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(in Figures)



INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES

Duration of Test - 120 Minutes

Maximum Marks : 120

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

1
STATE
RANK



AMAN PATIDAR
NLSIU Bengaluru
AIR 14
Vidhigya Classroom Student

If I Can ! So Can You!

I am Aman patidar, an exclusive student of Vidigya CLAT Tutorials. We were given over a hundred mocks by Vidigya and they were strikingly similar to the actual CLAT. I gave all of them religiously and analysed them thoroughly which helped me a lot in my preparation. We were confident of having covered all the varieties of questions with varied difficulties level. I am grateful to the team at Vidigya for compiling such comprehensive mocks. I would surely recommend them to all the CLAT aspirants.

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— Celebrating 10 Years of Success — CLAT 2023



STATE RANK
6TH
TUSHAR SHARMA
2 years Vidhigya Offline Classroom Program Student
The Shishukunj International School, Indore
AIR 79

5TH
AILET
STATE
RANK



STATE RANK
2ND
SAKSHAM AGRAWAL
1 year Vidhigya Offline Classroom Program Student
Sri Sathya Sai Vidya Vihar School, Indore
AIR 18

1ST
AILET
STATE
RANK



STATE RANK
5TH
MRIDUL KOTHARI
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SICA School, Scheme 78, Indore
AIR 73

3RD
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STATE
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CLAT 2024

Question Paper with Answers & Explanations

Section A-English

Passage-I

Leaving the Metropolitan Museum of Art, I submit to the crowd on the sidewalk, keeping its erratic pace as I take a left onto Fifth Avenue and walk four blocks to catch the 5 train downtown toward Brooklyn. When the doors of the train slide closed, I catch sight of my reflection in the window. I let my hair fall over my left eye and observe how the bulk of my coat erases my curvy hips and D-cup breasts. With my new Prohibition haircut, in my jeans and engineer boots, I can almost believe I've taken on the male form.

It's still a bit jarring. For the last few years, I've been erring on the side of female. On the train, however, somewhere on the border of real life, where everyone's a stranger and I can hide inside my coat, it's easier to let myself slip. At the next stop, a seat opens. I sit, leaning back, widening my legs like men do. A woman across the way looks at me and, feeling emboldened, I wink. When she smiles, I look away, horrified by my transgression, my hands already on my bangs, sweeping them to the side.

Back at my apartment, as I zip Jae into my dress, I'm impressed by how easily he wears it, how much he never seems to care what people think. He primps in front of the mirror while Lukas looks on, amused—or perhaps interested—and I rummage through Lukas's half of the closet, looking for something that will work for me. Trying on the second of his two button-up shirts, I study myself in the mirror and don't know what's worse: that I feel like a weird, misshapen man or a woman playing dress-up. Meanwhile, Lukas is helping Jae pick out makeup colors. Even though Lukas won't go out dressed like a woman, he's always eager for an excuse to get into makeup at home, as long as it's around people he trusts. He looks happy helping Jae. And I should be glad to see them having fun, but my heart feels suddenly heavy. I've been avoiding Lukas all day, worried he'll notice me brooding about yet another thing I can't shake off. Earlier this week I tagged along to a party he was working at the Manhattan New Music Project, a reception for a local musician who'd won some indie award. While Lukas and I have become too practiced in our impression of a heterosexual couple—there I was in my black dress with the white collar and high-heeled Mary Janes, he in his button-up and tie—the musician still sashayed flamboyantly straight to Lukas. For most of the night, his hand was living it up on Lukas's shoulder, and me, I may as well have not been there. Lately I've been missing when our love was easy. When the only way his touch felt was right.

Source: ENDPAPERS, Literary Hub Excerpts, Feb 8, 2023.

1. Based on the passage, which of the following can be inferred about the author's views on gender expression and identity?

- (a) Gender is a rigid construct with distinct boundaries that individuals should adhere to.
- (b) Gender is flexible and individuals should experiment with their expressions without fear of judgment.
- (c) The author doesn't believe in the concept of gender and advocates for a genderless society.
- (d) The author views gender expression as a trivial matter, unimportant to one's identity.

2. What, according to the author, is essential about the experience of being able to explore gender expression?

- (a) It provides the ability to explore gender expression with a sense of liberty and an opportunity to understand oneself better.
- (b) It allows one to defy societal norms and create chaos which expresses oneself better.
- (c) It's essential only when it is used as a tool for attracting attention and making a statement.
- (d) It helps one to gain popularity and acceptance in the society.

3. What use was the author's coat to her in the passage?

- (a) The coat was an expression of her high fashion sense.
- (b) The coat served as a means to hide her traditionally feminine features.
- (c) The coat was used to shield the author from the cold weather.
- (d) The coat was an unwanted gift that she felt obligated to wear.

4. "In my jeans and engineer boots, I can almost believe I've taken on the male form." In elaboration of this sentence, which of the following options follows?

- (a) The author is attempting to disguise herself as a man for a specific event.
- (b) The author feels comfortable and authentic when presenting as masculine.
- (c) The author is preparing for a theatrical performance where she will portray a male character.
- (d) The author uses masculine attire as a form of protest against gender norms.

5. "Back at my apartment, as I zip Jae into my dress, I'm impressed by how easily he wears it, how much he never seems to care what people think." This sentence implies that:

- (a) The author admires Jae's confidence and lack of concern for societal judgment.
- (b) Jae is a professional crossdresser who makes a living out of this.
- (c) The author feels inferior to Jae because she can't wear dresses with the same ease.
- (d) Jae is reckless and doesn't think about the consequences of his actions.

Passage-II

Off the field, artificial intelligence is supercharging cricket analysis. Algorithms process mountains of historic data to arrive at certain outcomes and learn to assess bigger, more complex problems. This means quicker analyses and more accurate projections than any human can manage. But on field, in real time, the player has one main job. For a batter, that's to strike the ball and pile up the runs. Spektacom, a company co-founded by former Indian Test captain Anil Kumble in 2017, makes technology that ultimately wants to help batters find the sweet spot on their bat. This basic function was the starting point for Spektacom's PowerBat. It's an ultra-light sticker, weighing less than five grams, that is stuck to the bottom of the bat. What's new? Well, the sticker has a bunch of MEMS sensors that pick up which part of the bat was used to strike the ball. With that piece of detail, the PowerBat scours the information it's already been fed, and produces a set of data that can lead to actionable insights. This comprehensive mathematical profile of a player's batting technique—including information about power, swing, angles, speed—is then visualised in clean graphics on the PowerBat app. If that sounds like a lot to take in, it's actually not. As Priyank Panchal attests, a bat with the PowerBat sticker looks and feels like any other you've seen with logos and designs. Panchal plays for Gujarat and is also associated with the new Indian Premier League franchise from the state, the Gujarat Titans. (The IPL is the world's glitziest T20 tournament.) He has been working with Spektacom, offering feedback on two generations of the PowerBat. Panchal was dealing with a specific problem with his technique when he first came across the PowerBat.

He wanted to maintain consistency on his backlift. In traditional cricketing wisdom, a higher backlift can generate more power in a shot. But too high, and you could struggle to get your bat down in time against pace bowling. "When you are batting in front of coaches, they say with emotion—play like this, play like that," Panchal says. It was challenging for him to internalise what he considered vague instructions. On the Powerbat App, he saw his game reduced to cold, hard numbers: his backlift on each ball was expressed as an angle. That made a lot of difference. "After two-three sessions," he says, "I was consciously putting an effort because the data told me." It was a surprisingly simple switch for Panchal who is interested in artificial intelligence and thinks deeply about technology changing the game. "I wanted that data in front of me. I rely on data, not on the emotional part of someone." Now, he's even put a percentage figure to how much his game has improved: 10-15 percent. "If it had been 1-2 percent," he adds, "I would have taken that too."

Source: 'Out of the Park' by Amal Shiyas, Fifty Two

6. According to the passage, what was the main motivation for Priyank Panchal to use the PowerBat sticker?

- (a) To improve his backlift consistency (b) To increase his batting power
(c) To analyze his swing angles (d) To visualize his batting technique

7. Based on the passage, what can be inferred about the role of artificial intelligence in cricket analysis?

- (a) Artificial intelligence has revolutionized cricket analysis by providing quicker and more accurate projections than humans.
(b) Artificial intelligence has made cricket analysis more complex and difficult to understand.
(c) Artificial intelligence is primarily focused on helping batters find the sweet spot on their bat.
(d) Artificial intelligence has replaced human coaches in providing instructions to players.

8. Which of the following categories best describes the piece of writing?

- (a) A scientific research paper on the application of artificial intelligence in cricket analysis.
(b) A promotional article for Spektacom's PowerBat technology.
(c) A personal testimonial of a cricketer's experience using the PowerBat sticker.
(d) A critical analysis of the limitations of artificial intelligence in cricket.

9. Which of the following words from the passage means the opposite of 'vague'?

- (a) Glitziest (b) Consciously (c) Elaboration (d) Cold

10. What can be inferred about the author's views on relying on data versus emotional guidance in cricket?

- (a) The author believes that relying on data is essential for improvement in cricket.
(b) The author suggests that emotional guidance from coaches is more effective than relying on data.
(c) The author believes that a balance between data and emotional guidance is necessary for success in cricket.
(d) The author implies that relying on data removes the need for emotional guidance in cricket.

Passage-III

There was a black cloud, and hard rain. The puddles were yellow and green, like someone had poured paint into them. They said it was dust from the flowers. Grandma made us stay in the cellar. She got down on her knees and prayed. And she taught us, too. "Pray! It's the end of the world. It's God's punishment for our sins." My brother was eight and I was six. We started remembering our sins. He broke the glass can with the raspberry jam, and I didn't tell my mom that I'd got my new dress caught on a fence and

it ripped. I hid it in the closet. Soldiers came for us in cars. I thought the war had started. They were saying these things: “deactivation,” “isotopes.” One soldier was chasing after a cat. The dosimeter was working on the cat like an automatic: click, click. A boy and a girl were chasing the cat, too. The boy was all right, but the girl kept crying, “I won’t give him up!” She was yelling: “Run away, run little girl!” But the soldier had a big plastic bag.

I heard – the adults were talking – Grandma was crying – since the year I was born [1986], there haven’t been any boys or girls born in our village. I’m the only one. The doctors said I couldn’t be born. But my mom ran away from the hospital and hid at Grandma’s. So I was born at Grandma’s. I heard them talking about it. I don’t have a brother or sister. I want one. Tell me, lady, how could it be that I wouldn’t be born? Where would I be? High in the sky? On another planet?

The sparrows disappeared from our town in the first year after the accident. They were lying around everywhere – in the yards, on the asphalt. They’d be raked up and taken away in the containers with the leaves. They didn’t let people burn the leaves that year, because they were radioactive, so they buried the leaves. The sparrows came back two years later. We were so happy, we were calling to each other: “I saw a sparrow yesterday! They’re back.” The May bugs also disappeared, and they haven’t come back. Maybe they’ll come back in a hundred years or a thousand. That’s what our teacher says. I won’t see them. September first, the first day of school, and there wasn’t a single flower. The flowers were radioactive. Before the beginning of the year, the people working weren’t masons, like before, but soldiers. They mowed the flowers, took off the earth and took it away somewhere in cars with trailers.

In a year they evacuated all of us and buried the village. My father’s a cab driver, he drove there and told us about it. First they’d tear a big pit in the ground, five meters deep. Then the firemen would come up and use their hoses to wash the house from its roof to its foundation, so that no radioactive dust gets kicked up. They wash the windows, the roof, the door, all of it. Then a crane drags the house from its spot and puts it down into the pit. There’s dolls and books and cans all scattered around. The excavator picks them up. Then it covers everything with sand and clay, leveling it. And then instead of a village, you have an empty field. They sowed our land with corn. Our house is lying there, and our school and our village council office. My plants are there and two albums of stamps, I was hoping to bring them with me. Also I had a bike.

I’m twelve years old and I’m an invalid. The mailman brings two pension checks to our house – for me and my granddad. When the girls in my class found out that I had cancer of the blood, they were afraid to sit next to me. They didn’t want to touch me. The doctors said that I got sick because my father worked at Chernobyl. And after that I was born. I love my father. They came for my father at night. I didn’t hear how he got packed,

I was asleep. In the morning I saw my mother was crying. She said, “Papa’s in Chernobyl now.” We waited for him like he was at the war. He came back and started going to the factory again. He didn’t tell us anything. At school I bragged to everyone that my father just came back from Chernobyl, that he was a liquidator, and the liquidators were the ones who helped clean up after the accident. They were heroes. All the boys were jealous. A year later he got sick. We walked around in the hospital courtyard – this was after his second operation – and that was the first time he told me about Chernobyl.

Excerpt from *Voices from Chernobyl* by Svetlana Alexievich, Nobel Prize laureate in literature 2015

11. Which of the following can be deduced as the main topic of the passage?

- (a) The narrator’s experience during a war.
- (b) The effects of a radioactive contamination on wildlife.
- (c) The narrator’s childhood memories of playing with friends.
- (d) The emotional and physical impacts of the Chernobyl accident.

12. Why does the author mention disappearance of sparrows and May bugs in the passage?

- (a) To highlight the beauty of local wildlife before the accident.
- (b) To emphasize the need for environmental clean-up after the accident.
- (c) To illustrate the long-lasting effects of radioactive contamination.
- (d) To contrast the different responses of animals to the accident.

13. What can be inferred about the narrator’s feelings towards their father’s role as a “liquidator”?

- (a) The narrator feels proud of his father’s heroic efforts.
- (b) The narrator is critical of his father for working at Chernobyl.
- (c) The narrator is afraid of his father due to his connection to the accident.
- (d) The narrator is confused about his father’s role at Chernobyl.

14. What figurative language is used to describe the dosimeter’s effect on the cat in the passage?

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

Passage-IV

The camera zooms in on the person’s arm to reveal the cells, then a cell nucleus. A DNA strand grows on the screen. The camera focuses on a single atom within the strand, dives into a frenetic cloud of rocketing particles, crosses it, and leaves us in oppressive darkness. An initially imperceptible tiny dot grows smoothly, revealing the atomic nucleus. The narrator lectures that the nucleus of an atom is tens of thousands of times

smaller than the atom itself, and poetically concludes that we are made from emptiness. How often have you seen such a scene or read something equivalent to it in popular science? I am sure plenty, if you are fans of this genre like me. However, the narrative is wrong. Atomic nuclei in a molecule are not tiny dots, and there are no empty spaces within the atom.

Most of the mass of an atom is in its nucleus; the electrons are by comparison just clouds of moving fluff. Atoms are mainly empty space. Matter is composed chiefly of nothing. I still remember how deeply these words spoke to me when I heard them as a kid in the early 1980s. Today, as a professional theoretical chemist, I know that Sagan's statements failed to recognise some fundamental features of atoms and molecules. Yet his reasoning is still influential. While preparing this essay, I ran a poll on Twitter asking whether people agreed with Sagan's quote above. Of the 180 voters, 43 per cent answered that they mostly agreed, and 27 per cent fully agreed. Google 'atoms empty space', and you will find tens of essays, blog posts and YouTube videos concluding that atoms are 99.9 per cent empty space.

To be fair, you will also find a reasonable share of articles debunking the idea. Misconceptions feeding the idea of the empty atom can be dismantled by carefully interpreting quantum theory, which describes the physics of molecules, atoms and subatomic particles. According to quantum theory, the building blocks of matter – like electrons, nuclei and the molecules they form – can be portrayed either as waves or particles. Leave them to evolve by themselves without human interference, and they act like delocalised waves in the shape of continuous clouds. On the other hand, when we attempt to observe these systems, they appear to be localised particles, something like bullets in the classical realm. But accepting the quantum predictions that nuclei and electrons fill space as continuous clouds has a daring conceptual price: it implies that these particles do not vibrate, spin or orbit. They inhabit a motionless microcosmos where time only occasionally plays a role. Most problems surrounding the description of the sub molecular world come from frustrated attempts to reconcile conflicting pictures of waves and particles, leaving us with inconsistent chimeras such as particle-like nuclei surrounded by wave-like electrons. This image doesn't capture quantum theory's predictions. To compensate, our conceptual reconstruction of matter at the sub molecular level should consistently describe how nuclei and electrons behave when not observed – like the proverbial sound of a tree falling in the forest without anyone around. <https://aeon.co/essays/why-the-empty-atom-picture-misunderstands-quantum-theory>

15. What is the main idea conveyed in the passage?

- (a) It explores the visual representations and misconceptions about the size and composition of atomic nuclei and atoms.
- (b) The passage discusses the history of quantum theory and its influence on the perception of atoms.
- (c) The passage highlights the accuracy of Carl Sagan's description of atomic nuclei.
- (d) The passage argues that the atoms are indeed 99.9% empty space, contrary to common misconceptions.

16. Which of the following would be an appropriate title of the passage?

- (a) "Quantum Theory's Impact on Atomic Misconceptions"
- (b) "The Evolution of atomic Understanding since the 1980s"
- (c) "Carl Sagan's influence on Modern Science Narratives"
- (d) "The Static Nature of Sub molecular Particles"

17. What is the author's opinion regarding the portrayal of atoms as discussed in the passage?

- (a) The author believes that the portrayal of atoms in popular science is entirely accurate.
- (b) The author agrees with Carl Sagan's description of atoms as mostly empty space.
- (c) The author disagrees with popular sciences' portrayal of atoms and emphasizes the need for accurate interpretation.
- (d) The author supports the idea that atoms are composed solely of localized particles.

18. According to the passage, why is the concept of "empty atom" a misconception?

- (a) Atoms are mostly composed of continuous clouds of electrons and nuclei.
- (b) Atoms are entirely devoid of any matter or particles.
- (c) Carl Sagan's influence led to the misconception of empty atoms.
- (d) Quantum theory does not provide a clear description of atomic composition.

19. What genre does the passage belong to?

- (a) Mystery
- (b) Science Fiction
- (c) Popular Science
- (d) Historical Fiction

Passage-V

Malignant discrimination remains a problem in society, but it's one we've improved upon compared to its historic highs—or, rather, lows. Interracial marriage, to pick one example of progress, used to be considered taboo among Americans. Both Gallup and Pew Research Centre surveys have found that Americans of all ethnicities increasingly support marriage between people of different races. When discussing prejudice, examples like interracial marriage taboos are often what we consider. That's partly

because such malign examples are easy to define, observe, and censure. It's also because we can demonstrate definitive, though not finalized, progress, an earned feather in humanity's cap.

But there are other, more subtle forms of discrimination that we must work to limit in our society and organizations. Benign discrimination is an act that subtly, not even consciously, reinforces a stereotype or prejudice because of someone's association with a particular group or characteristic. Breanna provides the consequential example of men who talk over women and assume male priority. Such actions discriminate against colleagues by suggesting, while not outright stating, that women co-workers are incompetent, out of their element, or should be deferential to male co-workers. Such behaviour can have many adverse effects, from injuring the woman's self-confidence to building a culture that favours dominance over congenial collaboration. Of course, as with any psychological phenomenon, it cuts both ways. Men can and do face benign discrimination at work, too. Research has shown that men who exhibit modesty and humility are viewed as less competent than similarly modest women. While others have shown that men who request family leave are viewed as poorer workers and less recommended for promotion, again compared to women who request the same leave. The underpinning of benign discrimination is unconscious bias (a.k.a. implicit bias). Implicit bias is the prejudice and stereotypes we develop without intending to do so. They manifest in our personal histories, cultural backgrounds, work experiences, political leanings, our tastes in hobbies and pastimes, and the ideologies that we form and commit ourselves to.

And because those qualities are part of all our lives, we all have unconscious biases. Unfortunately, we can't exorcise our unconscious biases like some extra-spiritual demon, but we can take steps to limit their effects in our interactions, mannerisms, and conscious thoughts. We need to speak up when we witness benign discrimination in action. Similarly, we need to be receptive when someone points out potential problems in our actions. Education is a two-way street. We can't help others improve if we won't let them help us. That commitment requires a culture of trust, understanding, and a willingness to be open and vulnerable. When helping others, our goal should not be a moral win in a social competition. This isn't WWE smackdown—or, worse, Twitter. No need for the office version of pyrotechnics and bombastic anthems as you call out your opponent. As Breanna notes, a gentle reminder is appropriate and can defuse a potentially harmful situation. Nor should we feel attacked when someone gently reminds us. As mentioned, we all have unconscious biases that can slip to the conscious surface. Someone pointing it out can help us identify it in future interactions.

<https://bigthink.com/plus/want-to-be-a-better-ally-heres-how-to-help-your-colleagues-overcome-subtle-prejudice/>

20. What is one reason why examples of interracial marriage taboos are often discussed when addressing prejudice?

- (a) Because interracial marriage is becoming more common.
- (b) Because such examples are easy to observe and censure.
- (c) Because they are the most severe form of discrimination.
- (d) Because they are the only form of discrimination that exists.

21. Why is it important to cultivate a culture of trust and receptiveness in addressing benign discrimination?

- (a) To engage in a moral win in social competition.
- (b) To encourage office pyrotechnics and bombastic anthems.
- (c) To create an environment where individuals can openly point out potential problems.
- (d) To promote a culture of dominance over congenial collaboration.

22. What is the primary purpose of discussing both malignant and benign discrimination in the passage?

- (a) To highlight the prevalence of discrimination in society.
- (b) To emphasize the need for strict punishment of discriminatory behaviour.
- (c) To demonstrate the progress made in addressing certain forms of discrimination.
- (d) To encourage individuals to get rid of their unconscious biases.

23. Which of the following can be rightfully concluded from the passage?

- (a) All forms of discrimination have been completely eliminated in society.
- (b) Benign discrimination is more severe and harmful than malignant discrimination.
- (c) It is important to address unconscious biases and foster open dialogue.
- (d) Discrimination should be met with eagerness and confrontation.

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

- (a) Humility and modesty are differently regarded in men and women.
- (b) A potentially harmful situation needs not a gentle reminder from others.
- (c) We unintentionally develop prejudices that are then reflected in our ideologies and preferences.
- (d) All of the above

Section B-Current Affairs with GK

Passage-I

In a display of resolute assertion, the Chinese government has unveiled the "2023 edition of the standard map of China." This cartographic rendition unflinchingly incorporates the entire expanse of the State of Arunachal Pradesh and the Aksai Chin region within China's sovereign borders. The Ministry of Natural Resources is the herald of this new map, underlining its official imprimatur. This audacious move comes on the heels of Beijing's pronouncement in April, articulating its intent to homogenize the

nomenclature of 11 specific locales in Arunachal Pradesh. Among these is a township in close proximity to the heart of Arunachal Pradesh's administration, Itanagar. Evidently, this marks the third iteration of China's endeavour to recalibrate toponyms in Arunachal Pradesh. This calculated maneuver is widely construed as a retaliatory countermeasure to India's Pre-G-20 summit activities hosted in this very state—an initiative to which Beijing had vehemently voiced its dissent. The looming G-20 summit, slated for September 9-10 in New Delhi, is poised to witness the presence of none other than the Chinese President Xi Jinping himself. The 2023 map's release synchronizes with what China designates as the "National Mapping Awareness Publicity Week."

25. When did the concept of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) officially recognised?

- (a) 1987 (b) 1993 (c) 1996 (d) 2000

26. What was the official title of the agreement that led to the demarcation of the McMahon Line?

- (a) Agreement between Tibet and Great Britain
(b) Treaty of Lhasa
(c) Convention between Great Britain, China, and Tibet
(d) Accord of the Eastern Himalayas

27. Which line proposed Aksai Chin under India's control in 1865?

- (a) McDonald Line (b) McMohan Line (c) Johnson's line (d) Durand line

28. Among the following, which region was NOT considered one of the "five fingers" in China's Five Fingers Policy?

- (a) Sikkim (b) Arunachal Pradesh
(c) Bhutan (d) Assam

29. The 'nine-dash line' is one of many names for a controversial Chinese maritime claim in the South China Sea. Which gulf's portion was removed from China's territorial claims to create the nine-dash line?

- (a) Gulf of Thailand (b) Gulf of Aden (c) Gulf of Oman (d) Gulf of Tonkin

Passage-II

The Ministry of Jal Shakti, specifically the Department of Water Resources, River Development, and Ganga Rejuvenation, has unveiled a comprehensive report detailing the findings of the 6th minor irrigation scheme census. This census reveals a notable surge of approximately 1.42 million minor irrigation schemes compared to the previous survey. The catalogue of groundwater schemes encompasses various types such as dug wells, dug-cum-bore wells, as well as shallow, medium, and deep tube wells. Complementary to these, the assortment of surface water schemes encompasses both surface flow schemes and surface lift irrigation schemes. Surface flow schemes,

encompassing structures like tanks and check-dams, play a dual role in conserving water and facilitating groundwater recharge. These schemes effectively serve as a hybrid solution to water-related challenges. Conversely, surface lift schemes find their utility in regions where the terrain impedes direct river or stream irrigation. In such areas, the mechanism involves raising water to irrigation channels. Notably, around 60.2% of these schemes are sustained by a single source of funding, while the remaining 39.8% acquire financial support from multiple sources. Within the purview of singular financing, the majority of schemes (79.5%) are sustained through the personal savings of individual farmers. Other significant financial resources include bank loans (6.9%), government funds (4%), and contributions from money lenders (1.3%).

30. What are the criteria for categorizing irrigation structures as Minor Irrigation (MI) schemes?

- (a) They must be exclusively based on ground water sources (nearly 45%)
- (b) They should have a Culturable Command Area (CCA) exceeding 2,000 ha
- (c) They need to be part of large-scale river development projects
- (d) They should primarily use water from major reservoirs

31. How many minor irrigation schemes are reported in the census on minor irrigation schemes for India?

- (a) 23.14 million
- (b) 21.93 million
- (c) 1.21 million
- (d) 5.2 million

32. Which Indian state holds the highest count of Minor Irrigation (MI) schemes?

- (a) Telangana
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Madhya Pradesh
- (d) Tamil Nadu

33. In which category of minor irrigation schemes is the dominance of private ownership more pronounced?

- (a) Surface Water Schemes
- (b) Ground Water Schemes
- (c) Public Ownership Schemes
- (d) Individually Owned Schemes

34. How many States and Union Territories (UTs) participated in the 6th minor irrigation census?

- (a) 30
- (b) 32
- (c) 29
- (d) 28

Passage-III

The leaders of the BRICS nations, namely Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, have collectively opted to amplify the scope of the consortium by inviting additional nations into its fold. During a joint press interaction held in Johannesburg, where leaders of different countries were present, it was announced that a unanimous decision

had been reached concerning the inaugural phase of the BRICS expansion endeavour. The determination regarding the new entrants into the consortium was reached subsequent to the establishment of comprehensive guidelines, criteria, and procedures, which were meticulously solidified. Notably, a total of approximately 23 nations have formally expressed their intent to seek membership within the consortium. India has consistently and wholeheartedly endorsed this expansion initiative, recognizing its potential to enhance the resilience and efficacy of the BRICS collective.

35. What was the central theme of the 15th BRICS summit?

- (a) Advancing Global Economic Powerhouses with Africa
- (b) "Economic Cooperation Amidst Pandemic"
- (c) "BRICS: A Path to International Diplomacy"
- (d) "BRICS and Africa: Partnership for Mutually Accelerated Growth, Sustainable Development and Inclusive Multilateralism"

36. Which one among the following did not attend the BRICS summit?

- (a) Brazil- President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva
- (b) Russia – President Vladimir Putin
- (c) China– President Xi Jinping
- (d) SA– President Cyril Ramaphosa

37. What decision did the BRICS leaders make in relation to the grouping?

- (a) To dissolve the BRICS alliance
- (b) To admit five new members and focus on internal trade
- (c) To expand the grouping and admit six new members
- (d) To focus on internal trade among the current members

38. Which country is NOT among the six new members set to join BRICS?

- (a) Saudi Arabia (b) Iraq (c) Iran (d) UAE

39. What is the current percentage of the global population represented by BRICS?

- (a) 41% (b) 54% (c) 60% (d) 35%

Passage-IV

NCERT, standing as a formidable institution, has asserted its prominence in the realm of research and actively influenced the spheres of school education, teacher training, and adult literacy. The envisioned transformation of NCERT into a research university holds the promise of fostering international collaborations and making valuable contributions to the global educational landscape. Furthermore, Education Minister Mr. Pradhan, during a inaugural ceremony, presided over the unveiling of three pioneering laboratories. Among these notable additions were a laboratory dedicated to the realm of virtual reality education and another focusing on teacher training. In his address, he

expounded upon the primary objectives that underscore NCERT's mission. These objectives encompass the undertaking, promotion, and coordination of research in domains closely intertwined with school education. Additionally, NCERT is vested with the responsibility of crafting and disseminating model textbooks, supplementary materials, newsletters, scholarly journals, and the development of educational kits and multimedia digital resources, among other pursuits of educational significance.

40. Recently what status has been granted to the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) by the Ministry of Higher Education?

- (a) Institute of National importance
- (b) Deemed-to-be-university status
- (c) Research institute status
- (d) None of the above

41. How does 'Deemed to be University' status impact the autonomy of an educational institution?

- (a) It doesn't affect autonomy
- (b) It grants autonomy in terms of examinations only
- (c) It depends on the specific institution
- (d) It grants autonomy in terms of program introduction, course structure, examinations, and management.

42. When was the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) established?

- (a) 1951
- (b) 1961
- (c) 1971
- (d) 1981

43. Who has the authority to declare an Institution of Higher Education, other than universities, as an Institution 'Deemed-to-be-university'?

- (a) State government on advice of CBSE
- (b) Central government on advice of University Grants Commission (UGC)
- (c) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) on advice of state government
- (d) Ministry of Education on advice of Central government

44. The education minister informed that NCERT will be developing educational material in all 22 languages. Which software tools will be used by NCERT to develop educational material in multiple languages?

- (a) Anuvad and Bol
- (b) Anuvadini and Bhashini
- (c) Babbel and Anuvadini
- (d) Bhashini and Boli

Passage-V

Chief Justice of India, DY Chandrachud, expounded upon a significant aspect of the Indian Constitution that underwent elimination, a measure that led to the erosion of fundamental rights. These observations were articulated within the context of a legal proceeding centered around a petition challenging the abrogation of the special status

that had been accorded to the region of Jammu and Kashmir. The bench, comprising Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud and Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Sanjiv Khanna, BR Gavai, and Surya Kant, diligently continued their engagement with the petitions contesting the decision by the central authority to annul the distinctive privileges previously granted to Jammu and Kashmir. A pivotal move was made by the then President, Ram Nath Kovind, through the issuance of the Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order, 2019. This executive order explicitly declared that the tenets enshrined within the Indian Constitution would henceforth be extended to encompass and govern the landscape of Jammu and Kashmir.

45. What did Article 370 require for extending a central law to other matters not covered by the Instrument of Accession (IoA) before its revocation?

- (a) "Concurrence" of the President (b) "Consultation" with the President
 (c) "Concurrence" of the state government (d) "Consent" of the Prime Minister

46. When was Article 370 added to the Indian constitution?

- (a) August 15, 1947 (b) October 17, 1949
 (c) January 26, 1949 (d) December 6, 1992

47. Recently, Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud highlighted that Article which gave special rights and privileges to permanent residents, virtually took away the rights for non-residents. Before revocation which Article of Indian constitution empowered the Jammu & Kashmir legislature to define permanent residents and grant special rights?

- (a) Article 35 (b) Article 35A
 (c) Article 36 (d) Article 39

48. The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2023, was introduced in July, aiming to elevate the union territory's legislative assembly strength from 107 to 114. Among the nominated members to the legislative assembly, the Bill stipulates that one member must be a woman from the community of:

- (a) Kashmiri Migrants (b) Gujjar-Bakarwals
 (c) Dogras (d) Ladakhis

Passage-VI

The President of India Droupadi Murmu has given her assent to the following bills during the Monsoon Session, 2023 of Parliament- The Indian Institutes of Management (Amendment) Act, 2023, National Dental Commission Act, 2023, Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2023. The Indian Institutes of Management (Amendment) Act, 2023 was introduced in Lok Sabha on July 28, 2023, it amends the Indian Institutes of Management (IIM) Act, 2017. The National Dental Commission Act, 2023 was introduced in Lok Sabha on July 24, 2023, it repeals the

Dentists Act, 1948. The Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2023 falls under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Mines. Monsoon Session, 2023 of Parliament was commenced on July 20, 2023, and was adjourned sine die on August 11, 2023. Throughout the session, 20 Bills were presented in the Lok Sabha, and 5 Bills were introduced in the Rajya Sabha.

49. With the inclusion of NITIE under The IIM Act, 2017, how many Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) are proposed in India?

- (a) 19 (b) 20 (c) 21 (d) 22

50. The National Dental Commission Act, 2023 is under the jurisdiction of which ministry?

- (a) Ministry of Education (b) Ministry of Finance
(c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (d) Ministry of Science and Technology

51. What significant reform does the proposed amendment in Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2023 aim to introduce?

- (a) Shifting offshore mining to onshore areas
(b) Banning all offshore mining activities
(c) Introducing auction as the method of allocating operating rights
(d) Establishing government-controlled mining companies

52. The President of India Droupadi Murmu has given her assent to some bills during the Monsoon Session, 2023 of Parliament. Which Article of the Constitution of India specifies the summoning of Parliament?

- (a) Article 80 (b) Article 85
(c) Article 90 (d) Article 95

Section C-Legal Reasoning

Passage-I

Voluntary liquidation is the process of dissolving a solvent corporate entity with the approval of its shareholders. This process requires minimal intervention from the court. There are several reasons for initiating voluntary liquidation, such as the completion of a particular purpose for which the company was incorporated, the occurrence of certain events specified in the company's articles, or the inability of the company to continue operating. To initiate voluntary liquidation proceedings, a corporate person must comply with the provisions of section 59 of the IBC-2016 and the IBBI (Voluntary Liquidation Process) Regulations, 2017. The process can be initiated only with the directors of the company making a unanimous declaration in the form of an affidavit, confirming that the company has no debt, is solvent, and is not being liquidated to defraud anyone. This declaration must be accompanied by audited financial statements, a record of the

company's business operations for the previous two years or since its incorporation, and a valuation report on the company's assets prepared by a registered valuer. The next step is to convene a board meeting where all directors have to attend it either physically or through online mode, to discuss the approval of voluntary liquidation, appoint an insolvency professional as the liquidator, and fix the date, time, and place for calling a general meeting of the company by majority of the directors. The board of directors must also authorize the issuance of a notice for the extraordinary general meeting of shareholders of company (EGM) along with an explanatory statement.

The general meeting of the shareholders of the company should be convened within four weeks from the approval of voluntary liquidation and the appointment of the insolvency professional as the liquidator. If the company owes any debt to any person, it should be approved by creditors representing 2/3rd in value of the company's debt within 7 days from the date of shareholder's approval to proceed further with the process. The resolution passed for voluntary liquidation must be filed with the Registrar of Companies (ROC) and IBBI within 7 days of the shareholder's approval. Once the affairs of the company have been fully wound up, the liquidator must make an application to the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) for the dissolution of the corporate person. The NCLT will pass an order for the dissolution of the company from the date of the order. A copy of this order must be forwarded to the ROC within 14 days of the order. In conclusion, voluntary liquidation is a liquidation process with minimal court intervention that enables a solvent corporate debtor to dissolve itself with the approval of its shareholders. The process involves several steps, including making a declaration of solvency by the directors of the company, convening board and general meetings, filing resolutions with the ROC and IBBI, and making an application to the NCLT for dissolution.

Source: Extracted (with edits and revision) An excerpt from article titled 'Voluntary Liquidation under Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code (IBC) 2016' published at Tax Guru.

53. Company ABC, incorporated for a specific project, has successfully completed the project and is considering initiating voluntary liquidation. The board of directors consists of Vidhan, Vidhi, and Vinil. The company has no debt and has been solvent throughout its operations. Vidhan and Vidhi have signed an affidavit confirming the solvency of the company, but Vinil refuses to sign, as he believes the company should continue operating. The company's audited financial statements, business records for the past two years, and a valuation report by a registered valuer are all available. Can Company ABC proceed with the voluntary liquidation process?

- (a) Yes, as long as a majority of directors sign the declaration, the process can proceed.
- (b) No, all directors must sign the declaration for the company to proceed with voluntary liquidation.
- (c) Yes, but only if the company first obtains approval from the shareholders and creditors.
- (d) No, the company must first resolve the disagreement among the directors before proceeding with the liquidation process.

54. XYZ Enterprises has decided to initiate voluntary liquidation after completing its business purpose. The board of directors, consisting of Vidhan, Vinil, and Vidhi, all have signed the declaration of solvency and gathered the necessary documentation. However, Vidhan and Vinil are currently out of the country and are unable to attend the board meeting in any form to discuss the voluntary liquidation process. Vidhi is the only director available to convene a board meeting. Can XYZ Enterprises proceed with the voluntary liquidation process if only Vidhi is available to convene a board meeting and make decisions related to the liquidation?

- (a) Yes, as long as Vidhi documents the decisions and communicates them to the other directors.
- (b) No, all directors must only physically attend the board meeting to discuss the voluntary liquidation process.
- (c) Yes, but the board meeting must be postponed until all directors are available to physically attend.
- (d) No, the company must ensure that directors participate in the board meeting, either physically or through other means such as video conferencing.

55. LMN Inc. has decided to undergo voluntary liquidation after the occurrence of an event specified in the company's articles. The board of directors, consisting of Vidhan, Vinil, and Vidhi, has signed the declaration of solvency and gathered the necessary documentation. They have also convened a board meeting and appointed an insolvency professional as the liquidator. However, due to unforeseen circumstances, the company was not able to hold a general meeting of the shareholders till six weeks after the approval. Can LMN Inc. proceed with the voluntary liquidation process in such case?

- (a) Yes, as long as the company provides a valid reason for the delay.
- (b) No, the company must strictly adhere to the prescribed period to hold the general meeting.
- (c) Yes, but the company must obtain approval from the insolvency professional for the delay.
- (d) No, the company must reschedule the general meeting to fall within the four-week period.

56. PQR Tech, a technology company, decides to undergo voluntary liquidation due to its inability to continue operating. The board of directors has signed the declaration of solvency, and the company has convened a general meeting where shareholders approved the voluntary liquidation. PQR Tech owes debt to three creditors: Creditor A is owed \$60,000, Creditor B is owed \$30,000, and Creditor C is owed \$10,000. After the shareholder's approval, PQR Tech receives approval for the voluntary liquidation from Creditor A and Creditor B within the 7-day period, but Creditor C fails to respond. Can PQR Tech proceed with the voluntary liquidation process in this case?

- (a) Yes, since the majority of the creditors have approved the voluntary liquidation.
- (b) No, the company must receive approval from all creditors before proceeding with the voluntary liquidation.
- (c) Yes, as long as the company has received approval from creditors representing at least 2/3rd in value of the company's debt.
- (d) No, the company must wait for approval from Creditor C before proceeding with the voluntary liquidation process.

57. What is the importance of the declaration of solvency by the directors of the company in the process of voluntary liquidation?

- (a) It is mandatory for the directors of the company to make a declaration of solvency for initiating voluntary liquidation proceedings.
- (b) The declaration of solvency is optional and can be skipped if the company is solvent.
- (c) The declaration of solvency is required only if the company owes any debt to any person.
- (d) The declaration of solvency is required to be made by the insolvency professional appointed as the liquidator.

58. Based on the information provided in the passage, what is the role of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) in the process of voluntary liquidation?

- (a) The NCLT plays no role in the process of voluntary liquidation.
- (b) The NCLT approves the appointment of the liquidator in the process of voluntary liquidation.
- (c) The NCLT approves the resolution passed for voluntary liquidation by the shareholders.
- (d) The NCLT after the completion of process of voluntary liquidation dissolves the corporate entity.

Passage-II

The Gujarat High Court has allowed a petition by Gujarat University asking that a Central Information Commission (CIC) order directing the university to “search for information” about Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s degrees be set aside. The court also imposed a cost of Rs 25,000 on Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, who had requested

the information which cannot be covered under The Right to Information (RTI) Act, and directed him to deposit the amount with Gujarat State Legal Services Authority within four weeks. The case originates from a hearing of Kejriwal's second appeal before the CIC in a case relating to the supply of information about his Electoral Photo Identity Card (EPIC). Kejriwal had submitted that he was ready to provide the required information about himself to the CIC but added that the Prime Minister too should be asked to disclose details of his educational degrees. The CIC decided to consider Kejriwal's response as an "application under RTI in his capacity as a citizen".

Gujarat University's argument in the High Court was that the CIC's order was "without jurisdiction", "erroneous", and required to be quashed. After arguments were completed, the HC allowed the petition by Gujarat University. Six years before the Gujarat case, the Delhi High Court had set aside another CIC order that had allowed an RTI activist to look at the BA results of Delhi University from the year 1978, the year of the Prime Minister's graduation. The High Court took note of Delhi University's submissions and observed that information regarding "personal information of third parties which include education qualification and their degrees" cannot be given out under the RTI Act and hence the Central Information Commission or State Information Commission would not have jurisdiction in such case. Delhi University had challenged the CIC order on grounds that it was "arbitrary and capricious and is also untenable in law" which was accepted by the court. In 2014, another RTI activist, Hans Raj Jain, had sought details of students who graduated in 1978 with names starting with the letters N (Narendra) and M (Modi). Essentially, Jain was asking Delhi University to reveal how many students by the name of "Narendra Modi" had passed their BA in 1978 as external students. Jain appealed before the CIC, which closed his case after six months, without making the information available.

Source: Extracted (with edits and revision) An excerpt from article titled 'Query on PM's education: how the case moved from CIC to Gujarat HC' published at Indian Express.

59. Vidhi, a student pursuing a journalism degree, learns about the Gujarat High Court's decision in the case involving Prime Minister Narendra Modi's degrees. She is inspired to write an investigative article about politicians' educational qualifications. Vidhi files an RTI application to a fictional University, ZYX University in Delhi, seeking information about a famous politician, Mr. John Doe's degrees. ZYX University refuses to provide the information, and Vidhi appeals to the CIC. The CIC orders ZYX University to search for information regarding Mr. John Doe's degrees. ZYX University challenges the CIC's order in concerned court. Does the Central Information Commission (CIC) have the jurisdiction to order ZYX University to search for information about Mr. John Doe's degrees?

- (a) Yes, because the CIC has the authority to consider any RTI application and order the public authority to provide information.
- (b) No, because the CIC's order to search for personal information about third party including his degrees was "without jurisdiction."
- (c) Yes, because Vidhi is a citizen and has the right to request information under the RTI Act.
- (d) No, because the Delhi High Court ruled that personal information of third parties can be given out under the RTI Act.

60. Vidhi, a concerned citizen, files an RTI application requesting information about a government official's overseas trips, suspecting misuse of public funds. The Central Information Commission (CIC) directs the government department to provide the requested information. However, the government department appeals to the High Court, arguing that the information is sensitive and should not be disclosed. The High Court sides with the department and imposes a cost of Rs 25,000 on Vidhi for her RTI request. Vidhi believes that the imposition of a cost is unfair. Herein, is the imposition of a cost of Rs 25,000 on Vidhi for her RTI request justified, provided that Supreme Court in an earlier case has held that information regarding official trips is a sensitive information and out of the scope of RTI Act?

- (a) Yes, because the High Court has the authority to impose costs on individuals requesting information under the RTI Act which cannot be covered under it.
- (b) No, because Vidhi has a right to request information under the RTI Act, and the imposition of costs may deter her from exercising that right.
- (c) Yes, but only if the High Court determines that Vidhi's request for information was frivolous or malicious in nature.
- (d) No, because the passage does not mention any provisions for imposing costs on individuals requesting information under the RTI Act.

61. Vidhi, a journalist, seeks to verify the authenticity of the educational qualifications of Mr. Smith, her friend. She files an RTI application with ABC Government University, asking for Mr. Smith's academic records. ABC University denies her request. Vidhi appeals the decision before the CIC. Consider the Delhi High Court judgment to answer whether Vidhi can obtain Mr. Smith's academic records through the RTI Act?

- (a) Yes, because the RTI Act allows citizens to request information from public authorities.
- (b) No, because the information regarding personal information of third parties cannot be given out under the RTI Act.

(c) No, because Mr. Smith is not Prime Minister, and the public has the right to know his educational qualifications.

(d) Yes, because the passage does not mention any exceptions for persons other than Prime Minister regarding the disclosure of personal information.

62. Based on the passage, which of the following can be inferred regarding the disclosure of personal information of third parties under the Right to Information (RTI) Act?

(a) The RTI Act permits the disclosure of personal information of third parties without any restrictions.

(b) The RTI Act by judicial interpretation prohibits the disclosure of personal information of third parties in cases.

(c) The RTI Act allows for the disclosure of personal information of third parties, but only in specific situations.

(d) There is no clear legal guidance on whether the RTI Act permits the disclosure of personal information of third parties.

Passage-III

The Supreme Court recently observed that it cannot grant credence to the compromise entered into by an accused with the survivor after he has been convicted for assault of the survivor-woman under Section 354 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) [*Bimal Chandra Ghosh v. State of Tripura*]. A Division Bench of Justices Ajay Rastogi and Abhay S Oka dismissed the appeal filed by the convict against a judgment of the Tripura High Court. Section 354 of IPC reads: Whoever assaults (making gestures or preparations which gives apprehensions to victim that such person would use criminal force) or uses criminal force to any woman, intending to outrage or knowing it to be likely that he will thereby outrage her modesty, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both.

As per the case registered against the accused, the survivor, aged 10 years had gone to a grocery shop. On her way, the accused met her and gave her Rs. 10 to buy a cake for him. When the victim bought him the cake, appellant called her to his house and groped her breast. When the girl objected to it, the petitioner tried to remove her panty and touched her intimate parts. The girl immediately raised a hue and cry and left the place. After reaching home, she told everything to her mother. Subsequently, the mother of the girl reported the matter to police by lodging a First Information Report (FIR) against the appellant. The trial court had found the appellant guilty and had convicted him under Section 354 IPC and sentenced him to one year and fine of Rs. 5,000.

Before the Tripura High Court, within whose territorial jurisdiction the matter had happened, the accused-appellant has submitted that after the incident occurred, the

parties to the case amicably settled the matter since they were neighbors and they wanted to live in a harmonious relationship. Rejecting the said submissions, the High Court had upheld the conviction of the appellant. The law provides that only the offence of assault or use of criminal force under section 352 and 355 may be compounded by the person assaulted or to whom criminal force was used. Compoundable offences are those crimes where the persons who filed the case (victim) agrees to drop the charges against the accused by a genuine compromise entered between them after the filing of case and in the court.

Before the top Court, the appellant again submitted that a compromise has been entered into between him and the complainant/victim. The Court, however, refused to take into consideration the same and dismissed the appeal.

Source: Extracted (with edits and revision) An excerpt from article titled 'Cannot accept compromise between accused and survivor after conviction under Section 354 IPC: Supreme Court' published at Bar and Bench.

63. Mr. Vidhaan, who was freshman in college was constantly being teased by his professor Ms. Vidhi. His professor, who used to teach him History also asked for sexual favors in order to improve his grades. When Vidhan was alone with her during an interview session, she without the consent of Vidhan brushed her hands over his thighs and intimate parts. Would his professor be liable under Section 354 of the Indian Penal Code?

- (a) Yes, because the acts by the professor has outraged the modesty of the victim.
- (b) No, because Section 354 does not apply to teacher student relationships.
- (c) No, because Section 354 applies only when the modesty of a woman is outraged.
- (d) Both (b) and (c).

64. Consider the facts of the previous question with certain given modification. Suppose all the facts provided in the previous question are same except to the point that accused and victim exchanged their position and role in the case and now consider the acts of Vidhan to be of Vidhi and vice-versa. Would Vidhan be liable for the offence of section 354 of IPC?

- (a) Yes, because the acts by the professor has outraged the modesty of the victim.
- (b) No, because Section 354 does not apply to teacher student relationships.
- (c) No, because Section 354 applies only when the modesty of a woman is outraged.
- (d) Both (b) and (c).

65. Mr. Vidhaan is the CEO of the company of Vidhigya Technologies. Ms. Vidhi who was working as the Assistant Manager was not promoted to the position of Manager even after her promotion being due for 2 years. Ms. Vidhi approached Mr. Vidhaan to confront him regarding the same to which Mr. Vidhaan politely refused. Ms. Vidhi, offended by the same filed a complaint under Section 354 of the Indian Penal Code. Would Mr. Vidhaan be held liable for the same?

- (a) Yes, because. Mr. Vidhaan had outraged Ms. Vidhi's modesty by not promoting her.
- (b) Yes, because Ms. Vidhi's promotion has been due for 2 years and Mr. Vidhaan has not promoted her only because he is a sexist.
- (c) No, because Mr. Vidhaan politely refused the request of Vidhi and has no intention to promote her.
- (d) No, because even though he has erred in not providing Ms. Vidhi a promotion, he has not done any act or intended the same with the view of outraging Ms. Vidhi's modesty.

66. Mr. Vidhaan, a parking area manager had stopped Ms. Vidhi because she was driving her car without paying for the parking ticket. While asking for her ticket, Mr. Vidhaan makes a remark about her clothes and how her clothes are revealing thereby showing her promiscuous nature. When he was collecting the ticket, he intentionally leaned into the car window and without her consent tried to adjust her top by pulling it up to cover her cleavage. Ms. Vidhi who was offended by the same decided to file a complaint under Section 354 but Mr. Vidhaan quickly apologized and the same was accepted by Ms. Vidhi. Later on, when Ms. Vidhi's husband got to know of the incident he filed a complaint under Section 354 of the Indian Penal Code as the facts prima facie can invoke the said offence. Mr. Vidhaan, appearing before the court said that the matter has been settled as he has tendered an apology and the same was accepted by Ms. Vidhi. Mr. Vidhaan requested the case to be dismissed as it has been settled. Would the court pay heed to Mr. Vidhaan's request?

- (a) Yes, because Mr. Vidhaan has not been convicted of the offence and is only an accused under the current scenario.
- (b) No, because Mr. Vidhaan is charged for the offence of outraging the modesty of Ms. Vidhi which cannot be compromised.
- (c) No, because the casual action and attitude exhibited by Mr. Vidhaan would not lead to the conviction of the accused in the case under section 354 of IPC.
- (d) Both (b) and (c)

67. Which of the following assumptions cannot be made from the above mentioned passage?

- (a) A division bench refers to a bench of two judges.
- (b) Groping a woman's breast amounts to outraging her modesty.
- (c) The incident took place within the jurisdiction of the Tripura High Court.
- (d) None of the above.

68. Which of the following statement/(s) is/are in consonance with the legal principles and legal provisions discussed in the passage?

I. Punishment prescribed by court under Section 354 can be either imprisonment or a fine but not a compilation of the both as it would amount to double punishment.

II. The trial court found the accused guilty and had convicted him under Section 354 IPC and sentenced him to one year and fine of Rs. 5,000.

- (a) Statement (I) is true but (II) is false.
- (b) Statement (II) is true but (I) is false.
- (c) Both the statements are true.
- (d) Both the statements are false.

Passage-IV

The Supreme Court observed that "Where the controversy is a purely legal one and it does not involve disputed questions of fact but only questions of law, then it should be decided by the High Court instead of dismissing the writ petition on the ground of an alternative remedy being available". The High Court of Punjab and Haryana dismissed a writ petition relegating the petitioner to the remedy of an appeal under section 33 of the Haryana Value Added Tax Act, 2003. The bench noted that it has come across many orders of High Courts holding writ petitions as "not maintainable" merely because the alternative remedy provided by the relevant statutes has not been pursued by the parties desirous of invocation of the writ jurisdiction. Mere availability of an alternative remedy would not oust the writ jurisdiction. The High Court's power to issue prerogative writs under Article 226 of the Constitution is plenary in nature. Any limitation on the exercise of such power must be traceable in the Constitution itself. Article 226 does not, in terms, impose any limitation or restraint on the exercise of power to issue writs. While it is true that exercise of writ powers despite availability of a remedy under the very statute which has been invoked and has given rise to the action impugned in the writ petition ought not to be made in a routine manner, yet, the mere fact that the petitioner before the High Court, in a given case, has not pursued the alternative remedy available to him/it cannot mechanically be construed as a ground for its dismissal. Thus, mere availability of an alternative remedy of appeal or revision or etc., which the party invoking the jurisdiction of the High Court under Article 226 has not pursued, would not oust the jurisdiction of the High Court and render a writ petition "not maintainable". "Entertainability" and "maintainability" of a writ petition are distinct concepts.

Alternative remedy does not operate as an absolute bar to the “maintainability” of a writ petition and that the rule, which requires a party to pursue the alternative remedy provided by a statute, is a rule of policy, convenience and discretion rather than a rule of law. The objection as to “maintainability” goes to the root of the matter and if such objection were found to be of substance, the courts would be rendered incapable of even receiving the lis (case) for adjudication. On the other hand, the question of “entertainability” is entirely within the realm of judicial discretion of the High Courts, writ remedy being discretionary. A writ petition despite being maintainable may not be entertained by a High Court for many reasons or relief could even be refused to the petitioner, despite setting up a sound legal point, if grant of the claimed relief would not further public interest but rejecting it when public interest is involved in its passage would be considered an arbitrary and illegal exercise of the discretion.

Source: Extracted (with edits and revision) An excerpt from article titled ‘Article 226 | Writ Petition Should Not Be Dismissed On Ground Of Alternative Remedies When Only Questions Of Law Are Raised : Supreme Court’ published at Live Law.

69. Vidhan filed a writ petition in the High court of Punjab & Haryana High court under Article 226, and asked for the writ of Mandamus (prerogative remedy of mandamus is used for enforcing the performance of public duties by public authorities) to be issued against a state-run university for the matter. The Bench asked Vidhan whether he had approached the University board or the prescribed authority to resolve the issue. Vidhan stated he had not approached any authority. To this, the bench dismissed the writ on the ground that Vidhan should first approach the prescribed authority of the University to resolve the issue. Is this dismissal valid?

- (a) No, as a writ cannot be dismissed merely on the ground of alternate remedy being available.
- (b) Yes, as a writ can be dismissed on the ground of an alternate remedy being available.
- (c) No, the High Court cannot dismiss a writ as the power to dismiss a writ petition is only with the Supreme Court.
- (d) Yes, as the High Court has the constitutional power to dismiss any right on the ground of an alternate remedy being available.

70. Assume in the above situation, after dismissal of writ by the High court, the aggrieved party takes the matter to the Supreme Court, which is the supervisory authority over the High Courts and can hear the concerns against the order of the High Court and contends that the dismissal was against the provision provided under Article 226 of the Constitution of India. Is this contention right or wrong?

- (a) The contention is wrong as Article 226 does give this power to the High court.
- (b) The contention is wrong as Article 226 provide discretion to the High court to dismiss any writ.
- (c) The contention is right as Article 226 does not in any way put any limitation on the power of writ to dismiss writ on ground of alternate remedy.
- (d) The contention is right as Article 226 does not provide any power to High Court to not entertain any writ.

71. Suppose, the writ petition was filed by Vidhan directly in the Supreme Court under Article 32 of the Constitution in the above situation. Can the Supreme Court dismiss this petition on the ground that an alternative remedy as the petition can be filed in the High Court under Article 226 of the Constitution, provided that High Court and Supreme Court enjoy a concurrent jurisdiction over writ matters and the same principles provided for the High Court should be applied for the Supreme Court?

- (a) No, as the ground of refusal is invalid as having alternative remedy cannot be considered a ground of dismissal.
- (b) Yes, as the Supreme Court should not be burdened with such cases which can be entertained by the High Court.
- (c) No, as the Supreme Court is the highest court of appeal in the country and they should consider the pleas of every person.
- (d) Yes, as the Supreme Court is the appellate court to the High court and hence matter can only be brought in an appeal.

72. Can the High Court reject to grant the desired writ in favour of the petitioner in the matter which was up for adjudication before it, even though there was an appropriate legal contention by the petitioner for granting of the writ despite alternate remedy being present or not?

- (a) Yes, as writ power is discretionary in nature and may not be exercised if it hampers public interest.
- (b) No, as writ power is bound by restriction under Article 226 of The Constitution of India.
- (c) Yes, but an alternative remedy must be stated by the High court to be availed by the petitioner.
- (d) No, only Supreme Court has power to do the same under the Constitutional framework and not the High Court.

73. If the grant of relief furthers public interest in a writ petition, but the courts refuses to provide any relief against the writ Petition using their discretionary powers. Choose whether the refusal be legally sound or not?

- (a) The refusal will be legally sound as the court acted in its discretionary powers.
- (b) The refusal will not be legally sound as the public interest was at stake and it would be hampered by such decision.
- (c) The refusal will not be legally sound as it violates the fundamental right of the petitioner protected by the Constitution.
- (d) The refusal will not be legally sound as it violates various statutory provisions other than the Constitution.

Passage-V

Narco-analysis involves the injection of a drug, sodium pentothal, which induces a hypnotic or sedated state in which the subject's imagination is neutralised, and they are expected to divulge information that is true. The Supreme Court had said in its order that "no individual should be forcibly subjected to any of the techniques in question, whether in the context of investigation in criminal cases or otherwise", and expanded the same rule to others (i.e. persons other than accused like witnesses, victims, their families) who can be made to undergo the test only if they consent to it. It had said that forcing an individual to undergo these tests amounts to an "unwarranted intrusion into personal liberty protected under Article 21 of the Constitution", but had left scope for "voluntary administration" of these techniques if the individuals gave valid consent. Those who volunteer must have access to a lawyer, and have the physical, emotional, and legal implications of the test against them explained to them by police and the lawyer to formulate a valid consent on the part of the person. Further the subject's consent should be recorded before a judicial magistrate, the court said. The court examined the scope of fundamental right under Article 20(3), the right against self-incrimination, which states that no accused can be compelled to be a witness against himself. It said that while this requires a person to be formally named as an accused, other provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code extend this protection to witnesses in criminal case as well.

In most cases, investigating agencies seek permission for such tests to be done on accused or suspects, but rarely on victims or witnesses. Legal experts say that investigating agencies can submit to a court that the tests are being sought to help in their probe but consent or refusal to undergo the tests by an individual do not reflect innocence or guilt. Most recently, the CBI has sought to conduct these tests on the driver and helper of the truck that hit the Unnao rape victim in Uttar Pradesh but the court rejected the plea after the accused did not give consent. In May 2017, the founder

of INX Media, Indrani Mukerjea, who was facing trial for the alleged murder of her daughter Sheena Bora in 2012, had offered to undergo the lie detector test, which was refused by the court, stating that it is not the right of the accused or victim to ask for the test as it is prerogative of the investigating agency to seek for it.

Source: Extracted (with edits and revision) An excerpt from article titled 'Hathras case: Issues of consent, reliability in narco and polygraph tests' published at Indian Express.

74. Vidhan is arrested by the police in relation to a murder of a 15-year-old girl and is investigating the said offence against him. There is a prima facie suspicion by the police that Vidhan is the culprit as he was the only person last seen with the deceased before her death but due to the lack of any substantive evidence, the police require to conduct a Narco-analysis test. Choose the right procedure.

- (a) Narco-analysis tests can only be used in sexual crimes, so the test cannot be done.
- (b) The test, sought by the police, can be done only after obtaining the consent of the accused as its absence would violate the fundamental right of the accused.
- (c) Court's approval is not necessary and in such case, the consent of the person to be tested for narco-analysis can be waived.
- (d) The test can only be done if there is some corroborative evidence supporting the claim of the investigating agency.

75. Vidhan is the caretaker of the victim and he is accused of raping the victim. But the police cannot find proper evidence to prove the accusations but they have circumstantial evidence against the accused, so the police wants to conduct a Narco-analysis test. Can the accused refuse to give consent?

- (a) Yes, as per the guidelines of the Supreme Court no person can be forced to undergo these tests.
- (b) No, as there are circumstantial evidences present which could be considered a valid ground to evoke the test.
- (c) Yes, as conducting any Narco-analysis test on the accused violates his fundamental right to life and personal liberty.
- (d) No, the test does not require consent in serious crimes hence the compulsion can be made on the accused of such crimes.

76. Vidhi, a girl in Delhi accused six people of sexual harassment in the last 2 years. In the recent complaint by her, the investigation officer has doubts about the truthfulness of the accusations by her, so, she requested the court to conduct her Narco-analysis to prove her truthfulness and take it as an evidence in her case against the accused. Decide the maintainability of the said application.

- (a) The test can be done as making the request assumes that there is consent of the victim for the narco-analysis.
- (b) The test would affect the mental privacy of the victim and hence should be disallowed.
- (c) The test cannot be conducted on her request as the investigating agency has the prerogative to seek it and not the victim.
- (d) The test should not be conducted as it would violate the fundamental right against self-incrimination of Vidhi.

77. Vidhan is arrested by the police in relation to a murder of a 15-year-old girl and is investigating the said offence against him. There were three eye-witnesses, Vidhi, Viman and Vidyut, which alleged to have seen the act of murder of the said victim by Vidhan but the investigation agency has a suspicion that Vidhi is lying and is just pretending to be the eye witness as the investigating agency has found an alibi of her during the time when the offence was committed by Vidhan. The investigating agency i.e. police is seeking to have a forceful narco-analysis of Vidhi. As per the passage, decide, forcing Vidhi to undergo Narco-analysis tests will lead to?

- (a) Violation of right against self-incrimination under Article 20(2) of the Constitution.
- (b) Violation of the right to personal liberty under Article 21 of the Constitution.
- (c) Violation of right against self-incrimination under Article 20(2) and right to personal liberty under Article 21.
- (d) Violation of mental privacy of an accused.

78. Which of the following statement/(s) can be inferred from the legal information provided in the passage?

- I. The narco-analysis to be lawfully used in the court of law against the accused has to be done only with the prior and valid consent of the victim.
- II. The narco-analysis test can be taken as an evidence only when there are no other evidence available to prove the commission of the offence.
- III. The narco-analysis can be conducted on any person including victim, accused and witness.
- IV. The narco-analysis test of the accused would be conducted if the accused gives consent for its conduction before the police.

- (a) I and II
- (b) I, II and III
- (c) Only III
- (d) All of the above.

Passage-VI

India has been grappling with frequent internet shutdowns, earning the title of "internet shutdown capital of the world." These shutdowns are implemented by the government to address perceived harms facilitated by the internet, often without distinguishing between harmful and innocuous uses. The Draft Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022, if passed would be enforceable, could exacerbate this problem through Clause 24, which grants the executive power to impose internet shutdowns. Clause 24 permits Central and state governments to impose internet shutdowns or suspend telecommunication services based on the subjective satisfaction of a public emergency or threat to public safety, thereby overriding the Anuradha Bhasin judgment. The framing of the Bill with such vague provisions is attributed to the avoidance of decisional costs (incurred in reaching a consensus among multiple stakeholders) by the Parliament. This transfers external costs (detrimental impacts faced by stakeholders due to legal rules) onto individuals subjected to unreasonable shutdowns. While some delegation of powers is inevitable and preferable, excessive delegation is a cause for concern. Indian jurisprudence dictates that essential legislative functions, such as ascertaining legislative policy and enacting binding rules, cannot be delegated. The Bill's lack of guidelines regarding public safety and emergencies could lead to charges of excessive delegation as then the government would decide the fulfilment of these conditions in a case without any set rules of determination. In the landmark case of Anuradha Bhasin, the Court recognized use of internet under freedom of expression and held that shutdown orders must meet the tests of necessity, expediency, and proportionality. However, past internet shutdowns in India have not been proportionate, and administrators have not followed the guidelines laid down in Bhasin.

To avoid excessive delegation, the Bill could borrow practices from the United States' Administrative Procedure Act. This Act mandates administrative agencies to publish proposed rule for public scrutiny, enhancing consultation and transparency in subordinate legislation. By introducing a clause requiring publication of proposed subordinate legislation, the Bill could help reduce decisional costs and external costs faced by stakeholders. In summary, the Draft Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022, through Clause 24, risks exacerbating India's internet shutdown problem by granting the executive broad powers to impose shutdowns. The lack of guidelines in the Bill could lead to charges of excessive delegation, while adopting practices from the United States' Administrative Procedure Act could help mitigate this issue by increasing transparency and consultation in the rule-making process.

Source: Extracted (with edits and revision) An excerpt from article titled 'The Telecom Bill's internet shutdown switch: A road to excessive delegation?' published at Bar and Bench.

79. Suppose the Draft Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022 has been enacted into law. Vidhan is a social activist who has been advocating for internet freedom in India. In the state of Madhya Pradesh, the government has recently imposed a state wide complete internet shut down for a day to prevent cheating during a state wide teacher recruitment examination considering it to be a public emergency. The shutdown has affected several businesses and individuals who rely on the internet for their daily activities. Vidhan decides to challenge the internet shutdown in court. Based on the passage and facts given in the question, which of the following would be a correct statement?

- (a) The action of government though in line with landmark case of Anuradha Bhasin, it does not follow the tests of necessity, expediency, and proportionality.
- (b) Though there is vagueness regarding public safety and emergencies and option of subjective satisfaction of government in Act, it being enacted gives it enforceability.
- (c) The lack of guidelines regarding public safety and emergencies in the Indian Telecommunication Act, 2022 would make it unlawful.
- (d) The absence of practices borrowed from the United States' Administrative Procedure Act to enhance consultation and transparency in subordinate legislation would make it unlawful.

80. Suppose the Draft Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022 has been enacted into law. Vidhan, a small business owner in the state of Gujarat, has faced the repercussions of the internet shutdown imposed by the state government under the said law in a particular region to curb the communal unrest in that region. Vidhan believes that the shutdown was arbitrary and was only to curb his community. He takes legal action against the state government. Would he succeed?

- (a) No, because the internet shutdown in a particular area to curb its communal unrest would be considered within the scope of public emergency or to prevent threat to public safety, hence enforceable.
- (b) Yes, because there was avoidance of decisional costs in the Draft Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022 which resulted in unreasonable internet shutdown.
- (c) Yes, because the United States' Administrative Procedure Act had not been adopted to reduce the impact of decisional costs in the Draft Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022.
- (d) No, because the state government's actions do not meet the tests of necessity, expediency, and proportionality as laid down in the Anuradha Bhasin case.

81. Vidhan, a journalist based in Uttar Pradesh, is concerned that the recent frequent internet shutdowns which were ordered without any reasons in the state are infringing on his freedom of expression. He also notices that the proposed Draft Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022 allows for internet shutdowns without distinguishing

between harmful and innocuous uses. Vidhan believes that the authorities are wrong on their part in ordering such recent internet shutdowns and decides to challenge it in court. Based on this factual situation, which of the following legal arguments would be the most relevant for Vidhan's challenge of the recent internet shutdowns in court?

- (a) The Draft Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022 should borrow practices from the United States' Administrative Procedure Act to enhance consultation and transparency in subordinate legislation.
- (b) The lack of guidelines regarding public safety and emergencies in the Draft Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022 leads to arbitrary internet shutdowns.
- (c) The authorities have not followed the tests of necessity, expediency, and proportionality as laid down in the Anuradha Bhasin case, infringing on Vidhan's freedom of expression.
- (d) The Draft Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022's avoidance of decisional costs results in unreasonable internet shutdowns.

82. Vidhan, a small business owner in Karnataka, faces significant financial losses due to frequent internet shutdowns. Aware of the Draft Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022 and its potential to exacerbate India's internet shutdown problem, he advocates for the adoption of practices from the United States' Administrative Procedure Act. Vidhan believes that adopting practices as provided under the United States' Administrative Procedure Act could help reduce decisional costs and the external costs faced by stakeholders like him. In Vidhan's advocacy for the adoption of practices from the United States' Administrative Procedure Act, which of the following proposed amendments to the Draft Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022 would be the most relevant?

- (a) Amending Clause 24 to give power to government to define "public emergency" and "threat to public safety" to limit arbitrary internet shutdowns.
- (b) Incorporating the tests of necessity and expediency, but not proportionality in the Bill to ensure that shutdown orders comply with the Anuradha Bhasin guidelines.
- (c) Incorporating a clause that mandates administrative agencies to publish proposed rule for public scrutiny.
- (d) Requiring the government to provide financial compensation to affected stakeholders in cases of unreasonable internet shutdowns.

83. Based on the passage, which of the following is a likely consequence of the Draft Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022, if Clause 24 is enacted without proper guidelines?

- (a) Increase in public trust in government decisions regarding internet shutdowns.
- (b) A decrease in the number of internet shutdowns due to increased transparency.
- (c) Further exacerbation of India's internet shutdown problem and potential charges of excessive delegation.
- (d) Enhanced protection of individual rights against unreasonable internet shutdowns.

84. Which of the following statement/(s) would not be untrue as per the legal knowledge shared by the passage?

- I. All delegation of powers is inevitable and preferable for the efficient and smooth functioning of the executive.
- II. Reasonable justification should be provided and relative measures should be adopted while exercising the power to impose internet shutdowns in situations in present case.
- III. The internet shutdown order would not meet the tests of necessity, expediency, and proportionality if ordered to curb religious violence promoted by internet services.
- IV. Prior judicial approval for every internet shutdown order is necessary to prevent excessive delegation.

(a) I, II and IV (b) I, II and III (c) Only II (d) Only III

Section D-Logical Reasoning

Passage-I

The Reserve Bank of India's plan to establish a 'Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit' is a well-intentioned move that is aimed at easing the flow of credit, especially to small and marginal borrowers. Announced as part of the Statement on Developmental and Regulatory Policies that accompanied the latest monetary policy, earlier this month, the platform is intended to serve as a one-stop digital clearing house for credit-related information, which should help accelerate the loan approval and disbursement process significantly. Developed by the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub, the platform will feature open architecture, open Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) and standards that would facilitate the seamless flow of required digital information from varied entities including State and central governments, credit information companies and digital identity authorities to lenders. As part of an effort to validate the technology and its utility, the RBI said the platform would be introduced in a pilot project that would focus on products such as Kisan Credit Card loans of up to ₹1.6 lakh per borrower, loans to dairy farmers, credit-sans-collateral to MSMEs, and personal and home loans through participating banks. Lenders would be able to access data on the borrowers and credit-related services from agencies including Aadhaar e-KYC, land records in States where local governments have digitised such data (Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra included) and even milk pouring data from select dairy cooperatives.

The need for such a centralised public platform can hardly be over-emphasised when one considers the lack of formal credit penetration, particularly among small and marginal farmers in the rural hinterland. More than seven decades since Independence, the question of what needs to be done to make institutional rural credit more inclusive continues to remain a vexing challenge to government planners and economic researchers alike. In 2021, a National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

economist observed that 'even among well-developed regions, small and marginal farmers were disadvantaged in terms of credit access', with barely a fifth of the more than 12.5 crore small and marginal farmers having access to institutional credit. As a result, a large majority of rural borrowers end up availing loans from informal sources including moneylenders, and often at usurious rates of interest. The digital platform, if successfully implemented, can help redress precisely this challenge to the delivery of formal credit by helping leverage the contemporary advances in digitisation of information and ensuring that small-ticket loans are made available in a timely and cost-effective manner to those most in need of financing support.

85. What is the primary purpose of the Reserve Bank of India's 'Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit'?

- (a) To facilitate seamless data flow through open Application Programming Interfaces.
- (b) To validate the technology for products like Kisan Credit Card loans.
- (c) To primarily focus on providing digital clearing house services for credit-related information.
- (d) To enhance institutional credit reach to small and marginal borrowers.

86. "The Reserve Bank of India's plan to establish a 'Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit' is a well-intentioned move." Is the above statement from the passage a claim or a premise?

- (a) It's a claim because it is asserting the RBI's intentions.
- (b) It's a premise setting the foundation for subsequent conclusions in the passage.
- (c) It's a claim because it establishes a factual narrative for the RBI's plan.
- (d) It's a premise because it introduces an opinion on RBI's plan.

87. Based on the passage, which of the following best strengthens the author's argument for the utility and necessity of RBI's 'Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit'?

- (a) The platform integrates technologies for faster credit approvals.
- (b) Many rural borrowers obtain loans at high interest rates from informal sources.
- (c) The digital platform can improve the overall economic stability of India.
- (d) Over 12.5 crore small farmers lack sufficient access to institutional credit.

88. Based on the passage, which of the following most effectively weakens the author's argument regarding the efficacy of RBI's 'Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit' in resolving credit issues?

- (a) Digitization alone cannot eradicate the deep-rooted issues of rural credit.
- (b) The pilot project only targets a specific set of loan products.
- (c) Many farmers may not have the digital infrastructure to access this platform.
- (d) The project's reliance on varied entities may introduce data discrepancies.

89. What can be inferred about the primary challenges faced by small and marginal farmers in obtaining formal credit based on the passage?

- (a) Lenders lack accurate data about potential borrowers.
- (b) The credit approval and disbursal process is too slow.
- (c) MSMEs find it particularly difficult to access credit.
- (d) Only a few states have embraced digital data for land records.

Passage-II

With consumer food prices rising 11.5% in July, likely the third highest since the current retail inflation data series began in 2014, the government last Saturday made yet another gambit to arrest prices. A 40% export levy on onion exports was imposed with immediate effect till at least December 31. This move follows curbs on non-basmati rice shipments outside India in July, and stock limits on pulses and wheat imposed in June. Onion exports, which grew 65% last year, accounted for 8% of total domestic production. On Sunday, the government also announced a hike in buffer stocks of the curry essential by two lakh metric tonnes. Onion traders and farmers, in the midst of the first upturn in prices after almost two years, were not impressed. Markets were shut in protest in Nashik, Asia's largest onion trading hub, as farmers feared a glut and a price crash.

Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh account for almost 60% of India's onion supplies, and the deficient rainfall this month in parts of these States after excess rains in July had put a question mark on the moisture-sensitive tuber's prospects this kharif season. These worries likely triggered the recent uptick in onion prices from around ₹23 a kilo two months ago to over ₹31 by this Monday. Relative to tomatoes, the other quintessential ingredient for Indian curries, this price surge was not as stark yet, although some analysts projected prices per kilo to touch ₹60-₹70 by September. To quell onion farmers' displeasure at the export levy imposed without a floor price, Food and Consumer Affairs Minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday promised that onions will be purchased at a "historical high" price of ₹2,410 per quintal, and buffer stock procurements will be ramped up further if needed. A Bank of Baroda report cautioned that steps such as export curbs also have a tendency to reinforce the scarcity factor worrying markets and push up prices further. How this attempt to balance the interests of consumers and farmers plays out remains to be seen. A profligate use of such blunt policy interventions ends up distorting sowing preferences in the coming year, especially in the very crops that spurred more inflation this year. Building durable food supply chains, especially for vegetables that are traditionally susceptible to price volatility, needs greater attention so that monetary policy can focus on growth concerns. For instance, if tomato imports from Nepal helped cool their prices from triple digit levels a

month ago, it makes eminent sense to engage with the neighbour for a longer-term supply plan for vegetables with some predictable purchase assurances built in.

90. Based on the passage, which statement best captures the main idea of the passage?

- (a) The Indian government is actively working to improve food supply chains with Nepal.
- (b) Onion prices in India surged due to export levies and unfavorable weather conditions.
- (c) The government's policy interventions on food prices have both intended and unintended outcomes.
- (d) Food and Consumer Affairs Minister Piyush Goyal promised high purchase prices for onions.

91. Which statement further reinforces the author's argument regarding the potential drawbacks of hasty policy interventions in the food market?

- (a) Rapid policy shifts can destabilize trust among international trading partners.
- (b) Quick interventions may unintentionally escalate the very issues they aim to resolve.
- (c) Farmers often require consistency in policies to make informed planting decisions.
- (d) Onion traders largely depend on predictable government actions to decide pricing.

92. Which statement most weakens the author's argument regarding the pitfalls of the government's abrupt interventions in the food market?

- (a) Historically, quick interventions have often stabilized volatile markets within weeks.
- (b) Most onion traders prefer a dynamic government approach to ensure constant market stimulation.
- (c) Farmers in Nashik have previously benefited from rapid policy changes during inflation.
- (d) Many countries adopt swift policy changes and have reported overall market stability.

93. Which underlying assumption does the author make to support the argument concerning the potential pitfalls of government's abrupt interventions in the food market?

- (a) Government interventions inherently lack foresight and comprehension of market dynamics.
- (b) Onion prices are the primary indicator of the health of India's food market.
- (c) Stable, long-term policies are generally more effective than reactive, short-term interventions.
- (d) Importing goods like tomatoes from neighbouring countries always stabilizes the market.

94. Based on the passage, which inference can be drawn about the challenges faced by the Indian government in managing food prices?

- (a) Frequent price fluctuations in commodities necessitate government interventions.
- (b) Farmers and traders universally support the government's policy decisions.
- (c) Only external factors, such as weather, influence the pricing of food commodities.
- (d) Importing vegetables like tomatoes is the sole solution to manage price volatility.

Passage-III

The attack by protesters on churches and houses of the Christian minority in Faisalabad on Wednesday over allegations of blasphemy is yet another example of how dangerously sectarian Pakistan is. Triggered by reports that a Christian man from Jaranwala had desecrated the Koran, the incident took place just weeks after a man was shot dead by gunmen on an allegation of blasphemy in Balochistan. In February, a man was lynched over allegations that he had desecrated the Koran in Punjab. The authorities have largely remained spectators when mobs have taken it upon themselves to punish the “blasphemers”. In the Jaranwala incident too, according to reports, the authorities were slow to respond, raising questions on whether the state is willing to protect Pakistan’s religious minorities from repeated mob violence, especially when it comes to attacks in the name of blasphemy. In Pakistan, blasphemy is punishable by death, though nobody has been executed to date. But it has remained a deeply polarising issue with extremist sections raising allegations and often violently targeting those accused of the crime.

According to the Islamabad-based Centre for Research and Security Studies, at least 89 Pakistanis, including 18 women, have been killed in 1,415 accusations or cases of blasphemy since 1947. There has been a major jump in blasphemy accusations over the past decade. Civil society groups, international rights organisations as well as Pakistan’s judiciary have in recent years expressed their concerns over the misuse of the blasphemy laws. The Islamabad High Court had once suggested that Parliament amend the laws to give stronger punishment to those who raise false blasphemy allegations. But the rising violence and growing criticism have done nothing to push Pakistan’s leaders to address the menace. On the contrary, the Senate passed a Bill in August to increase punishment for those using derogatory remarks about the Prophet’s family members, close companions and the first four Caliphs, further tightening the blasphemy laws. It is this pampering of extremist sections of society by the state and the impunity with which Islamists and other parties have misused the laws that are empowering extremists who are unleashing violence against the defenceless in the name of blasphemy. This law with its colonial origins should not have any place in a modern state. But in Pakistan, where religion has been used by all stakeholders to maximise their interests, there is no commitment to tackle the real problem. The authorities should at least take urgent

measures to stop the violence in the name of blasphemy. Such incidents only reinforce the sectarian fault lines of Pakistan's state and society.

95. Based on the passage, which statement best summarizes the primary concern expressed regarding Pakistan's blasphemy laws?

- (a) The blasphemy laws in Pakistan have colonial roots and are outdated.
- (b) Pakistan's leaders lack commitment to address the misuse of blasphemy laws.
- (c) Increased punishment for derogatory remarks shows extremism in blasphemy laws.
- (d) The blasphemy law has empowered Islamists to act violently against the accused.

96. With which statement would the author most likely agree to?

- (a) The blasphemy laws often lead to personal vendettas and miscarriages of justice.
- (b) The Pakistan authorities have taken steps in the direction of stopping violence in the name of blasphemy.
- (c) The state is willing to protect Pakistan's religious minorities from repeated mob violence.
- (d) The rising violence and growing criticism have pushed Pakistan's leaders to address the problem seriously..

97. Which of the following statements would most weaken the author's argument about the dangers and misuse of Pakistan's blasphemy laws?

- (a) A majority of blasphemy allegations lead to peaceful resolutions in community dialogues.
- (b) The blasphemy laws are also misused in other countries, not just in Pakistan.
- (c) Pakistan has seen a decrease in violent incidents related to blasphemy recently.
- (d) Religious leaders in Pakistan are now advocating for the reinterpretation of blasphemy laws.

98. Based on the passage, what did the Islamabad High Court suggest regarding the blasphemy laws?

- (a) The laws should be completely repealed for the benefit of society.
- (b) Stronger punishments should be instated for those raising false blasphemy allegations.
- (c) The blasphemy laws should be made stricter to avoid false accusations.
- (d) Religious minorities should be exempt from the blasphemy laws.

99. Which of the following assumptions must be necessarily true for the author's arguments concerning Pakistan's blasphemy laws to be valid?

- (a) All accusations of blasphemy are inherently false and malicious in nature.
- (b) Laws that have colonial origins cannot fit into modern states.
- (c) Religious minorities should always be provided with more protections than majorities.
- (d) The state's response, or lack thereof, can embolden extremist sections of society.

Passage-IV

Onion growers have reason to be angry about the Centre imposing a 40 per cent export duty on onions. Farmers of onion, potato and tomato — unlike rice, wheat, sugarcane or even cotton and some pulses — do not benefit from any MSP-based procurement by government agencies. These farmers are entirely at the mercy of market forces. In April-May, when the new rabi onion crop was being marketed, wholesale prices in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh were averaging Rs 5-7 per kg, barely covering cultivation costs. Not many, whether in the Centre or the states, showed much concern then. But when prices at Maharashtra's Lasalgaon mandi crossed Rs 20/kg towards mid-August — and Rs 30 at an all-India retail level — the antennas went up, culminating in the August 19 decision virtually banning exports.

Most farmers growing rabi onions don't sell their entire crop immediately after harvesting. They, instead, stock it in "kanda chawls" — simple raised-platform storage structures to prevent moisture ingress and sprouting — for making staggered sales till September-October, before the next kharif crop. Higher realisations in the off-season help them recoup their losses from the earlier low-price sales. This time, unseasonal excess rains in March-April caused damage to a significant part of the harvested onions, making them less amenable to storage. Thus, not only did a lower quantity of the bulb get stored, farmers had to also make distress sales of the onions prone to rapid quality deterioration. It explains both the price crash in April-May and the apparent spike from around the second week of this month. By cutting off exports, the Centre has sought to ensure that the reduced quantity of the stored rabi onions remains within the country, so as to not exacerbate a domestic shortage.

But this extremely short-sighted move has left a bad taste in the mouth of growers: The government does nothing when prices are low, but goes all out the moment they start rising. Offering to procure a paltry 2 lakh tonnes — not even a tenth of the country's onion exports — at Rs 24.1/kg is unlikely to change that perception. Secondly, all the recent government actions, from export bans to imposition of stock limits, make a mockery of the farm reform laws sought to be enacted hardly three years ago. They have not merely been repealed in letter, but now undermined in spirit by the same government. Finally, export prohibitions, whether on white rice, wheat or onion, threaten to erode India's credibility as a reliable global supplier. Restoring that will be an uphill task.

100. Based on the given passage, what is a primary grievance of onion growers with the Centre's recent decisions?

- (a) Lack of MSP-based procurement for onions like wheat and rice.
- (b) Centre's neglect during initial low onion price periods.
- (c) Damage to onions due to unseasonal excess rains.
- (d) Inability to store onions in "kanda chawls" due to damage.

101. Based on the passage, which of the following best captures the government's response to onion price dynamics?

- (a) The government frequently intervenes in the market during price decreases.
- (b) The government primarily intervenes to support the interests of onion farmers.
- (c) The government's interventions often come during periods of price increases.
- (d) The government consistently balances interventions for both high and low prices.

102. Which statement best reinforces the author's argument regarding the government's approach to onion price dynamics?

- (a) Government actions have consistently adhered to the principles of the farm reform laws.
- (b) Farmers storing onions in "kanda chawls" are largely shielded from market price fluctuations.
- (c) The imposition of export duties and stock limits contradicts the spirit of recent farm reforms.
- (d) Government procurement of onions is the most effective way to stabilize market prices.

103. If a policy maker wanted to address the concerns of onion growers, while being consistent with the spirit of recent farm reforms, which action would best align with the insights given in the passage?

- (a) Introduce more MSP-based procurements for onions.
- (b) Periodically ban exports based on domestic price spikes.
- (c) Develop infrastructure to prevent crop damage from unseasonal rains.
- (d) Increase the export duty on onions consistently every year.

104. Which of the following statements, if true, would weaken the author's argument regarding the government's response to onion price dynamics?

- (a) Onion prices worldwide have shown similar fluctuations irrespective of government interventions.
- (b) The farm reform laws enacted three years ago explicitly support export bans during price spikes.
- (c) Farmers who stored their onions in "kanda chawls" reported significant profits this year.
- (d) The domestic consumers overwhelmingly support the government's move to restrict onion exports.

Passage-VI

An Indian Express analysis of employment data sourced from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) has shown that India's workforce has rapidly aged over the past seven years. Data shows that the share of India's youth – defined as those between ages 15 and 29 — has fallen from 25 per cent in 2016-17 to just 17 per cent at the end of 2022-23. Further, even the share of those falling in the next 15-year age bracket (30 to 44 years) has fallen from 38 per cent to 33 per cent over the same period. While the share of these two categories has shrunk, that of the oldest cohort — 45 years and above — has grown from 37 per cent to 49 per cent. In other words, just in the past seven years, India's workforce has aged so much that the share of people 45 years and older has gone from one-third to almost one-half. Another way to look at this result is that the Indian youth is increasingly getting driven out of the job market. In fact, the one cohort that seems to be doing the best, both in terms of proportion as well as absolute numbers, is the age bracket of 55 to 59 years.

To an extent, this result is hardly surprising. For one, India has witnessed rising levels of youth unemployment in the recent past. This means a high percentage of the youth that joins the labour force, or effectively asks for work, fails to get employed. Moreover, India has a low labour force participation rate, especially for women. India's female labour force participation rate is one of the lowest in the world. This means a very small percentage of young women enter the labour force asking for work, to begin with. The combined effect of a low labour force participation rate and high unemployment rate is that India's youth has a worsening employment rate — that is the ratio of employed people in an age bracket and the total population of that cohort.

India's ageing workforce should be a matter of concern for India's policymakers. That's because it has one of the world's youngest populations. In his Independence Day speech, Prime Minister Narendra Modi underscored India's comparative advantage in terms of demography. He pointed out that while many countries are "witnessing an age structure that is growing old, India is moving energetically towards a youthful age structure". "It is a period of great pride because today India has the highest population under the age of 30", he said. However, in reality, India's workforce is ageing, notwithstanding its increasingly youthful demography. Policymakers need to examine why this is happening but prima facie this trend suggests a skills deficit. Raising the employability of India's youth should be treated at par with the broader concern of creating more jobs in the economy.

105. Which of the following best strengthens the author's argument regarding the pressing need to address India's aging workforce?

- (a) Highlighting the declining global competitiveness due to an older workforce.
- (b) Underlining the mismatch between India's youthful demography and its workforce.
- (c) Emphasizing the low participation rate of young women in the job market.
- (d) Accentuating the role of global technological shifts in workforce dynamics.

106. Which statement most directly captures the paradox emphasized in the passage about India's workforce dynamics?

- (a) India has recently faced rising youth unemployment rates.
- (b) The oldest cohort of India's workforce has nearly doubled in seven years.
- (c) Despite having a largely youthful population, India's workforce is noticeably aging.
- (d) The declining workforce participation rate of young women affects India's employment metrics.

107. Which of the following statements would most weaken the author's argument about the concerning trend in India's workforce dynamics based on the CMIE data?

- (a) The CMIE data had significant sampling errors and is not fully representative.
- (b) India's educational system has enhanced youth skill sets in recent years.
- (c) A majority of the Indian youth are voluntarily opting for entrepreneurial roles.
- (d) Many countries have older workforces but still showcase strong economic growth.

108. Based on the passage, which of the following best captures the central challenge that India's policymakers should address concerning the employment scenario?

- (a) Reducing the overall unemployment rate in India.
- (b) Enhancing the labour force participation of young women.
- (c) Prioritizing job creation for the youngest age bracket.
- (d) Addressing the skills gap and improving youth employability.

Section E-Quantitative Techniques

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

There are five friends Vidhi, Vidhan, Vidya, Vidyut and Vidushi went for a dinner at Vidhigya restaurant. They ordered different types of foods. Vidhi pays Rs.100 more than Vidhan, Vidhan pays Rs.150 more than Vidya, Vidya pays Rs.200 less than Vidyut and Vidyut pays Rs.50 more than Vidushi.

109. If they gave the manager a Rs. 2000 note and manager returned them Rs. 450 as a change. Also, they gave the tip of Rs.50 to waiter, then what is the amount of total bill?

- (a) 1500
- (b) 1450
- (c) 1550
- (d) 1600

110. If the amount of bill is Rs.2500, then find the amount paid by Vidushi is what percent of the amount paid by Vidhan?

- (a) 50% (b) 25% (c) 30% (d) 100%

111. If the amount of bill is Rs.1732 and if they gave the manager a Rs. 2000 note. Later the bank told the accountant that the Rs.2000 note was counterfeit, then how much money did the restaurant lose?(Ignore the profit of the food restaurant)

- (a) 2000 (b) 1732 (c) 268 (d) None of these

112. If the amount of bill is Rs.1540 and Vidhan pays half amount of the bill and the rest amount is paid equally by remaining four friends, then find the amount paid by Vidhi and Vidya together?

- (a) 770 (b) 385 (c) 192.5 (d) 540

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

'Migration in India' report was released for the first time along with the annual PLFS. According to Census 2011, the total number of migrant persons in the country was 45.6 crores including 27.8 crores in rural areas and 17.8 crores in urban areas. The number of female migrants was 30.96 crores and the number of male migrants was 14.64 crores. As per Census 2001, the total number of migrants was around 31.4 crores. The number of internal migrants was 45 crores in 2011 and 30.9 crores in 2001. Internal migrants constituted more than 98% of the migrants in both the censuses. Though the number of internal migrants has gone up by more than 45% in the decade, the pattern of movement has not changed. Intra-state migrants were 39.6 crores and 26.3 crores in 2011 and 2001 respectively. Intra-state migrants accounted for 86.8% of the total migrants in 2011 and 83.7% in 2001. Inter-state migrants accounted for 11.8% in 2011 and 13% in 2001. According to the PLFS migration report, intra-state migration was 87.5% and inter-state migration was 11.8%, close to what the Census 2011 data revealed.

(Data Source: Based on 'Migration in India' report, with edits and revisions.)

113. The total number of migrant persons in urban areas is how much percent more or less than the total number of migrant persons in rural areas?

- (a) 25.97% less (b) 35.97% less (c) 35.97% more (d) 25.97% less

114. What is the respective ratio between total number of internal migrants in 2011 and the total number of migrant persons in the country in 2011?

- (a) 150:154 (b) 225:220 (c) 75:76 (d) 25:26

115. Find the average of Intra-state migrants in 2011 and 2001 together?

- (a) 32.95 (b) 39.25 (c) 32.59 (d) 39.52

- 116.** If according to Census 2021, the total number of migrant persons in the country is increased by 20% from the year 2011, then what is the total number of female migrant in the country in 2021? (Consider that the ratio between male to female remains same)
- (a) 12.582 crore (b) 54.72 crore (c) 65.664 crore (d) 37.152 crore

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

Vidhi puts into the basket two Oranges when ordered '1', two Mangoes when ordered '2', two Jackfruit when ordered '3', and is asked to put into the basket one Orange and one Mango when asked '4'. The sequence of order is given as: 12342231124124213.

- 117.** How many total fruits will be in the basket at the end of the above order sequence?
- (a) 30 (b) 34 (c) 40 (d) 44
- 118.** How many total Jackfruit will be in the basket at the end of the above order sequence?
- (a) 12 (b) 8 (c) 4 (d) 6
- 119.** If the number of jackfruit needs to be equally distributed among 10 people such that no jackfruits are left in the basket, find the minimum orders of jackfruits required to be placed further?
- (a) 0 (b) 1 (c) 2 (d) 3
- 120.** If the number of Mangoes and Oranges needs to be equally distributed among 5 people (each person receives equal sum of oranges/mangoes) such that no mangoes or Oranges are left in the basket, find the minimum orders of Mangoes/Oranges required to be placed further?
- (a) 1 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 0

Answers and Explanations
Section A-English

1. Ans: (b)

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage demonstrates the author's fluidity in gender expression, from their attempt to adopt a more masculine appearance on the train to dressing in a partner's button-up shirt at home, indicating that they believe in the flexibility of gender. Option (a) is incorrect because the passage indicates that the author switches between feminine and masculine expressions, which goes against the idea of rigid gender constructs. Option (c) is incorrect because while the author clearly embraces fluidity in gender expression, there's no indication in the passage that they advocate for a genderless society. Option (d) is incorrect because the author's actions and internal monologue suggest that gender is, in fact, a significant part of their identity and not a trivial matter. Their struggle with the feeling of being "a weird, misshapen man or a woman playing dress-up" underscores the importance they place on their gender expression. Hence (b).

2. Ans: (a)

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The passage implies that the author uses different forms of gender expression as a means of exploring their identity and experiencing a sense of freedom, as seen when they adopt a more masculine appearance on the train and try on Lukas's shirt at home. Option (b) is incorrect as the author seems to be exploring these expressions as a part of his own personal journey. Option (c) is incorrect it rather seems to be a personal exploration and reflection. Option (d) is incorrect because while the passage shows that the author is conscious of societal norms and expectations, their exploration of gender expression appears to be more about self-discovery than gaining popularity or societal acceptance. Hence (a).

3. Ans: (b)

Sol: Option (b) is correct. In the passage, the author talks about how the bulk of their coat helps to conceal their curvy hips and D-cup breasts, thus aiding them in their quest to appear more masculine. Option (a) is incorrect because the passage does not make any reference to the author's coat being a symbol of their fashion sense. Option (c) is incorrect because although coats are typically worn for warmth, the passage does not mention the weather or the temperature as a reason for the author wearing their coat. Option (d) is incorrect as there is no mention or implication in the passage that the author's coat was a gift they felt obligated to wear. Hence (b).

4. Ans: (b)

Sol: Option (b) is correct. This sentence suggests that the author experiences a level of comfort and authenticity when wearing traditionally masculine attire like jeans and engineer boots, to the extent that they can almost believe they've taken on a male form. Option (a) is incorrect because there is no indication in the passage that the author is disguising themselves for a specific event. Option (c) is incorrect as there is no mention of a theatrical performance or any kind of acting in the passage. The author's decision to dress in a more masculine manner seems to be part of their everyday life, rather than a role they are playing. Option (d) is incorrect because, while the author is challenging gender norms by presenting as masculine, the passage doesn't suggest that this is a form of protest. Instead, it appears to be a personal exploration of gender expression. Hence (b).

5. Ans: (a)

Sol: Option (a) is correct. In the sentence, the author shows admiration for Jae's ease in wearing a dress and not caring about what people might think, which implies their appreciation for his confidence and disregard for societal judgment. Option (b) is incorrect because there's no information in the passage to suggest that Jae is a professional crossdresser. He is presented as a friend or acquaintance who is comfortable wearing a dress, not someone who does it for a living. Option (c) is incorrect because while the author expresses admiration for Jae, they don't explicitly compare themselves to him or express feelings of inferiority. Their focus seems to be on their own journey of exploring gender expression. Option (d) is incorrect because Jae's willingness to wear a dress and not caring what people think is presented positively in the passage, rather than being portrayed as recklessness or lack of consideration for consequences. Hence (a).

6. Ans: (a)

Sol: Option (a) is correct. In the passage, it is mentioned that Panchal wanted to maintain consistency on his backlift, and the PowerBat sticker provided him with data about his backlift angle on each ball. He found this information valuable and made a conscious effort to improve based on the data. Option (b) is incorrect because although power is mentioned as part of the comprehensive mathematical profile generated by the PowerBat, the passage does not explicitly state that increasing batting power was Panchal's main motivation. Option (c) is incorrect because while the PowerBat does provide information about swing angles, it is not mentioned as Panchal's main motivation for using the PowerBat sticker. Option (d) is incorrect because the passage does not suggest that visualization was Panchal's main motivation for using the PowerBat sticker. Hence (a).

7. Ans: (a)

Sol: Option (a) is correct. According to the passage, algorithms powered by artificial intelligence process large amounts of historic data to arrive at outcomes and learn to assess bigger, more complex problems. This results in quicker analysis and more accurate projections than any human can manage. Option (b) is incorrect as it is not suggested in the passage. Option (c) is incorrect because while the passage mentions Spektacom's PowerBat technology that helps batters find the sweet spot on their bat, it does not imply that this is the primary focus of artificial intelligence in cricket analysis as a whole. Option (d) is incorrect because the passage does not mention anything about artificial intelligence replacing human coaches. It primarily focuses on the use of artificial intelligence in analyzing data and providing insights to players, but it does not suggest that it has replaced the role of human coaches. Hence (a).

8. Ans: (c)

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage primarily focuses on the experience of Priyank Panchal, a cricketer associated with Spektacom, using the PowerBat sticker. It highlights his specific problem with technique, how the PowerBat helped him with data-driven feedback, and his positive results in improving his game. Therefore, the piece of writing can be categorized as a personal testimonial. Option (a) is incorrect because while the passage discusses the application of artificial intelligence in cricket analysis, it does not present the information in a formal scientific research paper format. It is more of a descriptive passage than a research paper. Option (b) is incorrect because, it provides a

broader context of artificial intelligence in cricket analysis and focuses on Panchal's experience rather than solely promoting the product. Option (d) is incorrect because the passage does not discuss any limitations or drawbacks of artificial intelligence in cricket analysis. Hence (c).

9. Ans: (d)

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The word 'cold' is used in the passage to describe the nature of the data presented on the PowerBat app. It states that the player's game is reduced to "cold, hard numbers." In this context, 'cold' implies that the data is precise, objective, and lacks any ambiguity or vagueness. Option (a) is incorrect because it means glamorous or flashy, which is used in the passage to describe the Indian Premier League (IPL) as the world's glitziest T20 tournament. Option (b) is incorrect because it means with awareness or intent, and it is used in the passage to describe how Panchal made a conscious effort to improve his game based on the data provided by the PowerBat. Option (c) is incorrect because it means adding more details or expanding on a topic, and it is not related to the meaning of 'vague' in the passage. Hence (d).

10. Ans: (a)

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The passage presents the viewpoint of Priyank Panchal, the cricketer associated with Spektacom, who states that he relies on data rather than the emotional part of someone. He expresses his preference for having data in front of him and mentions how the data provided by the PowerBat helped him consciously improve his technique. This implies that the author, through Panchal's perspective, values and advocates for the use of data in cricket for better results. Option (b) is incorrect because the passage does not imply that emotional guidance is more effective. In fact, it highlights Panchal's struggle with vague instructions and how the data-driven feedback from the PowerBat was more helpful to him. Option (c) is incorrect because while the passage focuses on the benefits of data and Panchal's reliance on it, it does not mention the need for a balance or the effectiveness of emotional guidance in combination with data. Option (d) is incorrect because although Panchal prefers relying on data, the passage does not suggest that emotional guidance becomes unnecessary. It simply emphasizes the value and impact of data in Panchal's experience. Hence (a).

11. Ans: (d)

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage discusses the aftermath of the Chernobyl accident, including its effects on the narrator, their family, and their community. It mentions the disappearance of sparrows and May bugs, the evacuation of the village, the narrator's illness and his father's involvement as a "liquidator" at Chernobyl. Hence (d).

12. Ans: (c)

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage mentions that the sparrow and May bugs disappeared after the accident and that the sparrows returned two years later. These details are used to underscore the prolonged impact of radioactive contamination on the environment. The absence of these creatures and delay in their return implies as effects of accident's radiation. Hence (c).

13. Ans: (a)

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The passage describes how the narrator brags to others about their father's role as a "liquidator" who helped clean up after the Chernobyl accident. This suggests that the narrator takes pride in their father's actions and views him as a hero. Hence (a).

14. Ans: (b)

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The phrase “The dosimeter was working on the cat like an automatic: click, click” compares the dosimeter’s effect on the cat to the repetitive sound of an automatic device. This comparison without using “like” or “as” is a characteristic of a metaphor. Hence (b).

15. Ans: (a)

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The main idea of the passage is centred on the visual representations and misconceptions regarding the size and composition of atomic nuclei of atoms. It discusses how popular science often misinterprets these concepts and the need to interpret quantum theory accurately. Other options are not the main focus of the passage. Hence (a).

16. Ans: (a)

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The passage primarily discusses how quantum theory has influenced and corrected misconceptions about the size and composition of atomic nuclei and atoms. Thus option (a) is an appropriate title for the passage. Hence (a).

17. Ans: (c)

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage clearly indicates (beginning of the third paragraph) that the author disagrees with the common portrayal of atoms and advocates for a more accurate interpretation based on quantum theory. Option (c) accurately reflects the author’s opinion. Hence (c).

18. Ans: (a)

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The passage explains that atoms are primarily made up of continuous clouds of electrons and nuclei, which contradicts the misconception that atoms are mostly empty space. Option (b) is incorrect as it is not suggested in the passage. Options (c) and (d) are not directly related to the reason why “empty atom” concept is a misconception. Hence (a).

19. Ans: (c)

Sol: Option (c). The passage falls under the genre of popular science as it discusses scientific concepts and misconceptions in a way that can be understood by common people. Other options are not appropriate genres from the passage. Hence (c).

20. Ans: (b)

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The passage mentions that examples like interracial marriage taboos are often discussed when addressing prejudice because they are easy to observe, define and censure. This implies that the ease of observation and censure is one of the reasons why such examples are commonly used in discussions about prejudice.

21. Ans: (c).

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage suggests that cultivating a culture of trust and receptiveness is important to allow individuals to openly point out potential problems related to benign discrimination. This promotes open dialogue and identification of unconscious biases in further interactions, ultimately contributing to a fair environment. Hence (c).

22. Ans: (c)

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage primarily discusses both of them in order to demonstrate the progress made in addressing certain forms of discrimination, such as the decreasing taboo surrounding the interracial marriage. This can be understood from the passage's focus on historical improvements and increased support for specific examples of progress.

23. Ans: (c)

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The passage discourages the significance of addressing unconscious biases and promoting open dialogue as a means to limit the effects of benign discrimination. This conclusion is supported by the author's discussion of the need for a culture of trust and understanding in addressing these issues. Hence (c).

24. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. It is understood from the following lines of the passage, 'No need for the office version of pyrotechnics and bombastic anthems as you call out your opponent. As Breanna notes, a gentle reminder is appropriate and can defuse a potentially harmful situation. Nor should we feel attacked when someone gently reminds us.' The rest of the options are rightly stated in the following lines, 'Research has shown that men who exhibit modesty and humility are viewed as less competent than similarly modest women. While others have shown that men who request family leave are viewed as poorer workers and less recommended for promotion, again compared to women who request the same leave. The underpinning of benign discrimination is unconscious bias (a.k.a. implicit bias). Implicit bias is the prejudice and stereotypes we develop without intending to do so. They manifest in our personal histories, cultural backgrounds, work experiences, political leanings, our tastes in hobbies and pastimes, and the ideologies that we form and commit ourselves to.' Hence (b).

Section B-Current Affairs with GK**25. Ans. b**

Exp. India and China signed the landmark Border Peace and Tranquillity Agreement (BPTA) in 1993; it was the first legal agreement that recognised the LAC. The Chinese government believes that the LAC is about 2,000 km, while India believes that the LAC is 3,488 km long.

26. Ans. c

Exp. The McMahon Line was drawn during the Simla Convention of 1914, officially described as the Convention between Great Britain, China, and Tibet. The McMahon Line delimited the respective spheres of influence of Tibet and British India in the eastern Himalayan region in what is today India's Northeast and northern Myanmar.

27. Ans. c

Exp. There were two lines, when it comes to deciding who should control the area called Aksai Chin. The first line was called the Johnson's Line, and it was suggested in 1865. According to this line, Aksai Chin would belong to the region of Jammu and Kashmir, which was part of India back then. The second line was known as the McDonald Line, and it was proposed in 1893. According to this line, Aksai Chin should be under the control of China. India believes that the Johnson Line is the right and fair border between India and China. On the other hand, China thinks that the McDonald Line

should be the proper border. So, there was a disagreement between India and China about who should have control over, Aksai Chin.

28. Ans. d

Exp. The Five Fingers Policy of China is a foreign policy envisioned by its erstwhile leader Mao Zedong. He believed that while Tibet was the right hand of China, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Ladakh are its 'five fingers' of its periphery and that it was China's duty to 'liberate' these areas.

29. Ans. d

Exp. In 1947, China said that it owns the South China Sea. They marked this area with a line that looked like the letter "U" and had eleven dashes on it. This line covered most of the sea. But then, in 1949, a new group called the Communist Party took control of China. They changed the line a bit. They removed a part that was near a place called the Gulf of Tonkin. This change made the line look like it has nine dashes instead of eleven.

Some of the main islands in SCS are Spratly Islands, Paracel Islands and Scarborough Shoal. China claims most of these islands as its own. Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei, the Philippines and Taiwan have rival claims.

Passage-II

The Ministry of Jal Shakti, specifically the Department of Water Resources, River Development, and Ganga Rejuvenation, has unveiled a comprehensive report detailing the findings of the 6th minor irrigation scheme census. This census reveals a notable surge of approximately 1.42 million minor irrigation schemes compared to the previous survey. The catalogue of groundwater schemes encompasses various types such as dug wells, dug-cum-bore wells, as well as shallow, medium, and deep tube wells. Complementary to these, the assortment of surface water schemes encompasses both surface flow schemes and surface lift irrigation schemes. Surface flow schemes, encompassing structures like tanks and check-dams, play a dual role in conserving water and facilitating groundwater recharge. These schemes effectively serve as a hybrid solution to water-related challenges. Conversely, surface lift schemes find their utility in regions where the terrain impedes direct river or stream irrigation. In such areas, the mechanism involves raising water to irrigation channels. Notably, around 60.2% of these schemes are sustained by a single source of funding, while the remaining 39.8% acquire financial support from multiple sources. Within the purview of singular financing, the majority of schemes (79.5%) are sustained through the personal savings of individual farmers. Other significant financial resources include bank loans (6.9%), government funds (4%), and contributions from money lenders (1.3%).

30. Ans. b

Exp. Minor irrigation (MI) schemes are defined as those structures either in ground water or in surface water category having Culturable Command Area (CCA) up to 2,000 ha. CCA refers to the total area of land that can be effectively irrigated and cultivated using water from a specific irrigation project or scheme.

31. Ans. a

Exp. As per the report, 23.14 million minor irrigation (MI) schemes have been reported in the country, out of which 21.93 million (94.8%) are Ground Water (GW) and 1.21 million (5.2%) are Surface Water (SW) schemes.

32. Ans. b

Exp. Uttar Pradesh possesses the largest number of MI schemes in the country followed by Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

33. Ans. b

Exp. Most of the small irrigation systems, around 96.6%, are owned by individuals, while only 3.4% belong to the public. This is even more true for groundwater systems, where nearly all of them (98.3%) are privately owned. For surface water systems, about 35.8% are owned by the public, and 64.2% are owned by individuals.

34. Ans. b

Exp. The 6th minor irrigation census, which looked at the year 2017-18, was carried out across 32 States and Union Territories (UTs). The census work for this edition was postponed because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

35. Ans. d

Exp. On August 23, 2023, PM Narendra Modi attended the 15th BRICS Summit held under SA's chairship, in Sandton in Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa. The theme of 15th BRICS summit was 'BRICS and Africa: Partnership for Mutually Accelerated Growth, Sustainable Development and Inclusive Multilateralism'.

36. Ans. b

Exp. By mutual agreement, Vladimir Putin, President of Russia, did not attend the Summit. In March 2023, The International Criminal Court (ICC) has issued an arrest warrant for Putin for alleged war crimes. South Africa, would be required to arrest Putin if he attended the summit.

37. Ans. c

Exp. Leaders of the BRICS — Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa — decided to expand the grouping and admit six new members. Saudi Arabia, Iran, UAE, Egypt, Ethiopia and Argentina will become part of BRICS.

38. Ans. b

Exp. Saudi Arabia, Iran, UAE, Egypt, Ethiopia and Argentina will become part of BRICS with effect from January 1, 2024.

39. Ans. a

Exp. At present, the BRICS represents 41 per cent of the global population, 24 per cent of the global GDP and 16 per cent of the global trade. The grouping was formed in September 2006 and it originally comprised Brazil, Russia, India and China (BRIC). It was renamed as BRICS after South Africa was accepted as a full member in September 2010.

40. Ans. b

Exp. The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has been granted the status of deemed university, the minister made the announcement at an event to mark the 63rd foundation day of NCERT in the national capital.

41. Ans. d

Exp. Deemed to be University' status would allow NCERT or any other institution to offer its own graduate, post-graduate and doctoral degrees and have autonomy in terms of introduction of programmes, course structure, conducting examinations and management, among others.

42. Ans. b

Exp. The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) is an autonomous organisation set up in 1961 by the Government of India to assist and advise the Central and State Governments on policies and programmes for qualitative improvement in school education.

43. Ans. b

Exp. As per details, the Central government on the advice of the UGC can declare an Institution of Higher Education, other than universities, working at a very high standard in a specific area of study as an Institution 'Deemed-to-be-university'.

44. Ans. b

Exp. Mr. Pradhan conveyed that the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) is embarking on a comprehensive initiative to craft educational materials in a staggering array of 22 languages. This ambitious endeavour, he emphasized, would be facilitated through the judicious utilization of sophisticated software tools such as Anuvadini and Bhashini.

45. Ans. c

Exp. In the past, Article 370 restricted Parliament's legislative powers concerning Jammu and Kashmir. To extend a central law to subjects covered by the Instrument of Accession (IoA), only "consultation" with the state government was required. However, for its extension to other matters, the "concurrence" of the state government was mandatory.

46. Ans. b

Exp. On October 17, 1949, Article 370 was added to the Indian constitution, as a 'temporary provision', which exempted Jammu & Kashmir, permitting it to draft its own Constitution and restricting the Indian Parliament's legislative powers in the state.

47. Ans. b

Exp. Permanent residents of Jammu and Kashmir were given exceptional privileges and rights under Article 35 A, including the ability to purchase property there, preference in hiring for positions in the public sector, and other benefits. Article 35A stems from Article 370 and was introduced through a Presidential Order in 1954, on the recommendation of the J&K Constituent Assembly.

48. Ans. a

Exp. The Bill authorises Lt Governor to nominate not more than two members, one of whom shall be a woman, from the community of "Kashmiri Migrants" and one member from "Displaced Persons from Pakistan occupied Jammu and Kashmir", to the legislative assembly. The Act is proposed to be amended with a view to provide representation to

“Kashmiri Migrants”, “Displaced Persons from Pakistan occupied Jammu and Kashmir” and “Scheduled Tribes” in the J&K Legislative Assembly.

49. Ans. c

Exp. NITIE is India's proposed 21st IIM. The Indian Institutes of Management (Amendment) Act, 2023 classifies the National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE), Mumbai in Maharashtra as IIM, Mumbai.

50. Ans. c

Exp. The National Dental Commission Act, 2023 falls under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The National Dental Commission Act is to replace the existing regulatory body, the Dental Council of India (DCI). By doing so, the Act seeks to modernize and enhance the regulatory framework governing dental education and professional standards.

51. Ans. c

Exp. The Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2023 falls under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Mines. The proposed amendment in the Act will bring major reform by introducing auction as the method of allocation of operating rights in the offshore areas.

52. Ans. b

Exp. The summoning of Parliament is specified in Article 85 of the Constitution. The power to convene a session of Parliament rests with the Government. The decision is taken by the Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs which is formalised by the President, in whose name MPs are summoned to meet for a session.

Section C-Legal Reasoning

53. Ans. b

Sol. Option A is incorrect because the passage states that the process starts with the directors of the company making a unanimous declaration in the form of an affidavit which implies that all directors must be involved in the process. Since the declaration was not unanimous, the company cannot proceed with the process.

54. Ans. d

Sol. Option D is correct because the passage states that next step is to convene a board meeting, where all directors have to attend it either physically or through online mode, to discuss the approval of voluntary liquidation, appoint an insolvency professional as the liquidator, and fix the date, time, and place for calling a general meeting of the company by majority of the directors.

55. Ans. b

Sol. Option A is incorrect because the passage states that the general meeting must be convened within four weeks from the approval, and it does not mention any exceptions to this rule. Hence the company must strictly adhere to this time frame and in absence of it, the company cannot proceed.

56. Ans. c

Sol. Option C is correct because the passage states that the company must receive approval from creditors representing 2/3rd in value of the company's debt, which PQR Tech has achieved with the approval of Creditor A and Creditor B. Here it has received approval from creditors representing 90% of the company's debt within the 7-day period which is more than 2/3rd of the debt. Option A is incorrect because the passage specifies that the company must receive approval from creditors representing 2/3rd in value of the company's debt, not just a simple majority of creditors.

57. Ans. a

Sol. Option A is correct because the passage clearly states that the process can be initiated only with the directors of the company making a unanimous declaration in the form of an affidavit, confirming that the company has no debt, is solvent, and is not being liquidated to defraud anyone. Hence this declaration is a mandatory requirement under the IBBI (Voluntary Liquidation Process) Regulations, 2017, and failure to comply with this requirement can lead to the rejection of the application for voluntary liquidation. Option B is incorrect because the declaration of solvency is a mandatory requirement and cannot be skipped even if the company is solvent. Option C is incorrect because the declaration of solvency is required irrespective of whether the company owes any debt to any person or not. Option D is incorrect because the declaration of solvency must be made by the directors of the company and not by the insolvency professional appointed as the liquidator.

58. Ans. d

Sol. Option D is correct because the passage clearly states that once the affairs of the company have been fully wound up, the liquidator must make an application to the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) for the dissolution of the corporate person. The NCLT will pass an order for the dissolution of the company from the date of the order. Option A is incorrect because the NCLT plays a crucial role in the process of voluntary liquidation by passing an order for the dissolution of the company. Option B is incorrect because the appointment of the liquidator is approved by the shareholders and not by the NCLT. Option C is incorrect because the resolution passed for voluntary liquidation is approved by the shareholders and not by the NCLT.

59. Ans. b

Sol. Option B is correct because the passage states that the HC took note of DU's submissions and observed that information regarding "personal information of third parties which include education qualification and their degrees" cannot be given out under the RTI Act and hence the Central Information Commission or State Information Commission would not have jurisdiction in such case.

60. Ans. a

Sol. Option A is correct because the passage states that the High Court imposed a cost of Rs 25,000 on Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, who had requested information which cannot be covered under the RTI Act, suggesting that the court has the authority to impose costs in such cases. Option B is incorrect because, although Vidhi has a right to request information under the RTI Act, the passage does not mention any restrictions on the imposition of costs by the High Court. Option C is incorrect because the passage does not provide any such criteria for determining when the High Court may impose costs on individuals requesting information under the RTI Act. Option D is incorrect

because the passage clearly states that the High Court imposed a cost on Arvind Kejriwal for his RTI request, indicating that such costs can be imposed in certain circumstances.

61. Ans. b

Sol. Option B is correct because the passage states that the information regarding personal information of third parties cannot be given out under the RTI Act, which would apply to Mr. Smith's academic records. Third person include all and not restricted to Prime Minister only.

62. Ans. b

Sol. Option B is correct because the passage mentions a case in which the Delhi High Court observed that information regarding "personal information of third parties" cannot be given out under the RTI Act, implying that there are situations where such disclosure is not permitted.

63. Ans. (c)

Sol. As seen from the passage, Section 354 applies only to women and not men. The gender of the aggressor is not mentioned in the Section and therefore it is irrelevant whether the professor was male or female. The victim, Mr. Vidhaan is a male and therefore his modesty being outraged by his professor would not attract Section 354 of the Indian Penal Code. Therefore Option (c) is correct. Option (a) is incorrect because even though it is a true statement, Mr. Vidhaan's rights are not covered under the same. Option (b) is incorrect because it is a false statement.

64. Ans. a

Sol. The act of Vidhan would be considered be to outrage the modesty of Vidhi as in the passage the court has considered grapping of breast, trying to remove her panty and touching her intimate parts to be sufficient enough to consider the accused to be liable for the offence. Therefore the act of Vidhan of brushing his hands over her tights and intimate parts in this case would also amount to the offence.

65. Ans. (d)

Sol. As seen from the question, the promotion was due to Ms. Vidhi for 2 years and even though Ms. Vidhi has been wronged in the current scenario, the wrong does not attract Section 354 of the Indian Penal Code as Mr. Vidhaan has not done the same to outrage her modesty. Therefore Option (d) is the correct answer. Option (a) is incorrect because the intent behind not promoting was professional and because he was outraging Ms. Vidhi's modesty. Option (b) is incorrect because it is inconclusive because the question does not give a reason as to why Ms. Vidhi was not promoted. Option (c) is incorrect as it is a statement which has no relevance with the question.

66. Ans. (b)

Sol. The above mentioned passage provides that the law provides that only the offence of assault or use of criminal force under section 352 and 355 may be compounded by the person assaulted or to whom criminal force was used. Compoundable offences are those crimes where the persons who filed the case (victim) agrees to drop the charges against the accused by a genuine compromise entered between them after the filing of case and in the court. Hence the case cannot be compounded. Further the question provides that

prima facie the facts suggests the invocation of section 354. Further the conviction has no relevance in this case.

67. Ans. (d)

Sol. As seen in the above mentioned passage, all the above statements can be reasonably assumed and therefore the same can be reasonably assumed. For those reasons Option (d) is the correct answer.

68. Ans. (b)

Sol. As seen from the passage, the punishment under Section 354 can be either imprisonment or fine or both. Both imprisonment and fine were also given in the above mentioned passage which can be seen in Statement II. Therefore Option (b) is correct.

69. Ans. a

Sol. Option (a) is correct as stated in the passage and observed by the High court, a writ cannot be dismissed merely on the ground that an alternate remedy is present. Options b, c, and d must be rejected as the statement cannot be stated under the passage.

70. Ans. c

Sol. option (c) is correct as Article 226 does not, in any terms, impose any limitation or restraint on the exercise of power to issue writs. The writ power of High Court being plenary in nature is absolute and cannot be restricted or limited. Options a, b, and d must be rejected as the statements cannot be stated under the passage.

71. Ans. a

Sol. option (a) is correct because the judgement clearly states that the petitions cannot be dismissed on the ground of alternative remedies being available. Applying the same principle for the Supreme Court when it is considering writ petition, the Supreme Court also cannot dismiss the petition merely on the ground that there is an alternative remedy available. Such a refusal by the Supreme Court is not valid on the given ground.

72. Ans. a

Sol. Option a) is correct as a writ petition despite being maintainable may not be entertained by a High Court for very many reasons or relief could even be refused to the petitioner, despite setting up a sound legal point. Option b, c, and d must be rejected as the statements cannot be stated under the passage.

73. Ans. b

Sol. option b is correct as a writ petition despite being maintainable may not be entertained by a High Court for very many reasons or relief could even be refused to the petitioner, despite setting up a sound legal point, if grant of the claimed relief would not further public interest but rejecting it when public interest is involved in its passage would be considered an arbitrary and illegal exercise of the discretion. Options a, c, and d must be rejected as the statements cannot be stated under the passage.

74. Ans. b

Sol. option b) is correct as Narco-analysis tests can only be done after obtaining the consent of the accused. Options a, c, and d must be rejected as the statements cannot be stated under the passage.

75. Ans. a

Sol. Option a) is correct as The Supreme Court had said in its order that “no individual should be forcibly subjected to any of the techniques in question, whether in the context of investigation in criminal cases or otherwise. Options c cannot be considered correct option as all narco-analysis tests are not considered be violative of fundamental right as the one which has been consented by the accused is valid as per the passage.

76. Ans. c

Sol. Option (c) is correct as the passage provides that in May 2017, the founder of INX Media, Indrani Mukerjea, who was facing trial for the alleged murder of her daughter Sheena Bora in 2012, had offered to undergo the lie detector test, which was refused by the court, stating that it is not the right of the accused or victim to ask for the test as it is prerogative of the investigating agency to seek for it. Hence the victim or the accused has no right to seek the conduction of the test.

77. Ans. b

Sol. Option (b) is correct as forcing this forceful test leads to a violation of right such as the right to personal liberty. The right to self-incrimination would not come into play as she is the witness and not an accused and the protection of Article 20(2) is to the accused. Options (a) (c) and (d) do not give the appropriate answer. Option (d) is concerned with testing of victims.

78. Ans. c

Sol. Option (c) is correct because the passage provides that the Supreme Court had said in its order that “no individual should be forcibly subjected to any of the techniques in question, whether in the context of investigation in criminal cases or otherwise”, and expanded the same rule to others (i.e. persons other than accused like witnesses, victims, their families) who can be made to undergo the test only if they consent to it.

79. Ans. b

Sol. Option B is correct because the question provides the supposition that bill has been enacted. Hence it would be enforceable irrespective of the vagueness in the provisions of the Act.

80. Ans. a

Sol. Option A is correct because the Draft Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022 has been enacted into law and it permits Central and state governments to impose internet shutdowns or suspend telecommunication services based on the subjective satisfaction of a public emergency or threat to public safety. Here communal unrest is a valid reason to apply the internet shutdown.

81. Ans. c

Sol. Option C is correct because Vidhan's main argument is that the authorities have not followed the tests of necessity, expediency, and proportionality as laid down in the Anuradha Bhasin case. This failure to adhere to the guidelines infringes on his freedom of expression. Further the Bill is only a proposal and hence not been enacted yet. Therefore it would not override the judgment. Hence the judgment has to be followed.

82. Ans. c

Sol. Option C is correct because it addresses the specific issue of enhancing consultation and transparency in subordinate legislation, which is in line with the practices from the United States' Administrative Procedure Act, as Vidhan advocates. Option B is incorrect because, although it partially addresses the issue of vague provisions in the Bill, it does not completely deal with the problem or directly relate to the adoption of practices from the United States' Administrative Procedure Act, which is Vidhan's primary concern.

83. Ans. c

Sol. Option C is correct because the passage states that the Draft Indian Telecommunication Bill, 2022, through Clause 24, risks exacerbating India's internet shutdown problem by granting the executive broad powers to impose shutdowns and could lead to charges of excessive delegation due to the lack of guidelines. Option A is incorrect because the passage suggests that the lack of guidelines in the Bill may lead to unreasonable shutdowns, which is likely to decrease public trust, not increase it. Option B is incorrect because the passage does not mention that the Bill in its current form would lead to increased transparency and a decrease in the number of internet shutdowns. Option D is incorrect because, without proper guidelines, the Bill is more likely to infringe upon individual rights rather than enhancing their protection.

84. Ans. c

Sol. option C is correct because the passage provides that in the landmark case of Anuradha Bhasin, the Court recognized use of internet under freedom of expression and held that shutdown orders must meet the tests of necessity, expediency, and proportionality. Reasonable justification and relative measures would be in consonance with this guideline. Further the statement is talking about present case which as per the passage mean when the Bill has not yet been enacted. Statement I is incorrect because passage provides that while some delegation of powers is inevitable and preferable, excessive delegation is a cause for concern. Hence all delegations cannot be considered necessary. Statement III is incorrect because internet shutdown to prevent or curb the religious violence promoted by internet services would meet the tests of necessity, expediency, and proportionality. Statement IV is incorrect because the passage does not talk about prior judicial approval for every internet shutdown order rather it is concerned about the executive decisions to be in line with Anuradha Bhasin judgement.

Section D-Logical Reasoning

85. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The main focus of the platform, as mentioned in the passage, is to serve as a one-stop digital clearing house for credit-related information, which would ease the flow of credit, especially to small and marginal borrowers. This can be inferred from the text: "...is a well-intentioned move that is aimed at easing the flow of credit, especially to small and marginal borrowers." and "...can help redress precisely this challenge to the delivery of formal credit..." Option (a) is incorrect because while the platform will have "open architecture, open APIs, and standards", the main purpose isn't merely the facilitation of seamless data flow but to ease the flow of credit to specific borrowers. This point is a feature, not the primary goal. Option (b) is incorrect because the pilot project and the validation of technology for specific products like the Kisan

Credit Card loans are part of the implementation process. It's not the main reason behind the platform's establishment. This is more of a method than an end goal. Option (c) can be a trap since the platform does aim to be a "one-stop digital clearing house for credit-related information." However, this is a means to achieve the primary goal, which is facilitating the credit process for small and marginal borrowers. Hence (d)

86. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The statement in question serves as a foundational statement or introduction to what follows in the passage. It does not assert an arguable position by itself but rather provides a context. The fact that it's "well-intentioned" serves as a base from which the author builds and explains the reasons for this plan, which makes it a premise. This is reflected in the subsequent details and conclusions drawn in the passage. Option (a) is incorrect because while the statement does comment on the RBI's intentions, it does so in a manner that sets the stage for the subsequent narrative. It doesn't stand alone as an arguable point. Option (c) is a trap. Even though it talks about a "factual narrative," the statement in the context of the entire passage is more of an initiator than a standalone fact or claim. Option (d) is incorrect because the introduction of an opinion doesn't necessarily make a statement a premise. However, in this context, the opinion is used to lay the groundwork for the points made in the passage. But by making it sound as if the premise is an opinion, this option can confuse a reader who doesn't delve deeper into the context. Hence (b)

87. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The passage mentions that "barely a fifth of the more than 12.5 crore small and marginal farmers have access to institutional credit," highlighting the scale of the problem and the dire need for a solution like the proposed platform. Option (a) is incorrect because although the platform aims to make loan approvals faster, the central argument of the author is about the lack of formal credit access, especially among small farmers. Option (b) is incorrect because this statement is accurate according to the passage, but it speaks to a consequence of the problem (high interest rates from informal sources) rather than the scale of the problem, which is more crucial to the argument. Option (c) is incorrect because the passage does not directly link the platform to the overall economic stability of India. Instead, it focuses on how the platform can address the specific problem of credit inaccessibility. Hence (d)

88. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The author's main argument revolves around the platform's potential to ease credit flow, especially for marginalized borrowers. A significant factor in making the system effective would be accessibility. If a considerable chunk of farmers lacks the infrastructure to access this digital solution, it weakens the entire premise. Option (a) is incorrect because this statement may seem like a potential counter-argument, but the passage does not suggest that digitization alone is the solution, just that it can "help redress" the challenge. Option (b) is incorrect because although the passage mentions the platform's initial focus on particular loans, it doesn't necessarily weaken the argument, as starting with specific loan products is often typical for pilot projects to test and refine the system. Option (d) is incorrect because the argument revolves around the platform's potential to gather credit-related information. However, the passage does not specifically delve into the data's accuracy or discrepancies that might arise, making this option less directly relevant. Hence (c).

89. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The passage introduces the 'Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit' as a one-stop digital clearing house for credit-related information which should "accelerate the loan approval and disbursal process." This suggests that there was previously an information gap or challenge in obtaining accurate borrower data that the platform is attempting to address. Option (b) is incorrect because while the platform is expected to accelerate the loan approval process, the primary emphasis in the passage is on the lack of formal credit penetration and not necessarily the speed of the current system. Though the passage mentions "credit-sans-collateral to MSMEs" as one of the products for the pilot product, it does not specify MSMEs as having unique challenges separate from other small borrowers, thus option (c) is incorrect because. Option (d) is incorrect because the passage does mention some states where local governments have digitized land records but doesn't suggest that only a few states in total have done so.

90. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. It encapsulates the broader essence of the passage, discussing the government's multiple interventions to address the rising onion prices and their effects. The passage provides an overview of these interventions and the resultant market reactions. Option (a) is misleading because, while the passage mentions potential tomato imports from Nepal as a way to stabilize prices, it is not the main focus of the passage. The reference to Nepal and tomatoes was more of a specific example rather than the overarching theme. Option (b), while factually accurate to some extent, is too specific. The surge in onion prices is discussed, but the reasons cited in the option (export levies and unfavourable weather) are just two among many factors. The passage delves into a broader range of policy measures and market reactions. Option (d) zeroes in on a specific detail about Piyush Goyal's promise, which, though mentioned in the passage, doesn't capture the main idea which is more about the balance between government intervention, market reactions, and the resulting implications for both consumers and producers. Hence (c).

91. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The author's primary contention revolves around the potential unintended consequences of abrupt government policy changes, particularly in the context of food prices. The passage discusses the government's attempts at stabilizing rising onion prices and the subsequent market reactions. Option (b) encapsulates this argument by stating that swift interventions might exacerbate the issues they're designed to address. This notion is supported by the passage's mention of the Bank of Baroda report, which suggests that export curbs could "reinforce the scarcity factor worrying markets and push up prices further." Option (a), while plausible in a general context, is not directly supported by the passage's focus on domestic reactions to government policies. Option (c) touches on a valid concern for farmers. Still, the primary emphasis of the passage is on the immediate reactions to policy changes, not the long-term planning decisions of farmers. Option (d), while referencing a specific group affected (onion traders), focuses on predictability in pricing, whereas the main argument of the passage emphasizes the broader consequences of government interventions on market dynamics. Hence (b).

92. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The main thrust of the author's argument centers on the potential negative implications of the government's rapid interventions, especially concerning food prices and their immediate repercussions on the market. Option (a) weakens this argument most directly by suggesting that rapid interventions have a history of stabilizing markets in a short timeframe. If true, this would counter the author's claim about the potential for such policies to exacerbate problems, as mentioned with the reference to the Bank of Baroda report. Option (b) speaks to the preferences of onion traders but doesn't necessarily counter the broader argument about the potential negative consequences of hasty policy decisions. Option (c) focuses on a specific group (farmers in Nashik) and their historical experiences. While this might seem like a counter-argument, it is too localized to comprehensively challenge the general assertions made in the passage. Option (d), although it provides an international perspective, is a broad statement that lacks specific reference to the type of interventions or the context in which they were implemented, making it less directly relevant to the author's argument. Hence (a).

93. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. For the author's concerns about the government's rapid interventions to be valid, there's an underlying belief that a more measured, long-term approach would be preferable. This is hinted at in statements like "Building durable food supply chains... needs greater attention." The implication is that quick fixes might not be the best approach, suggesting a preference for longer-term planning. Option (a) is too extreme in its phrasing. The author does not suggest that government interventions universally lack foresight, but rather that the quick interventions in this specific context might have unintended consequences. Option (b) is misleading. While onion prices are a focal point in the passage, there is no indication that they are the sole or primary indicator of the health of the entire food market. Option (d) overstates a particular example from the passage. The author mentions tomato imports from Nepal as an instance where external solutions might be beneficial, but does not make a universal claim about all imports always stabilizing the market. Hence (c)

94. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The passage presents a series of actions taken by the government to address rising food prices, indicating their recurring need to intervene due to various challenges. From imposing an export levy on onions to setting stock limits on pulses and wheat, these actions suggest that the government frequently grapples with volatile commodity prices. Option (a) accurately captures this inference, reflecting the government's ongoing efforts to manage price fluctuations. Option (b) is contradicted by the passage, which mentions that "Onion traders and farmers, in the midst of the first upturn in prices after almost two years, were not impressed." This suggests there's not universal support for government decisions. Option (c) is too restrictive. While external factors like rainfall are mentioned, the passage indicates multiple variables, including government policies that influence food prices. Option (d) misinterprets a specific example. The passage notes that tomato imports from Nepal helped stabilize prices but doesn't suggest it as the only or primary solution. Hence (a)

95. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. Pakistan's leaders lack commitment to address the misuse of blasphemy laws. The passage explicitly states, "But the rising violence and growing criticism have done nothing to push Pakistan's leaders to address the menace." This shows that despite increased violence and criticism, the leadership has not taken action to address the problems arising due to the blasphemy laws. Option (a) is a trap because, while the passage does mention that the blasphemy law has colonial origins, it does not emphasize this as the primary concern. The focus is on the current misuse and consequences of the law. Option (c) is misleading because, although the Senate did pass a bill to increase punishment, the main issue as discussed in the passage is the misuse and empowerment of extremist sections rather than the increase in punishment per se. Option (d) does resonate with a part of the passage stating that the misuse of the laws empowers extremists. However, the more pressing concern presented in the text is the lack of action and commitment from Pakistan's leaders to rectify the situation, making option (b) the best answer.

96. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. This would further emphasize the author's main ideas regarding the blasphemy laws, as the passage mentions multiple instances where mobs have taken justice into their own hands, even leading to violence. It's also in line with the author's discussion of misuse and the dangers of these laws. Option (b) is incorrect because in the passage the author says that, 'The authorities should at least take urgent measures to stop the violence in the name of blasphemy. Such incidents only reinforce the sectarian fault lines of Pakistan's state and society.' that means the authorities have not yet taken any such steps. Option (c) is incorrect as it is given in the first paragraph of the passage that, 'In the Jaranwala incident too, according to reports, the authorities were slow to respond, raising questions on whether the state is willing to protect Pakistan's religious minorities from repeated mob violence, especially when it comes to attacks in the name of blasphemy. In Pakistan, blasphemy is punishable by death, though nobody has been executed to date.' Option (d) is incorrect as in the second paragraph, it has been contradicted in the following lines, 'Pakistan's judiciary have in recent years expressed their concerns over the misuse of the blasphemy laws. The Islamabad High Court had once suggested that Parliament amend the laws to give stronger punishment to those who raise false blasphemy allegations. But the rising violence and growing criticism have done nothing to push Pakistan's leaders to address the menace.' Hence (a).

97. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. A majority of blasphemy allegations lead to peaceful resolutions in community dialogues. If most of the blasphemy allegations were resolved peacefully, it would counter the author's main point about the laws leading to violence, mob justice, and mistreatment of religious minorities. This would severely weaken the argument that the blasphemy laws are dangerous in their current form. Option (b) is misleading because the focus of the passage is the misuse and consequences of blasphemy laws within Pakistan, not a comparison with other countries. The fact that it's misused elsewhere doesn't necessarily weaken the author's argument about its misuse in Pakistan. Option (c) is a trap. While a decrease in violent incidents might seem like a weakening point, the author's primary concern is the misuse of the law itself, whether it leads to violence or not. The passage talks about both the misuse of the laws and the resulting violence, but it emphasizes more on the misuse. Option (d) while a positive

development, would not directly weaken the argument about the current dangers and misuse of the blasphemy laws. Instead, it would suggest a potential solution or change in the future. Hence (a)

98. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. Stronger punishments should be instated for those raising false blasphemy allegations. The passage explicitly mentions that "The Islamabad High Court had once suggested that Parliament amend the laws to give stronger punishment to those who raise false blasphemy allegations." Option (a) is a trap because the passage does discuss the problems with the blasphemy laws, but it never specifically states that the Islamabad High Court suggested they be repealed. Option (c) is misleading as the Islamabad High Court's concern was more about punishing those who misuse the law by raising false allegations, not making the blasphemy laws themselves stricter. Option (d) is incorrect because the passage does highlight concerns for religious minorities, but it doesn't say the Islamabad High Court recommended they be exempt from the blasphemy laws. Hence (b).

99. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. The state's response, or lack thereof, can embolden extremist sections of society. The passage argues that the authorities have been mostly spectators when mobs take matters into their own hands and that the slow response in incidents raises questions about the state's willingness to protect religious minorities. For these concerns to be valid, the underlying assumption is that when the state doesn't respond or responds inadequately, it can empower extremist factions, leading to more violence. Option (a) is a trap. While the passage does highlight misuse of the blasphemy laws, it doesn't claim that all accusations are false or malicious. Option (b) is misleading. Even though the author mentions the colonial origins of the law and suggests it doesn't have a place in a modern state, the primary argument is based on the misuse and dangers of the law, not its origins. Option (c) is a subtle diversion. The passage is concerned about the violence against religious minorities and the misuse of blasphemy laws, but it doesn't make a blanket statement that minorities should always be provided with more protections than majorities. Hence (d).

100. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. It highlights the growers' grievance about the Centre's inaction when onion prices were low but taking measures when prices started to rise. The passage states, "The government does nothing when prices are low, but goes all out the moment they start rising." Option (a) is a valid concern from the passage ("Farmers of onion, potato, and tomato... do not benefit from any MSP-based procurement by government agencies."), but it doesn't directly address the recent decisions made by the Centre. Option (c) is a factual statement in the passage, mentioning "unseasonal excess rains in March-April caused damage," but it does not directly highlight a grievance with the Centre's actions. Option (d), while based on the information that fewer onions were stored due to damage ("not only did a lower quantity of the bulb get stored..."), doesn't capture the main grievance about the Centre's neglect and sudden action. The inability to store onions in "kanda chawls" is a consequence of the rains, not a direct action by the Centre. Hence (b).

101. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. Option (a): The passage does not indicate that the government intervenes frequently during price decreases. The text states, "The government does nothing when prices are low," which contradicts this option. Option (b): The sentiment throughout the passage is that the government's actions, such as the export ban and the imposition of stock limits, are not seen as supporting farmers' interests. This is highlighted by phrases like, "The government does nothing when prices are low, but goes all out the moment they start rising," and mentions of the government's decision leaving a "bad taste in the mouth of growers." Option (c): This is the correct answer. The passage indicates that the government's intervention typically occurs when prices start rising, as seen in "But when prices...crossed Rs 20/kg towards mid-August...the antennas went up, culminating in the August 19 decision virtually banning exports." Option (d): The government is portrayed as reactive, particularly when prices rise. The passage does not suggest a consistent balance in interventions for both high and low prices. As mentioned earlier, "The government does nothing when prices are low." Hence (c).

102. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. Option (a): This is a trap for those who may have skimmed the text and missed the nuance. The passage specifically mentions that government actions, "make a mockery of the farm reform laws sought to be enacted hardly three years ago." Option (b): While the text does talk about the "kanda chawls" and how farmers store onions there for staggered sales later on, it does not suggest that they are "largely shielded" from market price fluctuations. In fact, it highlights how unseasonal rains impacted the storage and subsequently the prices. Option (c): This is the correct answer. The passage emphasizes that recent government actions, like the export bans and imposition of stock limits, have not only been repealed in letter but have also undermined the spirit of the farm reform laws. This point strengthens the author's argument about the short-sightedness of the government's actions. Option (d): This is a subtle trap. While the passage discusses government procurement as a measure, it does not suggest it as the "most effective way." The mention of a "paltry 2 lakh tonnes" procurement indicates skepticism about its effectiveness. Hence (c).

103. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. Option (a): While the passage mentions that onion growers do not benefit from MSP-based procurements like some other crops, it does not suggest it as a solution in alignment with recent farm reforms. Option (b): This is a trap, based on the government's recent action that the author criticizes. The passage notes the government's propensity to intervene when prices rise but does not suggest it as a consistent or recommended approach in line with farm reforms. Option (c): is the correct answer. The passage highlights that "unseasonal excess rains in March-April caused damage to a significant part of the harvested onions." By addressing this core issue, the government would likely help stabilize prices without resorting to export bans or other interventions that contradict the spirit of farm reforms. Option (d): The focus of the passage is not on increasing export duty consistently but on the sudden decision to impose a significant export duty, which was reactive to the situation. This option does not capture the essence of the concerns raised in the passage. Hence (c).

104. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. Option (a): While this might hint at larger global factors influencing onion prices, it does not directly weaken the author's argument about the

specific government response being inappropriate. Option (b): This is the correct answer. The author's main grievance is that the government's actions contradict the spirit of the farm reforms from three years ago. If those reforms themselves supported such bans, then the author's criticism would be weakened. Option (c): The earnings of farmers from "kanda chawls" are mentioned in the context of their strategy of staggered sales to recoup losses. Even if they reported profits, it does not counter the central argument regarding the government's reactive interventions. Option (d): The support of domestic consumers does not directly challenge the author's point about the inconsistency of the government's actions with recent farm reforms.

105. Ans: b

Sol: Option (b) is correct. The central argument of the author revolves around the apparent contradiction between India's youthful population and its aging workforce. The passage distinctly mentions, "However, in reality, India's workforce is ageing, notwithstanding its increasingly youthful demography." Hence, option (b) directly strengthens this argument by underlining the observed mismatch. In (a) 'While an aging workforce might impact global competitiveness, the passage does not dwell on this angle. Thus, while this isn't incorrect, it isn't the best answer either. Option (c) states that the low participation rate of young women is indeed mentioned in the passage. However, it's one of the factors contributing to the broader problem but doesn't directly strengthen the main argument about the aging workforce versus the youthful population. Option (d) is incorrect because the passage doesn't touch upon global technological shifts as a factor. Introducing this point can be misleading and deviates from the main theme of the passage. Hence (b).

106. Ans: c

Sol: Option (c) is correct. The overarching theme of the passage is the apparent contradiction between India's youthful population and its increasingly aging workforce. The passage mentions, "However, in reality, India's workforce is ageing, notwithstanding its increasingly youthful demography." This statement aligns directly with option (c), which encapsulates this paradox. Option (a) statement is true based on the passage ("India has witnessed rising levels of youth unemployment in the recent past"), it is just one component of the broader problem and does not directly capture the paradox in focus. Option (b) is a factual detail from the passage, but it narrowly focuses on one data point and does not directly address the central paradox about the youthful population versus the aging workforce. Option (d) is another detail mentioned in the passage and, while important, it is a subset of the broader issue and doesn't encapsulate the core paradox. Hence (c).

107. Ans: a

Sol: Option (a) is correct. The core of the author's argument is based on data from the CMIE. If the integrity or accuracy of this data is challenged, it would directly weaken the foundation of the author's claims. The passage relies on this data to discuss the paradox of India's aging workforce despite a youthful population. Challenging the data's validity, as done in option (a) directly weakens this argument. Option (b) statement suggests a positive trend for India's youth, it doesn't directly counter the data-driven claim about the workforce's aging. Improved education might even be expected to lead to better employment numbers for the youth, making this discrepancy even more puzzling. Option (c) suggests an alternate explanation for the decline in youth participation in the

traditional workforce. However, it doesn't directly challenge the core data or argument. Instead, it offers a possible reason for the observed trend. Option (d) might challenge the implicit assumption that an aging workforce is bad for the economy. However, it doesn't specifically weaken the central paradox noted by the author about India's youthful population versus its aging workforce. Hence (a)

108. Ans: d

Sol: Option (d) is correct. It highlights the need to address the skills gap and improve the employability of India's youth. This is inferred from the portion of the passage that mentions, "Policymakers need to examine why this is happening but prima facie this trend suggests a skills deficit." and "Raising the employability of India's youth should be treated at par with the broader concern of creating more jobs in the economy." Option (a); While the passage does mention issues of unemployment, specifically rising youth unemployment, the overarching challenge is not just to reduce unemployment but to enhance the employability of the youth, which is inferred from the skills deficit. Option (b); The passage does mention India's low female labour force participation rate. However, the larger issue at hand seems to be the skills gap and employability, given that even those young individuals entering the workforce are not finding jobs. Option (c); the passage indicates that while India has a significant population under 30, it doesn't explicitly state that job creation should be specifically for the youngest age bracket. Instead, it emphasizes the disconnect between the youthful population and the aging workforce, suggesting employability is the primary concern. Hence (d)

Section E-Quantitative Techniques

109. Ans. c

Sol.

Total amount of bill = $2000 - 450 = 1550$

Hence, option (c) is correct.

110. Ans. d

Sol.

Total amount of bill = 2500

Let the amount paid by Vidushi = Rs. X

Therefore,

The amount paid by Vidyut = Rs. (X + 50)

The amount paid by Vidya = Rs. (X + 50 - 200) = Rs. (X - 150)

The amount paid by Vidhan = Rs. (X - 150 + 150) = Rs. X

The amount paid by Vidhi = Rs. (X + 100)

Required % = $X/X = 100\%$

Hence, option (d) is correct.

111. Ans. a

Sol.

Total amount loose by restaurant = 2000

Hence, option (a) is correct.

112. Ans. b

Sol.

Total amount of bill = 1540

The amount paid by Vidhan = $1540/2 = 770$

The amount paid by Vidhi and Vidya together = $770/2 = 385$

Hence, option (b) is correct.

113. Ans. b

Sol.

Required % difference = $10/27.8 = 35.97\%$

Hence, option (b) is correct.

114. Ans. c

Sol.

Ratio = 45: 45.6 = 75:76

Hence, option (c) is correct.

115. Ans. a

Sol.

Intra-state migrants were 39.6 crores and 26.3 crores in 2011 and 2001 respectively.

Average = $(39.6 + 26.3)/2 = 32.95$

Hence, option (a) is correct.

116. Ans. d

Sol.

Total number of female migrants in 2021 = $30.96 * 120\% = 37.152$ crore

Hence, option (d) is correct.

117. Ans. b

Sol. Explanation

On every order two fruits are put in the basket, hence

Total number of fruits in the basket = total order*2 = $17*2 = 34$

Hence, option (b) is correct.

118. Ans. d

Sol. Explanation

No. of Jackfruits = $2*(\text{number of three digits in order}) = 2*3 = 6$

Hence, option (d) is correct.

119. Ans. c

Sol. Explanation

Currently No. of jackfruits in basket = 6

ATQ, No. of jackfruits in basket = 10

Hence, required no. of Jackfruits required = $10-6 = 4$

=> No. of orders to be placed = $4/2 = 2$

Hence, option (c) is correct.

120. Ans. a

Sol. Explanation

Currently No. of Mangoes and Oranges in basket = $34 - 6 = 28$

ATQ, No. of Mangoes and Oranges in basket = 30

Hence, required no. of Mangoes and Oranges required = $30 - 28 = 2$

=> No. of orders to be placed = $2/2 = 1$

Hence, option (a) is correct.

VIDHIGYA