chami Murmu, social worker Sangthankima who runs Mizoram's largest orphanage and plastic surgeon Prema Dhanraj.

'Padma Vibhushan' is awarded for exceptional and distinguished service; 'Padma Bhushan' for distinguished service of high order and 'Padma Shri' for distinguished service in any field. The awards are announced on the occasion of the Republic Day every year.

President Droupadi Murmu had approved the conferment of 132 Padma Awards including 30 women and eight persons from the category of Foreigners/NRI/PIO/OCI and nine posthumous awardees.

The Government of India instituted two civilian awards-Bharat Ratna & Padma Vibhushan in 1954. The latter had three classes namely Pahela Varg, Dusra Varg and Tisra Varg. These were subsequently renamed as Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri vide Presidential Notification issued on January 8, 1955.

Source: <https://www.cnbctv18.com>

25. On the eve of the 73rd Republic Day, which individuals were posthumously honored with the Padma Vibhushan?  
 (a) Prema Dhanraj (b) M Venkaiah Naidu  
 (c) General Bipin Rawat and Kalyan Singh (d) Konidela Chiranjeevi
26. Among the following options, which Padma Award holds the highest position in terms of hierarchy?  
 (a) Padma Shri (b) Padma Vibhushan  
 (c) Padma Bhushan (d) Param Vir Chakra
27. What is the maximum number of Bharat Ratna awards that can be conferred in a single year, considering it is the highest civilian award of India?  
 (a) Two (b) Four (c) Three (d) Five
28. Consider the following statements about the Padma Awards?  
 I. The Padma Awards are conferred on the recommendations made by the Padma Awards Committee, which is constituted by the Prime Minister every year.  
 II. The Awards are given in three categories: Padma Vibhushan (distinguished service of higher order), Padma Bhushan (for exceptional and distinguished service) and Padma Shri (distinguished service).  
 (a) Both I & II are correct. (b) Only II is correct.  
 (c) Both I & II are incorrect. (d) Only I is correct.
29. Which award is bestowed upon individuals for exceptional and distinguished service within India?  
 (a) Padma Bhushan (b) Padma Vibhushan  
 (c) Padma Shri (d) Bharat Ratna

30. Among the following options, who was the first individual or individuals to receive the Bharat Ratna award?
- (a) Chakravarti Rajagopalachari (b) Sir C.V. Raman  
(c) Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan (d) All of these

**Passage (Q.31-Q.36): Global Gender Gap Report 2023**

India was ranked at 127 out of 146 countries in terms of gender parity — an improvement of eight places from last year, according to the annual Gender Gap Report, 2023 of the World Economic Forum (WEF). India was ranked 135 in the report's 2022 edition, The country had improved by 1.4 percentage points and eight positions since the last edition, marking a partial recovery towards its 2020 parity level, the report stated. India had closed 64.3% of the overall gender gap, the report said. However, it underlined that India had reached only 36.7 % parity on economic participation and opportunity. The index ranked India's neighbours Pakistan at 142, Bangladesh at 59, China at 107, Nepal at 116, Sri Lanka at 115 and Bhutan at 103. Iceland is the most gender-equal country in the world for the 14th consecutive year and the only one to have closed more than 90% of its gender gap, according to the report. In India, while there had been uptick in parity in wages and income, the share of women in senior positions and technical roles had dropped slightly since the last edition, the report pointed out. On political empowerment, India has registered 25.3% parity, with women representing 15.1% of parliamentarians — the highest for the country since the inaugural report in 2006. Out of the 117 countries with available data since 2017, 18 countries — including Bolivia (50.4%), India (44.4%) and France (42.3 %) — have achieved women's representation of over 40% in local governance.

<https://www.thehindu.com>

31. Among the following options, which dimension is considered by the World Economic Forum in assessing gender parity across 146 countries?
- (a) Political empowerment (b) Economic Participation and opportunity  
(c) Educational attainment (d) All of the given options are correct.
32. What is the objective of the One Hundred and Twenty-Eighth Amendment Bill concerning the Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies?
- (a) the Bill aims to provide one-fourth of the total seats in the Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies for women.  
(b) the Bill aims to provide one-third of the total seats in the Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies for women.  
(c) the Bill aims to provide one-fifth of the total seats in the Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies for women.  
(d) the Bill aims to provide one-half of the total seats in the Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies for women.
33. According to the Global Gender Gap Report 2023, which country has shown consistent progress towards gender parity since the first edition in 2006 and has maintained its first-place ranking for the 14th consecutive year?
- (a) Iceland (b) Singapore (c) Russia (d) Denmark
34. Who currently holds the position of Executive Chairman at the World Economic Forum?
- (a) Adolf williams (b) Travis Smith  
(c) Zara Iqbal (d) Klaus Schwab
35. According to the Global Risk Report 2023, which of the following is identified as the most significant threat to the world over the next decade?
- (a) failure to mitigate climate change and failure of climate change adaptation  
(b) natural disasters and extreme weather events'  
(c) Biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse'.  
(d) Equality in Education Sector

36. Consider the following statements about the Global Gender Gap Report 2023?
- The Global Gender Gap Index annually benchmarks the current state and evolution of gender parity across two key dimensions (Economic Participation and Opportunity, Educational Attainment, Health and Survival, and Political Empowerment).
  - It is the longest-standing index tracking the progress of numerous countries' efforts towards closing these gaps over time since its inception in 2004.
- (a) Only I is correct. (b) Only II is correct.  
(c) Both I & II are incorrect. (d) Both I & II are correct.

**Passage (Q.37-Q.42): World Wetlands Day and Ramsar Sites**

World Wetlands Day (WWD) highlights the crucial role these ecosystems play in our lives and the health of our planet. This year's theme, "[a]" underscores the deep connection between the well-being of wetlands and our own. These vital freshwater havens support over 100,000 species, forming the foundation for our existence. They provide sustenance for billions, with rice grown in wetland paddies forming a staple food for 3 billion people and contributing 20% of global food production. Beyond food, wetlands act as nature's shock absorbers, softening the impact of rainfall and reducing the risk of floods and storm surges. Recognizing their invaluable role, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) actively supports the conservation, restoration, and sustainable management of wetlands. This work focuses on food security and agriculture, encompassing crop and livestock production, forestry, fisheries, and aquaculture. Additionally, the FAO promotes integrated land and water resources management, addressing challenges posed by climate change, biodiversity loss, and competing demands. World Wetlands Day traces its roots back to 1971. Born from the Ramsar Convention, officially known as the Convention on Wetlands, this day serves as a powerful reminder of the critical role wetlands play in our world. India is one of the Contracting Parties to Ramsar Convention, signed in Ramsar, Iran, in 1971.

Ref- <https://www.news18.com>

37. When did India ratify the Ramsar Convention, officially known as the Convention on Wetlands?  
(a) 1970 (b) 1982 (c) 2001 (d) 2010
38. What is the main emphasis of the observance of World Wetlands Day?  
(a) Promoting tourism in wetland areas  
(b) Highlighting the economic potential of wetlands  
(c) Raising awareness about the importance of wetlands and their conservation  
(d) Advocating for the development of wetland industries
39. What theme has been designated for World Wetlands Day in the year 2024?  
(a) Wetlands action for people and nature (b) Wetlands restoration  
(c) Wetlands and human wellbeing (d) Wetlands conservation
40. Consider the following statements:  
I. World Wetlands Day is observed on 2nd March every year worldwide to commemorate the signing of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance in 1981.  
II. Maharashtra have maximum number of Ramsar Sites (16 sites) followed by Uttar Pradesh (10 sites).  
(a) Only I is correct. (b) Only II is correct.  
(c) Both I & II are incorrect. (d) Both I & II are correct.
41. When the Convention on Wetlands was officially adopted?  
(a) 2 December 1972 (b) 2 February 1971  
(c) 22 March 1970 (d) 1 April 1971

42. How many Ramsar Sites does India have as of April 2024?  
(a) 50 (b) 80 (c) 95 (d) 70

**Passage (Q.43-Q.48): Vyommitra and Gaganyaan**

Woman Robot Astronaut "Vyommitra" will fly into Space ahead of ISRO's ambitious "Gaganyaan" mission, which will be India's first human manned Space Flight carrying Indian Astronauts into Space. Disclosing this in New Delhi during an interaction with media, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the uncrewed "Vyommitra" Mission is scheduled for the third quarter of this year while a manned mission "Gaganyaan" is scheduled to be launched next year. "Vyommitra" is a name derived from two Sanskrit words namely, "Vyoma" (meaning Space) and "Mitra" (meaning Friend). This Female Robot Astronaut, said the Minister, is equipped with the capability to monitor Module Parameters, issue Alerts and execute Life Support operations. It can perform tasks such as operating six panels and responding to the queries, he explained. Dr Jitendra Singh further elaborated that "Vyommitra" Astronaut is designed in such a manner so as to simulate human functions in the Space environment and interact with the Life Support System. Pertinent to mention that as a run up to the launch of India's first-ever manned Space flight named "Gaganyaan".

Ref- <https://pib.gov.in>

43. The first Test Vehicle Flight TV D1 was accomplished on?  
(a) 1 October 2023 (b) 21 October 2022  
(c) 21 October 2023 (d) 21 January 2024
44. What is the main goal of the Gaganyaan mission?  
(a) Only Conduct space tourism  
(b) Only Launch satellites into orbit  
(c) Demonstrate India's human spaceflight capabilities  
(d) Only Explore Mars
45. At what altitude does the Gaganyaan mission orbit?  
(a) 700 kilometers altitude (b) 600 kilometers altitude  
(c) 500 kilometers altitude (d) 400 kilometers altitude
46. By what means will the astronauts of the Gaganyaan mission return to Earth?  
(a) By landing in the Pacific desert  
(b) By parachuting into the Atlantic Ocean  
(c) By docking with the International Space Station  
(d) By landing in India's sea waters
47. Consider the following statements:  
I. The 'Gaganyaan' project aims to demonstrate human space capabilities by launching astronauts into a 500-kilometer orbit and safely returning them to Earth by landing in India's sea waters.  
II. Union Minister Jitendra Singh revealed that the uncrewed 'Vyommitra' mission is slated for the third quarter of this year, while the manned 'Gaganyaan' mission is scheduled for 2026.  
(a) Both I & II are correct. (b) Only I is correct.  
(c) Only II is correct. (d) Both I & II are incorrect.
48. Where is the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre situated among the listed options of states/Union Territories?  
(a) Rajasthan (b) Uttar Pradesh (c) Karnataka (d) Kerala

**Passage (Q.49-Q.52): World Food India 2023**

The 'World Food India 2023' event, organized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industry, concluded on 5th November at Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, graced by the esteemed presence of the President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu. The valedictory session encapsulated the event's resounding success, with the President acknowledging its pivotal role in showcasing India's vibrant culinary heritage and fostering robust partnerships among various industries. She emphasized the country's potential as a global culinary hub and underscored the importance of enhancing food distribution to combat global hunger.

The event was inaugurated by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 3rd November disbursing Seed Capital Assistance for over one lakh SHG members. He emphasized the event's role in presenting India as the 'food basket of the world' and commemorating 2023 as the International Year of Millets. Applauding the technology and startup pavilion and food street, the Prime Minister emphasized their role in shaping the future economy. Recognizing the food processing sector as a 'sunrise sector,' he highlighted its attraction of over Rs 50,000 crore in foreign direct investment over nine years. He underscored the impact of the PLI scheme and ongoing projects under the Agri-Infra Fund, emphasizing investments of thousands of crores in processing infrastructure for fisheries and animal husbandry.

Ref- <https://pib.gov.in>

49. Under which act was the Food Corporation of India established to achieve the objectives outlined in the Food Policy?
- (a) Food Corporation's Act 1964
  - (b) The National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013
  - (c) The Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954
  - (d) The National Food Security Act (NFSA) 1962
50. What theme was chosen for World Food Day in the year 2023?
- (a) Safe food now for a healthy tomorrow.
  - (b) Water is life, water is food. Leave no one behind.
  - (c) Our Actions are Our Future.
  - (d) Better production, better nutrition, a better environment.
51. Consider the following statements about the FAO-
- I. The FAO Building is the international headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), located in the San Saba rione of Spain.
  - II. In view of celebrating 2023 as the International Year of Millets and to bring global food processing industry together, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries organized the second edition World Food India in 2023. This year World Food India 2024 will be organized from 19th to 22nd December 2024.
- (a) Both I & II are correct.
  - (b) Only I is correct.
  - (c) Both I & II are incorrect.
  - (d) Only II is correct.
52. In which year did the Ministry of Food Processing Industries initiate the inaugural edition of World Food India?
- (a) 2022
  - (b) 2019
  - (c) 2021
  - (d) 2017

### SECTION – C: LEGAL REASONING

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

**Passage (Q.53-Q.58):** Based on the information given in the passage, try to answer the following questions:  
The Special Marriage Act is a central legislation made to validate and register interreligious and inter-caste marriages in India. Marriage under Special Marriage Act is a special one as it is solemnized between consenting parties when their personal laws do not allow the marriage to be solemnized. The Supreme Court on April 20 said provisions of the Special Marriage Act which mandate a 30-day prior notice of intent to marry is steeped in patriarchy and exposes vulnerable couples to an “invasion” by the society. A Constitution Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud said forcing couples to put their intention to get married out in the open harked back to the era of the British Raj.

“The very object of the Special Marriage Act is to protect couples. But these provisions lay them open to invasion by society, by District Magistrates and Superintendents of Police,” – said the Chief Justice of India. The bench agreed and upheld the judgment of the Allahabad High Court, that a couple planning to marry under the Special Marriage Act 1954 can choose to not publish the 30-day notice, required under law, for invitation of objections before registering a marriage.

Provisions of the Special Marriage Act:

Section 4: There are certain conditions laid down in Section 4 of the Act:

- It says that neither of the parties should have a spouse living.
- Both the parties should be capable of giving consent; should be sane at the time of marriage.
- The parties shall not be within the prohibited degree of relations as prescribed under their law.
- While considering the age, the male must be at least 21 and the female be 18 at least.

Section 5 and 6:

- Under these sections, the parties wishing to marry are supposed to give a notice for their marriage to the Marriage Officer in an area where one of the spouses has been living for the last 30 days. Then, the marriage officer publishes the notice of marriage in his office.
- Anyone having any objection to the marriage can file against it within a period of 30, if no objection is raised, the marriage can be solemnised.

However, senior advocate A.M. Singhvi and advocate Shadan Farasat said the mandate of prior and open notice of the intent to marry was sheer anathema to privacy, individual dignity and personal autonomy and choice. He urged the court to strike down these provisions. In 2006, India’s Supreme Court made it necessary to register all relational unions under Special Marriage Act or Hindu Marriage Act. A marriage can be registered in India either under the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 or under the Special Marriage Act, 1954. The Hindu Marriage Act is relevant to Hindus, although the Special Marriage Act is suitable for all Indian residents regardless of their religion applicable to the Court marriage.

**Source: The Hindu, Supreme Court slams sections of Special Marriage Act requiring prior notice.**

53. Rajesh – a Brahmin Hindu boy wished to marry Ragini – a Jain Hindu girl. She knew Rajesh from childhood and had expressed her desire to marry Rajesh to her mother. Her mother did not accept the marriage. Ragini decided to marry Rajesh under Special Marriage Act, 1954. Which among the following statements is correct with respect to the situation?
- (a) As the parents of the bride were not ready, Ragini can solemnize her marriage with Rajesh under the provisions of Special Marriage Act, 1954.
  - (b) The consent of parents is important under Special Marriage Act, 1954 as it is required that the parties have to send prior notice.
  - (c) Ragini should inform her parents as well as to Rajesh’s parents by issuing a notice of intent 30 days before the date of their planned marriage.
  - (d) Ragini has no reason to apply to Special Marriage Act under the prevalent circumstances.

54. Sumit and Sunaina, two individuals who were in love with each other since childhood are practicing Hindus. Their parents had promised each other that they shall be married when they will reach the age of marriage. But before Sunaina and Sumit could reach that age, Sumit was influenced by the doctrines of Islam and chose to convert to Islam by his own will. Now, Sunaina is confused as to which law will allow the solemnization marriage between them. Based on the information given in the passage, what advise you will render to Sunaina?
- As the promise of the marriage was made before Sumit converted to Islam, they can marry under Hindu Marriage Act.
  - As the promise of the marriage was made already and no intent to convert to another religion was communicated then, the promise of the marriage is breached.
  - The marriage can be solemnized between Sumit and Sunaina under Special Marriage Act made to validate and register interreligious marriages in India.
  - The marriage can be solemnized between Sumit and Sunaina only if Sunaina also agrees to convert to Islam for the purpose of the marriage.
55. Ramesh and Simbi are two persons who fell in love with each other in their college days. Ramesh wanted to marry Simbi but she was reluctant to marry him as he was of different faith. Simbi tried to convince her family but they did not get ready for Ramesh and fixed her marriage with Simba. Ramesh tried to intervene but Simbi and Simba got married by their religious ceremonies on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2023. But Simbi still loved Ramesh and decided to marry him. Based on the information given in the passage, choose under what condition Simbi can marry Ramesh:
- Simbi can marry Ramesh under Hindu Marriage Act.
  - Simbi cannot marry with Ramesh under Special Marriage Act.
  - Simbi can marry Ramesh after getting divorce with Simba under Special Marriage Act .
  - A filing of divorce petition between Simbi and Simba is necessary to allow Simbi to marry Simba.
56. Dua and Sia are two person involved in a happy marriage since past two years from 2017. However due to COVID19 lockdown and decline in economic transactions of Dua's company, his company had decided to reduce his monthly salary by half. This led to repeated feud between Dua and Sia and Sia filed for divorce from Dua. However, upon application it was found that the marriage between Dua and Sia is not registered as the Registrar Office and no application is presented before the court so that the court can pass the necessary declaration Under Special Marriage Act. In light of the information mentioned in the passage, decide:
- It is evident that Dua and Sia are married and were living happily for two years, therefore it is unimportant to have their marriage registered.
  - It is important for the marriage to get registered in order to be recognized as a legal union between two individuals hence no declaration of divorce can be given.
  - Declaration of Divorce is a part of Conjugal rights that emanate to each individual after the marriage and hence must be restituted.
  - The declaration of divorce should be easily passed by the court to nullify the marriage as it can be seen that the marriage was not recognized due to no registration.
57. Jignesh, son of Patwarilal is of 21 years of age is a resident of Indian state of Gujarat and he falls in love with Sunamraa, a boy of another religion. They both started dating each other and have been living with each other since 2018. Suddenly they realized that they cannot have their rights on each other's properties unless they marry and get their marriage registered. Both the religions of Jignesh and Sunamraa do not allow the marriage between them. Hence they decided to marry each other under Special Marriage Act. Based on the information given in the passage, decide:
- The marriage between Jignesh and Sunamraa is possible only under the Special Marriage Act as it allows the marriage between two different religions.
  - The marriage between Jignesh and Sunmraa is not possible under any cost as it is a peculiar case not covered under the ambit of Special Marriage Act.

- (c) The marriage between Jignesh and Sunamraa is being done only to secure their interest in the property and hence it should not be made permissible.
- (d) None of the above.
58. Tushar Badlani, a resident of Maharashtra falls in love with Sofi, who had come for her Tourism project from Pakistan. Tushar was her University Guide and both are a part of cultural exchange program that exists between the governments of India and Pakistan. After their graduation, they decided that they will get married. Tushar's family is ready for the marriage but Sofi mentioned it to Tushar that 'Abbu nahi maanenge'. Tushar has come to you for legal advice. Based on the information given in the passage, what advice would you tender to Tushar?
- (a) It is not morally correct for Tushar to marry Sofi against her family's wish and he must give up the thought of marrying her though he can continue loving her even without marriage.
- (b) Sofi should convert to Tushar's religion if she wishes to marry Tushar as it is the sign of true love that you are able to compromise with your faith.
- (c) Tushar can marry Sofi under Special Marriage Act as it allows the inter-religious marriage and they can find recluse under SMA.
- (d) Tushar cannot marry Sofi under Special Marriage Act as the jurisdiction of Special Marriage law do not extent beyond India's jurisdiction.

**Passage (Q.59-Q.63):** The concept of "unclean hands" is a legal principle that is often invoked in contract law. The principle states that a party seeking relief in a legal dispute must come to court with "clean hands," meaning that the party must not have acted unethically or illegally in relation to the matter at hand.

The doctrine of unclean hands is based on the idea that a party who has acted unethically or illegally should not be able to benefit from the court's help in resolving a dispute. For example, if a party has committed fraud in relation to a contract, that party may not be able to seek relief from the court if the other party breaches the contract.

The application of the doctrine of unclean hands varies among jurisdictions, but in general, it requires a showing of inequitable conduct that relates directly to the subject matter of the lawsuit. The conduct must be serious enough to affect the fairness of the litigation and must be relevant to the dispute at hand.

Courts have applied the doctrine of unclean hands in a variety of situations, including cases involving breaches of contract, fraud, and other forms of misconduct. In these cases, the court will typically consider the nature and extent of the misconduct and whether it was directly related to the subject matter of the lawsuit.

The principle of unclean hands is not a defence to all claims, but it can be a powerful tool for parties who believe that their opponent has acted unethically or illegally. For example, if a party believes that its opponent has committed fraud in relation to a contract, it may be able to argue that the opponent should not be able to benefit from the court's help in resolving the dispute.

In conclusion, the doctrine of unclean hands is a complex and intricate legal principle that has important implications for contract law and other areas of the legal system. The principle is based on the idea that parties must come to court with "clean hands," and it is used to prevent parties who have acted unethically or illegally from benefiting from the court's help in resolving a dispute.

[Source: <https://jusmundi.com/en/document/publication/en-unclean-hands>]

59. A party, named P1, has entered into a contract with another party, named P2. P1 has later discovered that P2 has committed fraud in relation to the contract. P1 has filed a lawsuit against P2 for breach of contract. In this scenario, what is the potential outcome of the lawsuit according to the principle of unclean hands as stated in the passage?
- (a) P1 may win the lawsuit as the principle of unclean hands requires parties to come to court with clean hands.
- (b) P2 may win the lawsuit as the principle of unclean hands does not apply to breaches of contract.



- (c) The court may dismiss the lawsuit as both parties have acted unethically or illegally in relation to the matter at hand.
- (d) The court may award a relief to P1, but with limited damages, as the principle of unclean hands applies to the matter at hand.
60. Jack has recently opened a new clothing store in the city and he has been advertising it heavily through various mediums including billboards and television commercials. However, his main rival and established clothing store owner, David, has filed a legal suit against Jack for false advertising. According to the advertisements, Jack's store offers a wide range of designer clothes at a very low price compared to other stores in the city. However, David claims that these advertisements are false and misleading, as the prices Jack offers are much higher compared to what he claims in the advertisements. Jack has come to the court seeking relief from the false accusations made by David.
- What is the potential outcome of this situation according to the principles of "unclean hands"?
- (a) Jack may be awarded relief as he has clean hands and has not acted unethically or illegally in relation to the matter at hand.
- (b) Jack may be denied relief as he has unclean hands and has acted unethically in relation to the matter at hand through false advertisements.
- (c) Jack may be awarded relief as false advertisements are not considered to be unethical or illegal according to the doctrine of unclean hands.
- (d) Jack may be denied relief as false advertisements are considered to be unethical or illegal according to the doctrine of unclean hands.
61. A real estate developer, named R1, entered into a contract with a contractor, named C1, for the construction of a shopping mall. During the construction, R1 found that C1 was using substandard materials and not following the plans and specifications outlined in the contract. R1 terminated the contract and hired a new contractor, named C2, to finish the construction of the shopping mall. C1 has now filed a lawsuit against R1, seeking compensation for the work done and materials supplied before the contract was terminated. What is the potential outcome of this situation according to the principle of unclean hands in the passage?
- (a) The court may rule in favour of C1 as the principle of unclean hands does not apply to breaches of contract.
- (b) The court may rule in favour of R1 as C1 acted unethically by using substandard materials and not following the plans and specifications outlined in the contract.
- (c) The court may rule in favour of neither party as both R1 and C1 acted unethically in different ways.
- (d) The court may rule in favour of C1 but with a reduced compensation as the principle of unclean hands only affects the amount of compensation.
62. A corporation, C1, entered into a contract with another corporation, C2, for the sale of goods. C1 later discovered that C2 had obtained the goods through illegal means and had not disclosed this information at the time of signing the contract. C1 wants to void the contract and sue C2 for damages. However, C1 had also engaged in unethical practices in its business dealings with other companies and did not disclose those practices to C2 at the time of signing the contract. What is the potential outcome of this situation according to the principle of "unclean hands" mentioned in the passage?
- (a) C1 can void the contract and sue C2 for damages because C2 engaged in illegal practices and did not disclose the information at the time of signing the contract.
- (b) C1 cannot sue C2 for damages because C1 also engaged in unethical practices and did not disclose those practices to C2 at the time of signing the contract.
- (c) C1 can sue C2 for damages, but cannot void the contract because C1 also engaged in unethical practices and did not disclose those practices to C2 at the time of signing the contract.
- (d) The outcome of the case depends on the jurisdiction in which the case is filed and the application of the doctrine of unclean hands varies among jurisdictions.

63. Tim and Sarah are partners in a business that sells handmade candles. They entered into a contract with their supplier, John, for the supply of good quality of raw materials for their candles. However, Tim and Sarah were not happy with the the sub- standard materials provided by John and stopped paying for them. Tim and Sarah now seek relief from the court in a suit filed by John for the unpaid amount. What is the potential outcome of this situation according to the doctrine of unclean hands?
- Tim and Sarah are not entitled to relief from the court as they have acted unethically by not paying for the raw materials.
  - Tim and Sarah are entitled to relief from the court as they have not acted unethically by not paying for the raw materials of poor quality.
  - Tim and Sarah are entitled to relief from the court only if they can prove that John acted unethically in the supply of raw materials.
  - Tim and Sarah are not entitled to relief from the court as they have acted illegally by not paying for the raw materials.

**Passage (Q.64-Q.68):** The Kerala High Court has ruled that the refusal of a Muslim man to perform his marital obligations with his first wife after a second marriage is a good ground for divorce.

The Division Bench of the High court observed: “The refusal to cohabit and perform the marital obligations with the previous wife is tantamount to the violation of the Quranic injunctions which commands equal treatment of the wives if the husband contracts more than one marriage.”

The Court further noted, “If there exists a marriage with another lady during the subsistence of the previous marriage, the burden is on the husband to prove that he had treated both wives equitably in accordance with the injunctions of Quran.”

The Family Court noted that as per Section 2(ii) of the Dissolution of Muslim Marriages Act, the wife is entitled to a divorce if the husband has neglected or failed to provide for her maintenance for a period of two years. The Court noted that the Family Court carried on an assumption that providing maintenance would be sufficient to prove that the husband performed marital obligations. This finding was found to be erroneous by the Bench of High Court and that it does not stand the scrutiny of the law.

According to Section 2(viii)(a): “That the husband habitually assaults her or makes her life miserable by cruelty of conduct even if such conduct does not amount to physical ill-treatment, can be a ground for divorce.”

64. Mr. A is a Muslim man who has two wives, one his childhood friend, Lila, and another, Majnu whom he doesn't like but his parents imposed on him. Even though he married Majnu, it was his childhood friend who was close to his heart. They have known each other for over twenty years during their childhood in MP Nagar, Bhopal. Therefore, whenever he went to the restaurants and cinemas, he would only take his wife Lila and never took Majnu with him. This was contested by Majnu as being discriminatory and a ground for divorce. A contends that he can afford to take only one of his wives since he only has one scooter with the capacity to carry only one person. Decide:
- Majnu will get a divorce since she is free to marry someone else in India.
  - Majnu will get a divorce because she was unequitably treated in relation to Lila.
  - Majnu will not get a divorce because Mr. A could not afford to take more than one wife on his scooter.
  - Majnu will not get a divorce because Mr. A didn't marry her according to his own will.
65. In the above question, assume that the lower court asks Majnu to prove which conduct amounted to unequal treatment and later, dismissed her petition. She appealed against this action of lower court in the higher court. Decide:
- The appeal will be successful since there has been unequal treatment.
  - The appeal will be successful since it is Mr. A who will have to prove that he hasn't treated his wives unequally.
  - The appeal will not be successful since there has been no unequal treatment.
  - The appeal will not be successful since Mr. A doesn't have to prove that he hasn't treated his wives unequally.

66. Mr. Rehman and Ms. Sajani were students at IIT Srinagar. It was incidental that they were co-workers at the same company after their graduation. After some time, Mr. Rehman fell dearly in love with Ms. Sajani and they both married according to Muslim rituals and traditions. Later, he became bored with his only wife since he always wanted change in his life. Therefore, he married another woman called Ms. Sarojini. But he promised to give a maintenance of Rs. 10,000 every month to Sajani out of his huge salary of Rs. 2 lakhs and left her alone with her ailing mother. Thereafter, Mrs. Sarojini and Mr. Rehman went on a world trip. Mrs. Sajani filed for divorce for unequal treatment. Mr. A contends that he duly pays the maintenance. Decide:
- Mrs. Sarojini will get a divorce because she was not taken on the world tour.
  - Mrs. Sarojini will get a divorce since she was treated unequally in relation to Sajani.
  - Mrs. Sarojini will not get a divorce since she was duly paid appropriate maintenance.
  - Mrs. Sarojini will get a divorce since even if the husband paid maintenance to his wife, yet he treated her in a discriminatory manner.
67. Mr. Hanuman lived a happy life. Mr. Hanuman is married to Mrs. Lakshmi and Mrs. Kamakshi as their religion allows polygamy. All three of them share a very close bond. They are religious and earnestly follow their Hindu Gods. One day, Hanuman's mother asked them to bear a child as she wanted to see her grandchild's face soon. However, they soon came to know that Mrs. Lakshmi was unable to bear children and thus, her husband Mr. Hanuman started hating her and stopped talking to her. He gave preferential treatment to Mrs. Kamakshi and presented her with surprises on her birthday and their marriage anniversary. Mrs. Lakshmi filed for divorce from her husband Mr. Hanuman, before the Family Court, on the ground of unequal treatment. Which of the options is the most appropriate answer?
- Lakshmi will get a divorce because she was unequally treated in relation to Kamakshi.
  - Lakshmi will not get a divorce since she was not equal to Kamakshi as she didn't bear children for Mr. Hanuman.
  - Lakshmi will not get a divorce since the level of mistreatment was not enough to get a divorce.
  - The rules in the passage are insufficient to reach a conclusion.
68. Mr. A is a Muslim man married to Mrs. P. They both have been living a happy marriage life. Mrs. P have been provided with all the facilities at Mr. A's posh home in Park Street region of Kolkata. But whenever Mrs. P does anything contrary to the directions of Mr. A, he stops her by threatening that he will share certain intimate images that he has clicked of her, on various social media platforms. Mrs. P files for divorce on the ground of cruelty, before the local Family Court. Mr. A contends in the Court that no cruelty has been committed by him since he has not caused any physical harm to her. If you are the judge, which of the options is the most appropriate answer according to you?
- The ground for divorce is not valid since there has been no physical violence.
  - The ground for divorce is not valid since Mr. A was married to only one wife.
  - The ground for divorce is not valid since Mr. A was not habitual in his cruel acts.
  - The ground for divorce is valid since Mr. A habitually threatened her emotionally and made her life miserable.

**Passage (Q.69-Q.73):** Espionage, derived from the French word 'Espion' which means 'spy', is the act of secretly observing an individual, organization or a government, with the sole purpose of acquiring vulnerable information and then sharing it back to another organization or state. During the Colonial Times, the British relied on Espionage and Internal Information to clamp down on freedom struggle and national movements. Later, the Colonial State passed a Legislation, titled Official Secrets Act in 1923, to curb and prevent the onslaught of espionage activities against them. Even after Independence, the then-Indian Government decided to retain this particular act and it is still in force, with little to no changes, almost a Century later.

Section 3, which is the most commonly invoked section of the act, basically define the conduct of offender, primarily to obtain sensitive information, through which he may entail the punitive measures of the act and how

the offender shall transmit the information obtained unlawfully to the enemy. “If any person for any purpose prejudicial to the safety or interests of the State— approaches, inspects, passes over or is in the vicinity of, or enters, any prohibited place; or makes any sketch, plan, model...useful to an enemy; to any work of defense, arsenal, naval, military or air force establishment shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to fourteen years and in other cases to three years.”

Section 5 of the Act states that: If any person having in his possession or control any secret official code or pass word or any sketch, plan, model, article, note, document or information which relates to or is used in a prohibited place or relates to anything in such a place,

Or which is likely to assist, directly or indirectly, an enemy or which relates to a matter the disclosure of which is likely to affect the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, or friendly relations with foreign States or which has been made or which has been entrusted in confidence to him by any person holding office under Government, or which he has obtained or to which he has had access owing to his position as a person who holds or has held office under Government, or as a person who holds or has held a contract made, on behalf of Government, or as a person who is or has been employed under a person who holds or has held such an office or contract—

- a) wilfully communicates the code or pass word, sketch, plan, model, article, note, document or information to any person other than a person to whom he is authorized to communicate it
- b) uses the information in his possession for the benefit of any foreign power or in any other manner prejudicial to the safety of the State; or
- c) retains the sketch, plan, model, article, note or document in his possession or control when he has no right to retain it, or when it is contrary to his duty to retain it, or wilfully fails to comply with all directions issued by lawful authority with regard to the return or disposal thereof; or
- d) fails to take reasonable care of, or so conducts himself as to endanger the safety of, the sketch, plan, model, article, note, document, secret official code or pass word or information;

In short, It broadly deals with two aspects — spying or espionage, covered under Section 3, and disclosure of other secret information of the government, under Section 5.

Source: <https://www.livelaw-in/columns/official-secrets-act-espionage-rti-act-rafale-dispute-205403?infinitescroll=>

69. What cannot be inferred from the passage?
- (a) Official Secrets Act came into existence during British rule to curb espionage by officials against the government.
  - (b) After Independence, the Indian Government retained the Act after doing changes to it.
  - (c) Section 3 is the most invoked provision of the Act since it was enacted.
  - (d) Section 5 talks about the offence in which a person leaks certain secrets for which he was entrusted with responsibility to keep it confidential.
70. Vinoy was officer in Intelligence Bureau and was posted in New Delhi. He was a very talented and a smart officer and played important role in solving many cases. During one of his operations, he was allotted code-name “Ek Villain” and also was provided passcode “Mai jhukega nahi kabhi”. One night while having conversation with his girlfriend he accidentally passed this information to his girlfriend. Later on, this information was leaked in general public and Vinoy was convicted under Official secrets Act. Which of the following will be correct?
- (a) Vinoy will not be prosecuted as he has not passed the information to citizen of any enemy country.
  - (b) Vinoy will be prosecuted as he has leaked an official secret which he was not supposed to do.
  - (c) Vinoy will be prosecuted, as he has shared a secret information with a person who was not authorized, under Section 5 of the Act.
  - (d) Vinoy will not be prosecuted as it is natural for a person to share secrets related to his work with his girlfriend.

71. Raveendran was an IPS officer, working as a commandant in ITBP (Indo- Tibetan Border Police). He was attending an event in the Theatre Command of the Indian Armed Forces. He was in a habit of making rough maps of places which he has visited in his life, he did the same during the event. The map was stolen with his luggage while he was travelling back to home and was sold to terrorist by the thieves. The theatre command was attacked by terrorist. After investigation, NIA arrested Raveendran. Decide:
- (a) The arrest of Raveendran is not permissible under law, the critical information was leaked accidentally and was not wilfully leaked by him.
  - (b) The arrest of Raveendran is permissible under law, he has committed an offence under Section 5 of the Act.
  - (c) The arrest of Raveendran is permissible under law, he has committed an offence under Section 3 of the Act.
  - (d) The arrest of Raveendran is permissible under law, as his act amounted to treason.
72. Neha was an IPS officer posted as Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) in Araganj, Mukhya Pradesh. She planned an operation to raid the premises of a local criminal involved in production and selling of illegal liquor. For a successful operation, she took Pawan Yadav, a constable to confidential area in District Police HQ where arms were kept, so that arms will be loaded on time in vehicles. Pawan Yadav, while having snacks at police canteen shared this information about arms and confidential/secret area with his colleague who was also a part in operation on call. The information got leaked and the arms were looted before raid and operation failed.
- (a) Neha, Pawan, and colleague of Pawan will be liable under Section 3 of the Official Secrets Act, 1923.
  - (b) No one will be liable as the information might have been leaked by someone who was there in the canteen.
  - (c) Pawan will be liable under Section 3 of the Official Secrets Act as he entered a confidential place.
  - (d) Pawan will be liable under Section 5 of the Official Secrets Act as he was supposed to take reasonable care while he was having a confidential information.
73. Which of the following statement(s) is/are true as per the passage?
- W- British initially relied on spying to curb activities by leaders for freedom struggles and national movements.  
X- A person who leaks the information which barred as per Official Secrets Act, 1923 will be imprisoned for two to fourteen years depending on the case.  
Y-Any person who is in control of any information of a prohibited/confidential place related to govt/state, if he leaks it will be punishable under Section 5 of the act.  
Z- A person cannot be liable under both Section 3 and Section 5 of the act, it is impossible as per Act.
- (a) Statements W & Y.
  - (b) Statements X & Z.
  - (c) Statement W.
  - (d) Statement Y.

**Passage (Q.74-Q.79):** Kacha Badam singer Bhuban Badyakar rose to fame overnight after his maiden single was a hit online. However, the singer has now claimed that he was unable to sing his other song and failed to share it online due to alleged copyright infringement.

Copyright is the right that creators have over their literary and artistic works, and is automatically created over an artistic work. In simpler terms, copyright is the right to copy. The original and those they give the authorisation to have an exclusive right to reproduce the work.

The following are certain rights included under copyright laws:

**Right of Reproduction:** This refers to making copies of protected work in any form. Before copying, the author's permission is needed even if it is shown that it's not meant for commercial benefits.

**Right to Distribute:** The person who owns the copyright can distribute his and can also transfer the whole or some rights in favour of any other person. An example is permitting any person to translate the work.

**Right to make Derivative Works:** This refers to using the work in various ways, such as for making adaptations or translations.

**Right to Publicly Perform:** This refers to the right to publicly perform his works. This includes the right of the owner to broadcast his work, make his work accessible to the public on the internet and also decide the terms and conditions of access to his work.

**Right of Paternity:** An important concept is that of the Right of Paternity or Attribution, which gives the owner a right to claim authorship of the work. This right provides the owner's claim of due credit for any of his works. [Extracted with revisions from <https://www.indiatoday.in/amp/law/story/kacha-badam-singer-files-copyright-infringement-complaint-2341402-2023-03-02> ]

74. Ava, a talented author, writes a bestselling novel about her journey to Antarctica from Andhra Pradesh in English. She receives a request from an enthusiastic reader, Maya, to translate the novel into another language for her own personal use. Maya loved the novel so much that she wanted all her friends and family to also read and enjoy the story but none of them knew how to read English. Is Maya allowed to proceed with the translation without Ava's permission?
- Yes, because it's for Maya's personal use and not for commercial use.
  - Yes, because translations don't require permission from the author as there is no vested interest.
  - No, Maya needs Ava's permission for translation because Ava is the author of the work.
  - No, because translations are always illegal as they diminish the author's rights.
75. Olivia, a renowned author, pens an intricate and captivating novel. The novel gains immense popularity and receives critical acclaim for its deep characters and plot twists. A film production company, SilverScreen Studios, approaches Olivia with an offer to adapt her novel into a movie. They propose to make some changes to the storyline and characters for cinematic purposes, while still staying true to the essence of the original work. Olivia is intrigued by the idea of her novel reaching a wider audience through cinema but is concerned about the potential alterations that might be made. She wants to ensure that her creative integrity is preserved while allowing the adaptation to happen. Which rights are in question?
- Right of Reproduction and Right of Paternity.
  - Right to make Derivative Works and Right to Publicly Perform.
  - Right to make Derivative Works.
  - Right of Paternity and Right to Distribute.
76. Alex is a musician and his music is increasingly becoming viral on Instagram reels. His fans keep commenting on his posts requesting him to host a live concert. He decides to perform his original compositions live on his website for his fans to enjoy through a live concert. Which right is he exercising?
- Right to Distribute his music to the public
  - Right to Publicly Perform his work on the internet
  - Right of Reproduction by reproducing his original songs during the concert
  - Right of Paternity because he wants to claim authorship over his work
77. Maria is an artist who makes realistic paintings. She has attained worldwide fame and a lot of rich art collectors commission paintings from her. She is approached by a gallery owner who wants to display her paintings in an upcoming exhibition. Which right is involved in this situation?
- Right to make Derivative Works since Maria has to make paintings for the art gallery
  - Right to Distribute since Maria's paintings will be displayed in the art gallery
  - Right of Paternity since Maria has to protect her ownership in the paintings
  - Right of Reproduction since the art gallery will be reproducing Maria's work

78. E-books are gaining prominence as readers are able to access millions of books at their fingertips without carrying excessive loads or spending a lot of money on hard-bound or paperback books. Sarah, an author, decides to release her new book as an E-book. Readers who purchase the E-book are allowed to read it on their E-readers. What right does Sarah retain in this scenario?
- (a) Right to make Derivative Works since she is publishing her original book in an E-book format
  - (b) Right to Publicly Perform since she is performing her work through the medium of internet
  - (c) Right of Reproduction since she is reproducing her original work in the format of E-books
  - (d) Right of Paternity since she is retaining her authorship in her book
79. An artist named Liam creates a stunning mural on a public wall. A few months later, another artist claims that the mural is actually his work. He goes on public platforms and asserts that he is the original artist behind the mural to claim publicity. Liam claims that the other artist is violating his copyright. Which right is the original artist, Liam, asserting?
- (a) Right to make Derivative Works since he created a mural on the wall
  - (b) Right of Paternity since he is the original artist of the mural
  - (c) Right to Distribute since he transferred the mural on the wall
  - (d) Right of Reproduction since he reproduced the art on the mural

**Passage (Q.80-Q.84):** Section 390 of IPC, 1860 deals with the offence of Robbery. It defines robbery as either theft or extortion. Theft is robbery if, in order to the committing of the theft, or in committing the theft, or in carrying away or attempting to carry away property obtained by the theft, the offender, for that end, voluntarily causes or attempts to cause to any person death or hurt or wrongful restraint, or fear of instant death or of instant hurt, or of instant wrongful restraint. While, Extortion is robbery if the offender, at the time of committing the extortion, is in the presence of the person put in fear, and commits the extortion by putting that person in fear of instant death, of instant hurt, or of instant wrongful restraint to that person or to some other person, and, by so putting in fear, induces the person, so put in fear then and there to deliver up the thing extorted. Sec. 392 deals with the punishment for robbery. Section 394 of the IPC prescribes the punishment for voluntarily causing hurt while committing or attempting to commit robbery. Similarly, removal of movable property from the possession of another is a necessary element to constitute an offence of theft. If this element is absent, then there is no theft and consequently, there will be no robbery either.

80. Shreyam was a very studious student. He used to sit in the library most of the time and one such time, he was sitting in the library like always, and suddenly a group of robbers broke in the library and threatened to take their valuables away, Shreyam did not want to go ahead with this plan so he decided to quickly run away but the robber saw him and told him to stop and hand over his belongings to him or he will shoot him. Shreyam did so.
- (a) It's robbery by theft because there is no carrying away of things.
  - (b) It's robbery by extortion because there is extortion by putting a person in fear of danger.
  - (c) It's theft because money and valuables are movable property.
  - (d) It's extortion and not robbery because he asked Shreyam to hand over his property to him.
81. Gabbar and his minions decided to go rob a place and so, they went ahead and entered a house that was closed. The house belonged to the Kapoors, they had gone out of the country for some business trip. Gabbar was very happy, he took all the valuables from the house of the Kapoors and then was attempting to run away, and then Mr Kapoor came back to the house and caught Gabbar and his men stealing his belongings away. Gabbar told him he will kill him if he does not let them go peacefully. Will this be robbery by extortion or theft?
- (a) This is robbery by theft because they are carrying away the products and then they put Mr Kapoor in fear of death.
  - (b) This is robbery by theft because they were taking away movable property.
  - (c) This is robbery by theft because they were taking someone else's movable property without their permission.
  - (d) This is robbery by extortion because they put Mr Kapoor in fear of getting hurt.

82. Angelina had a very expensive purse. She used to keep it with her all the time, as she liked it very much. One day she took the purse with her when she was going to walk the dog and she sat on the bench while the dog was outside somewhere playing. Jason was a small time thief who used to pry on people in the park. Suddenly, Jason started coming towards her and pushed her off the bench and took her purse with her and ran away. Will he be convicted of theft or robbery?
- (a) This is robbery because he used force on Angelina to take her purse and so, this is not theft.
  - (b) This is theft because he took a movable property out of someone's possession.
  - (c) This is robbery because he was carrying away the property.
  - (d) This is theft because he took away the movable property out of someone's possession without their consent.
83. Ram was a petty thief. He used to break into houses where the owners would not be there and then steal their valuables and belongings. He used to always be wary of who is leaving their houses unattended. One such instance, he went to a house and then broke in and started putting all the belongings in his bag. When he was packing away the security guard stopped him and then Ram got scared so, he hit the guard on his head and told him to shut up. Can he be held liable for committing robbery?
- (a) No, because there is no carrying away of the things he was stealing.
  - (b) No, because there is no running away while carrying the things and so, not robbery.
  - (c) Yes, because he was attempting to run away with the things when he was caught and he put him in fear too.
  - (d) Yes, because he broke in with an intention to steal and put the guard in fear.
84. Suppose in the previous question, when Ram saw the bodyguard, he got so scared that he hit the guard and left the things there and was trying to run away, then he was tackled with their ferocious dog, and was bitten and so he killed the dog. Can this be called a theft by robbery?
- (a) No, because there is no attempt or actual carrying away of things.
  - (b) Yes, because he killed someone in the process of committing theft.
  - (c) Yes, because he hit the guard in his course of stealing.
  - (d) Yes, because the requirements of theft by robbery are satisfied.



**SECTION D: LOGICAL REASONING**

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

**Passage (Q.85-Q.90):** Underscoring the centrality of the provision of child care leave (CCL) to women's participation in the workforce, the Supreme Court bench of Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud and J B Pardiwala delivered a judgment that has significant implications for female employment in the country. The Court was hearing a plea by an assistant professor in a government college in Himachal Pradesh who had been denied CCL – introduced by the sixth CPC for central government employees in 2008 — to tend to her child suffering from a rare genetic disorder because the state government has no such provision and she had exhausted her leave quota. The SC has asked the state chief secretary to form a committee to initiate policy changes and noted, "Participation of women in the workforce is a matter not just of privilege but a constitutional entitlement protected by Article 15. The state as a model employer cannot be oblivious to the special concerns which arise in the case of women who are part of the workforce."

The Periodic Labour Force Survey Report 2022-23 shows that the female labour force participation rate jumped to 37 per cent, a significant increase of 4.2 percentage points compared to the previous year. Yet, in a country that hopes to capitalise on its "nari shakti", there are not enough provisions to ensure that this passage is smooth. It is no secret that women, whether employed or otherwise, carry a disproportionate burden of care responsibilities at home and outside of it. According to a study undertaken by Karmannaya Counsel, CII and Nikore Associates in partnership with the Ministry of Women and Child Development and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to address the lacuna in the system, women in India perform over eight times the amount of unpaid work, valued at 15 per cent to 17 per cent of GDP notionally. Motherhood is exacting, but so is housekeeping and elderly care, demanding, necessarily, the ability to be everything everywhere all at once. It often means that women drop out of the workforce mid-career or take a hit in their professional growth.

While progressive legislation is essential to plug the gaps, other aspects need to be addressed as well. By 2050, the share of senior citizens in India is expected to rise to 20.8 per cent of the population. Investing in infrastructure that will ensure ease of access to affordable and specialised child and elder care is crucial to meet the challenges. There is also the important task of fostering a gender-neutral approach to care work, including and not limited to child care, that is integral to dismantling stereotypes and taking into account the changing nature of families. The extension of CCL to all employees, irrespective of gender, would be a step forward.

85. Which of the following, if true, best strengthens the author's argument?
- (a) Women's full participation in the workforce is not hindered by a lack of supportive policies, such as adequate provisions for child care leave.
  - (b) Extending child care leave to all employees regardless of gender could inadvertently perpetuate gender inequalities
  - (c) A research states that countries with robust child care leave policies have higher rates of female workforce participation.
  - (d) Extending CCL to employees costs significant amount to employers, especially small and medium-sized enterprises.
86. The statement that "the increase in the female labor force participation rate to 37% indicates that the provision of child care leave has been successful in significantly boosting women's workforce participation" is
- (a) Definitely true
  - (b) Data inadequate
  - (c) Probably True
  - (d) Definitely False

87. Which of the following is the primary argument of the author?
- (a) The Periodic Labour Force Survey Report 2022-23 shows that the female labour force participation rate has increase by 4.2 percent over the previous year.
  - (b) SC ruling on child care leave as a constitutional entitlement is important. But for an even playing field, a lot more needs to be done
  - (c) As female participation in labour force in bound to increase, the government needs to take drastic steps to make their life easy.
  - (d) The Supreme Court's judgment on child care leave implies that the responsibility for addressing women's workforce participation lies solely with the government
88. Each of the following, if true, undermines the author's argument except that
- (a) A survey of working women suggests that the support of family members also encourage women's participation in paid workforce.
  - (b) A study revealed that in most cases where women are required to take care of her child, fewer than 5% resumed their career.
  - (c) Other factors, such as workplace discrimination, unequal pay, also impact women's ability to participate in the workforce.
  - (d) A survey indicates that most women, married or unmarried, realize their dream going out for work only if they have family support.
89. The author will agree with each of the following except that
- (a) The persistence of gender-based caregiving expectations and responsibilities contributes to women's disproportionate burden of unpaid work
  - (b) The lack of provisions for child care leave and the disproportionate burden of care responsibilities on women affect their participation in the workforce.
  - (c) Societal norms and cultural expectations regarding women's roles in caregiving decide child care leave policies
  - (d) Adequate child care leave provisions will encourage women to participate in the workforce.
90. Which of the following is an assumption on which the primary argument of the author depends?
- (a) providing adequate child care leave provisions will uniformly benefit all women in the workforce.
  - (b) Providing adequate child care leave provisions will positively impact women's ability to participate in the workforce.
  - (c) the primary barrier to women's workforce participation is the lack of child care leave provisions.
  - (d) Care responsibilities at home and outside of it are solely the responsibility of women, not men

**Passage (Q.91-Q.96):** The relationship between dogs and their place in society opens up vexing dilemmas in India. On one hand there is the problem of street dogs. Citizens all over the country may complain about their residential colonies being under attack by roving canines but this has not yet spurred any significant political response to enforce existing municipal laws to contain their numbers. On the other hand, it seems that even pet dogs too have managed to raise an entirely different class of concerns meriting the attention of a central government ministry and two High Courts. Among the questions being deliberated upon is whether certain breeds of dogs are inherently more “ferocious” than others. An expert committee constituted by the Department of Animal Welfare and Husbandry, Ministry of Agriculture, has recommended that certain breeds of “ferocious dogs” be prohibited from being kept as pets. Such a committee was constituted after citizen groups complained of attacks on people — sometimes fatal — by these dogs, which prompted a petition in the Delhi High Court requesting it to ban certain breeds. These include mixed and crossbreeds such as Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, Fila Brasileiro, Dogo Argentino, American Bulldog, Boerboel, Kangal, Central Asian Shepherd Dog, among others.

These rules are expected to be implemented by local authorities. Dogs that have already been kept as pets must be sterilised to ensure that further breeding does not happen. The Karnataka High Court recently stayed the government order after some petitioners objected that the government department move was unilateral and did not encompass a wide enough spectrum of expert bodies. The Kennel Club of India, a body that deals with registering purebreeds, could stand to be at a disadvantage by this decision. Years of observation and insight into the temperament of dogs have shown that ferocity and aggressiveness are a result of both environmental and behavioural factors, in addition to inherent nature. Thus, the age, sex, size, familiarity with other dogs, the way it is trained, and the circumstances that provoke aggression also contribute to ferocity. That said, several countries have banned certain breeds or have imposed stringent conditions to own or maintain certain dog breeds. None of these countries anyway permits street dogs in the way India does and so the regulations are premised on higher standards of public safety than in India. Thus, the existence or absence of certain breeds of dogs is less likely to make a difference to public safety than making dog owners more liable for harm caused. While individual choice in choosing and raising pets matters, it is by no means an unbridled right.

91. Each of the following, if true, weakens the author argument except that
- (a) Unlike the behaviour of dogs towards family members, their behaviour towards outsiders is not driven by environmental and behavioural factors.
  - (b) On several occasions, dogs perceived as ferocious have attacked not only other people but also their owners.
  - (c) Several studies from the US and UK report a significant reduction in harm caused by pet dogs following the implementation of breed-specific regulations.
  - (d) with specific purpose in mind, scientists engineered some breeds of dogs for traits such as strength and aggressiveness.
92. Which of the following is the primary argument of the author?
- (a) The issue of dog ownership, encompassing both street dogs and pet dogs, poses complex challenges in Indian society
  - (b) Factors beyond breed, such as environmental and behavioural factors, play a significant role in determining a dog's temperament.
  - (c) Making dog owners more liable for the behavior of their pets would be more impactful in ensuring public safety.
  - (d) Absence of certain breeds of dogs is more likely to make a difference to public safety than making dog owners more liable for harm caused.
93. Which of the following will the author most likely to agree?
- (a) Certain dog breeds that are perceived more dangerous than some other breeds should be banned.
  - (b) the existence or absence of certain breeds of dogs is less likely to make a difference to public safety than making dog owners more liable for harm caused.
  - (c) The focus solely on breed-specific regulations effectively addresses the underlying issues of public safety.
  - (d) It is incorrect to say that some dog breeds are more dangerous than other dog breeds.
94. Which of the following is the following is assumption of the author's argument?
- (a) Making owners more responsible for the harm caused by their pets will not result into as many injuries as in the present situation.
  - (b) Making owners responsible for the harm caused by their pets is going to increase the number of incidents of attacks.
  - (c) The expert committee constituted by the Animal Welfare Department has adequate knowledge to make recommendation on dog breeds.
  - (d) Prohibiting certain dog breeds will solve the situation by reducing the number of incidents.

95. Which of the following aligned with the ideas presented in the passage?
- (a) A Pit Bull Terrier cannot turn out to be aggressive if its environment and nurturing are right.
  - (b) If a person was bit by a Dogo Argentino, it may not be entirely due to dog's inherent nature.
  - (c) Inherent nature of a dog doesn't matter as much as other factors that contribute to the ferocity of the dog.
  - (d) All of the above.
96. According to the passage, the argument "inherent nature of dogs is more dominant than other factors, such as environmental and behavioural factors" is
- (a) Definitely False
  - (b) Probably False
  - (c) Data Inadequate
  - (d) Definitely True

**Passage (Q.97-Q.102):** It was a judgment that has rankled for years. The artificial distinction that the Supreme Court of India made over 25 years ago between 'bribe-givers' and 'bribe-takers' in the infamous JMM bribery case left many aghast that those who paid crores of rupees to MPs for voting in favour of the P.V. Narasimha Rao government in a no-confidence motion were to be prosecuted for corruption, but those who took the money were immune from prosecution. The reason was that those who had voted for money enjoyed the constitutional privilege of not being subject to any legal consequence for "anything said or any vote given in Parliament". There was one exception among the alleged bribe-takers: Ajit Singh, who was accused of taking a payoff, was to be prosecuted because he was absent during the voting, and was thus stripped of the protection enjoyed by those who actually voted in terms of the bribery agreement. The Court has corrected this anomaly in the law related to parliamentary privileges by holding that there can be no immunity for a Member of Parliament or a State legislature against a bribery charge in connection with a vote or speech in the legislature. In overruling the majority verdict in P.V. Narasimha Rao vs State (CBI/SPE) (1998), a seven-member Constitution Bench has foregrounded probity as the main aspect of parliamentary functioning.

The Court has made it clear that parliamentary privilege, enshrined in Article 105 (for MPs) and Article 194 (for State legislators) is aimed at protecting the freedom of speech and independence of the legislators in their functioning in the House and cannot extend to bribery, as it is not essential to the casting of the vote or in deciding how to cast it. A key rationale that weighed with the Constitution Bench in 1998 was that parliamentary privilege was essential to protecting members from persecution for anything said or any vote in the House. The majority feared that limiting this privilege might have serious consequences and felt that public indignation over the conduct of some MPs accepting a bribe should not lead to the court construing the Constitution so narrowly that it removes the guarantee for effective parliamentary participation and debate. However, the seven-member Bench has concluded that the potential for such misuse is neither enhanced nor diminished by recognising the court's jurisdiction to prosecute a member for bribery. The Bench has also held that voting in a Rajya Sabha election, being part of a legislator's function, is protected under Article 194 of the Constitution as a privilege. It requires utmost protection for a member to vote freely and without fear of legal persecution. Overall, the verdict meets public expectation that the members they elect do not act under monetary inducement.

97. What flaw can be identified in the Supreme Court of India's initial reasoning for providing immunity to MPs from prosecution for bribery in connection with their voting in Parliament?
- (a) It overlooked the broader ethical implications of allowing bribery in legislative processes.
  - (b) It underestimated the importance of public trust in the integrity of legislative decisions.
  - (c) It assumed that parliamentary privilege should extend to actions undermining parliamentary integrity.
  - (d) It failed to consider the impact of bribery on the fairness of legislative outcomes.
98. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the Constitution Bench's decision to overrule the majority verdict in P.V. Narasimha Rao vs State (CBI/SPE) (1998) concerning immunity from prosecution for bribery?
- (a) Studies show that public perception of legislative integrity has declined since the 1998 verdict.
  - (b) Evidence suggests that bribery for votes has not increased since removing immunity for such acts.
  - (c) Historical records indicate that the original framers of the Constitution did not intend to protect corrupt practices.
  - (d) Recent polls reveal that a majority of citizens do not understand parliamentary privilege.

99. What can be inferred about the Supreme Court of India's stance on the relationship between parliamentary privilege and freedom of speech based on its recent verdict?
- (a) The Court views parliamentary privilege as a shield for legislative debate, not for personal gain.
  - (b) The Supreme Court believes that freedom of speech in Parliament is absolute and unrestricted.
  - (c) The Court considers parliamentary privilege as essential for the protection of all legislative actions.
  - (d) The Court suggests that parliamentary privilege should extend to actions outside of speech and voting.
100. Which of the following scenarios most closely parallels the Supreme Court of India's rationale for overruling the previous immunity granted to MPs for bribery in connection with their votes?
- (a) A company revises its policy to hold managers accountable for unethical decision-making at company.
  - (b) A school decides to enforce its anti-bullying policy even outside school hours and premises.
  - (c) A sports league removes a rule that previously protected players from fines for off-field conduct.
  - (d) An online forum implements stricter moderation rules to prevent the spread of misinformation.
101. To evaluate the effectiveness of the recent Supreme Court verdict in preventing bribery among MPs and State legislators, which of the following pieces of information would be most important to know?
- (a) The number of MPs and State legislators prosecuted for bribery before and after the verdict.
  - (b) The overall public opinion on the integrity of the legislative process after the verdict.
  - (c) The changes in the procedures for monitoring and reporting legislative activities post-verdict.
  - (d) The percentage of legislative decisions challenged in court due to allegations of bribery post-verdict.
102. In the context of the passage, what role does the statement regarding Ajit Singh's prosecution play in the narrative of the Supreme Court's evolving perspective on parliamentary privilege and bribery?
- (a) It highlights the Supreme Court's efforts to handle the embarrassing situation.
  - (b) It highlights the anomaly in the law related to parliamentary privileges enshrined in the Constitution.
  - (c) It highlights appropriate interpretation of the parliamentary privileges enshrined in the Constitution.
  - (d) It illustrates the legal complexities involved in distinguishing between legislative actions and corruption.

**Passage (Q.103-Q.108):** In recent years, Kerala has been grappling with a spate of human-animal conflicts, predominantly involving elephants, tigers and wild boars. According to the state government's records, 98 people died after being attacked by animals last year. This year, wild animal attacks have claimed more than 10 lives. Protests have erupted in several parts of the state including Wayanad district, where elephants have killed at least three people in the last fortnight. Attacks by wild animals have also hurt the state's agriculture sector. On Wednesday, Kerala's cabinet declared the conflict as a state-level disaster. Committees at various levels, including at the districts and other local governance units, have been tasked with stepping up vigilance against aggressive animals. The state government has also sought the cooperation of plantation owners and decided to deploy more forest watchers in areas prone to human-animal conflicts. This wide-ranging response, though belated, is welcome. The time has also come to look at the issue from beyond the perspective of an emergency.

Kerala is not the only state to report loss of lives, property and livelihoods in the battle for space between humans and wildlife. According to data submitted by the government to the Lok Sabha in 2022, more than 1,500 people lost their lives in the country between 2019-2020 and 2021-2022 after being attacked by elephants. Tigers killed 125 humans between 2019 and 2021. The number of animals killed in this standoff adds to the depressing story. With forests thinning out, wildlife, especially elephants, and increasingly now leopards, have dispersed into areas with high density of human population. The conflict intensifies when people try to chase away animals with searchlights, crackers or guns, making them even more aggressive.

On February 14, the Kerala assembly passed a resolution that called on the Centre to amend the Wildlife (Protection) Act. It asked for simplifying procedures to deal with wild animals that pose a threat to human life. The state also wants the Centre to declare wild boar as vermin. Extreme measures such as culling rogue animals,

however, provide short-term solutions at best. The country needs a serious debate on balancing conservation with its developmental priorities. By all accounts, most protected areas in the countries do not undertake carrying capacity studies. At the same time, development projects fragment wildlife habitats, turning a large number of animals into ecological disclocates who have little option but to compete with humans. Kerala's predicament could be an occasion to start conversations that transcend the polarities of conservation and development.

103. Which evidence would best support the state government's decision to declare the conflict a state-level disaster?
- (a) A significant decline in the number of wildlife-related injuries to humans compared to previous years.
  - (b) Documentation of extensive damage to property and agriculture by wild animals in recent months.
  - (c) Statistical data showing a notable rise in human fatalities due to animal attacks over the last year.
  - (d) Effective management of frequent encounters due to sightings of wildlife in densely populated areas
104. Which among the following pieces of information has the most potential to weaken the effectiveness of deploying more forest watchers to reduce human-animal conflicts?
- (a) Forest watchers are primarily trained in wildlife conservation, not in conflict management.
  - (b) The majority of recent attacks have occurred in areas already not patrolled by forest watchers.
  - (c) Additional budget allocations for forest watchers have significantly strained the state's finances.
  - (d) Technological interventions like drones have been effective in tracking animal movements.
105. As per the information presented in the passage, what might be the consequence of declaring wild boar as vermin?
- (a) It could potentially lead to an uncontrolled increase in the population of predators.
  - (b) Simplified procedures might be implemented for dealing with threats to human life.
  - (c) It might result in a significant reduction in agricultural losses in affected areas.
  - (d) There could be a negative impact on the ecosystem due to indiscriminate culling.
106. What is the central conclusion of the passage regarding the human-animal conflict in Kerala?
- (a) Immediate action is required to protect human lives and property from wildlife.
  - (b) A balance between conservation efforts and development priorities is crucial.
  - (c) Declaring animals as vermin is a necessary step in managing conflicts.
  - (d) Technological solutions should be prioritized to address human-animal conflicts.
107. Why do measures such as culling rogue animals fail to provide long-term solutions, despite seeming effective in the short term?
- (a) Culling leads to a temporary decrease in animal population, not a permanent solution.
  - (b) Such measures can disrupt the natural predator-prey balance within ecosystems.
  - (c) It often results in public outcry and opposition from animal rights groups.
  - (d) These actions do not address the root causes of human-animal conflict.
108. What specific action did the Kerala government take in response to the human-animal conflicts?
- (a) It launched a state-wide awareness campaign on living safely with wildlife.
  - (b) It passed a resolution requesting the amendment of the Wildlife (Protection) Act.
  - (c) It allocated additional funds specifically for the construction of wildlife barriers.
  - (d) It sought the cooperation of plantation owners and decided to deploy more forest watchers.

**SECTION - E : QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES**

**Directions (Q.109-Q.114):** Study the following information carefully and answer the question given below.  
The ratio of the total number of orders booked on Thursday to Sunday is 4:3 respectively. The total number of orders booked on Sunday is 50% more than that on Friday. Out of the total number of orders booked on Friday, 80% are delivered, and 50 orders are cancelled. The ratio of the number of orders delivered on Thursday to Friday is 3:2 respectively. The average number of orders cancelled on Thursday and Sunday is 140. The number of orders delivered on Saturday is 135 more than that on Sunday, and the number of orders cancelled on Sunday is 300% more than that on Saturday.

**Note:** Total number of orders booked = Number of orders delivered + Number of orders cancelled.

109. What is the difference between the total number of orders booked on Saturday and the total number of orders delivered on Saturday?  
(a) 20                      (b) 30                      (c) 40                      (d) 50
110. Considering the total number of orders delivered on each day, arrange the days in descending order of the percentage of orders delivered out of the total orders booked.  
(a) Saturday, Sunday, Thursday, Friday                      (b) Sunday, Saturday, Thursday, Friday  
(c) Saturday, Friday, Sunday, Thursday                      (d) Sunday, Thursday, Saturday, Friday
111. Calculate the percentage increase in the number of orders booked on Saturday compared to Friday.  
(a) 35%                      (b) 80%                      (c) 45%                      (d) 50%
112. Determine the difference between the total number of orders booked on Thursday and the total number of orders delivered on Friday and Saturday combined.  
(a) 100                      (b) 130                      (c) 200                      (d) 260
113. Calculate the difference between the total number of orders booked on Friday and the total number of orders delivered on Sunday.  
(a) 50                      (b) 35                      (c) 45                      (d) 20
114. What is the total sum of orders cancelled on all these days combined?  
(a) 270                      (b) 300                      (c) 280                      (d) 350

**Directions (Q.115-Q.120):** Study the following information carefully and answer the question given below.  
The respective ratio between the downstream speed of boat X and the upstream speed of boat Y is 25:8. The ratio of the upstream speed of boat X to the downstream speed of boat Z is 5:32 respectively. Boat Z's speed in still water is 17 km/hr more than boat X's speed while going upstream. Boat Z, while going downstream, can cover 160 km in 5 hours. The speed of boat Z while going upstream is 50% more than the speed of boat Y while going upstream. The speed of Boat Y in still water is 10 km/hr more than the upstream speed of Boat Y.

**Note:** All the given boats are going in the same stream.

115. If the speed of the stream was reduced by 20% from its original speed, what would be the new speed of the stream?  
(a) 6 km/hr                      (b) 12 km/hr                      (c) 10 km/hr                      (d) 8 km/hr
116. What is the difference between the speed of boat X while going downstream and the speed of boat Z while going upstream? (in km/hr)  
(a) 17 km/hr                      (b) 24 km/hr                      (c) 13 km/hr                      (d) 16 km/hr

117. Boat Z's speed in still water is how much greater than Boat Y's speed in still water?  
(a) 4 km/hr                      (b) 6 km/hr                      (c) 8 km/hr                      (d) 2 km/hr
118. What percent more is the upstream speed of Boat Y compared to the upstream speed of Boat X?  
(a) 30%                          (b) 40%                          (c) 50%                          (d) 60%
119. Based on the details about boat speeds, which of the following statements accurately reflects the relationship between Boat X's downstream speed and Boat Z's downstream speed?  
(a) Boat X's downstream speed is 5 km/hr faster than Boat Z's downstream speed.  
(b) Boat X's downstream speed is 7 km/hr slower than Boat Z's downstream speed.  
(c) Boat X's downstream speed is 15 km/hr faster than Boat Z's downstream speed.  
(d) Boat X's downstream speed is equal to Boat Z's downstream speed.
120. Which of the following statements is false based on the details provided about the boat speeds?  
(a) Boat Z's downstream speed is 32 km/hr.  
(b) Boat Y's speed in still water is 18 km/hr.  
(c) Boat X's upstream speed is 5 km/hr.  
(d) Boat Z's speed in still water is 12 km/hr.