

LEGALEDGE TEST SERIES
MOCK COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST 2024-25
MOCK CLAT 26

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): A Qatar Court had pronounced death sentence to 8 former Indian Navy officers for alleged spying. The court has commuted that sentence to imprisonment. The period of imprisonment has still not been clarified. The Qatar Appeal Court has given this decision. The Indian Ambassador to Qatar was present in the Court during the hearing, as also the families of the concerned ex-navy officers. India has established a committee to providing legal aid to these officers.

The Indian Foreign Ministry has published a statement in this matter. It gives information about the hearings of this case. It says that “Qatar’s Appeal Court has commuted the death sentence pronounced in the ‘Dahar Global’ case to 8 ex-navy officers. The details of the decision are awaited. We have stood by them since the beginning, and we will continue to extend all consular and legal assistance. We will also continue to take up the matter with Qatari authorities.

The Qatar Intelligence agency arrested the former navy officers on 30th August 2022 and informed the Indian Embassy about the same after 15th September. The arrested officers are identified as Captains – Navtej Gill, Saurabh Vasisht, BK Verma; Commanders – Purnendu Tiwari, Amit Nagpal, SK Gupta and Sugunakar Pakala and Sailor Ragesh.

India’s Ambassador to Qatar, Vipul, and other officials were present in the Court of Appeal on Thursday, along with the family members of the arrested men. “We have stood by them since the beginning of the matter and we will continue to extend all consular and legal assistance. We will also continue to take up the matter with the Qatari authorities,” the MEA said.

The Indian nationals, all employees of Doha-based Dahra Global, were taken into custody in August 2022. The charges against them were never made public by Qatari authorities. According to a report in UK daily Financial Times, they were charged with spying for Israel. On December 3, for the first time since the eight men were handed death sentences in October, the Indian Ambassador in Doha met them in prison. Before that, the Indian officials had got consular access.

This consular access to the Indian envoy and the subsequent commutation – or, as the MEA called it, reduction of the sentence – was granted after Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Qatar’s Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani on the sidelines of the COP28 summit in Dubai on December 1.

[Source: <https://indianexpress.com>]

1. What is the central thesis of the extract above?
 - (a) The eight Indian nationals who were given death penalty in Qatar and its subsequent invalidation on the Indian Prime Minister’s intervention.
 - (b) The eight Indian nationals who were spying in Qatar and were given fitting punishment with approval of their leaders.
 - (c) The intervention by the Indian Prime Minister for the cancellation of punishment of eight Indian nationals in Qatar.
 - (d) The eight Indian nationals who were given death penalty in Qatar and its subsequent commutation on the Indian Prime Minister’s intervention.

2. What was the immediate reason that commutation of death penalty happened from Qatar’s side?
 - (a) There was international pressure on Qatar.
 - (b) The Indian officials approached an international forum.
 - (c) The legal access to the Indian nationals clarified the law.
 - (d) The intervention by the prime minister of India.

3. Which of these is an apt title for the passage?
 - (a) Commutation of Death Penalty in Qatar: Indian PM to the rescue.
 - (b) Cancellation of Punishment of Indians: Prime Minister's Role.
 - (c) Commutation of Death Penalty in Qatar by Legal Intervention.
 - (d) Death Penalty of Indian Nationals in Qatar: Severe Punishment for Espionage.
4. Which of these is not supported by the passage?
 - (a) There was no representation from Indian officials while the death penalty was awarded in Qatar.
 - (b) The duration of the imprisonment of the eight Indians is not clear despite the commutation.
 - (c) The arrested Indian nationals were working in some entity which was established in Qatar.
 - (d) There was no consular access to the eight Indian nationals prior to the PM's intervention.
5. Which ministry of the Indian government has given information on the punishment to Indian nationals in Qatar?
 - (a) Ministry of Home Affairs.
 - (b) Ministry of International Affairs.
 - (c) Indian Foreign Ministry.
 - (d) Indian Diplomatic Ministry.
6. What were the charges that were alleged to be made on the six Indian nationals as per the passage?
 - (a) There is no information as to the charges.
 - (b) That they have performed espionage.
 - (c) That they have spied on persons in Qatar for India.
 - (d) That they have spied for the purpose of finance.

Passage (Q.7-Q.12): The growing popularity of Germany's far-right Alternative für Deutschland party (AfD) has become an unpalatable feature of Europe's political landscape. Last summer it won a district election outright for the first time since being founded in 2013. On a virulently xenophobic platform, it now lies second in national polls and leads in three eastern states that will hold elections in the autumn. As chancellor Olaf Scholz's coalition government has struggled to navigate the multiple challenges of Covid, Ukraine, the cost of living crisis and the green transition, the AfD has exploited widespread insecurity and hardship for its own unpleasant ends.

Concern has been compounded by renewed fears that the party represents a material threat to Germany's postwar constitution. On Sunday, Mr Scholz and his foreign minister, Annalena Baerbock, joined thousands of marchers participating in a demonstration in Potsdam to "defend democracy". The catalyst was the revelation that in November, senior AfD figures joined with other prominent far-right extremists to discuss a plan for forced mass deportations of migrants. Those discussed as problematic allegedly included German citizens with migrant roots, if it was judged they did "not adapt to the majority society". Among those present was an adviser to the AfD's co-leader, Alice Weidel.

Such ideas are flagrantly at odds with the constitution, which outlaws discrimination on the grounds of ethnicity. The AfD's leadership has distanced itself from the meeting, but failed to condemn those who attended. According to the investigative website that broke the story, the so-called "re-migration" plan was agreed in principle by participants, though there were doubts over its feasibility.

This alarming episode serves as another wake-up call regarding the dark forces that are finding their way into the mainstream via the success of the AfD. Germany's domestic intelligence agency has previously classified party organisations in eight of the country's 16 federal states as either "proven to be right-wing extremist" or "suspected to be right-wing extremist".

The shocking nature of the latest disclosures has led to calls for the party to be banned by the federal constitutional court. Given a high legal bar, that might be very difficult to achieve. Perhaps more importantly, the process would also run the risk of being counterproductive, reinforcing the AfD's anti-establishment credentials at a time when it has acquired significant political momentum. Nevertheless, it is an option that need not be ruled out, and may serve to concentrate the minds of the party's more moderate elements. At a minimum, the Potsdam affair underlines the vital importance of maintaining the political cordon sanitaire at a federal level, designed to keep the AfD out of any governing coalition. The centre-right Christian Democratic Union bears a special responsibility here.

Ultimately, a party that began life as a German variant of Euroscepticism, before pivoting to an extreme anti-immigration agenda, needs to be defeated through a battle for hearts and minds. As the German-British historian Katja Hoyer has written, the AfD has become a populist “vent” for a widespread sense of crisis. Addressing that will require greater ambition and imagination from a mainstream political class that sometimes appears overly determined to hang on to old economic orthodoxies. The presence of Germany’s chancellor and foreign minister on Sunday’s march in Potsdam illustrates how high the stakes are.

7. According to the passage, what significant political achievement did the Alternative für Deutschland (AfD) party accomplish last summer?
 - (a) They led in national polls and dominated three eastern states' elections.
 - (b) They won a district election for the first time since their founding.
 - (c) They secured a majority in the national parliament in Germany.
 - (d) The party's co-leader was recognized as a significant political figure.
8. What primary factors have contributed to the increasing popularity of the AfD, as outlined in the text?
 - (a) The AfD's strong stance on the Eurozone crisis and fiscal conservatism.
 - (b) The party's focus on traditional cultural values and national heritage.
 - (c) The government's struggle with multiple challenges and the AfD's exploitation of insecurities.
 - (d) Rising unemployment rates and the AfD's promise of economic reforms.
9. The passage mentions a demonstration in Potsdam attended by Chancellor Olaf Scholz and Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock. What was the primary purpose of this demonstration?
 - (a) To show support for the AfD's stance on immigration and national policy.
 - (b) To protest against the government's handling of the economic crisis.
 - (c) To stand against the increasing influence of far-right extremism in politics.
 - (d) To commemorate the historical significance of Potsdam in German politics.
10. Based on the information in the passage, how has the AfD's leadership responded to the allegations regarding the meeting about forced mass deportations?
 - (a) The AfD leadership openly supported the plan for forced mass deportations.
 - (b) They distanced themselves from the meeting but did not condemn the attendees.
 - (c) They categorically denied any involvement or support of such a meeting.
 - (d) The leadership called for an internal investigation into the allegations.
11. What role has Germany’s domestic intelligence agency played in relation to the AfD, as described in the passage?
 - (a) It has actively supported the AfD in various political campaigns and elections.
 - (b) The agency has classified party organizations in some states as extremist.
 - (c) It has remained neutral, avoiding any involvement in political party matters.
 - (d) The intelligence agency has provided security services at AfD political events.
12. What strategy does the author suggest for combating the rise of the AfD, and what are the potential challenges of this approach?
 - (a) Banning the AfD by the federal constitutional court, risking reinforcement of its anti-establishment image.
 - (b) Encouraging open debates with AfD leaders to publicly challenge their views.
 - (c) Implementing stricter laws to limit the political activities of the AfD.
 - (d) Forming a coalition government including the AfD to moderate its policies.

Passage (Q.13-Q.18): Women continue climbing the rungs of power—building their ranks as heads of state and executive, corporate leaders and media influencers—but their minority representation still means they still face harsh, limiting assessments based on their gender. Halley Bock, CEO of leadership and development training company Fierce, notes that the ruthless “ice queen” stereotype is rampant. Cultural depictions, like frigid magazine editor Miranda Priestly in *The Devil Wears Prada* (and her real-world counterpart A. Wintour of *Vogue*) and back-stabbing boss Patty Hewes on *Damages*, paint successful women as unsympathetic power-mongers. It is, of course, a **Catch-22**. “A woman who shows emotion in the workplace is often cast as too fragile or unstable to lead,” Bock said. “A woman who shows no emotion and keeps it *hyper*-professional is icy and unfeminine. For many women, it can be a no-win situation.”

Harvard lecturer Olivia Fox Cabane notes that the strong perception that powerful women are intimidating to men and will need to sacrifice their personal lives may stop women from going after power. Even those women who aren’t interested in marrying, face harsh judgments. Men get to be “bachelors” while women are reduced to “spinsters” and “old-maids.” In fact, when Janet Napolitano was nominated Secretary of Homeland Security, critics said her being single would allow her to “spend more time on the job.”

Costa Rica President Laura Chinchilla, the country’s first female executive leader in a democratic Presidential nation, told me that successful women face typecasting largely because society is still adjusting to women’s recent decision-making power. Chinchilla believes the most pervasive stereotype is that women are “weak.” Women generally lead by building consensus while men generally do regardless of consensus. “We understand success not as the result of just one person but as the result of a team,” she said. “[It’s a] different way of dealing with power [that] is misunderstood as a kind of weakness by persons.” The notion that powerful women must lead while looking like a man really aggravates Christine Lagarde, the managing director of the International Monetary Fund. The stereotype that most offends any woman is “the idea that a woman can only be successful because she somehow connived or engineered her rise--that she could not rise simply because she was too good to be denied the position.”

Ellen Lubin-Sherman, executive coach and author of business guide *The Essentials of Fabulous*, believes one the most dangerous stereotypes female leaders will face is that they are prone to emotional outbursts. Similarly, former Yahoo Chief Carol Bartz is frequently cited for her “salty language,” which has been used as evidence that she is “emotional”. “Anger is a sign of status in men, but when women show anger they are viewed as less competent,” said Young. First Lady Michelle Obama was condemned as an “angry black woman” when she was campaigning for her husband in the 2008 presidential election.

Women hold just 16% of corporate board seats. But instead of focusing on balancing things out, they are often devalued as being a “token” of diversity rather than having earned the post. Prominent women who are considered feminine and warm may be dismissed as “cheerleaders” rather than the strong leaders that they are in reality. When former Alaska leader Sarah Palin was running for VP, Blair was amazed to hear a male describe her as “a cheerleader, not a coach nor a quarterback.”

[Source: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/jennagoudreau/2011/10/24/worst-stereotypes-powerful-women-christine-lagarde-hillary-clinton/?sh=13c125361ca2>]

13. What is the central thesis in the extract given above?
- (a) Women leaders in politics, corporate and other areas are negatively stereotyped despite rising from pure merit and competency.
 - (b) There are some negative stereotypes which are imposed on women leaders in the realm of politics by their male adversaries to downgrade their meritorious rise.
 - (c) Stereotyping is a psychological tool which is used by the adversaries of women business leaders to negate their competency and merit.
 - (d) Women leaders in the field of corporate roles are described as unemotional and ruthless or downgraded as cheerleaders by their adversaries.

14. Which of these cannot be true as per the passage?
- (a) Political, corporate and academic women leaders are exemplified for negative stereotyping.
 - (b) Single women leaders are given a negative connotation while single men are celebrated.
 - (c) Expression of anger by men and women in their leadership roles has different connotation.
 - (d) Women who do not show emotions are considered ideal leaders in any workplace.
15. What is the mode of decision-making used by women leaders which is taken as weakness by the general populace?
- (a) Their general mode of decision making is consensus based.
 - (b) Their general mode of decision making is regardless of consensus.
 - (c) Their general mode of decision making is not according to team's collective opinion.
 - (d) Their general mode of decision making is warm and feminine.
16. What does the author mean by the phrase "catch-22" in the context of the passage?
- (a) An impossible situation in which behavior of both sides by a group leads to negative stereotyping.
 - (b) An impossible situation in which an extreme behavior is taken to be superior to a harmonious behavior.
 - (c) A situation in which one behavior is equally satiating as the opposite behavior.
 - (d) A situation in which a person is regarded as positive in both extreme behaviors.
17. Which of these is not a stereotype for women leaders that is dealt by the author in the passage?
- (a) Unemotional women leaders are termed as cold-blooded and unsympathetic.
 - (b) Emotional women leaders are termed as weak and using salty language to induce tears.
 - (c) Warm and feminine attitude by women makes them termed as cheerleaders.
 - (d) Anger in women is celebrated while also making them masculine and fit to lead.
18. Which of these is not a valid conclusion from the passage?
- (a) Behaviours which are celebrated in male leaders are exalted in female leaders.
 - (b) Women leaders have to prove their merit and competency as perception is of connivance.
 - (c) Single and lonely women leaders are considered better for professional commitments.
 - (d) Women leaders in the sphere of business are termed as existing on boards for tokenism or symbolically.

Passage (Q.19-Q.24): In an important judgment delivered last month, the Gauhati High Court held that even a private entity also has a duty to ensure that its facilities are friendly to the differently abled. Justice Ujjal Bhuyan also directed the Government to issue general circulars to all Government and private establishments highlighting the salient features of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, and to ensure that public buildings and public facilities and services are accessible by persons with disabilities. The court was disposing of a writ petition filed by Arman Ali, Executive Director, Shishu Sarothi, a Centre for Rehabilitation and Training for Multiple Disability. Ali, who himself suffers from Cerebral Palsy, narrated in the petition his experience when he tried to avail the facilities in a private gym named Gold's Gym. The gym informed him that he would be able to avail the gym facilities but some additional amount would be charged as a personal trainer would have to be exclusively provided to him.

When he filed a writ petition in 2011, the Gym contended that it is not a 'State' or 'other authority' within the meaning of Article 12 of the Constitution of India and that it is purely a private entity and does not discharge any public duty or function. When this petition was taken up for hearing, the Judge noted that the provisions of the new (2016) Act permeate not only Government facilities but private space as well. The court observed: 'In fact in the definition clause, private establishment has been defined, so also public building. As per Section 2 (w), "public building" means a Government or private building, used or accessed by the public at large, including a building used for educational or vocational purposes, workplace, commercial activities, public utilities, religious, cultural, leisure or recreational activities, medical or health services, law enforcement agencies, reformatories or judicial fora, railway stations or platforms, roadways, bus stands or terminus, airports or waterways. Similarly, "public facilities and services" have also been defined under Section 2(x),'

The court, referring to the affidavit filed by the gym, said that it ought to have filed a better affidavit rather than highlighting only its private character and contending that writ petition is not maintainable. It also criticized the way the Social Welfare Department of the state responded to this plea.

19. What is the contention between Arman Ali and Gold Gym?
 - (a) Arman Ali objected to Gold Gym's charging him for the use of an elliptical in their gym.
 - (b) Arman Ali objected to Gold Gym's charging him for the use of a treadmill in their gym.
 - (c) Arman Ali objected to Gold Gym's charging him for the use of a personal trainer in order to avail of the gym's services.
 - (d) Arman Ali objected to Gold Gym's charging him for the use of a personal trainer in order to avail of the gym's kick-boxing lessons.

20. What was Gold Gym's justification?
 - (a) The gym said that they don't need to take care of all their members' needs.
 - (b) The gym said that members have to pay for any service they use.
 - (c) The gym held that serving disabled people is not their responsibility.
 - (d) The gym contented that it is purely a private entity and does not discharge any public duty or function.

21. How did the court respond to the affidavit?
 - (a) Private enterprises are not bound by the rules meant for public enterprises.
 - (b) Even a private entity has a duty to ensure that its facilities are friendly to the differently abled.
 - (c) Private enterprises do not need to worry about the disabled.
 - (d) Disability needs to be addressed differently.

22. The petitioner Arman Ali was suffering from:
 - (a) Down syndrome
 - (b) Cerebral Palsy
 - (c) Cervical spondylitis
 - (d) Sciatica

23. How could Gold Gym turn the petition in their favour?
 - (a) By settling out of court with Arman Ali.
 - (b) By paying Justice Ujjal Bhuyan to dismiss the petition.
 - (c) By filing a better affidavit than the one it did in this case.
 - (d) By filing a subsequent petition.

24. What is the main idea of the passage?
 - (a) The Gauhati High Court's judgment on private entities' responsibility towards differently-abled individuals.
 - (b) Arman Ali's petition against Gold's Gym and the court's response.
 - (c) The history of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act.
 - (d) The challenges faced by individuals with disabilities in accessing private establishments.

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): Draft Explosives Bill, 2024

The government is planning to introduce the draft Explosives Bill, 2024, as a replacement for the [x], which it aims to revoke. According to a report in The Economic Times (ET), in a document open for public consultation, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has proposed raising fines for violation of regulations and enhancing the efficiency of licensing procedures. Explosives encompass gunpowder, nitroglycerin, nitroglycol, dinitrotoluene, and picric acid. According to the proposed Explosives Bill 2024, the Union government will designate the authority responsible for granting, suspending, or revoking licences, as well as carrying out other specified functions under the new legislation. Currently, the Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO) operating under the DPIIT is the regulatory body responsible for issuing licences for the manufacture, possession, use, sale, import, and export of any explosive material.

The proposed bill also suggests that the licensing authority would specify in the licence the quantity of explosives that a licensee can manufacture, possess, sell, transport, import, or export, for a specified period, as prescribed. Under the provisions of the draft bill, if a licensee engages in manufacturing, importing, or exporting in violation of any regulations, they may face imprisonment for up to three years, a fine of Rs 1,00,000, or both. In contrast, the current Explosives Act stipulates a prison term of three years and a fine of Rs 50,000 for such violations.

<https://www.business-standard.com>

25. What has been redacted by [x] in this passage?
- (a) Explosives Act, 1984 (b) Explosives Act, 1844
(c) Explosives Act, 1884 (d) Explosives Act, 1994
26. Consider the following statements:
- I. The Explosives Act of 1884 is a legislation enacted by the British colonial government in India, primarily aimed at regulating the manufacture, storage, possession, use, sale, import, and export of explosives.
- II. Under the provisions of the new bill, if someone is found in possession, using, selling, or transporting any explosive in violation of the regulations, they may face imprisonment for up to five years, a fine of Rs 100,000, or both.
- (a) Both I & II are correct. (b) Both I & II are in correct.
(c) Only II is correct. (d) Only I is correct.
27. What penalties may a licensee face under the proposed bill for engaging in manufacturing, importing, or exporting in violation of regulations?
- (a) Imprisonment for up to three years and a fine of Rs 50,000, or both
(b) Imprisonment for up to three years and a fine of Rs 1,00,000, or both
(c) Imprisonment for up to two years and a fine of Rs 50,000, or both
(d) Imprisonment for up to two years and a fine of Rs 30,000, or both
28. What is the primary aim of the Explosives Act of 1884?
- (a) To promote the use of explosives
(b) To regulate the manufacture and use of explosives
(c) To ban the use of explosives
(d) To encourage the export of explosives

29. Which of the following statement is not true?
- (a) The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade is a central government department under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in India.
 - (b) The DPIIT is responsible for formulating and implementing the Industrial Policy in India. This includes developing strategies to support industry growth in alignment with national development goals and objectives.
 - (c) The Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion was established in 1990 and has been reconstituted in the year 2002 with the merger of the Department of Industrial Development.
 - (d) All of these
30. Who currently holds the position of Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, which also oversees the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)?
- (a) Arjun Munda
 - (b) Dharmendra Pradhan
 - (c) Suresh Prabhu
 - (d) Piyush Goyal

Passage (Q.31-Q.36): What is Covishield Controversy?

In a shocking admission, [a], the developer and manufacturer of the Covishield Covid vaccine, recently acknowledged the possibility of Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS) as a side effect. This admission has sparked concerns regarding the safety of the vaccine. Various social media posts have blamed the Indian government for permitting Covishield, alleging it puts people at risk of TTS. However, a fact-check by The Healthy Indian Project (THIP) reveals that while there is a risk of TTS, it's exceptionally rare. Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS) is a rare yet serious condition characterized by low platelet count and blood clot formation. Symptoms include shortness of breath, chest pain, headaches. [a] has acknowledged a rare link between its vaccine and TTS. Covishield, manufactured by the Serum Institute of India, is identical to [a]'s vaccine. Both are adenovirus vector vaccines.

TTS is not exclusive to [a]'s vaccine; it's also associated with Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine. Previous research has highlighted this connection. Mild side effects are relatively common with most vaccines, such as temporary fever and pain. However, these effects are short-lived. Medical professionals generally believe that the benefits of vaccines far outweigh their side effects. To a certain extent, yes.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com>

31. What has been redacted by [a] in this passage?
- (a) Vaxzevria
 - (b) Sputnik-V
 - (c) AstraZeneca
 - (d) Pfizer
32. Consider the following statements:
- I. COVAXIN is an inactivated pathogen based vaccine.
 - II. Sputnik V vaccine is manufactured using vector based platform.
 - III. Covishield vaccine is developed by AstraZeneca and the University of Oxford. It is the Russian variant AstraZen of AZDX1122.
- Which of the following statement/s is/are correct?
- (a) All three are correct.
 - (b) Only II & III are correct.
 - (c) Only III is correct.
 - (d) Only I & II are correct
33. Covaxin vaccine, developed by _____ Bharat Biotech in collaboration with the National Institute of Virology and uses a different platform.
- (a) Hyderabad-based
 - (b) Jabalpur-based
 - (c) Chennai-based
 - (d) New Delhi-based

34. Covaxin is an "inactivated" vaccine that uses the killed _____ and has no potential to infect or replicate once injected and just serves to uplift an immune response.
- (a) SARS-CoV-1 virus (b) SARS-CoV-2 virus
(c) SARS-IX-CoV-2 virus (d) SARS-VI-CoV-2 virus
35. Consider the following statements:
- I. According to several UK media reports, AstraZeneca has made the admission in court documents in connection with a case that alleges that the vaccine, developed with the University of Oxford, caused death and serious injury in dozens of cases.
- II. The Serum Institute of India produced COVID-19 vaccine named Covishield but not using mRNA platform. It has been prepared using the viral vector platform.
- (a) Both I & II are incorrect. (b) Only I is correct.
(c) Both I & II are correct. (d) Only II is correct.
36. Serum Institute of India is an Indian biotechnology and biopharmaceuticals company, based in Pune. It was founded by _____.
- (a) Adar Poonawalla in 1960 (b) Yohan Poonawalla in 1962
(c) Natasha Poonawalla in 1956 (d) Cyrus Poonawalla in 1966

Passage (Q.37-Q.42): India-Bangladesh Relations

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina jointly inaugurated three Indian-assisted development projects via video conferencing on Wednesday. Addressing the inaugural ceremony, PM Modi said it is a matter of joy that the two nations once again have connected to celebrate the success of India-Bangladesh cooperation.

The three projects are the Akhaura- Agartala Cross-Border Rail Link, Khulna - Mongla Port Rail Line, and Unit - II of the Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant in Rampal, Bangladesh.

"The joint inauguration of these important projects manifests the firm friendship and collaboration between our two friendly countries. I would like to thank PM Modi for the warm hospitality during my visit in September 2023 to attend the G20 Summit," the Bangladesh Prime Minister said.

The Akhaura-Agartala Cross-Border Rail Link project has been executed under a Government of India grant assistance of ₹392.52 crore extended to Bangladesh. The length of the rail link is 12.24 km with a 6.78 km Dual Gauge rail line in Bangladesh and 5.46 km in Tripura.

With a total project cost of USD 388.92 million, the Khulna-Mongla Port Rail Line Project was carried out under the concessional line of credit provided by the Indian government.

<https://www.livemint.com>

37. India provided critical military and material support to assist Bangladesh in its fight for independence from Pakistan. The foundation of India's relationship with Bangladesh was laid in the _____.
- (a) 1969 Pakistan Liberation War (b) 1970 India Liberation War
(c) 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War (d) 1974 Bangladesh Liberation War
38. In the realm of regional cooperation, which multilateral forums witness the active engagement of India and Bangladesh, fostering collaboration and partnership between the two nations?
- (a) Only SAARC (b) Only BIMSTEC
(c) Only IORA (d) All of the given options are correct.

39. India and Bangladesh share 54 common rivers, but only two treaties have been signed so far of _____. The other major rivers, such as the Teesta and Feni are still under negotiation.
- (a) Ganga Waters Treaty and the Kushiyara River Treaty
 - (b) Indus Waters Treaty and the Son River Treaty
 - (c) Yamuna Waters Treaty and the Satluj River Treaty
 - (d) None of these
40. Choose the correct statements:
- I. In 2022, both nations concluded a joint feasibility study on a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).
 - II. Bangladesh has emerged as India's fourth largest trade partner in South Asia.
- (a) Only I is correct.
 - (b) Only II is correct.
 - (c) Both I & II are correct.
 - (d) Both I & II are incorrect.
41. Which of the following Indian state share the shortest border with Bangladesh?
- (a) West Bengal
 - (b) Meghalaya
 - (c) Assam
 - (d) Tripura
42. Consider the following statements:
- I. The project has been implemented by the Bangladesh-India Friendship Power Company Limited which is a 30:70 Joint Venture company between India's NTPC Ltd and Bangladesh Power Development Board. These projects will strengthen connectivity and energy security in the region.
 - II. The Maitree Super Thermal Power Project, under an Indian Concessional Financing Scheme loan of 4.6 billion US dollars, is a 1920 MW Super Thermal Power Plant located in Rampal in the Khulna Division of Bangladesh.
- (a) Only I is correct.
 - (b) Only II is correct.
 - (c) Both I & II are correct.
 - (d) Both I & II are incorrect.

Passage (Q.43-Q.48): USA Presidential Elections

Americans will head to the polls in November 2024 to elect the next US president. The person sitting in the White House's Oval Office has a big influence on people's lives both at home and abroad, so the outcome of this election matters for everyone. The US political system today is dominated by just two parties, so every president in modern times has belonged to one of them. The Democrats are the liberal political party, with an agenda defined largely by its push for civil rights, a broad social safety net and measures to address climate change.

It is the party of incumbent President Joe Biden, who is trying to secure a second term in power. The Republicans are the conservative political party in the US. Also known as the GOP, or the Grand Old Party, it has stood for lower taxes, shrinking the size of the government, gun rights and tighter restrictions on immigration and abortion. Former President Donald Trump is the last Republican left in the race and has secured enough support to be nominated the Republican candidate. The nominations will be made official at party conventions this summer. The 2024 election will be on Tuesday, 5 November 2024. The winner will serve a term of four years in the White House starting in January 2025.

<https://www.bbc.com>

43. Which amendment to the United States Constitution, ratified in 1971, grants the right to vote to individuals aged 18 and above?
- (a) 26th Amendment
 - (b) 25th Amendment
 - (c) 24th Amendment
 - (d) 23rd Amendment

44. Consider the following statements about US election:
- If you're a US citizen and you're 18 or over, you should be eligible to vote in the presidential election, which takes place every Six years.
 - Usually a winner is declared on the night of the election, but in 2019 it took a few days to count all the votes.
- (a) Both I & II are correct. (b) Only I is correct.
(c) Only II is correct. (d) Both I & II are incorrect.
45. The president is officially sworn into office in January in a ceremony known as the inauguration, held on the steps of the Capitol building in _____.
(a) Washington DC (b) Los Angeles (c) San Francisco (d) Chicago
46. Until which year were American women prohibited from voting at the national level?
(a) 1922 (b) 1920 (c) 1924 (d) 1926
47. Choose the incorrect statement about the US elections:
- Inauguration Day takes place on January 20 at the U.S. Capitol building in Washington D.C.
 - First, the Vice President is sworn in, followed by the President. Both officially become President and Vice President after reciting the oath of office which has been used since the late 14th century.
 - The 26th Amendment to the Constitution, adopted in 1971, says that anyone over 18 is allowed to vote. In 1965, Congress passed the Voting Rights Act.
 - The U.S. constitutions requirements for a presidential candidate are: A natural-born citizen of the United States A resident of the United States for 14 years At least 35 years old a natural-born citizen is someone born with U.S. citizenship.
48. The U.S. Constitution originally directed that a president be inaugurated on _____ of the year following a presidential election.
(a) 4 December (b) 4 April (c) 4 January (d) 4 March

Passage (Q.49-Q.52): 2024 Global Report on Food Crisis (GRFC)

According to the latest Global Report on Food Crises (GRFC), nearly 282 million people in 59 countries and territories experienced high levels of acute hunger in 2023 - a worldwide increase of 24 million from the previous year. This rise was due to the report's increased coverage of food crisis contexts as well as a sharp deterioration in food security, especially in the Gaza Strip and the Sudan. For four consecutive years, the proportion of people facing acute food insecurity has remained persistently high at almost 22 percent of those assessed, significantly exceeding pre-COVID-19 levels.

Children and women are at the forefront of these hunger crises, with over 36 million children [X] acutely malnourished across 32 countries, the report shows. Acute malnutrition worsened in 2023, particularly among people displaced because of conflict and disasters.

The Global Network Against Food Crises urgently calls for a transformative approach that integrates peace, prevention and development action alongside at-scale emergency efforts to break the cycle of acute hunger which remains at unacceptably high levels.

"This crisis demands an urgent response. Using the data in this report to transform food systems and address the underlying causes of food insecurity and malnutrition will be vital," said António Guterres, UN Secretary-General.

<https://www.fao.org>

49. Consider the following statements:
- I. Thirty-six countries have been consistently featured in the GRFC analyses since 2018, reflecting continuing years of acute hunger, and currently representing 60 percent of the world's most hungry.
 - II. In 2023, more than 705,000 people were at the Catastrophe (IPC/CH Phase 5) level of food insecurity and at risk of starvation – the highest number in the GRFC's reporting history and up fourfold since 2016.
- (a) Only I is correct. (b) Both I & II are correct.
(c) Only II is correct. (d) Both I & II are incorrect.
50. According to the GRFC 2024 future outlook, around 1.1 million people in the Gaza Strip and _____ are projected to be in Catastrophe (IPC/CH Phase 5) by July 2024, bringing the total amount of people projected in this phase to almost 1.3 million.
- (a) 69 000 people in Egypt (b) 59 000 people in Bhutan
(c) 99 000 people in Afghanistan (d) 79 000 people in South Sudan
51. Which of the following statement is not true about the report?
- (a) The Sudan faced the largest deterioration due to conflict, with 8.6 million more people facing high levels of acute food insecurity as compared with 2020.
(b) The current situation in the Gaza Strip accounts for 80 percent of those facing imminent famine, along with South Sudan, Burkina Faso, Somalia and Mali.
(c) In 2023, the world experienced its hottest year on record and climate related shocks impacted populations, with episodes of severe floods, storms, droughts, wildfires, and pest and disease outbreaks.
(d) António Guterres is the current Secretary-General of UN.
52. What has been redacted by [X] in this passage?
- (a) under 7 years of age
(b) under 5 years of age
(c) under 9 years of age
(d) under 3 years of age

SECTION – C: LEGAL REASONING

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

Passage (Q.53-Q.57): During the lockdown, Section 188 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 (the “IPC”) has been widely invoked against those not following it. In a communication to the states on March 24, the Home Ministry said persons violating the containment measures will be punished under provisions of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 (the “DMA”), besides Section 188 of the IPC. A look at these and related provisions:

Section 188 of the IPC punishes those who disobey an order passed by a public servant, and provides for imprisonment ranging from one to six months. For those violating orders passed under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897 (the “EDA”), Section 188 of the IPC is the provision under which punishment is awarded. Section 51 of the DMA provides for punishment for two kinds of offences: obstructing any officer or employee of the government or person authorised by any authority under the DMA in the discharge of their functions; and refusing to comply with any direction given by the authorities under the DMA. Punishment can extend to one year on conviction, or two years if the refusal leads to loss of lives or any imminent danger.

Section 505 of the IPC provides for imprisonment of three years or fine, or both, for those who publish or circulate anything which is likely to cause fear or alarm amongst the members of the society. Section 54 of the DMA provides for imprisonment, extending to one year, for those who make or circulate a false alarm or warning regarding a disaster or its severity or magnitude. Under Section 52 of the DMA, whoever makes a false claim for obtaining “any relief, assistance, repair, reconstruction or other benefits” from any official authority can be sentenced to a maximum of two years’ imprisonment, and a fine will be imposed on the person.

Any authority under the DMA can requisition resources like persons and material resources, premises like land or building, or sheds and vehicles for rescue operations. Though there is a provision for compensation under the DMA, any person who disobeys such an order can be sentenced to imprisonment up to one year.

53. During the epidemic of COVID, Nandini created an Instagram group where she keeps the members up to date on the latest news on the upcoming CLAT exam, which was postponed owing to the outbreak of COVID. She sent a message in the group that if the conditions do not improve, the consortium may conduct the exam at one of the nearby centers assigned to the students, which may result in the transmission of illness as some students may provide fraudulent reports of COVID tests, among other issues. This caused mayhem in the minds of the participants, given the outbreak and the strain of the exam being held in such circumstances. After hearing this news, one of the students, Chitransh, committed suicide. Nandini be held liable under:
- (a) Under section 505 as she circulated and published material that was only false but caused fear and alarm in the mind of the participants.
 - (b) Both under section 505 of IPC and 52 of DMA as she not only posted an information that lead to cause fear and alarm but one Chitransh committed suicide hearing the same.
 - (c) Under section 54 of DMA as she circulated a false alarm or warning regarding a disaster or its severity or magnitude.
 - (d) Only under section 505 as the information circulated caused Chitransh to commit suicide.
54. X, a religious guru once announced that on the occasion of Nag Panchami, everyone should find a snake, bring it home, and then give it milk, claiming it would offer the person utmost prosperity and fortune. Following X's statement, nearly every third household brought a venomous snake into their home. Many who do not follow X found this announcement to be stupid and dangerous. The remaining population was in a state of fear considering the number of venomous snakes on loose. Is X liable for any offense as a result of this incident?"
- (a) Yes, X will be found guilty under IPC for communicating a dangerous task.

- (b) No, X will not be found guilty of any offence as nothing has been said by him that caused any fear or alarm in the mind of the people.
- (c) Yes, X will be held liable under section 505 of IPC as her statement of bringing a snake home may cause a fear or alarm as snake is dangerous animal.
- (d) No, X cannot be held liable for any offence especially under section 505 as he merely gave a statement, and it was on the followers who followed such direction.
55. Assume Chitra, after receiving guidance from X, brought a 6-foot Cobra into her society and announced that she release it among all the families so they could also take advantage of feeding a snake and welcome prosperity into their homes. This wreaked devastation and chaos in the society, which is home to about 500 families. The cobra is one of the most venomous snakes on the planet. Who would be held liable under Section 505 of the IPC in the current situation?
- (a) Both X and Chitra will be held accountable since their actions provoked chaos and fear in the society.
- (b) Only X would be held accountable as he circulated a task of losing a cobra on all the families.
- (c) Chitra will be charged with inducing fear and alarm under Section 505 of the Indian Penal Code as she unleashed a deadly snake on the families.
- (d) Chitra is not accountable since she had no malicious intent to provoke fear or alarm.
56. Damini was free and had nothing to do during the lockdown because all schools were closed, no courses were held, and her examinations were postponed for an unknown period of time. She was standing on her balcony, talking to her neighbour friend Geeta, who told Damini that Karan their neighbor is exhibiting symptoms of Covid but has secluded himself at home rather than contacting authorities so that they could not send him to the quarantine facility. Damini notified the authorities, and when Workers of a nearby hospital arrived at Karan's house to take his sample for testing, he refused to answer the door, forcing them to return. They were employees at the local government hospital, and were acting under the orders of their superior, an authority under the DMA. Later that day police told Karan that if he do not cooperate and provide a sample for testing, they would file a case against him under Section 51 of the DMA. Has Karan violated Section 51 of the DMA?
- (a) No, as Damini had informed the authorities based on a gossip and that can even be false.
- (b) Yes, as Karan has not refused to comply with any direction given by the authorities under the DMA.
- (c) No, as Karan has already quarantined himself at home moreover no one can force someone to give his blood for samples.
- (d) Yes, as Karan has obstructed the workers by refusing to give them the samples required for testing purpose.
57. Facts in continuation- Karan eventually agrees to donate a sample and is informed that his findings would be available in 24 hours. While waiting for the findings, Karan becomes irritated and sends a letter to the local District Magistrate (official authority), alleging his family has been terribly impacted by the Covid-19 epidemic, and that his family should be compensated because he was suffering from the illness himself. Fortunately, Karan's test results for the illness are negative. The police are now upset with Karan and intend to charge him with violating Section 52 of the DMA. Is Karan in violation of Section 52 of the DMA?
- (a) No, because he did not made a false claim of being COVID-positive to get compensation.
- (b) Yes, since he submitted a fraudulent compensation claim with the District Magistrate.
- (c) Yes, because he originally refused to offer a sample to the medical personnel.
- (d) No, because the results of his tests were negative, he is not entitled to any compensation.

Passage (Q.58-Q.62): To deal with misleading advertising, and false claims, and ensure transparency, the Department of Consumer Affairs has released a comprehensive set of guidelines for celebrities, influencers, and online influencers in the field of health and wellness.

According to the guidelines, qualified medical professionals and health experts must identify themselves as such when providing information, endorsing goods or services, or making any health-related claims. Further, celebrities, influencers and virtual influencers who portray themselves as health experts or medical practitioners should ensure that their endorsements are accompanied by disclaimers that make it clear to the public that the endorsements shouldn't be used in place of expert medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. A key requirement of the new rules is that "celebrities, influencers and virtual influencers" presenting themselves as "health experts

or medical practitioners, when sharing information, promoting products or services or making any health-related claims, must provide clear disclaimers, ensuring the audience understands that their endorsements should not be seen as a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment”.

Such a disclosure or disclaimer is now mandatory when making claims on “health advantages” including those derived from “food items and nutraceuticals, disease prevention, treatment or cure, medical conditions and recovery methodologies”. The new rules will cover vitamins and health supplements as well as so-called immunity boosters. Statutory disclaimers will have to be displayed while undertaking endorsements that make any kind of “health-related assertions”. In cases of false or misleading endorsements, under section 21(2) of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, the central consumer protection authority can impose fines on manufacturers and endorsers of up to ₹10 lakh, or ₹50 lakh in case of repeated violations, according to the rules.

It is stated that general wellness and health advice like ‘Drink Water and Stay Hydrated’, ‘Exercise Regularly and Be Physically Active’, etc. not linked to specific goods or services or that do not target a particular health condition or result, would be exempt from the regulations. However, it is essential for these celebrities, influencers, and virtual influencers who pose as medical professionals or health experts to make a clear distinction between their personal opinions and expert counsel and to avoid making specific health claims without supporting evidence.

Extracted with edits and revisions from <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/new-guidelines-enforced-for-social-media-influencers-and-product-endorsers-to-comply-with-consumer-protection-act-101691693437600.html>

58. Lavender Aura Ltd. (“LAL”), a distinguished skincare brand, introduces a revolutionary "anti-aging" skin serum. The marketing campaign prominently features a popular virtual influencer, Eva Glow, who praises the serum’s effectiveness in reversing signs of aging, attributing its success to "advanced natural technology." In the promotional videos, Eva is seen in a lab coat, discussing the serum’s benefits in a clinical setting. The portrayal raises questions about the adherence to advertising regulations regarding health-related claims. Which of the following statements is correct regarding the promotional campaign by Lavender Aura Ltd.?
- (a) The promotional campaign adheres to legal standards as Eva Glow’s portrayal in a lab coat in a clinical setting sufficiently implies her expertise, negating the need for specific disclaimers.
 - (b) Lavender Aura Ltd. complies with all necessary advertising regulations as long as Eva Glow’s statements about the serum are based on verified scientific research, regardless of her professional credentials.
 - (c) The promotional campaign likely violates the new rules introduced by the government due to the lack of explicit disclaimers clarifying Eva Glow's qualifications and the nature of her endorsements.
 - (d) The campaign is legally compliant as it does not directly claim that the serum provides guaranteed medical benefits, thus it does not require disclaimers regarding the non-professional status of the endorser.
59. HeartLine Pharmaceuticals Ltd. is about to launch a new cholesterol-lowering drug, Cholexi. To promote this product, they partner with Dr. Simon Blaze, a prominent figure known for his media presence and health advice columns. In the promotional campaign, Dr. Blaze speaks about the benefits of Cholexi, mentioning its effectiveness in reducing bad cholesterol levels and its superior formulation compared to existing drugs. However, the promotional materials do not explicitly state that Dr. Blaze is a certified cardiologist. The campaign prominently features him speaking in medical seminars and health podcasts, with visuals suggesting his medical expertise, but there's no specific mention of his actual credentials or his specialty in cardiology. Which of the following statements is correct regarding HeartLine Pharmaceuticals' promotional campaign for Cholexi?
- (a) HeartLine Pharmaceuticals is compliant with advertising standards since Dr. Blaze is a well-known medical professional and his genuine credentials are implied by his reputation.
 - (b) The promotional campaign adheres to legal requirements because the effectiveness of Cholexi as mentioned by Dr. Blaze is based on scientific data, which validates any claims made, irrespective of the explicit mention of his credentials.
 - (c) HeartLine Pharmaceuticals’ promotional campaign likely violates the Principle of Qualified Endorsement because it fails to explicitly state Dr. Blaze’s qualifications as a certified cardiologist, which is essential when endorsing a specific medical product.
 - (d) The campaign is legally sound as long as there are no false claims about the drug's effectiveness, regardless of the clarity of Dr. Blaze’s medical qualifications.

60. HealthVlog Inc., a digital content company, creates and distributes online health and wellness videos. One of their most popular series features a charismatic influencer, Jill Harmony, who regularly posts videos with tips on hydration, exercise, and general wellness. In one of her recent videos, titled "The Miracle of Morning Hydration," Jill, dressed in a white lab coat, discusses the numerous general benefits of staying hydrated, specifically recommending drinking lemon water each morning as a good way to start the day hydrated. Jill frequently reminds her viewers that she is not a medical doctor and specifies that her advice is for general wellness and not intended as medical counsel.
- Which of the following statements is correct regarding HealthVlog Inc.'s handling of Jill Harmony's video series?
- (a) HealthVlog Inc. is compliant with advertising regulations, as Jill's advice on hydration, including the suggestion of lemon water, falls within the scope of general wellness advice, which does not require specific medical disclaimers.
 - (b) HealthVlog Inc. violates advertising standards because Jill Harmony, despite clarifying her non-medical status, should not wear a lab coat as it implies medical authority, potentially misleading viewers.
 - (c) HealthVlog Inc. is compliant with advertising regulations because it is a registered company specializing in health-related content, which ensures their adherence to advertising standards.
 - (d) HealthVlog Inc. must provide scientific evidence for any health-related claim, including the benefits of hydration, regardless of the general nature of the advice.
61. Influencers, celebrities, and virtual influencers often blur the lines between personal opinions and professional advice, especially when it comes to health claims. Which of the following statements is/are TRUE regarding their legal and ethical responsibilities?
- i. Influencers must clearly distinguish between personal opinions and expert counsel.
 - ii. Influencers are allowed to make specific health claims without any supporting evidence.
 - iii. Virtual influencers are exempt from ethical guidelines because they are not real individuals.
 - iv. Celebrities must avoid making health claims unless they are supported by evidence.
- (a) Statements i and iv
 - (b) Statements ii and iii
 - (c) Statements i, ii, and iv
 - (d) Statements i, iii, and iv
62. SuperBoost Health Co., a company specializing in nutritional supplements, recently launched an "immunity booster" drink called ImmunoCharge. The product is marketed using various social media platforms, and for this campaign, they have partnered with Sam Vlogs, a popular fitness influencer. In his promotional video, Sam claims that "ImmunoCharge is your best defense against seasonal illnesses, backed by proven ingredients that enhance immune function." The video briefly displays statutory disclaimers and disclosures regarding the health-related assertions made, but these are shown in very small letters in the video. Additionally, Sam suggests that ImmunoCharge can replace regular health precautions like vaccinations during the flu season, a claim flagged by regulatory bodies as potentially misleading and lacking adequate scientific substantiation.
- Given this scenario, consider the following statements to determine which is CORRECT regarding the actions that could be taken under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019:
- (a) The central consumer protection authority can impose a fine on SuperBoost Health Co. and Sam Vlogs for up to ₹50 lakh as this is considered a repeated violation due to prior warnings.
 - (b) The central consumer protection authority can impose a fine on SuperBoost Health Co. and Sam Vlogs for up to ₹10 lakh due to the inadequacy of the statutory disclaimers and making health-related assertions without proper evidence.
 - (c) SuperBoost Health Co. and Sam Vlogs cannot be fined because they included statutory disclaimers in the video, fulfilling legal requirements regardless of the font size.
 - (d) SuperBoost Health Co. and Sam Vlogs are exempt from fines since the endorsements are made by a popular influencer, which is presumed to be based on personal experience and not subject to the same regulations as direct company advertisements.

Passage (Q.63-Q.66): A citizen exercising his right by sending messages to an official on his or her cell phone cannot be booked for obstructing a public servant from his or her official duty, the Bombay High Court held. A Bench of Justices Sunil Shukre and MM Sathaye quashed a First Information Report (FIR) lodged against Avijit Michael, who had sent messages to the then Managing Director of Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation, Ashwini Bhide urging her not to cut down over 3,000 trees in the city's only green lung - Aarey Colony - for the purpose of metro construction. On perusing the messages, the Court noted that the petitioner's intention was only to protect the forest he considers to be acting like a pair of lungs for the city of Mumbai. "These messages do not contain any offensive material or any obscenities. Rather, they appear to have been sent in assertion of a democratic right of citizen of this country to put forth his view point, to object, to protest, to persuade, to urge, and so on. On the complaint lodged on behalf of Bhide by another person, the Court said, "Upon such a complaint, as the one involved here, police must never book any ordinary citizen of the country under criminal law and if it does, it would be like suppressing his voice against what he considers to be a wrongful thing. We, therefore, find that no offence under Section 186 IPC is made out against the petitioner." The Cyber Cell of the Mumbai Police registered a case against the petitioner on a complaint by a private person. Having gone through the messages, the Court said that they do not show that the petitioner intended to obstruct Bhide or that he had any knowledge that by sending those messages, he would create the effect of obstructing Bhide from discharging her public functions. It, therefore, quashed the FIR in question and cautioned the police to be careful while registering crimes in such matters in the future.

(Source: <https://www.barandbench.com/news/litigation/citizen-sending-protest-messages-to-mobile-phone-of-official-cannot-be-booked-bombay-high-court>)

63. According to the Bombay High Court's decision mentioned in the passage, why was the First Information Report (FIR) lodged against Avijit Michael quashed?
- (a) The messages sent by Avijit Michael contained offensive material and obscenities.
 - (b) Avijit Michael's intention was only to protect the forest and express his democratic right to put forth his viewpoint.
 - (c) Avijit Michael obstructed a public servant from discharging her public functions.
 - (d) The Cyber Cell of the Mumbai Police registered a case against Avijit Michael based on a complaint by a private person.
64. T claimed in an email to the minister of education that he had conducted a study on fifteen lakh students, and that 89% of the students believe that the most efficient time of their school hours is 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and that because the ministry was planning to change the school hours from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., the most efficient school hours would be lost. The minister was offended, and he now wishes to file an F.I.R report against T for interfering with his official duties. Determine.
- (a) The minister has no valid claim because the necessary conditions may not have been met.
 - (b) The minister has a valid claim because T has no authority to direct what the ministry must decide.
 - (c) If T can show that previous research had a significant impact, the minister's claim is invalid.
 - (d) The minister does not have a valid claim because T's actions do not fall under obstructing any official from performing his or her public duties.
65. R sent a message to the agriculture minister stating that their decision to lower the MSP is arbitrary and that his father, as DGP, will take appropriate action against them because he has the support of the entire farmer community. R threatened him with imprisonment if the ministry did not raise the MSP again. Read the passage carefully and comment on whether the complaint against R is valid.
- (a) The complaint against R is valid because he attempted to obstruct the public official's performance of his duties by threatening him.
 - (b) The validity of the complaint against R is at the Ministry of Agriculture's discretion.
 - (c) The validity of the complaint against R is determined by how low the MSP has been set.
 - (d) The information provided in the passage is insufficient to determine the validity of the complaint against R.

66. W was arrested for obstructing a public official from carrying out his duties during an election. He claimed that the voting method should be changed and that there should be an online voting system instead of crowding thousands of voters in one location. W posted this suggestion on the Ministry's feedback page. Comment on whether the charges against him are valid.
- (a) The charges against W are valid because he should not have made such criticism on a public website.
 - (b) The charges against W are invalid because he has the democratic right to object to government functions.
 - (c) The charges against W are valid because he has no right to make such derogatory remarks about government functions.
 - (d) The charges against W are invalid because he acted in good faith.

Passage (Q.67-Q.70): According to Section 463 of IPC, A person is declared to make a false document (forgery) when;

Firstly- who dishonestly or fraudulently makes sign, seal or performs a document or part of a document makes any mark indicating the execution of a document, with the intention of causing it to be believed that such document or part of a document was made signed sealed or executed by the authority of a person by whom authority was not made, signed at a time at which he knows that it was not made sealed or executed; or **Secondly-** who without legal authority dishonestly or fraudulently by withdrawing or contrarily reconstructs a document in any material part thereof after it has been made himself or by any person whether such person be alive or dead at the time of such alteration; or **Thirdly-** whoever dishonestly or fraudulently causes any person to seal, sign, execute or reconstruct a document knowing that such person by reason of unsoundness of mind or intoxication cannot by reason of deceit practised upon him, he does not know the content of the document or the nature of the alteration.

The very basis of the offence is the making of the false documents with the criminal intent to cause damage to any person. The making of a false document by itself is not punishable in The Indian Penal Code (IPC) under the provision of Chapter XVIII dealing with the offences related to document. Forgery implies false document, signature or other imitation of the object of utility used with the intent to deceive another. Those who commit forgery are usually charged with the crime of fraud. Objects of the forgery include contracts, identification cards, and legal certificates. The most common form of forgery includes signing someone else's name to cheque. Objects, data, and documents can also be forged. Legal contracts, historical paper, art objects, certificates, licenses, identification cards can also be forged. Consumer goods and Currency can also be forged but this crime is usually referred to as counterfeiting.

67. Mahi was one of the closest friends of Surbhi, who was a lawyer by profession. Mahi came to know about the abusive relationship between Surbhi and her husband. Surbhi confided in Mahi, revealing that her husband used to beat her unnecessarily over trivial matters. Surbhi also expressed her belief that her husband might not be mentally sound, but she had not been made aware of this before their marriage. Mahi suggested proceeding with a divorce and claiming heavy alimony from her in-laws for the deception. However, Surbhi, who is also a practicing advocate, preferred to keep things simple and only file for divorce, without any unnecessary drama. Mahi, in good faith, added all the facts that Surbhi told him about her husband to strengthen her case in the draft Surbhi provided her. Mahi then filed the papers in court. When Surbhi later learned about this, she sued Mahi u/s
- Choose an appropriate response.
- (a) Mahi will not be held liable as she stated nothing but true facts.
 - (b) Mahi will be held liable as she dishonestly added those facts which Surbhi expressly made her not to mention in the petition.
 - (c) Mahi will be not held liable as there was no dishonest intention on her part.
 - (d) Mahi will be held liable as she had a criminal intent to cause damage to the reputation of Surbhi in the eyes of the society.

68. Suppose in the previous factual situation. Mahi very well knew the reputation that Surbhi holds in the society and for the very same reason Surbhi told Mahi to file only for divorce. However Mahi only filed for the correct paper as suggested by Surbhi but gave an interview regarding the case where she told everyone about how Surbhi is dealing with all this nuisance from a very long time. Can now Surbhi hold liable Mahi for forgery?
- (a) Yes, as despite an express advice by Surbhi to make this case as low-key as possible, she disclosed Surbhi's personal life in public.
 - (b) No, as there was no forgery and hence Mahi cannot be held liable for the same.
 - (c) No, as Mahi made no corrections or additions in the document so filed. Thus, not to be held liable for forgery.
 - (d) Yes, as now everyone knows about Surbhi's personal life. Moreover, this establishes Mahi's dishonest intention.
69. Ramesh is friends with Mahesh a known banker. Ramesh needed a loan and thus was required a certificate from an authorised banker that he is not under any debt and is fit to be provided a loan. Mahesh not knowing that Ramesh is down with a debt of 1 crore, provide him with the certificate. However, later when he got to know the truth and was asked again before the final sanction of the amount from the bank, Mahesh did not speak anything. Is Mahesh liable for any offence at the time he signed the document?
- (a) Yes, as a dishonest intention is clearly established on part of Mahesh when he did not speak anything about Ramesh's debt.
 - (b) No, as a fraudulent but not dishonest intent on part of Mahesh is clearly established on part of Mahesh when he did not speak anything about Ramesh's debt.
 - (c) No, as Mahesh did not know anything about Ramesh's debt at the time of making the document
 - (d) Yes, as Mahesh not only had the knowledge of Ramesh's credibility but is sure of the fact that he is under no debt.
70. Naman was traffic police officer, who used to take challans from people who did not obeyed the traffic rules. One day he encountered three students who were not wearing helmet and were driving from the wrong side of the road. When he stopped them, he was given an extra 300 Rs for letting them go free. Naman intently did not entered this in his daily report diary of this incident and submitted the same to his senior. Will he be held liable for forgery?
- (a) Yes, as he omitted to add the necessary information in the report diary.
 - (b) No, he will not be liable for making false entry as there is no material changed in the document.
 - (c) He will not be liable to make false entry, there was no dishonest intention neither any fraud was caused due to the entry not made by him.
 - (d) The entry which were made by Naman was in an important documents, he need permission of some officer he will be liable for false entry.

Passage (Q.71-Q.75): Unlike the West, marriage is considered a sacred institution in India, thus offences against it are considered a serious crime. One of the most common offences against marriage in India was adultery. Adultery is the act of a married person having sexual intercourse with someone other than their spouse. That said, in India the provision for Adultery (Section 497) has been worded to be a gender specific act, as it reads as, 'Whoever has sexual intercourse with a person who is and whom he knows or has reason to believe to be the wife of another man, without the consent or connivance of that man, such sexual intercourse not amounting to the offence of rape, is guilty of the offence of adultery'. Though, the Supreme Court through its judgment in the landmark case of Joseph Shine v. Union of India (2018), decriminalized adultery in the country and Section 497 of the Indian Penal Code has been struck down.

Another prominent offence against marriage is bigamy which refers to the act of a person marrying another person while still being married to their current spouse. Section 494 of the Indian Penal Code deals with the offence of bigamy and states that the second marriage shall be deemed to be void on account that the spouse is alive.

Cruelty towards a married woman is another offence against marriage in India. The offence of cruelty is defined in Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code and involves subjecting a married woman to physical or mental cruelty by either the husband or the relatives of the husband of a woman. The explanations of the section elaborate upon the meaning of cruelty as any conduct which may drive a woman to commit suicide or cause grave injury or danger to life, limb or health (mental or physical) of the woman. The Indian Penal Code understands that India is a society which is deeply rooted in archaic traditions and still has areas wherein dowry is a prevalent practice. Therefore, dowry has been included in the second explanation of cruelty under Section 498A, which expands the scope of cruelty and includes harassment of women with a view of coercing her or any person related to her to meet any unlawful demand of property or valuable security or is on account of failure by her or any person related to her meet such demand.

71. A married his wife B in 2020 but within 2 years of marriage they have been struggling to make their marriage work. The differences between them starts to grow deeper, and one day after a huge fight, B fumes out of the house without her wedding ring. B goes to a café close to her house and there she meets Z, a stranger who she found attractive. Z and B start talking which ultimately results in them going to Z's place where they have sexual intercourse. Decide the liability of Z.
- (a) Z is guilty of adultery as he committed adultery as per Section 497.
 - (b) Z is not guilty of adultery as he did not know if B was married or not.
 - (c) Z is guilty as despite the judgment of Joseph Shine the section is still present in the Indian Penal Code.
 - (d) Z is not guilty as the judgment of Joseph Shine struck down Section 497 and adultery is no longer an offence.
72. Facts in continuation: B never disclosed her rendezvous with Z to A. The differences between them further widened and they started living separately due to their work profile. A moved to Goa, where he met Y who was a shack owner in Goa. A and Y fell in love with each other. A and Y got married but later B got to know about the marriage and she claims that A has committed the offence of bigamy. Decide:
- (a) A is not guilty of bigamy as his earlier marriage was already implicitly over due to the difference between him and his wife B.
 - (b) A is guilty of bigamy as he married Y while B was alive, and they were still legally married.
 - (c) A is not guilty of bigamy as his marriage with B was beyond salvation and they were living separately.
 - (d) A is guilty of bigamy as he cannot assume the marriage is over on his own.
73. Facts in continuation- The love between A and Y soon subsides and A starts to coerce Y to transfer the shack she owned in his name. Y got troubled with A went to the police to report a case under Section 498A, Decide:
- (a) A cannot be made liable under Section 498A as, A and Y are not legally married.
 - (b) A can be made liable under Section 498 A as the marriage between A and Y is legal.
 - (c) A cannot be made liable under Section 498A as after marriage all the property of the name of the wife becomes co-owned by the husband.
 - (d) A can be made guilty under Section 498A as he has coerced Y into transferring the property in his name.
74. P and S got married through an arranged marriage system. When S reached P's home, she was initially welcomed with open arms but as the days passed, she was coaxed for minor things by her mother-in-law. To the extent that one day her mother in law threw a dinner plate at her citing that food made had too much salt in it. This behaviour of her mother-in-law resulted in her falling into serious depression wherein she needed psychiatric help. Decide:
- (a) S's mother-in-law cannot be implicated under Section 498A as her actions have not led to any physical harm to S.
 - (b) S's mother-in-law can be implicated under Section 498A as harm to mental health is also included within Section 498A.
 - (c) S's mother-in-law cannot be implicated under Section 498A as it is her duty to teach S the ways of her new household.
 - (d) S's mother-in-law can be implicated under Section 498A as she should have known that here actions would likely may fall under the ambit of cruelty.

75. Facts in continuation: After getting psychiatric help and returning to her home. Mr. P started to coax S that she faked her depression just in order to take revenge from her mother. This resulted in a deep relapse and S started having seizures. Decide the offence for which P can be implicated:
- P can be implicated as her physical health was being affected.
 - P cannot be implicated under Section 498A as having seizure will not fall under the definition of cruelty as the same was not directly caused by P.
 - P can be implicated under Section 498A as having seizures was a direct consequence of P's actions.
 - P cannot be implicated under Section 498A as having seizures by-product of an already existing precondition and was not caused by P.

Passage (Q.76-Q.80): Kidnapping means taking away a person against his/her will by force, threat or deceit. Usually, the purpose of kidnapping is to get a ransom, or for some political or other purposes etc. Kidnapping is classified into two categories in Section 359 of the Indian Penal Code and defined in Section 360 and 361 of the Indian Penal Code. As per Section 359 of the Indian Penal Code, Kidnapping is of two types:

- Kidnapping from India,
- Kidnapping from lawful guardianship.

Section 360 explains kidnapping from India. According to section 360, if any person takes a person beyond the limits of India against the consent of that person or against the consent of someone who is legally entitled to give consent on that person's behalf, then the offence of kidnapping from India is committed. Section 361 explains kidnapping from lawful guardianship. According to this section, if a person takes away or entices a minor (i.e., a boy under the age of 16 years and a girl under the age of 18 years) or a person of unsound mind, away from his/her lawful guardian without the guardian's consent, then that person commits the offence of kidnapping from lawful guardianship. This section also mentions an exception. It says that it does not result in the crime of kidnapping from lawful guardianship, if the person in good faith, i.e., honestly with reason, believes that:

- He is entitled to the lawful custody of the child; or
- He is the father of an illegitimate child.

76. A young girl named Surili aged 10 years and her mother has left to live with their maternal grandfather, as the relationship between her mother and father were strained. Her mother had sent her to live with her maternal grandfather. One day Surili's father visited her daughter and took her with him for a picnic as both him and his wife had been granted custody of surili. Surili's Mother on reaching home, the place where she was living, found that her minor daughter has been taken away without her or maternal grandfather's consent. She files an FIR, where she alleges that her daughter has been kidnapped. Advise her about the success of her case.
- It amounts to kidnapping as the father took away Surili away from her mother's custody without her consent.
 - It does not amount to kidnapping as Surili's father in good faith took her out for a picnic.
 - It does not amount to kidnapping as the child was not in the custody of her mother but with her maternal grandfather.
 - It amounts to kidnapping as Surili's mother is her lawful guardian and not her father.
77. Yashasvi, aged 17 years, participated in Miss Delhi Pageant and won the crown. She was approached by Prerit, a reputed film director, who promised to give her a leading role in his upcoming film. He gave her his visiting card. A year later Yashasvi dropped her class XII board exams and left her home against the wishes of her father to realize her dream of becoming an actress. Prerit allowed her to stay with him at his residence. He promised her free stay till the completion of the film in which he planned to cast her. Can Prerit be held liable for kidnapping? Discuss.
- Yes, as he enticed a minor away from her lawful guardian without the guardian's consent, hence Prerit is liable for the offence of kidnapping from lawful guardianship.
 - No, as Yashasvi is a major when she left her house and started living at Prerit's residence.
 - Yes, as Yashasvi was a minor and under the influence of Prerit he left her own house.
 - No, as Prerit had no intention to entice Yashasvi to leave her house.

78. Reshma, a 15 year old girl, fed up with her step-mother's ill treatment and her father's stand of neutrality, writes a letter to her school principal: complaining against the atrocities and requesting him to provide her shelter in his house. The principal assures her that he will talk to her parents, but in the meantime, Reshma leaves her house and goes to the principal's house and beg him to allow her to stay there and promises to do domestic work in return for the favour. A week later Reshma is recovered from the Principal's house. He is charged under Section 363 for kidnapping from lawful guardianship. Discuss his liability:
- (a) The principal is not accountable since Reshma was going through a difficult time and he gave Reshma with shelter in good faith.
 - (b) The principal is liable even if he did not entice nor had himself brought Reshma to his place
 - (c) The principal is liable since, as Reshma was a minor, he was responsible for not telling the parents whereabouts of Reshma to her parents.
 - (d) The principal is not accountable since he did not entice or take Reshma away from her lawful guardians without their consent.
79. Would the position be any different if he had himself brought Reshma to his place, on receiving her letter, in order to save her from the ill-treatment of her step mother without informing? Decide.
- (a) No, he will not be held liable as he had taken Reshma out of the custody of his parents in good faith.
 - (b) Yes, but he cannot be held liable as taking away a minor out of the custody of her parents without their consent is an exception to the offence of kidnapping.
 - (c) Yes, as taking a minor without the consent of her parents out from the custody of her parents amounts to kidnapping.
 - (d) No, as taking a minor without the consent of her parents out from the custody of her parents amounts to kidnapping.
80. Noyonita had obtained divorce from Anil by mutual consent. She had also got the legal custody of her thirteen-year-old daughter Asha. About a year after divorce, one day Anil came to know that Noyonita had told Asha to wait for her in her after school as she will be about half an hour late to pick her up. Anil went to Asha's school to have a glimpse of his beloved daughter. On seeing her father after such a long gap, Asha became highly emotional, she insisted that she will go with Anil to his house. Anil was equally sentimental. He took Asha to his house. Noyonita was furious when she learnt that Anil had taken Asha to his house. Is Anil guilty of kidnapping? Will Noyonita succeed if she prosecutes Anil? Decide.
- (a) She will succeed since Anil has taken Asha to his house without Sarita's permission.
 - (b) No, because Anil does not have legal custody of Asha, it is with her mother Sarita.
 - (c) Yes, as Asha is legitimate daughter of Anil.
 - (d) No, as Anil had not enticed Asha, she persisted on accompanying Anil to his residence.

Passage (Q.81-Q.84): Corporate liability has been defined as the process of making company liable for the acts committed by its employees. It actually determines the extent to which a corporation is responsible for the actions of its employees. There are majorly two ways in which they are held liable, Strict Liability and Vicarious Liability.

For initiating any criminal proceedings against someone, two essentials are necessarily required to be fulfilled i.e. the act committed should be forbidden by law and presence of mens rea. Since it is very difficult to identify the guilty mind of corporation and any criminal proceedings cannot be initiated against the virtual existence of a company, directors or owners are being held liable and punished for failing to exercise due care committed under their authority.

In the landmark judgment of *Standard Chartered Bank & Ors. v. Directorate of Enforcement*, it was held that when the punishment entails both imprisonment and a fine, the directors, on behalf of the company, shall be considered competent for the court to impose fines upon the offending company.

In the case of Assistant Commissioner & Ors. v. Velliappa Textiles Ltd., the court was of the opinion that the corporations can no longer claim immunity from criminal prosecution on the ground that they are incapable of having mens rea for doing the act.

81. Manji News is an independent online news publication that provides cutting-edge, progressive, legal, and political opinion. The publications are purely political in nature, providing opinions from both sides rather than just one. The abrupt demonetization of Rs 100 and Rs. 500 currency notes grabbed headlines, with some claiming that the government lacked jurisdiction and that it is only on the advice of the RBI that the government can make such a step. However, it was claimed by the author in its article that in this situation, the government acted on its own. After reading the researched article on the website, one Munna filed a petition in court, claiming that the government's action is illegal and should be suspended. The government pummeling the media outlet in violation of Section 124 A, which provides for the punishment and fine for offence of sedition. Choose who will be held accountable in this situation if the charges are proved against the company?
- (a) No one can be held liable as dissent and criticism of the government are essential ingredients of robust public debate in a vibrant democracy.
 - (b) It cannot be construed as sedition and moreover the article was well researched thus no liability comes on either the company or the author.
 - (c) The author will bear the sole liability as the write up was his and that the company or its directors cannot be made liable as there was no mens rea on their part.
 - (d) The directors of the company will be held vicariously liable for the act of their writers.
82. Assume, in the above scenario, the author had malicious intent and purposefully authored such an article. Can the company still be held vicariously accountable for the actions of its employees in these circumstances?
- (a) Yes, as there was sufficient mens rea on part of the author and irrespective of company's innocence in the present matter, it will not be held liable.
 - (b) No, as clearly the author of the article is the one here with mens rea, thus he will be held liable.
 - (c) Yes, as company is held liable for all the acts committed by its employee.
 - (d) Cannot be determined.
83. Mohan has a firm called Juice Press in Mumbai. He owns the trademark for the aforementioned business and has four more outlets in the same city. Mohan extended authority to his assistant manager, Raju, to issue cheques for all employees' salaries based on their salary range. Instead of a one-month salary, Raju announced a bonus and a two-month salary to be credited in advance to all employees on the occasion of Diwali. Mohan's Company is currently being sued under Section 138 for cheque dishonoring due to such unexpected spending that was unknown to Mohan. Can Mohan avoid accountability for the unauthorized act done by Raju?
- (a) Yes, as the company can only be held liable for the authorised act done wrongfully in by the employees in the course of the employment.
 - (b) No, as the company cannot be held liable of the unauthorized act of its employee.
 - (c) No, as the director will be held liable for all the acts of the employee, Mohan cannot escape the liability here.
 - (d) Yes, as there was no mens rea, Mohan can escape liability in the present case.
84. Mohan, the owner of the company had employed a driver and a vehicle to pick up and drop off all of its company's guests at the airport. One day, Mohan instructed the driver to bring up his Singaporean colleagues from the airport at 10 a.m. sharp. He arrived on time and picked up the guest. However, on the way back from the airport and to the workplace, the driver drove rashly, resulting in an accident. Who is accountable in this case, if a criminal case is filed?
- (a) The company will bear all the expenses and the damages, injury occurred to the plaintiff.
 - (b) The driver will be held liable as he was negligent and rashly drove the car.
 - (c) Mohan being the owner will be held liable for all the acts of the driver i.e., his employee.
 - (d) Mohan cannot be held liable here as the acts are not under his control.

SECTION D: LOGICAL REASONING

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

Passage (Q.85-Q.90): “The Union has to activate itself,” Justice Hima Kohli, who is heading the Supreme Court Bench hearing the case against Patanjali Ayurved and its leaders Acharya Balkrishna and Baba Ramdev, observed on April 23 in the context of the government not having taken any action against the company for publishing advertisements touting untested, pseudoscientific cures for COVID-19, diabetes, and other conditions. The Bench also took cognisance of a report that the baby formula Nestlé sells in India contains more sugar than its corresponding product in Europe, and expanded the Patanjali Ayurved matter’s remit to include all fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) companies publishing misleading advertisements. India has been recording a surge in non-communicable diseases (NCDs) thanks to the easy availability of ultra-processed foods, together with sedentary lifestyles. Manufacturers have also been known to include some vitamins, say, in order to escape scrutiny, but their product is still ‘junk’. In the last month, the apex court has sought public apologies from Patanjali Ayurved et al. for advertising misleading claims even after the Court directed them to stop; the Bench chided the defendants for publishing a diminutive advertisement. There is some uncertainty now over whether the Court will accept the latest apology, but herein lies the rub.

The expectation that the Court will “activate” itself because the existing apparatus to regulate, report, and sanction misleading advertisements is complaints-led as well as dysfunctional is dangerous. The Court asked the Ministry of AYUSH why it did not act on the allegedly bad advertisements the Advertising Standards Council of India had flagged; the Council itself has no instruments by which it can force compliance. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has specified the permissible thresholds of ingredients in various food products yet is infamously reluctant to pull up errant manufacturers; it also remains understaffed, underequipped, and underfunded. The task of regularly calling out unscientific claims has thus fallen to variously informed members of civil society, from ill-qualified ‘influencers’ to licensed medical practitioners, yet they do not enjoy protection from retributive, expensive, and tedious legal action. As such, FMCG marketing should be subject to prompt enforcement and timely action. Its absence is responsible for the proliferation of unfalsifiable claims regarding nourishment as well as the growing disunion between India’s concern about NCDs and the foods available to the people. But the courts should only review legislation, not lead it. Quick, exemplary action against violators in the cases before it, and not overenthusiastic encroachment of legislative and executive power, is what is expected of the judiciary.

85. The author is likely to agree with each of the following except that
- (a) Widespread availability of ultra-processed foods is the only factor leading to the surge in non-communicable diseases in India.
 - (b) The issue of misleading advertisements, especially in the context of health claims, is a serious concern.
 - (c) There is a tension between the judiciary's role in enforcing laws and its potential overreach into legislative and executive functions
 - (d) There is need for significant reform and strengthening of regulatory bodies to ensure they can effectively monitor and enforce regulations.
86. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
- (a) The courts in India attempt to encroach the legislative and executive powers of regulatory bodies.
 - (b) Legal or constitutional mandate explicitly authorizes the judiciary to take on a more proactive role in regulatory enforcement.
 - (c) The judiciary has expert knowledge and resources that enable it to make well-informed decisions about public health and safety.
 - (d) Public health crisis in India has been exacerbated by poor regulation of food and health product advertising.

87. Which of the following is the primary argument of the author?
- (a) The Supreme Court has observed that the Union Government has done nothing to address the issue of misleading advertisements by Indian companies.
 - (b) The courts should enforce existing laws effectively, but should not assume the powers of dedicated regulatory bodies.
 - (c) The way the Supreme Court has dealt with the matter of misleading advertisements, sets a strong example for the other violators as well.
 - (d) The dedicated regulatory bodies should be given more teeth to deal with corporates and get existing laws enforced effectively.
88. Each of the following is true according to the passage except that
- (a) Adding vitamins and minerals to junk food doesn't alter the quality of the junk food.
 - (b) Ultra-processed foods contribute to the prevalence of non-communicable diseases.
 - (c) Those who act against misleading advertisements are not protected from retaliatory actions by companies.
 - (d) Some regulatory bodies in India don't have enough teeth to force compliance.
89. Which of the following effectively weakens the author's argument?
- (a) As dedicated regulatory bodies, the courts have expert knowledge and resources to take well-informed decisions
 - (b) The constitution doesn't require the courts to take on a more proactive role in regulatory enforcement
 - (c) Dedicated regulatory bodies are more capable than the Supreme Court, of enforcing existing laws effectively.
 - (d) Judicial intervention fills regulatory gaps, leading to effective enforcement of laws and protection of public interests
90. The argument that the courts should not assume the legislative and executive power, but ensure that exemplary action is taken against violators in the cases before it, depends on the assumption that
- (a) The constitution has the power to deny courts to getting indulged in assuming powers of regulatory bodies.
 - (b) Regulatory bodies, such as the Ministry of AYUSH and the FSSAI, are fundamentally incapable of enforcing regulations.
 - (c) Taking action against the violators is not the same as exercising legislative and executive power by the regulatory bodies.
 - (d) Judicial intervention might be necessary to protect public health and safety in the absence of any effective regulatory enforcement.

Passage (Q.91-Q.96): India may be roiling in heatwaves but the possibility of a munificent monsoon, as envisaged by the India Meteorological Department, may be contributing to some psychological relief. In the long run, however, there is much to be worried about. A recent study led by scientists at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, and other international institutions has forecast — based on expected global carbon emission trends — the likely impact on the Indian Ocean. They report that the Indian Ocean warmed 1.2°C and will likely heat up 1.7° C-3.8° C from 2020 to 2100. While heatwaves are a lived experience, the study warns of 'marine heatwaves', their counterparts in the sea and linked to the rapid formation of cyclones, as likely to increase tenfold from the current average of 20 days per year to 220–250 days per year. This will push the tropical Indian Ocean into a "near-permanent heatwave state", accelerate coral bleaching and harm the fisheries sector. The heating of the ocean would not be merely confined to the surface but actually increase the heat content of the ocean. When measured from the surface to 2,000 meters below, the thermal capacity of this ocean is now rising at the rate of 4.5 zetta-joules per decade, and is predicted to increase at a rate of 16–22 zetta-joules per decade in the future. Joule is a unit of energy and 1 zetta joule is a billion-trillion joules (10^{21}).

The consequences of a warming Indian Ocean extend very much into mainland India with the frequency of severe cyclones rising and the monsoon becoming more erratic and uneven with long spells of drought followed by intense rain and concomitant flooding. These are linked to global warming with anthropogenic sources such

as fossil fuel burning playing a significant role in nudging the planet closer to cataclysmic tipping points. Current global commitments to stem greenhouse gas emissions are unlikely to make a significant dent in the state of the ocean's capacity, as unlike on land, the seas respond slower to changes in external inputs. Therefore, a realistic way out is to fine-tune the understanding of the Indian Ocean's local impact. India needs to form a collaborative association with countries bordering the Indian Ocean to invest in data gathering — currently this pales in comparison to what is in the Pacific, for instance — and projections to guide the development and protection of infrastructure and people.

91. Which of the following can be answered on the basis of information in the passage?
- (a) Scientists at which institute suggested that countries surrounding Indian Ocean should form a collaborative association?
 - (b) Why are current global commitments to stem greenhouse gas emissions unlikely to make a significant dent in the state of the ocean's capacity?
 - (c) What are some potential barriers to collaborative efforts among countries surrounding the Indian Ocean, as discussed in the passage?
 - (d) what potential benefits accrue to the countries that form collaborative association to address the impacts of climate change?
92. Which of the following strengthens the author argument
- (a) Indian Ocean region is the primary home to many threatened species that hold symbolic value for many countries.
 - (b) Climate models predicting future trends in ocean temperature contain uncertainties due to simplifications of complex systems.
 - (c) Countries surrounding Indian Ocean set policy priorities towards climate change as per the available resources.
 - (d) Countries bordering the Indian Ocean share common vulnerabilities to the impacts of climate change in the region.
93. What is the underlying assumption behind the author's contention regarding collaboration among Indian Ocean countries?
- (a) Current global commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions will effectively mitigate ocean warming.
 - (b) Collaboration among countries bordering Indian Ocean will be able to mitigate the impact of anthropogenic activities on ocean warming.
 - (c) The Indian Ocean's temperature changes are solely influenced by natural phenomena.
 - (d) International collaboration among Indian Ocean bordering countries is unnecessary in addressing the challenges posed by ocean warming.
94. The author is likely to agree with which of the following?
- (a) Increase in the average number of cyclones is going to push Indian Ocean into permanent heatwave state.
 - (b) Seas are more likely than land to respond to the steps taken to reduce global warming.
 - (c) Increase in the average temperature of oceans doesn't increase the chances of cyclones.
 - (d) there is an urgent need for action to address the challenges posed by the warming of the Indian Ocean
95. Which of the following is the primary argument of the author?
- (a) the warming of the Indian Ocean negatively impacts India's coastal regions and marine ecosystems.
 - (b) Lack of data and guidance to protect infrastructure and people is the main reason why addressing the heating of Indian Ocean has become complex.
 - (c) To avert the negative impact of the Indian Ocean warming, the countries bordering the Indian Ocean need to work together closely.
 - (d) Indian Ocean is likely to respond to mitigation steps slowly because climate change in the region is driven by natural factors.

96. Which of the following is a primary flaw in the author's reasoning?
- (a) The assumption that events would turn up as per the projections regarding the future warming of the Indian Ocean.
 - (b) The assumption that collaboration among Indian Ocean countries is the best way to combat the challenge presented by the warming Indian Ocean.
 - (c) The belief that no other way exists for addressing the challenge presented by warming Indian Ocean.
 - (d) The assumption that other factors, such as natural variability, can also contribute to oceanic warming.

Passage (Q.97-Q.102): Stock markets in India have been experiencing heightened volatility. On Wednesday, the BSE Sensex fell 906 points or 1.23 per cent, ending the day at 72,762. The pain was felt across the wider market. The BSE Smallcap index fell 5.1 per cent, while the BSE Midcap index dropped 4.2 per cent. Markets recovered partially on Thursday — the Sensex was up 335 points or 0.46 per cent, while the mid and small cap indices were up 2.28 per cent and 3.11 per cent respectively. However, concerns over valuations, especially in the small and mid cap segments, persist.

Over the past year, small and mid cap stocks have seen a stunning rise. The BSE Smallcap index is up 54.2 per cent, while the Midcap index is up almost 60 per cent. The BSE Sensex is up 27 per cent. There have been huge capital flows into small and midcap funds — data from AMFI shows that between August 2023 and January 2024 net inflows into small and mid cap funds were to the tune of Rs 22,252.14 crore and Rs 13,042.1 crore respectively. The Smallcap index is currently trading at a price-earnings ratio of 28.83 while the Midcap index is currently trading at 26.24, even after the recent correction in both indices. The SEBI, the stock market regulator, has also raised concerns over valuations. On Monday, SEBI chief Madhabi Puri Buch had spoken about “irrational exuberance” and “froth” in some segments of the market. She also indicated that there were signs of actual price manipulation in the SME segment “at the IPO (initial public offering) level and the trading level”. Both the Nifty Smallcap 100 and the Midcap 100 indices had fallen following these comments.

Alongside, mutual fund houses are set to disclose their stress-test results of mid and small cap schemes on March 15. These tests would provide an indication of the capacity of these schemes to fulfill their redemption obligations in cases of markets turning unfavourable. Some mutual funds have in fact already restricted flows into their small and mid cap schemes — as per reports, ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund will not be accepting lumpsum subscriptions in its mid and small cap schemes from March 14. A few others have reportedly restricted flows into small cap schemes. These could help curb irrational exuberance.

97. Which factor most intensifies SEBI's concern about "irrational exuberance" in the market?
- (a) High net inflows into small and mid cap funds, indicating growing investor interest.
 - (b) The dramatic rise in the small and mid cap indices over the past year.
 - (c) Signs of price manipulation in the SME segment at the IPO and trading levels.
 - (d) Mutual funds restricting lumpsum subscriptions in mid and small cap schemes.
98. What could undermine the efficacy of mutual funds' stress tests on mid and small cap schemes?
- (a) A sudden, unforeseen market downturn affecting all asset classes.
 - (b) The use of historical market data that may not predict future volatility accurately.
 - (c) Restrictions on lumpsum subscriptions limiting new investments in these schemes.
 - (d) An overestimation of liquidity in the mid and small cap markets.
99. What implication does the SEBI chief's mention of "price manipulation" have for investors?
- (a) Increased regulatory scrutiny on small and mid-cap stocks.
 - (b) The need for investors to diversify their investment portfolios more broadly.
 - (c) Potential risks in the valuation of investments, especially in the SME segment.
 - (d) Immediate decline in the market value of small and mid-cap investments.

100. What prompted ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund to restrict lumpsum subscriptions in its schemes?
- (a) The intention to limit the impact of large, unpredictable inflows on fund performance.
 - (b) A direct response to the SEBI chief's warnings about market exuberance.
 - (c) An effort to better manage the fund's liquidity amid market volatility.
 - (d) Concerns about reaching the fund's capacity in terms of manageable assets.
101. Which data point best supports the sustained interest in small and mid-cap funds despite volatility?
- (a) The BSE Smallcap index is up 54.2 percent over the past year.
 - (b) Net inflows into small and mid cap funds were Rs 22,252.14 crore.
 - (c) The price-earnings ratio of the Smallcap index stands at 28.83.
 - (d) Mutual funds have restricted lumpsum subscriptions in mid and small cap schemes.
102. What central concern underlies the volatility in the small and mid cap segments?
- (a) The high price-earnings ratios indicating overvaluation in these segments.
 - (b) SEBI's warnings about "irrational exuberance" and potential market manipulation.
 - (c) Mutual funds' decision to restrict lumpsum subscriptions in their schemes.
 - (d) The significant net inflows into small and mid cap funds over recent months.

Passage (Q.103-Q.108): Scientists have, for long, been divided over whether the Holocene Age has ended and the Anthropocene begun. In July 2023, the Anthropocene Working Group provided evidence to mark the demise of the Holocene in the year, 1950. But a committee of scholars has now rejected the proposition of the AWG: they argue that the Anthropocene cannot yet be declared as an official epoch. An epoch or a geological time frame is typically described as a stretch of several million years designated by clues left in the soil, rocks and fossils. The AWG had thus cited a layer of radioactive plutonium from nuclear weapon testing in an undisturbed lake in Canada as evidence of the setting in of the Anthropocene. The detractors of the theory now argue that this is not enough: the Holocene Age, too, has been marked by changes wrought on the planet by humans. The need to mark a new geological age is thus redundant.

Such scientific nitpicking cannot take away from the fact that the Anthropocene is, at the very least, a major 'geological event' on a par with major transformations, such as the Great Oxidation Event or, for that matter, the Industrial Revolution. The Anthropocene's pugmarks are all too evident. Human activities — greed? — have warmed the planet by 1.2° Celsius over what it was before the Industrial Revolution. The ongoing sixth mass extinction of species, radical changes in the biosphere, altered chemistry of the oceans, the devastation of forests and ecologies, the contamination of land with chemicals, extreme weather events — forest fires, floods, drought in all parts of the world — are some of its other growing imprints. Years of denial about this deepening imprint have resulted in policy inertia when it comes to mitigatory action on climate change. Worse, international negotiations — wranglings — on climate change, as is evident from the climate summits, have been reduced to bitter feuding between the developed world and the poorer economies on a range of issues, including funding and the transfer of technology. The quibbling over the onset of the Anthropocene could even play into the hands of influential lobbies — the proponents of fossil fuels, for instance — that are resisting climate activism. Instead of debating the inception of the Anthropocene, scientists must exert greater pressure on politicians and people to mend their ways.

103. The author is likely to agree with each of the following except that
- (a) Contrary to the arguments of detractors, the idea that Anthropocene has begun is credible.
 - (b) Despite scientific debate, the Anthropocene is recognized as a major geological event.
 - (c) Denial of the beginning of Anthropocene hasn't been in the best interests of humans.
 - (d) Holocene age was better than Anthropocene age, for humans were not negatively impacted.

104. What information, if confirmed, could most effectively weaken the argument against the Anthropocene's designation as an official epoch due to the presence of human-induced changes during the Holocene as well?
- (a) Identification of similar levels of biodiversity loss in previous transitions between geological epochs.
 - (b) Evidence of natural climate variations mimicking current global warming trends in the Holocene.
 - (c) Findings of human-related sediment layers that are significantly distinct from any in the Holocene.
 - (d) Documentation of similar rapid environmental changes at the end of the last ice age.
105. Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the potential impact of international disputes over climate change on global efforts to address environmental issues?
- (a) They might divert focus from national to international mitigation strategies, complicating consensus.
 - (b) They could enhance global cooperation by highlighting the urgent need for unified action.
 - (c) They may delay significant policy implementations, affecting timely climate action.
 - (d) They might lead to increased funding for climate research, improving technological solutions.
106. What does the author suggest is the primary consequence of scientific debates over the start of the Anthropocene epoch on climate change mitigation efforts?
- (a) They encourage a broader public discussion on the impacts of climate change.
 - (b) They lead to a redirection of research funds towards geological studies.
 - (c) They result in policy inertia and delayed action on climate change mitigation.
 - (d) They foster innovation in technologies aimed at reversing environmental degradation.
107. Which strategy, as implied by the passage, would be most effective for scientists to influence policy and public behavior regarding climate change, considering the ongoing debate over the Anthropocene?
- (a) Increasing the frequency of international climate summits to boost global discussions.
 - (b) Focusing research on further proving the onset of the Anthropocene to policymakers.
 - (c) Directly linking climate change impacts to human health in public communications.
 - (d) Advocating for immediate policy changes regardless of the Anthropocene's official recognition.
108. The passage outlines significant human impacts on the Earth's environment, yet debates persist on the Anthropocene's official recognition. What explanation could resolve the paradox between the evident human impacts and the reluctance to declare a new geological epoch?
- (a) The definition of a geological epoch requires evidence of long-term global impacts.
 - (b) Current environmental changes might still be considered within the natural variability of the Holocene.
 - (c) Lack of consensus among scientists on the specific start date of the Anthropocene.
 - (d) Concerns over politicization of science and its impact on environmental policies.

SECTION - E : QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

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

Three engineering streams—Mechanical, Electrical, and Civil—are offered in three colleges: X, Y, and Z.

- (1) College X has 2000 students. The number of Civil engineering students in college X is 100 fewer than in Mechanical engineering. The ratio of Electrical engineering students to Mechanical engineering students in college X is 16:13.
- (2) There are a total of 2100 students in Electrical engineering across all colleges. The number of students in Mechanical engineering across all colleges is 300 fewer than in Civil engineering across all colleges.
- (3) The number of Mechanical engineering students in college Z is 110 more than in college Y. The ratio of Electrical engineering students in college Y to college Z is 7:6.
- (4) The number of Civil engineering students in college Y is 250 more than in college X. The total number of students in college Y is 40 more than in college Z.

109. What is the ratio of the total number of students in College X to the total number of students in College Z?
(a) 11:10 (b) 100:99 (c) 11:12 (d) 120:113
110. If the number of Mechanical engineering students in College Z decreases by 20%, what will be the new number of Mechanical engineering students in College Z?
(a) 504 (b) 548 (c) 632 (d) 596
111. By what approximate percentage is the total number of Electrical engineering students across all colleges more than the total number of Mechanical engineering students across all colleges?
(a) 21% (b) 15% (c) 20% (d) 17%
112. If the number of students in Mechanical engineering in College X is decreased by 20% and the number of students in Electrical engineering in College Y is increased by 10%, then what will be the difference in the total number of students between College X and College Y?
(a) 260 (b) 240 (c) 220 (d) 200
113. In which college is the ratio of Mechanical engineering students to civil engineering students 21:25?
(a) College X (b) College Y
(c) College Z (d) Not determinable from the given data
114. What is the average number of Electrical engineering students across all colleges?
(a) 700 (b) 750 (c) 800 (d) 600

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

In a society, there are certain number of people who own at least one of the three types of houses i.e. studio apartment, 2 BHK and 3 BHK. Number of people who own studio apartment only is 25% more than number of people who own 2 BHK only and twice the number of people who own 3 BHK only. Number of people who own given three types of houses is 40% of the sum number of people who own studio apartment only and 3 BHK only. Out of total number of people who own exactly two types of houses, 40% own studio apartment and 2 BHK both but not 3 BHK which is $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ more than number of people who own studio apartment and 3 BHK both but not 2 BHK. Number of people who own studio apartment and 3 BHK both is 4 times of the number of people who own 3 BHK only. Number of people who own 2 BHK and 3 BHK both but not studio apartment is 300.

115. What is the ratio of the number of people who own a studio apartment and 2 BHK both but not a 3 BHK to the total number of people who own exactly two types of houses?
(a) 1:3 (b) 3:4 (c) 2:5 (d) 5:7
116. What is the total number of people who own exactly two types of houses?
(a) 1000 (b) 800 (c) 1200 (d) 1500
117. What is the approximate percentage of people who own only a 2 BHK apartment among all the people?
(a) 10% (b) 8% (c) 6% (d) 12%
118. What is the sum of the total number of people who own only a 3 BHK apartment and the total number of people who own all three types of houses?
(a) 180 (b) 210 (c) 165 (d) 240
119. What percentage of people own both a studio apartment and a 3 BHK but not a 2 BHK, compared to the total number of people who own exactly two types of houses?
(a) 20% (b) 25% (c) 30% (d) 35%
120. What is the total number of people in the society who own at least two type of house?
(a) 1090 (b) 1050 (c) 1080 (d) 960

Mock Objection Form (MOF)



Notes:

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