

MOCK COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST 2025

MOCK CLAT #04

Duration : 120 Minutes

Max. Marks : 120

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. No clarification on the question paper can be sought. Answer the questions as they are.
2. There are 120 multiple choice objective type questions.
3. There is negative marking of 0.25 for every incorrect answer. Each question carries **ONE** mark. **Total marks are 120.**
4. You have to indicate the correct answer by darkening one of the four responses provided, with a **BALL PEN (BLUE OR BLACK)** in the **OMR** Answer Sheet.

Example: For the question, "*Where is the TajMahal located?*", the correct answer is (b).

The candidate has to darken the corresponding circle as indicated below :

(a) Kolkata (b) Agra (c) Bhopal (d) Delhi

Right Method



Wrong Methods



5. Answering the questions by any method other than the method indicated above shall be considered incorrect and no marks will be awarded for the same.
6. More than one response to a question shall be counted as wrong.
7. Do not write anything on the OMR Answer Sheet other than the details required and, in the spaces, provided for.
8. You are not required to submit the OMR Answer Sheet and Test Paper after the test
9. The use of any unfair means by any candidate shall result in the cancellation of his/her candidature.
10. Impersonation is an offence and the candidate, apart from disqualification, may have to face criminal prosecution

SECTION-A : ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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

Passage(Q.1-Q.4): Hindus are **antediluvian** people. They belong to the longest continuous civilisation. Naturally, one expects many books on Hindu history. With the rare exception of Ramesh Chandra Majumdar (1888-1980), almost all historians have dealt Indian history with either a tinge of aversion or an obvious aversion for the indigenous religions of India. This reflects in the history textbooks as well. The historiography of ancient India usually follows a pattern. Harappan and Vedic civilisations are dealt with as isolated. Vedic and Upanishad period often receive a treatment like this was a natural religion of superstition and a nomadic society becoming hierarchical where priestcraft becomes all influential. Then the Buddhist and Jain reform religions arise. These are either the proto-Protestant movements or proto-Communist movements against the priest domination. Naturally, these religions, especially Buddhism, receives a generous treatment, not because of the innate richness of its spirituality but because it is projected as anti-Vedic and anti-Brahminical. Then the conversion of Ashoka becomes an important dramatic event of a civilisational height achieved by ancient India. And so on and so forth.

So when the history textbook finishes with the Gupta empire and Islamist invasions begin, the student would see the invasions as ending an already degraded, inhuman, superstitious and oppressive system that has internal voices of dissent seeking liberation. The stranglehold of such a historiography does not stop with just textbooks but also has its tentacles extending to novels and dramas, opinion pieces and political rhetoric. So in effect, Hindus, despite being an ancient nation and a modern society, do not have a historiography that does justice to their achievements and contributions, travails and challenges. Dr Meenakshi Jain has been fighting against this mighty civilisational offence for decades now. She has been one mighty voice trying to heal this civilisational wound. The textbook she wrote on Indian history in 2002, with about 91 illustrations in around 251 pages should be considered a milestone in Indian history textbook writing. It openly challenged colonial narratives and presented a history that is justifiably positive and definitely holistic in its approach. Unfortunately, just two years later the changed government purged the textbooks. But that did not stop her. From the evidence of Ram temple to looking into the colonial construct of Sati as endemic to Hindu civilisation, she has been at the forefront of civilisational narrative wars, and has been doing a laudable contribution in this much-needed front. Her latest work is the book *The Hindus of Hindustan: A Civilizational Journey*. This book moves away from Marxist-colonial approach and its negative stereotypes. Instead, in 19 chapters and 287 pages it traces through the ancient and early history of India the dynamics and evolution of its civilisational values. Polity and material culture instead of being the core of historiography as in that of the West, become dimensions of the civilisational core. That is not an easy task. Material culture is very important for all historians. Modern history having evolved from the West naturally has to rely on material culture rather than civilisational continuity. After all, the West has had a chasm dividing its ancient pagan past and medieval Christian past and again the medieval Christian past and modern renaissance. With such discontinuities, material culture of the past becomes the important basis for history.

1. What cannot be inferred about Indian history textbooks from the passage?
 - (a) There has been no linking of two ancient civilisations.
 - (b) There was subsequent development of grading in the Vedic religion.
 - (c) The proto-protestant movements were a reaction to priest supremacy.
 - (d) The period prior to invasions was depicted as a pinnacle in society.
2. What does the word “antediluvian” as used in the passage mean?
 - (a) Old fashioned
 - (b) Not easily diluted
 - (c) Prior to Christian flood
 - (d) Primordial

3. Which of the following reflects the tone of the passage?
- (a) Commiserating. (b) Acerbic.
(c) Sarcastic. (d) Disdainful.
4. From the first paragraph of the passage, it can be collectively concluded
- (a) That there was no historian who wrote history in textbooks with a balance and continuity needed to do justice to its ancient roots.
(b) That history of Hindus has been reported in the Indian history textbooks without any mention of its ancient nature.
(c) That a lopsided writing of the history of Hindus has been done, with an exception of a single historian, with an adversarial presentation.
(d) That Buddhism and Jainism have been depicted to be an antidote to the priest dominated religion of Hindus.

Passage(Q.5-Q.8): In France, the police killing of a teenager of Algerian and Moroccan descent and the devastating riots that ensued have laid bare the deep tensions that linger between security forces and the Black and Arab communities living in the country's poorest urban areas, casting a fresh light on accusations of systemic violence and racism by French cops who are already more heavy-handed than their European counterparts.

The revolt started after an officer shot dead a 17-year-old last Tuesday, during a traffic stop in the Paris suburb of Nanterre. Similarly to the case of George Floyd, an African American man who was choked to death by Minneapolis police officers in front of several filming bystanders in 2020, the event was caught on a video that widely circulated on social media, sparking a massive outcry. Violence broke out shortly after the botched traffic stop, quickly spreading from Nanterre to other poor suburbs (*banlieues*) across the country and then to city centers, with barricades set up, cars and public buildings set on fire, and stores looted. It's the most serious rioting the country has seen since 2005, when youths largely belonging to ethnic minorities wreaked havoc in France's toughest neighborhoods for three weeks following the accidental deaths of two teenagers while they were being chased by police.

French police are plagued by "a double problem of racial discrimination and brutality, with neither one being acknowledged by governments past and present," said Sebastian Roché, an expert on policing at Sciences-Po university in Grenoble. In France, images of similar incidents "have emerged in the past, but not as damning as these ones," said Éric Marliere, a sociologist at the University of Lille. "We are looking at a very **vehement** scene that reminds of the George Floyd case" and has contributed to accelerating the protest movement, he said. This is also yet another major headache for French President Emmanuel Macron, who's seeking to rebuild his political capital at home and abroad after months of crippling strikes over his pension reform, and has now had to postpone a scheduled trip to Germany in order to deal with the new crisis, after being forced to leave early from a European summit in Brussels to hurry back to Paris last week.

French cops tend to be more trigger-happy than their European counterparts. The rough French average of 44 people killed by police every year since the turn of the decade pales compared to the hundreds who die in the United States, but it's much higher than in Germany or the United Kingdom. Some of it may have to do with the lower standards and shorter training that have resulted from Macron's efforts to quickly beef up police ranks after he came into office in 2017. In recent years, admission rates have gone from one in 50 candidates to one in five. New recruits are now only getting eight months of training, compared to three years in Germany.

5. Which of the following comes closest to conclusion of the underlined sentences in the passage?
- (a) There have been many killings in France by policemen which are much higher than United States or any European country.
 - (b) France gives much freedom to policemen for pressing the trigger in death sentences than any other European country or even, United States.
 - (c) French policemen kill more people by a gun than any other European country but the number is much diminished in comparison to United States.
 - (d) French policemen are delighted to press the trigger of guns to kill people but they are much lesser than numbers in United States.
6. Which of the following categories best describes this piece of writing?
- (a) Non-fiction social essay.
 - (b) Academic legal Writing.
 - (c) Comparative Geopolitical Research.
 - (d) Comparative Socio-Political Article.
7. Which of the following can be an apt title for the passage?
- (a) France in Unrest: Unfettered legal powers to Cops.
 - (b) France and United States: powers of Cops
 - (c) France and Cops: European anomaly.
 - (d) Cops in France: Society, Europe and Policy.
8. Which of the following is the central theme of the passage?
- (a) The cops in France are much eager in using guns to cause violence than their European counterparts.
 - (b) The society in France is affected by discriminatory attitude to poor communities which led to unrest after killing of a teenager.
 - (c) The cops in France have a genuine problem with poor racial communities and the killing of one such teenager led to unjustified violence.
 - (d) The policemen in France are marred by discriminatory attitudes to a particular populace due to which unrest ensued after a killing.

Passage(Q.9-Q.12): Gravitational waves were first spotted by the twin detectors of the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) in Louisiana and Washington State. They sensed the ripples produced by two black holes spiralling into each other and merging. LIGO and its counterpart Virgo in Europe have since reported dozens of similar events. For the latest results, the authors relied on special beacon stars called millisecond pulsars. The teams tracked changes over more than a decade in the distances between Earth and millisecond pulsars in the Milky Way, comparing the signals from arrays of dozens of the beacon stars. These pulsar timing arrays (PTAs) are sensitive to waves that are 0.3 parsecs long or more.

And whereas LIGO and Virgo spot evidence of the last stages of individual merger events — regularly spaced waves coming from one definite direction in the sky — the four PTA collaborations have so far found only a ‘stochastic background’, a constant jostling in random directions. This is like the random sloshing of water on the surface of a pond caused by the rain. The most likely explanation for the stochastic background seen by PTAs is that it is produced by many pairs of supermassive black holes orbiting each other in the hearts of distant galaxies, says Sarah Burke-Spolaor, an astrophysicist at West Virginia University in Morgantown. Most galaxies are thought to harbour one such monster black hole, with a mass millions or billions of times that of the Sun. And astronomers know that throughout the Universe’s history, many galaxies have merged. So, some galaxies must have ended up with two supermassive black holes, known as a black-hole binary. Researchers also have calculated that in the **swarming** centre of such a galactic merger, each black hole would transfer some of its momentum to surrounding stars, slinging them out at high speed or simply dragging them around. As a result, the two black holes would eventually slow down and end up orbiting each other at distances of around 1 parsec, explains Chiara Mingarelli, a gravitational-wave astrophysicist at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut.

Only paired black holes that got much closer to each other than 1 parsec would contribute to the PTA signal, however. “They need to be separated by a milliparsec to emit detectable gravitational waves,” says Mingarelli. Theories that explain how this would happen are speculative, however, and whether the binaries can do this has been an open question, known as the final-parsec problem. “If you don’t overcome the final-parsec problem, then you don’t get any gravitational waves,” says Mingarelli.

9. Which of the following is the most likely reason for stochastic background observed by pulsar time arrays?
 - (a) Produced by a solitary pair of extremely gigantic black holes encircling each other.
 - (b) Produced by many pairs of extremely trifling black holes orbiting each other in nigh galaxies.
 - (c) Produced by many pairs of supermassive black holes in Milky Way galaxy.
 - (d) Result of voluminous pairs of gigantic black holes circling each other in far-flung galaxies.
10. What does the word “swarming” mean in context of the passage?
 - (a) Whirling
 - (b) Panoply of weapons
 - (c) Congested
 - (d) Chunter
11. Which of the following cannot be inferred from the passage?
 - (a) There are separate observatories in two continents of America and Europe to detect gravitational waves.
 - (b) Some of the energy or force continuity of the black holes can be conveyed to stars during fusions.
 - (c) Paired black holes which are closer to each other with a distance of less than 1 parsec will be detected for gravitational waves.
 - (d) The final parsec problem states that there have to be a distance of 1 parsec or more for detection of waves from them.
12. Identify the figures of speech used in the following sentence:
This is like the random sloshing of water on the surface of a pond caused by the rain.
 - (a) Metaphor
 - (b) Hyperbole
 - (c) Simile
 - (d) Metonymy

Passage(Q.13-Q.16): Aesthetics in this central sense has been said to start in the early eighteenth century, with the series of articles on “The Pleasures of the Imagination” which the journalist Joseph Addison wrote in the early issues of the magazine The Spectator in 1712. Before two decades of this time, thoughts by notable figures made some forays into this ground, for instance in the formulation of general theories of proportion and harmony, detailed most specifically in architecture and music. But the full development of extended, philosophical reflection on Aesthetics did not begin to emerge until the widening of leisure activities in the beginning of the eighteenth century.

The eighteenth century was a surprisingly peaceful time, but this turned out to be the lull before the storm, since out of its orderly classicism there developed a wild romanticism in art and literature, and even revolution in politics. The aesthetic concept which came to be more appreciated in this period was associated with this, namely sublimity, which Edmund Burke theorized about in his “A Philosophical Enquiry into the Origin of our ideas of the Sublime and Beautiful.” The sublime was connected more with pain than pure pleasure, according to Burke, since threats to self-preservation were involved, as on the high seas, and lonely moors, with the devilish humans and dramatic passions that artists and writers were about to portray. But in these circumstances, of course, it is still “delightful horror,” as Burke appreciated, since one is **cloistered** by the fictionality of the work in question from any real danger.

“Sublime” and “beautiful” are only two amongst the many terms which may be used to describe our aesthetic experiences. Clearly there are “ridiculous” and “ugly,” for a start, as well. But the more discriminating will have no difficulty also finding something maybe “fine,” or “lovely” rather than “awful” or “hideous,” and “exquisite” or “superb” rather than “gross” or “foul.” Frank Sibley wrote a notable series of articles, starting in 1959, defending a view of aesthetic concepts as a whole. He mainly said that they were not rule- or condition-governed denying normative character, but required a heightened form of perception, which one might call taste,

sensitivity, or judgment. His full analysis, however, contained another aspect, since he was not only concerned with the sorts of concepts mentioned above, but also with a set of others which had a rather different character. For one can describe works of art, often enough, in terms which relate primarily to the emotional and mental life of human beings. One can call them “joyful,” “melancholy,” “serene,” “witty,” “vulgar,” and “humble,” for instance. These are evidently not purely aesthetic terms, because of their further uses, but they are still very relevant to many aesthetic experiences.

13. Which of the following can be an apt title for the passage?
 - (a) Aesthetics: Utility in modern times.
 - (b) Aesthetics: History of philosophy in the eighteenth century
 - (c) Aesthetics: Philosophical origins and utility
 - (d) Aesthetics: Emotions of human beings
14. Which of the following reflects a suitable replacement of the word “cloistered” as used in the passage?
 - (a) Windswept (b) Sequester (c) Made discernible (d) Exiguous
15. Which of the following reflects the main reason given by Sibley in his articles shielding aesthetic concepts?
 - (a) They required heightened sense of perception along with rules and conditions.
 - (b) They were governed by an increased sense of observation of normative character.
 - (c) They required a puny sense of perception without norms.
 - (d) They required amplified observation, not directed by norms.
16. What can be appropriately inferred from the bold text in the passage?
 - (a) The eighteenth century was a much tranquil time regarding romanticism and revolution.
 - (b) There was departure from classicism in seemingly serene eighteenth century to roughness and rebellion indicating a false calm before a tempest.
 - (c) The eighteenth century appeared tranquil but it was interspersed with romantic and political wildness indicating false peacefulness after a storm.
 - (d) The eighteenth century was tranquil but it had many examples of wild romanticism and political wilderness like a lull in a storm.

Passage(Q.17-Q.20): The Gujarat High Court order declining to stay the conviction of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in a defamation case is quite unreasonable and borders on the fanciful. Justice Hemant M. Prachchhak becomes the third judicial authority in Gujarat to rule that Mr. Gandhi, in using derogatory words in an election campaign speech in 2019, had committed defamation against a large number of people and that it was a “serious offence”. The purported seriousness of the offence has been cited to justify the award of a two-year jail term, the maximum punishment for defamation. While the remark is unlikely to have troubled or caused any reputational harm to any reasonable person, the trial magistrate, a civil court hearing an appeal against conviction, and now, the High Court, have unanimously concluded that the offence is grave, amounting to moral **turpitude**. The High Court has agreed with the first appellate court that Mr. Gandhi does not deserve the benefit of stay of conviction, an order that would help overcome his disqualification from the Lok Sabha. It has enthusiastically endorsed the conclusion that the offence is grave because it was committed by a Member of Parliament and leader of a party that had ruled the country for decades and that it was a speech that contained a false statement made with intent to affect the outcome of an election.

The court has controversially ruled that the statement has defamed a determinable group of people, referring to those with the surname of our prime minister. It has thus rejected the key argument that 13 crore people with the surname could not have been aggrieved by that sentence. How the court concluded that a large number of people were aggrieved is not clear when no one except the complainant has claimed harm to reputation. It is disconcerting that court after court has endorsed a punishment tailored specifically to disqualify a Member of

Parliament. The High Court has also ignored the argument that a legislator cannot be pushed out of the House and barred from electoral contest for an offence that was neither serious nor involved moral turpitude. Instead, it has made a fanciful claim that the law's object is to maintain purity in politics and cited the pendency of other cases against Mr. Gandhi to decline to stay the conviction. It has even referred to a complaint by V.D. Savarkar's grandson against Mr. Gandhi, as though a political remark could add another layer of gravity to the offence. The extent to which a judicial order can go to make a defamation case sound like a horrific crime against society at large is quite flabbergasting.

17. Which of the following cannot be inferred from the passage?
- (a) A large number of persons were parties to the defamation case.
 - (b) The Court used extra-legal considerations for upholding the conviction.
 - (c) The seriousness of the offence is made evident by the antiquity of the political party of the convicted.
 - (d) The High Court is the third regional authority to uphold conviction in defamation.
18. What does the word "turpitude" mean in the context of the passage?
- (a) Probity
 - (b) Cachet
 - (c) Depravity
 - (d) Inherited vice
19. Which of the following is not supported by the passage?
- (a) If there is stay of conviction granted then there will not be any effect on the membership of Lok Sabha.
 - (b) A large number of people with a particular surname were aggrieved by the statement of the convicted.
 - (c) The Court concluded that the remark was so serious that it equals moral evil.
 - (d) The High Court is not the first Court in which appeal was made by the convicted against his sentence.
20. Which of these represents the central theme of the passage?
- (a) Political consideration cannot be used to support a legal conviction for an offence.
 - (b) An offence of defamation cannot be termed as extremely serious by any reasonable person.
 - (c) The Court erred in their classifying the offence of defamation under an extremely serious moral act.
 - (d) The Court made a grave mistake in using past criminal cases and political remarks in conviction of political leader for moral culpability.

Passage(Q.21-Q.24): Many years later, as he faced the firing squad, Colonel Aureliano Buendía was to remember that distant afternoon when his father took him to discover ice. At that time Macondo was a village of twenty adobe houses, built on the bank of a river of clear water that ran along a bed of polished stones, which were white and enormous, like prehistoric eggs. The world was so recent that many things lacked names, and in order to indicate them it was necessary to point. Every year during the month of March a family of ragged gypsies would set up their tents near the village, and with a great uproar of pipes and kettledrums they would display new inventions. First they brought the magnet. A heavy gypsy with an untamed beard and sparrow hands, who introduced himself as Melquíades, put on a bold public demonstration of what he himself called the eighth wonder of the learned alchemists of Macedonia. He went from house to house dragging two metal ingots and everybody was amazed to see pots, pans, tongs and braziers tumble down from their places and beams creak from the desperation of nails and screws trying to emerge, and even objects that had been lost for a long time appeared from where they had been searched for most and went dragging along in turbulent confusion behind Melquíades' magical irons. 'Things have a life of their own,' the gypsy proclaimed with a harsh accent. 'It's simply a matter of waking up their souls.' José Arcadio Buendía, whose unbridled imagination always went beyond the genius of nature and even beyond miracles and magic, thought that it would be possible to make use of that useless invention to extract gold from the bowels of the earth. Melquíades, who was an honest man, warned him: 'It won't work for that.' But José Arcadio Buendía at that time did not believe in the honesty of gypsies, so he traded his mule and a pair of goats for the two magnetized ingots. **Úrsula Iguarán, his wife, who relied on those animals' product and labour to consistently increase their poor domestic holdings, was unable to dissuade him.** 'Very soon we'll have gold enough and more to pave the floors of the house,' her

husband replied. For several months he worked hard to demonstrate the truth of his idea. He explored every inch of the region, even the riverbed, dragging the two iron ingots along and reciting Melquíades' incantation aloud. The only thing he succeeded in doing was to unearth a suit of fifteenth-century armour which had all of its pieces soldered together with rust and inside of which there was the hollow resonance of an enormous stone-filled gourd. When José Arcadio Buendía and the four men of his expedition managed to take the armour apart, they found inside a calcified skeleton with a copper locket containing a woman's hair around its neck.

[Source: Excerpt from *One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel García Márquez]

21. Which of the following best reflects the title of the passage?
- (a) Gypsy quacks and a villager's expedition
 - (b) Gypsy Magnet and conversion to gold
 - (c) Life of gypsies and their inventions
 - (d) Gypsy inventions and a villager's imagination
22. Which of the following statements the author is most likely to agree with?
- (a) The magnet was a counterfeit which was invented by the gypsy to loot the villagers and take over their money.
 - (b) The villager had been told by a gypsy that this invention will work on finding gold from the depths of the Earth.
 - (c) There was little development around the area near the village and there was lack of names of the places and things.
 - (d) There were no habitations by the villagers and the gypsies since they lived in tents.
23. Which of the following words will fill in the link given in continuation of the passage?
The Gypsies returned next change of season. This time they brought a telescope and a magnifying glass the size of a drum, which they exhibited as the latest of the Jews.
- (a) Novelty
 - (b) Contrivance
 - (c) Penury
 - (d) Decrepitude
24. What can be appropriately inferred from the bold text in the passage?
- (a) The animals were to be used by the family to increase their income by cutting and trading them for food.
 - (b) The animals were responsible for the whole income of the household of the villager which made the woman weep.
 - (c) The animals had been instrumental in utilizing their strength and products to add-on to the household income.
 - (d) The animals had been instrumental in using their labour to make products which made the family much richer.

SECTION -B : CURRENT AFFAIRS, INCLUDING GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Directions (Q.25-Q.54): Read the information carefully and answer the questions.

Passage (Q.25 – Q.29): Safe water is essential to life itself. Proper sanitation and hygiene prevent the spread of disease and infection, and ensure human dignity. Without these essential services, the most basic needs of children's lives are unmet.

Globally, 600 million children still lack safely managed drinking water, 1.1 billion lack safely managed sanitation and 689 million lack basic hygiene service, 149 million children still face the indignity of practising open defecation and unsafe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) is still responsible for the deaths of around 1,000 children under 5 every day.

The challenge of extending WASH services to children in need is further compounded by water scarcity, floods and cyclones – all exacerbated by the climate crisis.

In advance of the 2023 United Nations Water Conference, this Advocacy Spotlight examines the “triple burden” of WASH-related threats facing children at the intersection of access to WASH services, the burden of WASH-related diseases, and climate threats. Through examining the burden of disease from unsafe WASH, we see where the problem is greatest. Through examining access to water and sanitation services, we see where investment is the lowest. Through examining climate threats, we see which countries face the greatest risk to both health and services for children.

It is estimated that three times the current investment – at least US\$114 billion per year – is needed in developing countries to meet the WASH-related SDG targets by 2030.

25. As per UNICEF's "Triple Threat" report, how is the 'triple burden' characterized?
- (a) Insufficient access to basic WASH services below 30%
 - (b) Inadequate access to basic water or sanitation services below 50% and being among the top 20 and 25% of countries with the highest burden and risk
 - (c) Limited access to basic hygiene services below 40%
 - (d) Ranking within the top 20% of countries with the highest mortality burden due to the absence of basic WASH services
26. What proportion of deaths caused by unsafe WASH is concentrated in the ten countries that experience the triple burden?
- (a) 1 out of 5
 - (b) 2 out of 5
 - (c) 3 out of 5
 - (d) 4 out of 5
27. Which of the following is not a primary recommendation put forth by UNICEF in the "Triple Threat" report?
- (a) Increase effective and accountable coordination and capacities for delivering water and sanitation services.
 - (b) Diminish resilience within the WASH sector and communities.
 - (c) Implement the UN-Water SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework and invest in key accelerators.
 - (d) Scale up investment in the sector, including global climate financing.
28. In which geographical region are all ten countries that bear the triple burden located?
- (a) East Asia
 - (b) Middle East
 - (c) North Africa
 - (d) Sub-Saharan Africa
29. Which government initiative And whereas LIGO and Virgo spot evidence of the last stages of individual merger events — regularly
- (a) Abhinav Bharat
 - (b) National Rural Sanitation Program
 - (c) Swachh Swasth Sarvatra Initiative
 - (d) National Handwashing Campaign

Passage (Q.30 – Q.34): The Grammy Awards 2023 are here. The star-studded event is taking place at Crypto.com Arena and will see Lizzo, Steve Lacy, Luke Combs, Mary J Blige, Harry Styles, Bad Sam Smith, Bunny and many others in attendance. Bad Bunny opened the night with a terrific performance, featuring pyrotechnics, dancers in traditional dress. Many celebrities got up to dance, including Taylor Swift. Harry Styles performed his song As It Was. Sam Smith and Kim Petras delivered a powerful performance of their song Unholy. The ceremony also paid tribute to three lost icons, including Loretta Lynn, who passed away in October; Christine McVie, the Fleetwood Mac singer-songwriter who died in November; and Takeoff, the Migos rapper who was shot and killed in November. Viola Davis earned the rare EGOT status, becoming the third Black woman in history to receive the honor. Moreover, the Grammys also celebrated 50 years of Hip Hop with a lineup of musicians, leading to loud applause and cheers from the audience.

Beyonce has broken the records of Grammy wins of all time with 32 awards. Apart from winning for Best Dance/Electronic Album for Renaissance, she also won for ‘Cuff it’ for Best R & B song. On the other hand, Kendrick Lamar has had several big wins for the night. Sam Smith and Kim Petras won for Best Pop Duo Performance, beating out the likes of Coldplay-BTS’s My Universe and ABBA. Kim Petras made history as the first trans woman to win a Grammy. Lizzo walked away with Record of The Year.

30. In which calendar year did the inaugural ceremony of the prestigious Grammy Awards, which originated as an offshoot of the Hollywood Walk of Fame project, take place, marking the commencement of its illustrious journey?
 - (a) Anno Domini 1955
 - (b) Anno Domini 1959
 - (c) Anno Domini 1960
 - (d) Anno Domini 1965
31. Identify the musical composition for which Ricky Kej, the acclaimed Indian music composer known for his environmental consciousness, was decorated with his third Grammy Award in the year 2023?
 - (a) 'Earth Song'
 - (b) 'Divine Tides'
 - (c) 'Celestial Waves'
 - (d) 'Ocean Melodies'
32. For which eminent music award ceremony does the so-called "General Field" incorporate four awards that are genre-neutral?
 - (a) Billboard Music Awards
 - (b) American Music Awards
 - (c) MTV Video Music Awards
 - (d) Grammy Awards
33. From what source did the Grammy Awards find their initial impetus?
 - (a) The Hollywood Walk of Fame project
 - (b) The triumph of the Billboard Music Awards
 - (c) An aspiration to acknowledge accomplishments in the music industry
 - (d) The success of the MTV Music Awards
34. Who possesses the eligibility to nominate recordings for potential recognition in the Grammy Awards?
 - (a) Any professional musician
 - (b) Members of the public
 - (c) Members of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences
 - (d) Only previous Grammy Award winners

Passage (Q.35 – Q.38): The decision on the stance was not unanimous, with one member dissenting on the same. We can attribute the dissent to the fact that, although liquidity conditions have improved lately due to higher government spending and gradual withdrawal of Rs2,000 denomination notes, this is a rapidly changing variable and the surplus in the banking system is expected to wane, on account of advance tax outflows and growing credit demand.

Our reading is that disrupted supply across the world is back on stream and therefore fall in price of coal, natural gas, oil, steel, wheat, lumber, palm oil, milk etc are sustainable. RBI is bound to change stance in time to come.’ RBI committee led by B.P. Kanungo proposed guidelines on gold loan recovery in case of borrower’s death which we believe is a much-needed framework for uniformity and clarity in the industry, ensuring a fair and transparent process that protects both the interests of customers and the integrity of the lending system, these steps towards customer service standards will enhance confidence in the gold loan sector, establishing a reliable and customer-centric approach that safeguards the trust of our stakeholders.

35. In the bi-monthly meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) in FY24, what was the decision and reasoning related to the repo rate?
- (a) The repo rate was increased to 6.75% due to the rapid increase in global inflation.
 - (b) The repo rate was decreased to 5% as the liquidity in the economy surpassed the specified level.
 - (c) The repo rate remained constant at 6.5% in order to achieve the target of 4% retail inflation.
 - (d) The repo rate remained constant at 6.75% due to the volatile global economic scenario.
36. Which of the following statement is/are correct regarding the recent declarations made by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?
- (a) Reserve Bank will persist to be agile in liquidity management.
 - (b) The RBI will ensure the orderly completion of the government's market borrowing program within the stipulated timeframe.
 - (c) RBI has also permitted banks to issue Rupay prepaid forex cards.
 - (d) All of the above
37. What happens when the RBI raises the repo rate?
- (a) The cost of borrowing money for businesses and consumers goes up.
 - (b) The money supply in the economy increases.
 - (c) It makes home buyers happy.
 - (d) None of the above
38. What is the deadline set by the RBI for the exchange or deposit of Rs 2000 notes?
- (a) 31st July, 2023
 - (b) 30th August, 2023
 - (c) and consumers goes up.
 - (d) 31st December, 2023

Passage (Q.39 – Q.42): Union government has approved the Indian Space Policy 2023, which aims to boost the country's space department's role and give a larger participation to research, academia, startups, and industry. The policy lays down the roles and responsibilities of organizations such as the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), and private sector entities.

During a cabinet briefing, Minister for State for Science and Technology Jitendra Singh said that the policy would enhance the role of India's space department, boost research, academia, start-ups, and industry.

The opening up of the space sector for private participation, which was initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has led to the growth of startups in ISRO, with the number reaching 150 within three years. The Indian Space Policy 2023 is expected to provide a framework for the country's space sector for the next decade.

Union Cabinet also approved revised domestic gas pricing guidelines. Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Singh Thakur said, the price of natural gas is to be 10 per cent of the monthly average of Indian Crude Basket.

He said that the move is to ensure stable pricing in regime and provide adequate protection to producers from adverse market fluctuation. The Minister also stated that it will provide incentives for enhancing production.

39. What was the role of the private sector in India's space industry before the 1990s?
- (a) The private sector was not involved in the space industry
 - (b) The private sector was involved in building to ISRO designs and specifications
 - (c) The private sector was responsible for launching satellites
 - (d) The private sector was responsible for research and development in space technology
40. Mark the incorrect match regarding past reforms in Indian space sector.
- (a) First satellite communication policy - 1997
 - (b) B. Remote Sensing Data Policy - 1992
 - (c) Draft of Space Activities Bill - 2017
 - (d) D. All are incorrect
41. According to Indian Space Policy 2023, how many distinct entities are to facilitate greater private sector participation?
- (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 4
42. What is a major gap in the Indian Space Policy 2023?
- (a) It does not allow the private sector to undertake activities in the space sector
 - (b) It does not provide rules and regulations for liability in case of violations
 - (c) It does not allow foreign direct investment in the space sector
 - (d) It does not create NSIL as distinct entity

Passage (Q.43 – Q.46): A recent statement by Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe on implementing the 13th amendment to the Constitution of Sri Lanka, an integral part of the [X] Indo-Sri Lanka Accord, is significant. Thirty-seven years have lapsed since the signing of the Accord, which was an effort to find a political settlement to Tamils' long-pending demands. While political leaders, including the present chief minister of Tamil Nadu M.K. Stalin, have consistently called for the implementation of the 13th amendment as a starting point to resolve the ethnic conflict, this was often ignored by the Sri Lankan establishment.

The Sri Lankan issue is mainly a conflict between majority Sinhalese, whose forefathers are the Saivite Tamils who embraced Buddhism along with Saivite Tamil king of Anuradhapura Devanampiya theesan (Son of King Moothasivan meaning Lord Siva), and minority Saivite Tamils and those who migrated from Tamil Nadu as plantation workers during British rule.

43. Which of the following has been replaced by [x] in the passage?
- (a) 1973 (b) 1983 (c) 1987 (d) 1991
44. What is the primary objective of the Indian government's recent initiative, launched under the name of MV Empress, in the realm of cruise tourism?
- (a) To foster Chennai's emergence as a burgeoning center for cruise tourism
 - (b) To bolster the tourism industry in Sri Lanka
 - (c) To facilitate the growth of international tourism
 - (d) To augment revenue generation from the tourism sector

45. India has decided to extend the \$1 billion credit line for Sri Lanka that is in the midst of an economic crisis. What is the primary difference between a credit line and a traditional loan?
- (a) A credit line provides a predetermined maximum credit limit, while a traditional loan provides a lump sum upfront.
 - (b) A credit line is used for short-term borrowing, while a traditional loan is used for long-term financing.
 - (c) A credit line requires collateral, while a traditional loan does not.
 - (d) A credit line has a variable interest rate, while a traditional loan has a fixed interest rate.
46. What were the limitations faced by the Sri Lankan provincial councils established under the 13th Amendment?
- (a) Lack of control over critical areas such as defense, foreign affairs, and finance
 - (b) Absolute control over land and police departments by the central government
 - (c) Restriction of financial powers and limitations on the free functioning of the provincial councils
 - (d) Subordination to the executive president, resulting in limited autonomy

Passage (Q.47 – Q.50): There's cause for optimism in the latest report on world happiness. For one, benevolence is about 25% higher than it was pre-pandemic.

The report, which is a publication of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network, draws on global survey data from people in more than 150 countries.

The report, which was released on Monday, identifies the happiest nations, those at the very bottom of the happiness scale and everything in between, plus the factors that tend to lead to greater happiness. Taking a holistic view of the well-being of all the components of a society and its members makes for better life evaluations and happier countries.

“The objective of every institution should be to contribute what it can to human well-being,” the report says, which includes accounting for future generations and preserving basic human rights.

Israel moves up to No. 4 this year from its No. 9 ranking last year.

47. The World Happiness Report 2023 ranks countries based on happiness, which is further based on _____ years' data of their average life evaluations.
- (a) One
 - (b) Two
 - (c) Three
 - (d) Four
48. The World Happiness Report, usually released on a specific international day, uses six key factors to measure happiness. Which of the following combinations correctly identifies one of these key factors and the day on which the report is released?
- (a) Education and International Day of Peace
 - (b) Income and International Day of Happiness
 - (c) Education and World Health Day
 - (d) Social support and World Mental Health Day
49. According to the World Happiness Report 2023, one country has been crowned as the happiest nation for the sixth year in a row, while India ranks at a specific position out of 136 countries. Which of the following combinations correctly identifies these two countries and their respective positions?
- (a) Finland is the happiest nation and India ranks at the 100th position.
 - (b) Denmark is the happiest nation and India ranks at the 126th position.
 - (c) Finland is the happiest nation and India ranks at the 126th position.
 - (d) Iceland is the happiest nation and India ranks at the 120th position.

50. The authors of the World Happiness Report 2023 noted that Nordic countries had COVID-19 death rates only _____ as high as elsewhere in Western Europe during 2020 and 2021.
(a) One-third (b) Half (c) Two-thirds (d) Three-fourths

Passage (Q.51 – Q.54): According to a recent report by The Washington Post, there has been a significant decrease in the number of users of a popular AI chatbot. The app experienced its first-ever decline in user numbers last month, with a nearly 10 percent decrease in mobile and desktop traffic to the bot's website globally in June. Downloads of the bot's iPhone app also saw a decline. The exact reasons for this drastic drop in user engagement are unclear, but there are some theories.

The report relies on analysis from Similarweb, a web analytics and market intelligence firm. It reveals that after the bot's launch in November, there was a surge in web traffic and rapid growth in engagement. However, starting in March, the growth rate began to slow down, and in May, it experienced a slump. Additionally, visitor engagement per visit to the ChatGPT website has been steadily dropping, indicating that people who do visit the site are spending less time there. The report also highlights that another popular AI chatbot, Character.AI, also witnessed a decline in engagement levels in June.

51. ChatGPT, introduced by OpenAI in 2022, is based on which series of language learning models?
(a) GPT 1.9 (b) GPT 2.4 (c) GPT 3.5 (d) GPT 4.3
52. A certain percentage of companies with job vacancies want to hire professionals with ChatGPT expertise. However, despite its capabilities, ChatGPT has a specific limitation. Which of the following combinations correctly identifies this limitation?
(a) ChatGPT cannot write essays.
(b) ChatGPT cannot handle customer service queries.
(c) ChatGPT occasionally produces inaccurate information.
(d) ChatGPT can handle a wide range of tasks.
53. Which of the following statements accurately describes the concept of AI (Artificial Intelligence) and its relationship with machine learning?
(a) AI refers to the ability of computers to perform tasks that require human intelligence, while machine learning is the process of enabling machines to learn from data and improve performance without explicit programming.
(b) AI is limited to the field of robotics and automation, while machine learning focuses on mimicking human emotions and consciousness.
(c) AI is a theoretical concept with no real-world applications, while machine learning is the application of AI in the development of advanced robotics.
(d) AI primarily involves the study of how machines can develop human-like consciousness, while machine learning enables machines to understand and process natural language.
54. What is the new profession that is gaining popularity and involves working with AI tools like ChatGPT?
(a) Data Engineering (b) Prompt Engineering
(c) Software Engineering (d) AI Engineering

SECTION – C: LEGAL REASONING

Directions (Q.55-Q.84): Read the comprehension carefully and answer the questions.

Passage (Q.55-Q.59): Article 25(1) of the Constitution says “all persons” are equally entitled to the freedom of conscience and the right to profess, practice and propagate religion freely. The debate on religious freedom goes back to the Constituent Assembly when the framers of our constitution debated the inclusion of the “right to propagate” as a fundamental right. Some members wanted to replace the word “propagate” with “practice privately”, fearing that the right would create room for forceful conversions. The Supreme Court verdict in *Rev. Stainislaus vs. State of Madhya Pradesh* in the 1960s is frequently cited in matters involving religious freedom. Then Chief Justice of India A.N. Ray, heading a five-judge Bench, dissected Article 25 to hold that “the Article does not grant the right to convert other persons to one’s own religion but to transmit or spread one’s religion by an exposition of its tenets.” “What is freedom for one is freedom for the other in equal measure and there can, therefore, be no such thing as a fundamental right to convert any person to one’s own religion,” the court had interpreted, upholding the validity of two regional anti-conversion laws of the 1960s — the *Madhya Pradesh Dharma Swatantraya Adhiniyam* (1968) and the *Orissa Freedom of Religion Act* (1967). However, some verdicts have also interpreted Article 25 differently. For instance, when Mr. Upadhyay, the petitioner in the current plea had approached the top court last year with a similar plea alleging “mass” conversions across the country “by hook or by crook”, a Bench led by Justice Rohinton F. Nariman had said people were free to choose their own religion. “Why should a person above 18 years not choose his religion? What kind of a writ petition is this? We will impose heavy costs on you” Justice Nariman had rebuked Mr. Upadhyay. Justice Nariman had reminded the petitioner of the fundamental right to freely profess, practice, and propagate religion, subject to public order, morality and health. “Why do you think there is the word ‘propagate’?” The Court had said that every person was the final judge of their own choice of religion, and invoked the *Puttaswamy* judgment (2018) to hold that religious faith was a part of the fundamental right to privacy.

55. In the context of religious freedom as mentioned in the passage, what was the Supreme Court's interpretation of the term "propagate" in Article 25(1) of the Constitution in the *Rev. Stainislaus vs. State of Madhya Pradesh* case?
- (a) The Article grants the right to convert others to one's own religion freely.
 - (b) The Article allows for the forceful conversion of individuals to one's own religion.
 - (c) The Article does not grant the right to convert others, but it allows for the transmission or spreading of one's religion through the exposition of its tenets.
 - (d) The Article grants the right to practice and follow one's religion privately as well as in public.
56. F intended to preach the XYZ religion to as many people as possible. He was a follower of this faith. He conducted numerous seminars to spread his religion in other nations, but when he realized he was not succeeding, he provided a 2BHK apartment and a car to anyone who expressed their interest in doing so, thereby inducing them to convert to XYZ religion. Do you believe that this act of F can be justified in terms of the freedom to practice and spread one's own religion? Answer the question using the passage as a reference.
- (a) The act of F falls under his freedom to practice and propagate his religion, as this right also entitles him to encourage others to convert to his religion.
 - (b) The act of F does not fall under the right to practice and propagate his religion because this right does not allow him to convert others to his own religion.
 - (c) F's act falls under the right to exercise and propagate his faith because the necessary conditions have been met.
 - (d) F's actions do not come under the right to practice and propagate religion because he converted the people against their will.

57. F belonged to the ABC faith. Since he was a young child of five years old, he adhered to all of the regulations and tenets of that religion. He dedicated his life to spreading this religion after his parents passed away. He travelled to many foreign countries for this reason, attending workshops and seminars. He also started a school where he gave children free lessons in the values and traditions of the ABC faith. Assess whether the right to practice and spread one's own religion would apply to such an activity.
- (a) F's actions would fall under his right to exercise and propagate his religion because he attempted to spread the beliefs of his religion.
 - (b) F's action does not fit under his freedom to exercise and spread his own faith because he attempted to convert the children by providing free education.
 - (c) F's act does not fall under the right to practice and propagate one's own religion because the requirements of the same have not been met.
 - (d) The passage does not offer all of the necessary information to establish if F's act can be qualified as his right to practice and propagate religion.
58. X supported a religion that was practiced by a small group of people. Only 8% of the population as a whole adhered to the same. This prevented the particular faith from receiving any recognition. To all children whose parents decided to convert to his religion, X gave a free midday meal and free stationery. Additionally, he pledged to get government subsidies for milk and food grains. 30% of the population as a result converted to his religion. X asserted that he was acting within the bounds of his fundamental right to practice and spread his faith when he was questioned about his behaviour. Comment on his claims.
- (a) Considering X did not force anyone to convert to his religion, he can be said to have just disseminated the tenets of his faith.
 - (b) X exercised his right to propagate his religion by incentivizing the public to convert to his religion
 - (c) Since he attempted to convert the public to his faith by inducing them through a variety of means, X cannot be said to have exercised his right to practice and propagate his religion.
 - (d) Because X belonged to a minority group, he could not be said to have exercised his right to practice and propagate his faith.
59. G was a devout adherent of the ABC religion, which was practiced by his family and neighbours. He wished to increase the number of adherents of that religion. To do this, he requested that people consume cow flesh in order to be blessed by the God of his faith and have all of their issues resolved. He persuaded a large number of people to eat the meat. Do you believe G's actions are in line with the fundamental right to practice and propagate one's own religion? Refer to the passage to answer the question.
- (a) G should not have encouraged people to practice his religion; hence his actions do not comply with the fundamental right to freedom of religion.
 - (b) Since G persuaded others to adopt his religion, his act is on par with the fundamental right to religious freedom.
 - (c) Since it is legal to raise awareness about one's faith, G's act is in line with the fundamental right to practice and propagate one's religion.
 - (d) Given that he disregarded public health, G's actions were inconsistent with the fundamental right to profess and propagate one's religion.

Passage (Q.60-Q.64): The Supreme Court has affirmed the familiar announcement heard during train journeys: "Passengers please pay attention... Passengers should protect their luggage themselves." According to a PTI report, the Supreme Court supports this statement, stating that if any of your belongings are lost or stolen during the journey, the responsibility cannot be attributed to the Railways as a deficiency in their service. The case brought before the Supreme Court's vacation bench involved a petition challenging a decision by the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC). A businessman had claimed compensation from the Railways for the loss of Rs 1 lakh that was stolen from his waist belt during a train journey. The NCDRC had ordered the Railways to pay the businessman the claimed amount. However, the vacation bench, comprising Justice Vikram Nath and Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah, overturned the NCDRC's decision. They emphasized that the theft of a passenger's luggage during a train journey cannot be considered a deficiency in the Railways' service. The bench clarified that the Railways cannot be held responsible if the passenger fails to safeguard their belongings. The Supreme Court's stance on this matter highlights the bench's understanding that theft cannot be deemed a deficiency in the Railways' service. It reinforces the principle that passengers need to take personal responsibility for the protection of their own luggage. The Consumer Protection Act 2019 defines deficiency as:

S. 2 (11) "deficiency" means any fault, imperfection, shortcoming or inadequacy in the quality, nature and manner of performance which is required to be maintained by or under any law for the time being in force or has been undertaken to be performed by a person in pursuance of a contract or otherwise in relation to any service and must include— (i) any act of negligence or omission or commission by such person which causes loss or injury to the consumer; or (ii) deliberate withholding of relevant information by such person to the consumer. Injury can be monetary or psychological. Inability to carry on recreational activities such as entailing fun/entertainment etc will not fall under the ambit of psychological loss.

60. Mangesh, a resident of 123 Malleshwaram Street, subscribed to XYZ Internet Services for a high-speed internet connection on a two-year contract. The contract stated that the service would provide a minimum download speed of 100 Mbps and an uptime of at least 99.9%. However, on June 15, 2023, John experienced an anomaly. Throughout the day, he noticed frequent internet outages, making it impossible for him to work from home as he usually does. However, to save himself from any salary deduction he asked for his work deadlines to be extended which was granted which made him relaxed resulting into him suffering no loss. Despite attempting to troubleshoot the problem from his end, the internet service remained unstable. Mangesh contacted XYZ Internet Services' customer support multiple times during the day to report the issue and seek resolution. However, the support team failed to provide any immediate solutions or a clear timeline for resolving the problem. Furthermore, upon contacting the customer support, Mangesh was met with long wait times, unhelpful representatives, and lack of coordination between departments. The support staff provided conflicting information and failed to keep him informed about the status of the ongoing outage. Will XYZ be liable for deficiency in service?

- (a) Yes, because there was shortcoming in manner of performance.
- (b) No, because there was no imperfection in the manner of performance.
- (c) Yes, because all the requirements under section 2 (11) are met.
- (d) No, because the requirements under section 2 (11) are not met.

Explanation:

61. On the evening of July 22, 2021, Mr. and Mrs. Verma visited "TasteBuds," a well-known upscale restaurant located in the heart of the city. Upon arrival at 7:30 PM, the Vermas were promptly seated at a table near the window. However, their experience started to deteriorate soon after. It took the server over 15 minutes to approach their table to take their drink order. During this time, they were left without menus, and the server did not apologize for the delay. When the server finally returned to take their drink order, he seemed disinterested and unenthusiastic, providing little to no guidance on the restaurant's extensive wine list when asked for recommendations. Once their drinks were served, the couple decided to place their food orders, expecting a delightful culinary experience. However, the wait for their food was excruciatingly long. The restaurant was not busy, and several tables around them, who arrived after the Vermas, were served their meals before them. The server made no attempt to inform them about the delay or offer any explanation. When their food finally arrived, it was not as per their specifications. Mr. Verma had ordered a mushroom roast, but it arrived overcooked. Mrs. Verma's vegetarian green dish had meat in it, despite clearly specifying her dietary preferences to the server. The couple found themselves disappointed with the quality and presentation of the dishes. Throughout the course of their meal, the server rarely checked in on them, and the couple had to make repeated attempts to grab his attention to request basic things like water refills and additional napkins. The lack of attention and responsiveness from the staff only added to their frustration. They filed for deficiency of service under the Act. Is their claim valid?
- (a) It is valid because they suffered loss due to the negligence of the service provider.
 - (b) It is not valid because there was no injury suffered by the consumer.
 - (c) It is valid because all the requirements of section 2 (11) are met.
 - (d) It is not valid because consumers are responsible for their food preferences themselves.
62. Priya Sharma boarded the JamdhaniExpress (Train No. 12424) from New Delhi to Mumbai. As a frequent traveller, she had high expectations of Indian Railways' renowned JamdhaniExpress service. Priya noticed that the train compartment's cleanliness was subpar. The washrooms were unhygienic, and the floor of the compartment had not been properly cleaned, which raised concerns about the health and safety of the passengers. During the journey, Priya attempted to use the charging points for her electronic devices, but to her dismay, several charging points in her coach were non-functional. This left her unable to charge her phone and laptop, which she had relied upon for entertainment. The complimentary meals served on the JamdhaniExpress are typically known for their quality and taste. However, Priya found the food served during her journey to be of substandard quality, with undercooked rice and unappetizing side dishes. When Priya tried to address her concerns with the train staff, she encountered indifferent and unresponsive behaviour. The staff seemed disinterested in resolving the passengers' issues, further exacerbating the dissatisfaction. Later, she also suffered an infection due to the unhygienic conditions in the train. She filed for deficiency in service for not being able to use her laptop. Will she succeed?
- (a) Yes, because there was imperfection in manner of service resulting into loss.
 - (b) No, because she did not suffer a monetary injury due to the imperfection in service.
 - (c) Yes, because all the requirements of section 2 (11) are satisfied.
 - (d) No, because there was no loss or injury suffered by her.
63. Rajesh Gupta arrived at the New Delhi railway station well before the scheduled departure time of the train at 7:30 AM. Rajesh's compartment had faulty air conditioning, which led to discomfort during the journey, particularly as the outside temperature soared throughout the day. Despite repeated complaints to the train staff, the issue remained unresolved, causing distress to the passengers. Rajesh suffered from a heatstroke which led to his hospitalization after de-boarding. Rajesh's luggage which was kept under his seat went missing when he left his seat for using the washroom. After reaching his destination, Rajesh filed for deficiency in service for the missing luggage and the hospitalization. Will he succeed?
- (a) Yes, fully because there was imperfection in the nature of service with neglect resulting in loss.
 - (b) No, because Rajesh did not suffer any loss due to the imperfection in service.
 - (c) Yes, partially because there was inadequacy in the quality of service with neglect resulting in loss.
 - (d) No, because there was no psychological injury suffered by Rajesh.

64. Neha boarded the Jamdhani Express at the New Delhi Railway Station at 6:00 PM. Neha had opted for the First Class AC ticket, which includes onboard catering services. However, to her dismay, the catering staff did not appear during the journey, leaving passengers without access to meals and refreshments as promised. The Jamdhani Express arrived at the Mumbai Central Railway Station with a significant delay of over three hours, causing Neha to miss an important business meeting and incurring financial difficulties for her company which reduced her variable salary. She files for deficiency in service against the Railways. Will she succeed?
- (a) Yes, because she suffered imperfection in manner of service resulting in psychological injury.
 - (b) No, because some requirements of section 2 (11) are not met.
 - (c) Yes, because all the requirements of section 2 (11) are met.
 - (d) No, because she did not suffer any loss or injury due to the imperfection in service.

Passage (Q.65-Q.69): Pursuant to Supreme Court's directions issued last year regarding expeditious trials in cases filed under section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act related cheque bouncing cases, the Bombay High Court has issued a circular setting out the following guidelines; Magistrates trying offences under the NI Act convert a complaint under section 138 of the NI Act from summary trial to summons trial only after recording cogent and sufficient reasons; trial Court shall treat service of summons in one complaint under section 138 of the N.I. Act forming part of a transaction, as deemed service in respect of all complaints filed before the same Court relating to the dishonour of cheques issued as a part of the same transaction even as trial court doesn't have powers to review or recall an order of issuance of summons. If the accused in a section 138 case resides beyond the territorial jurisdiction of the magistrate, an inquiry must be conducted before proceeding against the accused as prescribed under section 202 of Cr.P.C.; during the course of the inquiry under section 202 of the CrPC, evidence of witness statements should be permitted on affidavit; in suitable cases, the magistrate may restrict the inquiry to examination of documents without insisting for examination of witnesses for satisfaction as to the sufficiency of grounds for proceeding under the said provision; the appellate court before which appeals against the judgments in complaint under section 138 of the N.I. Act are pending are directed to make an effort to settle the dispute through mediation. These practice directions shall come into force with immediate effect.

65. Mana was a resident of a village which was situated between two cities, city A was 45 mins away while city B was 15 min away. Mana's village was under the jurisdiction of city A. Mana was a business woman and paid for some materials she bought from Shree via a cheque. When Shree deposited the cheque it bounced, he contacted Mana but she refused to write him another cheque. Mana was booked under section 138 for failing to make payment to the payee. Her case was taken to the magistrate of City Band without making any inquiry the proceeding against her began. She resisted to the accusations claiming a violation of section 202 of Cr.P.C. Judge whether there was any violation.
- (a) There was no violation as she was the resident of the village under the jurisdiction of City B.
 - (b) There was violation as she is not bound for the failure of the cheque going through
 - (c) There was no violation as she has committed a crime under Sec. 138.
 - (d) There was violation as the magistrate is required to make an inquiry before proceeding with the case.
66. Let's take the same case as the above. Here the case was referred to the magistrate of city A. Mana insisted that there must be an inquiry for her case before the proceedings begin as per section 202 of Cr.P.C. Decide is such inquiry pertinent for proceeding with the case given at hand.
- (a) No, such inquiry is not needed in this case as Mana is a resident of City A.
 - (b) Yes, such inquiry is needed in this case as Shree is a resident of City B.
 - (c) No, such inquiry is not needed as it is as per the magistrate's desire.
 - (d) Yes, such an inquiry is needed in all cases of section 138 of Negotiable Instruments Act.

67. Kala was accused under section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, and she did not reside in the territorial jurisdiction of the Magistrate who was adjudicating the case. During inquiry under section 202 of Cr.P.C, the Magistrate refused to permit witness statements on the affidavit to speed up the proceedings. Kala raised objection against this, decide whether such objection should be entertained or not.
- (a) Yes, the objection is valid as it is a violation of section 202.
 - (b) Yes, the objection is valid as during inquiry under section 202 witness statements should be permitted on affidavit.
 - (c) No, the objection is not valid as Kala is a criminal.
 - (d) No, as the objection on the admission of witness statements are up to Magistrate's discretion.
68. X failed to make a payment for shipment due to Y via a cheque, as a result of insufficient balance in his account. Y sued X and he was booked under section 138, and was sentenced to pay double the amount of the shipment as compensation. X appealed his sentence, stating that he was not in a financially sound place to follow through with the judgement and proposed to pay a lump-sum through an out of court settlement via mediation, Y agreed to it. But the appellant court refused the said proposition and upheld the order of the Magistrate. Decide.
- (a) The appellant court was correct for upholding the order as there was no guarantee that X could pay the lump-sum amount.
 - (b) The appellant court was correct for upholding the order as an out of court settlement was not the way to go ahead in cheque bounce cases.
 - (c) The appellant court was wrong in upholding the order as it discouraged the parties from settling the matters out of court.
 - (d) The appellant court was wrong in upholding the order as it should have allowed the parties to decide the pending case through mediation.
69. The passage lays down the circumstances under which the Magistrate can initiate an inquiry. As per your understanding what are such circumstances.
- (a) When the accused resides beyond the jurisdiction of the Magistrate.
 - (b) When the complainant resides beyond the jurisdiction of the Magistrate.
 - (c) When the cheque bounce amount exceeds Rs.20 Lakhs.
 - (d) When there is no examination of witnesses.

Passage (Q.70-Q.74): The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, commonly known as the PoSH Act, was passed in 2013. It defined sexual harassment; lay down the procedures for complaint and inquiry, and the action to be taken in cases of sexual harassment. The PoSH Act subsequently mandated that **every employer must constitute an Internal Complaints Committee (ICC)** at each office or branch that has 10 or more employees. The aggrieved victim under the Act can be a woman "of any age whether employed [at the workplace] or not", who "alleges to have been subjected to any act of sexual harassment". It is not compulsory for the aggrieved victim to file a complaint for the ICC to take action. The Act says that she "may" do so — and if she cannot, any member of the ICC "shall" render "all reasonable assistance" to her to complain in writing. If the woman cannot complain because of "physical or mental incapacity or death or otherwise", her legal heir may do so. Under the Act, the complaint must be made "within three months from the date of the incident". However, the ICC can "extend the time limit" if "it is satisfied that the circumstances were such which prevented the woman from filing a complaint within the said period". The ICC may either forward the victim's complaint to the police, or it can start an inquiry that has to be completed within 90 days. The ICC has powers similar to those of a civil court in respect of summoning and examining any person on oath, and requiring the discovery and production of documents. Section 14 of the Act deals with punishment for false or malicious complaint and false evidence. In such a case, the ICC "may recommend" to the employer that it take action against the woman, or the person who has made the complaint, in "accordance with the provisions of the service rules". The Act, however, makes it clear that action cannot be taken for "mere inability" to "substantiate the complaint or provide adequate proof".

70. According to the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, what actions can the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) take if a complaint of sexual harassment is found to be false or malicious?
- (a) The ICC has the authority to recommend legal action against the person who made the false or malicious complaint.
 - (b) The ICC can issue a warning to the person who made the false or malicious complaint and provide them with a chance to rectify their actions.
 - (c) The ICC must report the false or malicious complaint to the employer, who will then decide on the appropriate disciplinary measures.
 - (d) The ICC is required to provide counseling and support to the person who made the false or malicious complaint to address any underlying issues.
71. T founded his company in 2019. He had only three staff, including himself, for six months. He worked tirelessly for the next two years, and by 2022, he had a team of 200 employees. He did not establish an Internal Complaints Committee even in 2022, because his company had no female employees. Do you believe T's decision will be upheld after reading the passage? Give reasons for your answer.
- (a) T is not required to form a committee if his company has no female employees.
 - (b) Regardless of the gender of his employees, T has a responsibility to form an Internal Complaints Committee.
 - (c) If no case of sexual harassment has occurred, no committee is required to be formed.
 - (d) T has no responsibility to form the Internal Complaints Committee because his company had only 3 members initially.
72. P worked for KYC Private Limited as the social media manager. She has worked for the company for three years. P's supervisor was another employee named F who worked for the same company. They had a really friendly relationship with each other. F attempted to sexually harass P on July 17th. She avoided it at first, but as it became regular, she complained to the ICC by the end of July. Determine whether P made the correct decision. (M)
- (a) P made the correct decision only if she can produce evidence of F doing such an act against her.
 - (b) P made the correct decision because she reported the sexual harassment which is a crime under the PoSH Act and also within the time limit.
 - (c) P did not make the correct assessment since she should have confronted F first.
 - (d) Because sexual harassment is a crime under the PoSH Act, P made the correct decision.
73. M was the owner of the law company XYZ private limited. M was concerned about forming an Internal Complaints Committee because the company had 86 employees. A case of sexual harassment was reported to the committee some weeks after it was formed. To begin the investigation, the committee requested that the accused appear before it and answer a few questions. V, the accused, was outraged by it and did not follow the company's instructions. Determine if the ICC has the authority to question the accused.
- (a) The ICC is not authorized to question parties and must gather evidence on its own.
 - (b) The ICC has the sole authority to question anyone, involved or not, in the case at any time.
 - (c) If the accused refuses to cooperate, the ICC is not permitted to question him.
 - (d) The ICC has the authority to question the parties when required for the investigation of the case.

74. Q was sexually harassed by the company's boss. Because the boss had been out of town for several months, he was unaware that cameras had been installed in some of the employees' cabins. The camera captured the entire encounter. When Q threatened to file a complaint with the ICC, the employer erased the tape and left no proof in Q's favour. As a result, Q was unable to support her assertions before the ICC. Determine whether or not action should be carried out against Q, and if so, explain why.
- (a) Because Q was unable to support her assertions, some action must be taken against her in accordance with service regulations.
 - (b) The ICC has no authority to take action against the company's employer.
 - (c) Q should not be punished merely for her failure to verify her assertions.
 - (d) Q should be required to pay the fine, or her salary should be deducted for three months.

Passage (Q.75-Q.79): Vicarious liability refers to a situation where someone is held responsible for the actions or omissions of another person. In the field of Torts, it is considered to be an exception to the general rule that a person is liable for his own acts only. It is based on the principle of *qui facit per se per alium facit per se*, which means, "He who does an act through another is deemed in law to do it himself". Vicarious Liability deals with cases where one person is liable for the acts of others. So in a case of vicarious liability both the person at whose behest the act is done as well as the person who does the act are liable. So the constituents of vicarious liability are: (a) There must be a relationship of a certain kind, (b) The wrongful act must be related to the relationship in a certain way and (c) The wrong has been done within the course of employment. The liability of the government in tort is governed by the principles of public law inherited from the British Common law and the provisions of the Constitution. The whole idea of Vicariously Liability of the State for the torts committed by its servants is based on three principles: *Respondeat superior* (let the principal be liable), *Qui facit per alium facit per se* (he who acts through another does it himself) and Socialization of Compensation. The position of State liability as stated in Article 300 of the Constitution is as under: Clause (1) of Article 300 of the Constitution provides first, that the Government of India may sue or be sued by the name of the Union of India and the Government of a State may sue or be sued by the name of the State; secondly, that the Government of India or the Government of a State may sue or be sued in relation to their respective affairs in the like cases as the Dominion of India and the corresponding Provinces or the corresponding Indian States might have sued or be sued, "if this Constitution had not been enacted", and thirdly, that the second mentioned rule shall be subject to any provisions which may be made by an Act of Parliament or of the Legislature of such State, enacted by virtue of powers conferred by the Constitution.

75. Which of the following statement cannot be concluded from the given passage?
- (a) The concept of *qui facit per se per alium facit per se* is used in the area of tort law as an exception to the general rule that a person is only responsible for his own actions.
 - (b) Vicarious liability deals with situations in which one person is held accountable for the actions of another hence in cases of vicarious liability, only the person at whose direction the act is performed and not the person who does the act is made liable.
 - (c) The Constitution's provisions and the public law principles inherited from British common law govern the government's tort liability.
 - (d) Three ideas serve as the foundation for the concept of the State's vicarious liability for the wrongdoings of its agents: *Respondeat superior*, The socialisation of compensation and *qui facit per se*

76. R worked as the chef at the girl's hostel. He was one of the best chefs in town, so he asked for higher wages. Because of the chef's good reputation, several girls were admitted to the hostel, so the owner agreed to pay him extra. He was cooking for the students one day when he received an emergency call and became engrossed in it. As a result, he forgot to add salt to the food, and as a result, the students disliked it. Therefore, they claimed that the owner was a dishonest person who claimed to have hired the best chef in town. Consequently, the students filed a complaint against the owner under the vicarious liability principle. Comment.
- (a) The owner is liable because R's misconduct occurred while he was within the scope of the employment.
 - (b) The owner is not liable because he did not instruct R to be negligent in his work.
 - (c) The owner will not be held liable because talking on the phone is not part of the employment.
 - (d) The owner will be held accountable because he should always monitor what R does while at work.
77. Y and F were next-door neighbours. They both had children around the same age. Every evening, the kids used to play in the park together. Y's child was hurt one day while they were playing because F's child pushed him in order to win. Y's child suffered arm and knee injuries. As a result, Y claimed that F should have taken care of what her child does, and she held her liable under the vicarious liability principle. Determine the validity of the claim.
- (a) F is liable for her child's actions because she has a relationship with him.
 - (b) F is not liable because the scope of employment is not present in the given case.
 - (c) F will be held accountable because his child's actions injured Y's child.
 - (d) F is not liable because Y should have looked after her child while he was playing.
78. T was taking the train to Vishakhapatnam. He had purchased the expensive tickets, which included the three-course meal. Because his journey would last approximately 18 hours, he decided to eat food from the train's pantry. When he was served dinner that night, he found a strand of hair in the rice. Outraged, and considering the fact that railway works under the government, he filed a vicariously liable complaint against the government. Comment.
- (a) The government shall not be held vicariously liable because it has no way to monitor the food provided by the railways.
 - (b) Only the railways will be held accountable because the food they provided had no association with the government.
 - (c) Since railways fall under government authority, the government will be held vicariously liable.
 - (d) Given that T voluntarily booked the tickets, which included the meal, the government cannot be held vicariously liable.
79. K taught at BMS College of Commerce. Students were given a semester break after finishing their final exams, and the college was closed for two weeks. For the same reason, teachers were expected to check the exam papers from home and submit the results before the end of the break. K was checking the paper of one F, who had done horribly in the exam. Because the child was her friend's son, she did not fail him, but when the papers were examined by the department head to look for any discrepancies, K's deceit was discovered. One R's parent filed a malpractice complaint against the University. Comment on whether or not the claim would be upheld.
- (a) The claim will be denied because K corrected the papers at her home, which is not within the scope of her employment.
 - (b) The claim will be upheld because the University will be held vicariously liable for all of K's actions.
 - (c) The claim will be denied because the university administration was unaware of K's misconduct.
 - (d) The claim will be upheld because paper correction falls within K's scope of employment.

Passage (Q.80-Q.84): The Kerala High Court has ruled that sanction stipulated under Section 197 Code of Criminal Procedure is not necessary to prosecute police officers in cases of police brutality since such acts are not related in any manner to the discharge of their official duties.

Justice Mary Joseph remarked:

"...the accused can only be taken to have exercised their authority for committing some illegal acts, under the guise of exercise of lawful discharge of their official duties and therefore are not liable to be afforded with the protection envisaged under Section 197. Sanction contemplated under the above provision is not intended to safeguard illegal acts."

The Court added that sanction as a protective measure was incorporated in CrPC to save a public servant acting in bonafide without exceeding the jurisdictional limits and also duly exercising the authority recognized by law: "What is intended by the incorporation of Section 197 in Cr.P.C is an assurance to a public servant that for whatever things bonafide done by him in the lawful exercise of the authority conferred on him, protection would be afforded to him."

The revision petition was preferred on the primary contention that despite being public servants cognizance was taken by the trial court and they were prosecuted without getting the sanction from the State Government as contemplated under Section 197 CrPC and therefore, the process of taking cognizance and conduct of the trial is vitiated.

Both the trial court and the appellant court had taken the view that sanction, as contemplated under Section 197 CrPC, is unwarranted in the case on hand since the acts alleged to have been committed by the accused are not related in any manner to the discharge of their official duties.

80. X was a diligent and hardworking police officer. He was secretly working undercover to bust a drug racket in Mumbai about which only one of his co-workers knew. One day when he was standing in the bus stop observing the movements of the people, he noticed that two men on the bike looked suspicious, in the heat of the moment to catch them, X asked bike from Y so he can catch them, but Y refused. X knew that the gravity of the case is so much so that he cannot afford to lose those two men. In order to get hold of the bike he shot Y in point blank range (at a very negligible distance) and ran away with the bike trying to catch those two men. Determine the liability of X w.r.t to section 197 of Cr.P.C.
- (a) X will not get protection, since killing Y at point blank range was not in accordance with his legal discharge of duties.
 - (b) X will get protection since killing Y was extremely critical for X to get hold of the bike and chase two men.
 - (c) X will not get protection, since an offence will be made out under 300 IPC, which will bypass the protection under section 197 of Cr.P.C
 - (d) X will get the protection, since he was an undercover agent and even his seniors knew about his mission.
81. Suppose in the previous question, X did not shoot Y in point blank range but shoots him in the leg to avoid the argument and rides away his bike. Y being shot loses balance and falls on a stone nearby, killing himself. Would your answer to the previous question change with the change in facts?
- (a) Yes, X will get protection under section 197.
 - (b) No, X will get protection under section 197.
 - (c) Yes, X will not get protection under section 197.
 - (d) No, X will not get protection under section 197.

82. Rajesh was an employee at PNS, an IT-based company. One day, he thought of taking metro to reach his office instead of a cab. Once he boarded the metro, a couple of people from a violent gang (although without arms) started causing nuisance. A police officer tried to control them, but failed to do so. The officer asked Rajesh and a couple of other passengers to help him. In order to take control of the situation, he went on hitting a member's head with the fire extinguisher. In a few seconds, the member died due to the serious head injury. Can Rajesh take defence of Section 197 of CrPC?
- (a) Rajesh cannot take the defence under Section 197, as he went outside the ambit of his duties.
 - (b) Rajesh can take defence under Section 197, as he was acting under good faith.
 - (c) Rajesh cannot take defence under Section 197, as he committed an illegal act in the name of his duty.
 - (d) Rajesh cannot take the defence of Section 197 as he is ineligible.
83. Suppose in the previous question, Rajesh did not hit the member on his head. Rather, he just inflicted some injuries on his hands to stop him. Will this change your answer?
- (a) Yes, since his act is justified and done under good faith to stop the gang.
 - (b) No, since hitting anyone without the authority is illegal.
 - (c) Yes, since the police officer has permitted Rajesh to take some action.
 - (d) No, since Rajesh is ineligible under Section 197 of CrPC.
84. Which of the following acts can take the defence under Section 197 of CrPC.
- (a) A police officer shooting multiple bullets on someone who stole handful of silver coins.
 - (b) A teacher who picked a gun to shoot a famous and dangerous terrorist.
 - (c) A police officer who kept some gold bangles from the illegal consignment.
 - (d) A police officer who detained a person for a longer time than permitted, for investigation.

SECTION D: LOGICAL REASONING

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

Passage (Q.85-Q.90): In the last few years, the traditional definition of “marriage” has been at the centre of public debate. This churn in society signals that there is a need to evolve. Marriage has generally been understood as the legal union of a man and a woman. But recent and contemporary liberal interpretations of marriage and gender roles encompass marital relations between same-sex people.

For many, the memory of times before the reading down of Section 377 is fresh. At the time, a lot of philanthropic work was being carried out by various NGOs. Section 377 was introduced by the British, under the chairmanship of Lord Macaulay. Despite that, the Section or its like finds no mention in the UK’s law. The Wolfenden Committee Report, published in 1957, recommended homosexuality be decriminalised and the Sexual Offences Act, 1967, did just that. In India, Section 377 of the IPC was challenged by way of a PIL by the Naz Foundation in the Delhi High Court in 2009. In 2018, the Supreme Court finally read the Section down in *Navtej Singh Johar v Union of India*.

The marriage equality debate has reached the corridors of the apex court with the petitions currently being heard at the Supreme Court in *Supriyo v. Union of India*. A plethora of arguments have been made by both sides; the petitioners stress that same-sex couples deserve and require legal sanction. Senior Advocate Menaka Guruswamy said: “Marriage is not only a question of dignity, but it is also a bouquet of rights that the LGBTQIA+ people are being denied. One cannot nominate their partner for life insurance as well. And, unfortunately, these are not theoretical issues. This is our life and therefore, anything short of that would not be acceptable”. The plaintiffs argue that the right to marriage equality flows from the Constitution’s promise of dignity, equality and fraternity.

The defendants place heavy emphasis on the sacramental union between a biological man and a biological woman. The respondents lay stress on the “conventional binary”, which has been accepted by the heteronormative society, thereby alienating sexual minorities. The Solicitor General of India emphasised the need for the usage of terminology like wife under the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, which would become redundant in the case of gay marriages.

Source: *Extracted with edits and revisions from the article, “Marriage equality in India: Are we ready for the change?”, by Kanwal DP Singh, Vinayak Jhamb and published in Indian Express on May 31st, 2023.*

85. Which of the following option captures the central idea of the passage?
- (a) The passage discusses the historical and legal background of Section 377 and its impact on the LGBTQIA+ community in India.
 - (b) The passage analyses the arguments and counterarguments of the petitioners and respondents in the marriage equality case pending in the Supreme Court.
 - (c) The passage explores the need to evolve the traditional definition of marriage and recognise the rights and dignity of same-sex couples in India.
 - (d) The passage compares and contrasts the different interpretations of marriage and gender roles in India and the UK.
86. Which of the following option cannot be inferred from the passage?
- (a) The author believes that the traditional definition of marriage is outdated and discriminatory.
 - (b) The author supports the petitioners’ arguments that same-sex couples deserve and require legal sanction.
 - (c) The author cites the respondents’ arguments that marriage is a sacramental union between a biological man and a biological woman as one of the counterarguments.
 - (d) The author compares the legal and social scenario of marriage equality in India and the UK.

87. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
- (a) Marriage is a singular right which is unconnected with other rights.
 - (b) There is no explicit or implicit support from the Constitution about equality in marriage.
 - (c) Some specific terms used in marriage laws will become pertinent if equal marriage is recognised.
 - (d) There is isolation of minorities who have demanded equal marriage status.
88. Which of the following is most similar to the author's arguments in the given passage except?
- (a) The author of a book on feminism argues that women should have equal rights and opportunities as men in all spheres of life, and criticises the patriarchal norms and structures that oppress and discriminate against women.
 - (b) The author of a report on climate change argues that human activities are the main cause of global warming and its adverse effects, and criticises the governments and corporations that deny or ignore the scientific evidence and the urgent need for action.
 - (c) The author of a speech on democracy argues that people should have the right to choose their representatives and participate in governance, and criticises the authoritarian regimes and movements that violate or suppress the human rights and freedoms of citizens.
 - (d) The author of a review on a movie argues that the film is a masterpiece of art and storytelling, and criticises the critics and audiences who fail to appreciate or understand its aesthetic and thematic value.
89. Which of the following would be the correct interpretation of the sentence MENTIONED in the context of the passage?
- "For many, the memory of times before the reading down of Section 377 is fresh"*
- (a) Reading the text of the law in a descending order of the provisions.
 - (b) Making the law inoperative so that there is harmony with other laws.
 - (c) Interpreting the law in a narrow manner which is harmonious with other laws.
 - (d) Amending the law and then reading it denigratingly so as to keep it suppressed.
90. Which of the following is an assumption behind the passage?
- (a) The ideologies of the LGBTQIA+ do not coincide with the conventional institution of marriage.
 - (b) Same sex marriage is a newer concept that defies the traditional heteronormative society.
 - (c) A more encompassing contemporary liberal interpretations regarding the traditional definition of "marriage" is required.
 - (d) The contention between the contemporary liberal interpretation and the traditional definition of marriage is here to stay.

Passage (Q.91-Q.96): When Benjamin Netanyahu began his current term as Israel Prime Minister in December last year, he identified four main goals for the country's 37th government: block Iran; restore Israel's security and governance; deal with the cost of living problem; and expand the "circle of peace" (with Arabs). But in the past four months, his government's single-minded focus was on passing its judicial overhaul Bills in the Knesset, triggering unprecedented protests. Initially, Mr. Netanyahu, whose coalition has a comfortable majority (by Israeli standards) in Parliament, vowed to press ahead. As protests grew, rebellion broke out. He fired his Defence Minister Yoav Gallant after he called for a delay in passing the Bills, citing national security risks, but the crisis had already grown out of his hands. On Monday, amid protests and a paralysing general strike, the Prime Minister announced the suspension of the Bills, not wanting to push Israel into a civil war. Earlier, Itamar Ben-Gvir, National Security Minister, had warned the Prime Minister against "surrendering to the anarchists" and threatened to quit the coalition if he did so. But Mr. Netanyahu has managed to keep his coalition together, for now. To ensure the support of Mr. Ben-Gvir, a Jewish extremist, the Cabinet would transfer the National Guard to his Ministry.

Mr. Netanyahu, who first came to power in 1996 defeating Shimon Peres, has seen many ups and downs. Yet, the current crisis is arguably his toughest. Mr. Netanyahu has overseen a dramatic shift in Israel's polity towards the extreme right. Its result: the current government, comprising the right-wing (Likud), religious (Shas and United Torah Judaism) and far-right (Religious Zionist and Otzma Yehudit) parties. The extreme right has long argued that the judicial checks and balances are preventing the country from realising its true Jewish identity; the planned judicial reforms, which would give Parliament control over judicial appointments and the powers to override Supreme Court rulings, are a part of this push.

Mr. Netanyahu and his allies have been able to control the narrative when it came to the occupation of Palestine or countering external threats, but their move to consolidate more power has triggered widespread resistance from different sections, including from the defence establishment. By suspending the Bills, Mr. Netanyahu has only delayed, and not resolved, the impact of the crisis. He has promised to return the Bills to the Knesset after a month through consensus. But it remains unclear how there will be nationwide consensus on such a polarising issue that has seen even diplomats on strike. He should rather convince his allies of the crisis their government is in, abandon the plan to weaken the judiciary altogether, and focus on the more pressing challenges Israel faces.

91. What is the author's main suggestion regarding the political crisis in Israel?
- (a) Mr. Netanyahu should abandon the plan to weaken the judiciary altogether and focus on the more pressing challenges Israel faces.
 - (b) Mr. Netanyahu should continue to push for the judicial reforms, even if it leads to civil war, to consolidate more power.
 - (c) Mr. Netanyahu should find a middle ground by negotiating with the protesters and the defence establishment to pass the judicial reforms.
 - (d) Mr. Netanyahu should step down as Prime Minister to resolve the current crisis in Israel.
92. Which external piece of evidence is referred to in the passage to support the idea of the current crisis being Benjamin Netanyahu's toughest?
- (a) A recent survey conducted by a local Israeli newspaper on the popularity of the government.
 - (b) The suspension of the Bills by the Prime Minister due to protests and a general strike.
 - (c) The rebellion by the Defence Minister, Yoav Gallant, against passing the Bills.
 - (d) The warning by the National Security Minister, Itamar Ben-Gvir, against "surrendering to the anarchists."
93. Which of the following, if true, would be an additional evidence to strengthen the author's argument that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's attempt to weaken the judiciary has triggered widespread resistance?
- (a) A report by Amnesty International on the decline of human rights in Israel.
 - (b) An interview with a Likud party spokesperson on their stance on the judicial overhaul Bills.
 - (c) A survey conducted by a local news outlet, which shows that the majority of Israelis support the judicial overhaul Bills.
 - (d) A statement from a religious leader praising Prime Minister Netanyahu for his efforts to uphold Jewish identity in Israel.
94. What is a possible implication of Mr. Netanyahu's government succeeds in passing the judicial overhaul Bills?
- (a) It will lead to a more stable and unified government.
 - (b) It will lead to a strengthening of democratic institutions in Israel.
 - (c) It will further shift Israel's polity towards the extreme right.
 - (d) It will increase the prospects for peace between Israel and the Arab world.

95. If the passage information is true, then which of the following must necessarily be true?
- (a) Benjamin Netanyahu is the first Prime Minister of Israel who has overseen a dramatic shift towards the extreme right.
 - (b) The judicial overhaul Bills were passed in the Knesset despite the widespread protests and a paralyzing general strike.
 - (c) Benjamin Netanyahu should continue to push for the judicial reforms, even if it triggers a civil war in Israel.
 - (d) The planned judicial reforms would give Parliament control over judicial appointments and the powers to override Supreme Court rulings.
96. Which of the following is the author most likely to agree with, based on the passage?
- (a) The Israeli government should continue with its plan to weaken the judiciary despite the protests.
 - (b) The current crisis in Israel is not a big deal and will resolve itself soon.
 - (c) The govt. should not inflict its views at the cost of compromising the adjudicating power of courts.
 - (d) Benjamin Netanyahu should fire his National Security Minister, Itamar Ben-Gvir.

Passage (Q.97-Q.102): India has summarily rejected China's attempt to lay claim over areas of Arunachal Pradesh after it issued new official names for them. In a fresh attempt on Sunday, the Chinese Ministry of Civil Affairs said it would "standardise" 11 place names in what China calls "South Tibet or Zangnan", an area consistently controlled by India. The names, in Mandarin, Tibetan and Pinyin (English transliteration), with latitude and longitude markings that pertain to points in Arunachal, including one close to capital Itanagar, leave little doubt that China's list, the third such since 2017, is a deliberate affront to India's territorial sovereignty. The Ministry of External Affairs statement, that "invented names" will not alter the reality that Arunachal Pradesh is an integral part of India, mirrors what India had said in 2021 when China "renamed" 15 places; in 2017, there were six names. It would be a mistake, given the timing, to assume that the Chinese decision is a repetition of its previous attempts. The move in 2017 was seen as retaliation after the Dalai Lama's visit to Tawang. In 2021, the move followed China's new "Land and State Border Law", that virtually authorised the government to reclaim territories claimed by China, and was seen as a way to reassert its claim over the State as a whole.

There could be many factors behind the latest move: China's reaction after the Indian Army rebuffed a PLA attempt to take over a post at Yangtse in the Tawang sector of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in December 2022, an angry response to New Delhi's decision to hold a G-20 engagement group meeting on innovation technology in Itanagar which the Chinese embassy had boycotted, or an indication of more serious designs ahead. Above all, it reflects the nadir in ties and the lack of meaningful dialogue for three years since the amassing of Chinese troops at the LAC in 2020 and transgressions that have led to scuffles, including the deadly encounter at Galwan. While many rounds of talks have ensued, and there has been disengagement at some standoff points, political relations have not been resumed, although there have been some meetings between Foreign and Defence Ministers, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke briefly with Chinese President Xi Jinping at the G-20 summit in Indonesia last year. It is necessary, in light of China's latest act of belligerence, that the government shows more clarity on the nature of its conversations thus far. Until the government probes the reasons behind China's moves and the motivation for its persistent aggressions, it will be hard to prepare for a future course of action, even as it counters China's false narrative and a renaming of areas that are firmly within India's boundaries.

Source: Extracted with edits and revisions: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/invented-names-on-indias-response-to-chinas-fresh-attempt-to-lay-claim-over-parts-of-arunachal-pradesh>

97. What is the reason cited in the passage behind China's attempt to claim areas of Arunachal Pradesh?
- (a) The Indian government has been provoking China by holding meetings in Itanagar and escalating the issue in UN.
 - (b) India and China have been engaged in scuffles and dialogue on and off to exacerbate border tensions.
 - (c) China is asserting its claim over the State as a whole to counterstroke after Dalai Lama's visit.
 - (d) China's age old animosity against India forces China to claim territories of India across the border.
98. According to the passage, the Chinese Ministry of Civil Affairs' attempt to lay claim over areas of Arunachal Pradesh is a deliberate affront to India's territorial sovereignty. Which of the following, if true, would be a piece of evidence would weaken the author's argument?
- (a) The records of the Chinese Ministry of Civil Affairs suggest that China has never made any territorial claims on Arunachal Pradesh in any official forum.
 - (b) The records of the Chinese Ministry of Civil Affairs suggest that China has made many territorial claims on Arunachal Pradesh in any official forum.
 - (c) The records of the Chinese Ministry of Civil Affairs suggest that China's was riveted to territorial claims on Arunachal Pradesh in official forum.
 - (d) The records of the Chinese Ministry of Civil Affairs suggest that China has also made many territorial claims on other countries' states on official forum.
99. Which of the following is a possible implication if China continues to assert its claim over Arunachal Pradesh?
- (a) India may sever diplomatic ties with China, resulting in a major international crisis.
 - (b) India may retaliate by occupying Chinese territories along the Line of Actual Control.
 - (c) The global community may intervene to resolve the territorial dispute between India and China.
 - (d) The ongoing tensions may escalate into an armed conflict between India and China.
100. Which of the following external pieces of evidence would best support the author's argument?
- (a) A recent report by a prominent international organization that highlights China's aggressive behavior towards its neighboring countries.
 - (b) A survey conducted by a local research firm that suggests an increase in anti-China sentiment among the Indian public.
 - (c) A statement from a retired Indian diplomat, who is an expert in the India-China relations, endorsing the author's argument.
 - (d) A news report from a reputed Indian newspaper, quoting anonymous sources, that confirms Chinese troops are amassing near the India-China border.
101. Which of the following is a necessary assumption for the author's argument to hold?
- (a) India and China have previously resolved all territorial disputes.
 - (b) The Indian government will take military action against China.
 - (c) India and China have had meaningful political dialogue in the past.
 - (d) China's ambitious plans to slight India's territorial sovereignty under pretentious purposes.
102. Which of the following best represents the main conclusion of the passage?
- (a) India should immediately take military action against China to prevent further territorial aggression.
 - (b) The recent move by China to rename areas in Arunachal Pradesh is a deliberate affront to India's territorial sovereignty.
 - (c) The paucity of significant exchange of thoughts between India and China has resulted in tussle between India and China.
 - (d) The lack of clarity of China's intention would be an obstacle for Indian government to sketch future course of action.

Passage (Q.103-Q.108): In the academic year that has just commenced in most parts of the country, secondary and senior secondary school students have been introduced to a revised set of social science textbooks. Curriculum reforms should be par for the course in history, sociology and political science — they are necessary to update the student with shifts in the polity and society. These changes should reflect new thinking in the disciplines and also remove past blind spots and blinkers. History textbooks have, for instance, been too big-empire-centric. They don't have enough on the new historiography of different regions — the Northeast, for example — or on the archaeological finds that have changed understandings of the Indus Valley civilisation. Political science textbooks have yet to take proper note of the rise of, among other things, the new kinds of mobilisations being enabled and fostered by social media. But the latest revisions do not address such gaps and deficits. Instead, they excise content related to chapters in history that have acquired political overtones under the current regime — the Delhi Sultanate and the Mughal Empire. Another set of changes pertains to key fraught moments in Independent India's political history — Mahatma Gandhi's assassination, Emergency and Gujarat 2002. Yet another set of deletions could come in the way of the student engaging with important questions of caste, class and religion and their relationship to power.

An investigation by this newspaper last year had revealed that the pruning exercise was conducted without adequate consultation with experts. This is in marked contrast to the wide-ranging conversations undertaken by the same government before framing the National Education Policy 2020. The NCERT has justified the deletions as a part of its periodic "rationalisation" endeavours to reduce the curriculum load on students. But making knowledge more attractive and accessible hinges on several pedagogic interventions, including empowering the teacher. The NEP, too, underlines the importance of such an approach and lays store on developing the student's critical faculties. The social scientist should be a key facilitator in this process by introducing the student to the complexities of social and political structures, with all their diversities, cleavages and inequities. This hasn't always happened in India — even earlier textbook development committees have been fettered by government control over curricula. The recent revisions, however, invite the charge that not only does the government wish to escape unpalatable facts, but it also wants to ensure that the students do not engage with social and political realities with a critical attitude.

The Gujarat riots-related erasures betray an anxiety to paper over the faultlines and institutional failures that continue to inflict pain and injustice on minorities. The removal of sentences on communalism and the RSS in the passage on

Gandhi's assassination indicates discomfiture with a turning point that continues to resonate in the India story. The deletion of the section on protest movements curtails in crucial ways the student's view and imagination of citizenship in an argumentative democracy. The NEP had taken an ideologically-agnostic route to educational reform. The revisions in the social science textbooks do a disservice to the process it initiated, and threaten to undo one of the most progressive aspects of its approach.

103. What is the main conclusion of the passage regarding the revisions made to social science textbooks in India?
- (a) The revisions were necessary to update the student with shifts in the polity and society.
 - (b) The revisions were conducted after adequate consultation with experts.
 - (c) The revisions were made to promote critical thinking and a nuanced understanding of social and political structures.
 - (d) The revisions were made to paper over unsavory certitude and maintain a discrete ideological stance.
104. What is the role played by the second paragraph in the passage's context?
- (a) It highlights the need for periodic "rationalisation" endeavours in reducing the curriculum load on students.
 - (b) It explains the irrelevance of empowering teachers and developing critical faculties in students.
 - (c) It justifies the government's decision to delete content related to chapters in history that have acquired political overtones.
 - (d) It reveals that the pruning exercise was conducted without the intervention of savants.

105. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
- (a) The revisions in the textbooks were carried out after much deliberation.
 - (b) The NEP reluctance was evident on developing the student's critical faculties.
 - (c) The recent revisions to the social science textbooks was more of cherry picking.
 - (d) The revisions in the social science textbooks have made knowledge more attractive and accessible.
106. Which of the following would strengthen the author's argument in the passage?
- (a) The revisions in social science textbooks are necessary to maintain the uniformity of content across the country.
 - (b) The government should have imbibed new changes without focusing on preferential selection of the content.
 - (c) The social science textbooks are too heavy for students, and the revisions are aimed at reducing the load on them.
 - (d) The revisions in the social science textbooks are pivotal but there is no way to testify what is controversial and what is not.
107. Which of the following weakens the author's argument regarding the recent revisions made to the social science textbooks in India?
- (a) The revisions were made to provide non-partisan curriculum for students.
 - (b) The revisions were necessary to include new findings in the disciplines.
 - (c) The revisions were made without consideration of intellectuals of the related field.
 - (d) The revisions were made without maintaining the perspective of critical thinking of social and political structures.
108. Which assumption does the author make on which their arguments depends upon?
- (a) The current government has made changes to the social science textbooks.
 - (b) The revisions in the textbooks were carried out under the garb of reforms.
 - (c) The National Education Policy emphasizes the importance of critical thinking and pedagogic interventions.
 - (d) The deletion of certain chapters and sections will prevent students from learning about important historical events.

SECTION - E : QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

Directions (Q.109 and Q.112): Refer to the data given below and answer the questions that follow.

In a company, there are 600 employees currently, and the company hires 5% male employees and 8% female employees every year of total employees. On another side, 10% of female employees and 3% of male employees resign every year of the current number of total employees. So, out of the total, 40% are male employees and the remaining are female employees. Among the male employees, 60% are in managerial positions, while the rest are in non-managerial positions. On the other hand, among the female employees, 70% are in non-managerial positions, and the rest are in managerial positions.

[Note: Value has been approximated to the nearest value]

109. What is the percentage of the total number of managerial employees in the company after 3 years?
(a) 90% (b) 50% (c) 44% (d) 45%
110. Number of non-managerial employees in the company after 3 years?
(a) 338 (b) 262 (c) 342 (d) 276
111. How much percentage of female employees resign in 3 years?
(a) 12% (b) 15% (c) 5% (d) 10%
112. How much % number of male increase in 3 years?
(a) 10% (b) 15% (c) 20% (d) 36%

Directions (Q.113 and Q.116): Refer to the data given below and answer the questions that follow.

Manu and Tanu invested same amount which Rs. (P) in two different schemes A and B respectively for 2 years. Scheme A offers 25% simple rate of interest while scheme B offers 25% annual compound rate of interest. Difference between their interest amount is Rs.3500 and out of total interest received by Manu, she spent (Q)% in shopping, 35% in food, 25% in rent and remaining Rs.7000 she kept with herself. Out of total amount that Manu spent of shopping, she spent Rs. (R) on buying dresses and with the remaining amount she bought shoes at 20% discount which was marked Rs.3000.

113. P = ?
(a) 44000 (b) 48000 (c) 56000 (d) 64000
114. Q = ?
(a) 24 (b) 18 (c) 20 (d) 15
115. R = ?
(a) 2500 (b) 1800 (c) 2000 (d) 2750
116. Find the total interest received by Tanu in 2 years?
(a) 30,000 (b) 31,500 (c) 32,500 (d) 30,500

Directions (Q.117 and Q.118): Study the following information and answer the questions that follow.

ABC is a multinational hospitality company that started its operations in 1992. Since then, it has been increasing its presence in different countries and serving people across the world. The number of people who stayed in its hotels during the past several years has been increasing continuously. From the records, the number of people who stayed in the hotels managed by ABC company in the years 1996, 2000, 2004 and 2008 were in the ratio of 3 : 11 : 12 : 15 respectively. Also, the number of people who stayed in these hotels in the year 2012 was 13.33% more than those who stayed in 2008. It is also known that the total number of people who stayed in the hotels managed by ABC company in 2008, 2016, 2017 and 2018 are in the ratio of 12 : 14 : 15 : 18 respectively and the number of people who stayed in these hotels in the years 2018 and 2020 are in the ratio of 12 : 15 respectively. Note: All the questions are related to the years 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008, 2012, 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2020 respectively. Assume that due to the expansion plans, the hotel was not operational for the remaining years.

117. In the year 2017, if the ratio of the number of females to the number of males who stayed in the hotels managed by ABC company is 2 : 3 respectively and the difference between the number of females who stayed in these hotels in 2017 and the total number of people who stayed in the hotels in 2018 is 240000, find the number of males who stayed in these hotels in the year 2017.
(a) 150000 (b) 180000 (c) 195000 (d) 210000
118. If the total number of people who stayed in the hotels managed by ABC company in 2004 were 48000, then find the total number of people who stayed in these hotels in 2016.
(a) 60000 (b) 70000 (c) 77000 (d) 84000

Directions (Q.119 -Q.120): Answer the questions on the basis of the information given below.

At a management school, the oldest 10 dorms, numbered 1 to 10, need to be repaired urgently. The following diagram represents the estimated repair costs (in Rs. crores) for the 10 dorms. For any dorm, the estimated repair cost (in Rs. crores) is an integer. Repairs with an estimated cost of Rs. 1 or 2 crores are considered light repairs, repairs with an estimated cost of Rs. 3 or 4 are considered moderate repairs and repairs with an estimated cost of Rs. 5 or 6 crores are considered extensive repairs.

Further, the following are known:

1. Odd-numbered dorms do not need light repair; even-numbered dorms do not need moderate repair and dorms, whose numbers are divisible by 3, do not need extensive repair.
2. Dorms 4 to 9 all need different repair costs, with Dorm 7 needing the maximum and Dorm 8 needing the minimum.

119. Which of the following is NOT necessarily true?
(a) Dorm 1 needs a moderate repair
(b) Dorm 5 repair will cost no more than Rs. 4 crores
(c) Dorm 7 needs an extensive repair
(d) Dorm 10 repair will cost no more than Rs. 4 crores
120. What is the total minimum cost of repairing the odd-numbered dorms (in Rs. crores)?
(a) 19 (b) 12 (c) 10 (d)

