

# LAW PREP

## — Tutorial —

# CLAT Rehearsal

## BASIC

### Law Prep Mock Test Series

ENROLLMENT NO.

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Test Code : LPMTS-018-10046

### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

**Maximum Marks : 120**

1. This Question Booklet (QB) contains 120 (One hundred and twenty) Multiple Choice Questions.
2. You shall enter your Enrollment No. on the first page of the QB at the start of the test.
3. You have to answer ALL questions in the separate Optical Mark Reader (OMR) Response Sheet supplied along with this QB. You must READ the detailed instructions provided with the OMR Response Sheet on the reverse side of this packet BEFORE you start the test.
4. No clarification can be sought on the QB from anyone. In case of any discrepancy such as printing error or missing pages, in the QB, request the Invigilator to replace the QB and OMR Response Sheet.
5. The QB for the Undergraduate Programme is for 120 marks. Every Right Answer secures 1 mark. Every Wrong Answer results in the deduction of 0.25 mark. There shall be no deductions for Unanswered Questions.
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**English Language**

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

- I. **Social Issue:** The Rajasthan government issued a notification on March 1 for the recruitment of 24,000 sanitation workers across the state's various municipal bodies. Since then, sanitation workers in Rajasthan have gone on strike many times to stop the recruitment. On August 6, sanitation workers ended their two-week strike after getting assurance from the government that their demands would be fulfilled.

Around 1.5 lakh sanitation workers are currently working under the Rajasthan state government in various municipal bodies. A majority of these workers are from the Valmiki community, among the most marginalised of Scheduled Caste communities who have been involved in sanitation work for centuries.

Now, sanitation workers are demanding that Valmiki community members should be given preference in the recruitment, which should not be done as per standard government norms in which General, ST, OBC, and other SC communities will also be recruited.

Valmiki community people have alleged that workers from other communities do not clean roads, public toilets, and drainage, and rather sub-let this work to Valmiki workers, increasing their burden. Before 1995, sanitation workers belonging to the Valmiki community were hired by sanitation inspectors in the municipal bodies. After their application was accepted, they would be given temporary status for two to four years, following which they were made permanent. In the 1996 and 2009 recruitments, a lottery system was introduced to hand out permanent jobs.

In 2012, the state government introduced new rules for recruitment which added the requirement of an experience certificate. Around 20,000 Valmiki community members were hired during this recruitment. In 2018, 21,000 sanitation workers were recruited in Rajasthan on the condition of having an experience certificate. During this recruitment, non-Valmiki workers too were taken in, provided they provided adequate certificates. This, for the first time, led to the appointment of upper castes as sanitation workers.

In March, when the recruitment notification was issued, sanitation workers of the Valmiki community objected, demanding preference be given to their community. The government then issued a corrigendum which said that only experience working in municipal bodies would be considered valid, effectively filtering out non-Valmiki communities since most do not work as sanitation workers. However, non-Valmiki communities challenged this in the Rajasthan High Court, arguing that sanitation work experience in hotels, schools or other organisations should be considered. This, they said, was according to the Rajasthan Nagar Palika (Safai

Karamchari Sewa) Rules of 2012. The High Court accepted this argument and ordered the government to recruit as per extant rules.

*Source: Extracted with edits and revisions from:*

*<https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/why-sanitation-workers-in-rajasthan-are-protesting-9506252/>*

1. What is the primary concern of the Valmiki community regarding the recruitment of sanitation workers?
  - (a) Ensuring that the process of recruitment does not solely depend on possessing standardized certificates for all candidates.
  - (b) Advocating for a recruitment policy that acknowledges their longstanding role and contributions in the sanitation sector.
  - (c) Promoting a more inclusive hiring strategy that increases representation from diverse community backgrounds.
  - (d) Advocating for the retention of a lottery system that ensures equitable selection opportunities for all applicants.
2. Which of the following CANNOT be inferred from the above passage?
  - (a) The Valmiki community has historically been involved in sanitation work for centuries.
  - (b) Non-Valmiki workers have recently begun challenging recruitment practices in court.
  - (c) The Rajasthan government has always recruited sanitation workers using a lottery system.
  - (d) The recruitment rules in 2018 allowed upper-caste individuals to be appointed as sanitation workers.
3. Based on the passage, which of the following best describes the shift in recruitment policies over time?
  - (a) Transitioning from a preference for specific communities to implementing stringent and objective qualifications for all candidates.
  - (b) Evolving from a system where job security was uncertain to one where longevity is assured through proven experience.
  - (c) Shifting from a universally inclusive hiring policy to one that explicitly supports those historically engaged in the profession.
  - (d) Moving from decisions made at the discretion of individual inspectors to a randomized selection process for job stability.



4. What does the passage imply about the impact of the High Court's decision on the recruitment policies for sanitation workers?
- (a) It has restricted the scope of valid experience, limiting it to those with direct work in municipal sanitation roles.
  - (b) It has created an opportunity for workers from diverse backgrounds to qualify for sanitation roles using varied work experiences.
  - (c) It has enforced a policy change that uniformly applies stringent criteria across all applicants without community preference.
  - (d) It has reversed previous recruitment policies to exclusively benefit upper-caste individuals with non-traditional sanitation experience.
5. Based on the demands of the Valmiki community, what underlying issue does the passage highlight about their employment conditions?
- (a) A systematic neglect of community-specific qualifications in the broader governmental employment strategy.
  - (b) A historical continuity in giving the Valmiki community preferential access to sanitation roles within municipal bodies.
  - (c) A consistent underrepresentation and exploitation of the Valmiki community in sanitation work across different time periods.
  - (d) A growing disparity between traditional employment practices and modern, inclusive recruitment policies.
6. What conclusion can be drawn from the changes in recruitment practices over time, as described in the passage?
- (a) Recruitment practices have evolved to become more inclusive and fair, focusing on diverse experiences rather than community-based preferences.
  - (b) Changes in recruitment practices have primarily aimed at increasing transparency and fairness in the allocation of sanitation roles.
  - (c) The evolution in recruitment practices reflects a shift towards recognizing professional experience over community lineage in hiring decisions.
  - (d) Despite changes, recruitment practices have continued to oscillate between community preference and broader inclusivity.

- II. **Lifestyle:** Yawning happens when you open your mouth, take a deep breath and take in air without even thinking about it. You might be tired, bored or waking up. Most people yawn six to 23 times a day – even animals yawn! You may have noticed that you often yawn after you see someone else yawn. This is called “contagious yawning”. Contagious yawning feels automatic, like a reflex you don’t have to think about. But scientists know it’s not completely automatic because we are not born knowing how to do it.

In fact, contagious yawning only starts around ages four or five, which is when kids begin to develop better empathy. Empathy means understanding and sharing the feelings of others. So, without even thinking about it, seeing someone yawn can make you want to yawn, too.

Scientists have noticed that people yawn more when the other person they see yawn is someone they know well – like a best friend or a parent. This supports the idea that empathy plays a big role in contagious yawning. When you see a friend or family member yawn, your brain understands their feelings, and you might yawn, too. Contagious yawning can also help strengthen social connections and coordination within a group. In other words, it’s one way our brains help us connect with others.

Scientists found people might also yawn when they see animals like birds, reptiles and fish yawning (yes, fish yawn too). In fact, some animals like dogs and chimpanzees also experience contagious yawning. When a chimpanzee sees another chimpanzee yawn, it often yawns, too. Like for us humans, this helps them build social connections with each other.

Scientists found that both in humans and in animals like chimpanzees and bonobos, contagious yawning is more common among those who share a strong bond. This means you’re more likely to catch a yawn from your best friend or family member than from a stranger.

As people get older, they become better at understanding others’ feelings, and they yawn more when they see others yawn. However, this ability to catch yawns might decrease in very old age. This is seen in both humans and chimpanzees. Humans can have a contagious yawn from many different types of animals – not just their pets that they love and know well. This shows that yawning helps us connect and understand each other, whether it’s with another person or an animal.

*Source: Extracted with edits and revisions from:*

*<https://www.hindustantimes.com/lifestyle/health/why-you-yawn-when-you-see-someone-else-yawn-the-science-behind-contagious-yawning-101723542084956.html>*

7. Which of the following best captures the author’s attitude towards contagious yawning?
- (a) Contagious yawning is a trivial and involuntary reflex that serves no real purpose.
  - (b) The phenomenon is largely overstated and does not significantly impact social behaviour.
  - (c) It is a fascinating reflex that deepens social connections and varies with emotional closeness.
  - (d) It is a psychological disturbance that can disrupt normal social interactions.

8. Based on the passage, which statement is true regarding the development of contagious yawning?
- (a) Children exhibit contagious yawning from birth as a basic instinctive behaviour.
  - (b) It is learned over time, correlating with the development of empathy around ages four or five.
  - (c) Contagious yawning develops independently of empathetic abilities in children.
  - (d) The ability to yawn contagiously is acquired in teenage years as cognitive functions mature.
9. What role does empathy play in contagious yawning according to the passage?
- (a) It enhances the likelihood of yawning in response to a familiar person's yawn.
  - (b) Empathy limits the frequency of yawning to avoid social discomfort.
  - (c) Empathy decreases the occurrence of yawning in public settings.
  - (d) It makes individuals resistant to yawning when they see strangers yawn.
10. In what way does the passage suggest that age affects the phenomenon of contagious yawning?
- (a) As people age, their ability to engage in contagious yawning declines due to diminished social bonds.
  - (b) Older individuals show increased resistance to contagious yawning as their empathy wanes.
  - (c) The ability to engage in contagious yawning peaks in middle age, reflecting heightened emotional intelligence.
  - (d) While it may diminish in very old age, the capacity to yawn contagiously generally increases with age.
11. How does the passage illustrate the relationship between humans and animals in the context of yawning?
- (a) It suggests a universal physiological response to yawning across different species, indicating a shared biological trait.
  - (b) The passage implies a deep evolutionary link that enables both humans and animals to benefit from yawning.
  - (c) It highlights how humans are more likely to yawn in response to their pets than to humans they do not know well.
  - (d) Humans and animals exhibit similar yawning behaviours, emphasizing the social utility of yawning beyond species boundaries.

12. What can be inferred about the communicative function of yawning in groups, based on the passage?
- (a) Yawning serves primarily as a means of expressing boredom or disinterest within a group.
  - (b) It acts as a subconscious signal that synchronizes the mood and behaviour among group members.
  - (c) The primary function of yawning in groups is to alert members to potential threats or changes.
  - (d) Contagious yawning in groups is seen as a sign of weak social bonds and lack of cohesion.

**III. Economy:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced that it had kept the benchmark interest rate unchanged at 6.5% after the end of its monetary policy meeting — it marked the ninth straight meeting of the central bank in which it held rates at the same level. According to governor Shaktikanta Das, the reason was high food inflation, which pushed headline inflation beyond the bank's target of 4%.

During the press conference, Das said that the central bank is committed to bringing down inflation. However, the data released by the RBI showed the predicament.

In July, the monthly print in inflation for tomato, onion and potato came in at 62.1%, 24.6% and 18% respectively — and the year-on-year increase in inflation for vegetables is 29.3%. For cereals, inflation increased to 8.8% in June from 8.6% in April; for fruits, inflation increased to 7.2% in June from 5.2% in April; and for pulses inflation printed at 16.1% in June, recording 13 consecutive months of inflation in double digits. Since November 2023, food inflation has been over 8%, a trend that has surprised both the government and the RBI.

This February, the RBI, in a paper, wondered whether food inflation was showing core-like characteristics, meaning behaviour that is more like core inflation, which is less volatile compared to food or energy inflation. Prolonged seasons of climate-related erratic weather — heatwave in 2022, La Nina conditions for three years in a row, unseasonal rainfall in March 2023 followed by a delayed onset of the monsoon, heavy rainfall in July 2023 and dry conditions in August 2023, persisting El Nino conditions and another heatwave in 2024 — have affected agricultural yields and supply chains, pushing food inflation higher.

The paper - co-written by deputy governor Michael Debabrata Patra - cautioned the monetary policy committee "to be conscious of the dangers of overkill in reactions to a transitory food price shock and also of the pitfalls of benign neglect of looking through persistent food price shocks." Additionally, it warned about persistently high food inflation feeding into households' inflation expectations, and thus affecting demand. Households are constrained in their spending abilities owing to higher inflation. The challenge is to [gauge] whether this is getting more firmly ingrained in household inflation expectations, don't know if this is clear cut yet. Certainly, if higher inflation persists for a long time, this is a potential risk. And the RBI's monetary stance at the moment, Zook said, is relatively appropriate given the inflation dynamics.

*Source: Extracted with edits and revisions from: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/analysis/can-the-reserve-bank-of-india-rein-in-food-inflation-101723484880893.html>*

13. What has been identified as the principal factor contributing to the prolonged high levels of food inflation in India?
- (a) A sustained increase in domestic demand for essential food items across various regions of the country.
  - (b) Supply chain disruptions caused by a series of unpredictable weather events over recent years.
  - (c) Policy adjustments within the government that have negatively impacted agricultural productivity.
  - (d) The escalation in costs associated with importing staple food products due to instability in global markets.
14. What is the central concern of the RBI as described in the passage?
- (a) The need to balance interest rates with economic growth objectives.
  - (b) The integration of modern technology in financial monitoring and policy making.
  - (c) The impact of global economic trends on domestic financial policies.
  - (d) The challenge of managing inflation without overreacting to temporary price shocks.
15. According to the passage, which of the following statements would the author most likely agree with?
- (a) Given the complexities of ongoing inflation trends, the existing interest rate policies of the RBI are deemed suitable. [www.lawpreptutorial.com](http://www.lawpreptutorial.com)
  - (b) Persistent high food inflation primarily results from the Reserve Bank of India's inadequate monetary strategies.
  - (c) Recent inflation trends have been minimally influenced by changes in consumer purchasing behaviours.
  - (d) To effectively manage inflation, the RBI's regulatory focus should shift predominantly towards non-food sectors.
16. What does the term 'core-like characteristics' imply in the context of the passage?
- (a) Traits that are fundamental and essential to the understanding of overall inflation.
  - (b) Attributes that resemble non-volatile sectors such as core inflation sectors excluding food and energy.
  - (c) Characteristics that are transient and not indicative of long-term inflation trends.
  - (d) Features that are exclusively related to monetary policies and their direct outcomes.

17. Which of the following is NOT true in the context of the passage regarding the RBI's approach to inflation?
- (a) The RBI has maintained the benchmark interest rate unchanged to combat high food inflation.
  - (b) The RBI is actively considering the impact of climatic changes on agricultural outputs in its policy reviews.
  - (c) The RBI has been surprised by the persistent high rates of food inflation despite its efforts.
  - (d) The RBI has recently lowered interest rates to stimulate economic growth despite high inflation.
18. What synonym for 'predicament' as used in the passage would be most appropriate?
- (a) Dilemma
  - (b) Catastrophe
  - (c) Advantage
  - (d) Solution

**IV. Science:** All Indian salt and sugar brands, whether big or small, packaged or unpackaged, contain microplastics, according to a study published. The study, "Microplastics in Salt and Sugar" and conducted by the environmental research organisation Toxics Link, tested 10 types of salt including table salt, rock salt, sea salt and local raw salt and five types of sugar purchased from both online and local markets. The study revealed the presence of microplastics in all salt and sugar samples, in various forms, including fibre, pellets, films and fragments. The size of these microplastics ranged from 0.1 mm to 5 mm. The highest levels of microplastics were found in iodised salt, in the form of multi-coloured thin fibre and films.

The objective of our study was to contribute to the existing scientific database on microplastics so that the global plastic treaty can address this issue in a concrete and focused manner. We also aim to trigger policy action and attract researchers' attention to potential technological interventions that could reduce exposure risks to microplastics. Our study's finding of substantial amounts of microplastics in all salt and sugar samples is concerning and calls for urgent, comprehensive research into the long-term health impacts of microplastics on human health.

The concentration of microplastics in the salt samples ranged from 6.71 to 89.15 pieces per kilogramme of dry weight, the report said. Iodised salt had the highest concentration of microplastics while organic rock salt had the lowest, according to the study. In sugar samples, the concentration of microplastics ranged from 11.85 to 68.25 pieces per kilogramme, with the highest concentration found in non-organic sugar.

Microplastics are a growing global concern because they can harm both health and the environment. These tiny plastic particles can enter the human body through food, water and air. Recent research has found microplastics in human organs such as the lungs, heart, and even in breast milk and unborn babies. Previous studies found that the average Indian consumes 10.98 grams of salt and around 10 spoons of sugar every day, much higher than the World Health Organization's recommended limits.

*Source: Extracted with edits and revisions from: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/science/all-indian-salt-and-sugar-brands-have-microplastics-study-101723540860005.html>*



19. What best summarizes the main idea of the passage?
- (a) The necessity of global cooperation in addressing the contamination of food supplies by microplastics.
  - (b) Detailed descriptions of the types of microplastics found in Indian salt and sugar brands.
  - (c) The alarming presence of microplastics in all tested salt and sugar brands in India and the call for urgent research.
  - (d) The health implications of consuming salt and sugar with microplastics on a daily basis.
20. Which statement would the author most likely disagree with?
- (a) Microplastics' presence in basic food items like salt and sugar necessitates immediate action to investigate potential health impacts.
  - (b) The current understanding of microplastics' effects on human health is sufficient to delay any further research into the area.
  - (c) Efforts should be made to develop technological solutions to reduce microplastic contamination in food items.
  - (d) Policy changes are essential to address the findings of microplastics in consumable products.
21. Based on the passage, which of the following best describes the author's stance on the issue of microplastics?
- (a) Microplastics pose a severe threat to human health, and immediate regulatory measures should be enacted.
  - (b) While concerning, the presence of microplastics in food does not constitute an immediate health crisis.
  - (c) More research is needed to understand the implications of microplastics before any policy decisions are made.
  - (d) Technological advancements have adequately addressed the major concerns regarding microplastics in food.
22. What inference can be made about the variability of microplastic concentration in different salt types?
- (a) Higher microplastic contamination in iodised salt suggests the iodization process may increase microplastic content.
  - (b) The natural harvesting method of sea salt likely results in lower microplastic contamination than in processed salts.
  - (c) Local raw salt, due to minimal processing, might exhibit microplastic levels comparable to those found in iodised salt.
  - (d) Organic rock salt contains fewer microplastics due to its minimal processing compared to more heavily processed salts.

23. Which statement reflects an implicit concern about microplastic size variability in food products, based on the passage?
- (a) Larger microplastics might be more easily detected and avoided during consumption compared to smaller sizes.
  - (b) The presence of smaller microplastics, given their range, may pose a greater risk for unnoticed ingestion.
  - (c) All sizes of microplastics, regardless of dimension, equally contribute to the health risks outlined in the study.
  - (d) Microplastics larger than 1 mm are considered safer as they are less likely to be absorbed by human organs.
24. From the context of the passage, what part of speech is the word 'trigger' as used in line "We also aim to trigger policy action"?
- (a) Noun
  - (b) Verb
  - (c) Adjective
  - (d) Adverb

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**Current Affairs and General Knowledge**

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

- V. The Centre will sign a four-party memorandum of settlement with the Tripura Government and two insurgent groups—the National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT) and the All-Tripura Tiger Force (ATTF)—in New Delhi on Wednesday.

“In presence of Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, a Memorandum of Settlement is to be signed among Government of India, Government of Tripura and representatives of National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT) and All Tripura Tiger Force (ATTF), in New Delhi on Wednesday, 04 September 2024,” reads a statement issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha and senior officials of the ministry and the state government will also take part in the event on Wednesday afternoon, the statement added.

In 2019, a tripartite agreement between the Centre, the state government and a faction of the NLFT was signed in New Delhi. Eighty-eight cadres of the outfit surrendered before the state government along with arms later.

The ministry’s statement also said that after the Narendra Modi-led Government signed 12 agreements with such insurgency groups, including three related to Tripura, around 10,000 insurgents have given up arms and joined the mainstream. Pradyot Kishore Debbarma, founder of the ruling BJP’s ally TIPRA Motha, welcomed the move. “I have always maintained since the inception of TIPRA Motha Party that violence and armed struggle will never achieve any result in getting us our constitutional rights. For any solution, peace has to be the first condition and all dialogues must take place within the ambit of our INDIAN constitution,” he wrote.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/centre-tripura-government-pact-insurgent-outfits-9549774/lite/>

25. In a peace agreement, a financial package of how many crores have been announced?
- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| (a) Rs 200 crores | (b) Rs 250 crores |
| (c) Rs 300 crores | (d) Rs 350 crores |
26. Mizo Peace accord was signed between which two representatives?
- |  |
|--|
| (a) Mizoram Government & Central Government  |
| (b) Central Government & Mizo National Front |
| (c) Mizo National Front & Mizoram Government |
| (d) Mizoram Government & Assam Government    |

27. Which Two North – Eastern States are involved in the Boundary Agreement of 2022?  
(a) Assam and Arunachal Pradesh (b) Assam and Manipur  
(c) Assam and Meghalaya (d) Meghalaya and Tripura
28. The Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council (KAAC) is an autonomous district council, protected under which schedule of the Constitution?  
(a) 3<sup>rd</sup> Schedule (b) 5<sup>th</sup> Schedule  
(c) 6<sup>th</sup> Schedule (d) 8<sup>th</sup> Schedule
29. What does PM-DevINE stand for?  
(a) Prime Minister's Development Initiative for National Expansion  
(b) Prime Minister's Development Initiative for Northern Estates  
(c) Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North Eastern Region  
(d) Prime Minister's Direct Investment in New Enterprises

**VI.** According to present laws governing child marriage in India, women are permitted to marry at an age distinct from men. The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 (PCMA) defines 'child' under Section 2(a) of the Act as "a person who, if a male, has not completed twenty-one years of age, and if a female, has not completed eighteen years of age." It prohibits child marriage or "a marriage to which either of the contracting parties is a child".

Further, legislation governing marriage under personal laws of several religions, namely, the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, the Parsi Marriage and Divorce Act, 1936, the Special Marriage Act, 1952, and the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, mandate women to be at least 18 years of age and men at least 21 years of age to be eligible for marriage. Under Muslim personal law, a girl is permitted to marry when she attains puberty or completes the age of 15 years.

The differential minimum ages for marriage fixed for men and women was challenged at the Supreme Court by Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay advocate and leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party Delhi unit, on October 26, 2020. His petition raised the plea to set a uniform minimum age by increasing the permissible marriage age applicable to women to 21 years. Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay sought the transfer of petitions filed in the Delhi High Court, dated August 14, 2019, and a similar petition filed in the Rajasthan High Court on September 12, 2019.

Source: <https://theleaflet.in/why-is-increasing-the-minimum-marriage-age-for-girls-to-21-years-being-debated/>

30. Recently which State's Assembly passed Prohibition of Child Marriage Bill, 2024, which aims to raise Minimum Marriageable Age for Women from 18 to 21 years?  
(a) Madhya Pradesh (b) Rajasthan  
(c) Kerala (d) Himachal Pradesh

31. Marriage and Divorce fall under which Entry of Concurrent List?  
(a) Entry 26 (b) Entry 30  
(c) Entry 21 (d) Entry 5
32. Which Committee was established in 2020 by Ministry for Women and Child Development to assess the implications of increasing the marriage age? [www.lawpreptutorial.com](http://www.lawpreptutorial.com)  
(a) Shikha Verma Committee (b) Avni Sharma Committee  
(c) Poonam Saxena Committee (d) Jaya Jaitly Committee
33. As per Prohibition of Child Marriage (Amendment) Bill 2021, it aimed to increase Minimum Age of Marriage for Females to how many years?  
(a) 18 (b) 21  
(c) 20 (d) 22
34. What is the specific goal of SDG Target 5.3?  
(a) Increase the number of women in leadership roles  
(b) End child marriage in girls  
(c) Improve access to technology for girls  
(d) Expand healthcare services for women

- VII.** India has approved building three semiconductor plants with investments of more than a)\_\_\_\_\_ billion as the country aims to become a major chip hub as second phase investments.  
“India already has deep capabilities in chip design. With these units, our country will develop capabilities in chip fabrication. Advanced packaging technologies will be indigenously developed in India,” according to a government statement on Thursday.  
India has ambitions to become a major chip hub on the lines of the U.S., Taiwan and South Korea, and has been courting foreign firms to set up operations in the country. “Within a very short time, India Semiconductor Mission has achieved four big successes. With these units, the semiconductor ecosystem will get established in India,” the government said.  
These factories will directly create 20,000 advanced technology jobs and about 60,000 indirect jobs.  
Global chip manufacturers have been looking to diversify operations amid geopolitical uncertainty, which stands to benefit countries such as India.  
*Source: CNBC, August 30, 2024*

35. Which Indian company is collaborating with Taiwan's Powerchip Semiconductor Manufacturing Corporation (PSMC) to build India's 1<sup>st</sup> Commercial Fabrication Plant?  
(a) Vedanta (b) Reliance  
(c) Tata (d) Adani

36. Which US company signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with State Government of Gujarat to establish a Semiconductor Unit worth Rs 22,500 crore near Ahmedabad?
- (a) Intel (b) Micron Technology  
(c) QUALCOMM (d) Broadcom
37. Which company is the world's largest contract chip maker?
- (a) Nvidia  
(b) Samsung  
(c) Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company  
(d) Infineon
38. India's Semiconductor Mission was launched in which year?
- (a) 2020 (b) 2021  
(c) 2022 (d) 2023
39. Which of the following will come in place of a)\_\_\_\_\_ in the passage?
- (a) USD 10 billion (b) USD 15 billion  
(c) USD 20 billion (d) USD 25 billion

**VIII.** Union Minister of State for Women and Child Development, Smt. Savitri Thakur, launched the Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2024 in Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh on 1st September, 2024. Anemia is one of the major theme through which this year Poshan Maah is being celebrated. Anemia has always been one of the key focus areas under Jan Andolans so far. Anemia is a health concern, mainly affecting young children, adolescent girls, pregnant, postpartum women and women in the reproductive age. The period of adolescence is the right window of opportunity to correct any nutritional pitfalls in young adolescents to prevent intergenerational effects of anemia on future generations.

To give high importance to issues around Anemia, dedicated Anemia related themes and activities have been taken up by the Ministry of WCD in convergence with relevant Ministries/ Departments in the previous Jan Andolans for mass sensitisation. In the last Poshan Maah held in September, 2023, more than 35 crore sensitisation activities have been reported, of which around 4 crore were focused around Anemia. In addition to directly reaching out to 69 lakh Pregnant Women (PW) and 43 lakh Lactating Mothers (LM), the scheme currently encompasses more than 22 lakh Adolescent Girls (14-18 years) under the Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG) across Aspirational Districts and NE Region. With a strong direct presence of more than 10 crore beneficiaries and their families, and further reaching out to every corner of the nation twice annually through first of its kind nutrition-centric Jan Andolans. Engagement of Adolescent Girls has all the potential to provide additional velocity required to create malnutrition free India, especially on their engagement while continuing Ministry's efforts to support Ministry of Health & Family Welfare's (MoH&FW) Anemia Mukh Bharat programme at large.

Source: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=2051325>

40. Which of the following was Not the key theme of Rashtriya Poshan Maah 2024?  
(a) Growth Monitoring (b) Complementary Feeding  
(c) Technology for Better Governance (d) Bharat Poshan ki Aur
41. POSHAN Abhiyaan targeted children from what age gaps?  
(a) 0 – 6 years (b) 6 – 14 years  
(c) 3 – 14 years (d) 0 – 14 years
42. What is the prevalence of anemia among adolescent girls (15-19 years) as reported in NFHS 5 (2019-21)?  
(a) 45.4% (b) 52.7%  
(c) 59.1% (d) 63.2%
43. In which month is Rashtriya Poshan Maah observed annually?  
(a) January (b) March  
(c) September (d) December
44. National Awards for e-Governance are presented by which ministry?  
(a) Ministry of Social Justice  
(b) Ministry of Corporate Affairs  
(c) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions  
(d) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

**IX.** The Multi-Stakeholder Working Group (MSWG), chaired by the District Magistrate and co-chaired by NMCG and a)\_\_\_\_\_, will coordinate efforts among central and state agencies. The Secretariat, established between NMCG and a)\_\_\_\_\_, will manage day-to-day activities, project development, and knowledge dissemination. The commitment includes developing a Decision Support System (DSS) for water management to analyse basin water dynamics through hydrological models, scenario generation, forecasting and data analytics. This 2-3-year project will integrate groundwater and hydrological models to create a comprehensive river management plan, with key outcomes including real-time monitoring, data visualization tools and scenario simulations. The DSS will support holistic planning and effective water management.

The second project focuses on the characterization of emerging pollutants and fingerprint analysis. Over the next 18 months, this initiative will use advanced analytical techniques, such as chromatography and mass spectrometry, to identify and quantify contaminants. Led by a professor from the University of Copenhagen with international partners, the project aims to create a detailed fingerprint library, enhance water quality monitoring, and propose effective remediation strategies.

The SLCR is expected to bring out a unique confluence of academia, sub national and national Government working in partnership with another country to co-create solutions for identified problems and issues pertaining to river health in general and small river rejuvenation in particular.

Source: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2047505>

45. Smart Laboratory on Clean Rivers (SLCR) aims to rejuvenate which river using sustainable methods?
- (a) River Assi (b) River Varuna  
(c) River Ganges (d) River Gomti
46. Denmark will contribute how much amount for the river rejuvenation for sustainability and development?
- (a) 3 crores (b) 5 crores  
(c) 7 crores (d) 8 crores
47. Bilateral relations between India & Denmark were elevated to what level during the Virtual Summit held in 2020?
- (a) High Level Discussion Forum (b) Bilateral Level Treaty Implementation  
(c) Green Strategic Partnership (d) Sustainability Partnership
48. Which of the following will come in place of a)\_\_\_\_\_ in the passage?
- (a) IIT Madras (b) IIT Bombay  
(c) IIT-BHU (d) IIT Delhi

**X.** OPEC+ agreed on Sunday to extend most of its deep oil output cuts well into 2025 as the group seeks to shore up the market amid tepid demand growth, high interest rates and rising rival U.S. production. Brent crude oil prices have been trading near \$80 per barrel in recent days, below what many OPEC+ members need to balance their budgets. Worries over slow demand growth in top oil importer China have weighed on prices alongside rising oil stocks in developed economies. The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and allies led by Russia, together known as OPEC+, have made a series of deep output cuts since late 2022.

OPEC+ members are currently cutting output by a total of 5.86 million barrels per day (bpd), or about 5.7% of global demand.

Those include 3.66 million bpd of cuts, which were due to expire at the end of 2024, and voluntary cuts by eight members of 2.2 million bpd, expiring at the end of June 2024. On Sunday, OPEC+ agreed to extend the cuts of 3.66 million bpd by a year until the end of 2025 and prolong the cuts of 2.2 million bpd by three months until the end of September 2024.

OPEC+ will gradually phase out the cuts of 2.2 million bpd over the course of a year from October 2024 to September 2025. "We are waiting for interest rates to come down and a better trajectory when it comes to economic growth ... not pockets of growth here and there," Saudi Energy Minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman told reporters.

OPEC expects demand for OPEC+ crude to average 43.65 million bpd in the second half of 2024, implying a stocks drawdown of 2.63 million bpd if the group maintains output at April's rate of 41.02 million bpd. The drawdown will be less when OPEC+ starts phasing out the 2.2 million bpd voluntary cuts in October. The International Energy Agency, which represents top global consumers, estimates that demand for OPEC+ oil plus stocks will average much lower levels of 41.9 million bpd in 2024.

Source: <https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/opec-seen-prolonging-cuts-2024-into-2025-two-sources-say-2024-06-02/>

49. Which country recently withdrew its membership effective 1 January 2024 from OPEC?
- (a) Qatar (b) Venezuela  
(c) Angola (d) Libya
50. Which country is the second-largest source of crude oil imports for India?
- (a) UAE (b) Saudi Arabia  
(c) USA (d) Iraq
51. Which of the following country is Not member of OPEC+?
- (a) Algeria (b) Oman  
(c) Egypt (d) Mexico
52. Ratnagiri Refinery & Petrochemicals Limited (RRPCL) is a joint project between Indian oil companies and Saudi Aramco to build a mega refinery and petrochemicals complex in which state?
- (a) Gujarat (b) Rajasthan  
(c) Maharashtra (d) Haryana



**Legal Reasoning**

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

**XI. Maintenance:** The concept of maintenance primarily aims to ensure that a financially dependent spouse receives support from the financially independent spouse, particularly in cases of divorce or separation. This support allows the dependent spouse to maintain a living standard similar to what they had during the marriage. Maintenance covers essential needs such as food, shelter, and clothing, and other comforts expected by a rational person. Maintenance is provided by a person upon whom another is financially dependent. The amount depends on the earner's income and the dependent person's needs, aligning with what a rational person requires for a normal life. Under the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, eligible individuals for maintenance include the wife, widow daughter-in-law, children, and aged parents. Interim maintenance is provided from the date of filing the petition until the dismissal of the suit. Its primary purpose is to meet the immediate needs of the petitioner, covering both procedural expenses and other costs during the proceedings. Permanent maintenance is awarded after judicial proceedings resulting in divorce or judicial separation. Under Hindu law, the dependent spouse can seek maintenance to sustain their standard of living as during the marriage. Section 24 of the Hindu Marriage Act addresses interim maintenance claims by both husband and wife. Section 25 deals with permanent maintenance, which may be paid in a lump sum or periodically.

According to Section 18(1) of the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, 1956, a wife is entitled to maintenance from her husband until either of them dies. Even if she lives separately, she can claim maintenance on grounds such as desertion, cruelty, leprosy, bigamy, or the husband's conversion to another religion without her consent. Code of Criminal Procedure stipulates that a woman, either divorced or separated but not remarried, is entitled to maintenance. A married woman can also claim maintenance if she lives apart due to her husband's desertion, cruelty, leprosy, bigamy, or conversion to another religion without her consent. The person must maintain his wife if she is unable to maintain herself. The maintenance responsibility also extends to his legitimate or illegitimate minor child, whether married or unmarried, if unable to maintain itself, and his parents, if they are unable to maintain themselves. The overarching goal of maintenance laws is to prevent destitution and



ensure that individuals who are financially dependent on their spouses are provided for adequately. The provision of maintenance helps maintain the economic balance and fairness within familial relationships, recognizing the contributions of the dependent spouse to the family unit. This legal framework supports the dependent spouse in maintaining a standard of living that reflects their previous lifestyle, ensuring that they do not suffer unduly due to the breakdown of the marital relationship. The detailed regulations under both Hindu and Muslim law underscore the importance of these provisions in upholding social justice and equity in familial relationships.

*Source: Extracted with edits and revisions from "Maintenance of Wife under Hindu and Muslim Law", <https://blog.ipleaders.in/maintenance-of-wife/>*

53. Nikhil, a freelance graphic designer, has been financially dependent on his wife, Priya, a successful corporate lawyer, throughout their 7-year marriage. As they go through divorce proceedings, Nikhil seeks maintenance, arguing that he cannot immediately sustain the lifestyle they enjoyed during the marriage due to his fluctuating income. Priya contends that Nikhil is capable of supporting himself given his profession and age, he is just lazy to do it. Should the court grant Nikhil maintenance?
- (a) Yes, because maintenance aims to ensure the financially dependent spouse receives support.
  - (b) No, because Nikhil should use his skills to support himself without relying on maintenance from Priya.
  - (c) Yes, because the law specifically supports male spouses in their claims for maintenance.
  - (d) No, because the duration of the marriage does not justify a maintenance claim.
54. After 10 years of marriage, Aisha files for divorce from her husband, who has been the sole breadwinner. Aisha, who managed household duties and childcare, seeks maintenance. She argues that her needs include not only basic essentials like food and shelter but also the comforts they were accustomed to. Should the court consider these additional comforts as part of her maintenance?
- (a) Yes, because maintenance covers other comforts expected by a rational person.
  - (b) No, because maintenance should only focus on essential needs such as food, shelter, and clothing.
  - (c) Yes, because Aisha has managed household duties, qualifying her for more comprehensive maintenance.
  - (d) No, because the comforts Aisha is claiming are luxuries that do not qualify as needs.

55. Ravi, a senior software engineer earning Rs. 1,50,000 per month, separated from his wife, Meera, after 10 years of marriage. They have two children aged 7 and 9. During the divorce proceedings, the question of child support comes up. Meera, who is a part-time yoga instructor, earns Rs. 15,000 per month. She requests Rs. 50,000 per month as child support to cover education, healthcare, and general living expenses for the children, asserting that this amount is necessary to maintain a standard of living similar to what the children had during the marriage. Ravi argues that this amount is excessive given his expenses and liabilities, which include a home loan and care for elderly parents. Which of the following is the most legally sound option based on the principle that the amount of maintenance depends on the earner's income and the dependent person's needs?
- (a) Yes, because Rs. 50,000 is a reasonable amount given the high cost of living and the children's needs, which aligns with what a rational person would deem necessary for a normal life.
  - (b) No, because Ravi has other significant financial obligations, and the maintenance should be proportionate to both parents' incomes.
  - (c) Yes, because the primary consideration in determining maintenance is the lifestyle previously enjoyed by the dependents during the marriage.
  - (d) No, because Meera is also employed and can contribute to the children's expenses, making the Rs. 50,000 demand excessive.
56. Neeta and Ajay have been married for 15 years, residing in Delhi. Ajay, a successful entrepreneur, converted to another religion two years ago without Neeta's consent, subsequently leading to strained relations and Neeta moving out to live with her parents last year. Neeta, who has been a homemaker throughout the marriage, has struggled financially since the separation. Ajay, while supportive initially, stopped providing financial assistance six months ago. Neeta now seeks maintenance from Ajay. Can Neeta successfully claim maintenance from Ajay? [www.lawpreptutorial.com](http://www.lawpreptutorial.com)
- (a) Yes, because Neeta can claim maintenance on the grounds of Ajay's conversion to another religion without her consent.
  - (b) No, because Neeta's decision to live separately without filing for legal separation invalidates her claim for maintenance.
  - (c) Yes, because the Act allows a wife maintenance until death, regardless of her or the husband's religious beliefs after marriage.
  - (d) No, because Ajay's conversion does not automatically entitle Neeta to maintenance unless she proves financial dependency on Ajay.

57. Lata and Vivek, married for 8 years and residing in Mumbai, began facing marital difficulties in early 2023. Lata, a school teacher, and Vivek, a freelance graphic designer, have one child aged 5. As tensions escalated, Lata filed for divorce on January 10, 2024, citing irreconcilable differences, and simultaneously petitioned for interim maintenance for herself and her child, given Vivek's inconsistent income from freelancing. Vivek contests the divorce, arguing that the marriage cannot be salvaged with counseling. The court proceedings draw out, and by July 2024, no final decision has been made on the divorce or maintenance. During this period, Vivek does not provide any financial support to Lata or their child. Lata claims that she should receive interim maintenance from the date she filed the petition. Is she entitled to receive interim maintenance from January 10, 2024, until the resolution of the suit, regardless of the ongoing proceedings?
- (a) No, because interim maintenance should only cover the child's expenses, and Lata, being employed, should not be eligible for personal maintenance.
  - (b) No, because Vivek is contesting the divorce, and interim maintenance cannot be granted until the divorce is finalized.
  - (c) Yes, but only if she can prove that Vivek's income would have been sufficient to provide for their child during this period.
  - (d) Yes, because the principle of interim maintenance ensures support from the date of filing the petition until the dismissal or resolution of the suit.
58. Vikram, a freelance journalist in Pune, fathered a child, Aarav, during a brief relationship with Maya, who is a part-time teacher. Aarav, now 6 years old, was acknowledged by Vikram at birth but has been raised solely by Maya. Due to recent economic downturns, Maya's teaching hours were reduced, significantly lowering her income. Concerned about Aarav's increasing educational and healthcare needs which she can no longer afford, Maya files for child support against Vikram. Vikram, while not wealthy, has a stable income that comfortably exceeds Maya's current earnings. Is Vikram legally obligated to provide maintenance for Aarav?
- (a) Yes, but only if Maya can prove that Aarav's needs directly relate to essential living expenses and educational requirements.
  - (b) No, because the child was raised solely by Maya, and Vikram's earlier limited involvement and acknowledgment do not establish a financial obligation.
  - (c) Yes, because Vikram, as the father, is responsible for maintenance of his minor illegitimate child, Aarav, who cannot maintain himself.
  - (d) No, because Aarav, being an illegitimate child, does not have legal rights to claim maintenance under the current family law statutes.

**XII. Copyright:** Copyright concerns the rights of the creators/authors of literary and artistic works, often referred to as 'literary right' or 'author's right.' It gives an author exclusive rights to their creation, preventing unauthorised copying and publishing. Copyright protection begins as soon as a work is created and expressed in some tangible form. It extends only to original creations and expressions; mere ideas without tangible expression do not qualify. Copyright safeguards both economic and moral rights of the author. Economic rights allow the owner to derive financial benefit from the use of their works by others, such as prohibiting unauthorised reproduction or translation. Moral rights protect non-economic interests, like opposing changes to the work and claiming authorship. Various categories of works can be protected under copyright. These include literary works like novels, plays, poems, and newspaper articles; computer programs and databases; films, musical compositions, and choreography; artistic works such as photographs, paintings, drawings, and sculptures; and architecture, advertisements, maps, and technical drawings. In India, the term of copyright protection lasts throughout the author's lifetime and extends 60 years after their death.

The Copyright Act, 1957, is the principal legislation dealing with copyrights in India. It regulates various aspects of the copyright regime, including registration, publication, term of copyright, assignment and licensing, special rights of broadcasting organisations and performers, infringement of copyright, and the establishment of copyright authorities and societies. The Act specifies the term of copyright protection for different categories of works: for literary, dramatic, musical, and artistic works, it lasts for the author's lifetime plus 60 years after their death. For anonymous and pseudonymous works, posthumous works, cinematograph films, sound recordings, government work, works of public undertakings, and works of international organisations, the term is 60 years from the date of publication. Copyright infringement is addressed under Section 51 of the Copyright Act, 1957. Copyright is considered infringed when a person does something that the copyright owner has the exclusive right to do or permits the use of any place for the communication of the work to the public without a licence or in violation of licence conditions. It is also infringed when a person makes for sale or hire, sells or lets for hire, displays, offers for sale, or distributes infringing copies of the work, or imports infringing copies into India. Section 52 lists acts that do not constitute infringement, such as fair dealing for personal or private use, research, judicial proceedings, or teaching. The Copyright Act provides both civil and criminal remedies against infringement, ensuring robust protection for the rights of authors and creators in India.

*Source: Extracted with edits and revisions from "All about Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)", <https://blog.ipleaders.in/all-about-intellectual-property-rights-ipr/>*

59. Amar, a freelance graphic designer, creates a series of unique digital illustrations in 2024, which he uploads to his personal website to showcase his portfolio. Without his knowledge, an advertising company uses one of these illustrations in a national campaign. The company claims that since the image was freely accessible on the internet, it assumed it was free to use. Is the company's use of Amar's illustration without his permission legally permissible?
- (a) Yes, because the illustration was posted online, making it publicly accessible.
  - (b) No, because the illustration is protected from the moment it was created and expressed.
  - (c) Yes, because Amar did not explicitly state that the illustration was not for public use.
  - (d) No, because Amar had intended to sell the illustrations at a later date.
60. Priya creates a software tool and decides to sell it under her brand, without registering the copyright. A rival company copies her code and begins selling a similar tool, claiming that since Priya never registered the copyright, their action is justified. Is the rival company's claim legally valid?
- (a) Yes, because Priya did not register the copyright with the authorities.
  - (b) No, because economic rights protect the owner's ability to benefit financially from their works.
  - (c) Yes, because Priya's software tool was not commercially available when copied.
  - (d) No, because the software created by the rival company does not add any new functionality or innovation.
61. An acclaimed poet, Raj, writes a new poem and shares it with a close group of friends in an email for their feedback before publishing. One of the friends, without Raj's permission, publishes the poem in a well-known literary magazine under their own name. Raj learns about this and demands that the magazine recognize him as the true author. Is Raj's demand supported by his rights?
- (a) Yes, because moral rights include the right to claim authorship of the work.
  - (b) No, because the poem was not published by Raj himself initially.
  - (c) Yes, because the friend believed he was enhancing the poem's exposure.
  - (d) No, because Raj did not register the poem under his name officially.
62. A renowned author, Mira, published a collection of short stories in 1955 and passed away in January 1965. Her family discovers in August 2025 that a popular online platform has been using her stories for an audio series without any agreement with her estate. The family wishes to sue for copyright infringement. Is the family's claim likely to be valid?
- (a) Yes, because the term of copyright protection lasts throughout the author's lifetime plus 60 years after their death.
  - (b) No, because the copyright protection has already expired.
  - (c) Yes, because all literary works are protected indefinitely.
  - (d) No, because the stories were published before digital media existed.

63. Ravi, an independent music producer, discovers that one of his unreleased tracks has been uploaded to a popular music streaming service by an unknown user, claiming it as their own composition. The track was intended for exclusive release under Ravi's label next month. Is the uploading of Ravi's track by another individual a violation of copyright law?
- (a) Yes, because this involves unauthorized reproduction and distribution.
  - (b) No, because the track was unreleased and thus not yet under copyright protection.
  - (c) No, because the user claimed it as their own, which is permissible under copyright laws.
  - (d) No, because the track had not been commercially released, thus not qualifying for copyright.
64. Lisa, a university professor, compiles a detailed guidebook using excerpts from several copyrighted academic books, which she then distributes free to her students without the publishers' consent. She claims this falls under fair use for educational purposes. Is this likely to be a valid defense against copyright infringement?
- (a) Yes, because distributing educational materials to students is always considered fair use.
  - (b) No, because she used the excerpts without obtaining permission from the copyright owners.
  - (c) Yes, because the guidebook is used for teaching at educational institutions.
  - (d) No, because the guidebook is a derivative work that does not transform the original texts.
65. Ravi is an entrepreneur who runs a small bookstore in India. Without obtaining permission, he starts selling and distributing pirated copies of a famous author's book, claiming that these are "for educational purposes" and should not violate any copyright. Additionally, he offers a space in his store for weekly public readings of these pirated copies without acquiring a licence from the copyright owner. Ravi also imports pirated versions of the same book from a foreign supplier, which he displays for sale at his store. Which of the following actions by Ravi would constitute copyright infringement under the provisions stated?
- i. Selling pirated copies of the book in his bookstore without the permission of the copyright owner.
  - ii. Offering his bookstore as a venue for public readings of the book without obtaining a licence.
  - iii. Importing pirated copies of the book into India from a foreign supplier.
- (a) Statement ii
  - (b) Statements i and ii
  - (c) Statements ii and iii
  - (d) Statements i, ii, and iii



**XIII. Judicial Separation:** In the earlier period, i.e., in Shastric Hindu Law, the notion of judicial separation was not known, or at least not practised. However, the courts established by the British, up to a certain extent, permitted providing the wife with maintenance along with a separate residence from her husband. The wife could seek separate residence and maintenance if the husband was suffering from some loathsome disease, or if the husband treated her with cruelty, or if the husband had a concubine living with him in the house, or some other justifiable reason as the courts at that time deemed fit. The provision of judicial separation as corroborated under Section 10 of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, is similar to that provided under the earlier repealed Hindu Married Women's Right to Separate Maintenance and Residence Act, 1946. This Act gave a statutory right to married Hindu women to claim maintenance and separation from their husbands.

Judicial separation is an alternative to divorce; however, it does not put the marriage to an end. The parties do not cohabit, but other obligations of marriage still exist. The parties still remain husband and wife, even though they might live separately and do not have a sexual relationship. One cannot remarry in the case of judicial separation. This Section even applies to Hindu marriages that have been solemnised before the commencement of this Act. To put it simply, the remedy of judicial separation puts an end to the conjugal duties of both spouses and allows them to live separately.

Even though the parties remain spouses, sexual intercourse must be with consent, even in the case of marriage. Section 376B of the IPC states that if a man tries to have sexual intercourse with his wife without her consent during judicial separation, he may face a prison sentence of up to 2 years and/or fine.

Section 10 of the Act mentions that the grounds for judicial separation are the same as the grounds for divorce provided under Section 13(1) of the Act. No separate grounds are enunciated in the HMA, 1955, and hence the Act provides that Section 10 of the Act has to be read with Section 13 and Section 13-A, which provide for grounds of divorce and the court's power to grant judicial separation where divorce is prayed by the parties. Also, as per sub-section (2) of Section 10, the court can rescind the decree of judicial separation if it is satisfied to do so, on the petition of either of the parties.

After the amendment made in 1976, by which the grounds of divorce and judicial separation were made identical, it has been observed that the petitions for judicial separation have become comparatively less frequent. The reason being that no couple would prefer judicial separation if they could rather opt for divorce on the same grounds. Since divorce will release the couple from the marital tie entirely, judicial separation won't.

With the grounds of judicial separation and divorce being similar, the question that arises is, whether judicial separation can be granted by the court at its discretion where the petitioner has instead sought divorce. The Delhi High Court dealt with this question in the case of *Vinay Khurana v. Shweta Khurana* (2022). The Court, while dealing with the matter, stated that it is not at the court's discretion what relief is to be granted. The court cannot substitute the relief prayed for by the petitioner. It further emphasised the fact that the concepts of judicial

separation and divorce are entirely different. In the present case, the family court, while adjudicating the matter, granted the decree of judicial separation when a decree of divorce was sought by the petitioner. The High Court further stated that the family court has not been conferred with the power to substitute the reliefs prayed.

*Source: Extracted with edits and revisions from, [https://blog.ipleaders.in/mutual-consent-divorce/#Judicial\\_Separation\\_%E2%80%93\\_Section\\_10\\_of\\_Hindu\\_Marriage\\_Act\\_1955](https://blog.ipleaders.in/mutual-consent-divorce/#Judicial_Separation_%E2%80%93_Section_10_of_Hindu_Marriage_Act_1955)*

66. Anita and Rohit, after several years of conflict-ridden marriage, have been living separately due to a decree of judicial separation accorded under Section 10 of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955. It has been a year since they separated, and during this time, Anita has acquainted herself with a man named Karan. They share a good understanding and wish to consolidate their relationship by getting married.
- Is it lawful for Anita to enter into a matrimonial alliance with Karan while still being under judicial separation with Rohit?
- (a) Yes, it is permissible as Anita is living separately from Rohit due to judicial separation.
  - (b) No, Anita cannot marry Karan as she is still legally Rohit's wife despite the separation.
  - (c) Yes, if Rohit consents to Anita's and Karan's union, then marriage can occur legally.
  - (d) No, the marriage can only occur if Rohit decides to remarry first, releasing Anita from the marital bond.
67. Amit and Simran, after several tumultuous years of marriage marked by unresolvable conflicts and differences, find themselves living separately due to a decree of judicial separation. Amidst this estrangement, Amit, blinded by frustration and residual feelings, makes an unwarranted attempt to engage in sexual relations with Simran without her explicit consent. Is Amit liable to legal repercussions for his attempt to have non-consensual sexual relations with Simran during the period of judicial separation?
- (a) Yes, as per Section 376B of the IPC, his act is unequivocally punishable by law.
  - (b) No, because their existing legal marital status seemingly sanctions such relations.
  - (c) Yes, but Amit would only face legal repercussions if Simran chooses to lodge a formal complaint.
  - (d) No, the state of judicial separation implies a degree of allowance for such relations, and thus, it is not considered punishable.



68. Vishal, grappling with persistent unhappiness and discord in his marriage, decides to seek legal intervention and files a petition in the family court, earnestly seeking a divorce. However, the family court, after meticulous evaluation of the surrounding circumstances and particulars of the case, opts to grant a decree of judicial separation instead of the solicited divorce. Can the family court lawfully alter the sought relief and grant a decree of judicial separation in lieu of divorce?
- (a) Yes, the family court is endowed with the authority to modulate the reliefs requested, applying its judicious discretion.
  - (b) No, the family court does not hold the authority to modify or substitute the relief expressly sought by the petitioner.
  - (c) Yes, providing there exists mutual assent between the concerned parties to the decree of judicial separation.
  - (d) No, unless Vishal categorically retracts his original petition for divorce.
69. Radha and Krish, after 10 years of togetherness and shared lives, reach a point of relentless discord and irreconcilable differences. With the well-being and future of their children as their primary concern, they decide to live separately but are reluctant to sever their marital bonds through divorce. Is there a lawful way for Radha and Krish to live separately without the dissolution of their marriage?
- (a) No, as the law mandates marital cohabitation and does not recognize separate living arrangements without divorce.
  - (b) Yes, they can lawfully live separately under a decree of judicial separation.
  - (c) Yes, but only if they reach a mutual agreement to live separately without initiating any formal legal procedures.
  - (d) No, they must inevitably seek a legal divorce if they wish to live separately.
70. Divya, having endured prolonged periods of cruelty within her marriage, seeks legal recourse and files a petition for divorce. The court, while assessing the intricacies of the case, deliberates on whether to grant a decree of judicial separation instead of acceding to her plea for divorce. Is it lawful for the court to grant a decree of judicial separation when Divya has explicitly solicited a divorce?
- (a) Yes, the court possesses the discretionary power to ascertain and grant the relief deemed most fitting.
  - (b) No, the court is not empowered to alter or substitute the relief specifically prayed for by Divya.
  - (c) Yes, if the presented grounds substantiate both judicial separation and divorce equivalently.
  - (d) No, unless Divya explicitly amends her petition to seek judicial separation.

71. Under which of the following conditions could a wife seek separate residence and maintenance according to the judicial separation provisions prior to the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955?
- (a) The husband had to be financially incapable of providing maintenance.
  - (b) The husband was suffering from a loathsome disease or treated the wife with cruelty, or had a concubine living with him. [www.lawpreptutorial.com](http://www.lawpreptutorial.com)
  - (c) The wife desired separation for personal reasons or incompatibility.
  - (d) The wife wanted to pursue higher education and required separate residence.
72. Rajeev and Priya, who have been married under Hindu law for ten years, have been facing ongoing personal conflicts that have led them to live in separate households for the past six months. Rajeev, seeking a formal legal resolution to their situation, wishes to apply for judicial separation. Considering the nature of judicial separation as outlined in the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, which of the following statements correctly describes the implications of judicial separation for Rajeev and Priya?
- (a) Upon the grant of judicial separation, Rajeev and Priya will be considered legally divorced and are free to remarry. The judicial separation ends their marital obligations and they can lead completely independent lives.
  - (b) Rajeev and Priya will remain legally married even after judicial separation. While their conjugal duties and obligations will cease, they cannot remarry as they are still considered husband and wife.
  - (c) Judicial separation will require Rajeev and Priya to resume cohabitation under the same roof, although it will legally recognize their separation in terms of living arrangements and financial support.
  - (d) The judicial separation will nullify their marriage status entirely, allowing them to engage in new marital relationships without any legal constraints from their previous marriage.

**XIV. Indian Contract Act:** The doctrine of anticipatory breach of contract enables the promisee to seek a remedy before the actual breach occurs. An anticipatory breach of contract occurs when the promisor creates a self-induced impossibility for the performance of his promise. The promisor, through his conduct, creates such circumstances that it would become obvious to any reasonable person that the contract has become impossible to be performed on or till the actual date of its performance. In India, the doctrine of anticipatory breach of contract has been embodied in Section 39 of the Indian Contract Act, 1872, and Section 60 of the Sale of Goods Act, 1930. Both Sections provide that the consequence of the anticipatory breach of contract will be to make the contract voidable at the instance of the promisee, wherein the option of repudiating the contract can be exercised by the promisee until the actual date of performance. Section 39 of the Indian Contract Act provides that the promisor is said to have caused an anticipatory breach of contract when he refuses to perform his promise in its entirety or disables himself from performing the promise in its entirety. On such conduct by the

promisor, the promisee can either repudiate the contract or continue with it. If the promisee expressly or impliedly acquiesces to the continuation of the contract, he forfeits his right to repudiate the contract.

Section 39 of the Indian Contract Act lays down the following essentials for anticipatory breach of contract: there should be a contract with a future date for performance. Either of the parties should either refuse to perform the promise made on their part or should have wilfully induced such circumstances that the performance of the promise becomes inevitable. The performance of the promise should not merely be unlikely or economically infeasible; rather, it should have become impossible. Such refusal or self-induced impossibility should occur before the actual performance date. Refusal can be expressed or implied. The effect of anticipatory breach of contract is significant. When a party wilfully refuses to perform their part of the contract or creates a situation that makes performance impossible, the promisee has the option to repudiate the contract immediately, rather than waiting for the breach to occur on the performance date. This allows the promisee to mitigate potential losses and seek remedies without unnecessary delay. However, if the promisee chooses to continue with the contract despite the anticipatory breach, they forfeit the right to repudiate but can still claim compensation for any damages incurred due to the breach.

*Source: Extracted with edits and revisions from "Anticipatory breach of contract",  
<https://blog.ipleaders.in/anticipatory-breach-of-contract/>*

73. Amit, a small cafe owner in Goa, entered into a contract with Rajesh, a local coffee bean supplier, in January 2025 to receive premium quality beans every month for a year, essential for Amit's specialty brews. The contract stipulated that Rajesh would provide a specific quantity of beans at a fixed price throughout the year. In March 2025, Rajesh informed Amit that due to unexpected demand and limited supply, he could no longer provide the beans at the agreed price but offered them at a higher price. Despite the price change, Amit continued to purchase the beans due to the lack of alternative suppliers and the popularity of his brews among customers. In June 2025, Amit decides to seek compensation for the difference in cost incurred due to Rajesh's initial price increase, which he had to accept under duress to maintain his business operations. Amit argues that Rajesh's actions constituted an anticipatory breach by creating circumstances that made the original terms impossible to honor. Given the circumstances, is Amit entitled to claim compensation for the additional costs incurred?
- (a) Yes, because Rajesh's inability to supply at the agreed price constitutes an anticipatory breach, and Amit can claim compensation despite continuing the contract.
  - (b) No, because Amit chose to continue purchasing the beans at the higher price, which indicates acceptance of the new terms, nullifying any previous contract terms.
  - (c) Yes, but only if Amit can demonstrate that continuing with Rajesh was the only reasonable option available to avoid business disruption.
  - (d) No, because the change in price by Rajesh was due to market forces, which does not qualify as self-induced impossibility under the anticipatory breach doctrine.

74. Sanjay, a restaurateur in Mumbai, entered into a contract with FreshFoods, a supplier, in January 2024 to deliver exotic vegetables and fruits twice a week for his high-end restaurant. The contract explicitly stated that the quality of produce would meet specific freshness standards. By March 2024, Sanjay noticed a decline in quality that did not meet the agreed standards. He verbally informed FreshFoods of his dissatisfaction, but did not formally complain or stop accepting deliveries, hoping the issue would be resolved quickly. FreshFoods acknowledged the issue and promised improvements; however, the quality did not improve significantly. In June 2024, frustrated with the continuous poor quality, Sanjay decided to repudiate the contract and seek another supplier, claiming that FreshFoods' inability to provide the agreed quality constituted an anticipatory breach. Given the circumstances, can Sanjay legally repudiate the contract at this stage?
- (a) Yes, because FreshFoods' continuous failure to meet quality standards constitutes an anticipatory breach, allowing Sanjay to repudiate the contract.
  - (b) No, because Sanjay's actions of verbally informing and continuing to accept deliveries constitute an implied acquiescence to the continuation of the contract, forfeiting his right to repudiate.
  - (c) Yes, but only if Sanjay can demonstrate that the quality was so poor it made the produce entirely unusable for his restaurant.
  - (d) No, because FreshFoods made efforts to improve the quality as promised, which under contract law, mitigates the effect of any potential breach.
75. Vinod, an event organizer in Jaipur, entered into a contract with an international music group to host their concert in March 2025. According to the contract, Vinod was to arrange for the venue, security, and technical setup by February 2025 to ensure promotional activities could commence in a timely manner. However, Vinod, distracted by personal issues and other minor events, delayed securing the necessary permissions and technical equipment. By mid-January 2025, it became apparent that Vinod had not completed any of the preliminary arrangements, making it impossible that the concert could go on as scheduled. The music group, upon learning of the situation, decided to cancel the concert and demanded compensation for breach of contract, citing that Vinod's lack of action had made it impossible to hold the event as planned. Given the circumstances, is the music group justified in canceling the concert and demanding compensation from Vinod?
- (a) Yes, because Vinod's conduct and delays created circumstances that made it obvious to any reasonable person that the concert could not be performed as agreed.
  - (b) No, because there was still time left until the scheduled concert date to make the necessary arrangements.
  - (c) Yes, but only if the music group can demonstrate that they suffered financial losses due to the cancellation.
  - (d) No, because the music group should have provided more assistance to Vinod in securing the necessary arrangements.

76. Simran, an event planner in Chandigarh, entered into a contract with Elegant Decorations, a company known for its lavish wedding setups. The contract, signed in March 2025, stipulated that Elegant Decorations would provide exclusive and customized decor for a high-profile wedding scheduled for September 2025. According to the terms, a significant deposit was paid by Simran to secure unique materials needed for the event. In June 2025, Simran learned from industry sources that Elegant Decorations had taken on several other large projects for the same month and had allocated some of the specific materials intended for her event to these other engagements. Concerned, Simran confronted the company, and they admitted to the reallocation but assured her they would still meet the contract requirements, albeit with some substitutions. Simran is now considering whether to void the contract before the actual performance date, due to the company's admitted reallocation of materials specifically contracted for her event. Should Simran void the contract based on the anticipatory breach by Elegant Decorations?
- (a) No, because the company assured her that they would still meet the contractual requirements, despite the substitutions.
  - (b) Yes, because the reallocation of specific materials contracted for her event constitutes an anticipatory breach, making the contract voidable at her instance.
  - (c) Yes, but only if she can prove that the substitutions significantly diminish the quality or aesthetic of the event compared to what was specifically contracted.
  - (d) No, because the contract was not explicitly breached until the date of the event, and she must wait to see if Elegant Decorations fulfills their promise.
77. Arjun contracted with Bhaskar in early October to have his house painted before the upcoming Diwali festival on Sunday. The contract stipulated that the painting needed to be completed by Saturday to allow for cleaning and preparations for the festival. Despite repeated assurances, Bhaskar did not start the work and remained unresponsive until Friday evening, without providing any explanation for the delay. Due to the urgency of the situation, Arjun, unable to reach Bhaskar and under pressure to have his house ready, hired Chetan on Saturday morning to complete the painting job. Bhaskar finally arrived on Sunday morning ready to paint, only to find the job already done. Bhaskar then filed a lawsuit against Arjun for breach of contract, claiming he was prepared to fulfill his obligations within the contracted time frame. Arjun contends that there was an anticipatory breach by Bhaskar, which justified hiring someone else to complete the work. Should the court rule in favor of Arjun, recognizing an anticipatory breach of contract by Bhaskar?
- (a) Yes, because Bhaskar's failure to start the work and lack of communication by the critical time frame reasonably indicated to Arjun that Bhaskar would not fulfill the contract, constituting an anticipatory breach.
  - (b) No, because Bhaskar showed up on Sunday, within the contracted time frame, ready to perform the work, which means no breach occurred.
  - (c) Yes, but only if Arjun can prove that Bhaskar had no intention of ever performing the work, which would clearly demonstrate an anticipatory breach.
  - (d) No, because Arjun acted prematurely by hiring Chetan without giving Bhaskar the full contractual period to begin the work.



- XV. Bail:** 'Bail' connotes the process of procuring the release of an accused charged with certain offences by ensuring his future attendance in the court for trial and compelling him to remain within the jurisdiction of the court. The objective of arrest is to deliver justice by presenting the accused before the Court. However, if the same objective can be achieved without making any arrest, there is no need to violate his liberty. Thus, bail can be granted to the accused person for conditional release. The term 'Bail' has not been defined under the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973. Only the terms 'Bailable Offence' and 'Non-Bailable Offence' have been defined under CrPc) for the purpose of bail, offences are classified into bailable and non-bailable offences. According to CrPC, a bailable offence means an offence that is classified as bailable in the First Schedule of the Code or under any other law. An accused can claim bail as a matter of right if he is accused of committing a bailable offence. The police officer or any other authority has no right to reject the bail if the accused is ready to furnish bail. A person accused of a bailable offence at any time while under arrest without a warrant and at any stage of the proceedings has the right to be released on bail.
- A non-bailable offence is defined as any offence which is not a bailable offence. A person accused of a non-bailable offence cannot claim bail as a right. A person accused of non-bailable offences can be granted bail provided the accused does not qualify the following conditions: there are reasonable grounds to believe that he has committed an offence punishable with the death penalty or life imprisonment, or the accused has committed a cognizable offence and had been previously convicted of an offence punishable with death, imprisonment for life, or imprisonment of seven years or more, or if the accused has been convicted on two or more instances of a cognizable and non-bailable offence. There are

exceptional cases where the law gives special consideration in favour of the accused, such as minors, women, or sick persons. There are different types of bail. Regular bail is where the court orders the release of a person who is under arrest from police custody after paying the amount as bail money. An accused can apply for regular bail under CrPc) Interim bail is a direct order by the court to provide temporary and short-term bail to the accused until his regular or anticipatory bail application is pending before the court. Anticipatory bail is a direct order of Sessions or High Court to provide pre-arrest bail to an accused of a crime. When a person has an apprehension of being arrested, they can apply for anticipatory bail.

*Source: Extracted with edits and revisions from "Bail provisions under the Code of Criminal Procedure", <https://blog.ipleaders.in/bail-provisions-under-the-code-of-criminal-procedure/>*

79. In a small town, Mr. John is arrested by the police for allegedly committing theft, which is a bailable offence. Mr. John requests to be released on bail, but the arresting officer denies his request, claiming the police have the discretion to hold him in custody for further investigation. What should be the outcome of Mr. John's request for bail?
- (a) He should be granted bail but only after the police are satisfied that he will help for all necessary investigation.
  - (b) He should not be granted bail because theft is a non-bailable offence.
  - (c) He should be granted bail as he has a right to bail for bailable offences.
  - (d) He should not be granted bail as he has previously committed similar offences.
80. During a city-wide crackdown on illegal gambling, Mr. Thompson is arrested and charged with organising illegal betting, a non-bailable offence. However, he claims that the evidence is weak and that he has a chronic medical condition requiring regular treatment. Should bail be considered for Mr. Thompson?
- (a) Yes, because his medical condition might qualify him for special consideration under exceptional circumstances.
  - (b) No, because non-bailable offences do not allow for bail under any circumstances.
  - (c) No, because bail decisions are based solely on the potential financial harm to the community.
  - (d) No, because the charge is non-bailable, and his medical condition does not impact the legal criteria for bail.

81. Mr. Allen has been charged with a serious financial fraud, considered a bailable offence. He is a foreign national with no family or business ties in the country. Fearing he might flee, the authorities are hesitant to grant him bail. However, Mr. Allen offers a substantial bail amount and agrees to surrender his passport. Considering the nature of bail, should Mr. Allen be granted bail?
- (a) No, because his foreign nationality and lack of local ties present a high risk of him fleeing the jurisdiction.
  - (b) Yes, because bail can be secured by surrendering his passport and offering a bail amount.
  - (c) No, because the charge against him is not related to the conditions he is willing to meet for bail.
  - (d) Yes, because he has the financial resources to post a high bail amount.
82. Vikram, a resident of Kolkata, was arrested on suspicion of trespassing into a government-owned property, a bailable offence. During the arrest, law enforcement officials discovered evidence suggesting that Vikram may also have been involved in a large-scale embezzlement scheme potentially linked to organized crime, which could be punishable by life imprisonment. When brought to the police station, Vikram immediately applied for bail. The station in-charge, Inspector Roy, was hesitant to grant bail due to the serious nature of the additional allegations. Given the dual nature of the accusations—one clearly bailable and the other potentially leading to life imprisonment—Inspector Roy must decide on the appropriateness of granting bail. Should bail be granted to Vikram under these circumstances?
- (a) Yes, because the immediate charge of trespass is a bailable offence, and Vikram should be granted bail for this charge.
  - (b) No, because there are reasonable grounds to believe that Vikram has committed another offence which may be punishable with life imprisonment.
  - (c) Yes, because Vikram has the right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty, and bail is a mechanism to uphold this principle. [www.lawpreptutorial.com](http://www.lawpreptutorial.com)
  - (d) No, because Vikram's potential involvement in organized crime suggests he poses a threat to public safety, which overrides the bailability of the trespassing charge.



83. Amit, a property developer in Hyderabad, was arrested for alleged involvement in a large-scale fraud case, a non-bailable offence due to the magnitude of the financial discrepancies involved. During the investigation, it was revealed that Amit was previously tried but acquitted for a separate case of armed robbery, an offence which had a potential imprisonment term of over seven years. Given his past legal history and the current charges, Amit applied for bail. The prosecution opposed the bail, citing the severity of the current charges and his history, despite the previous acquittal. Should the court allow Amit's bail application considering his past acquittal and the nature of the current charges?
- (a) Yes, because the law stipulates that bail cannot be denied based solely on past trials where the accused was acquitted, and there are no convictions that meet the conditions for denying bail under the non-bailable offence clause.
  - (b) No, because the severity of the allegations in the current case justifies holding Amit in custody to ensure he does not flee or commit further offences, given the pattern of serious allegations.
  - (c) Yes, because an acquittal in a previous case implies that there are no legal grounds to consider Amit a habitual offender, thereby not justifying denial of bail based on his criminal history.
  - (d) No, because the existence of serious charges in both the past and present suggests a propensity for criminal behavior, which poses a risk if Amit is released on bail.
84. Rajiv, a businessman in Pune, was arrested for allegedly engaging in a high-profile money laundering scheme, classified as a non-bailable offence due to the large sums of money involved and the scheme's international connections. During the initial court proceedings, it was revealed that Rajiv had two prior convictions: one for extortion and another for fraud, both of which were cognizable and non-bailable offences, with each resulting in imprisonment of over seven years. Given his criminal record, the prosecution argues against granting bail, citing his history of serious offences as indicative of his potential for continued criminal activity. Should the court grant bail to Rajiv considering his history of two prior convictions for cognizable and non-bailable offences?
- (a) Yes, because each case should be treated on its own merits, and past convictions should not necessarily influence current bail decisions.
  - (b) No, because the nature of the charges, combined with his criminal background, suggests a pattern of unlawful behavior that poses a risk if he is granted bail.
  - (c) Yes, because the current charges of money laundering are financially related and do not pose a direct threat to public safety.
  - (d) No, because Rajiv's record of multiple prior convictions for cognizable and non-bailable offences disqualifies him from bail under the stipulated conditions.

**Logical Reasoning**

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

**XVI. Health:** India's drugs regulatory agency, Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), issued an order that allowed waiving off local clinical trials for approval of certain categories of new and novel drugs in the Indian market that have already been approved for use globally by regulators of countries that follow strict quality control.

It can be argued that this was a move that should have been made years ago as it would have meant getting novel or advanced drugs that are already in use in western countries to India at relatively faster and cheaper rates.

Local clinical trials or bridging studies as these are called are designed to demonstrate equivalent immunogenicity meaning to exclude a clinically significant difference in the immune response between the population in whom efficacy was shown and the population to whom those efficacy results are extrapolated. The studies provide clinical data on the efficacy, safety, dosage, and dose regimen of a drug in the new region.

The national regulator has identified six countries for considering a waiver. If the new molecule is approved to be marketed by the regulators in the United States, the United Kingdom, Japan, Australia, Canada, and the European Union, then the pharmaceutical companies can apply for a trial waiver to CDSCO in India.

These countries have been selected as these are a part of Stringent Regulatory Authorities, which are national drugs regulatory authorities that the World Health Organisation considers to have strict standards for the quality, safety, and effectiveness of drugs and vaccines.

The waiver, however, is meant specifically for five drug categories — orphan drugs for rare diseases; gene and cellular therapy products; new drugs used in pandemic situations; new drugs used for special defence purposes; and new drugs having significant therapeutic advances over the current standard care.

India finally acted on the long-standing demand from patient groups, the medical fraternity, and industry bodies who were lobbying for it in the interest of patients. On the face of it, it may seem that the move will benefit multinational pharmaceutical companies as they won't have to go through the hassle of generating data locally and getting it assessed separately, but on a closer look, it becomes clear that the patients are set to be the bigger gainers if unnecessary processes are cut in introducing new drugs.

The Japanese have the same policy as they say they are a very unique population and their genome is different so you have to come and repeat studies in Japan. The drugs that were

approved in the US, Europe, and Japan, the dose of the drug, and the way it's given is about 98% the same. The only difference is that the drugs in Japan get approved three years later after they have been approved in the US/UK, etc. There is a delay in Japan because they insist on local trials. So, you gain nothing but lose time.

*Source: Extracted with edits and revisions from:*

*<https://www.hindustantimes.com/health/health-talk-why-india-waiving-off-local-clinical-trials-for-globally-approved-new-drugs-is-good-news-101723302179188.html>*

85. What is the central claim made by the author regarding the CDSCO's decision to waive local clinical trials?
- (a) The policy primarily reduces regulatory hurdles for pharmaceutical companies, facilitating easier market entry.
  - (b) The move expedites access to crucial medications for Indian patients without compromising drug safety or efficacy.
  - (c) Waiving local trials might introduce potential risks due to a lack of population-specific data being considered.
  - (d) The waiver aligns India's drug approval process with global standards but potentially overlooks local safety assessments.
86. Which of the following assumptions most supports the author's argument in favour of waiving local clinical trials?
- (a) The genetic and physiological responses to drugs are sufficiently similar across different populations to make local trials unnecessary for certain drug categories.
  - (b) The economic benefits of faster drug availability outweigh any potential risks from skipping local trials for the specified drug categories.
  - (c) The regulatory bodies in the identified countries consider global population diversity in their drug approval processes.
  - (d) Indian medical practitioners and patients are willing to accept drugs approved without local clinical trials.
87. Which of the following statements would the author most likely challenge regarding the impact of the CDSCO's waiver?
- (a) Local clinical trials are indispensable for ensuring the safety and efficacy of drugs for the Indian population.
  - (b) The waiver addresses long-standing demands for quicker access to advanced drugs from various medical groups.
  - (c) Drugs approved by stringent international authorities can be considered reliable and effective for use in India.
  - (d) The delay caused by mandatory local trials often results in critical treatments being unavailable to patients.

88. Which of the following reflects a potential flaw in the author's reasoning regarding the waiver of local clinical trials?
- (a) Assuming that drugs effective in other countries will be equally effective for the Indian population without considering potential genetic or environmental differences.
  - (b) Overestimating the regulatory capacity of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation to handle increased drug applications.
  - (c) Ignoring the potential economic impact on local pharmaceutical companies that specialize in conducting clinical trials.
  - (d) Assuming that the waiver will lead to a significant increase in the number of orphan drugs available in India.
89. Which of the following can be reasonably inferred from the passage about the CDSCO's decision?
- (a) The decision likely reflects the growing influence of patient advocacy in India's regulatory processes.
  - (b) The waiver guarantees the immediate availability of all globally approved drugs in the Indian market.
  - (c) CDSCO might prioritize international drug approvals over local data due to pressure from global standards.
  - (d) The policy may reduce the time and expense involved in bringing new drugs to the Indian market.
90. Which of the following, if true, would most reinforce the author's claim that the waiver of local clinical trials benefits Indian patients?
- (a) Studies show that the effectiveness of drugs approved in the US and Europe remains consistent across different global populations.
  - (b) Reports suggest that multinational pharmaceutical companies have increased their market share after the waiver of local clinical trials.
  - (c) New evidence indicates that drugs without local trials have shown higher adverse reactions in India compared to other regions.
  - (d) Surveys suggest that Indian healthcare professionals prefer prescribing drugs that have been subjected to local clinical trials.

**XVII. Energy:** The Prime Minister was in the midst of a months-long re-election campaign this April when he took to social media to trumpet a “remarkable feat!” and a “historic milestone” for his country: crossing 1 billion metric tons of coal and lignite production. It was proof of India’s “commitment to ensuring a vibrant coal sector.”

A month later, for the third year in a row, his government ordered some coal plants to run at full capacity to meet high electricity demand during the increasingly hot summer months. Even though India has been significantly increasing its renewable energy capacity in recent years, when demand for electricity surges, it still goes back to its most trusted source of power: coal.

For the first six months of this year, India has responded to major energy demand from its growing population and greater cooling needs because of extreme heat, in part due to climate change, by relying on its coal-fired plants. The country also plans to add more coal plants.

India’s coal demand rose nearly 10% in 2023, or about 105 million metric tons, in the biggest jump by percentage for any country, according to the International Energy Agency. Demand in China rose 6%.

“We know the Indian government is serious about its climate commitments,” said the lead author of the IEA report. But he acknowledged the “huge need to ensure people have electricity” in India and added: “We don’t believe that India will be a front runner in the coal transition. More than 70% of India’s electricity needs are still met by coal even though renewable energy such as wind and solar power is growing. India last year became the world’s most populous nation with 1.4 billion people. Electricity demand is projected to grow by at least 6% annually for the next few years, according to the IEA.

India has millions of people mired in poverty, but millions more who are being lifted from poverty as the country’s economy develops. And many of those will be able to afford some relief. Even if someone gets a fan or an air cooler to make their life a little more comfortable, cumulatively you will see the need for a lot more electricity, 7% growth in annual demand “is the bare minimum” he expects.

While renewables are growing, India needs to add a lot of battery storage so that power can replace coal for nighttime needs. Electricity demand isn’t the only force guaranteeing coal’s durability in India. Konda pointed to millions of jobs in coal, including allied sectors such as the railways that control the trains used for transporting coal. One indicator of coal’s heft: At the height of summer in 2022, the government cancelled nearly 2,000 passenger trains so coal freight trains could reach power plants faster.

*Source: Extracted with edits and revisions from: <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/despite-push-for-solar-energy-india-trusts-coal-for-surging-electricity-demand/article68504876.ece>*

91. Based on the passage, which of the following statements must necessarily be true?
- (a) India's renewable energy growth has not yet completely replaced coal as a reliable power source.
  - (b) The Indian government has committed to eliminating coal usage within the next few years.
  - (c) The majority of India's electricity demand is met through renewable energy during peak periods.
  - (d) Coal remains the only energy source despite efforts to diversify with other resources.
92. Which statement would the author most likely agree with, based on the passage?
- (a) The growth in renewable energy will soon meet all of India's needs.
  - (b) Expanding coal production is crucial for energy security in key areas.
  - (c) International pressure will likely force India to reduce coal use soon.
  - (d) India should adopt better demand management to reduce coal reliance.
93. What is the main point the author is making in the passage?
- (a) India's growing energy demand is leading to increased coal consumption despite efforts to expand renewable energy.
  - (b) The Indian government has abandoned its climate commitments in favour of unrestricted coal expansion.
  - (c) India's renewable energy sector has overtaken coal as the primary source of electricity in the country.
  - (d) International pressure is the main factor driving India's energy policy decisions.
94. The passage suggests that India's coal reliance is due to the need to meet high electricity demand during extreme weather. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken this reasoning?
- (a) Some regions in India have managed peak demand using only renewable energy sources.
  - (b) Government policies are increasingly favouring solar energy as the primary power source.
  - (c) Coal production subsidies are being reduced, encouraging alternatives during peak periods. [www.lawpreptutorial.com](http://www.lawpreptutorial.com)
  - (d) New initiatives to cut electricity use during heat waves have lowered coal demand.
95. Which of the following conclusions can be most reasonably drawn from the passage?
- (a) India is likely to maintain its dependence on coal in the near future due to rising electricity needs.
  - (b) The Indian government will soon replace coal with renewable energy as the main source of power.
  - (c) India's energy policy is driven by international demands rather than domestic necessities.
  - (d) The expansion of renewable energy will quickly eliminate the need for coal-fired power plants.



96. Which course of action best addresses India's goals of reducing coal reliance while meeting rising energy demands?
- (a) Increase coal imports to maintain a stable energy supply during peak demand.
  - (b) Improve coal plant efficiency to temporarily manage the growing energy gap.
  - (c) Invest in energy storage systems to enable renewable energy for all-hour supply.
  - (d) Develop offshore wind farms to support coal during high-demand seasons.

**XVIII. Politics:** In the 2024 general election, with the decline of the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) in Uttar Pradesh and the Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi (VBA) in Maharashtra, the independent political assertion of Dalit politics has been relegated to a new low. However, Dalit political parties like the Lok Janshakti Party (LJP) in Bihar and Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi (VCK) in Tamil Nadu showcased a promise that Dalit politics can remain relevant in the democratic discourse if they form alliances with national political fronts.

Such diversification within the Dalit political discourse shows that the heightened ideological commitment to the Ambedkarite political values is diminishing, as Dalit political parties are exploring various alternatives to find meaning in their existence. This heterogeneity also reveals that the Dalit parties and leaders lack a grand political vision to build a national front against the conventional ruling elites, remaining comfortable with their regional specificities. For the rebirth of Dalit politics, newer ideological virtues under a committed political leadership are essential.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar expected that modern democracy would not re-establish the power and privileges of the conventional social elites but would instead allow the socially marginalised groups to take centre stage in transforming the power structure. He envisioned that independent India's new polity would allow Dalits to emerge as robust leaders of marginalised social groups and challenge the domination of social elites over political power. With the decline of parties, like the BSP and VBA, there are few takers of such a revolutionary vision.

Recently, Dalit politics based on the ideals of social justice have continuously been marginalised and have remained passive. The divisions between Dalit political parties showcase that there is no consensus on ideological parameters. The Dalit leadership lacks political vision and influential social initiatives. While other political parties have often joined hands to secure their class and social interests, Dalit parties hardly pondered the possibility of uniting different Dalit political and social organisations at the national level. These parties often remain attached to their regional specificities and lack the political imagination to ally with the social justice parties to announce a robust national Dalit agenda. Other marginalised communities, such as the Adivasis and Muslims, also hesitate to open a sincere dialogue with Dalit political outfits, as their political commitment and ideological merit often remain under doubt. Instead, national political fronts, especially the Congress, have reinvented themselves by engaging with the concerns of the marginalised social groups and building impressive campaigns to safeguard constitutional ideals.

*Source: Extracted with edits and revisions from: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/the-top-court-as-custodian-of-liberties/article68517371.ece>*

97. Which of the following statements best serves as a premise for the argument that Dalit political parties lack a coherent national strategy?
- (a) National political fronts have successfully included marginalized communities.
  - (b) Dalit political parties tend to prioritize regional strategies over national unity.
  - (c) Dalit political parties have experienced a noticeable decline in key elections.
  - (d) The absence of a unified national front limits Dalit political effectiveness.
98. Which of the following is necessarily false according to the passage?
- (a) The revival of Dalit politics requires changes in both leadership and ideology.
  - (b) The political relevance of LJP and VCK depends entirely on their regional focus.
  - (c) The fragmentation of Dalit parties reflects their lack of a unified national agenda.
  - (d) National political fronts have effectively engaged marginalized communities.
99. Which of the following inferences can be most reasonably drawn from the passage?
- (a) Dalit political parties have successfully maintained ideological purity through alliances.
  - (b) National political fronts have marginalized Dalit leaders by co-opting their agendas.
  - (c) The focus on regional issues has limited the national impact of Dalit political parties.
  - (d) The decline of the BSP and VBA is due to their refusal to form broader alliances.
100. Which of the following, if true, would most strongly support the argument that Dalit political parties are losing their ideological direction?
- (a) Dalit political parties increasingly align with non-traditional forces in elections.
  - (b) Recent electoral strategies of Dalit parties have led to significant victories.
  - (c) Regional leaders of Dalit parties continue to advocate Ambedkarite principles.
  - (d) The core ideological focus of Dalit parties remains centered on social justice.
101. The author is most likely to agree with which of the following statements?
- (a) National political fronts have largely neutralized the influence of Dalit parties.
  - (b) Dalit parties are unlikely to succeed nationally without strong regional alliances.
  - (c) The decline of major Dalit parties signals the end of Ambedkarite political values.
  - (d) A revival of Dalit politics is dependent on both ideological and leadership changes.
102. Which of the following statements highlights a paradox in the passage?
- (a) Dalit political parties remain regionally focused yet aspire for national impact.
  - (b) The Congress engages marginalized groups effectively, yet Dalit parties fail to unite.
  - (c) Dalit leaders advocate for unity, yet their parties are deeply fragmented.
  - (d) Regional Dalit parties secure votes locally, yet struggle with national visibility.

**XIX. Artificial Intelligence:** The year 2024 had dawned with forebodings of a new wave of security threats, and security specialists the world over, had braced for a wave of attacks along a wide spectrum. Their concerns essentially stemmed from fears arising out of new threats posed by Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its different manifestations, including Generative AI and Artificial General Intelligence (AGI). Together with the expanding horizons of disinformation and cyber threats, the outlook seemed distinctly gloomy.

The 33rd Summer Olympic Games in France, during July-August 2024, were seen as a real and tempting target for digital, including cyber and other criminals. Experts across the world were, hence, bracing themselves for digital attacks of a kind they had not encountered hitherto, quite apart from those launched by known terror groups.

Such fears were not unfounded, given the rising profile of both AI and cyber, and the consequential increase in disinformation attacks. Several months down the road, the absence of any spectacular attack has been a relief. This is no reason to relax the vigil as newer variations of digital threats are beginning to emerge. The Paris Games ended peacefully, but eternal vigilance is still the price that security agencies need to pay to ensure proper safety. Undoubtedly, an Olympic Games of this size passing off without a major incident is indeed a triumph for security managers engaged in providing security for the Games, yet vigil can hardly be relaxed.

It might be worthwhile to look back and see what did, or did not, happen in 2024. The year started seeming to confirm the prognosis that 2024 may well be the year when the world confronts a cornucopia of security threats. Disinformation was already having a field day in the run up to the elections in Taiwan in January 2024, and the atmosphere was loaded with fake posts and videos, causing widespread confusion. This was attributed to China, but we live in a world today where nothing is what it seems. What was, however, evident was that the advent of AI seemed to have made it far easier to spread disinformation cloaked in the garb of reality. AI was the principal, though not, perhaps, the sole culprit.

It is indeed true that spreading disinformation has become far easier with the advent of AI. Deep fakes, comprising digitally manipulated video, audio, or images, repeatedly hit the headlines today, causing a miasma of disinformation. The truth is revealed much later — and after the damage has been done.

*Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/disinformation-ai-and-cyber-chakravyuh/article68517429.ece>*

103. What is the primary focus of the author's discussion in the passage?
- (a) The growing reliance on advanced AI systems to manage global cyber threats effectively.
  - (b) The potential of AI to bring about significant changes in traditional security approaches.
  - (c) The escalating concerns regarding AI's role in introducing unprecedented security risks.
  - (d) The accomplishments of security professionals in successfully averting AI-driven cyber attacks.

104. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's concerns about AI-driven threats in 2024?
- (a) Detailed reports show that the majority of cyber incidents in 2024 were linked to traditional hacking methods rather than AI-driven attacks.
  - (b) Studies indicate that public awareness of AI-generated content significantly increased, rendering most disinformation campaigns ineffective.
  - (c) AI technology was predominantly used by security agencies to enhance defensive strategies, leading to a marked decrease in successful cyber attacks.
  - (d) The absence of major incidents at high-profile events was primarily due to increased physical security measures rather than advancements in AI-driven security.
105. Which of the following statements does not accurately reflect the author's viewpoint?
- (a) AI has significantly facilitated the spread of disinformation in 2024.
  - (b) The peaceful conclusion of the Paris Olympics doesn't eliminate the need for continued vigilance.
  - (c) The success of the Paris Games proves that AI-related security threats were overestimated.
  - (d) Security measures in 2024 have evolved to address new challenges posed by AI and cyber threats.
106. Based on the passage, which course of action would the author most likely advocate to mitigate the risks associated with AI?
- (a) Relaxing AI regulations to encourage rapid technological advancements in security systems.
  - (b) Investing in continuous vigilance and adaptive security measures to counter evolving AI-driven threats.
  - (c) Strengthening international alliances to ensure coordinated responses to AI-related risks.
  - (d) Launching global initiatives to raise awareness about the dangers of AI-driven misinformation.
107. Which of the following reveals a flaw in the author's reasoning regarding the security risks associated with AI?
- (a) Assuming that the absence of attacks during the Olympics indicates the overall effectiveness of security measures against AI-driven threats.
  - (b) Equating the increased ease of creating disinformation using AI with an inevitable increase in its impact and effectiveness.
  - (c) Overlooking the potential positive applications of AI in enhancing security measures and countering threats.
  - (d) Concluding that AI-driven security threats are more severe than traditional threats based solely on their novelty.

108. Which of the following titles best encapsulates the passage's content?
- (a) "AI as a Key Threat in Global Security"
  - (b) "Success of Paris Olympic Security"
  - (c) "AI-Driven Disinformation and Cybersecurity"
  - (d) "Ongoing Vigilance Against Digital Threats"

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**Quantitative Techniques**

Each set of questions in this section is based on a single passage, graph or other representation. Please answer each question by deriving information from such passage, graph, or other representation, or applying mathematical operations on such information as required by the question.

- XX.** The following information is about the production of cars by 3 different companies from Monday to Friday in a specific week. Read the information carefully and answer the following question:-

The total production by 3 companies on Monday was 540 out of which 100/3% cars were produced by Tata. The number of cars produced by Renault on Monday is less than the cars produced by Tata on Monday by the same extent as the number of cars produced by Maruti on Monday is more than the cars produced by Tata on Monday. The difference between cars produced by Renault and Maruti on Monday is 40. 150 cars are produced by Tata on Tuesday, which is 100 less than the cars produced by the same company on Wednesday. A total of 910 cars were produced by Tata from Monday to Friday. The ratio between cars produced by Tata on Thursday to cars produced by the same company on Friday is 5: 6.

220 cars were produced by Renault on Tuesday, which is 80 less than the cars produced by Maruti on Wednesday. A total of 570 cars were produced on Tuesday i.e. 76% of the total cars produced on Wednesday. Number of cars produced by Maruti on Thursday is 200/3% more than cars produced by Tata on the same day. Total 580 cars were produced on Thursday. The number of cars produced by Maruti on Friday is same as that on Monday. 140 cars were produced by Renault on Friday.

109. Find the ratio between total cars produced on Monday to that on Wednesday.  
(a) 18:29 (b) 18:25  
(c) 18:31 (d) 3:5
110. Find the total number of cars produced by Renault from Monday to Friday.  
(a) 900 (b) 980  
(c) 950 (d) 960
111. Find the average number of cars produced per day by Maruti from Monday to Friday. (approximate)  
(a) 250 (b) 220  
(c) 270 (d) 230
112. On which pair of days out of the following, the number of cars produced by Tata is the same?  
(a) Tuesday and Wednesday (b) Wednesday and Thursday  
(c) Tuesday and Thursday (d) Monday and Wednesday



113. On which day the total number of cars produced was the maximum?  
(a) Monday (b) Tuesday  
(c) Wednesday (d) Thursday
114. Total number of Car produced by Tata in Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday together is what% of the total number of car produced by Maruti in Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday together?  
(a) 78.57% (b) 72.57%  
(c) 74.57% (d) 56.57%
- XXI.** Rohan purchased some apples and mangoes for a total of Rs. 1,008. The ratio of the quantity of apples bought to that of mangoes bought was A:B, respectively. The cost price of each apple was 25% more than that of each mango. Note that 'A' is the smallest non-prime even number and 'B' is the largest single-digit prime number. He sold all the apples and mangoes bought by him given that the number of mangoes and apples sold were both integers, and selling price of each apple and each mango, have integral value. Rohan sold each apple at 40% profit and each mango at 25% profit. [www.lawpreptutorial.com](http://www.lawpreptutorial.com)
115. Find the overall profit earned by Rohan.  
(a) Rs. 225 (b) Rs. 430  
(c) Rs. 315 (d) Rs. 480
116. If number of mangoes sold by Rohan were more than 40 but less than 100, then find the cost price of each apple.  
(a) Rs. 12 (b) Rs. 15  
(c) Rs. 10 (d) Rs. 8
117. Rohan's CA calculated his overall profit percentage as 'p%'. However, 20% of the mangoes were later returned by the buyer as they were rotten, and Rohan had to issue a refund for the same. If his new profit percentage is '(q/3)%', then find the difference between 'p' and 'q'.  
(a) 20.5 (b) 19.5  
(c) 16.5 (d) 18.75

- XXII.** On Monday, there are 120 guests (Male + female) staying in a hotel out of which 'M' are male while 'F' are female. Next day (i.e., Tuesday), number of male guests increased by 50% and number of female guests increased by 25%. On Wednesday, number of female guests increased by 80% while the number of male guests decreased by 25%. Total increase in the number of guests staying at the hotel during the given two days was 50%.  
A part of the hotel's expenses is fixed at Rs. 'P' while the other is directly proportional to the number of guests staying at the hotel. When  $[2F + 20]$  guests stay at the hotel, then the profit earned per guest by the hotel is Rs.100. When  $[1.5M + 5]$  guests stay at the hotel, then the average profit earned per guest is Rs.200. The fee collected by the hotel from each guest is Rs. [A], where [A] is the smallest four-digit perfect cube.
118. Find the number of males staying in the hotel on Tuesday.  
(a)  $2F + 20$  (b)  $3F$   
(c)  $M + 20$  (d)  $2.5M - 120$
119. Find the total profit earned by the hotel if 150 guest stay at the hotel.  
(a) Rs.40,000 (b) Rs.45,000  
(c) Rs.50,000 (d) Rs.60,000
120. Find the value of 'P – 40A'.  
(a) 25000 (b) 20000  
(c) 10000 (d) 15000

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