

# MOCK COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST 2025

## MOCK CLAT #09

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 – I: ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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**Directions for questions 1 – 5:** Read the following passage and answer the questions.

### Passage 1.

The whole experience of being hit by a bullet is very interesting and I think it is worth describing in detail.

It was a rifle bullet, a 7.62 Mauser, I think. I heard it strike something metallic, then felt a frightful blow—shock, as it seemed—somewhere near the elbow; but I did not notice that I was hit. Apart from my arms being paralysed for a moment, there was only a little numbness, which wore off almost at once. I only know that I was lying on my back, conscious but not controlling my body, and with the most frightful burning pain in the chest and the feeling that my lungs had burst. I could hear myself wheezing and every breath was like knives going through me. My first thought was that the bullet had gone clean through me and had shot into the man behind. I had heard of this happening.

But this was pure ignorance. I have since learned that a bullet through the lung behaves in a quite different way. It stays in, at any rate it usually does so in civilian wounds of this type, and merely causes a local infection. (I am speaking, of course, of cases that are left to themselves and do not have the advantage of a good doctor and a sterile operating-theatre.) In fact, my lung was not punctured at all, only my chest muscle; though the pain gave me the illusion that my lung was pierced. The whole experience was curious and I wished to remember it, so I made a conscious note to notice the process of death. I was having the sensation of coming out of myself. My mind, or what I took for my mind, was full of vivid, apparently remembered, scenes and persons. I realized that I was dying and at the same time I was astonished at my physical detachment; at the same time, I had no belief, or else complete and automatic belief, in my own death. In this state one could not communicate with people, even if there had been people there to communicate with. The only person who was there was an Italian militiaman who had been wounded in the leg. I wanted to tell him to get up and run away before the next bullet came, only I did not know the Italian for ‘get up and run away before the next bullet comes’. I wondered what a bullet wound would look like and I thought of the man who had been hit in the back of the neck in the lining trench, and remembered the smell of his burning flesh.

All the while, I could hear my breathing coming and going, coming and going, and wondered when it would stop of its own accord."

As the shock and pain reverberated through my body, I found myself engulfed in a surreal blend of sensations and thoughts. The metallic impact that preceded the blow had echoed in my ears, serving as a grim reminder of the danger that lurked around me. The immediate paralysis of my arms sent a wave of panic coursing through my veins, only to be followed by a numbing sensation that quickly dissipated.

Lying on my back, my mind struggled to grasp the reality of the situation. The searing agony in my chest consumed me, as if my very lungs had been ruptured. Each breath became a torturous ordeal, the sound of my wheezing a haunting symphony of pain. In my ignorance, I entertained the idea that the bullet had pierced through me and found its mark in another unfortunate soul. Such tales were not uncommon, after all.

Yet, in the midst of this chaos, a newfound clarity emerged. I learned that a bullet's path through the lung yields a different outcome. It often lodges within, causing local infection, rather than an immediate escape. The illusion of a punctured lung persisted, fueled by the intensity of the pain I experienced. It was an experience that intrigued me, even as my mortality loomed large.

1. What does the author's account reveal about his expectations of a mortal wound?
  - (a) He expected to experience a sense of existential dread and fear.
  - (b) He anticipated physical pain but not emotional detachment.
  - (c) He thought he would lose consciousness immediately.
  - (d) He believed he would witness vivid, apparently remembered, scenes and persons.
2. In the context of the passage, what conclusion can be drawn about the author's mindset during the traumatic event?
  - (a) He was preoccupied with the survival of others.
  - (b) He was introspective and aware of his mortality.
  - (c) He was driven by a fear of death.
  - (d) He was entirely focused on his physical pain.
3. Which literary device is employed in 'every breath was like knives going through me'?
  - (a) Hyperbole
  - (b) Metaphor
  - (c) Simile
  - (d) Onomatopoeia
4. Which of the following best describes the narrator's state of mind during the experience?
  - (a) Fearful and panicky
  - (b) Curious and observant
  - (c) Regretful and sorrowful
  - (d) Angry and resentful
5. From the person's recount of the gunshot experience, it can be inferred that the primary purpose of the passage is to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (a) Advocate for stricter gun control laws, using personal experience as a persuasive device.
  - (b) Evaluate the differences in perception and reality when experiencing a traumatic event like a gunshot wound.
  - (c) Explicate the physiological and psychological effects of gunshot injuries based on personal experience.
  - (d) Warn readers of the severe repercussions of violence and warfare, drawing upon a first-hand encounter

**Direction for Qs (6 to 10):**

**PASSAGE – 2**

At the stroke of midnight on August 15th, 1947, as India gained its long-awaited independence from British rule, a child was born in the city of Bombay. This child, Saleem Sinai, would forever be entwined with the destiny of his country. As the clock struck twelve, the newborn let out a cry that pierced the air, signaling the arrival of a new era and the beginning of an extraordinary tale.

Saleem Sinai, the protagonist and narrator of his own remarkable story, possessed a unique gift. He was one of the 1,001 children born across India at the exact moment of independence, each endowed with extraordinary powers. These children, known as the Midnight's Children, were linked by a powerful telepathic network that allowed them to communicate and share their experiences.

As Saleem grew up, he discovered the extent of his extraordinary abilities. He could perceive the thoughts and emotions of others, hear distant voices, and even possess the power to shape reality with his mind. But his gifts came at a cost. Saleem was burdened with the weight of his nation's history, as the events of his life intertwined with the tumultuous journey of post-independence India.

Rushdie's novel vividly captures the chaos, magic, and contradictions of India's journey through the twentieth century. From the partition of the country into India and Pakistan to the subsequent wars and political upheavals, Saleem's life mirrors the nation's tumultuous path. He becomes a witness to the struggles, hopes, and dreams of the Indian people, caught in a web of personal and national destinies.

Through Saleem's eyes, we are transported to a vibrant and diverse world, filled with colorful characters and shifting landscapes. Rushdie's prose dances between the magical and the real, seamlessly blending history and mythology. He weaves a tapestry of India's past, present, and future, exploring themes of identity, nationhood, and the power of storytelling.

In this particular excerpt, Saleem reflects on the interconnectedness of the Midnight's Children, the telepathic network that binds them together. He contemplates the significance of their shared experiences, the weight of their collective memories, and the responsibility they bear as inheritors of a nation's tumultuous history. As

Saleem's own life unravels, the reader is drawn deeper into the captivating world of "Midnight's Children," a world that reflects the complexities and contradictions of a nation in constant flux.

As Saleem Sinai's life unfolded amidst the backdrop of a changing nation, his connection to the Midnight's Children deepened. The telepathic network that bound them together became a source of solace and camaraderie, as they sought comfort and understanding in their shared experiences. Together, they navigated the tumultuous waves of history, their interconnected lives intertwined like the threads of a tapestry.

Amidst the chaos, Saleem discovered that their collective memories held immense power. They were not mere witnesses to history; they were active participants, shaping the course of their nation's destiny. The weight of responsibility settled upon their shoulders, urging them to rise above their personal struggles and strive for a better future.

In the face of adversity, Saleem found strength in the unity of the Midnight's Children. They were bound by a shared purpose, their extraordinary gifts serving as beacons of hope amidst the darkness. Their stories intertwined, merging into a narrative of resilience, courage, and the unyielding spirit of a people.

With its rich tapestry of language, history, and magical realism, "Midnight's Children" stands as a masterpiece of contemporary literature. Rushdie's evocative storytelling and imaginative vision have made it a timeless exploration of identity, destiny, and the indomitable spirit of a nation.

6. Which of the following statements can be inferred from the above passage?
  - (a) The protagonist, Saleem Sinai, was born at a historically significant time.
  - (b) The events of Saleem Sinai's life have no connection to the history of India.
  - (c) The Midnight's Children do not possess any extraordinary abilities.
  - (d) "Midnight's Children" does not explore themes of identity, nationhood, and storytelling.
7. Which of the following seems to be the author's main concern in the passage?
  - (a) The exact moment of Saleem's birth has no relevance to the story.
  - (b) Author's use of magical realism and rich language to create a tapestry of India's history.
  - (c) The telepathic network of Midnight's Children has little importance in the narrative.
  - (d) "Midnight's Children" is not considered a masterpiece of contemporary literature.
8. Which of the following best describes the author's response to Saleem Sinai's telepathic powers?
  - (a) The author dismisses his powers as unrealistic.
  - (b) The author finds the powers intriguing and central to the plot.
  - (c) The author is neutral about his powers and their significance.
  - (d) The author considers his powers and finds them overemphasized.
9. All the following pairs of words are synonyms, except:
  - (a) Remarkable, extraordinary
  - (b) Independence, dependence
  - (c) Powers, abilities
  - (d) Magic, sorcery
10. If the author's representation of Saleem Sinai is accurate, which of the following statements is true?
  - (a) Extraordinary powers only come with a heavy burden
  - (b) The history of a nation can be deeply intertwined with an individual's life
  - (c) Telepathic powers are not extraordinary

(d) Saleem Sinai's life does not mirror the journey of post-independence India

**Direction for Qs (11 to 15):**

**PASSAGE – 3**

In both *Why Liberalism Failed* and *Regime Change*, Deneen, a political theory professor at the University of Notre Dame, criticizes the modern political tradition that runs from Locke to Mill to the social progressivism and free market economics of our era. But between those two books, he changed his mind about the nature of liberalism and the path toward a postliberal alternative.

In *Why Liberalism Failed*, liberalism begins as a new political doctrine in which human beings are individuals with innate rights and without innate obligations. From that doctrine, early liberals built the modern state and market, the social architecture housing the policies, technologies, and self-understandings to which we are now accustomed.

No one who lives in a liberal order, Deneen suggested, is immune from an organized pressure to uproot, to compete, to experience time as a “pastless present” and to experience places as “fungible.” Liberalism thus becomes an “anticulture,” detaching people from histories and loyalties, militating against everything small or local; a liberal order keeps the peace but does not offer genuinely humane lives and communities.

Liberalism became entwined with state power—and so, Deneen concluded, a postliberal politics should be different, fostering local variety and intellectual humility, “the patient encouragement of new forms of community that can serve as havens in our depersonalized political and economic order.” Liberalism’s critics need not a theory of revolution but “better practices” giving rise to “countercultural communities” that serve as “lighthouses and field hospitals” from which “a better theory of politics and society might ultimately emerge.”

Apparently, Deneen no longer holds out much hope for that vision of slow cultural reconstruction. Not for nothing does he borrow from Lenin the title of his new book’s concluding section: “What Is to Be Done?” In his new telling, liberalism has been all along a technique for suppressing the perennial tension between “the few” and “the many.” It promises that material progress, achieved through “an ever-freer and more expansive market,” will ensure “political peace” between a new meritocratic ruling class (those Locke called the “rational and industrious”) and everyone else.

Deneen now proposes that the liberal order produces its own gravediggers: the resentment of meritocracy’s losers for its winners grows as the liberal order matures. Since there exists a growing class of people disgruntled with liberalism, Deneen declares, intellectuals like himself who seek “Aristotelian ends” can—indeed, must—depend on “Machiavellian means,” the “raw assertion of political power by a new generation of political actors” to displace the old ruling elite and implement a program of its own—provided, of course, that the revolutionary class is led by a political elite equipped with postliberal ideas. If liberalism is power politics all the way down, the only viable response to it is an opposing power politics.

11. According to Deneen's perspective in "Why Liberalism Failed," how does he characterize the impact of liberalism on society and individuals?

- (a) Liberalism fosters a sense of community and encourages intellectual diversity.
- (b) Liberalism creates a culture of competition and detachment, leading to a "pastless present" and "fungible" places.
- (c) Liberalism promotes a sense of historical continuity and loyalty to local traditions.

- (d) Liberalism encourages a balance between individual rights and societal obligations.
12. In Deneen's revised perspective in "Regime Change," what does he propose as a response to the perceived failures of liberalism?
- (a) A slow cultural reconstruction through the creation of countercultural communities.
  - (b) An embrace of meritocracy as a means of ensuring political peace.
  - (c) The assertion of political power by a new generation of political actors to displace the old ruling elite.
  - (d) A return to traditional political doctrines that emphasize innate obligations over innate rights.
13. What is Deneen's proposed solution to the perceived failures of liberalism in his book "Why Liberalism Failed"?
- (a) He suggests a return to traditional political doctrines that emphasize innate obligations over innate rights.
  - (b) He proposes the creation of "countercultural communities" that serve as "lighthouses and field hospitals" from which a better theory of politics and society might emerge.
  - (c) He advocates for an embrace of meritocracy as a means of ensuring political peace.
  - (d) He recommends the assertion of political power by a new generation of political actors to displace the old ruling elite.
14. In Deneen's revised perspective in "Regime Change," how does he characterize the nature of liberalism?
- (a) As a political doctrine that emphasizes individual rights without considering societal obligations.
  - (b) As a technique for suppressing the perennial tension between "the few" and "the many."
  - (c) As a force that fosters a sense of community and encourages intellectual diversity.
  - (d) As a system that promotes a sense of historical continuity and loyalty to local traditions.
15. In Deneen's revised perspective in "Regime Change," what is the proposed means to achieve "Aristotelian ends"?
- (a) Through the creation of "countercultural communities" that serve as "lighthouses and field hospitals."
  - (b) Through a return to traditional political doctrines that emphasize innate obligations over innate rights.
  - (c) Through the assertion of political power by a new generation of political actors to displace the old ruling elite.
  - (d) Through an embrace of meritocracy as a means of ensuring political peace.

**Direction for Qs (16 to 20):**

**PASSAGE – 4**

We now treat every issue—from the European Union to Covid to Afghanistan to Russia's attack on Ukraine—through a lens of culture wars. We are currently experiencing a radical reorientation of economy, society, and politics. We imagine all those changes as the dramatic clash of two principles or philosophies which we think we know about, but which in reality we can't fully comprehend.

The underlying ideas are packaged in apparently simple words. Globalism, cosmopolitanism, internationalism, multilateralism, alternative ways of describing a commitment to openness. On the other side there is particularism, localism, and nationalism. Adding to the intensity of the argument, a globally contagious virus in 2020 became the face of globalization. The coronavirus pandemic accelerated many developments that were already well advanced: on a broad scale, it pushed the application of technology into new, and often more

personal, areas of daily life, even as it intensified a (provisional) backlash against globalization. It created more suspicion, produced economic and social strains, but also new and peculiar psychic burdens.

Over a century ago, the philosopher William James created widespread outrage when he suggested that the test of ideas lay in how they were evaluated, or in what he provocatively called “truth’s cash-value in experiential terms.” Ideas had no innate quality for individuals, but only generated their worth by being accepted in a broader environment, in other words through a general circulation in a marketplace. The presentation was excoriated by philosopher John Grier Hibben, who claimed—immediately after the destructive financial crash of 1907—that it “would certainly precipitate a panic in the world of our thinking as surely as would a similar demand in the world of finance.” Alexander Solzhenitsyn diagnosed the crisis of Russia—and the world—in the First World War as a language collapse: “Words get worn out and often obscure meaning. What does it mean nowadays—being a Narodnik, a populist?”

Classical antiquity wrestled with these issues too. Daniel Sutton has analyzed how the Roman historian Sallust in *Bellum Catilinae* described the problem of imperialists as lying in the misuse of words and moral language to describe and then to justify the origins of the wars they fought. Thucydides too gives a striking account of the Corcyraean civil war of 427 BCE as originating from the abuse of language: “the use of fair phrases to arrive at guilty ends was in high reputation. Meanwhile the moderate part of the citizens perished between the two, either for not joining in the quarrel, or because envy would not suffer them to escape.”

The debate is just as current today, and many people are panicking as the moderate part of the citizens is squeezed between rhetorical extremes. First there was the financial crisis of 2007–8; now there is the linguistic crisis. Society has arrived at Hibben’s panic. Financial panics destroy value and values; so do linguistic panics. When people use the key terms, they literally don’t know what they are talking about.

The best understanding of a liberal open society relies on the concept of a marketplace of ideas. According to that vision, everyone should be free to develop, express, examine, revise, contradict, refute, and confound ideas. Debate becomes a testing ground, in which approval raises the price or value of ideas, and makes them more attractive and compelling, while confusion or contradiction lowers the acceptance.

16. According to the passage, how does the author interpret the current state of global discourse and its impact on society?
  - (a) The author believes that the current discourse is characterized by a clear and shared understanding of key terms, leading to productive debates.
  - (b) The author suggests that the misuse and misunderstanding of key terms in global discourse is leading to a “linguistic crisis” akin to a financial panic.
  - (c) The author posits that the current discourse is dominated by a single perspective, leading to a lack of diversity in ideas.
  - (d) The author argues that the current discourse is characterized by a healthy marketplace of ideas, where all perspectives are equally valued and understood.
17. What is the author’s perspective on the concept of a marketplace of ideas in a liberal open society?
  - (a) The author criticizes the concept, arguing that it leads to a misuse and misunderstanding of key terms.
  - (b) The author supports the concept, suggesting that it allows for the development, expression, and examination of diverse ideas.
  - (c) The author is neutral on the concept, neither criticizing nor supporting it.
  - (d) The author argues that the concept is outdated and irrelevant in the current global discourse.



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  - (b) The author argues that the concept is outdated and irrelevant in the current global discourse.
  - (c) The author is neutral on the concept, neither criticizing nor supporting it.
  - (d) The author supports the concept, suggesting that it allows for the development, expression, and examination of diverse ideas.
20. Based on the passage, what is the author's perspective on the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on global discourse and societal structures?
- (a) The author believes that the pandemic has had no significant impact on global discourse and societal structures.
  - (b) The author suggests that the pandemic has accelerated developments that were already well advanced, pushing the application of technology into new areas of daily life and intensifying a backlash against globalization.
  - (c) The author posits that the pandemic has led to a decrease in the application of technology in daily life and a strengthening of globalization.
  - (d) The author argues that the pandemic has led to a decrease in suspicion, economic and social strains, and psychic burdens.

**Direction for Qs (21 to 25):**

**PASSAGE – 5**

In January of last year, I received my membership card to a club I'd never imagined I'd be part of. It was from the New York State Commission for the Blind and affirmed that I was legally blind. I had started 2021 fully sighted, but in June I suffered an attack in my left eye of non-arteritic ischemic optic neuropathy (NAION). In simple terms, my left eye had had a stroke as a result of the ceasing of blood flow to the optic nerve due to a drop in blood pressure in the eye. The top half of my left eye is totally blank. In 30 percent of cases, the condition reverses itself; in 20 percent of cases, those who suffer NAION in one eye have it in the other. I was soon to find myself in the smaller minority: in October 2021, 40 percent of the vision in my right eye was obliterated. Though I can see—most who are deemed legally blind can see, though poorly—I have little peripheral vision, and what I do see I see partially and through a milky blur. I can no longer read books (though e-books with the font enlarged to the max are readable). It's hard for me to make out traffic lights, I have a problem judging heights, and suffer total visual confusion in crowded places. To ease my problems getting around, and to signal my disability, I use a white cane.

When the trainer from the Lighthouse Guild for the Blind brought me my cane and instructed me in its use, I embraced it as an homage to one of the great scenes in American cinema. I've always thought the funniest scene in any American comedy is the one with the blind man Mr. Muckle in the WC Fields classic "It's a Gift."

The marvelous havoc he wreaks was now to be mine, and I set out with Fields's voice calling, "Watch out for Mr. Muckle" echoing in my head.

I also realized this would allow me to carry out an important social experiment. I would now be a different kind of person in the eyes of the world. I would be "the Blind Man." What does that mean? What could I expect of others? David Lodge, in his novel *Deaf Sentence*, wrote that "the blind have pathos. Sighted people regard them with compassion, go out of their way to help them, guide them across busy roads, warn them of obstacles."

Would humanity—at least the sample of it that inhabits New York—rise to the occasion?

My first outing with my cane set me straight. Great brightness, as much as darkness, leaves me helpless, and I was stopped dead as I tried to cross Downing Street and Sixth Avenue in Manhattan. I couldn't even locate the traffic light, much less determine its color. I stood there, gesturing helplessly, as pedestrians passed me by. I should have been aggressive about it and asked for help, but I was a novice and thought my plight would be noticed and that assistance was imminent. It wasn't, and I stood there for several minutes until I was able to determine it was safe to cross. The template for my life as a blind man was set.

21. Based on the author's experience, which of the following statements best encapsulates the societal response to his new status as a legally blind individual?
  - (a) Society immediately recognized his plight and offered assistance.
  - (b) Society largely ignored his struggles, leaving him to navigate his new reality independently.
  - (c) Society was overly sympathetic, leading to a loss of personal autonomy.
  - (d) Society provided him with the necessary tools and resources to adapt to his new condition.
22. What was the author's initial reaction to receiving a white cane to aid his mobility?
  - (a) He rejected it, preferring to navigate independently.
  - (b) He embraced it, associating it with a humorous scene from a classic American comedy.
  - (c) He was indifferent, seeing it as just another tool.
  - (d) He was embarrassed, fearing the societal stigma associated with blindness.
23. In the context of the author's experience, which of the following best describes the impact of non-arteritic ischemic optic neuropathy (NAION) on his life?
  - (a) It has significantly enhanced his appreciation for the nuances of visual perception.
  - (b) It has led to a complete loss of vision, rendering him totally blind.
  - (c) It has resulted in partial vision loss, altering his daily life and interactions with the world.
  - (d) It has had no significant effect on his daily life.
24. How does the author perceive his use of a white cane as a result of his vision loss?
  - (a) He views it as a symbol of defeat and loss of independence.
  - (b) He sees it as a tool for gaining sympathy and assistance from others.
  - (c) He embraces it as a humorous homage to a scene from an American comedy.
  - (d) He rejects it, preferring to navigate the world without any aids.
25. What is the author's primary motivation for using a white cane, as per the passage?
  - (a) To pay tribute to a scene from a classic American comedy.
  - (b) To help him navigate through crowded places.

- (c) To signal his disability to others.
- (d) To carry out a social experiment.

## SECTION – II: CURRENT AFFAIRS INCLUDING GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

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### PASSAGE – 1

The Foreign Trade Policy, released on April 1, came after a series of extensions due to the aftermath of the coronavirus pandemic. While it aims to help India achieve \$2 trillion in exports by 2030, experts say the policy has missed the opportunity to address certain crucial issues.

One thing that surprised industry observers was that the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2023 broke the tradition of an end date. FTPs usually have a tenure of five years. But the government said this policy will be regularly updated with feedback from stakeholders.

A policy document, the FTP, is based on continuity of schemes promoting exports as well as a document that positions itself to be responsive to the dynamic requirements of trade. The previous FTP (2015-20) had its focus on supporting both the manufacturing and services sectors, with an emphasis on improving “ease of doing business”. In this context, Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) and the Services Exports from India Scheme (SEIS) had been introduced.

All said and done, industry experts say the target of reaching \$2 trillion in exports by 2030 could be a stretch because of inadequate policy measures.

Extracted with edits and revision from: New Foreign Trade Policy may not be enough to achieve \$2 trn in exports by 2030, says industry

26. Which scheme provides duty-free import of raw materials for manufacturing export items and is placed at a similar footing to the EOU and SEZ Scheme?
- (a) MEIS Scheme (b) EPCG Scheme  
(c) Advance Authorisation Scheme (d) DFIA Scheme
27. What does SCOMET stand for in the context of export controls?
- (a) Strategic Chemicals, Organisms, Materials, Equipment, and Technologies  
(b) Sensitive Chemicals, Organisms, Metals, Equipment, and Tools  
(c) Specialized Chemicals, Organisms, Materials, Equipment, and Techniques  
(d) Special Chemicals, Organisms, Materials, Equipment, and Technologies
28. How many new towns have been designated as Towns of Export Excellence (TEE) in addition to the existing 39 towns?
- (a) One (b) Two (c) Three (d) Four
29. What is the initiative that encourages 2-star and above status holders to provide trade-related training based on a model curriculum?
- (a) Recognition of Exporters (b) Capacity-building initiatives  
(c) 'Each one teach one' initiative (d) Trade-related partnership program

30. Which pillar of the Key Approach focuses on developing districts as export hubs and streamlining the SCOMET policy?
- Incentive to Remission
  - Export promotion through collaboration - Exporters, States, Districts, Indian Missions
  - Ease of doing business, reduction in transaction cost, and e-initiatives
  - Emerging Areas
31. Which scheme has been added as an additional scheme eligible to claim benefits under the CSP (Common Service Provider) Scheme of the EPCG (Export Promotion Capital Goods) Scheme?
- PM MITRA Scheme
  - Export Promotion Scheme
  - Common Service Provider Scheme
  - Customs Duty Exemption Scheme
32. Which of the following is a key focus area of the new Foreign Trade Policy 2023?
- Remission
  - Import restrictions
  - Tax increase on exports
  - Reduction in domestic production

### PASSAGE – 2

While launching this app he mentioned, ‘the [1] app of the National Logistics Portal (Marine) would help custodians in easier access to functionalities on a handheld device.

The app has been envisaged with deliverables covering features like Login Module, Service Catalogue, Common Application Format, Letter of Credit, Bank Guarantee, Certification, and Track & Trace etc. It will provide real-time information on activities that are generally not in reach of the importer, exporter, and customs broker including vessel-related information, gate, container freight stations and transactions on fingertips. It also enables digital transactions for payments required for the clearance process of import and export like container freight station charges, shipping line charges, transportation charges, etc.

#### Benefits for Traders

- Improve convenience with reduced turnaround time for approval and compliances.
- Increase visibility of operations and tracking.

#### Benefits for Service Providers

- Help in tracking of records and transactions offered
- Receive notification of service requests.

33. In which city was the App Version of the National Logistics Portal (Marine) [1] launched?
- New Delhi
  - Mumbai
  - Kolkata
  - Chennai
34. What has been replaced with ‘[1]’ in the passage above?
- Sagar-Setu
  - Marine Logistics Portal
  - National Logistics Portal
  - Maritime India Vision 2030
35. Which stakeholders does the overarching NLP Marine Vision aim to cater to?
- Government to Government (G2G) only
  - Government to Business (G2B) only

- (c) Business-to-business (B2B) only  
(d) Government to Government (G2G), Government to Business (G2B), and Business-to-business (B2B)
36. When was the App Version of the National Logistics Portal (Marine) [1] launched?  
(a) January 31, 2023 (b) February 30, 2023 (c) March 31, 2023 (d) April 30, 2023
37. What is the main purpose of the [1] mobile app?  
(a) To facilitate data mobility for port and ministry officials  
(b) To provide monitoring and approvals for stakeholders  
(c) To ensure easy access to information for port and ministry officials  
(d) All of the above
38. Who launched the App Version of the National Logistics Portal (Marine) [1]?  
(a) Sarbananda Sonowal (b) Narendra Modi  
(c) Sachin Shinde (d) Nitin Gadkari
39. Which union ministry has launched the Ease of Logistics Portal?  
(a) Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways  
(b) Ministry of Commerce & Industry  
(c) Ministry of Finance  
(d) Ministry of External Affairs

### PASSAGE - 3

India has some of the highest number of unicorns and gazelles, according to Hurun's Global Unicorn Index 2023. India bagged the third spot with 68 new unicorns, which is third only to the US' 666 unicorns and China's 316. However, none of the Indian startups made it to the top 10 list.

The Hurun report also mentioned that [1] unicorns were started by Indian co-founders outside of India, in US, UK, Germany, Singapore, Indonesia and Mexico.

According to Hurun, a gazelle is a start-up funded in the 2000s, is worth over \$500 million, is not listed yet, and is most likely to become a unicorn within three years. Hurun Global 500 is a list of the 500 most valuable non-state-controlled businesses in the world.

The report added that China and India have a higher percentage of gazelles and unicorns, which is likely to translate into a higher percentage of Hurun Global 500s in the course of next 5 years.

40. Which city, apart from San Francisco, Shanghai, Beijing, and Shenzhen, is likely to contribute more to the Hurun Global 500s within 5 years?  
(a) Bengaluru (b) New York City (c) London (d) Tokyo
41. Which is the top-most unicorn in India, with a valuation of \$22 billion?  
(a) Swiggy (b) Dream11 (c) BYJU'S (d) OYO
42. What has been replaced with '[1]' in the passage above?  
(a) 60 (b) 70 (c) 80 (d) 90

43. What is the market capitalization threshold for a firm to be classified as a unicorn?  
(a) Less than USD 1 billion (b) Exactly USD 1 billion  
(c) More than USD 1 billion (d) It varies depending on the industry
44. In the Hurun Global 500 companies list, what is India's ranking?  
(a) First (b) Second (c) Third (d) Fifth
45. Which country is likely to lose ground in the Hurun Global 500 list?  
(a) Australia (b) Germany (c) Brazil (d) South Korea
46. According to the report, what is the total number of unicorns in India?  
(a) 38 (b) 70 (c) 138 (d) 168

#### PASSAGE 4

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a part of the Belt and Road initiative, will be extended into Afghanistan, the countries agreed following a meeting on Saturday.

China and Pakistan, during the 4th round of the Foreign Minister-level Pakistan-China Strategic Dialogue in between Chinese foreign minister Qin Gang and his Pakistani counterpart Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, decided that both the sides will “continue their humanitarian and economic assistance for the Afghan people and enhance development cooperation in Afghanistan”.

A statement by Pakistan’s foreign ministry read, “Both sides called on all stakeholders to work together for a peaceful, stable, prosperous and united Afghanistan, which would firmly combat terrorism and live in harmony with its neighbours. The two sides underscored the need for the international community to provide continued assistance and support to Afghanistan including through unfreezing of Afghanistan’s overseas financial assets.”

47. As an extension of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), what infrastructure project was proposed to be constructed in Afghanistan in 2021?  
(a) Peshawar-Kabul motorway (b) Islamabad-Lahore expressway  
(c) Karachi-Quetta railway (d) Lahore-Karachi motorway
48. What are the two endpoints connected by the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)?  
(a) Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region and Gwadar Port  
(b) Shanghai and Islamabad  
(c) Beijing and Karachi  
(d) Guangzhou and Lahore
49. Why is Afghanistan significant for both Pakistan and China?  
(a) Access to rare minerals (b) Cultural exchange  
(c) Trade opportunities (d) Political alliances
50. Where was the 4th round of the Foreign Minister-level Pakistan-China Strategic Dialogue held?  
(a) Beijing, China (b) Islamabad, Pakistan  
(c) Kabul, Afghanistan (d) Shanghai, China

51. Which port does India intend to project as a gateway for commerce between India, Iran, Afghanistan, and Central Asian countries?  
(a) Gwadarport (b) Karachi port (c) Chabahar port (d) Bandar Abbas port
52. When was the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) launched?  
(a) 2008 (b) 2010 (c) 2013 (d) 2015
53. How long is the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)?  
(a) 1,000 km (b) 2,000 km (c) 3,000 km (d) 4,000 km

## SECTION – III: LEGAL REASONING

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### PASSAGE 1

In the realm of contract law, three important concepts to consider are undue influence, fraud, and misrepresentation. These concepts relate to situations where one party exerts improper influence, engages in deceitful practices, or makes false statements during the formation of a contract. Understanding these concepts is crucial for protecting the rights and interests of parties involved in contractual agreements.

Undue influence occurs when one party takes advantage of a position of power or authority to influence the decisions of another party. This influence is considered "undue" when it overpowers the free will and judgment of the influenced party, leading to an unfair or inequitable contract. Undue influence can arise in relationships involving trust, confidence, or dependency, such as between family members, close friends, or those with fiduciary duties. To establish undue influence, it must be proven that there was a relationship of trust or confidence, the dominant party exerted influence, and the influenced party entered into the contract unwillingly or without independent judgment.

Fraud, on the other hand, involves intentional deception or deceit to induce another party to enter into a contract. It occurs when one party knowingly makes false statements, conceals facts, or engages in dishonest practices with the intention of deceiving the other party. To establish fraud, certain essential elements must be present. First, there must be a false representation of material facts. Second, the representation must be made with the knowledge of its falsity or without a reasonable belief in its truth. Third, the deceived party must have relied on the false representation and suffered damages as a result.

Misrepresentation refers to a false statement made by one party that induces another party to enter into a contract. Unlike fraud, misrepresentation may not necessarily involve the intention to deceive, but it still results in a contract being entered into based on false information. Misrepresentation can be innocent, negligent, or fraudulent. Innocent misrepresentation occurs when a false statement is made honestly and without knowledge of its falsity. Negligent misrepresentation occurs when a false statement is made without reasonable care or a duty to investigate the truth. Fraudulent misrepresentation involves making false statements with the intention to deceive. To establish misrepresentation, it must be proven that there was a false statement of fact, the false statement was material to the contract, the deceived party relied on the false statement, and the reliance resulted in damages.

It is worth noting that the burden of proof lies with the party alleging undue influence, fraud, or misrepresentation. Providing evidence to substantiate these claims can be challenging, as it often requires demonstrating the state of mind and intentions of the party accused of engaging in such conduct. Therefore, it is essential for individuals entering into contracts to exercise diligence and caution, thoroughly examining the terms, representations, and circumstances surrounding the agreement to ensure its fairness and legality.



Exceptions to the general rule of avoiding contracts tainted by undue influence, fraud, or misrepresentation include cases where the affected party has ratified the contract, waived their right to avoid it, or has been deemed to have had equal knowledge of the relevant facts.

54. Mr. Kumar, a wealthy businessman, has a son, Aman, who is very inexperienced in financial matters. Aman's close friend, Ravi, convinces Aman to invest a significant sum in a questionable business venture. Ravi emphasizes the huge profits they could make and downplays the risks involved. He also repeatedly insists that as a friend, Aman should trust him. Feeling overwhelmed and trusting Ravi, Aman signs a contract to invest in the venture. However, the venture fails and Aman loses his investment. Can Aman successfully claim that the contract was influenced by undue influence?
- (a) Yes, because Ravi used his friendship to exert influence on Aman's decision.
  - (b) No, because Aman agreed to invest and signed the contract willingly.
  - (c) Yes, because Ravi took advantage of Aman's inexperience and trust in him.
  - (d) No, because the failure of the business venture was a business risk, not a result of undue influence.
55. Mr. Verma, a reputed car dealer, persuaded Mr. Sharma to purchase an antique car. Mr. Verma, knowingly misstating the age of the car, claimed it to be 70 years old. Mr. Sharma, influenced by Mr. Verma's reputation and excited by the prospect of owning such an antique, purchased the car without further investigation. Later, Mr. Sharma discovered the car was only 40 years old. Aggrieved by this, Mr. Sharma wants to sue Mr. Verma for fraud. Is Mr. Sharma likely to succeed in his lawsuit?
- (a) Yes, because Mr. Verma misrepresented the age of the car to Mr. Sharma.
  - (b) No, because Mr. Sharma did not conduct his own investigation before purchasing the car.
  - (c) Yes, because Mr. Verma made the false representation with the knowledge of its falsity.
  - (d) No, because Mr. Sharma was influenced by Mr. Verma's reputation, not by the false representation.
56. Rohan and Rajan entered into a contract whereby Rohan agreed to buy Rajan's house. Rajan, having some knowledge about a possible upcoming zoning restriction that might prevent substantial modifications to the house, did not disclose this to Rohan. Rohan, a property developer, entered into the contract believing that he would be able to renovate and modify the house extensively. After learning about the zoning restriction post-contract, Rohan wants to rescind the contract on the grounds of misrepresentation. Will Rohan's attempt to rescind the contract likely succeed?
- (a) Yes, because Rajan made a false statement by not disclosing the possible zoning restriction.
  - (b) No, because Rajan did not necessarily intend to deceive Rohan by not revealing the potential zoning restriction.
  - (c) Yes, because Rajan's non-disclosure of material information induced Rohan to enter into the contract.
  - (d) No, because Rajan was not obliged to disclose the information about the potential zoning restriction.
57. Simran, a professional art dealer, sells a painting to Raj, an amateur art enthusiast. Simran tells Raj that the painting is an original piece by a famous artist, worth several lakh rupees. Raj, relying on Simran's statement, pays a hefty price for the painting. Later, Raj finds out that the painting is
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not an original but a well-made reproduction. Feeling deceived, Raj plans to sue Simran for misrepresentation. However, Simran asserts that she honestly believed the painting was original based on information she received from her supplier. Will Raj likely succeed in his lawsuit?

- (a) Yes, because Simran made a false statement that induced Raj to enter into the contract.
- (b) No, because Simran did not have the intention to deceive Raj.
- (c) Yes, because Simran failed to confirm the authenticity of the painting before selling it to Raj.
- (d) No, because Raj should have independently verified the authenticity of the painting before purchasing it.

58. Ravi, a real estate agent, was selling a house that had a history of termites. Without inspecting the house himself, Ravi told Arjun, a prospective buyer, that the house was completely free of termites. Trusting Ravi's words, Arjun bought the house. A few weeks later, Arjun discovered a severe termite infestation in the house. He wants to sue Ravi for misrepresentation. However, Ravi argues that Arjun had equal opportunity to inspect the house and should have taken precautionary measures. Will Arjun's lawsuit likely succeed?

- (a) Yes, because Ravi made a false statement which led Arjun to enter into the contract.
- (b) No, because Arjun had equal knowledge of the relevant facts and the opportunity to inspect the house.
- (c) Yes, because Ravi failed to carry out a reasonable duty to investigate the truth.
- (d) No, because Ravi made the statement about the termites without the intention to deceive.

## PASSAGE 2

In the field of tort law, two important concepts to understand are strict liability and absolute liability. These concepts differ from the general principle of liability, which requires the plaintiff to prove fault or negligence on the part of the defendant. Strict and absolute liability impose liability on a party without the need to establish fault. These concepts are often applied in cases involving inherently dangerous activities or products.

Strict liability refers to the legal responsibility imposed on a party for the consequences of their actions or omissions, regardless of their fault or intention. Under strict liability, the focus is on the activity or conduct itself, rather than the state of mind of the defendant. If harm or damage occurs as a result of engaging in a certain activity or using a particular product, the party responsible for the activity or product may be held liable. The essential elements of strict liability include proving that the defendant engaged in the activity or produced the product, the harm or damage occurred, and a causal link exists between the activity or product and the harm or damage.

Strict liability is often applied in cases involving dangerous or hazardous activities, such as storing and transporting hazardous materials, operating high-risk machinery, or keeping wild animals. The rationale behind strict liability is to ensure that parties engaging in such activities bear the responsibility for any harm or damage caused, regardless of their level of care or precautions taken. By imposing strict liability, the law seeks to incentivize parties to take necessary precautions to prevent harm and provide compensation to victims.

Absolute liability takes strict liability a step further by imposing liability on a party even if they have taken all possible precautions to prevent harm or damage. Absolute liability holds a party strictly liable for the consequences of their actions or products, irrespective of any fault or negligence. It is based on the principle that certain activities or products are so inherently dangerous that the party engaging in the activity or producing the product must bear the burden of liability regardless of their level of care. Absolute liability is applied in exceptional cases where the potential harm or danger is extremely high and the protection of public interest is paramount.

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Exceptions to strict and absolute liability are limited but may exist in certain circumstances. For example, if an unforeseen event or an act of God occurs, which is beyond the control of the defendant, it may serve as a valid defense against strict liability. Similarly, if the plaintiff voluntarily assumes the risk associated with the activity or product, it may relieve the defendant of liability.

In practice, the application of strict and absolute liability varies across jurisdictions and specific circumstances. The courts carefully consider the nature of the activity or product in question, the potential harm it poses, and the social and policy considerations involved. Striking a balance between the interests of the injured party and the burden placed on the party engaged in the activity or producing the product is a complex task for the legal system.

Strict and absolute liability serve as important legal doctrines in cases where the potential risks and dangers are significant. They provide a means to hold parties accountable for the harm caused by their actions or products, even in the absence of fault or negligence. By shifting the burden of liability, these concepts promote public safety, deter negligent behavior, and ensure compensation for victims. However, the strict application of these doctrines also raises concerns about fairness, potential abuse, and the impact on innovation and economic development.

59. Madhav owns a company that specializes in producing fireworks, a product considered inherently dangerous. Despite maintaining high safety standards and taking all possible precautions, an accidental explosion occurred in the factory resulting in severe injuries to Gopal, a passerby. Gopal decides to sue Madhav for damages. Under the principles of strict and absolute liability, will Madhav likely be held liable for Gopal's injuries?
- (a) Yes, because Madhav was engaged in the production of an inherently dangerous product and a causal link exists between the activity and the harm.
  - (b) No, because Madhav had taken all possible precautions to prevent such an incident.
  - (c) Yes, because under the principle of absolute liability, Madhav is liable irrespective of any precautions taken.
  - (d) No, because the explosion was accidental and not a result of any intentional wrongdoing on Madhav's part.
60. Ms. Thompson owns a wildlife sanctuary where she keeps various species of wild animals. Despite taking all safety precautions, a trained lion escaped its enclosure due to an unknown mechanical fault in the lock system and attacked a visitor, Mr. Johnson, causing severe injuries. Mr. Johnson files a lawsuit against Ms. Thompson for damages. Can Ms. Thompson be held liable for the damages caused to Mr. Johnson?
- (a) No, because Ms. Thompson has taken all necessary precautions to ensure the safety of the visitors.
  - (b) Yes, because the wild lion attacked and injured Mr. Johnson.
  - (c) No, because the lion escaping its enclosure was due to a mechanical fault which is not under Ms. Thompson's control.
  - (d) Yes, because the principle of strict liability applies, despite Ms. Thompson taking all necessary precautions.
61. In the town of Gilson, the Apex Mining Corporation conducts high-risk dynamite operations in close proximity to the residential area. Despite the corporation undertaking all the necessary safety measures and precautions, an accident occurred due to a technical malfunction, leading to a massive explosion. This incident resulted in severe damage to the nearby houses and caused injuries to many residents. A resident named Sarah, who was fully aware of the potential risks
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associated with living near a mining operation, suffered injuries and her house was partially destroyed. She decides to sue the corporation for her injuries and the damages to her property.

Given the circumstances, is Apex Mining Corporation liable for the damages and injuries caused by the explosion?

(a) Yes, because as per strict liability, Apex Mining Corporation is responsible for any harm or damage caused, irrespective of their level of care or precautions taken.

(b) No, because Sarah voluntarily assumed the risk associated with living near a mining operation, which relieves Apex Mining Corporation of liability.

(c) Yes, because under the principle of absolute liability, Apex Mining Corporation is liable for the consequences of their activities, regardless of any fault or negligence, or level of care.

(d) No, because the accident was due to a technical malfunction, which is beyond the control of the Apex Mining Corporation, serving as a valid defense against absolute liability.

62. Adam operates an exotic snake exhibit in a local zoo. One day, despite all safety protocols and precautions, a venomous snake escapes its enclosure due to an unforeseen seismic activity and injures a visitor, Bella. Bella, while entering the exhibit, had signed a waiver acknowledging the risks associated with being around venomous snakes. Under the doctrine of absolute liability, is Adam liable for Bella's injuries?

(a) Yes, as absolute liability necessitates Adam to bear responsibility for any harm caused by the snakes, irrespective of the safety measures employed.

(b) No, because Adam had adhered to all reasonable precautions to prevent such a mishap.

(c) Yes, since the doctrine of absolute liability applies even when precautions are taken, and Bella's consent does not exempt Adam from liability.

(d) No, as Bella willingly acknowledged the risks associated with visiting the snake exhibit, thereby potentially absolving Adam of liability.

63. Ms. Perez operates a business that involves the storage and transport of hazardous materials. She has taken all reasonable precautions to prevent accidents, but one day, due to a supplier's faulty packaging, a container leaked toxic substances during transport, causing damage to surrounding property and environment. The affected parties are suing Ms. Perez for the damages incurred.

Given these circumstances, is Ms. Perez liable for the damage under the principle of strict liability?

(a) Yes, because she operates a business involving inherently dangerous activities.

(b) No, because she took all reasonable precautions to prevent the accident.

(c) Yes, because the supplier's faulty packaging caused the accident.

(d) No, because the supplier is at fault for the faulty packaging.

### PASSAGE 3

Nuisance is a legal concept that refers to a substantial and unreasonable interference with the use and enjoyment of another person's property or the right of the general public. It can involve actions or conditions that cause annoyance, inconvenience, or harm to individuals or the community. Nuisance law seeks to strike a balance between the rights and interests of individuals in the use of their property while ensuring that one person's use does not unduly infringe upon the rights of others.

To establish a claim of nuisance, certain essential ingredients must be met. First, there must be substantial interference that goes beyond mere annoyance or inconvenience. The interference must be significant enough to interfere with the ordinary comfort and enjoyment of one's property. Second, the interference must be unreasonable. This means that a reasonable person would not find the interference acceptable or tolerable in the circumstances. Whether an interference is unreasonable depends on various factors, including the nature of the activity or condition, its duration, the location, and the effect on the surrounding community.

There are two main types of nuisance: private nuisance and public nuisance. Private nuisance involves interference with the use and enjoyment of a specific individual's property. It typically arises from activities conducted on neighboring properties, such as noise, odors, vibrations, or pollution. Public nuisance, on the other hand, affects the rights and interests of the general public. It involves actions or conditions that interfere with public health, safety, or convenience, such as a hazardous waste facility emitting toxic fumes that affect an entire community.

While nuisance law aims to protect individuals from unreasonable interferences, there are certain exceptions and defenses that may limit liability. For example, activities that are authorized by law or conducted pursuant to government regulations may be shielded from liability. This recognizes that certain activities, such as industrial operations or construction projects, may inherently create some level of inconvenience or disturbance but are necessary for societal progress.

Another exception to nuisance liability is the coming to the nuisance doctrine. This principle holds that if someone moves to a location with knowledge of an existing nuisance, they cannot subsequently complain about it. The rationale is that individuals should have been aware of any existing interferences before choosing to reside or conduct activities in a particular area, but it is not a surefire guarantee against a successful nuisance claim, as each case is subject to specific circumstances and judgements.

Additionally, certain activities may be considered reasonable and may not be considered a nuisance, even if they cause some interference. For example, agricultural operations in rural areas or occasional noise from residential activities may be deemed acceptable within the norms of the surrounding community.

Nuisance law is a dynamic area that requires a careful analysis of the specific circumstances of each case. Factors such as the locality, the nature of the interference, the sensitivity of the affected parties, and the prevailing community standards play a crucial role in determining whether a nuisance claim is valid. Courts aim to strike a balance between protecting individual property rights and preserving the reasonable use of property for the benefit of society as a whole.

In recent years, there has been increasing recognition of environmental nuisance, where activities or conditions cause harm or interfere with the quality of the environment. This includes issues like pollution, emissions, and ecological disruptions. Environmental nuisance cases often involve complex scientific evidence and require a multidisciplinary approach to understand the extent of the harm caused and its impact on affected individuals and communities.

64. Mr. Jones owns a serene countryside home, surrounded by lush green fields and farms. He values the tranquility of his surroundings. Recently, a new neighbor, Mr. Smith, moved into the farm next door. Mr. Smith is a passionate drummer and practices in his barn every day for three hours. The loud drumming has been disrupting Mr. Jones's peace and quiet. Mr. Jones was fully aware of Mr. Smith's drumming habit before he moved in, as the realtor had informed him about it. Mr. Jones decides to file a nuisance claim against Mr. Smith.
- Does Mr. Jones have a valid claim for private nuisance against Mr. Smith?
- (a) Yes, because Mr. Smith's drumming is a substantial and unreasonable interference with Mr. Jones's enjoyment of his property.
- (b) No, because Mr. Smith's drumming is not a substantial interference that goes beyond mere annoyance or inconvenience.

- (c) Yes, because the loud drumming is disturbing the tranquility of Mr. Jones's countryside home.  
(d) No, because Mr. Jones was fully aware of Mr. Smith's drumming habit before he moved in.
65. Tom lives next to a large manufacturing plant. The plant operates 24 hours a day and emits a loud humming noise and bright lights, causing disturbance to Tom's sleep pattern and daily life. The plant has all the necessary permits and follows all government regulations. Tom is contemplating suing the manufacturing plant for private nuisance. Will Tom be likely successful in his claim of private nuisance against the plant?  
(a) Yes, because the noise and lights are substantial and unreasonable interference with Tom's property.  
(b) No, because the plant is operating legally and has all necessary permits.  
(c) Yes, because the plant is operating 24 hours a day.  
(d) No, because the plant is an existing nuisance and Tom chose to live next to it.
66. Mr. Peterson, a suburban resident, has recently started a small-scale carpentry workshop in his backyard. His activities produce noise from power tools, sawdust, and occasional vibrations during the day. His next-door neighbor, Mrs. Brown, works from home and complains that Mr. Peterson's activities are interfering with her peace and quiet, causing a nuisance. Given this situation, can Mrs. Brown successfully bring a claim of private nuisance against Mr. Peterson?  
(a) Yes, because Mr. Peterson's activities produce noise and vibrations.  
(b) No, because carpentry is a reasonable activity for a suburban resident.  
(c) Yes, because Mr. Peterson's activities are interfering with Mrs. Brown's peace and quiet.  
(d) No, because the interference is during the daytime only.
67. In a small suburban community, there's a factory that has been operational for the past 20 years, producing chemical products. Recently, the factory has begun a new production process, which causes a pungent smell to be emitted for a couple of hours each day. The smell has become unbearable for the residents, causing inconvenience and discomfort. Several complaints have been lodged against the factory by the community residents. Considering these circumstances, could the factory's new production process be legally considered a nuisance?  
(a) Yes, because the new production process is creating a pungent smell.  
(b) No, because the factory has been operational for the past 20 years.  
(c) Yes, because the smell is causing inconvenience and discomfort to the residents.  
(d) No, because the smell is only present for a couple of hours each day.
68. A large factory, IndustriesPlus, located in a small town has been emitting noise and fumes for the past 20 years. IndustriesPlus has the required government permissions and follows all existing regulations. Recently, a new residential development was built near the factory, and the residents are complaining about the noise and fumes affecting their health and peaceful enjoyment of their property. Can the residents file a successful nuisance claim against IndustriesPlus?  
(a) Yes, because they are affected by the noise and fumes from IndustriesPlus.  
(b) No, because the factory has been operating for 20 years and the residents knew about it before moving in.  
(c) Yes, because the operations of IndustriesPlus are affecting the health of the residents.  
(d) No, because IndustriesPlus is operating within the government regulations and is necessary for societal progress.

#### **PASSAGE 4**

A contract is a legally binding agreement between two or more parties that establishes their rights and obligations. Within the realm of contracts, there are specific types that serve different purposes and involve distinct elements. Two such types are the contract of indemnity and the contract of guarantee, both of which

are closely related but differ in their fundamental aspects. Additionally, the concept of privity of contract plays a crucial role in understanding the rights and liabilities of parties involved. This passage will provide an overview of these three concepts, including their definitions, essential ingredients, and exceptions.

A contract of indemnity is a contract in which one party agrees to compensate the other party for any loss or damage they may suffer as a result of a specified event. In this contract, the indemnifier undertakes to make good any loss suffered by the indemnified party. The essential ingredients of a contract of indemnity include a valid contract, a specified event or contingency that may cause loss, and an agreement by one party to compensate the other in case of such loss. For example, an insurance policy is a common form of a contract of indemnity, where the insurer agrees to indemnify the insured against certain risks or perils.

On the other hand, a contract of guarantee involves a third party, known as the surety or guarantor, who agrees to be responsible for the fulfillment of the obligations of another party, known as the principal debtor, in case of default. The essential ingredients of a contract of guarantee include the existence of a valid contract between the principal debtor and the creditor, a liability on the part of the principal debtor, and an agreement by the surety to perform the obligation of the principal debtor in case of default. For instance, when a person takes a loan from a bank, and another person guarantees the repayment of that loan, a contract of guarantee is established.

The concept of privity of contract refers to the principle that only parties to a contract have rights and obligations under that contract. It means that a third party who is not a party to the contract generally cannot enforce the terms of the contract or be held liable for its breach. This principle prevents a party from suing or being sued by a person with whom they have no contractual relationship. However, there are exceptions to this rule, such as the doctrine of trust, assignment of contractual rights, and certain statutory provisions that allow third parties to enforce contractual terms or obligations.

A contract of indemnity involves one party compensating another for any loss or damage they may suffer due to a specified event, whereas a contract of guarantee involves a third party guaranteeing the obligations of a principal debtor. Privity of contract establishes that only parties to a contract have enforceable rights and obligations.

Understanding these concepts is crucial for navigating contractual relationships and ensuring clarity regarding rights and liabilities. Contracts of indemnity and guarantee provide mechanisms for parties to manage risks and secure obligations. However, it is essential to carefully define the terms, scope, and limits of these contracts to avoid ambiguity or disputes. Additionally, parties should be aware of the exceptions to the privity of contract rule, as certain circumstances may allow third parties to enforce or be bound by contractual provisions. Seeking legal advice and drafting contracts with precision and foresight can help parties navigate these complexities and protect their interests in contractual relationships.

69. Rob, a professional painter, enters into a contract with Jane, a homeowner, to paint her house. The contract stipulates that Rob will be paid upon completion of the painting, but it also includes a clause stating that Jane will indemnify Rob for any damages or loss he might suffer during the painting job, including any damage to his painting equipment. Unfortunately, Rob's expensive painting equipment is damaged during the job when a sudden hailstorm hits the area. Can Rob claim compensation from Jane for his damaged equipment based on the indemnity clause?
- (a) Yes, because Jane agreed to indemnify Rob for any loss or damage he may suffer as a result of the painting job.

(b) No, because the damage to Rob's equipment was caused by a natural disaster, not by the painting job.

(c) Yes, because the indemnity clause in the contract includes any damage to Rob's painting equipment.

(d) No, because Rob chose to leave his equipment out during the hailstorm.

70. BlueLine Tech, a software development company, enters into a contract with WhiteCloud Services, a cloud services provider. Under the contract, WhiteCloud Services agrees to provide hosting services for BlueLine Tech's software applications. Mr. Johnson, the CEO of BlueLine Tech, personally assures WhiteCloud Services that he will cover any losses in case BlueLine Tech is unable to pay for the services. However, there is no separate agreement between Mr. Johnson and WhiteCloud Services. After a year, BlueLine Tech becomes insolvent and is unable to pay WhiteCloud Services.

Can WhiteCloud Services enforce Mr. Johnson's promise under the doctrine of privity of contract?

(a) Yes, because Mr. Johnson personally made a promise to cover any losses.

(b) No, because there was no separate contract between Mr. Johnson and WhiteCloud Services.

(c) Yes, because Mr. Johnson's promise acts as a contract of guarantee.

(d) No, because Mr. Johnson is not a party to the contract between BlueLine Tech and WhiteCloud Services.

71. Your cousin, John, enters into a contract with a local builder, BuildCo, to construct a new house. John tells BuildCo that he is building the house for you and that you will be paying for the construction work. However, your name is not included in the contract. The construction work is completed, but you refuse to pay BuildCo. Can BuildCo legally enforce the contract against you?

(a) Yes, because John told BuildCo that you would be paying for the construction work.

(b) No, because you are not a party to the contract and the principle of privity of contract applies.

(c) Yes, because certain statutory provisions may allow BuildCo to enforce the contractual obligations against you.

(d) No, because John should have included your name in the contract.

72. Maria sells her car to John. Maria and John enter into a contract that states John will pay Maria \$10,000 for the car within 30 days. Alex, Maria's brother, is worried that John may not fulfill his obligation. Therefore, he decides to sign a separate agreement with Maria stating that if John fails to pay the amount within the stipulated time, he will pay Maria \$10,000. However, after two weeks, John sells the car to Kim, a third-party buyer, without Maria's knowledge. Kim comes to know about the contract between Maria and John, and she demands that Alex pay her if John fails to pay Maria. Can Kim enforce this demand against Alex?

(a) Yes, because Alex signed a contract stating he would pay if John fails to pay.

(b) No, because Alex's contract was with Maria, not Kim.

(c) Yes, because Kim is now the owner of the car.

(d) No, because Kim was not a party to the original contract between Maria and John.

73. Tom, the owner of a furniture shop, sells a set of antique chairs to John, a customer, for \$5000. However, John doesn't have the full amount at the time of purchase, so he agrees to pay Tom \$5000 after a month. To assure Tom, Robert, a friend of John, signs a contract with Tom stating that if John fails to pay the amount after a month, Robert will pay Tom the due amount. After a month, John fails to pay Tom. However, when Tom asks Robert to fulfill his obligations as per the contract, Robert refuses, stating that he didn't understand the terms of the contract.

Can Tom successfully sue Robert for the payment?

(a) Yes, because Robert agreed to be the guarantor in case of John's default.

(b) No, because Robert didn't understand the terms of the contract.

(c) Yes, because John failed to fulfill his obligations to Tom.

(d) No, because John is the principal debtor, not Robert.



## **PASSAGE 5**

The Indian Penal Code (IPC) is a comprehensive legislation that defines and addresses various criminal offenses. Within the IPC, there are specific provisions related to offenses such as assault, battery, and dowry death. Each offense carries its own definition, essential ingredients, and exceptions

Assault is an offense under Section 351 of the IPC. It involves the intentional act of causing apprehension of imminent harm or the intentional act of causing fear of instant bodily injury to another person. The essential ingredients of assault include the intentional act, the presence of fear or apprehension of harm, and the reasonable likelihood of immediate bodily injury. It is important to note that physical contact is not necessary for an act to be considered an assault. The offense of assault focuses on the mental state and intention behind the act.

Battery, on the other hand, is a more severe offense under Section 352 of the IPC. It involves the intentional act of causing physical harm or injury to another person. Unlike assault, battery requires physical contact. The essential ingredients of battery include the intentional act, physical contact resulting in harm or injury, and the absence of lawful justification or consent. Battery is a more tangible and visible form of harm as compared to assault.

Dowry death is a specific offense under Section 304B of the IPC. It addresses cases where a married woman dies under suspicious circumstances within seven years of her marriage, and it is shown that her death was a result of cruelty or harassment by her husband or his relatives in connection with a demand for dowry. The essential ingredients of dowry death include the death of a woman, occurring within seven years of marriage, harassment or cruelty by the husband or his relatives, and a connection with dowry demands. It is important to establish a causal link between the cruelty or harassment and the demand for dowry in order to invoke the offense of dowry death.

While these offenses have clear definitions and essential ingredients, there are exceptions that need to be considered. Self-defense is a commonly recognized exception to both assault and battery. If a person uses reasonable force to defend themselves from imminent harm, it may be a justifiable defense. Similarly, in dowry death cases, if it can be established that the death was a result of an accident or natural causes and not connected to cruelty or harassment for dowry, the offense may not be applicable.

Assault involves the intentional act of causing fear of harm, battery involves the intentional act of causing physical harm, and dowry death involves the death of a woman due to cruelty or harassment related to dowry demands.

It is important to note that the Indian Penal Code contains a wide range of offenses covering various aspects of criminal behavior. These offenses are designed to protect individuals, maintain social order, and ensure justice. The provisions related to assault, battery, and dowry death serve as important tools in addressing acts of violence, cruelty, and injustice within society.

Understanding the definitions and essential ingredients of these offenses helps in recognizing and reporting such incidents to the appropriate authorities. It also enables the legal system to hold perpetrators accountable and provide redress to the victims. By studying the exceptions and defenses available, individuals can better understand their rights and responsibilities in cases where the circumstances may warrant a justifiable defense.

Moreover, it is essential to stay updated with any amendments or changes to the Indian Penal Code, as the legal landscape evolves to address emerging challenges and ensure effective deterrence and punishment for criminal acts.

74. Ravi and Suresh were involved in an intense argument at a public park. During the argument, Ravi clenched his fists and moved towards Suresh as if he was about to punch him. However, Ravi didn't actually punch Suresh. Suresh, being fearful of getting hurt, ran from the scene. Ravi claims he never intended to hit Suresh but was just trying to scare him. Under the provisions of the IPC, can Ravi be charged with assault?
- (a) Yes, because Ravi's action caused Suresh to fear imminent bodily injury.
  - (b) No, because Ravi didn't actually physically injure Suresh.
  - (c) Yes, because Ravi clenched his fists, which indicates an intention to harm.
  - (d) No, because Ravi claims he never intended to hit Suresh.
75. Sameer and Rajat are arguing in a bar. After a heated exchange, Sameer raises his fist and threatens to punch Rajat. However, before he can make any physical contact, the bar's security intervenes. Sameer argues that since he didn't actually punch Rajat, he can't be charged with any crime. If Rajat files a police complaint, could Sameer be held accountable for his actions under the Indian Penal Code (IPC)?
- (a) Yes, because Sameer's act can be classified as assault under Section 351 of the IPC.
  - (b) No, because Sameer didn't physically harm Rajat.
  - (c) Yes, because Sameer's threat can be seen as battery under Section 352 of the IPC.
  - (d) No, because Sameer's actions were in a public place, so IPC laws don't apply.
76. Sarita is walking home late at night when she notices a man following her. Feeling threatened, she picks up a small rock from the ground. When the man approaches her, Sarita, in fear, throws the rock at the man, causing a minor injury to his arm. The man files a complaint against Sarita for battery under Section 352 of the IPC. Sarita claims she acted in self-defense. Can Sarita be successfully prosecuted for battery under the IPC?
- (a) Yes, because Sarita intentionally caused physical harm to the man.
  - (b) No, because Sarita acted out of fear and not with the intent to harm.
  - (c) Yes, because the man was injured as a result of Sarita's actions.
  - (d) No, because Sarita acted in self-defense, which is a lawful justification for her actions.
77. Ravi and Sunita were married in 2020. In 2023, Sunita died under suspicious circumstances. It was discovered that Ravi and his family had been constantly harassing Sunita for dowry since their marriage. However, Ravi's defense is that the death occurred due to Sunita's accidental fall from the stairs, which is not related to the dowry demands. Can Ravi and his family be charged under Section 304B of the Indian Penal Code for dowry death?
- (a) Yes, because Sunita's death occurred within seven years of marriage and she was being harassed for dowry.
  - (b) No, because Sunita's death was due to an accidental fall and not related to dowry harassment.
  - (c) Yes, because the death of a woman due to any cause within seven years of marriage constitutes dowry death.
  - (d) No, because there is no clear evidence linking Sunita's death with the dowry harassment.
78. Ravi and Sunita got married five years ago. Two months after their marriage, Ravi and his parents started demanding dowry from Sunita. When Sunita's family was unable to meet their demands, Ravi and his parents began subjecting Sunita to cruelty. Yesterday, Sunita died due to a cardiac arrest. The prosecution was unable to connect the heart attack with the harassment she faced. Can Ravi and his parents be charged under Section 304B of IPC for dowry death?
- (a) Yes, because they had subjected Sunita to cruelty related to dowry demands.
  - (b) No, because Sunita's death occurred due to natural causes, and there is no direct link between the harassment and her death.
  - (c) Yes, because Sunita's death occurred within seven years of her marriage.

(d) No, because dowry was demanded only two months after the marriage, not immediately.

79. Ravi and Suresh are neighbors who often get into arguments over trivial matters. One day, Ravi gets angry and throws a stone at Suresh's window, breaking it. Suresh comes out and sees Ravi holding another stone, ready to throw it. Suresh picks up a stick and runs towards Ravi, hitting him on the head and causing a minor injury. Which of the following statements is correct?
- (a) Ravi committed assault and battery, while Suresh acted in self-defense.
  - (b) Ravi committed assault, while Suresh committed battery.
  - (c) Ravi and Suresh both committed assault and battery.
  - (d) Ravi and Suresh both acted in self-defense.

### **PASSAGE 6**

The Constitution of India provides a mechanism for the impeachment of the President and Governors in case of misconduct or violation of constitutional provisions. Impeachment is a process of charging and removing a high-ranking public official from office due to their actions or behavior.

As per Article 61 of the Indian Constitution, the President can be impeached for the violation of the Constitution. The process of impeachment starts with a motion for impeachment being introduced in either the Lok Sabha (Lower House) or the Rajya Sabha (Upper House) of the Parliament. The motion must be supported by at least one-fourth of the total membership of the House where it is introduced. If the motion is admitted, a special committee is formed to investigate the charges against the President. The committee presents its findings to the House, and if two-thirds of the members of that House vote in favor of impeachment, the President is removed from office.

Essential ingredients for impeachment of the President include the introduction of a motion in either House of Parliament, the support of at least one-fourth of the total membership, investigation by a special committee, and approval of impeachment by two-thirds majority in the relevant House. The process ensures that the impeachment of the President is not undertaken lightly and requires substantial evidence and support from the Parliament.

The impeachment process for Governors is outlined in Article 156 and Article 161 of the Indian Constitution. A Governor can be impeached on similar grounds of misconduct or violation of the Constitution. The process starts with a resolution for impeachment being introduced in the State Legislative Assembly. The resolution must be supported by a majority of the total membership of the Assembly. If the resolution is passed, it is then forwarded to the President for further action. The President may then direct an inquiry or investigation into the charges against the Governor. If the inquiry substantiates the charges, the President may advise the Governor to resign or may remove the Governor from office.

Essential ingredients for the impeachment of the Governor include the introduction of a resolution in the State Legislative Assembly, the support of a majority of the total membership, inquiry or investigation by the President, and the final decision by the President to advise resignation or removal from office. This process ensures a fair and transparent examination of charges against the Governor before any action is taken.

It is important to note that the impeachment process for the President and Governors has certain exceptions and limitations. The Constitution provides immunity to the President and Governors from any criminal proceedings during their tenure in office. Additionally, the President has limited immunity from any legal proceedings for their official acts. These exceptions ensure that the impeachment process is not misused or applied inappropriately against the President or Governors.

Impeachment of the President and Governors in India serves as a critical constitutional safeguard against misconduct or violations of the Constitution. The process is designed to uphold the principles of accountability, transparency, and the rule of law. It requires substantial evidence, support from the Parliament or State Legislative Assembly, and investigation or inquiry into the charges before any decision is made.

The impeachment provisions reflect the constitutional checks and balances inherent in the Indian democratic system. They provide a mechanism for addressing serious allegations of wrongdoing by high-ranking public officials and ensuring that they are held accountable for their actions. By following a rigorous process and requiring significant majority support, the impeachment mechanism strives to maintain the integrity of the presidency and governorship and protect the constitutional order.

80. In the city of Arcadia, a new law called the Graffiti Prevention Act (GP(A) was enacted on June 1, 2023. The President of India has been found guilty by a court of law in a case related to his official acts carried out during his tenure. This information is brought before the Parliament, and a group of members are seeking his impeachment. Is it possible for the President to be impeached in this scenario?
- (a) Yes, because the President has been found guilty by a court of law.
  - (b) No, because the President has limited immunity from legal proceedings for their official acts.
  - (c) Yes, because impeachment is a process of charging and removing a high-ranking public official from office due to their actions or behavior.
  - (d) No, because the Parliament has not formed a special committee to investigate the charges against the President.
81. The President of India, while in office, issues a controversial executive order that many believe to be a clear violation of the Constitution. A group of Members of Parliament (MPs) initiates an impeachment motion against the President for this action. The President's defense is that they cannot be impeached for an official act performed while in office. Is the President's claim valid, and can the impeachment motion be admitted against the President in this scenario?
- (a) Yes, because the President has limited immunity from any legal proceedings for their official acts.
  - (b) No, because impeachment is a process of charging and removing a high-ranking public official due to their actions or behavior, including official acts.
  - (c) Yes, because the President's immunity fully protects them from any form of legal proceedings, including impeachment.
  - (d) No, because the President cannot issue an executive order that violates the Constitution.
82. President K has been allegedly accused of constitutional violation. A motion for impeachment is introduced in the Lok Sabha with the support of 120 members out of a total of 545 members. A special committee is formed, which finds the allegations against the President to be valid. The Lok Sabha, with a 67% majority, votes in favor of impeachment. Is the impeachment of President K valid as per the Indian Constitution?
- (a) Yes, because the special committee found the allegations against President K to be valid.
  - (b) No, because the motion for impeachment must be supported by at least one-fourth of the total membership of the Lok Sabha, and it needs to be passed with a two-thirds majority.
  - (c) Yes, because the impeachment motion was passed with a majority vote in the Lok Sabha.
  - (d) No, because the President has immunity from any legal proceedings for his official acts.
83. The Governor of State X has been accused of misconduct and violation of constitutional provisions. A resolution for impeachment is introduced in the State Legislative Assembly, but it is supported by only 45% of the total membership of the Assembly. The President has been notified about the

allegations and he wishes to proceed with an inquiry into the charges. Can the impeachment process against the Governor be initiated in this scenario?

- (a) Yes, because the Governor has been accused of misconduct and violation of the Constitution.
- (b) No, because the resolution for impeachment was not supported by a majority of the total membership of the Assembly.
- (c) Yes, because the President wishes to proceed with an inquiry into the charges.
- (d) No, because the President cannot initiate the impeachment process against the Governor on his own.

84. During her tenure, the Governor of Madhya Pradesh, a former politician, was found to have engaged in severe financial corruption while she served as a minister before her appointment as Governor. Evidence was presented to the State Legislative Assembly, and a resolution was passed for her impeachment. Concurrently, criminal proceedings for her past misconduct were also initiated by a local court. Can the Governor be impeached and face criminal proceedings based on her past misconduct?

- (a) Yes, the Governor can be impeached and face criminal proceedings since the misconduct occurred prior to her term as Governor.
- (b) No, the Governor cannot be impeached or face criminal proceedings as she has immunity from any criminal proceedings during her tenure.
- (c) Yes, the Governor can be impeached but cannot face criminal proceedings due to the immunity provided to her during her tenure.
- (d) No, the Governor cannot be impeached for past misconduct; impeachment can only occur for misconduct during her term as Governor.

85. The President of India is accused of accepting bribes from a foreign company in exchange for granting them a lucrative contract. A motion for impeachment is introduced in the Lok Sabha by the opposition party, but it is rejected by the Speaker on the grounds that it is frivolous and baseless. The opposition party challenges the Speaker's decision in the Supreme Court. Which of the following statements is correct?

- (a) The Supreme Court can intervene and direct the Speaker to admit the motion for impeachment.
- (b) The Supreme Court cannot intervene as the Speaker has the final authority to admit or reject a motion for impeachment.
- (c) The Supreme Court can intervene only if there is prima facie evidence of the President's involvement in the bribery case.
- (d) The Supreme Court cannot intervene as the President enjoys immunity from any criminal proceedings during his tenure.

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## ‘SECTION – IV: LOGICAL REASONING

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### PASSAGE 1

The role of the ‘Master of Roster’ started out as an administrative power of the Chief Justice of India (CJI), a first among equals (of his/her fellow judges) to designate benches to hear matters.

This power, vested in one individual, has the power to determine everything happening in this country. This is not an exaggeration: from what relationships are legal, to what governments must be allowed, to how should it govern, it controls our social lives in more ways than we can even imagine. Unlike other institutions under our constitution, which have checks and balances, this power does not appear to have any limitations. The late Shanti Bhushan, a doyen of the bar, had earlier tried to get the Supreme Court to limit the power of the CJI as the master of roster in *Shanti Bhushan vs Supreme Court of India* (2018), but in vain.

At least in the last five years, major controversies in the Supreme Court have begun with questionable use of this power by the CJI. Examples include the press conference by the four senior Supreme Court judges against the then sitting CJI Deepak Mishra, CJI Ranjan Gogoi presiding over a court that dealt with his own alleged harassment of a female employee, CJI U. Lalit's constituting an extraordinary bench on Saturday – a holiday for the court – to stay the former Delhi University professor G.N. Saibaba's discharge in a Maoist link case, and the recent use of power by the sitting CJI to review co-ordinate bench judgments.

While this power can be used appropriately too, glaring abuses are too hard to ignore. Recently, a new form of abuse of jurisdiction was seen in the Supreme Court, all traceable to the power of the master of roster, which harmlessly emanated on the administrative side, but soon converted itself into a destructive force on rule of law and stability of Supreme Court jurisprudence.

86. Based on the given text, which of the following statements would the author most likely agree with?
- (a) The power of the Master of Roster is a necessary administrative function that must be preserved in order to ensure the smooth functioning of the Supreme Court.
  - (b) The abuses of power by the Chief Justice of India in the exercise of the Master of Roster function threaten the rule of law and stability of Supreme Court jurisprudence.
  - (c) The late Shanti Bhushan's attempt to limit the power of the CJI as the Master of Roster in 2018 was a misguided effort that failed to take into account the importance of this function.
  - (d) The abuses of power by the Chief Justice of India in the exercise of the Master of Roster function are isolated incidents that do not pose a serious threat to the functioning of the Supreme Court.
87. What is the role of the 'Master of Roster' in the Supreme Court of India?
- (a) To assist the Chief Justice of India in administrative matters
  - (b) To control the social lives of people in India
  - (c) To determine the relationships that are legal and how the government should govern
  - (d) To designate benches to hear matters in the Supreme Court
88. Which of the following arguments is most similar in structure to the author's argument in the passage above about the unbridled power of the "Master of Roster" in the Supreme Court of India?
- (a) The CEO of a large corporation should have more oversight and accountability to prevent unethical practices within the company.
  - (b) The President of the United States should be limited in their ability to appoint judges to the Supreme Court to prevent abuse of power.
  - (c) The head of a household should have absolute control over all household decisions, including financial matters and the education of children.
  - (d) The mayor of a city should have more discretion in choosing which businesses receive tax breaks to promote economic growth.
89. How can we weaken the argument that the power of the 'Master of Roster' in the Supreme Court of India is unchecked and leads to abuses of jurisdiction?
- (a) The 'Master of Roster' system is common in many other countries and is not unique to India.
  - (b) The power of the 'Master of Roster' is essential for the smooth functioning of the Supreme Court and helps ensure that cases are heard efficiently.
  - (c) There are many instances where the power of the 'Master of Roster' has been used appropriately and has led to just outcomes in important cases.
  - (d) The Supreme Court has taken steps to limit the power of the 'Master of Roster' and ensure that it is not abused in the future.

90. Based on the given text, which of the following statements would strengthen the argument that the power of the master of roster needs to be limited in the Supreme Court of India?
- (a) The power of the master of roster has been limited in other democratic countries, which has led to a fairer and more transparent judicial system.
  - (b) The Supreme Court of India has faced severe criticism from both the legal community and the general public due to the questionable use of the master of roster power by the CJI.
  - (c) The master of roster power is necessary for the efficient functioning of the Supreme Court of India, and limiting it would result in delays and backlogs in the dispensation of justice.
  - (d) Both A and B.

## PASSAGE 2

India is set to become the most populous country in the world. Given strong links between developmental and demographic structures around the world, the population curse of the past has turned on its head to become a virtue for India. This scenario can be celebrated only when millions of children and young population receive modern education and associated technical skills which are in demand all across the world.

No wonder, that all states of India have begun to address issues of low enrolments and high dropout rates, especially for girl students. A recent strategy is the establishment of many 'Model High Schools' in Muslim neighbourhoods which has increased enrollments and continuation substantially. Such policies are examples of the 'best practices' of states. Yet it is the view of the authors that the educational outcomes of students from these schools are unsatisfactory to the extent that "a whole generation of students" are trapped in a low-quality schooling cycle system and barely equipped to compete in open labour markets.

Both the Union and state governments are investing in a system which targets a particular community group, or geographic area often based on social and geographic identities. This is akin to the 'separate but equal' logic transformed into 'equal but separate' public policy. The quota – reservations, structure of budgetary allocations and associated legal provisions – are all in this logical direction. For example, budgetary allocations and investments are underway in the creation of separate institutions and long-lasting bureaucratic institutions to 'target' the development of clearly identified marginalised and systemically excluded groups. Although these processes are not under any fixed legally backed quota system; rather, they are budgetary affirmative actions which can be manipulated at the whim and fancy of politicians and even bureaucrats at levels of implementation.

91. Based on the given passage, which of the following can be inferred?
- (a) The population growth in India is a curse that has turned into a virtue due to the high demand for technical skills in the world job market.
  - (b) Establishment of 'Model High Schools' in Muslim neighbourhoods has not helped in improving the educational outcomes of students.
  - (c) The Indian government has implemented a 'separate but equal' policy in order to target marginalized and excluded groups.
  - (d) Budgetary allocations and investments made towards marginalized and excluded groups in India are under a fixed legally backed quota system.
92. Which statement best captures the central idea of the passage?
- (a) India's growing population presents an opportunity for development, but education and technical skills are necessary for success.
  - (b) Muslim neighborhoods in India are receiving increased investment in education, but the resulting outcomes are unsatisfactory.
  - (c) Indian government policies for targeted development are akin to "separate but equal" logic, and can be manipulated by politicians.

(d) India's population growth presents both opportunities and challenges, and government policies for targeted development may not lead to equitable outcomes.

93. Based on the given text, which statement is the author most likely to agree with?
- (a) Investing in separate institutions to target marginalized and systemically excluded groups is a logical step towards achieving equal opportunities for all.
  - (b) The establishment of Model High Schools in Muslim neighborhoods has led to an increase in enrollments and continuation, but the educational outcomes of students from these schools are unsatisfactory.
  - (c) India's population growth is a curse that can only be transformed into a virtue if millions of children and young people receive modern education and associated technical skills.
  - (d) The educational outcomes of students from Model High Schools in Muslim neighborhoods are satisfactory, and they are well-equipped to compete in open labor markets.
94. Based on the given text, which of the following weakens the argument that the establishment of Model High Schools in Muslim neighborhoods is an example of "best practices" by states in India to address issues of low enrolments and high dropout rates?
- (a) The establishment of Model High Schools in Muslim neighborhoods has led to a significant increase in enrolments and continuation, which suggests that it is a successful initiative.
  - (b) The educational outcomes of students from Model High Schools in Muslim neighborhoods may not be unsatisfactory, as the data on student achievement and learning outcomes is not available.
  - (c) The investment in creating separate institutions to target the development of marginalized and systemically excluded groups is a necessary step towards achieving greater equality in education and opportunities.
  - (d) The establishment of Model High Schools in Muslim neighborhoods perpetuates the "separate but equal" logic of public policy, which has been historically proven to be ineffective and discriminatory.
95. In light of India's increasing population, the establishment of 'Model High Schools' in Muslim neighbourhoods has led to increased enrolments and continuation, but the educational outcomes of students are unsatisfactory, according to the authors. To strengthen this argument, which of the following statements would be most effective?
- (a) The 'separate but equal' policy was widely criticized for perpetuating inequality among different groups, and India's current policy of investing in a specific community group is no different.
  - (b) The creation of separate institutions and bureaucratic systems is a necessary step towards targeted development of marginalized and systemically excluded groups.
  - (c) Investing in modern education and technical skills is not enough to equip students for open labour markets; there should also be a focus on social and emotional learning.
  - (d) The quota system has been successful in improving the educational outcomes of students from marginalized communities, and should be extended to other groups as well.

### PASSAGE 3

While investments to construct and augment infrastructure appear virtuous policies, over three-quarters of teaching is done by untrained guest teachers. Labours are paid a meagre monthly salary, about 20% of what a trained teacher gets as monthly proceeds paid by the state government. At the institutional level, little if any effort is made to integrate such targeted groups of students into mainstream education and labour market systems. The essential as well as necessary requirement must be to make mainstream programmes and policies amenable, simple, open to all, and socially sensitive to ensure diversity in schools, colleges, universities and public and private labour markets.

The quality of education in exclusive school systems is low, and the outcome is rather unsatisfactory. It is of utmost importance to undertake a study on how to improve the quality of teachers and of teaching, which



must get reflected in the percentage of students passing the school-leaving examinations. Students at these high schools must also be provided with additional coaching and tuition, both through classrooms and online teaching by private tutors who are well-trained in pedagogy and subjects. The authors are of the view that across India, education policies must incentivise the Muslim and other marginalised communities to study in regular public and publicly-funded schools and colleges. This strategy also ensures inter-religious co-education which is essential to democratic and secular nation-building. Segregated schooling must be fought tooth and nail.

It is also noteworthy that no socio-religious community (SRC) data are published and shared at the level of colleges and universities nor are data on the implementation of annual quota reservations presented for open debates and deliberations. Diversity data publication is an internationally mandated policy in countries such as the US and the UK. It is common knowledge that diversity data is shared through institutional websites at the level of institutions such as high schools, colleges, universities, public bodies and the private corporate sector. It is high time to establish 'equal opportunity commissions' in every state and publish diversity – and quota – related data in education and employment. India must put in place legal, legislative and bureaucratic frameworks in this regard.

96. Which of the following arguments is most similar in structure to the author's argument in the given passage?
- (a) While fast food may be a convenient option for many people, it is important to prioritize consuming healthy and nutritious foods. Many fast food options are high in calories, sodium, and unhealthy fats, which can lead to health problems such as obesity and heart disease. Therefore, individuals should make an effort to cook and eat more balanced meals at home.
  - (b) While some people may believe that climate change is not a significant issue, the overwhelming scientific evidence supports the fact that it is a pressing global problem. The effects of climate change can be seen in rising sea levels, extreme weather patterns, and the loss of biodiversity. Therefore, it is crucial that individuals and governments take action to reduce carbon emissions and mitigate the impact of climate change.
  - (c) While some may argue that standardized testing is an effective way to measure student achievement, there is evidence to suggest that it is a flawed and inadequate method. Standardized tests do not take into account individual learning styles, and they often have cultural and socioeconomic biases. Therefore, it is important to develop alternative assessment methods that are more comprehensive and inclusive.
  - (d) While some may argue that social media is a valuable tool for communication and community-building, there is evidence to suggest that it can have negative effects on mental health and wellbeing. Social media use has been linked to increased rates of anxiety and depression, as well as decreased face-to-face social interaction. Therefore, individuals should make an effort to limit their social media use and prioritize in-person connections.
97. The conclusion of the argument above cannot be true unless which of the following is true?
- (a) There is a lack of well-trained teachers in exclusive school systems.
  - (b) Students from marginalized communities have limited access to regular public and publicly-funded schools and colleges.
  - (c) Segregated schooling leads to a decline in inter-religious co-education.
  - (d) The establishment of 'equal opportunity commissions' in every state will ensure the publication of diversity and quota-related data in education and employment.
98. Based on the given passage, which of the following options cannot be inferred from the text?

- (a) The quality of education in exclusive schools is low, and additional coaching and tuition are needed for students to pass school-leaving examinations.
- (b) The implementation of annual quota reservations is not transparently presented, and diversity data should be published at the level of institutions.
- (c) Segregated schooling should be promoted to encourage inter-religious co-education and ensure democratic and secular nation-building.
- (d) Equal opportunity commissions should be established in every state, and legal, legislative, and bureaucratic frameworks should be put in place to publish diversity and quota-related data in education and employment.

99. Based on the passage, which of the following options provides the strongest support for the author's argument that India must prioritize inclusivity and diversity in its education and labor market systems?
- (a) The majority of teachers in India are untrained and receive a low salary, making it difficult for them to provide quality education to their students.
  - (b) Students in exclusive school systems require additional coaching and tuition from private tutors to improve their academic performance.
  - (c) India should establish equal opportunity commissions in every state to ensure that diversity and quota-related data are published and shared across educational and employment institutions.
  - (d) Segregated schooling should be maintained to ensure that students from different socio-religious communities can learn in environments that reflect their cultural values and traditions.
100. In the given passage, it is suggested that India should establish 'equal opportunity commissions' in every state and publish diversity and quota related data in education and employment. Which of the following statements, if true, would weaken this argument?
- (a) The publication of diversity data has been shown to have little to no impact on improving the representation of marginalized communities in education and employment.
  - (b) The establishment of 'equal opportunity commissions' has been found to be ineffective in countries where it has been implemented, leading to a waste of resources.
  - (c) Providing additional coaching and tuition to students in exclusive school systems would be a more effective way to improve the quality of education and increase the percentage of students passing school-leaving examinations.
  - (d) Research has shown that students from marginalized communities are more likely to excel academically when they are educated in schools that are exclusively for their community.

#### **PASSAGE 4**

Article 142 provides a unique power to the Supreme Court, to do “complete justice” between the parties, where, at times, the law or statute may not provide a remedy. In those situations, the Court can extend itself to put an end to a dispute in a manner that would fit the facts of the case. In the *Prem Chand Garg* case, the majority opinion demarcated the contours for the exercise of the Court’s powers under Article 142(1) by saying that an order to do complete justice between the parties “must not only be consistent with the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution, but it cannot even be inconsistent with the substantive provisions of the relevant statutory laws,” referring to laws made by Parliament. “Therefore, we do not think it would be possible to hold that Art. 142(1) confers upon this Court powers which can contravene the provisions of Article 32 (right to constitutional remedies),” it said. The seven-judge bench in ‘*Antulay*’ upheld the 1962 ruling in ‘*Prem Chand Garg*.’ Notably, in the Bhopal gas tragedy case (‘*Union Carbide Corporation vs Union of India*’), the SC in 1991 ordered UCC to pay \$470 million in compensation for the victims of the tragedy. In doing so, the Bench highlighted the wide scope of Article 142 (1), adding that it found it “necessary to set at rest certain misconceptions in the arguments touching the scope of the powers of this Court under Article 142(1) of the Constitution”. Deeming the power under Article 142 to be “at an entirely different level and of a different quality”, the court clarified that “prohibitions or limitations on provisions contained in ordinary laws cannot, ipso-facto, act as prohibitions or limitations on the constitutional powers under Article 142”. Adding that it would be “wholly incorrect” to say that powers under Article 142 are subject to express statutory

prohibitions, the court reasoned that doing so would convey the idea that statutory provisions override a constitutional provision.

101. In light of the Supreme Court's unique power under Article 142 of the Indian Constitution to provide a remedy where the law or statute falls short, evaluate the following argument: "The Supreme Court's powers under Article 142(1) can contravene the provisions of Article 32 (right to constitutional remedies) and statutory laws made by Parliament." Which of the following options best evaluates this argument based on the given text?
- (a) The argument is completely true as seen in the 'Antulay' and Bhopal gas tragedy cases, where the court exercised its power under Article 142(1) to overrule statutory laws and the right to constitutional remedies.
  - (b) The argument is mostly true, but the Supreme Court's powers under Article 142(1) must still be consistent with fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution and cannot be completely inconsistent with statutory laws made by Parliament.
  - (c) The argument is false as Article 142(1) cannot contravene the provisions of Article 32 (right to constitutional remedies) or statutory laws made by Parliament, as clarified in the 'Prem Chand Garg' case.
  - (d) The argument is partly true as Article 142(1) can contravene the provisions of statutory laws made by Parliament, but not the right to constitutional remedies under Article 32
102. What is the central idea of the passage?
- (a) Article 142 grants the Supreme Court the power to ensure justice when laws or statutes do not provide a remedy. The exercise of the Court's powers must not contravene the provisions of Article 32, but statutory provisions cannot override a constitutional provision.
  - (b) The Supreme Court's power under Article 142(1) of the Constitution is limited to being consistent with the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution and cannot contravene substantive provisions of the relevant statutory laws.
  - (c) The Prem Chand Garg case demarcated the contours for the exercise of the Court's powers under Article 142(1), highlighting that the power to do complete justice must be consistent with fundamental rights and cannot be inconsistent with substantive provisions of relevant statutory laws.
  - (d) The Supreme Court's power under Article 142(1) of the Constitution is subject to express statutory prohibitions, which can limit the Court's constitutional powers.
103. In a recent court case, the Supreme Court utilized Article 142 to order compensation to be paid to victims of a major disaster. Based on this information, which of the following statements would best strengthen the argument that the power of Article 142 is an essential tool for the court to provide justice?
- (a) The Supreme Court has used Article 142 in numerous cases over the years to provide fair outcomes where statutes may fall short.
  - (b) Other countries have similar provisions in their constitutions, which have also been successfully used to provide justice where the law was insufficient.
  - (c) The legal community is divided on the power of Article 142, with some arguing that it undermines the separation of powers.
  - (d) The use of Article 142 is rare, with the Supreme Court only invoking it in extreme cases where justice cannot be achieved through other means.
104. Based on the given text, which of the following statements will not weaken the argument that Article 142 of the Indian Constitution provides a unique power to the Supreme Court to do "complete justice" between the parties?

- (a) Article 142(1) of the Indian Constitution should be strictly limited to the provisions of the relevant statutory laws made by Parliament.
- (b) The power under Article 142(1) of the Indian Constitution can only be used in rare cases where the law or statute does not provide a remedy.
- (c) In the Bhopal gas tragedy case, the Supreme Court's decision to order Union Carbide Corporation to pay \$470 million in compensation for the victims of the tragedy was inconsistent with the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution.
- (d) Theseven-judge bench in the Antulay case did not uphold the 1962 ruling in Prem Chand Garg and instead limited the Supreme Court's powers under Article 142(1) of the Indian Constitution.

105. What can be inferred from the passage regarding the Supreme Court's powers under Article 142(1)?

- (a) The Supreme Court's powers under Article 142(1) are limited to provisions contained in ordinary laws made by Parliament.
- (b) The Supreme Court's powers under Article 142(1) can contravene the provisions of Article 32 (right to constitutional remedies).
- (c) The Supreme Court's powers under Article 142(1) can extend to providing a remedy where the law or statute may not provide one.
- (d) The Supreme Court's powers under Article 142(1) are subject to express statutory prohibitions.

#### **PASSAGE 5**

One of the primary challenges that globalization has presented to labor law is the so-called “race to the bottom” in wages and working conditions. As companies have sought to reduce costs and increase profits, many have moved their production to countries with lower labor standards and fewer regulations. This has created an uneven playing field for workers in different parts of the world, with many being exploited and forced to work in unsafe and unfair conditions. To address this challenge, labor laws have had to become more international in scope. Countries around the world have worked together to establish common standards for labor rights and protections, such as the right to organize, the right to a minimum wage, and the right to safe working conditions. The International Labour Organization (ILO) has played a key role in promoting and enforcing these standards, and many countries have signed onto ILO conventions to ensure that their labor laws meet minimum international standards. Another challenge of globalization has been the proliferation of “offshore” employment relationships. Many companies have sought to avoid paying taxes and circumvent labor laws by outsourcing jobs to subcontractors or setting up shell companies in countries with lower taxes and weaker regulations. This has made it difficult for workers to demand their rights and protections, as they may not be employed directly by the company that benefits from their labor. To address this challenge, labor laws have had to become more sophisticated and to adapt to the new realities of global supply chains. Many countries have passed laws requiring companies to disclose information about their supply chains and to monitor the labor practices of their subcontractors. Other countries have adopted laws that hold companies liable for labor violations committed by their subcontractors, even if the violations occur in another country. These laws have helped to ensure that companies are held accountable for the labor practices of their suppliers and that workers are protected, regardless of where they are employed.

106. What is the primary challenge that globalization has presented to labor law, and how have labor laws adapted to this challenge?

- (a) The primary challenge of globalization is the shortage of skilled labor in developed countries, and labor laws have adapted by encouraging immigration of skilled workers to fill these gaps.

(b) The primary challenge of globalization is the lack of uniform labor standards across different countries, and labor laws have adapted by promoting competition between countries to raise labor standards.

(c) The primary challenge of globalization is the "race to the bottom" in wages and working conditions, and labor laws have adapted by becoming more international in scope, establishing common standards for labor rights and protections, and holding companies liable for labor violations committed by their subcontractors.

(d) The primary challenge of globalization is the difficulty of enforcing labor laws across international borders, and labor laws have adapted by focusing on cooperation between countries to exchange information, coordinate enforcement, and establish mechanisms for resolving cross-border disputes.

107. Based on the given passage, which of the following can be inferred about the challenges faced by labor laws in response to globalization?

(a) The International Labour Organization (ILO) has played a key role in promoting and enforcing common standards for labor rights and protections around the world, but not all countries have signed onto ILO conventions.

(b) One of the primary challenges of globalization for labor laws is the proliferation of "offshore" employment relationships, which has made it difficult for workers to demand their rights and protections.

(c) Many countries have passed laws requiring companies to monitor the labor practices of their subcontractors, but these laws have not been effective in holding companies liable for labor violations committed by their suppliers.

(d) The challenges of globalization have necessitated that labor laws become more international in scope and sophisticated in order to address the exploitation of workers and the circumvention of labor laws by companies.

108. What is the central idea of the passage regarding globalization's impact on labor law?

(a) Globalization has led to the exploitation of workers in countries with lower labor standards, resulting in an uneven playing field for workers worldwide.

(b) The International Labour Organization has played a key role in promoting and enforcing labor standards around the world to address the challenges of globalization.

(c) Many companies have sought to avoid paying taxes and circumvent labor laws by outsourcing jobs to countries with lower taxes and weaker regulations, making it difficult for workers to demand their rights and protections.

(d) Labor laws have become more sophisticated and adapted to the new realities of global supply chains by requiring companies to disclose information about their supply chains and to monitor the labor practices of their subcontractors, even if the violations occur in another country.

109. One of the primary challenges that globalization has presented to labor law is the "race to the bottom" in wages and working conditions. Which of the following options, if true, would strengthen the argument and help address this challenge?

(a) The vast majority of multinational corporations have agreed to voluntarily comply with International Labor Organization (ILO) conventions, which set common standards for labor rights and protections.

(b) The World Trade Organization (WTO) has imposed significant penalties on countries that fail to uphold minimum international labor standards, creating a powerful incentive for governments to protect workers' rights.

(c) Research shows that companies that prioritize labor rights and fair working conditions often perform better financially than those that do not, suggesting that respecting workers' rights is not only ethical but also good for business.

(d) Many countries have adopted laws that require companies to provide living wages to workers, which can help to reduce the economic pressures that drive the "race to the bottom" and promote more equitable global labor practices.

110. One of the primary challenges presented by globalization is the "race to the bottom" in wages and working conditions, which has created an uneven playing field for workers. Labor laws have become more international in scope to address this issue. However, there is a possibility that such laws may have unintended consequences. Which of the following could be a potential unintended consequence of labor laws becoming more international in scope?
- (a) Labor laws could create more bureaucracy and red tape, making it harder for businesses to operate efficiently.
  - (b) International labor laws could harm the economies of developing countries by forcing them to comply with costly regulations.
  - (c) International labor laws could lead to a decrease in the number of jobs available in countries with higher labor standards, as companies move to countries with lower standards.
  - (d) International labor laws could cause a decrease in the competitiveness of businesses, leading to decreased profits and potentially even bankruptcy.

**Directions for Q. 111 to 115: Study the given information carefully to answer the questions.**

In a class of 60 students, the ratio of boys to girls is 3:2. They all participated in a quiz competition and the ratio of boys to girls who answered correctly is 2:3. The number of girls who answered correctly is twice the number of boys who answered incorrectly.

111. How many boys are there in the class?  
(a) 20 (b) 24 (c) 36 (d) 40
112. How many girls answered correctly?  
(a) 12 (b) 16 (c) 20 (d) 24
113. How many boys answered incorrectly?  
(a) 8 (b) 12 (c) 16 (d) 20
114. What is the ratio of girls who answered incorrectly to boys who answered incorrectly?  
(a) 1:1 (b) 1:2 (c) 0:1 (d) 3:1
115. How many students answered correctly?  
(a) 24 (b) 36 (c) 48 (d) 60

**Directions for Q. 116 to 120: Study the given information carefully to answer the questions.**

In a hostel, there are 200 students. The ratio of boys to girls is 4:1. If 10% of the boys and 20% of the girls are on leave, then:

116. How many boys are there in the hostel (at present)?  
(a) 100 (b) 120 (c) 140 (d) 144
117. How many girls are on leave?  
(a) 10 (b) 8 (c) 12 (d) 14
118. What is the total number of students in the hostel who are not on leave?  
(a) 176 (b) 184 (c) 186 (d) 188
119. What is the ratio of boys to girls who are not on leave?  
(a) 3:1 (b) 4:1 (c) 18:1 (d) 9:2
120. If 5% more boys go on leave, how many boys would be in the hostel?  
(a) 148 (b) 136 (c) 152 (d) 154