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(in Figures)



INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES

Duration of Test - 120 Minutes

Maximum Marks : 120

1. This Question booklet (Qb) contains 120 (One hundred and fifty) Multiple Choice Questions. No additional sheet(s) of paper will be supplied for rough work.
2. You shall enter your Admit Card No. on the first page of the Qb at the start of the test.
3. You have to answer ALL questions in the separate carbonised Optical mark reader (OMR) response Sheet supplied along with this Qb. You must read the detailed instructions provided with the OMR response Sheet on the reverse side of this packet before you start the test.
4. No clarification can be sought on the Qb from anyone. In case of any discrepancy in the Qb, request the invigilator to replace the Qb and OMR Response Sheet. Do not use the previous OMR response Sheet with the fresh Qb.
5. You should write the Qb No., and the OMR response Sheet No., and sign in the space/ column provided in the Attendance Sheet circulated during the test.
6. You should retain the Admit Card duly signed by the invigilator, as the same has to be produced at the time of admissions.
7. The Qb for the undergraduate Five-Year integrated Programme is for 120 marks. Every right answer secures 1 mark. every Wrong answer results in the deduction of 0.25 marks. there shall be no deductions for unanswered Questions.
8. You may retain the Qb and the Candidate's copy of the Omr response Sheet after the test.
9. The use of any unfair means shall result in your disqualification. Possession of electronic devices including mobile phones, headphones and digital watches is strictly prohibited in the test premises. impersonation or any other fraudulent practice may be a criminal offence, and will lead to your disqualification and possibly, penal action under the law.

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Vidhigya India Open Mock-02
CLAT 2025**Section A – English****PASSAGE - I**

Married to a good man, with two young children, I too, was struck by true love for someone else. We met at a dinner where I broke my molar on an olive stone. I caught myself opening my mouth to show him the severed tooth. Parts of my body were crumbling, I was ageing, time was running out. My diary entries from the time were breathless with wonder. Whenever he was in the same room, I simply wanted to be near him. After many years of ambivalence in my marriage, the clarity of my certainty came as a relief, a profound comfort, restorative in its ease. It helped steady the ground as the life I knew threatened to shatter. I did not want to destroy my family, but I'd opened the door on what had felt like a cage, and a broken bird had finally found its wings. It was not possible to shut the door again, and I did not want to live the rest of my life wondering what might have been. I was well aware of my privilege compared with women in Francesca's time, when leaving a marriage entailed losing everything. I was able to take the children with me.

But this was not the easy road: leaving a 'good enough' marriage in the hopes of creating something better often fails. The foundations of a stepfamily are riven by the fault lines of failure and loss, divorce or death, with children having no say in the matter of rebuilding – who did not choose this new family structure. Constructing a new life from the fragments left behind can feel like trying to glue back a ceramic vessel that has smashed into a thousand tiny pieces and restore it to its original form: the contours of the break will always be visible. How you knit the jagged edges of two broken families and make it work brings other challenges besides, particularly in the West, where we look to the nuclear family and its image of wholeness and safety as our guide. How this image beats like a heart in the imagination – the ideal of a natural union, mother, father and biological children. If my second attempt to create a family has a fighting chance of defining itself, it must be set free.

Through the rosy tint of a new romance, anything feels possible; but add ready-made children from a previous marriage and the picture distorts. In the early months, I turned to R and said: 'You're not only taking me on, but my children as well.' Seven and nine at the time, their presence was intense and vital. He nodded reassuringly, but I could see the panic in his eyes. When the four of us were together, they attached themselves to me like Velcro, clinging to my hands and waist, creating a six-legged creature; they were disruptive over dinner, vying for my attention. I longed for uninterrupted time to nurture

[1]

this nascent relationship without those grasping hands, but I also felt wretched: I was their mother, and they were children. This man was a comparative stranger. They were still coming to terms with his explosion into our lives, the result of a decision I'd made for myself. The weight of my choice and my power to change the course of their lives was paralyzing. I wondered if this selfish act would be a curse, always getting in the way of cohesion and happiness.

<https://aeon.co/essays/a-stepfamily-can-rebuild-over-fault-lines-of-failure-and-loss>

1. What can be inferred about the narrator's feelings towards her second marriage and blended family situation?

- (a) The narrator is filled with regret and wishes she had never left her first marriage.
- (b) The narrator is in two minds, feeling both excitement and apprehension about her new relationship and family dynamics.
- (c) The narrator is completely satisfied with her decision to leave her first marriage and start afresh.
- (d) The narrator is indifferent to the challenges of the blending families and views it as a natural progression.

2. Which tone is primarily conveyed in the passage?

- (a) Optimistic
- (b) Nostalgic
- (c) Ambivalent
- (d) Reflective

3. What can be understood from the character's perspective in the passage?

- (a) The character is overwhelmed by the challenges of a new romance and blended family dynamics.
- (b) The character feels a sense of liberation and empowerment after leaving a "good enough" marriage.
- (c) The character is nostalgic about past relationships and experiences.
- (d) The character is confident and optimistic about creating a successful second marriage.

4. Which figurative language tool is used in the following statement from the passage? "they attached themselves to me like Velcro, clinging to my hands and waist, creating a six-legged creature;"

- (a) Simile
- (b) Metaphor
- (c) Hyperbole
- (d) Personification

5. What is the author's main sentiment in the concluding lines of the passage?

- (a) Regret over the decision to change the course of their lives.
- (b) Uncertainty about the future and the impact of their choices.
- (c) Guilt for disrupting the family's previous structure.
- (d) Reflection on the challenges and responsibilities involved in creating a new family dynamic.

PASSAGE - II

I couldn't eat much, and most of the time I staggered. Strength left my weakened frame. 'I'm unwell,' I would say to those who listened. 'I'm in pain,' I would add, pointing to my stomach, my head, my wrists, when it wasn't my knees or my neck that bothered me. During such moments, my body felt tossed between stress and poor sleep – dull, interrupted by gnawing, twisting, throbbing sensations. I wished for someone to squeeze my arm, to let me know that whatever was crushing my insides would soon be vanquished. Whenever these bursts of illness occurred, I hid, clutching an heirloom Tunisian coral pendant to which I had assigned talismanic properties.

I was a sick, curly haired child who would avoid playing outside. Growing up in the west of Paris, I already stood out among my French friends as the kid who was like them but not quite – half white, by way of my mother, and half Arab, by way of my father, which condemned me to a different category of Frenchness. I desperately wanted to blend in, to be a version of what I thought was 'normal'. But my afflictions made this even harder. They formed a compact repertoire encompassing flu- and cold-like infections that regularly left me coughing until my ribs burned. For a time, I was littered with disfiguring cold sores.

Doctors, friends, even family members dismissed my self-diagnoses, insisting on the familiarly nebulous term of 'virus'. Oh, it's just a virus, they would say, hoping that would diminish my worry. But it only sparked my curiosity. Which virus? Does it have a name? Can I get tested? Why does it come for me, specifically and regularly, and not for any of my white friends?

While other children were building pillow forts, I developed health protocols – food, vitamins, herbs – and a sixth sense for detecting signs of illness. When the virus came, I deployed my arsenal of potions and remedies. When its force caught me off guard, I would let myself drift into a haze. I feared nights the most and I would rarely dare to check what was underneath my bed.

The chronic condition I experienced resembled one that was named long before I was born. In 1952, the 27-year-old Frantz Fanon had just published his first book, *Black Skin, White Masks*, his controversial and rejected doctoral thesis on the effects of racism on health. Fanon had been interning at Saint-Alban hospital in southern France when he soon noticed that medical personnel often overlooked and minimised the concern of North African patients. At that time, Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia (where my father was born) were either French colonies or protectorates, and these patients were first-generation migrants, men who had crossed the Mediterranean Sea in the aftermath of the Second World War to rebuild metropolitan France. Life wasn't easy for them. Most lived in insalubrious working-class estates afforded by their meagre earnings, and

occupied the bottom rung of French society. They survived on little more than a deep nostalgia for the home and family they had left behind. And they shared similar symptoms of an unnamed illness. From Fanon's clinical observations – which would influence his hugely influential book and propel him to join Algeria's Blida-Joinville psychiatric hospital – he wrote a seminal article exposing a common set of symptoms of what he called the 'North African syndrome'.

North Africans complained of elusive pain. Their descriptions, according to French doctors, were unreliable. It seemed that they lied about or exaggerated their ailments, becoming nothing more than a medical inconvenience. But Fanon took the time to listen. On traditional grounds, their pain was hardly explicable. They 'arrive enveloped in vagueness', Fanon wrote and, apart from rare cases, they presented no physical lesions. It hurt 'everywhere' and nowhere specifically. Doctors wanted to diagnose them in order to properly administer medicine, but the patients became irritated by all the questioning because their suffering was right there, almost unbearably self-evident to describe. 'It hurts' – but what is the nature of this it?

6. Statement: "The chronic condition experienced by the narrator resembles a syndrome described by Frantz Fanon "North African Syndrome." Which of the following best explains the similarity between the narrator's chronic condition and the 'North African syndrome' described by Frantz Fanon?

- (a) Both conditions are characterized by physical lesions.
- (b) Patients with both conditions experience pain in specific, easily identifiable areas.
- (c) Doctors often dismissed the concerns of patients with both conditions as exaggerated or unreliable.
- (d) The symptoms of both conditions are well understood and easily diagnosed by medical professionals.

7. What can be inferred about the narrator's experiences with illness and their cultural background?

- (a) The narrator's cultural background influenced his perception of illness but did not impact the medical treatment they received.
- (b) The narrator's cultural background caused him to exaggerate the symptoms, leading to medical confusion.
- (c) The narrator faced skepticism and dismissal from medical professionals regarding their symptoms, possibly influenced by their cultural background.
- (d) The narrator's chronic condition was well understood by medical professionals due to advancements in health care.

8. Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the narrator's approach to managing his health?
- (a) The narrator relied solely on conventional medical treatments described by doctors.
 - (b) The narrator sought alternative remedies and developed personal health protocols to manage his health.
 - (c) The narrator ignored his health concerns and did not ignore his health concerns and did not take any proactive measures.
 - (d) The narrator did not believe in the effectiveness of any treatments and lived with his symptoms without seeking help.
9. What suggests that the narrator's health condition may have been influenced by social factors?
- (a) The narrator's frequent coughing and cold sores.
 - (b) The narrator's curiosity about the specific virus causing his illness.
 - (c) The narrator's upbringing as a mixed-child race in France.
 - (d) The narrator's reliance on alternative health protocols.
10. Which of the following best attributes the narrator's attitude towards his health condition?
- (a) A sense of resignation and acceptance.
 - (b) Curiosity and a proactive approach to finding solutions.
 - (c) Fear and avoidance confronting the illness.
 - (d) Reliance on traditional medical treatments.

PASSAGE - III

Even the sunniest optimist would find it difficult to turn in to 2024 feeling upbeat. These last twelve months have been extraordinarily challenging: hopes of a breakthrough in Ukraine in the summer were stymied on the battlefield; the future of the Middle East, which Jake Sullivan, the US National Security Advisor, said was 'quieter today than it has been in two decades' just days before the horrors of 7 October and the immense suffering that has followed, looks ominous and potentially catastrophic. Then there is China, which is going through a wave of economic turbulence while trying to set its engagement with the outside world; or Iran, which withdrew the accreditation of several nuclear inspectors; or North Korea with its erratic military posture.

If the stiff geopolitical currents are one set of problems, then climatic changes provide another: 2023 was the warmest year on record. If 2024 is close to that record, let alone equalling or beating it, then we should be thinking hard about agricultural yields and food supply, about water demand, and about disease environments that have expanded significantly over the last decade. There is the prime-time, guaranteed drama of the US presidential election of 2024 that will make our own general election look like a genteel

tea party. Throw in pressures on public finances, changing demographics, rising inequality, political polarisation, migration and more and the coming year looks potentially X-rated.

And yet, perhaps things are not quite so bad after all – at least not everywhere. The US markets end 2023 within a whisker of an all-time high, with the Dow Jones 500 more than doubling in value over the last decade. New technologies might seem terrifying, but the opportunities and benefits far outweigh potential downsides. Friends and colleagues in India, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia and the Philippines – home to almost 25 per cent of the world's population – talk about their hopes and ambitions, not their fears and concerns.

Here in Europe, there is no question that we have some tough decisions to make. Much depends on a clear-eyed hierarchy of priorities – and on devising a plan to go about addressing the problems that lie here or just ahead. 2024 is a year of hoping for the best but preparing for the worst. You never know: 'if necessity is the mother of invention', there might even be some pleasant surprises along the way.

Source <https://engelsbergideas.com/essays/the-world-in-2024/>

11. Which factor contributes to the potential concerns for agricultural yields and food supply as mentioned in the passage?

- (a) The U.S presidential elections of 2024.
- (b) Rising inequality in Europe.
- (c) Geopolitical currents and climate changes.
- (d) Economic turbulence in Asian countries.

12. What sentiment does the author convey about the overall outlook for the year 2024 based on the passage?

- (a) The author expresses unwavering optimism about the prospects of 2024.
- (b) The author suggests a mixed and uncertain outlook for 2024, with both challenges and potential positive surprises.
- (c) The author conveys a predominantly negative perspective, foreseeing a difficult and problematic year.
- (d) The author remains neutral and does not provide a clear stance on the outlook for 2024.

13. What is emphasized as a potential positive aspect amidst the global challenges mentioned in the passage?

- (a) Economic turbulence in China
- (b) The US markets reaching an all-time high
- (c) Rising inequality in Europe
- (d) Challenges in the middle east

14. Which of the following statements is not true as per the passage?

- (a) The author expresses concerns about economic turbulence in China.

- (b) The author suggests that 2023 was the coldest year on record.
(c) The author mentions potential challenges despite earlier statements of relative calm.
(d) The author believes that the US markets ended 2023 at an almost all-time high.

15. Which of the following is of the same meaning as the word 'stymied'?

- (a) eradicated (b) thwarted (c) concocted (d) tainted

PASSAGE - IV

We find that today the unity and integrity of the nation is threatened by the divisive forces of regionalism, linguism and communal loyalties which are gaining ascendancy in national life and seeking to tear apart and destroy national integrity. We tend to forget that India is one nation and we are all Indians first and Indians last. It is time we remind ourselves what the great visionary and builder of modern India Jawaharlal Nehru said, "Who dies if India lives, who lives if India dies?" We must realise, and this is unfortunately what many in public life tend to overlook, sometimes out of ignorance of the forces of history and sometimes deliberately with a view to promoting their self-interest, that national interest must inevitably and forever prevail over any other considerations proceeding from regional, linguistic or communal attachments. The history of India over the past centuries bears witness to the fact that India was at no time a single political unit. Even during the reign of the Maurya dynasty, though a large part of the country was under the sovereignty of the Mauryan kings, there were considerable portions of the territory which were under the rule of independent kingdoms. So also during the Mughal rule which extended over large parts of the territory of India, there were independent rulers who enjoyed political sovereignty over the territories of their respective kingdoms.

It is an interesting fact of history that India was forged into a nation, neither on account of a common language nor on account of the continued existence of a single political regime over its territories but on account of a common culture evolved over the centuries. It is cultural unity—something more fundamental and enduring than any other bond which may unite the people of a country together which has welded this country into a nation. But until the advent of the British rule, it was not constituted into a single political unit. There were, throughout the period of history for which we have fairly authenticated accounts, various kingdoms and principalities which were occasionally engaged in conflict with one another. During the British rule, India became a compact political unit having one single political regime over its entire territories and this led to the evolution of the concept of a nation. This concept of one nation took firm roots in the minds and hearts of the people during the struggle for independence under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. He has rightly been called the Father of the Nation because it was he who awakened in the people of this country a sense of national

consciousness and instilled in them a high sense of patriotism without which it is not possible to build a country into nationhood. By the time the Constitution of India came to be enacted, insurgent India, breaking a new path of non-violent revolution and fighting to free itself from the shackles of foreign domination, had emerged into nationhood and “the people of India” were inspired by a new enthusiasm, a high and noble spirit of sacrifice and above all, a strong sense of nationalism and in the Constitution which they framed. They set about the task of a strong nation based on certain cherished values for which they had fought.

16. The author has quoted Jawaharlal Nehru to emphasize the point that-

- (a) National interest must enjoy supreme importance.
- (b) India is going to survive even if the world is under the spell of destruction.
- (c) The world will be destroyed if India is on the threshold of destruction.
- (d) The survival of the world depends only upon the well-being of India.

17. What, according to the author, is the impact of the divisive forces on our nation?

- (a) They promote a sense of regional pride.
- (b) They help people to form linguistic groups.
- (c) They separate groups of people and create enmity among them.
- (d) They encourage among people the sense of loyalty to their community.

18. “Communal loyalties” have been considered by the author as-

- (a) A good quality to be cherished.
- (b) Of no consequence to the nation.
- (c) A very important aspect for nation-building.
- (d) A threat to the solidarity of the nation.

19. Which of the following was instrumental in holding the different people of India together?

- (a) A common national language
- (b) A common cultural heritage
- (c) The endurance level of the people
- (d) Fundamentalist bent of mind of the people

20. The “people of India”, as used by the author in the last sentence of the passage, refers to:

- (a) The people of one unified nation
- (b) The subjects of several independent rulers
- (c) The patriots who sacrificed themselves in the freedom struggle
- (d) The people who were instrumental in writing the constitution

PASSAGE - V

Once upon our time, there was an earthquake: but this one is the most powerful ever recorded since the invention of the Richter scale made possible for us to measure apocalyptic warnings.

It tipped a continental shelf. These tremblings often cause floods; this colossus did the reverse, drew back the ocean as a vast breath taken. The most secret level of our world lay revealed: the sea-bedded – wrecked ships, facades of houses, ballroom candelabra, toilet bowl, pirate chest, TV screen, mail-coach, aircraft fuselage, canon, marble torso, Kalashnikov, metal carapace of a tourist bus-load, baptismal font, automatic dishwasher, computer, swords sheathed in barnacles, coins turned to stone. The astounded gaze raced among these things; the population who had fled from their toppling houses to the maritime hills, ran down. Where terrestrial crash and bellow had terrified them, there was naked silence. The saliva of the sea glistened upon these objects; it is given that time does not, never did, exist down there where the materiality of the past and the present as they lie has no chronological order, all is one, all is nothing – or all is possessible at once.

People rushed to take; take, take. This was – when, anytime, sometime – valuable, that might be useful, what was this, well someone will know, that must have belonged to the rich, it's mine now, if you don't grab what's over there someone else will, feet slipped and slithered on seaweed and sank in soggy sand, gasping sea-plants gaped at them, no-one remarked there were no fish, the living inhabitants of this unearth had been swept up and away with the water. The ordinary opportunity of looting shops which was routine to people during the political uprisings was no comparison. Orgiastic joy gave men, women and their children strength to heave out of the slime and sand what they did not know they wanted, quickened their staggering gait as they ranged, and this was more than profiting by happenstance, it was robbing the power of nature before which they had fled helpless. Take, take; while grabbing they were able to forget the wreck of their houses and the loss of time-bound possessions there. They had tattered the silence with their shouts to one another and under these cries like the cries of the absent seagulls they did not hear a distant approach of sound rising as a great wind does. And then the sea came back, engulfed them to add to its treasury.

That is what is known; in television coverage that really had nothing to show but the pewter skin of the depths, in radio interviews with those few infirm, timid or prudent who had not come down from the hills, and in newspaper accounts of bodies that for some reason the sea rejected, washed up down the coast somewhere.

But the writer knows something no-one else knows; the sea-change of the imagination. Now listen, there's a man who has wanted a certain object all his life. He has a lot of – things – some of which his eye falls upon often, so he must be fond of, some of which he

doesn't notice, deliberately, that he probably shouldn't have acquired but cannot cast off, there's an art nouveau lamp he reads by, and above his bed-head a Japanese print, a Hokusai, 'The Great Wave', he doesn't really collect oriental stuff, although if it had been on the wall facing him it might have been more than part of the furnishings, it's been out of sight behind his head for years. All these – things – but not the one.

Like all the other looters with whom he doesn't mix, has nothing in common, he races from object to object, turning over the shards of painted china, the sculptures created by destruction, abandonment and rust, the brine-vintage wine casks, a plunged racing motorcycle, a dentist's chair, his stride landing on disintegrated human ribs and metatarsals he does not identify. But unlike the others, he takes nothing – until: there, ornate with tresses of orange-brown seaweed, stuck-fast with nacreous shells and crenulations of red coral, is the object. (A mirror?) It's as if the impossible is true; he knew that was where it was, beneath the sea, that's why he didn't know what it was, could never find it before. It could be revealed only by something that had never happened, the greatest paroxysm of our earth ever measured on the Richter scale.

21. According to the passage, what is the significance of the man not taking any objects during the looting after the earthquake?

- (a) The man is indifferent to the valuable items exposed by the earthquake.
- (b) The man is too overwhelmed by the destruction to participate in the looting.
- (c) The man is searching for a specific object that has eluded him throughout his life.
- (d) The man is averse to looting and prefers to observe the chaos caused by the earthquake.

22. Based on the passage, why does the man suddenly decide to take an object during the looting after the earthquake?

- (a) He realizes the value of the items around him and wants to profit from the chaos.
- (b) He is overcome by the destruction and impulsively grabs the first object he sees.
- (c) The earthquake triggers a revelation, making him aware of the specific object he has been seeking.
- (d) He is motivated by a desire to contribute to the rebuilding efforts after the natural disaster.

23. Identify the figurative language used in the line-“feet slipped and slithered on seaweed and sank in soggy sand, gasping sea-plants gaped at them”.

- (a) Simile
- (b) Metaphor
- (c) Hyperbole
- (d) Alliteration

24. What does the word “colossus” likely mean in the line “this colossus did the reverse, drew back the ocean as a vast breath taken.”

- (a) A gigantic statue
- (b) A catastrophic event
- (c) An ancient city
- (d) A powerful earthquake

Section B-Current Affairs with GK**PASSAGE - VI**

Over the weekend, Iran launched an unprecedented retaliatory attack on Israel, employing a barrage of hundreds of missiles and drones. These projectiles were primarily launched from Iranian soil, although Iran-backed groups in various other countries also participated in the assault. The Israel Defense Forces reported that virtually all incoming projectiles were successfully intercepted before breaching Israeli territory, resulting in minimal damage from the attack. The skies over Jerusalem witnessed explosions as air sirens blared across the country, indicating the severity of the situation. Both the U.S. and Israeli militaries played a crucial role in neutralizing the threat, managing to shoot down the "vast majority" of missiles along with dozens of attack drones. Despite these defensive measures, some missiles managed to strike a military base in the southern region, causing minor damage. Iran's statement following the attack expressed a desire for the conflict to come to an end. However, it remains uncertain whether Israel and its Prime Minister are inclined to agree with this sentiment, leaving the future trajectory of the situation open to speculation and diplomatic manoeuvring.

25. What name did Iran give to the attack on Israel?

- (a) Operation Retribution (b) Operation True Promise
(c) Operation Peaceful Resolve (d) Operation Enduring Freedom

26. Israel has accused Iran of utilizing which organizations for attacking it in the past?

- (a) Hamas, Hezbollah, and Taliban (b) Al-Qaeda, Islamic State (ISIS), and Hamas
(c) Hamas, Hezbollah, and Houthi rebels (d) Al-Qaeda, Hamas, and Taliban

27. In which year did Iran officially recognize Israel as a sovereign state?

- (a) 1950 (b) 1953 (c) 1979 (d) 1985

28. The Iranian nuclear program has been a primary focus of Israel. What is the name of the computer virus used to target Iran's nuclear program in the 2000s?

- (a) Stuxnet (b) The End (c) Shield (d) Nano Worm

29. The escalation of the Iran-Israel conflict will derail the progress made by India to build consensus in the turbulent West Asia on the India-Middle-East-Europe Economic corridor. Which countries and entities signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish the India Middle East Europe Corridor?

- (a) India, US, UK, Russia, China
(b) India, US, Saudi Arabia, European Union (EU), UAE, France, Germany, Italy
(c) India, Brazil, Australia, Japan, South Africa
(d) India, Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia

PASSAGE - VII

The recent notification from the Ministry of Home Affairs regarding the implementation rules of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act marks a significant development in the ongoing discourse surrounding this legislation. Enacted by Parliament in December 2019, the Act has been a focal point of nationwide protests, and its implementation rules have been eagerly awaited. These rules, unveiled just days before the impending Lok Sabha election schedule announcement, are designed to facilitate the acquisition of Indian citizenship by minorities who have faced religious persecution in Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Afghanistan. The Citizenship (Amendment) Bill aimed to streamline the citizenship process for individuals belonging to certain religious communities who migrated to India due to religious persecution in Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Afghanistan. “The legislative journey of this Act began with its passage in the Lok Sabha on December 9, 2019, followed by approval from the Rajya Sabha two days later. It subsequently received the President's assent on December 12, 2019. However, its passage was met with widespread protests across the country, leading to a delay in the notification of implementation rules. The government's repeated extensions for framing these rules have now culminated in this recent notification from the Ministry of Home Affairs. This development is likely to reignite discussions and debates surrounding the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, especially in the context of its impact on minority communities and the broader socio-political landscape of India.

30. Where is citizenship listed in the Indian Constitution?

- (a) State List (b) Concurrent List (c) Union List (d) None of the above

31. Under the amendment, what is the reduced residency requirement for applicants belonging to the specified religions and countries?

- (a) 11 years (b) 10 years (c) 6 years (d) 5 years

32. Which religious groups were granted accelerated citizenship under the 2019 amendment to the Citizenship Act?

- (a) Muslims, Hindus, Jains, Parsis, and Christians
 (b) Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians
 (c) Christians, Muslims, Hindus, Jains and Buddhists
 (d) Sikhs, Parsis, and Muslims

33. With reference to India, consider the following statements:

- A. There is only one citizenship and one domicile.
 B. A citizen by birth only can become the Head of State.
 C. A foreigner once granted the citizenship cannot be deprived of it under any circumstances.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- (a) A only (b) A and B (c) A and C (d) A, B and C

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34. Which Schedule of the Indian Constitution mentions the regions exempt from the CAA?

- (a) Fifth Schedule (b) Sixth Schedule (c) Seventh Schedule (d) Eighth Schedule

PASSAGE - VIII

Hungary's parliamentary approval of [1] NATO membership marks a significant geopolitical shift and underscores the challenges facing Russian President Vladimir Putin. The culmination of nearly two years of rigorous negotiations, Hungary's endorsement paves the way for the newly joined country integration into the alliance, marking a departure from its longstanding stance of neutrality and non-alignment spanning two centuries. The approval from Hungary's parliament serves as the conclusive step for NATO accession symbolizing a momentous stride towards enhanced cooperation within the framework of the alliance. Ulf Kristersson, acknowledging the gravity of this decision, highlighted the profound implications of joining NATO, emphasizing the consolidation of democratic partnerships aimed at fostering peace and liberty. Furthermore, Finland's entry last year into NATO further extends the alliance's frontier, encompassing approximately 1,300 kilometers along Russia's border. This strategic development underscores the evolving dynamics in regional security and the collective commitment among member nations to fortify mutual defense and stability in the face of contemporary geopolitical challenges.

35. Which of the following will replace [1] in the passage?

- (a) Sweden (b) Netherlands (c) Denmark (d) Austria

36. Which of the following countries are part of the "NATO Plus" arrangement?

- (a) Germany, France, Italy, Spain, and the UK
(b) Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Israel, and South Korea
(c) Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, and Chile
(d) India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nepal

37. How many members are there in NATO after recent approval?

- (a) 25 (b) 28 (c) 30 (d) 32

38. Which countries are offered the opportunity to cooperate with NATO under the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative (ICI)?

- (a) Asian countries (b) European countries
(c) Middle Eastern countries (d) African countries

39. The foundations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) were officially laid down with the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty. What is the popular name for the North Atlantic Treaty?

- (a) Brussels Treaty (b) Washington Treaty
(c) Paris Treaty (d) Rome Treaty

PASSAGE - IX

In a recent development, a Blue Corner notice has been dispatched to [1] member nations of Interpol regarding JD(S) MP Prajwal Revanna. This notice, initiated by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) following a request from the Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing a series of sexual abuse cases in Hassan, alleges Prajwal of rape, sexual harassment, threats, and blackmail. Karnataka's Home Minister, Dr. G Parameshwara, revealed that after allegations of sexual abuse emerged against Janata Dal (Secular) MP Prajwal Revanna, he reportedly fled to Germany using a diplomatic passport. Efforts are now underway to seek Interpol's assistance in repatriating him, as he is also a candidate for the Hassan Lok Sabha seat under the BJP-led NDA. This development follows the circulation of explicit video clips allegedly involving Prajwal, who is the 33-year-old grandson of JD(S) luminary and former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda, within Karnataka's Hassan region. In response to these allegations, the Congress-led state government has formed an SIT to investigate the claims of sexual misconduct against Prajwal. This decision was made following recommendations from Nagalakshmi Chowdhary, the chief of the Karnataka State Commission for Women, after several explicit videos allegedly showing Prajwal engaging in sexual abuse surfaced in the state.

40. Which of the following will replace [1] in the passage?

- (a) 196 (b) 190 (c) 189 (d) 179

41. How many types of notices are issued by Interpol?

- (a) Five (b) Seven (c) Eight (d) Ten

42. Which of the following serves as India's nodal agency for Interpol?

- (a) National Investigation Agency (b) Central Bureau of Investigation
(c) Enforcement Directorate (d) None of the Above

43. When did India become a member country of Interpol?

- (a) October 15, 1949 (b) November 20, 1956
(c) December 31, 1960 (d) January 1, 1975

44. Interpol issued a Blue Corner notice against Hassan MP Mr. Revanna, who reportedly left for Munich, Germany using his diplomatic passport. What is the official name for diplomatic passports in India?

- (a) Type A passports (b) Type B passports
(c) Type C passports (d) Type D passports

PASSAGE - X

NABARD recently announced a strategic collaboration with RBIH, an arm of the Reserve Bank of India, aimed at streamlining the processing of agricultural loans. This

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partnership is designed to implement a system that expedites the approval and disbursement of agricultural loans, especially focusing on digital Kisan Credit Card (KCC) loan processing for cooperative banks and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). NABARD has taken the lead in developing an advanced loan origination system portal known as e-KCC to facilitate this digital transformation in agricultural lending. The integration of NABARD's e-KCC loan origination system portal with the Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit (PTPFC) of RBIH holds significant promise. It opens up a wide array of services for approximately 351 district and state cooperative banks, as well as 43 RRBs. These services include access to digital state land records, satellite data, KYC information, credit history, and transliteration capabilities, all of which are crucial for enhancing the efficiency and accuracy of credit underwriting processes. This move towards digitization not only accelerates the processing of agricultural loans but also ensures seamless doorstep delivery of credit to farmers. By leveraging technology and data analytics, banks can make more informed lending decisions, thereby contributing to the overarching goal of fostering rural prosperity. NABARD's initiative aligns perfectly with its mission to drive financial inclusion and empower farmers with timely and accessible credit facilities.

45. Where was the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) inaugurated?

- (a) Mumbai (b) Bengaluru (c) New Delhi (d) Hyderabad

46. Who is the Current Chairman of NABARD?

- (a) Shaji K V (b) Ramesh Kumar (c) Neha Gupta (d) Ashok Sharma

47. Which committee's recommendations led to the establishment of NABARD?

- (a) B. Sivaramman Committee (b) Raghuram Rajan Committee
(c) K.C. Chakrabarty Committee (d) Manmohan Singh Committee

48. Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) scheme was launched in 1998 to provide timely credit support to farmers for cultivation and other needs. What is the loan amount that can be sanctioned under the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) scheme?

- (a) Rs. 1 lakh (b) Rs. 2 lakhs (c) Rs. 3 lakhs (d) Rs. 5 lakhs

PASSAGE - XI

Days before the anticipated announcement of the schedule for the upcoming Lok Sabha election, Election Commissioner [1] tendered his resignation. The Law Ministry, in a notification, confirmed the acceptance of his resignation. This development unfolds at a crucial juncture, just prior to the expected scheduling of the Lok Sabha election. The Election Commission had been actively assessing poll readiness across all States and Union Territories and had planned a visit to Jammu and Kashmir. Earlier, the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), an NGO, had filed a public interest litigation

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(PIL) petition in the Supreme Court challenging the resignee appointment claiming that due procedure had not been followed. This incident also precedes a significant Supreme Court hearing on the electoral bonds issue by two days. In response to resignation, the Congress party has voiced deep concerns regarding the state of democracy in the world's largest democracy. Congress General Secretary Organization, K.C. Venugopal, emphasized the lack of transparency in the functioning of constitutional institutions like the Election Commission of India (ECI) and raised concerns about government influence on such bodies.

49. Which of the following will replace [1] in the passage?

- (a) Arun Goel (b) Anup Chandra Pandey
(c) Rajiv Kumar (d) Ashok Lavasa

50. Which of the following elections does the Election Commission of India administer?

- (a) Elections to panchayats and municipalities
(b) Elections to the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies and the offices of the President and Vice President in the country.
(c) Elections to the Supreme Court
(d) All of the Above

51. When was the Election Commission of India transformed into a multi-member body?

- (a) 1989 (b) 1991 (c) 1995 (d) None of the Above

52 What is the fixed tenure for the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and Election Commissioners (ECs) as per the Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023?

- (a) Five years (b) Six years (c) Seven years (d) Eight years

Section C-Legal Reasoning

PASSAGE - XII

Having found “no discernible competition concern,” the Competition Commission of India (CCI) rejected a complaint alleging that multiplex chain PVR had abused its dominant market position. The competition regulator’s order held that there was no case of contravention of Section 4 of the Competition Act, 2002 (that deals with preventing abuse of dominant position) based on the facts, circumstances and allegations levelled in the case.

Section 4 of the Competition Act, 2002 (the Act) states that no enterprise or group shall abuse its dominant position. Section 4(2) of the Act states that there shall be an abuse of dominant position if such an enterprise or a group,—

(a) directly or indirectly, imposes unfair or discriminatory— (i) condition in purchase or sale of goods or service; or (ii) price in purchase or sale (including predatory price) of goods or service. For the purposes of this clause, the unfair or discriminatory condition in purchase or sale of goods or service referred to in sub-clause (i) and unfair or discriminatory price in purchase or sale of goods (including predatory price) or service referred to in sub-clause (ii) shall not include such condition or price which may be adopted to meet the competition.

(b) limits or restricts— (i) production of goods or provision of services or market therefor; or (ii) technical or scientific development relating to goods or services to the prejudice of consumers; or

(c) indulges in practice or practices resulting in denial of market access in any manner; or

(d) makes conclusion of contracts subject to acceptance by other parties of supplementary obligations which, by their nature or according to commercial usage, have no connection with the subject of such contracts; or

(e) uses its dominant position in one relevant market to enter into, or protect, other relevant market.

Explanation.—For the purposes of section 4, the expression— (a) “dominant position” means a position of strength, enjoyed by an enterprise, in the relevant market, in India, which enables it to— (i) operate independently of competitive forces prevailing in the relevant market; or (ii) affect its competitors or consumers or the relevant market in its favour; (b) “predatory price” means the sale of goods or provision of services, at a price which is below the cost, as may be determined by regulations, of production of the goods or provision of services, with a view to reduce competition or eliminate the competitors.

Source: Extracted (with edits and revisions) from an article titled “What were the allegations against PVR for abuse of dominant position? | Explained” published in The Hindu.

53. Vidhan is a new entrepreneur in the technology business. His enterprise is very small and has no influence in the market as of now. He is trying to build its presence in the market. Still he has decided to go toe to toe with the tech giants such as Google and Meta. He believes that he can change the market with his innovative ideas. One such idea is to sell his software at a price lower than the regulated price. A complaint has been filed against Vidhan’s enterprise on the ground that he is abusing his dominant position. Based on the principle laid down in the passage, decide whether the allegations are true?

(a) Yes, as Vidhan’s enterprise is abusing its dominant position by imposing predatory pricing.

(b) No, as the complaint is filed with mala fide intention to prevent Vidhan from revolutionizing the tech sector.

(c) Yes, as he has imposed unfair price with regards to purchase of software to eliminate competitors from the market.

(d) No, as the acts by Vidhan's enterprise are not prohibited under Section 4 of the Competition Act.

54. Assume in the previous question, certain additional information is provided. Before Vidhan's enterprise decided to sell the software below the regulated price, Google and Meta were already doing the same. That's how he got the idea to sell the software below the regulated price. What effect would this additional information have on the validity of the allegation against Vidhan's enterprise?

(a) The introduction of the additional information would strengthen the validity of the allegations as now it is clear that Vidhan wanted to remove his competitors.

(b) The introduction of the additional information would weaken the validity of the allegations as the price was adopted to meet the competition.

(c) The introduction of the additional information would strengthen the validity of the allegations.

(d) The introduction of the additional information would have no effect on the validity of the allegations.

55. Vidhi is an owner of a theatre and multiplex company. The company has theatres and multiplex throughout the country. Due to such large market base, it is able to operate in an independent manner. The happenings of the market do not affect her company. To further consolidate her position in the relevant market, Vidhi's company has decided to tie up with other small multiplex company. This has been done to prevent new companies from entering the market. Vidur is the owner of one such company who has been prevented from entering the market. He has filed a complaint against Vidhi's company under Section 4 of the Competition Act, 2002. Based on the principles laid down in the passage, decide whether he will succeed?

(a) Yes, as Vidhi's company has abused its dominant position by imposing discriminatory conditions.

(b) Yes, as Vidhi's company has abused its dominant position by indulging in practices leading to denial of market access.

(c) No, as the practice adopted by Vidhi's company is to meet the competition.

(d) Cannot be adequately determined whether Vidhi is in a dominant position.

56. Vidhata Corporation is a large enterprise in the warehouse market. Over time they kept strengthening their business and have now grown to the extent that it is able to operate independently of the competition forces in the market. They rent out warehouses

to people after signing a contract with them. Their facilities and services are top notch. To further grow its business, the corporation has decided to enter into soft drinks manufacturing business. To quickly raise their sales, they have amended their warehousing contract draft. The amended contract now mandates the people renting out warehouses to store soft drinks in the rented warehouse and sell them on behalf of Vidhata Corporation. Recently, Vidyut wanted to rent out a warehouse. However, he refused to sell soft drinks. Vidhata Corporation has refused to rent out the warehouses. Vidyut has filed a complaint against Vidhata Corporation for violation of Section 4 of the Competition Act, 2002. Decide whether the Vidhata Corporation has violated Section 4?

- (a) Yes, as Vidhata Corporation is in a dominant position.
- (b) No, as Vidhata Corporation is not in a dominant position.
- (c) Yes, as Vidhata Corporation is abusing its dominant position.
- (d) No, as Vidhata Corporation has not imposed any unfair price related to purchase or sale of services.

57. Vidya runs a company to provide emergency services in the State of Kerala. She has built a reputation for herself. Due to cost-effective service and good behavior, she has gained a position of strength in the relevant market. This allows her to operate independently of competition forces in the market. Recently, the State of Kerala has been affected by a severe flood. The government has decided to prepare an emergency relief plan by releasing regulations. As per the regulations, upper price has been fixed for services of emergency nature. To help the people in need, Vidya is providing her services even at a cost below such price. Due to this, Vidya's competitors in the relevant market are affected. They have filed a complaint against Vidya on ground of abuse of dominant position. Based on the legal principles laid down in the passage, decide whether Vidya has abused its dominant position?

- (a) Yes, as Vidya's company is abusing its dominant position by imposing predatory pricing.
- (b) No, as the complaint is filed with mala fide intention to prevent Vidya from providing free services to the needy.
- (c) Yes, as she has imposed unfair price with regards to services to eliminate competitors from the market.
- (d) No, as the imposition of such price by the company is neither in contravention of the regulation imposed nor the law.

58. Based on the criteria for determination of dominant position as provided in the passage, which of the following is not relevant in such determination?

- (i) Whether an enterprise or group is enjoying a position of strength in global markets

(ii) Whether an enterprise or group is enabled by its position of strength in global markets to operate independently of the competition forces prevailing in the relevant market.

(iii) Whether an enterprise or group is enabled by its position of strength in global markets to affect its competitors or consumers or the relevant market in its favour.

(a) Only (i) (b) Both (i) & (ii) (c) All (i), (ii) & (iii) (d) None of the above

59. Based on the passage, in which of the following cases the dominant position is not abused?

(i) An enterprise having dominant position is adopting a price or condition on sale or purchase of goods and services with a view to meet the competition.

(ii) An enterprise having position of strength in India, using such position to deny market access to new players in the markets.

(iii) An enterprise having dominant position in one market is using such position to enter into other relevant market.

(iv) A new enterprise, having no influence in market, is going to start its business by selling good below the cost of production determined by the regulations, to build its presence in the markets.

(a) Both (i) & (iv) (b) Only (iv) (c) Both (ii) & (iv) (d) Only (i)

PASSAGE - XIII

On the context of “public emergency” and “public safety”, the government invoked its powers under the Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017 (Rules of 2017) of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, to suspend internet within the jurisdiction of 20 police stations in Punjab.

Under the Rules of 2017, the telecom services can be suspended only on grounds of “public emergency” and “public safety”. The details process for suspension of telecom services under the rules are:

Directions to suspend the telecom services shall not be issued except by an order made by the Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) in the case of Government of India or by the Secretary to the State Government in-charge of the Home Department in the case of a State Government (hereinafter referred to as the competent authorities).

Provided that the order for suspension of telecom services, issued by the officer authorised by the Union Home Secretary or the State Home Secretary, shall be subject to the confirmation from the competent authority within 24 hours of issuing such order:

Provided further that the order of suspension of telecom services shall cease to exist in

case of failure of receipt of confirmation from the competent authority within the said period of 24 hours.

Any order issued by the competent authority shall contain reasons for such direction and a copy of such order shall be forwarded to the concerned Review Committee latest by next working day.

In the case of *Anuradha Bhasin v. Union of India*, the Supreme Court held that the freedom of speech and expression through the medium of internet is an integral part of Article 19(1)(a) of Constitution and accordingly, any restriction on the same must be in accordance with Article 19(2) of the Constitution. The ingredients of Article 19(2) of the Constitution are that: a. the action must be sanctioned by law; b. the proposed action must be a proportionate restriction; c. such restriction must be in furtherance of interests of the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States, public order, decency or morality or in relation to contempt of court, defamation or incitement to an offence.

The three-judge bench order further observed that internet shutdowns are a 'drastic measure', which may be imposed only if it is lawful, necessary, and proportionate and only after publishing internet suspension orders. Any order suspending internet issued under the Suspension Rules, must adhere to the principle of proportionality and must not extend beyond necessary duration. There must be procedural guarantees, such as review by a Court, against the restrictions imposed.

Source: Extracted (with edits and revisions) from an excerpt from an article titled "Farmers' Protest: Modi Government Used British-Era Law to Give Itself Powers to Suspend Internet" published in The Wire.

60. The Government of India is inaugurating a new parliament house. To ensure that the images of the parliament are not circulated, the Secretary to the Government of India in MHA has decided to ban telecom services under the Rules of 2017. The services would be banned in the area besides the parliament house. Before such telecom and internet ban, the Secretary has published internet suspension orders. Before the suspension comes into effect, Vidhan has challenged the ban on the ground that it is not in compliance with the 2017 rules. Based on legal principles laid down in the passage, decide whether the challenge is valid?

- (a) Yes, as the ban has not been ordered for a purpose provided under the Rules of 2017.
- (b) Yes, as the competent authority has not provided its approval within 24 hours of issuance of such order.
- (c) No, as the challenge is pre-emptive. The suspension has not become effective yet.
- (d) No, as the order is in complete compliance with the procedural formalities as laid down under the Rules of 2017.

61. Assume in the previous question, certain facts are substituted. Instead of Secretary to the Government of India, the directions to suspend the telecom services was issued by the District Collector of the area. What effect would this additional fact have on the validity of the suspension order?

- (a) The substituted facts will not negate the validity of the order.
- (b) The substituted facts will be a further ground to challenge the validity of the order.
- (c) The substituted facts will strengthen the validity of the order.
- (d) The substituted facts will have no effect on the validity of the order.

62. Recently, the Prime Minister of India was on a visit to Maldives. It was an important visit from an international relation perspective. Maintaining friendly relation with Maldives is crucial for India. However, some of the political parties in India criticised such a visit. The twitter handles of these parties were publishing fake rumours with an agenda to affect relations with Maldives. To stop such propaganda, the Government of India enacted a law. This law prohibited these twitter handles from posting such information for a week. This was because after a week, the PM will be back in India. The law provided that any people whose accounts have been banned can challenge the same before the Supreme Court. The twitter handle of Vidhigya political party was banned. They have challenged the law on the ground that it violates their freedom of speech under Article 19. Based on the principles laid down in the passage, decide if the challenge is valid?

- (a) Yes, as the ground on which restriction is imposed is not mentioned under Article 19(2).
- (b) Yes, as the restrictions imposed are not proportionate.
- (c) No, as the Vidhigya political party should approach the Supreme Court for getting their handle unblocked.
- (d) No, as the restrictions are proportionate and are necessary to protect friendly relations with foreign states.

63. Vidya, runs an online discussion group through her Instagram account. Through such account she debates on the current topics of legal importance. Recently, the government has taken an action against Vidya and banned her right to internet access. She has decided to challenge the same. Based on article 19, which of the following cannot be taken as a valid ground to challenge the ban against her?

- (a) The action taken against her is not backed by any law.
- (b) The restriction imposed is not proportionate.
- (c) The restriction is not based on public health.
- (d) The restriction imposed is not in furtherance of the grounds mentioned under Article 19(2) of the Constitution.

64. With regards to the order for suspension of telecom services, which of the following statement is correct?

- (a) Directions for suspensions for telecom services can be issued by any officer of the government.
- (b) Direction for suspension by any officer is effective immediately and does not require any further approval.
- (c) Order by the authorised officer of suspension of telecom services shall cease to exist in case of failure of receipt of confirmation from the competent authority.
- (d) Any order issued by the competent authority shall contain reasons for such direction and a copy of such order shall be forwarded to the concerned Review Committee within the next two working days.

65. If parliament enacts a law to suspend internet services in an area, then which of the following is correct:

- (a) Such internet suspension can continue for indefinite period as it is backed by law.
- (b) Such internet suspension has to be on the grounds on “public emergency” and “public safety” only.
- (c) Such a law will be valid if it complies with the principle of proportionality.
- (d) Such a law will be valid only if it provides for review by Supreme Court as a procedural guarantee.

PASSAGE - XIV

Patents, an integral aspect of intellectual property rights, provide inventors with exclusive rights to their inventions. A patent is essentially a legal entitlement conferred by the government, which empowers the patent holder to exclusively make, use, sell, or distribute the patented invention for a limited period.

To be granted a patent, an invention must satisfy three core criteria: novelty, an inventive step and industrial applicability. Patents are territorial in nature, meaning they are only valid for the geographical boundaries of the country where they are granted.

The standard duration for patent protection is typically 20 years from the filing date of the application. After this specific period, it may be renewed by applying with the prescribed renewal fee to the concerned authority on its satisfaction of the fulfilment of conditions for renewal.

A patent owner possesses the right to exclude others from using the patented invention. This right allows the owner to control the use of the invention, including the ability to license it to others, assign (sell) it, or even abandon it and to enforce its breach by any other person through judicial system.

The mere discovery of a scientific principle or the formulation of an abstract theory or discovery of any living thing or non-living substance occurring in nature is not a patentable invention.

Licensing a patent can be a strategic tool for monetization, allowing others to use the invention while the original inventor retains ownership and receives compensation, either in monetary terms or other forms of consideration.

Under the Indian Patent Act, compulsory license can be granted on an application made by any interested person to the controller after the expiration of a period of three years from the date on which the patent has been granted. The grounds include:

- The reasonable requirements of the public with respect to the patented invention have not been satisfied; or
- The patented invention is not available to the public at a reasonably affordable price; or
- Patented invention is not worked in the territory of India.

Under section 92(1) of Indian Patent Act, a compulsory license can be granted Suo moto by the Central Government in circumstances of: National emergency; or Extreme urgency; or in ease of public non-commercial use.

Section 92-A of the Act provides for compulsory licensing for manufacturing and exportation of patented pharmaceutical products into any country that does not have sufficient manufacturing capability to address public health problems.

Under section 102 of the Indian Patent Act, Government can obtain a pending or already granted patent for public use. In return the Government must pay the patentee royalties as mutually agreed upon between the parties.

Source: Extracted (with edits and revisions) from an article titled “Inventions and Patents”, published at World Intellectual Property Organisation.

66. Vinay, a mechanical engineer from Delhi, developed a new type of eco-friendly air-conditioning system, which runs without electricity. This has created waves in the market as multiple companies have approached him to manufacture the product for him, keeping in mind with the economic potential of the innovation. He files an application for a patent in India on 1st July 2020 and was subsequently granted patent by the government valid in India within a month. Subsequently, Vinay discovers that Lethal electronics, a company in Indore is manufacturing the air conditioner using his technology without any license. The company argues that it is merely manufacturing it, and not selling or earning profit out of it. In the light of the passage, decide whether Vinay can file a suit against the company for patent infringement.

(a) Vinay cannot sue the company for patent infringement as it is merely manufacturing it and not earning any profit out of it.

- (b) Vinay cannot sue the company for patent infringement because his patent is only valid in Delhi, not in Indore.
- (c) Vinay can sue the company for patent infringement as the company is using the patented invention without his license.
- (d) Vinay can sue the company for patent infringement as Vinay has invested a lot of resources and time for the invention and the company's act is restricting his right to reap economic benefits out of his invention.

67. In the previous question, assume that an additional information is added. Suppose that India and Kenya shared very friendly relations. In 2024, Kenya was facing the worst heat-waves of the century which has created a public health emergency in the country. A company based in Kenya asked Indian Government for compulsory license for exportation of the AC as invented by Vinay under Section 92-A of the Patents Act as Kenya does not have sufficient manufacturing capability to address public health problems. In the light of the passage, decide whether compulsory license under section 92A of the Indian Patents Act can be provided in this case.

- (a) Yes, as Kenya is facing a public health emergency and Kenya does not have adequate facility to manufacture these products.
- (b) Yes, as India and Kenya share friendly relations and government must issue suo-moto compulsory licence for exportation of AC's to help them tackle this emergency.
- (c) No, as compulsory license is not allowed for such products under the concerned provision.
- (d) No, as Vinay has invested a lot of resources and time for the invention and must reap economic benefits out of his invention.

68. Vidhan, a zoologist based in Bhopal, discovers a new species of butterfly which was never found before while he was camping in the jungle. This new specie has unique characteristics and have possible uses in pharmaceutical industry. It also produces a type of secretion which can cure cancer and other diseases. Vidhan files a patent application with the government for the discovery of the butterfly. In the light of the passage, select the most appropriate option.

- (a) Vidhan can be granted patent over his discovery as the butterfly was never found before.
- (b) Vidhan can be granted patent over his discovery as the butterfly has possible industrial uses in pharmaceutical industry.
- (c) Vidhan can be granted patent over his discovery as he discovered the butterfly as a matter of chance.
- (d) Vidhan cannot be granted patent over his discovery as it pertains to discovery of a living thing occurring in nature.

69. In the previous question, assume that an additional fact is provided. Suppose Vidhan after the discovery of the butterfly, researches upon it for 3 years and creates a new drug which is proved to be the cure of AIDS for which no cure was available in market and for which there is high demand. Afterwards, he filed the application for patent registration with respect to the said drug. Decide what will be the effect of additional fact on Vidhan's new patent application.

- (a) The introduction of the additional fact would make Vidhan's invention eligible for patents.
- (b) The introduction of the additional fact would make Vidhan's invention ineligible for patents.
- (c) The introduction of the additional fact have no effect on Vidhan's patent application.
- (d) None of the above.

70. The world was suffering from the Covid pandemic which has claimed the life of millions of people around the world. Vidhi Pharmaceuticals creates a new vaccine which has shown impressive resistance against the Covid virus. The vaccine was created using a new gene-editing technique which was never used before for vaccine creation. It was granted patent for the vaccine in 2022 in India. In 2024, Indian government, in order to tackle the virus which is spreading like wildfire in country, grants suo-moto compulsory to another manufacturer. The manufacturer was supposed to manufacture the vaccine in bulk and supply it to the government which would then be used for general public. Decide whether the government's action is in consonance with the passage.

- (a) No, as the compulsory license cannot be granted by Indian Government for its personal use.
- (b) Yes, as no application was made to government for issue of compulsory license after 3 years.
- (c) Yes, as compulsory license can be granted by such government in such situation.
- (d) No, as compulsory license cannot be issued for a third party.

71. Based on the passage, decide:

Assertion (A): Licensing a patent can be a tool for monetization.

Reason (R): Licensing allows others to use the invention while the original inventor retains ownership and receives compensation.

- (a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation for A's truthfulness.
- (b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation for A's truthfulness.
- (c) A is true but R is false.
- (d) A is false but R is true.

72. Based on the passage, which of the following statements is true about patents?

- (a) Patents provide inventors with temporary monopoly rights over their inventions under general circumstances.

- (b) Once granted, a patent is valid globally, offering protection for the invention in every country.
- (c) Government can obtain a pending or already granted patent for public use without any compensation or patentee royalties.
- (d) Patents are automatically renewed after 20 years if they are not revoked.

PASSAGE - XV

The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 (ITP Act) was passed to prevent ‘the commercialisation of vices’ and the ‘trafficking of females’. Section 2 defines a “brothel” to include “any house, room, or place, or any portion of any house, room or place, which is used for purposes of sexual exploitation or abuse for the gain of another person or for the mutual gain of two or more prostitutes.” The term “prostitution” is defined as “the sexual exploitation, or abuse of persons, for commercial purposes.” Any person who engages in prostitution can be declared as a sex worker. According to section 5, any person who - procures or induces any person for the purpose of prostitution; or takes, causes or induces any person to carry on prostitution, shall be punishable. The punishment, if it is done against a persons’ will or is minor then between seven to fourteen years and if the same is done with a child then it is seven years to life imprisonment.

In the present case, the petitioner was found as a customer in a brothel and arrested. He filed a plea before the Chief Judicial Magistrate, seeking to be discharged. He contended that since he was a customer, he cannot be implicated for any offence under the ITP Act. However, the district court rejected the plea and directed that charges be framed against him. The aggrieved petitioner thus moved the Kerala High Court against the lower court’s order.

Noting that the term “procure” isn’t defined in the 1956 Act, the High Court observed that the word must be understood in the context in which it’s used, bearing in mind the Act’s objective. Therefore, the court upheld the lower court order and dismissed the petitioner’s plea.

The Kerala High Court ruling has expanded the meaning of the term “procure” in Section 5 of the ITP Act, by adding that a customer will be held liable in addition to pimps/brothel-keepers who “hire” persons for prostitution. “Section 7(1) of the Act penalises two types of persons for indulging in prostitution within the areas specified. Those persons are (i) the person who carries on prostitution and (ii) the person with whom such prostitution is carried on,” the HC said, adding that the act of immoral traffic cannot be perpetrated or carried on without a ‘customer’. Section 15(5) and 15(5A) of the ITP Act included procedural safeguards that contain provisions which mandate producing the offender before the magistrate, and their medical examination to

determine age, sexually transmitted diseases (if any), and injuries caused due to sexual abuse.

Source: Extracted (with edits and revisions) from an article titled “A brothel ‘customer’ can be charged under ITP Act: What the Kerala HC has said”, The Indian Express, January 3rd, 2024.

73. In Pune, a police raid led to the arrest of several individuals in a brothel, including Mr. Vidhan, who was a frequent customer of the brothel. He was charged under Section 5 of the ITP Act for procuring persons for prostitution. Mr. Vidhan contests the charges, arguing that as a customer, he should not be held liable under this section, which traditionally targets pimps and brothel-keepers. In the light of the passage, decide what would be the likely decision of the Court?

Note: Suppose that the rulings and judgments of each High Court is applicable throughout India.

- (a) The Court will rule in favour of Mr. Vidhan, maintaining the traditional interpretation of “procure” under the ITP Act as not being applicable to customers.
- (b) The Court will uphold the charges against Mr. Vidhan, aligning with the expanded interpretation of “procure” to include customers in the purview of Section 5 of ITP Act.
- (c) The Court will dismiss the charges against Mr. Vidhan but issue a warning against visiting brothels, as his actions contribute to the demand for prostitution.
- (d) The Court will direct the legislature to clarify the language of the ITP Act, specifically the interpretation of “procure” in relation to the liability of customers.

74. Vidhanika and Vidhyut were a married couple for 8 years. Over the time, their relation has become stressed due to growing differences between them especially since she has learnt about Vidhyut’s extra-marital affair. Vidhanika met Vishal on a dating site and they became good friends. After some time, they decided to meet and engage in a consensual sexual intercourse. After which, they visit a restaurant, where Vishal pays the bill for the dinner. After their meet, Vishal ceased contacts with Vidhanika. Based on the information given in the passage, decide whether it can be concluded that Vidhanika is a sex worker?

- (a) Yes, Vidhanika can be labelled as sex worker as she asked Vishal to pay the bill after sexual intercourse.
- (b) Yes, Vidhanika can be labelled as sex worker as she was sexually exploited by her husband and Vishal.
- (c) No, Vidhanika cannot be labelled as a sex worker as she had sexual intercourse with Vishal as her relationship with her husband was strained.
- (d) No, Vidhanika cannot be labelled as a sex worker as she was not sexually exploited for any commercial gain.

75. During a raid in a reputed hotel in Bhopal, the police officers discover that a part of the hotel was used by sex workers for prostitution. The hotel owner, Vikram, was arrested and charged under the provisions of ITP Act for running a brothel. Vikram contends that he was unaware of the brothel's operations, as the hotel management was leased out to a third party. In the light of the passage, decide whether the hotel can be called as a brothel?

- (a) No, the hotel cannot be considered as a brothel as it is was leased to a third party for the management.
- (b) No, the hotel cannot be considered as a brothel as the hotel is only partially used for prostitution.
- (c) Yes, the hotel can be considered as a brothel as it is used for sexual exploitation for commercial gains.
- (d) Yes, the hotel can be considered as a brothel because Vikram is directly involved in sexual exploitation.

76. Ms. Vaidehi, a social worker, operates a shelter in Indore for divorced women who have been victims of domestic violence. The shelter provides rehabilitation services and vocational training to such victims. However, during a police investigation, it is discovered that Ms. Vaidehi has been using the shelter for illicit activities by inducing such victims to take up prostitution. When charged under Section 5 of the ITP Act for inducing persons to carry prostitution, she argued in Court that she is merely providing them a way to earn livelihood through prostitution. Further, she argues that her intention was to aid the victims, not exploit them. In light of the passage, what would be the likely decision of the court?

- (a) The Court will rule in favour of Ms. Vaidehi, recognizing her good intentions and helping the victims of sexual assault to earn livelihood through prostitution.
- (b) The Court will uphold the charges against Ms. Vaidehi, for inducing women to carry on prostitution.
- (c) The Court will find Ms. Vaidehi liable but consider her good intentions as a mitigating factors in sentencing.
- (d) The Court will suspend the charges against Ms. Vaidehi and order a comprehensive investigation into the shelter's operations and the customers involved.

77. Assume that an additional fact is provided in the previous question. Suppose that Ms. Vaidehi had implemented strict entry protocols and only allowed reputed customers, what would be the effect of additional fact on prosecution's case against Vaidehi?

- (a) The additional fact would strengthen the prosecution's case against Vaidehi.
- (b) The additional fact would weaken the prosecution's case against Vaidehi.
- (c) The additional fact would have no effect on prosecution's case against Vaidehi.

(d) The additional fact would strengthen the prosecution's case against but only if no force or coercion was used against women to engaged in prostitution.

78. Based on the passage identify which of the following statements can be concluded:

(a) The ITP Act of 1956 primarily aims to promote the commercialization of vices and the trafficking of females.

(b) Section 5 of the ITP Act penalizes anyone who procures a person, with or without their consent, for the purpose of prostitution.

(c) The Kerala High Court in its recent judgement ruled that only pimps and brothel-keepers, but not customers, can be held liable under Section 5 of the ITP Act.

(d) Section 7(1) of the Act penalises persons for indulging in prostitution nearby public places.

79. Based on the passage, identify which of the following statements cannot be concluded:

(a) The ITP Act of 1956 defines "brothel" and "prostitution" and includes provisions for penalizing various related offenses.

(b) The Kerala High Court's interpretation of the term "procure" in Section 5 of the ITP Act excludes customers from being held liable for offenses related to prostitution.

(c) The ITP Act mandates procedural safeguards, such as medical examinations, for offenders under certain sections.

(d) The term "procure" isn't defined in the ITP Act and it is interpreted by the judiciary in the context in which it's used.

PASSAGE - XVI

The Supreme Court came down heavily on Baba Ramdev's Patanjali Ayurved for publishing misleading advertisements, and banned it from marketing its products until further orders are passed. The advertisement was in direct violation of the Drugs & Other Magical Remedies Act, 1954 (DOMA), and the Consumer Protection Act, 2019 (CPA). The publishing of false and misleading advertisements is an offence under both statutes.

Under Section 4 of the DOMA, there is a prohibition against publishing misleading advertisements relating to a drug. This is described as an advertisement which "directly or indirectly gives a false impression regarding the true character of the drug", "makes a false claim for the drug", or "is otherwise false or misleading in any material particular." Publishing a misleading advertisement under the DOMA is punishable with up to six months imprisonment, and/or a fine for the first offence. On the second offence, the period of imprisonment can extend to one year.

Section 89 of the CPA states: "any manufacturer or service provider who causes a false or misleading advertisement to be made which is prejudicial to the interest of consumers

shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years and with fine which may extend to ten lakh rupees."

The CPA also provides the definition for a "misleading advertisement". It includes advertisements which give a false description of the product or service, deliberately conceals important information, or is likely to mislead the consumer about the nature, substance, quantity or quality of the product or service.

Section 21 of CPA states that if the Central Authority is of the opinion that it is necessary to impose a penalty in respect of such false or misleading advertisement, by a manufacturer or an endorser, it may, by order, impose on manufacturer or endorser a penalty which may extend to ten lakh rupees.

Endorsement, in relation to an advertisement, means— (i) any message, verbal statement, demonstration made; or (ii) likeness shown, by an individual in support of such advertisement.

Source: Extracted (with edits and revisions) from an article titled "Why did the Supreme Court ban Baba Ramdev's Patanjali from advertising its products?" published in the Indian Express.

80. Vidhan runs a drug manufacturing company. His company is popular for running effective medicines at very economic prices. Recently, he has directed his Research and Development wing to work on a medicine to cure the latest disease crippling the Indian hospital system. His R&D team worked on the drug to cure it for months and they came with a prototype. The prototype was not 100% effective for human utilisation. Vidhan told his team to work on increasing the efficiency and finalize it. In the meantime, he told his marketing team to release an advertisement in the news that Vidhan's company has found the perfect cure and medicine will be sold in a month. He was hoping that his team will perfect the cure by the time the sale for the medicine starts but that was not scientifically possible to do in the given time period. Vidhan's competitor has challenged the validity such advertisement when published on the ground that it is in violation of Section 4 of the DOMA. Based on principles laid down in the passage, decide whether the challenge is valid?

- (a) Yes, as Vidhan's company is advertising the product even before it is available in market for consumers.
- (b) No, as the advertisement is providing information pertaining to sale date and is not misleading people.
- (c) Yes, as the advertisement is making a false claim regarding effectiveness of the drug.
- (d) No, as the Research and Development team will make sure the drug is 100% effective by the time sale starts.

81. Vidur is an owner of an unregistered travel agency. His company provides services related to travel and housing in the entire country. Recently, Indian government has signed a tourism agreement with Maldives to provide visa free travel. The Indian government has by law exempted the registered travel agencies from collecting GST from the consumers. Due to the exemption, the cost of the travel plans have come down. After such a move, Vidur's travel agency released an advertisement promoting GST free travel plans by him. Vidhi purchased the plan with a dual interest of going on a solo trip as well as saving money on GST. However, she was asked to pay the GST charge. She refused and has brought an action against Vidur's agency for violation of Section 89 of the CPA. Based on the passage, decide whether she will succeed?

- (a) Yes, as she was being forced to pay GST even after it has been exempted.
- (b) No, as such exemption is only available for registered travel agencies.
- (c) Yes, as advertisement by the Vidur's agency is misleading due to false provided by him.
- (d) No, as advertisement by the Vidur's agency is not misleading as it is not prejudicial to consumer interest.

82. Vidya is a small business owner. She sells beauty products made by her over Instagram. Recently to boost the sale of her products, she has organised a lucky draw competition. To enter the competition, people have to purchase products worth Rs.1000. Out of these people, only selected few will get extra products worth Rs.500 free. To promote the competition, Vidya published an advertisement stating "Purchase items worth Rs.1000 and receive guaranteed products worth Rs.1500 in total". Based on the principles laid down in the passage, decide which of the following statements are correct?

- (i) The advertisement is misleading as it is likely to mislead the consumer about the quality of the product.
 - (ii) The advertisement is misleading as it is likely to mislead the consumer about the quantity of the product.
 - (iii) For such misleading information Vidya shall be punished with imprisonment upto two years and with fine upto ten lakh rupees.
 - (iv) The advertisement is not misleading as anyone who purchases product worth Rs.1000 is guaranteed to get products worth Rs.1500 in total.
- (a) Both (i) & (iii) (b) Both (ii) & (iii) (c) Only (ii) (d) Only (iv)

83. Assume in the previous question, certain additional information is provided. To market her lucky draw competition, Vidya reached to popular social media influencers on Instagram. One of these influencers was Vidushi. Vidushi made a reel in support of the quality of the products. She requested the people to purchase her products. She also made the statement "Purchase items worth Rs.1000 and receive guaranteed products

worth Rs.1500 in total” in her reel. Based on her reel, the Central Authority, was of the opinion that penalty worth Rs. Five Lakhs need to be imposed on Vidushi. Accordingly, it has ordered Vidushi to pay the penalty amount. Based on the passage, decide whether the decision by the Central Authority is correct?

- (a) No, as only Vidya is liable to pay such penalty.
- (b) No, as the penalty imposed is less then Rs. Ten Lakhs.
- (c) Yes, as the Central Authority is empowered to impose penalty upto Rs. Ten lakhs on a person endorsing a misleading advertisement.
- (d) Yes, only if the Central Authority can prove in court that imposition of such penalty was necessary.

84. Based on the passage, decide:

Assertion (A): A person being convicted for the second time for publishing misleading advertisement related to a drug is likely to face increased punishment than a person convicted for the first time.

Reason (R): Publishing a misleading advertisement under the DOMA is punishable with up to six months imprisonment, and/or a fine for the first offence. On the second offence, the period of imprisonment can extend to one year.

- (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (c) A is true, but R is false.
- (d) A is false, but R is true.

Section D-Logical Reasoning

PASSAGE - XVII

The debate over the potential benefits and risks of artificial intelligence (AI) is reaching a fever pitch. On one hand, optimists argue that AI could solve some of humanity's most pressing challenges, from medical breakthroughs to combating climate change. On the other, there are grave concerns about the existential risks posed by AI, including its potential for misuse and the concentration of economic power. Historically, technological advancements have been a double-edged sword. The printing press, for instance, democratized information but also led to the persecution of alleged witches. Similarly, AI promises unprecedented benefits but also poses risks that are magnitudes greater than any technology humanity has dealt with before. The scale of AI's capabilities is staggering; it has outpaced Moore's Law, becoming billions of times more powerful within a decade. This rapid advancement could lead to economic upheaval and increased inequality, raising questions about our political systems' readiness to adapt. Another alarming aspect is the potential lack of human control. Many AI models operate as

"black boxes," their inner workings inscrutable to users. This raises ethical and safety concerns, especially as autonomous AI systems capable of pursuing high-level goals are in development. The risk of AI being used for malicious purposes is not theoretical; there are already instances of AI chatbots encouraging harmful actions, from criminal activities to self-harm. Despite these risks, there has been a lack of focus on AI safety. Stuart Russell, a leading AI expert, points out that even sandwich shops are subject to more regulation than AI companies. He advocates for a licensing system for AI development, similar to those in place for aviation or nuclear power. However, regulating AI presents unique challenges, including defining what "safe" means in the context of AI and achieving global consensus on regulatory standards. Given the global nature of the technology, a single country's lax regulations could have worldwide repercussions. Political leaders must resist the siren call of tech optimists who insist that everything will turn out fine. The stakes are too high for a laissez-faire approach. While we may hope that future generations will look back at our caution as unwarranted pessimism, there's also a chance they'll see this era as a missed opportunity to mitigate the risks before they outweighed the benefits.

Source: AI promises incredible benefits, The Guardian, October 29, 2023.

85. Which of the following is the author most likely to agree with?

- (a) AI's rapid advancement is generally beneficial and poses no significant risks.
- (b) The risks of AI are largely theoretical and have not manifested in real-world scenarios.
- (c) AI's capabilities have increased exponentially, leading to concerns about human control and safety.
- (d) The political systems are well-prepared to adapt to the challenges posed by AI.

86. How does the author suggest mitigating the risks associated with AI?

- (a) By slowing down the pace of AI development to allow for ethical considerations.
- (b) By implementing a licensing system for AI development, similar to those in place for aviation or nuclear power.
- (c) By focusing solely on the potential benefits of AI to outweigh the risks.
- (d) By allowing tech companies to self-regulate, as they are best positioned to understand the technology.

87. Based on the author's arguments, which of the following must necessarily be true?

- (a) Technological advancements have always led to positive societal changes.
- (b) AI's potential for misuse is greater than any technology humanity has dealt with before.
- (c) Political leaders are already taking adequate steps to regulate AI.
- (d) AI models are completely transparent and easily understandable.

88. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's arguments?

- (a) AI has been successful in solving complex medical problems, significantly improving healthcare.
- (b) There is a global consensus on strict regulatory standards for AI.
- (c) AI systems are primarily designed to pursue low-level, specific tasks rather than high-level goals.
- (d) The economic benefits of AI have been evenly distributed across various sectors, reducing inequality.

89. Why would the author have remarked that "Political leaders must resist the siren call of tech optimists who insist that everything will turn out fine"?

- (a) To emphasize that political leaders are generally well-informed about the complexities of AI.
- (b) To argue that political leaders should adopt a laissez-faire approach to AI regulation.
- (c) To stress the urgency of taking a cautious approach to AI, given the high stakes involved.
- (d) To suggest that tech optimists are the most reliable source of information on AI safety.

PASSAGE - XVIII

Vivian was also a leading figure in the Negev Institute for Strategies of Peace and Development, an Arab-Jewish organisation committed to social change. And she was a volunteer with the group Road to Recovery, which drives Palestinians needing medical treatment, mostly children, to hospitals in Israel. The right care is often unavailable in Palestinian Authority areas, and Road to Recovery says that while its work is humanitarian, it can also foster goodwill, and provides a "unique opportunity for Palestinians and Israelis to get to know each other", creating hope and contributing to peace. Vivian's was a noble life, though I'm sure she never saw herself as "noble", despite living so much of the time in the service of others. She was undoubtedly a human being possessed of a deep compassion, who also understood a fundamental fact: that whether Israeli or Palestinian, black or white, rich or poor, Muslim, Christian or Jew, we are all human beings; that, to paraphrase Charles Dickens, we are "fellow passengers to the grave", and not different "races of creatures bound on other journeys". Many of those who died at Be'eri kibbutz were fellow peace activists, including Hayim Katsman, who was 32 and worked with Palestinians in the southern West Bank. I was reporting on the Israel-Hamas war for the BBC in late October, when Yocheved Lifschitz, who helped ferry Palestinians from Gaza to medical care in Israel as a volunteer with Road to Recovery, was released from captivity, after being held hostage since 7 October. Her husband, Oded, who was also involved in peace work, is still being held. In the two months after the 7 October massacres, I visited Israel and the occupied West Bank three times. I

witnessed the country's deep pain and suffering and saw the empty streets and cafes and schools and workplaces in the days following the killings, as people hunkered down in their homes and safe rooms, uncertain of the future. All the while, there were unwelcome ghosts of past pogroms and mass death. I also spoke with Palestinian families whose relatives and friends across the frontier in Gaza were suffering unbearable trauma as Israel retaliated. A population losing everything, with thousands of lives extinguished as death came from the sky. Who can forget the images of days-old premature babies, wrapped in blankets, lying on a hospital table and about to be evacuated to Egypt, instead of breathing clean air inside incubators, where they had a better chance of life? Israel and Hamas are still engaged in their bitter war and there's little to suggest its conclusion will finally bring peace to this blighted corner of the world. But there is hope, because of people like Vivian's son Yonatan and so many others like him. They're all activists who believe that the conflicts involving Israel and Palestine – which I have been covering my whole life – can be resolved if people look beyond their own differences. Yonatan says the wars and bad blood continue not because his mother's work was stupid or naive and futile, with both sides locked in a natural, never-ending enmity, but because her efforts were not pushed and championed by more people across the divide. Yonatan's experience has forced me to question what my own responses might have been in the same situation. Despite everything he's gone through, he argues his mother had the right ideas, but not enough people listened. My hope for 2024 is that more people at least try to listen, and that her life and work wasn't in vain.

90. Why does the passage mention Road to Recovery, and what is its role in fostering goodwill between Palestinians and Israelis?

- (a) To criticize the organization's humanitarian efforts.
- (b) To highlight the organization's philanthropic role in driving Palestinians to hospitals in Israel.
- (c) To promote the organization as a model for peace.
- (d) To question the organization's commitment to social change.

91. What is the fundamental fact mentioned in the passage that Vivian understood, contributing to her noble life?

- (a) The significance of her own noble status.
- (b) The inevitability of human suffering.
- (c) The common humanity shared by individuals of different backgrounds.
- (d) The necessity of engaging in peace activism.

92. What argument does Yonatan present regarding the conflicts involving Israel and Palestine?

- (a) He argues that the conflicts are rooted in irreconcilable differences between the two sides.
- (b) He believes that his mother's efforts were naïve and futile, contributing to the ongoing enmity.
- (c) Yonatan suggests that the conflict persists because not enough people support and champion peace initiatives.
- (d) He contends that the wars and bad blood will never end due to the natural, never-ending enmity between Israelis and Palestinians.

93. Which of the following depicts the author's hope for 2024, as mentioned in the passage?

- (a) The author hopes a swift resolution to the Israel-Hamas war.
- (b) The author hopes for more conflicts between Israelis and Palestinians.
- (c) The author hopes for the continuation of natural, never-ending enmity between the two sides.
- (d) The author hopes that more people will listen to and champion Vivian's ideas for peace.

PASSAGE - XIX

Indian law is more progressive than otherwise. So it may be surprising to some that the rights to marriage would not be made equal. The Supreme Court reportedly ruled against making same-sex marriage legal, and three of the five judges of the Constitution bench also ruled against civil unions and the adoption of children by non-heterosexual couples. The recognition of LGBTQIA+ individuals as equal citizens who cannot be discriminated against was underlined by earlier judgments, in 2018 for instance, but marriage for them is neither legal nor a fundamental right: the rights of adoption, succession and inheritance would be available only to man-woman pairings. The Supreme Court ruled that Parliament must legislate if non-heterosexual marriages are to be made lawful. The scope of the Special Marriage Act, intended for inter-caste and interfaith marriages, cannot be expanded as its wording — it refers specifically to 'man' and 'woman' at one point — cannot be read differently. However, the Chief Justice of India gave detailed orders so that members of the queer community do not face discrimination, or intersex children are not coerced into anything, including hormone therapy.

The law code is a reflection of its society's values, beliefs and tendencies. The legal correctness of the Supreme Court's decision does not make the issue one of law alone. The argument of one respondent, the National Commission for the Protection of Child

Rights, for example, referred in effect to the non-negotiability of the mother's gender identity. That is one of many prevalent beliefs. The Centre said in court that legalising non-heterosexual marriage would have an impact on 160 laws. Will that make legislating difficult then? Democratising intimate spaces — a phrase reportedly used by a judge — is apparently not straightforward, since such spaces are the outcome of legislation. Marriage is regulated, as all related matters, such as adoption or inheritance, are legally determined. What seems to have surfaced is a clash between marriage as a social phenomenon, carrying with it all the beliefs and biases of the society within which it is set, and marriage as a private relationship between two individuals, an 'intimate space', to which the plea for equality of marriage is relegated by the same society. Indians must decide whether that is the only, or true, ground for such equality. Their society would be defined accordingly.

Source: In Law, The Telegraph Online, October 19, 2023

94. As per the passage, what is the stance of the Supreme Court on the issue of same-sex marriage?

- (a) The Supreme Court is in favour of same-sex marriage.
- (b) The Supreme Court has left the decision to Parliament.
- (c) The Supreme Court believes same-sex marriage is a fundamental right.
- (d) The Supreme Court has not yet made a decision on the issue.

95. Which of the following is the author most likely to agree with regarding the role of law in society?

- (a) Law is solely a reflection of a society's legal framework.
- (b) Law is a reflection of its society's values, beliefs, and tendencies.
- (c) Law should be independent of societal beliefs and values.
- (d) Law is primarily concerned with the regulation of intimate spaces.

96. Based on the author's arguments, which of the following must necessarily be true?

- (a) Legalizing non-heterosexual marriage would have no impact on existing laws.
- (b) The Special Marriage Act can be easily amended to include non-heterosexual couples.
- (c) The issue of same-sex marriage is not solely a legal matter but also involves societal beliefs.
- (d) The Supreme Court is the ultimate authority on the legality of non-heterosexual marriages.

97. How does the author suggest the issue of marriage equality intersects with societal norms?

- (a) The author suggests that societal norms are irrelevant to the issue of marriage equality.

- (b) The author suggests that marriage equality is solely a matter of individual choice and should not be influenced by societal norms.
- (c) The author suggests that societal norms and beliefs play a role in shaping the legal and social understanding of marriage.
- (d) The author suggests that societal norms are fully supportive of marriage equality.
- 98.** Which of the following would support the author's conclusion that the issue of marriage equality is complex and multi-faceted?
- (a) The Special Marriage Act is sufficient to address all concerns related to marriage equality.
- (b) The National Commission for the Protection of Child Rights argues for the non-negotiability of the mother's gender identity.
- (c) The Supreme Court's decision is the final word on the matter, making it a straightforward legal issue.
- (d) The Indian society is unanimously in favour of legalizing non-heterosexual marriage.

PASSAGE - XX

Art often attempts to imitate reality. The endeavour is usually benign. But modern technology's projects of imitation are turning out to be far more sinister. The rising concern with deepfakes is a case in point. Deepfakes are images and videos of real people that are created by using a form of Artificial Intelligence called 'deep learning'. Two Indian actresses, Rashmika Mandanna and Katrina Kaif, were targeted by deepfake technology recently and their morphed, objectionable videos disseminated for consumption. Interestingly, the transgressions took place even as nations around the world met in Britain and signed a global pact against the risks posed by 'frontier AI' — highly capable, generative AI models that pose severe risks to public safety.

India, one of the signatories to the pact, has been a witness to deepfake's sinister powers for a while. Last year, a deepfake photograph was created to erroneously depict wrestlers protesting against the chief of the Wrestling Federation of India posing for a selfie inside a police van. In July this year, a man in Kerala was robbed of Rs 40,000 in a deepfake scam. It has taken the targeting of two celebrities for people to wake up to the threat. But the threat, data suggest, has been worsening. Researchers have observed a 230% increase in deepfake usage by cybercriminals and scammers and have predicted that the technology would replace phishing in a couple of years. The State seems to have been jolted to action too. Earlier this week, the Indian government declared deepfakes to be a violation under the IT Rules 2021. Any company that does not take down content flagged as deepfake within 24-36 hours would be liable to prosecution under Indian laws. India's regulatory approach is being echoed around the world. The European Union has issued guidelines to set up an independent network of fact-checkers to help analyse the sources

and the processes of deepfake content creation. China's guidelines direct service providers and users to ensure that any doctored content using deepfake technology is explicitly labelled and can be traced back to its source. The United States of America has also introduced the bipartisan Deepfake Task Force Act to counter the menace. Regulation is necessary to check the creation of spurious content and identity theft using deepfakes. But care should be taken to ensure that the beneficial potentials of AI technology remain unaffected by policy enthusiasm for regulation.

The most obvious challenge for regulatory technology would be to identify deepfakes. But there is a graver threat lurking around the corner. At a time when the refinement and the weaponisation of technology are increasingly making it difficult to differentiate the real from the artificial, the concept of deepfakes is also being invoked to make the real appear fake. For instance, in 2019, the army in Gabon launched and won a coup against an elected government on the suspicion that a video of the then president was a deepfake even though subsequent forensic analysis did not find traces of alteration or manipulation. All this points to the unfolding of a deeper — existential — crisis in which human society, at the mercy of technology, is losing its ability to separate the real from the uncanny. This will have profoundly destabilising implications on the future of the species.

Source: Deadly imitation, The Telegraph Online, November 12, 2023

99. Which of the following implicit assumptions can be logically deduced from the author's discussion on the rising concern of deepfakes?

- (a) Deepfakes are primarily used for entertainment and creative purposes without causing harm.
- (b) The rapid advancement in deepfake technology has outpaced the ability of regulatory mechanisms to control it effectively.
- (c) The majority of the public can easily distinguish between real and deepfake content.
- (d) Deepfake technology has minimal impact on public safety and individual privacy.

100. Based on the author's arguments, which of the following must necessarily be true?

- (a) Deepfakes have become the primary tool for cybercriminals and scammers, surpassing other methods like phishing.
- (b) The targeting of celebrities using deepfake technology has been the main catalyst for public awareness and regulatory action.
- (c) Global efforts to combat the risks posed by deepfakes are unified and consistent across different nations.
- (d) The increasing refinement and weaponization of technology make it challenging to differentiate the real from the artificial.

101. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the author's argument about the need for regulation to check the creation of spurious content using deepfakes?

- (a) Technological advancements have led to the development of tools that can reliably detect deepfakes.
- (b) There has been a significant increase in the number of deepfake-related crimes reported globally.
- (c) Most people are becoming increasingly aware of and educated about the existence and dangers of deepfakes.
- (d) Content creators are voluntarily labelling deepfake content to distinguish it from real content.

102. How does the author suggest that the phenomenon of deepfakes is impacting the broader societal understanding of reality?

- (a) Deepfakes are leading to an enhanced understanding and appreciation of technological advancements in society.
- (b) They are creating a crisis where distinguishing between real and artificial content is increasingly difficult.
- (c) The widespread use of deepfakes has resulted in a more critical and questioning approach to media consumption.
- (d) Deepfakes are generally being used responsibly and contributing positively to societal discourse.

103. Which of the following judgements most closely conforms to the principle stated above regarding the existential crisis posed by deepfakes?

- (a) The primary challenge of deepfakes lies in the technological complexity of creating them.
- (b) Deepfakes pose a risk primarily to individual privacy rather than to societal perception of reality.
- (c) The existential crisis stems from the inability to discern reality, leading to destabilization in various aspects of society.
- (d) The rapid evolution of AI technology will eventually solve the problems created by deepfakes.

PASSAGE - XXI

Official data on India's merchandise trade for April give reason for cheer at first glance. Emerging from a record export performance during the just-concluded financial year, outward shipments for the month rose 24.2% from a year earlier, with electronics and chemicals showing healthy expansion, while petroleum products more than doubled. However, imports continued to outpace exports, growing by 26.6% to broaden the goods trade deficit, which widened to \$20.07 billion from \$18.5 billion in March. The trade

deficit — the extent to which the import bill exceeds export receipts — worryingly breached \$200 billion for a rolling 12-month period for the first time in April, impacted predominantly by petroleum imports of \$172 billion. Global crude oil prices have surged by more than 40% in 2022 in the wake of Russia's war on Ukraine, swelling the import bill. The early onset of the Indian summer, with a heat wave, has bolstered power demand, setting the pace for coal imports, which grew 136% last month, notwithstanding record output by key domestic supplier Coal India. For the first time ever, the Ministry of Power has set timelines for States to import coal over the next few months, a far cry from the 16% year-on-year decline in imports of the fuel in the April 2021-January 2022 period and a clear portent that the bill for overseas purchases of coal is also set to swell. Monitoring the trade deficit is crucial as this has a direct bearing on the current account deficit (CAD). Disconcertingly, foreign direct investment, which typically helps bridge the CAD, has seen a moderation. And, the wider the CAD, the greater the downward pressure on the rupee. A weaker rupee, in turn, makes imports costlier, potentially widening the trade deficit, and thus triggering a vicious cycle. The RBI also has its hands full with the battle against imported inflation as global commodity prices remain sharply elevated. To help avoid added stress, the Government must consider additional incentives for exports, while encouraging local production of items that strain the import bill. The coal crisis could have been averted with better advance estimates of power demand as the country emerged from the worst of the pandemic, and optimal allocation of coal-carrying rail wagons. Policymakers can ill afford to let their guard down on trade imbalances and risk growth-retarding inflation and more pressure on the rupee.

104. Which of the following is not one of the causes for increase in the trade deficit?

- (a) A record export performance during the just-concluded financial year.
- (b) Surge in Global crude oil prices by more than 40%
- (c) Increase in power demand.
- (d) A weaker rupee

105. According to the passage, which of the following can be true?

- (a) A weaker Rupee will lead to increase in income of importers.
- (b) Encouragement by government for local production of electronics will help in reducing the trade deficit.
- (c) More power generation through hydro power plants will help in reducing the trade deficit.
- (d) Both (b) and (c)

106. Which of the following can be deduced from the given passage?

- (a) Widening trade surplus has resulted in reduction in the price of dollar.

- (b) Reducing trade surplus will give a sigh of relief to RBI and Indian government.
 (c) Widening trade deficit puts more pressure on the economy of India.
 (d) Reducing trade deficit puts more pressure on the economy of India.

107. Which of the following would be an implicit assumption of the author?

- (a) Increase in trade surplus in India will lead to instability in the value of rupee.
 (b) Increase in trade deficit in India will lead to inflation.
 (c) Increase in trade surplus in India will lead to inflation.
 (d) Increase in trade deficit in India will lead to increase in the value of rupee.

108. Which of the following would weaken the statement “The trade deficit the extent to which the import bill exceeds export receipts — worryingly breached \$200 billion for a rolling 12-month period for the first time in April.”

- (a) There has been a surge in crude oil prices for India as India joins Russia in the war against Ukraine.
 (b) Increased fuel costs have triggered a reduction of exports from India.
 (c) There has been increase in the electronics import from US as the new iPhone 13 pro max is in huge demand.
 (d) None of the above

Section E-Quantitative Techniques

PASSAGE - XXII

Directions (109 - 112): Study the following information and answer the questions below.

Four friends, Vidhi, Vidhan, Vidya, and Vidushi, invested their savings in four different schemes - A, B, C, and D respectively. The total investment made by all four friends together was Rs. 2, 85,000. Vidhi invested Rs. 15000 less than Vidhan; Vidhan invested Rs. 5000 more than Vidya; Vidya invested Rs. 10000 less than Vidushi. Vidhi invested in scheme A for 2 years with 20% p.a. simple interest; Vidhan invested in scheme B for 3 years with 10% p.a. simple interest; Vidya invested in scheme C for 5 years with 8% p.a. simple interest; and Vidushi invested in scheme D for 2.5 years with 15% p.a. simple interest.

109. The total interest received by Vidhi is how much percent more or less than the total interest received by Vidushi?

- (a) 15% (b) 25% (c) 20% (d) 30%

110. Find the respective ratio between investment of Vidhi and Vidya together and investment of Vidhan and Vidushi together?

- (a) 35:51 (b) 51:35 (c) 31:26 (d) 26:31

111. What is the average of simple interest received by all four friends together?

- (a) Rs. 26,125 (b) Rs. 26,225 (c) Rs. 26,325 (d) Rs. 26,425

112. If Vidhi invested in scheme E for 2 years with 20% p.a. compound interest, then find the amount

(principal + interest) received by her after 2 years?

- (a) Rs. 84400 (b) Rs. 86400 (c) Rs. 84600 (d) Rs. 86600

PASSAGE - XXIII

Directions (113 - 116): Study the following information and answer the questions below.

In the project of constructing the Metro train in Indore, there are four groups - A, B, C, and D - working on it. The following information is regarding the time taken by each group to complete a particular task. In group A, 8 men can finish the task in 18 days by working 9 hours a day. In group B, 15 woman can do the same task in 12 days by working 6 hours a day. Similarly, in group C, 6 boys can finish the task in 24 days by working 9 hours a day, while in group D, 15 girls can complete the same task in 18 days by working 6 hours a day. It is important to note that the efficiency of a man is equal to the efficiency of a boy.

113. If 12 men and 8 women work together for 5 hours a day, how long does it take them to complete the same task?

- (a) 12 days (b) 20 days (c) 24 days (d) 8 days

114. If 20 boys and 20 girls work together for 4 hours a day, how long does it take them to complete the same task?

- (a) 15 days (b) 12 days (c) 6 days (d) 9 days

115. The efficiency of a man and a woman together is how much percent more or less than the efficiency of a boy and a girl together?

- (a) 18.18% (b) 22.22% (c) 33.33% (d) 16.66%

116. If the daily wages of a man, a woman, a boy, and a girl are divided among them according to their efficiency, and the total daily wages earned by them is Rs. 4000, then what is the difference between the daily wages earned by a man and a girl?

- (a) Rs.200 (b) Rs.300 (c) Rs.350 (d) Rs.400

PASSAGE - XXIV

Directions (117 - 120): Study the following information and answer the questions below.

There are three companies A, B, and C that released different number of vacancies for three posts i.e. Administration, Finance, and Manufacturing in 2021.

For company A: The total number of Finance vacancies were 1200 less than manufacturing vacancies which were 900 more than Administration vacancies. The total number of Administration vacancies were 4100.

For company B: Total number of Administration vacancies was 20% of total vacancies of company B which were 12000. Manufacturing vacancies of company B were 2 times of Finance vacancies of company A.

For company C: Total number of Finance vacancies is 50% less than Finance vacancies of company B. The ratio of Administration to Manufacturing vacancies is 4: 11, while the number of Administration vacancies is 4000.

117. Find the respective ratio of Finance vacancies of company B to Manufacturing vacancies of company C?

- (a) 3 : 5 (b) 11 : 2 (c) 2 : 3 (d) 2 : 11

118. Find the average Administration vacancies of companies B and C together?

- (a) 4300 (b) 3200 (c) 1300 (d) 3000

119. The number of manufacturing vacancies of company A is what percent of the number of finance vacancies of company B?

- (a) 250% (b) 150% (c) 350% (d) 450%

120. If company A calls thrice the number of Finance vacancies for the interview and company C calls four times the number of Finance vacancies for the interview then find the total number of candidates called for the interview by company A and C together?

- (a) 14500 (b) 15400 (c) 14400 (d) 15500