

**NISHANT PRAKASH LAW CLASSES**

**COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST 2025-26**

**MOCK CLAT 132**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

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

**Maximum Marks: 120**

1. Detach and keep the carbon-copy OMR response sheet that comes with the question booklet; this is your only answer sheet.
2. If you spot any defect in your question booklet, immediately ask the invigilator for a replacement set along with a fresh OMR sheet—do not reuse the previous OMR.
3. Only one blank OMR sheet will be provided under any circumstance, so treat it carefully and avoid damage.
4. Answer every question; no queries or clarifications about the question paper will be entertained during the exam.
5. Electronic gadgets (phones, smartwatches, etc.) are strictly forbidden inside the examination hall.
6. Any attempt at using unfair means will lead to cancellation of your exam.
7. Impersonation is a serious offense: it results in disqualification and possible legal action.
8. The exam comprises 120 multiple-choice questions for a total of 120 marks; note that 0.25 marks are deducted for each incorrect answer or if more than one option is shaded.
9. Use only a black or blue ballpoint pen to fill in your roll number and other identification details on the OMR sheet.
10. Shade the chosen answer circle completely (with black/blue pen), selecting exactly one option per question—partial or multiple shading invalidates the response.
11. Since responses on the OMR cannot be erased or changed, be sure before you mark any circle.
12. Retain your admit card, duly signed by the invigilator; you will need to present it when required (e.g., at admission).
13. Handle the OMR sheet gently—do not fold it. Ensure both invigilator and you sign in the designated spaces. Also, write the question booklet number and the OMR sheet number as instructed, sign the attendance sheet, and after the exam, return the original OMR page to the invigilator. Only fill in information in the allotted fields—avoid any stray markings.

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## ENGLISH (INCLUDING READING COMPREHENSION)

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

**Passage 1:** India's annual agriculture growth averaged 3.7 per cent during the 10 years that ended 2023-24 under the Narendra Modi government. This was better than the 3.5 per cent during the 10 years of the United Progressive Alliance dispensation, which, in turn, was higher than the 2.9 per cent average of the preceding two decades. This growth pick-up, more so in the last decade as per a recent paper by NITI Aayog member Ramesh Chand and Jaspal Singh, belies the general perception of a sector steeped in crisis. But there's a catch to this optimistic picture. Much of the seeming farm sector buoyancy of the recent period has come from the livestock and fisheries subsectors. These registered an average year-on-year output growth of 5.8 per cent and 9.1 per cent respectively during 2014-15 to 2022-23. However, the crops subsector, which one normally associates with agriculture, grew by just 2.3 per cent, lower than even the 3.4 per cent during the 10 years ended 2013-14 under the UPA.

Moreover, even within crops, there is a divergence between horticulture and non-horticulture. Horticulture crops production rose at an average annual rate of 3.9 per cent during 2014-15 to 2022-23. The same for non-horticulture or field crops was a meagre 1.6 per cent. In sum, the so-called agriculture growth drivers have basically been farming of animals, fish, vegetables and fruit. The "crisis" really is in regular field crops. That isn't without irony. The benefits of minimum support price (MSP) and other government intervention measures are directed mostly to field crops, especially rice and wheat. In contrast, the "support" that milk, poultry meat, eggs, fish and horticulture crops receive is largely from the market. Their growth is demand-led, with Indians increasingly consuming foods rich in proteins, vitamins and minerals.

Not surprisingly, the states that have posted the highest agricultural growth in recent times — whether Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh or Maharashtra and Gujarat — are the ones shown to have diversified most into livestock, aqua and horticulture farming. The laggards — the likes of Punjab and Haryana — have more or less been cereals- and field crops-focused. The policy lesson here is that farmers are better off when they produce what the market wants and they should be enabled to do so. The way forward is to dispense with MSP and crop-specific support. These should be replaced with per-acre transfers assuring farmers of a minimum income that induces them to be more risk-taking and market-oriented. Farmers need access to credit, insurance and technology. The government can do more to facilitate their provision, instead of meddling with markets and distorting farmers' planting or rearing decisions.

[Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/editorials/lessons-from-recent-farm-sector-buoyancy-9615998/>]

**Q.1** The "catch" mentioned in the line: *But there's a catch to this optimistic picture* refers to:

- A. The fact that overall agriculture growth is still below 4 per cent.
- B. The observation that much of the growth comes from subsectors other than traditional crops.
- C. The irony that government support is misaligned with actual growth drivers.
- D. The divergence between states in adopting market-oriented farming.

**Q.2** In line 5, the word "buoyancy" most nearly means:

- A. Superficial appearance of prosperity that masks deeper problems.
- B. Sustained upward trend in productivity driven by innovation.
- C. Temporary fluctuation in growth due to external factors.
- D. Steady resilience and ability to remain economically afloat.

**Q.3** What is the primary purpose of the author's argument in the passage?

- A. To demonstrate that India's agriculture sector is no longer in crisis due to overall growth.
- B. To critique the government's minimum support price policy as ineffective for most farmers.
- C. To highlight that non-crop subsectors have driven growth and propose policy realignment.
- D. To praise states like Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat for their agricultural diversification.

**Q.4** Which statement best describes the author's stance on minimum support price (MSP) and crop-specific support?

- A. The author believes MSP has been essential for stabilizing farmers' incomes and should be expanded.
- B. The author suggests MSP is misdirected and should be replaced with unconditional income transfers.
- C. The author feels MSP has played no role in the sector's performance and is therefore irrelevant.
- D. The author argues MSP should be retained for field crops but extended to horticulture and livestock.

**Q.5** The phrase "That isn't without irony" employs which literary device?

- A. Metonymy    B. Hyperbole    C. Litotes    D. Chiasmus

**Q.6** Which of the following statements follows a reasoning pattern most similar to the line: *The policy lesson here is that farmers are better off when they produce what the market wants and they should be enabled to do so.*

- A. Students excel academically if they focus solely on rote learning and exam preparation.
- B. Small businesses thrive when they cater to consumer demand rather than dictate market terms.
- C. Urban planners succeed only when they enforce top-down zoning regulations.
- D. Employees are happiest when employers prescribe every aspect of their daily tasks.

**Passage 2:** The mineral-rich east of the Democratic Republic of Congo has been dogged by conflict for more than 30 years, since the 1994 Rwandan genocide. Numerous armed groups have competed with the central authorities for power and control of the potential fortune in this vast nation. The instability has sucked in neighbouring countries to devastating effect – notoriously in the 1990s when two huge conflicts, dubbed Africa's World Wars, resulted in the deaths of millions of people. An upsurge in the conflict since the beginning of this year which saw major advances by a rebel group known as the M23 has renewed attention on the region.

The M23 is led by ethnic Tutsis, who say they needed to take up arms to protect the rights of the minority group. They say that several previous deals to end decades of fighting in the region have not been respected - they take their name from a peace agreement that was signed with a previous Tutsi-led rebel group on 23 March 2009. Shortly after its creation in 2012, the M23 rapidly gained territory and seized Goma – acts that were met with international opprobrium and accusations of war crimes and human rights violations. It was forced to withdraw from Goma, and then suffered a series of heavy defeats at the hands of the Congolese army along with a UN force that saw it expelled from the country. M23 fighters then agreed to be integrated into the army in return for promises that Tutsis would be protected.

The origin of the current fighting can partly be traced back to the genocide in Rwanda in 1994. About 800,000 people – mostly from the Tutsi community - were slaughtered by ethnic Hutu extremists. The genocide ended with the advance of a force of Tutsi-led rebels commanded by Paul Kagame, who is now president. Fearing reprisals, an estimated one million Hutus then fled across the border to what is now DR Congo. This stoked ethnic tensions as a marginalised Tutsi group in the east – the Banyamulenge – felt increasingly under threat. After 30 years of conflict, one of the Hutu groups, the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), which includes some of those responsible for the Rwandan genocide, is still active in eastern DR Congo. Rwanda describes the FDLR as a "genocidal militia" and says its continued existence in the DR Congo's east threatens its own territory. The Rwandan spokesperson said the FDLR wanted to return to Rwanda to "finish the job". Rwanda accuses the Congolese authorities of working with the FDLR - accusations which DR Congo denies. It is unlikely to stay out of DR Congo unless it is satisfied that the FDLR is no longer a threat to itself, or to the Tutsi communities in eastern DR Congo. However, the evidence that shows Rwanda is backing rebels in DR Congo.

[Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cgly1yrd9j3o>]

**Q. 7** Why does the author mention the flight of one million Hutus across the border?

- A. To explain how refugee movements exacerbated ethnic tensions in eastern DR Congo.
- B. To illustrate the scale of humanitarian disaster caused by the genocide.
- C. To show how mass migration directly armed the M23 with new recruits.
- D. To indicate why Paul Kagame's presidency was welcomed in DR Congo.

**Q.8** In line 1, "dogged" most nearly means:

- A. Pursued relentlessly by external forces.
- B. Marked by courageous resistance despite hardship.
- C. Protected by international peacekeeping efforts.
- D. Persistently afflicted or troubled over a long period.

**Q.9** The antonym of "marginalised" as used in the passage is:

- A. Isolated and powerless.
- B. Integrated into mainstream society.
- C. Supported only by a small minority.
- D. Distrusted by the local population.

**Q.10** Which word best describes the author's tone in describing Rwanda's accusations against DR Congo?

- A. Condescending.
- B. Sympathetic.
- C. Neutral.
- D. Alarmist

**Q.11** What can be inferred about the international community's response to M23's initial seizure of territory in 2012?

- A. It immediately imposed economic sanctions on DR Congo for failing to control the rebels.
- B. It supported M23's integration into the Congolese army as a strategic move.
- C. It offered humanitarian aid directly to M23-controlled territories.
- D. It condemned the M23's actions and accused them of war crimes and human rights violations.

**Q.12** Which statement follows the same reasoning pattern as the line: *It is unlikely to stay out of DR Congo unless it is satisfied that the FDLR is no longer a threat...*?

- A. A manager approves the budget only if all department heads agree unanimously.
- B. A student will not submit the assignment unless the professor clarifies the grading rubric.
- C. A company launches the product because market research predicts strong demand.
- D. A driver refuses to use the highway unless toll fees are reduced by half.

**Passage 3:** Young people are losing interest in books due to the increasing use of the Internet. Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, and other social media platforms are rapidly changing the reading habits of young Indians. The spread of smartphones and almost free Internet services has further accelerated this process of changing habits. Instant Maggi is a part of the young generation. As a result, they use Google to manage their lives. The older generation, who once read books, gave purpose to their lives by working hard, patiently, and diligently. Nowadays, when the young generation wakes up in the morning, they start using their smartphones to browse social media sites instead of reading newspapers. No matter how popular a TV show is, families no longer gather together to watch it as they used to. Instead, they continue to keep themselves busy with social media apps on their phones.

Books are considered to be man's best friend. However, in today's busy world, there are very few people who read books. Reading books is not really a habit that should be associated with entertainment. Instead, you should include it in your daily schedule. Given that books make people happy. When asked when was the last time they read a book, most people will look surprised. Apart from students enrolled in school and college, this question is also asked by working youth who are actively involved in determining their future after graduation. In today's busy world, people are avoiding reading. Every successful and admirable person in the world has the habit of reading books. Books are considered to be man's best friend.

Reading regularly is not only good for your health, but it also increases your knowledge. It also changes a person's attitude towards life and thoughts. No matter how popular the Internet becomes, reading books will always remain the best option. Talking about the benefits of reading books, there are many. When you read a book, your attention is focused on one area. The habit of reading every day improves focus.

By reading books, you start making connections between the ideas and strategies they discuss in your life. You start applying them in your life at the same time. As soon as you read a horror or suspenseful novel, you start imagining its characters and events. Then you start trying to understand the ending of the novel without reading it completely. Teaching the current generation to read newspapers is challenging, as they are either fascinated by their devices or prefer to read fiction. The factual presentation in newspapers is tedious and tiring for most of them. However, you can make newspaper reading one of your child's favorite pastimes by implementing some innovative ideas, and once he develops the habit, it will remain for life.

[Source: [https://epao.net/epSubPageExtractor.asp?src=features.Focus\\_On\\_Media.Make\\_books\\_and\\_newspapers\\_your\\_companions\\_By\\_Satyawan\\_Saurabh](https://epao.net/epSubPageExtractor.asp?src=features.Focus_On_Media.Make_books_and_newspapers_your_companions_By_Satyawan_Saurabh)]

**Q.13** What is the primary purpose of the author's argument in the passage?

- A. To lament the loss of traditional family bonding over television and newspapers and advocate for returning to collective media consumption.
- B. To compare the reading habits of the older and younger generations and to highlight the commercial impact on publishing industries.
- C. To explain the benefits of reading newspapers over fiction for today's youth and propose methods to make newspaper reading attractive.
- D. To illustrate how social media and the Internet have altered young Indians' habits and to champion a structured return to book reading as essential for personal growth.

**Q. 14** In line 31, the word "tedious" most nearly means:

- A. So boring or monotonous that it exhausts one's interest or energy.
- B. Emotionally engaging in a suspenseful manner that captivates readers.
- C. Requiring great physical effort and endurance to complete.
- D. Offering in-depth factual analysis that challenges complacent thinking.

**Q.15** What does the statement "Instant Maggi is a part of the young generation" in line 4 imply?

- A. That instant noodles have become more nutritious than traditional meals, mirroring shifts in dietary habits.
- B. That young people regard cooking and reading as equally time-consuming activities to be bypassed for convenience.

- C. That the proliferation of internet access has made even culinary choices dependent on digital recommendations.  
D. That the youth prioritize quick, convenient solutions in all aspects of life, including reading and media consumption.

**Q.16** Which sentence in the passage contains a grammatical error, and what is the error?

- A. "Given that books make people happy." (Line 14) – Sentence fragment lacking a main verb.  
B. "Reading books is not really a habit that should be associated with entertainment." (Line 12) – Misplaced modifier.  
C. "When asked when was the last time they read a book, most people will look surprised." (Line 15) – Incorrect word order in indirect question.  
D. "As soon as you read a horror or suspenseful novel, you start imagining its characters and events." (Line 28) – Tense inconsistency.

**Q.17** Which statement best captures the author's attitude toward social media's impact on youth reading habits?

- A. The author neutrally observes changing habits without expressing approval or condemnation.  
B. The author praises digital platforms for democratizing information even as they challenge traditional reading.  
C. The author critically views social media as an adversary to intellectual development and advocates corrective measures.  
D. The author suggests blending social media use with reading to create balanced media diets for young people.

**Q.18** Which of the following statements follows the same logical pattern as line 22 ("No matter how popular the Internet becomes, reading books will always remain the best option.")?

- A. Even if digital payments become ubiquitous, cash transactions will soon vanish entirely.  
B. Regardless of how advanced smartphones get, handwritten letters will forever hold personal value.  
C. Because social platforms engage users effectively, offline gatherings are destined to end.  
D. If e-learning tools improve further, traditional classroom teaching must be abandoned.

**Passage 4:** Sylvia is almost certain that she's waited long enough in the void between the floor above and the suspended ceiling below her. She carefully slides a ceiling panel open and peeps out into the dim light to ensure the corridor is empty before silently lowering herself to the vinyl clad floor. Standing on an adjacent plastic chair she slides the panel back into place – just in case. She stands very still, her breathing quiet, listening intently for warning signals that might cause unnecessary irritation.

She smooths her green scrubs, drapes a stethoscope around her neck (over her identity lanyard) and adjusts the bright yellow badge, displaying her name, Dr Sylvia Kraujas. Donning a face mask she casually sets forth wearing a pair of cherry red 'Doc Martins' boots. She smiles, knowing that her bubble glass spectacles make her look like a myopic goldfish.

In the enormous empty outpatients' waiting room she stops. High-pitched squeaking, and out of tune whistling, echo from one of the four corridors leading into the cavernous space. She waits. A porter pushes an ancient hospital bed into the room.

That could do with some oil, Sylvia says as the whistling porter approaches.

Yeah, the wheels and me both, Doc, he replies.

I was thinking of your whistle, she laughs.

Bloody doctors, he mutters as he continues on his way.

Sylvia has memorised the hospital plan she'd been given by an ex-nurse who'd fallen under her thrall and had, frustratingly, died from exsanguination after a night of Sylvia's gluttony.

Arriving at her destination, she stares in disbelief at the badly handwritten sign 'Blood Getting Room' slightly obscuring the word Phlebotomy. The grammar is appalling but her real incredulity is the naivety of the nurses and their managers: have these people no respect for the dangers to their patients' safety – had they not seen the red-tops who'd been running the story for weeks?

She shrugs and opens the door. Entering in the dark, for a moment she's overwhelmed with delight at the lingering aroma of blood. She pauses on the threshold. There's something wrong. Yep, it's male human sweat. A male voice bellows, 'Gotcha!' Sudden bright light bursts from the room. Sylvia flees as confused police officers stumble over each other in pursuit. Not yet!



she shouts. Bursting through the emergency exit she jumps onto the passenger seat of the motorcycle that awaits her before it roars away into the night.

[Source: <https://philcoskerwriter.com/2024/10/06/in-the-dark/>]

**Q.19** What can be inferred about Dr. Sylvia Kraujas's true intentions from lines 15–19?

- A. She is a compassionate physician seeking to improve patient care by accessing the phlebotomy room covertly.
- B. She is exploiting her medical guise to harvest blood for her own sinister purposes, suggested by her delight in its aroma.
- C. She is performing a clandestine safety inspection of the hospital's blood collection protocols.
- D. She is investigating a series of thefts at the hospital and expects to find evidence in the phlebotomy area.

**Q.20** In line 15, the word "exsanguination" most nearly means:

- A. The process of cleaning medical equipment thoroughly.
- B. Death or injury caused by excessive bleeding.
- C. The procedure of drawing small blood samples for testing.
- D. A state of prolonged unconsciousness due to shock.

**Q.21** Which word best describes the author's tone in lines 1–4 as Sylvia prepares her escape?

- A. Tense – conveying suspense and careful anticipation.
- B. Flippant – suggesting Sylvia takes the danger lightly.
- C. Melancholic – highlighting Sylvia's regret and sorrow.
- D. Didactic – instructing readers on covert operations.

**Q.22** The simile in line 7 ("... her bubble glass spectacles make her look like a myopic goldfish.") primarily serves to:

- A. Emphasize Sylvia's distorted self-image and insecurity about her appearance.
- B. Highlight the absurdity and almost comical nature of her disguise.
- C. Underscore the clarity with which she views her surroundings despite her glasses.
- D. Suggest that she is cold-blooded and unfeeling like a fish.

**Q.23** Which of the following sentences from the passage contains an error or awkward construction?

- A. "Standing on an adjacent plastic chair she slides the panel back into place – just in case." (Line 3)
- B. "She smiles, knowing that her bubble glass spectacles make her look like a myopic goldfish." (Line 7)
- C. "Arriving at her destination, she stares in disbelief at the badly handwritten sign..." (Line 16)
- D. "Sudden bright light bursts from the room." (Line 20)

**Q.24** Which of the following scenarios mirrors the same logical structure as Sylvia's action in lines 1–4 ("wait... ensure... lower... reseal...")?

- A. A thief watches for people to leave a store, unlocks a display case, steals a watch, then locks it back.
- B. A student glances at the clock, decides to skip class, and heads to the cafeteria.
- C. A hiker pauses to check the weather forecast before continuing up the mountain.
- D. A driver stops at a red light, checks messages on their phone, then accelerates when it turns green.

#### SECTION-B:- CURRENT AFFAIRS (INCLUDING GENERAL KNOWLEDGE)

**Passage 1:** With Brazil preparing to host the Group of 20 summit, it appears unlikely the leading rich and developing nations will sign on to a meaningful declaration regarding geopolitics: The meeting on Monday (November 18, 2024) and Tuesday (November 19, 2024) in Rio de Janeiro is overshadowed by two major wars and Donald Trump's recent election victory.

Heightened global tensions and uncertainty about an incoming Mr. Trump administration have tempered any expectations for a strongly worded statement addressing the conflicts in the Middle East and between Russia and Ukraine.

Experts instead anticipate a final document focused on social issues like the eradication of hunger – one of Brazil's priorities – even if it aims to include at least a mention of the ongoing wars.

[<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/brazil-hosts-g20-summit-overshadowed-by-wars-trumps-return-aiming-for-deal-to-fight-hunger/article68881284.ece> ]

**Q25.** Which of the following correctly identifies the primary goal of the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty launched at the G20 Rio Summit?

- A. Ensuring equal global taxation for multinational corporations and combating digital monopolies in emerging economies.
- B. Addressing rural unemployment through reforestation initiatives and agricultural subsidies in the Global South.
- C. Reaching 500 million people with cash transfers and expanding school meals to 150 million children in vulnerable nations

by 2030.

D. Providing universal access to health insurance and financial literacy for informal workers across G20 countries.

**Q26.** What was the central theme of the G20 Summit 2024 held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil?

A. Realigning global trade to emerging market economies and building AI capacity across the Global South.

B. Ending inequality through digital cooperation and universal basic income in developing nations.

C. Building a Just World and a Sustainable Planet.

D. Reclaiming Sovereignty in a Multipolar World: Regionalism, Security and Multilateralism.

**Q27.** Which of the following is not one of the three top priorities of the G20 Rio Declaration 2024?

A. Reducing global arms trade and dismantling private military groups operating across borders.

B. Reforming global governance institutions to make them more representative and effective.

C. Advancing sustainable development, energy transitions and climate action.

D. Combating hunger and poverty through social inclusion and equitable resource access.

**Q28.** Which of the following is true about the evolution of G20's summit-level meetings?

A. They began after the 1997 Asian financial crisis, with heads of state and government meeting annually starting from 1999.

B. The G20 leaders' summits have been held biannually since 2008, with only finance ministers meeting in alternate years.

C. The G20 evolved from a ministerial forum in 1999, and its leader-level summits began after the 2008 global financial crisis.

D. The G20's first summit was held in 2007 following a joint IMF–World Bank request for institutionalization of a global macroeconomic forum.

**Q29.** Why is the Rio 2024 Summit considered historically significant in the context of global representation?

A. It marked the first time China was designated a development finance leader under the BRICS framework.

B. It formally merged the G7 and G20 structures under a single macroeconomic consensus council.

C. It introduced legally binding resolutions for sovereign debt forgiveness in Sub-Saharan Africa.

D. It was the first time the African Union participated as a full G20 member.

**Q30.** What is the correct composition of the current G20 membership?

A. 20 countries and 2 intergovernmental organizations, including the African Union and ASEAN.

B. 19 countries and the European Union, with representatives from the IMF and World Bank.

C. 17 member states, including Brazil and Indonesia, plus observer nations from the Pacific Alliance.

D. 15 economies, with 5 rotating representatives from the developing world.

**Passage 2:** Two major global events took place last month: the G20 Summit in Brazil and the 29th Conference of the Parties (COP29) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Baku, Azerbaijan. Catalysing finance to address climate change was a central theme at both events. The deal reached in Baku, though hard-won, falls short of expectations.

To be fair, the expectations for climate finance were never easy to meet. Assessments had shown that developing countries need \$1.3 trillion per year through 2035 to build infrastructure for adapting to climate change; investing in clean energy, land use, and urban development to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and recovering from disasters. This amount was to come from the 24 high-income countries listed in Annex I of the UNFCCC. Given the outlook of slow economic growth, green investments required in their own territories, and the likelihood of the U.S., which accounts for half of cumulative federal spending, pulling back, there was little appetite for a significant commitment.

The biggest disappointment, however, is that even the small commitment made — \$300 billion per year — does not come entirely from public finance, but from sources including Multilateral Development Banks, carbon markets, and private finance. It is recognised that private finance tends to flow to economies where returns are commercially attractive, and it can easily shift back to advanced economies when conditions change. This creates uncertainty about whether emerging economies will see much benefit. Even larger economies like India are unlikely to get adequate resources for priorities such as adaptation.

[<https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/takeaways-from-cop29/article68943627.ece>]

**Q31.** Which of the following statements most accurately captures the purpose of Article 6.4 under the Paris Agreement as agreed upon in COP29?

A. It establishes national-level trading frameworks allowing states to negotiate carbon credit exchanges independently.

B. It allows private corporations to bypass international climate regulations through voluntary offsetting.

C. It aims to create a centralized, UN-managed emissions offset and carbon trading system under global oversight.

D. It provides automatic emissions exemptions to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) for all fossil fuel-related emissions.



**Q32.** What is the goal of the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on Climate Finance agreed upon at COP29?  
A. To increase climate finance to USD 300 billion per year by 2030 with no binding obligations on developed countries.  
B. To allocate USD 300 billion annually by 2035, with specific burden-sharing mechanisms for emerging economies.  
C. To triple the earlier target to USD 300 billion annually by 2035, with developed countries taking the lead in mobilization.  
D. To generate USD 300 billion per year through carbon market mechanisms without state-level commitments.

**Q33.** What key issue led to India's rejection of the New Climate Finance Goal (NCQG) at COP29?  
A. The absence of methane emissions targets in the agreement.  
B. The proposed gender framework was deemed non-inclusive by India.  
C. The lack of a central monitoring authority to track carbon trading transactions.  
D. The financing obligation was diffused to all actors instead of focusing on developed countries.

**Q34.** The Facilitative Working Group (FWG), mentioned in relation to the COP29 Baku Workplan, was originally established during which COP?  
A. COP21 (Paris)                      B. COP22 (Marrakech)                      C. COP24 (Katowice)                      D. COP26 (Glasgow)

**Q35.** Where will the next Conference of the Parties (COP30) under the UNFCCC be held?  
A. Nairobi, Kenya                      B. Jakarta, Indonesia                      C. New Delhi, India                      D. Belém, Brazil

**Passage 3:** The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Wednesday (January 29, 2025) morning launched its historic 100th launch from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota. The GSLV-F15 with the NVS-02 satellite lifted off from the spaceport's second launch pad at 6.23 a.m.

"The first launch of 2025 has been successfully accomplished. The satellite has been placed into the intended orbit," said ISRO Chairman Dr. V. Narayanan who assumed charge of the space agency earlier this month.  
[<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/isro-100th-launch-gslv-f15-mission-nvs-02-sriharikota-live-updates/article69152223.ece>]

**Q36.** Which of the following best describes the NavIC satellite system's orbital configuration?  
A. A regional navigation system comprising 7 satellites — 3 in Geostationary Orbit and 4 in Geosynchronous Orbit.  
B. A constellation of 24 satellites placed in medium Earth orbit at 20,000 km altitude similar to GPS.  
C. A global navigation satellite system consisting of 12 satellites all located in polar orbit.  
D. An experimental positioning system based on Lagrangian points of the Sun-Earth system.

**Q37.** Which of the following ISRO missions set a world record by launching the highest number of satellites in a single mission?  
A. Aditya-L1 for solar research                      B. Chandrayaan-1 for lunar mapping  
C. PSLV-C37 mission, which launched 104 satellites                      D. Mars Orbiter Mission, India's first interplanetary mission

**Q38.** What distinguishes the GSLV-F15 launch vehicle used in ISRO's 100th SDSC launch?  
A. It was the first to carry a human crew module.  
B. It used imported cryogenic engine technology from Russia.  
C. It marked the 17th flight of GSLV and the 11th with an Indigenous Cryogenic Stage.  
D. It is ISRO's lightest launch vehicle developed for small satellites.

**Q39.** Which of the following upcoming ISRO missions is planned to study Venus?  
A. XPoSat                      B. Shukrayaan                      C. Aditya-L1                      D. EOS-6 (Oceansat-3)

**Q40.** Which statement accurately describes the purpose of Lagrangian Point L1, used in the Aditya-L1 mission?  
A. A region in space where gravitational forces of two large bodies create a balance, allowing spacecraft to remain in position with minimal fuel.  
B. A deep-space orbit used only for interstellar communications beyond the solar system.  
C. An unstable point used primarily by manned missions for slingshot maneuvers.  
D. A planetary entry corridor used by space probes to slow down for atmospheric insertion.

**Passage 4:** India is the land of festivals. The Maha Kumbh Mela, set to start in the Prayagraj city of Uttar Pradesh in the coming week, is the festival of festivals. Over 40 days, this massive festival of religion and spirituality attracts hundreds of millions of devotees from all across the world, including tens of thousands of non-Hindus.

Swami Vivekananda had described India as “Dharma-Praana Bharata” — “Bharat with dharma as the soul”. Everything, including the festivals, revolves around dharma. For ease of understanding, we tend to use the word religion for it. But where religion is defined as a set of “beliefs” in a given god or a book, dharma is a path of continuous exploration for self-discovery and purification of one’s soul.

[<https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/ram-madhav-writes-kumbh-mela-isnt-just-about-a-religious-gathering-its-a-time-to-look-at-the-larger-problems-facing-us-9772311/>]

**Q41.** Which of the following statements about the astrological basis of the Kumbh Mela is most accurate?

- A. The timing of Kumbh Mela is determined solely by the position of the Sun and Moon.
- B. The Kumbh Mela is held only during lunar eclipses in the month of Magh.
- C. It is held annually during the transit of Mars into the Scorpio constellation.
- D. The location and timing are determined by the alignment of Jupiter, the Sun, and the Moon.

**Q42.** Which of the following rivers is incorrectly matched with its respective Kumbh Mela site?

- A. Haridwar – Ganga
- B. Prayagraj – Confluence of Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati
- C. Ujjain – Godavari
- D. Nashik-Trimbakeshwar – Godavari

**Q43.** According to traditional mythology, how many locations received drops of amrita during Jayant’s celestial flight?

- A. Two
- B. Four
- C. Six
- D. Eight

**Q44.** Which statement best captures the historical evidence of the Kumbh Mela festival?

- A. The first historical reference to Kumbh Mela is found in Skanda Purana with mention of all four sites.
- B. Xuanzang’s 7th-century account confirms Kumbh Mela was held exactly as celebrated today.
- C. The Rig Veda has detailed descriptions of sadhus and pilgrims gathering at Kumbh Melas.
- D. Some scholars argue the Magh Mela of Prayag was rebranded as Kumbh after 1857 to counter British interference.

**Q45.** Which of the following best describes the contribution of Adi Shankaracharya to the evolution of the Kumbh Mela?

- A. He established riverbank bathing as part of the Vedic rituals.
- B. He redefined Magh Mela to align with Buddhist practices.
- C. He is credited with institutionalizing periodic fairs for Hindu ascetics and scholars.
- D. He introduced a lunar calendar system to track Mela timings.

**Q46.** What distinguishes the Maha Kumbh from the Ardh-Kumbh?

- A. The Ardh-Kumbh is held every 3 years, while the Maha Kumbh is held every 9 years.
- B. The Ardh-Kumbh is held at all four sites, while the Maha Kumbh is held only at Prayagraj.
- C. The Ardh-Kumbh includes only one ceremonial bathing day, while the Maha Kumbh has multiple.
- D. The Ardh-Kumbh is held every 6 years, and the Maha Kumbh every 12 years, with the former hosted only in Haridwar and Prayagraj.

**Passage 5:** Pakistan on Thursday said any move to divert water meant for it under the Indus Water Treaty will be considered an Act of War as it announced the suspension of trade, bilateral accords, including the Simla Agreement, and airspaces with India, among other moves in retaliation to New Delhi’s measures against the country in the wake of the Pahalgam attack. The announcements were made after a meeting chaired by Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to formulate the country’s response to India’s move to suspend the Indus Water Treaty and downgrade diplomatic ties after the Pahalgam terror attack. The meeting was attended by key ministers and the three services chiefs.

"Pakistan shall exercise the right to hold all bilateral agreements with India, including but not limited to the Simla Agreement, in abeyance..." said a statement released after the National Security Committee (NSC) meeting. The statement said Pakistan will close down the Wagah Border Post with immediate effect.

[<https://www.ndtv.com/world-news/on-indias-indus-waters-treaty-suspension-move-paks-act-of-war-response-8246518>]

**Q47.** Which of the following statements correctly identifies the rivers allocated to Pakistan under the Indus Waters Treaty?

- A. Sutlej, Ravi, and Beas
- B. Ravi, Indus, and Ganga
- C. Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab
- D. Yamuna, Chenab, and Satluj

**Q48.** The 1960 Indus Waters Treaty was signed in which of the following cities?

- A. New Delhi    B. Karachi    C. Lahore    D. Geneva

**Q49.** Under the terms of the Indus Waters Treaty, which of the following uses are permitted for India on the western rivers?

- A. Limited non-consumptive uses like navigation, agriculture, and hydroelectricity  
B. Unlimited water storage and irrigation across all western rivers  
C. Unrestricted diversion of water to eastern states for flood control  
D. Exclusive rights over the Jhelum and Chenab rivers for dam construction

**Q50.** What recent justification has India cited for its suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty?

- A. Water scarcity in Himachal Pradesh  
B. Need to improve inland shipping  
C. Demand for irrigation expansion in Punjab and Haryana  
D. Fundamental change in circumstances due to cross-border terrorism

**Q51.** What is a major consequence of the IWT suspension for Pakistan?

- A. Loss of navigation routes to Afghanistan  
B. Collapse of diplomatic ties with India  
C. Disruption to irrigation, urban water supply, and power generation  
D. Inability to access satellite imagery for disaster management

**Q52.** Which article of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties allows for treaty withdrawal due to changed circumstances?

- A. Article 62    B. Article 6    C. Article 9    D. Article 33

#### SECTION - C: LEGAL REASONING

**Passage:-** 1 Section 13 of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 speaks of divorce, a decree passed by court which announces absolute dissolution of a marriage. There are several grounds for divorce, some available to both husband and wife under Section 13(1):

**Adultery –** Adultery is the consensual intercourse of a married person with another who is not his/her spouse. The aggrieved party or the victim may seek divorce on account of their spouse's adultery. However there are certain essentials to adultery. The intercourse of a married person with someone other than their spouse has to be voluntary, that they must have done it on their own volition. The marriage has to be valid and subsisting at the time of the commission of the act. There has to be enough circumstantial evidence.

**Cruelty-** Cruelty can be either physical in the form of physical violence meted out to one party in the marriage by the other, or mental, in the form of unprecedented behaviour, insults in front of friends and family, mental pressure to undergo abortion etc. Signs of physical cruelty can be observed easily. However, mental cruelty is harder to prove in a court of law. In the case of Baram Pranjapati Vs Susheela Bai[6], the husband claimed that his wife meted out rude and uncouth behaviour in front of him and his parents. The court granted divorce on the ground of mental cruelty.

**Desertion-** Without any reasonable cause, when one spouse, against the consent of the other, voluntarily leaves unexplained, and does not come back for a continuous period of two or more years, the spouse who is left behind may obtain divorce on the ground of desertion. It connotes one spouse renouncing the marital obligations and leaving permanently. The case of Bipin Chander Jaisinghbhai Shah Vs Prabhawati is very interesting where the husband set out with intention to desert his wife, but later had a change of mind and tried to come back. The wife approached the court asking for divorce on grounds of desertion. However the husband argued that when he tried to come back he was prevented from doing so by his wife. The court held it did not amount to desertion on his part.

**Conversion-** When a party to marriage converts to any other religion against the wishes of their spouse, under the Hindu Marriage Act, the aggrieved party can ask for divorce on the ground of conversion.

**Divorce by mutual consent-** As per Section 13B, a petition can be filed for divorce by mutual consent of both the parties. The parties are required to wait for one year from date of marriage. They have to show that they are living separately for one or more year and not able to live with one another.

[Source: <https://lawbhoomi.com/dissolution-of-hindu-marriage/>]

**Q. 53 Factual Matrix:** Amit (35) and Neha (33) married in 2012. In January 2021, Amit began weekly lunches with colleague Priya. By June 2021, they exchanged intimate messages daily. On 12 July 2021, CCTV shows Amit and Priya entering a private

suite at Hotel Lotus at 11 pm and leaving at 1 am. Neha obtained phone records of voice notes from Priya expressing romantic intent. Amit admits staying overnight but claims discussions were strictly work-related.

**Question:**

On these facts, can Neha obtain a decree of divorce on the ground of adultery under Section 13(1)(i)?

- A. Neha succeeds because Amit's voluntary overnight stay with Priya, coupled with circumstantial evidence of intimate messages, satisfies "voluntary consensual intercourse" during subsistence of marriage.
- B. Neha fails because kissing or overnight meetings without incontrovertible proof of intercourse falls short of "consensual intercourse" required for adultery under Section 13(1)(i).
- C. Neha succeeds only if Priya expressly admits to intercourse and awareness of Amit's marital status, which is an additional statutory requirement beyond circumstantial evidence.
- D. Neha fails because Amit's plausible work-related explanation and lack of direct evidence negate the voluntariness essential for adultery.

**Q.54 Factual Matrix:** Sunita (28) and Raghav (30) married in 2015. Over 18 months, Raghav repeatedly insulted Sunita at five family gatherings, calling her "useless" and "burden" before relatives. He coerced her twice into aborting their unborn child, threatening divorce otherwise. He isolated her by canceling her visits with friends, forced her to lie to her parents about depression, and refused to speak when she sought reconciliation.

**Question:**

Based on these facts, can Sunita secure a divorce on the ground of mental cruelty under Section 13(1)(i)?

- A. Sunita succeeds because persistent public insults and coercion to abort clearly constitute "unprecedented behaviour" amounting to mental cruelty.
- B. Sunita fails because the absence of any physical violence means mental harassment alone cannot satisfy the statutory cruelty threshold.
- C. Sunita succeeds only if she proves physical assault occurred; mental anguish alone is too subjective to establish cruelty in court.
- D. Sunita fails because forced misrepresentation to parents about her mental health does not qualify as "unprecedented behaviour" under mental cruelty.

**Q. 55 Factual Matrix:** Renu (42) and Karan (44) married in 2005. In January 2018, Renu moved into a rented flat two blocks away without explanation, ceased all communication, and ignored Karan's weekly calls. In June 2019, Karan visited; Renu locked the door and refused entry. She continued living independently with no contact through December 2019. In February 2020, Karan's lawyer sent a reconciliation proposal; Renu did not respond.

**Question:**

Do these facts satisfy the statutory requirements for divorce on the ground of desertion under Section 13(1)(iii)?

- A. Karan succeeds because Renu's unexplained continuous absence for over two years without consent constitutes voluntary desertion.
- B. Karan fails because desertion requires an intention permanently to abandon marital obligations, which cannot be inferred solely from unexplained absence.
- C. Karan succeeds only if he proves Renu intended to renounce her marital obligations at the moment she left, not just based on her continued absence.
- D. Karan fails because Renu's refusal to permit his return negates the voluntariness essential to desertion.

**Q.56 Factual Matrix:** Meera (29) and Akshay (31) married in 2015. In March 2021, Meera covertly embraced Christianity, took a new name, and began attending church weekly without informing Akshay. In January 2023, a mutual friend revealed her baptism. Akshay immediately filed for divorce in February 2023 on the ground of conversion against his wishes. Meera contends that his nearly two-year delay bars relief by equitable laches.

**Question:**

Under Section 13(1)(iv), can Akshay obtain a divorce on the ground of Meera's conversion despite his delay in filing?

- A. Akshay succeeds because conversion without spouse's consent is a statutory ground regardless of filing delay once discovery occurs.
- B. Akshay fails because his delay in filing after discovering the conversion constitutes equitable laches, barring relief.
- C. Akshay succeeds only if the court finds Meera's conversion was unequivocally public, not a private act of faith.
- D. Akshay fails because mutual consent divorce under Section 13B is the exclusive remedy once parties separate over conversion.

**Q.57 Factual Matrix:** Rahul (27) and Sanya (26) married on 1 June 2023. By October 2023, irreconcilable differences prompted them to live separately from 1 November 2023 in different cities. On 5 November 2024, they jointly petitioned

under Section 13B, asserting separation for over one year and inability to cohabit. They request an immediate decree of divorce without observing any additional waiting periods.

**Question:**

Can Rahul and Sanya secure a divorce by mutual consent under Section 13B on these facts?

- A. They succeed because they satisfy the one-year separation requirement before decree.
- B. They fail because Section 13B mandates a six-month cooling-off after petition before a decree can be granted.
- C. They succeed only if the court waives the cooling-off period on grounds of extreme hardship demonstrated by the parties.
- D. They fail because under the amended Section 13B, two years of separation are required instead of one.

**Q. 58** Which of the following is **not** an essential ingredient of adultery under Section 13(1)(i) as per the passage?

- A. Voluntary participation by the married person in consensual intercourse with someone other than their spouse.
- B. Validity and subsistence of the marriage at the time of the act.
- C. Direct eyewitness testimony of the act, excluding reliance on circumstantial evidence.
- D. The act must be actual intercourse, not mere invitation or preparatory steps.

**Passage:-2** One way to think of the theory of repugnancy is as a way to settle disputes that occur when there are two distinct legislative branches, each having the power to enact laws on different topics. When two statutes passed by two different legislatures within their separate domains of legislative authority contain provisions that cannot be reconciled, this concept is applied. When two statutes are completely incompatible with each other, the requirements of Article 254 are only drawn into play. In the case of *Om Prakash v. State*, the Rajasthan High Court determined that in order for two laws to be considered repugnant, they must be completely at odds with each other and the ridiculous consequences of applying them simultaneously would be impossible.

So long as the provisions are inconsistent, the contradiction must be so severe that it hinders any chance of harmonious construction; this does not imply that the laws must be discordant in every single word and provision. It is a well-established concept of process and an interpretative principle that laws are presumed to be constitutional, and the burden of proof for repugnancy is on the party challenging the law. Laws can only be invalidated due to their incompatibility in the way outlined in Art. 254(1) if “the laws are fully inconsistent and absolutely irreconcilable,” but even in such cases, the harmonious construction doctrine states that courts must interpret the laws in a way that allows competing laws to coexist peacefully.

According to Art. 254 (1), “no repugnancy emerges when a law created by the Parliament and the law created by the legislature of the state occupies the same domain.” This means that any laws passed on items on the Concurrent List are only those that can be considered repugnancy. No repugnancy occurs if they deal with different and distinct domains that are related and allied.

The standard for identifying repugnancy has also been established by the Supreme Court. In cases of clear contradiction, such as when one statute states “do” and another states “don’t,” the first principle of determination applies. Additionally, it’s conceivable that both laws may be followed, even though there would be discrepancies if they both applied to the same field. This might happen if two statutes define the same crime but impose different penalties. No repugnancy would arise, however, if the identical conduct is criminalized under two separate statutes.

In the case of *M. Karunanidhi*, the Supreme Court underscored this position. The accused, a former Chief Minister of the State, was accused of corruption for allegedly favoring a particular firm in exchange for financial gain. The case involved the state’s purchase of wheat from Punjab and was booked under the Prevention of Corruption Act. The court determined that the provisions of the Central Act do not conflict with the State’s Public Men Criminal Misconduct Act because the two acts created distinct offenses that differ in procedure and substance. In a situation where two laws can be obeyed at the same time, repugnancy does not exist.

[Source: <https://www.lawctopus.com/academike/doctrine-of-repugnancy/>]

**Q.59 Factual Matrix:** The Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST) Act requires electronic invoicing for all B2B transactions over ₹50,000. The State’s Value Added Tax (SVAT) Act exempts such invoices below ₹75,000 from any invoicing requirements. Lakshmi, a supplier, issues a ₹60,000 invoice electronically under CGST, then receives notice under SVAT for non-compliance. She challenges the SVAT notice as repugnant.

**Question:**

Is Lakshmi’s challenge to the SVAT invoicing requirement likely to succeed as repugnant to the CGST Act?

- A. Yes, because CGST’s mandatory invoicing threshold of ₹50,000 directly conflicts with SVAT’s exemption threshold of ₹75,000, making simultaneous compliance impossible.
- B. Yes, since SVAT’s exemption effectively nullifies CGST’s mandatory regime in this range, creating an irreconcilable conflict under Article 254(1).
- C. No, because Parliament’s CGST statute automatically overrides conflicting state provisions on the same subject matter.



D. No, because the two requirements can be harmoniously construed—compliance with CGST does not preclude reliance on SVAT’s procedural exemption.

**Q.60 Factual Matrix:** A private trust must renew national Ancient Monuments Act certification by May each year and state Heritage Protection Act certification by July. The Trust renews in July but not by May. It challenges the state Act as repugnant due to conflicting deadlines.

**Question:**

Under the passage’s principles, who bears the burden of proof, and will repugnancy be established here?

- A. The Trust bears the burden and fails, because “burden of proof for repugnancy is on the party challenging the law” and mere deadline mismatch is not “fully inconsistent and absolutely irreconcilable.”
- B. The State bears the burden once the Trust shows any conflict; simultaneous compliance by May and July is impossible, so repugnancy exists.
- C. The Trust bears the burden and succeeds, as missing the national deadline makes state compliance impossible under Article 254(1).
- D. Neither bears the burden because harmonious construction allows renewal by May to satisfy both Acts, so no repugnancy arises.

**Q.61 Matrix:** Parliament enacts the Environmental Protection Act requiring industries to install effluent-treatment systems by 2025. The State Water Act mandates effluent-recycling systems by 2023. GreenTech, an industry, contends the State’s earlier requirement conflicts with the national treatment mandate.

**Question:**

How should courts reconcile these timelines under the passage’s doctrine of harmonious construction?

- A. Declare repugnancy because “effluent-treatment” and “effluent-recycling” are distinct operational requirements that cannot be simultaneously met under the two Acts.
- B. Apply Article 254(1) to invalidate the State Water Act, as Parliament’s later-enacted national standard supersedes any conflicting earlier state mandate.
- C. Harmoniously interpret the State’s recycling requirement as a precursor or subset of the national effluent-treatment obligation, permitting dual compliance.
- D. Treat the State Act as entirely displaced after 2025, since any requirement prior to national compliance conflicts with the statute’s unified scheme.

**Q.62 Matrix:** The Central Education Act regulates accreditation of private universities. The State Vocational Training Act sets technical institute curriculum standards. A college argues vocational standards conflict with accreditation criteria under the Concurrent List.

**Question:**

Is there repugnancy between these two statutes under the passage’s analysis of Article 254(1)?

- A. Yes, because both Acts legislate on Concurrent List education entries and their criteria are incompatible, triggering repugnancy.
- B. Yes, since any inconsistency in Concurrent List entries automatically invokes Article 254(1).
- C. No, because accreditation and curriculum standards occupy allied but distinct domains, allowing harmonious application.
- D. No, because curriculum falls under state domain only and accreditation under parliamentary domain, so the state law is ultra vires, not repugnant.

**Q.63 Matrix:** Under the Prevention of Cyber Offences Act, hacking bank servers carries up to five years’ imprisonment. The State’s Financial Fraud Act penalizes unauthorized access to financial data with a fine only. Mr. Rao is prosecuted under both statutes for the same act. He argues that the laws are repugnant.

**Question:**

Does the passage’s discussion of overlapping offences support Mr. Rao’s repugnancy argument?

- A. Yes, because divergent penalties for the same conduct (“do” vs. “don’t”) create a clear conflict requiring repugnancy under Article 254(1).
- B. Yes, since differing punishments render simultaneous compliance impossible, making the statutes fully inconsistent.
- C. No, because overlapping offences with different penalties can coexist harmoniously when the same conduct is criminalized under both statutes.
- D. No, because hacking and financial data fraud are sufficiently distinct offences, so no repugnancy arises.

**Q.64** Which of the following statements **does not** align with the passage’s doctrine of repugnancy?



- A. Repugnancy arises only when laws are “fully inconsistent and absolutely irreconcilable” under Article 254(1).
- B. Courts must presume statutes constitutional and place the burden of proof on the challenger.
- C. Any inconsistency in Concurrent List laws automatically triggers repugnancy without exploring harmonious construction.
- D. Overlapping offences with different penalties do not necessarily give rise to repugnancy if both can be obeyed simultaneously.

**Passage 3** The Doctrine of Promissory Estoppel means where one party by his words or conduct made to the other a clear promise which is intended to create legal relations or even affect a legal relationship to arise in the future, knowing or intending that it would be acted upon by the other party to whom the promise is made, and it is fact so acted upon by the other party, the promise would be binding on the party making it and he would not be entitled to go back upon it, if it would be inequitable to allow him to do so. It clearly means that administrative action would be marked by certainty, predictability and consistency. This doctrine operates where the promise made by the state is within the scope of law, represents an intention to enter into a legal relationship, and the other party must act in accordance with the promise.

In *Gujarat State Financial Corp. v Lotus Hotels*, it was held by the Supreme Court that the writ of mandamus can be issued against the government or its instrumentalities for the enforcement of contractual obligation because here, the doctrine of promissory estoppel is applicable to against the government. Here, the Lotus Hotels entered into the contract with the State Financial Corporation of Gujarat for a loan for the purpose of construction of a hotel. On this agreed promise, the petitioner took certain loans and thus incurred liabilities. Furthermore, the loan was refused on the basis of acting of two pseudonymous letters attacking the character of the proprietors of loan which was already sanctioned.

Doctrine of Promissory Estoppel is based on obligation or equity and is not based on vested right. In equity, the court has to strike a balance between individuals’ right as well the interest of public. In *Union of India v Ganesh Rice Mills*, it was held by the court that the Finance Minister’s statement on the floor of the House did not mean a promise or any form of representation to the assessee. Thus, in this case, the government is not estopped from recovering the disputed cess contrary to such statement.

Doctrine of Promissory Estoppel is available against the exercise of executive function of the State. In *Express Newspapers Pvt. Ltd. Union of India*, The Doctrine of Promissory Estoppel was used to prevent the government for quashing the action of the Minister for approval of a lease as it was within the scope of his authority to grant such permission. This ultimately resulted in checking whether there is fraud on the exercise of power or not. Here, the Express Newspapers were given notices of re-entry upon forfeiture of lease of land granted to them on which the lessee has raised buildings for the purpose of printing and publishing the newspapers. Thus, it was held by the Supreme Court that the action had been politically motivated and there is clear violation of mala fide intention.

[Source: <https://lawbhoomi.com/doctrine-of-promissory-estoppel/>]

**Q.65** Lotus Hotels contracted with the State Financial Corporation of Gujarat for a construction loan. Based on a clear sanction letter promising the loan, Lotus proceeded to acquire land, hire architects, and incur construction liabilities. Later, the Corporation refused disbursement, citing two anonymous letters attacking proprietors’ character. Lotus seeks mandamus enforcement of the original sanction.

**Can Lotus Hotels invoke Promissory Estoppel to compel the State Financial Corporation to grant the loan?**

- A. No—because anonymous letters alleging impropriety create a new public-interest concern that overrides the original sanction.
- B. No—because the doctrine cannot apply against government instrumentalities in financial contracts.
- C. Yes—because a clear promise was made, Lotus relied by incurring liabilities, and it would be inequitable to renege (“clear promise...acted upon,” line 1).
- D. Yes—because administrative consistency demands mandamus whenever a sanctioned loan is later withdrawn without statutory basis.

**Q.66** In Parliament, the Finance Minister publicly stated that no new cess would be levied on rice mills for the upcoming fiscal year. Relying on this announcement, Ganesh Rice Mills made no provisions for cess. The Finance Ministry later imposed the cess and asserted the announcement was non-binding. Ganesh Rice Mills petitions to prevent recovery under promissory estoppel.

**Is Ganesh Rice Mills entitled to estoppel against the government’s recovery of the cess?**

- A. No—because a ministerial statement on the floor of the House “did not mean a promise or any form of representation” (line 10).
- B. No—because fiscal policy announcements can never create legal obligations under estoppel.
- C. Yes—because the Mills acted on the statement, incurring reliance losses, and equity demands enforcement.
- D. Yes—because administrative consistency (“certainty, predictability,” line 2) prohibits sudden fiscal reversals.

**Q.67** Express Newspapers held a long-term lease on government land for printing presses. After significant investment in buildings, the Ministry issued a notice of re-entry for forfeiture, allegedly motivated by political considerations. Express Newspapers seeks to quash the re-entry and enforce the original lease.

**Can Express Newspapers invoke Promissory Estoppel to block the government's forfeiture notice?**

- A. No—because leases are contractual and estoppel cannot restrain bona fide executive discretion.
- B. No—because political motivation alone is insufficient to prove estoppel without explicit promise.
- C. Yes—because the Minister's approval letter was a clear promise within authority, and re-entry would be inequitable ("within the scope of his authority," line 13).
- D. Yes—because executive action taken in "mala fide intention" and affecting reliance investments is estopped ("mala fide intention," line 16).

**Q.68** The State Tourism Board issued a circular promising priority infrastructure grants for eco-resorts. GreenStay Resort, relying on this promise, purchased land and began construction. Before grants were released, the Board rescinded the circular, citing budget cuts. GreenStay seeks equitable enforcement of the original grant promise.

**Is GreenStay Resort entitled to relief under Promissory Estoppel?**

- A. No—because circulars lack formal legal status to bind the State absent legislative backing.
- B. Yes—because the circular constituted a clear promise "within the scope of law," GreenStay relied by investing, and inequity arises on rescission (lines 1–3).
- C. No—because budgetary constraints automatically override any equitable claim against the State.
- D. Yes—because administrative consistency demands honoring all public grant promises, regardless of scope.

**Q.69** Ahead of elections, a State Minister orally assured factory owners that environmental inspectors would grant leniency on compliance deadlines. Relying on this assurance, Industriatech failed to upgrade its plant in time. After the election, enforcement resumed and penalties were imposed. Industriatech invokes estoppel.

**Will Industriatech's claim succeed under Promissory Estoppel?**

- A. No—because an oral assurance by a political minister does not constitute a legal promise enforceable against the State ("did not mean a promise," line 10).
- B. Yes—because reliance losses and administrative fairness demand enforcement of any government assurance.
- C. No—because plant upgrades are statutory obligations that cannot be waived by executive assurances.
- D. Yes—because equity forbids the State from reneging on any warnings or assurances given in official capacity.

**Q.70** Which of the following is **not** an essential ingredient of Promissory Estoppel as described in the passage?

- A. A clear promise intended to create legal relations or affect future legal relationships.
- B. The promise must be within the scope of law and authority of the promisor.
- C. The promisee must act upon the promise to their detriment.
- D. The promise must be supported by consideration or form a vested right.

**Passage 4:** Under the Indian Contract Act, 1872, fraud and misrepresentation are two forms of defective consent that can affect the validity of a contract. Both allow the aggrieved party to void the contract, but they differ significantly in terms of intent, knowledge, and legal consequences.

Fraud, defined under Section 17 of the Act, refers to intentional deception by one party in order to secure an unfair contractual advantage. It includes knowingly making false statements, concealing material facts, or making promises without the intention to perform them, all with the aim of misleading the other party. The essence of fraud is the presence of dishonest intent. For example, if a seller falsely claims to have the authority to sell property, knowing that they do not, it constitutes fraud. When fraud is proven, the aggrieved party can rescind the contract and is also entitled to claim damages for any loss suffered. The burden is on the claimant to show that the false representation was made knowingly, without belief in its truth, or recklessly, and that it induced them to enter the contract.

In contrast, misrepresentation, governed by Section 18, involves false statements made without intent to deceive. These typically arise from honest mistakes, negligence, or misunderstandings. Misrepresentation occurs when a party conveys inaccurate information while genuinely believing it to be true. For instance, if a party, based on outdated records, assures another that land is unencumbered, but in reality, it is mortgaged, this would be misrepresentation - not fraud. Like in fraud, the contract is voidable at the option of the misled party, but the remedies differ. Since there is no fraudulent intent, the party responsible for misrepresentation may not always be liable for damages, especially if they acted in good faith.

The central difference lies in intention and knowledge. Fraud involves deliberate falsehood, whereas misrepresentation stems from inadvertent error. Both vitiate consent and make the contract voidable, but fraud carries greater legal consequences. Misrepresentation, although it leads to incorrect consent, is treated with more leniency due to the absence of mala fide intention.

**Q71.** Omega Traders, seeking to purchase branded machinery from Apex Machinery Co., negotiates terms over six months. Apex's sales manager, knowing Omega lacks budget, falsely assures Omega that Apex has 50% promotional discounts pending final approval, intending Omega to place a large order immediately. Relying on this promise, Omega places a ₹2 crore order. Two weeks later, Apex denies any such discount existed and demands full payment, threatening litigation if Omega defaults.

Which remedy is available to Omega under the Act?

- A. Rescind the contract and claim damages only if Apex genuinely believed in the discount offer, as misrepresentation carries no damages unless bad faith.
- B. Insist on specific performance of the purported discount clause, compelling Apex to honour the non-existent promotional approval.
- C. Void the contract for fraud, rescind the agreement, and claim damages for losses caused by Apex's intentional deception
- D. Pay full price but seek a declaratory decree that Apex acted negligently in its representations, since there was no intent to mislead.

**Q72.** BetaBuild Engineering contracts with City Council to renovate a historic building. BetaBuild's chief architect, relying on outdated municipal records, represents that the structure's west wing has no heritage restrictions. BetaBuild begins work, later halted when Council enforces preservation rules, deeming the work unauthorized. BetaBuild sues for contract rescission and damages.

Which doctrine applies to BetaBuild's situation?

- A. Fraud, because BetaBuild failed to verify records and thus intended to deceive the Council about restrictions.
- B. Neither fraud nor misrepresentation, since any municipal error voids contractual liability automatically.
- C. Misrepresentation, as BetaBuild genuinely believed the records and conveyed inaccurate information without intent to deceive.
- D. Estoppel, preventing Council from enforcing restrictions because BetaBuild relied on earlier public documents.

**Q73.** Gamma Pharmaceuticals enters into a royalty-sharing agreement with Innovate Labs for patented compound formulations. Innovate's R&D head, believing Gamma's published financials overstated revenues, inadvertently understates Gamma's royalty share by 5%. Upon discovery, Gamma refuses further royalty payments, claiming misrepresentation. Innovate counters that it believed figures accurate and requests correction plus interest.

What is the correct legal outcome?

- A. Gamma may terminate the contract and claim damages for fraud, as Innovate's error misled them.
- B. Innovate must pay the additional 5% royalty due, but Gamma cannot claim damages since there was no fraudulent intent—only misrepresentation.
- C. Gamma can demand a new negotiation because any inaccuracy, whether innocent or not, voids the original royalty structure.
- D. Innovate is entitled to punitive damages because any financial misstatement automatically amounts to fraud under the Act.

**Q74.** DeltaEx Logistics misdelivers a container load of electronic components to Epsilon Electronics. Epsilon's procurement manager, aware of the mistake, uses 60% of components, returning the rest but intentionally conceals the misdelivery for three months to prevent supply delays. Once discovered, DeltaEx demands return or value of used parts plus compensation for concealment.

What remedy can DeltaEx pursue?

- A. Rescission of the delivery contract and claim damages for fraud, because Epsilon deliberately concealed the misdelivery with dishonest intent
- B. Specific performance, compelling Epsilon to deliver identical components to DeltaEx's warehouse.
- C. Rescission for misrepresentation, since Epsilon believed the parts were rightfully theirs but concealed the mistake innocently.
- D. No remedy, as any misdelivery automatically absolves the mover of liability under logistic contracts.

**Q75.** Zeta Developers contracts with Terra Builders to supply prefabricated panels. Terra, in good faith, provides panels based on specifications from Zeta that, unknown to both, omit required seismic ratings. After installation, panels fail in a minor tremor. Zeta sues for breach; Terra counters that it provided exactly what Zeta specified.

Which principle governs this dispute?

- A. Fraud, because Terra should have known seismic specifications were critical to building safety.
- B. Caveat emptor, leaving Zeta fully responsible for its own specifications.
- C. Misrepresentation, since Terra honestly conveyed panels according to Zeta's instructions, without intention to deceive
- D. Frustration of contract, discharging both parties since an unforeseen tremor made performance impossible.

**Q76.** Which statement most accurately distinguishes fraud from misrepresentation under the Act?

- A. Fraud requires only a negligent misstatement, while misrepresentation demands proof of intentional deceit.
- B. Misrepresentation carries stricter remedies including punitive damages, unlike fraud, which only voids consent.
- C. Fraud involves deliberate deceit to secure unfair advantage, whereas misrepresentation stems from honest errors without mala fide intent
- D. Both fraud and misrepresentation require proof of reckless disregard, making intent irrelevant.

**Q77.** Under Sections 17 and 18 of the Indian Contract Act, what is the key legal consequence that differentiates fraud from misrepresentation?

- A. Only fraud allows the aggrieved party to void the contract; misrepresentation offers no right to rescind.
- B. Misrepresentation allows for damages only if negligence is proven, whereas fraud bars any remedy unless indemnity clauses exist.
- C. Fraudulent contracts are expressly enforceable by courts without rescission, while misrepresented contracts must be voided immediately.
- D. While both render contracts voidable at the aggrieved party's option, fraud additionally entitles the claimant to claim damages for losses suffered

**Passage 5:** Under criminal law, an unlawful assembly is defined as a gathering of five or more persons who share a common objective that falls within certain prohibited categories. An assembly becomes unlawful when the group's purpose includes the use or threat of criminal force against the government, legislature, or a public servant in the discharge of lawful duty. It is also unlawful if the object is to resist the execution of a law, commit mischief, criminal trespass, or any offence, to deprive a person of their legal rights, or to compel someone to act against the law or prevent them from exercising legal rights.

Significantly, a gathering that begins as lawful may later become unlawful if its common object changes to one that falls within these prohibited purposes. Anyone who hires, engages, promotes, or encourages others to join an unlawful assembly is punishable as though they were a member, even if they are not physically present.

If an offence is committed by any member of an unlawful assembly in furtherance of the group's common object, every person who was a member of the assembly at that time is held equally guilty of that offence, regardless of whether they personally took part in the criminal act. This is known as the principle of constructive liability.

Furthermore, if any member of an unlawful assembly uses force or violence to pursue the group's unlawful objective, all members are guilty of rioting, a specific offence under criminal law. The offence of rioting emphasizes the collective nature of violence and imposes group accountability for actions that disturb public peace.

This framework ensures that not only active participants, but also instigators and facilitators of group-based criminal conduct, are held liable. The principle of collective criminality acts as a deterrent against unlawful group behaviour and promotes the maintenance of law and public order.

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([https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/250883\\_english\\_01042024.pdf](https://www.mha.gov.in/sites/default/files/250883_english_01042024.pdf))]

**Q78.** A group of six environmental activists gathers peacefully outside a chemical plant to protest alleged pollution. Midway, one member unveils incendiary pamphlets calling for "forceful occupation" of plant premises. Three others cheer and spread calls on social media. Security intervenes, and scuffles break out when protesters resist orders to disperse. All six are present when police use force.

Which participants can be charged with unlawful assembly under the Act?

- A. Only the three who cheered and posted pamphlets, as they actively promoted the use of force.
- B. Only those who physically resisted police orders, since mere presence without action is insufficient.

- C. All six, because a gathering of five or more with a changed objective to resist lawful orders becomes an unlawful assembly.  
D. None, as the protest began lawfully and no actual force was used against plant property.

**Q79.** Seven sports fans convene outside a stadium to watch a match. One shouts, "Let's crash the VIP lounge!" Two others echo this incitement, but no one acts on it. Afterwards, the group disperses without attempting entry.

Who, if any, faces criminal liability?

- A. Only the one who first suggested crashing the lounge, as instigation alone suffices for rioting charges.  
B. All seven, because gathering with a plan to trespass renders the entire group guilty of unlawful assembly.  
C. No one, since the idea was abandoned and no offence occurred.  
D. The three who echoed the incitement, as those who "encourage others to join an unlawful assembly" are punishable as members.

**Q80.** A lawful candlelight vigil of ten relatives outside a hospital changes character when a participant brandishes a weapon and urges killing of the medical staff. Eight refuse; two follow him to the gate, threatening violence. Those two are arrested after staff flees.

Which principle determines guilt of the eight who stayed behind?

- A. Constructive liability, because once the common object changed to violence, all members present are equally guilty of ensuing offences.  
B. Only those who threatened staff, as constructive liability applies only to those who take part in the violence.  
C. None, because those eight did not physically join the violent faction and stayed passive.  
D. All because any assembly that begins lawfully remains lawful irrespective of object change.

**Q81.** Five factory workers gather at the gate to demand unpaid wages. One throws a rock at the factory gate to prevent managers from leaving. The others shout encouragement but do not throw anything. Police arrive, disperse the crowd, and levy rioting charges.

Under the Act, who can be convicted of rioting?

- A. Only the worker who threw the rock, since rioting requires actual use of force.  
B. All five, because if any member uses violence to pursue the group's unlawful objective, every member is guilty of rioting.  
C. Only the rock-thrower and those who encouraged him, since passive presence does not count.  
D. None, because their object was legitimate wage demand, not resisting law or trespass.

**Q82.** A group of eight students organizes a peaceful march. Midway, three break off and vandalize a government building. Authorities arrest all eight before learning of the split.

Who is liable under the principle of collective criminality?

- A. Only the three vandals, because the common object of the larger group remained peaceful.  
B. All eight, since any member committing an offence in furtherance of a newly adopted common object implicates the whole original assembly.  
C. No one except the three, because liability attaches only to members present when the offence occurred.  
D. The five peaceful marchers, as they facilitated the others by providing cover.

**Q83.** Which statement best describes "constructive liability" as outlined in the passage?

- A. It imposes liability only on those who physically commit the offence, ignoring facilitation or encouragement.  
B. It allows liability to be shared only if members explicitly vote for criminal action.  
C. It holds every member of an unlawful assembly equally guilty for any offence committed in furtherance of the common unlawful object, regardless of individual participation.  
D. It exempts non-violent participants when one member of the assembly uses force.

**Q84.** How does the Act distinguish between "unlawful assembly" and "rioting"?

- A. Unlawful assembly covers gatherings of five or more regardless of objective; rioting requires actual damage to public property.  
B. Unlawful assembly becomes rioting only if the gathering overtly threatens government institutions; otherwise remains merely unlawful.



- C. Unlawful assembly refers to a prohibited common object of five or more persons, while rioting is a specific offence when any member uses violence to pursue that object, attracting group liability (line 5).
- D. There is no distinction; every unlawful assembly automatically constitutes rioting under the Act.

#### SECTION - D: LOGICAL REASONING

**Passage:-1** On July 8, while hearing a plea to ban the film *Aaankh Micholi* for derogatory portrayal of people with disabilities, the Supreme Court in a landmark ruling laid down comprehensive guidelines to prevent stereotyping and discrimination of persons with disabilities (PwDs) in visual media, including films and documentaries.

##### **What is the framework?**

The Supreme Court's framework focuses on the prevention of stigmatisation and discrimination, recognising their profound impact on the dignity and identity of persons with disabilities. Among the guidelines is a call to avoid words that cultivate institutional discrimination, such as "cripple" and "spastic," as they contribute to negative self-image and perpetuate discriminatory attitudes. A Bench headed by the Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud said stereotyping differently abled persons in visual media and films must end, asking creators to provide an accurate representation of disabilities rather than mocking them. Language that individualises the impairment and overlooks disabling social barriers, for example, words like "afflicted," "suffering" and "victim", should be avoided, it said. The court also asked creators to practice the principle of "nothing about us, without us," and involve persons with disabilities in the creation and assessment of visual media content.

##### **What are laws which grant disability rights?**

The law which comprehensively deals with disability rights is the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act which came into force from April 19, 2017. It replaced the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995. The National Trust Act (1999), Rehabilitation Council of India Act (1992), Mental Health Care Act (2017) are the other laws that govern disability rights.

According to Shashank Pandey, a lawyer based out of Delhi and a founder of the Politics and Disability Forum, there are broadly two models under which disability rights are looked at, namely medical and social models. The human rights model, which is a recent one, is an evolution of the social model which says that people with disability are a part of society and have the same rights as everyone else. The Supreme Court's emphasis on the human rights model is significant as it makes the government and private parties obliged to facilitate full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in society. The advantage is that it places individuals in a sphere where all human rights principles which are applicable to anyone can be claimed by the disabled populace. The disadvantage is that it is an abstract idea and difficult to implement, says Mr. Pandey. The framework is also limited, as it is only for visual media, he adds, pointing out that the guidelines could have been sent by the SC to all departments for sensitisation.

[<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/the-supreme-court-ruling-on-portrayal-of-disability-in-films-explained/article68401128.ece>]

**Q85.** Which one of the following is a premise on which the Supreme Court's framework is based?

- A. That all persons with disabilities require medical interventions to participate in society.
- B. That artistic freedom in visual media is absolute and cannot be curtailed by guidelines.
- C. That language and representation in visual media significantly shape societal attitudes and self-perception of persons with disabilities.
- D. That documentaries are exempt from any form of governmental or judicial oversight.

**Q86.** Which of the following can be most reasonably inferred from the passage?

- A. The Court mandates criminal sanctions for filmmakers who use derogatory terms.
- B. The RPwD Act outright prohibits any portrayal of disability in films.
- C. Social barriers to disability are deemed less significant than medical conditions in shaping stigma.
- D. Involving persons with disabilities in content creation is expected to improve accuracy and reduce stigma.

**Q87.** Which conclusion most logically follows from the guidelines laid down by the Supreme Court?

- A. Involving persons with disabilities in content creation embodies the principle of "nothing about us, without us" and empowers accurate representation.
- B. Disabling social barriers refer exclusively to architectural obstacles.
- C. Terms like "suffering" and "afflicted" are medically accurate descriptors and should be retained.
- D. The National Trust Act governs cinematic portrayals of disability.



**Q88.** Which assumption underlies the Court's guideline to avoid individualising language such as "victim" and "afflicted"?

- A. Film audiences inherently understand the socio-cultural roots of disability.
- B. Using such individualising language perpetuates negative stereotypes by ignoring social barriers.
- C. All impairments are primarily visible and physical in nature.
- D. Creators bear no responsibility for public perception beyond their artistic intent.

**Q89.** Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the Supreme Court's rationale for its guidelines on language and representation?

- A. Reports indicate that most filmmakers are already engaging persons with disabilities on set.
- B. Surveys reveal that people's attitudes toward disabilities are unchanged by media portrayals.
- C. Psychological studies demonstrate that recurring exposure to derogatory labels fosters internalised stigma and social exclusion among persons with disabilities.
- D. Statistics show that legal provisions alone have eradicated discrimination in visual media.

**Q90.** Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the Court's emphasis on avoiding individualising language?

- A. Evidence suggests that the terms "afflicted" and "victim" are preferred by the majority of persons with disabilities as accurate descriptors of their experiences.
- B. Surveys show that disabling social barriers are more harmful than any language used to describe disability.
- C. Research confirms that involving persons with disabilities in content creation delays production schedules significantly, reducing creative efficiency.
- D. Legal experts argue that stereotyping cannot be eliminated by guidelines alone but requires constitutional amendment.

**Passage:-2** Everywhere I turn these days, someone is asking me, "Will AI replace writers?" It's become the most frequent topic of conversation in my world, and I understand why. With all the buzz around artificial intelligence and its rapid advancements, it's only natural to wonder about its impact on the craft of writing. Having spent 20 years in the publishing industry and the last two deeply immersed in AI, I felt it was time to share my thoughts on this question.

First off, I believe the answer isn't a simple yes or no. Like most things in life, it's nuanced. It really depends on which writers we're talking about. There are those who bring fresh ideas, innovative concepts, groundbreaking research and profound emotional depth to their work. These writers push boundaries, challenge norms and introduce perspectives that shift our cultural conversations. In my view, they're not at risk of being replaced by AI anytime soon.

Then there are writers who, let's be honest, tend to rehash old ideas or stick to formulaic patterns that don't add much to the dialogue. We all know that the publishing world includes both kinds of writers. For those whose work doesn't break new ground, the situation is a bit more complicated.

I don't foresee a moment when AI suddenly replaces these writers overnight. But it's important to recognise that sometimes they're valued more for their ability to produce competent, coherent content than for introducing truly original ideas. This is where AI starts to become a significant factor.

Now, let's go into this a bit deeper. Writing isn't just about putting words on a page (though you'd be surprised how many people think it is). It's about conveying ambiguous thoughts, emotions, and experiences in a way that connects with readers. It's about sparking imagination, provoking thought, and sometimes even inspiring change. AI, impressive as it is, doesn't possess consciousness or genuine creativity. It can mimic patterns, generate text that follows certain rules, and even produce content that reads well at a glance. But it doesn't feel, and it doesn't think in the way humans do.

For writers who are innovators — those who pour their hearts into their work, who explore uncharted territories of thought and emotion — AI is more of a tool than a threat. It can assist with research, help organise ideas, or even suggest alternative phrasings. But it can't replace the human element that makes their writing unique.

On the flip side, writers whose work is largely derivative or formulaic might find AI encroaching on their territory. AI can efficiently produce content that fits established templates or covers well-trodden topics. If a writer's primary contribution is delivering large volumes of predictable "content", it's worth worrying about how AI might affect their role.

But even here, the situation isn't black and white. Writing, at its core, is a human endeavour. Even formulaic writing often requires a level of understanding, nuance, and adaptability that AI hasn't fully mastered. Tone, voice, context, cultural references — all these elements contribute to effective communication and are areas where human writers still have the upper hand.

Readers value genuine voices. They seek connections with the author through their ideas, shared experiences, emotional resonances. AI can't replace a writer's personal journey, their failures, triumphs, and everything in between.

[<https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/ai-writers-artificial-intelligence-replace-9599677/>]

**Q91.** Which one of the following statements serves as a key premise underlying the author's overall argument in the passage?

- A. That genuine creativity in writing arises from a combination of personal experience and emotional insight, which AI cannot authentically reproduce.
- B. That all writers who follow formulaic patterns will inevitably be replaced by AI in the near future.
- C. That AI already possesses the consciousness required to generate truly original content.
- D. That the publishing industry no longer values human-produced writing.

**Q92.** Which of the following can be most reasonably inferred from the passage?

- A. The author believes that AI's capability to organize data negates the need for human researchers.
- B. The risk of replacement by AI is significantly higher for writers whose work lacks originality and depth.
- C. AI tools will soon eliminate the need for editors to refine prose for tone and cultural accuracy.
- D. All writers, regardless of skill, will benefit equally from AI assistance.

**Q93.** Which conclusion most logically follows from the author's discussion?

- A. Formulaic writing will remain entirely immune to automation because it depends on human nuance.
- B. The medical model of disability has no relevance to AI's role in writing.
- C. Innovative writers who push creative boundaries will retain their value despite advances in AI.
- D. AI's inability to feel emotions renders it useless even for simple content-generation tasks.

**Q94.** Which assumption underlies the author's claim that "for innovators, AI is more of a tool than a threat"?

- A. That innovative writers require no external aids or research support.
- B. That AI tools currently lack any capacity to suggest alternative phrasings or organize ideas.
- C. That formulaic content cannot be produced by any AI system.
- D. That innovative writers derive their value primarily from originality and emotional depth—qualities AI cannot replicate.

**Q95.** Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the author's contention about the differentiated impact of AI on writers?

- A. A study shows that best-selling authors consistently cite personal life experiences and emotional journeys as central to their creative process—elements that no existing AI model can authentically simulate.
- B. Surveys reveal that most readers do not notice any difference between AI-generated and human-written articles on routine topics.
- C. Data indicates that AI tools can now generate marketing copy with emotional resonance indistinguishable from human work.
- D. Reports confirm that publishing houses have decreased investment in all human writers due to budget cuts.

**Q96.** Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's argument that formulaic writers face greater risk of replacement by AI than innovative writers?

- A. Research finds that AI-generated content often lacks the consistency and coherence expected in formulaic writing, leading editors to favor human-written drafts.
- B. Evidence emerges that AI models have already been trained on vast repositories of genre-specific templates, enabling them to replicate formulaic patterns with near-perfect accuracy and reliability.
- C. Analysts report that readers increasingly distrust human-authored content, preferring the perceived objectivity of AI-generated text.
- D. A legal ruling mandates that all written content must include a human byline, regardless of origin.

**Passage:-3** Haruki Murakami once wrote, "Unfortunately, the clock is ticking, the hours are going by. The past increases, the future recedes. Possibilities decreasing, regrets mounting." This might seem like a meditation on growing older — when the weight of the past grows heavier and the space of possibility contracts. But it also seems to capture the emotional register of the way in which nations speak about their histories.

This paper has witnessed scintillating debates about the nature of nationalism and the roots of the Emergency. These are a credit to the intellectual seriousness of those participating. Who can deny that we must return to the past: For insight, for inspiration, for forgotten histories, and above all, to understand the present? But even among the most well-intentioned, one cannot shake the feeling that we are litigating the past partly because we are at a dead end when it comes to imagining the future.

Take the debate over Indian nationalism. What work is it doing in our present context? Its primary function now seems to be boundary-setting: To distinguish the “good” from the “bad” nationalism. But the assumption that we must all operate within the horizon of nationalism remains unchallenged. The frame persists: Are you the right kind or the wrong kind? This framework, however, only reinforces the grip of nationalism on our political imagination.

There are three dangers in this enterprise — two historical and one ethical. First, as political diagnosis, this project is fraught. There is no easy mapping of morally good ideas onto virtuous political outcomes. “Good” nationalisms have often carried their own blind spots — and left their own corpses. “Bad” ones have tapped into suppressed histories. It is wishful thinking to believe that fixing nationalism will resolve our political crises.

Second, the search in the past often fails to properly historicise the past. To put it bluntly: We cannot build a future by relying perpetually on the crutches of whichever figure we admire — Jawaharlal Nehru, Mahatma Gandhi, B R Ambedkar, Ram Manohar Lohia. They did their own thinking, made their own judgements, acknowledged their own limitations. We can draw from them, even think with them. But they cannot substitute for thinking now, in and for our moment. In any case, we must ask: Are the debates we are having the ones the next generation ought to inherit? Much of our nostalgia is for “roads not taken”. But those roads are closed not merely due to ideological error. Their closure demands deeper diagnoses of present transformations. But the ethical worry is this. Take the dozens of important issues which divide us, everything from free speech to the nature of our development to our geopolitical environment.

[<https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/pratap-bhanu-mehta-writes-on-emergency-and-nationalism-a-debate-that-blinds-us-to-the-future-10098279/>]

**Q97.** Which one of the following statements serves as a key premise underlying the author’s critique of contemporary debates about nationalism?

- A. That history is primarily a source of inspiration rather than a means of boundary-setting.
- B. That the intensity of debates about the past suggests an inability to envision future alternatives.
- C. That nationalism has a singular, unchanging definition across contexts.
- D. That ethical concerns are secondary to historical accuracy in intellectual debates.

**Q98.** Which of the following can be most reasonably inferred from the passage?

- A. The author regards Jawaharlal Nehru as an irrelevant historical figure.
- B. Nostalgia for “roads not taken” stems solely from ideological disagreement rather than structural change.
- C. The ethical worry about divisive issues is unrelated to the quality of historical debates.
- D. An overemphasis on past figures can impede the development of novel political visions suited to present challenges.

**Q99.** Which conclusion most logically follows from the author’s discussion?

- A. Nations should abandon historical inquiry entirely in favor of future planning.
- B. Boundary-setting debates over nationalism are inherently unethical.
- C. Merely distinguishing good from bad nationalism does not advance our political imagination.
- D. The Emergency was fundamentally misdiagnosed due to excessive nostalgia.

**Q100.** Which assumption underlies the author’s claim that “we cannot build a future by relying perpetually on the crutches of whichever figure we admire”?

- A. That contemporary political crises cannot be effectively addressed using past frameworks without modification.
- B. That historical figures lack any relevance to modern political thought.
- C. That moral clarity about past nationalisms guarantees moral clarity in present politics.
- D. That ethical issues like free speech are unaffected by historical diagnoses.

**Q101.** Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the author’s contention that our preoccupation with past debates hampers future-oriented political imagination?

- A. Empirical studies show that societies engaging deeply with their past produce more cohesive future policies, irrespective of original thought.
- B. Surveys reveal that countries prioritizing future-oriented discourse over historical debates demonstrate higher rates of political innovation and problem-solving.
- C. Data indicates that admiration for historical leaders increases polarization in society without informing policy.
- D. Reports confirm that revisiting the past is the primary vehicle for healing national divisions.

**Q102.** Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's argument that litigating the past impedes imagining the future?

- A. Evidence that engaging in debates over past nationalisms fosters civic education and encourages critical future thinking.
- B. Studies showing that reliance on historical figures has no impact on present political imagination.
- C. Historical cases where nations that frequently debated and litigated their past went on to successfully chart innovative futures.
- D. Data showing that isolating ethical issues has no bearing on the quality of historical or political debates.

**Passage:-4** During the National Eligibility Cum Entrance Test (NEET) this year, scores and ranks were inflated. As a consequence, many candidates may not get admission to their desired college as predicted based on previous years' Coaching and admission counselling centres, typically run by business tycoons, have realised that clients, the NEET aspirants, have failed to secure preferred seats despite their advice. However, despite this fiasco, the industry has found a way to enhance their brand value through media and social media coverage. The owners of this trillion-rupee industry, along with the 23 lakh NEET aspirants this year, are up in arms. Their hypothesis is that mapping scores to ranks cannot vary very widely from previous years. In this conundrum, various allegations of cheating and paper leakage, amongst others, have been raised. Despite numerous crackdowns and investigations, paper leakage in medical admission exams remains a persistent issue.

#### No room for weak links

Since its inception, NEET has emerged as the largest exam in the 'One Exam, One Nation' model because of the number of candidates taking the exam, the number of languages the exam is conducted in, and the diversity of various other factors. The quality of education and the college fees payable are critical factors that vary widely. A seat in a top government college with good quality education could cost a few lakhs, whereas a seat in a private college could cost a few crores. Moreover, parents are willing to go beyond their means to secure higher ranks for their children in these competitive exams, as the family's reputation is considered to hinge on this.

Thus, the stakes in NEET are incredibly high, making it vulnerable to irregularities, accidental or intentional. Therefore, we need strong governance in the form of foolproof and complete Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and their compliance. There cannot be any weak link in the chain of operations from setting question papers to conducting the exam to admissions. However, there are many weak links, as seen from the distribution of the wrong question paper at some centres, for example. Reportedly, some centres distributed the back-up question paper instead of the primary paper. How were both sets — the primary and the secondary/back-up question papers — accessed almost simultaneously? Were they accessed from banks' strongrooms or another reserve? How was the back-up question paper set taken from the banks' strongrooms without any emergency circumstances or protocols? There are several unanswered questions about the authorisation and attitude of the officials concerned. This seemingly inconsequential event is actually of enormous consequence and could give us an idea of how the exam was conducted this year.

This one error led to a cascade of errors. A wrong question paper was distributed, subsequently taken back along with the Optical Mark Recognition (OMR) sheet, thus creating panic among the candidates. The correct question paper was then distributed, and no additional time was given for the time lost. Then, exceptionally huge grace marks were awarded for the time lost, which was later scrapped due to a public outcry.

Each of the above demonstrates the need for critical SOPs for complete governance of the exam, which includes several stakeholders such as those who set the question paper, translators, reviewers, the printing press, officials at examination centres, banks' strongrooms, and invigilators. Any loose links in this chain have the potential for malpractices. Only proper investigation may reveal any substantial wrongdoing.

[<https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/preventing-another-neet-fiasco/article68331301.ece>]

**Q103.** Which one of the following statements serves as a key premise underlying the author's argument about NEET's governance failures?

- A. That NEET's status as the largest "One Exam, One Nation" test stems from its multilingual administration and candidate diversity.
- B. That parents believe their social standing depends entirely on their children's NEET rank.
- C. That the presence of weak links in the SOP chain—from question-setting to invigilation—undermines the exam's integrity and exposes it to malpractice.
- D. That mapping scores to ranks should not vary significantly from year to year under normal circumstances.

**Q104.** Which of the following can be most reasonably inferred from the passage?

- A. The media hype around NEET irregularities has permanently damaged the coaching industry's credibility.
- B. Candidates who received the wrong question paper were subsequently compensated with adequate additional time.

- C. Investigations into paper leakage have been swift and conclusive, resolving most allegations.  
D. The simultaneous access and mishandling of both primary and backup question papers indicate serious procedural lapses in question-paper security.

**Q105.** Which conclusion most logically follows from the author's discussion?

- A. Inflated ranks will necessarily lead to a long-term decline in NEET's popularity among aspirants.  
B. Coaching centres bear primary responsibility for ensuring SOP compliance at examination centres.  
C. Only a comprehensive investigation into each step of the SOP chain can reveal whether malpractices or mere errors occurred.  
D. NEET's "One Exam, One Nation" model should be abandoned due to its inherent vulnerabilities.

**Q106.** Which assumption underlies the author's claim that "there cannot be any weak link in the chain of operations from setting question papers to conducting the exam to admissions"?

- A. That any single point of failure in the SOP chain can compromise the fairness and credibility of the entire examination process.  
B. That backup question papers are always more secure than primary papers.  
C. That inflated scores result exclusively from paper leakage rather than marking errors.  
D. That coaching and counselling centres have no interest in uncovering governance failures.

**Q107.** Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the author's contention that weak SOP compliance enables malpractice in NEET?

- A. Evidence that most examination centres fully complied with SOPs except for one isolated incident of wrong paper distribution.  
B. A whistle-blower report revealing that multiple centres accessed the backup question-paper bank without required authorization or logging.  
C. Data showing that grace marks were uniformly applied across all candidates irrespective of time lost.  
D. A statement from coaching-centre owners admitting they used legal avenues, not procedural lapses, to challenge admission results.

**Q108.** Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's argument that malpractice in NEET arises from weak links in SOP compliance?

- A. A detailed audit demonstrates that every procedural step—from strongroom access logs to invigilator reports—was followed to the letter, yet paper leakage still occurred.  
B. A ruling that grace-mark awards for time lost were legally mandated, not a panic-induced error.  
C. Test-centre incidents of wrong paper distribution were all caused by printing press mislabeling, unrelated to SOP compliance.  
D. Multiple independent investigations prove that no substantive wrongdoing took place and that irregularities arose purely from innocent human errors unconnected to SOP design.

#### SECTION - E: QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

**Passage:-1** Greenfield Warehouses oversees a 60,000 m<sup>2</sup> logistics park comprising 120 storage units—60 Standard, 40 Climate-Controlled, and 20 Secure Vault—leased to 45 clients. Standard units, which occupy half the park's area, command a base monthly rent of ₹100 per m<sup>2</sup>; Climate-Controlled units cover 30% of the facility at ₹180 per m<sup>2</sup>; and Vault units, accounting for the remaining 20%, rent at ₹350 per m<sup>2</sup>. Tenants signing contracts of at least 12 months receive an 8% discount on their base rent, rising to 12% for leases of 24 months or more, while every lease also carries a security deposit equivalent to one month's undiscounted rent. From October through December, a peak-season surcharge of ₹20 per m<sup>2</sup> applies across all unit types. In addition, Climate-Controlled clients incur a fixed ₹50 per m<sup>2</sup> energy levy each month, and Vault users pay a separate insurance premium equal to 0.5% of their monthly rent. Handling fees of ₹75 per pallet—averaging four pallets per client per month—are charged for all inbound and outbound goods.

**Q.109.** If all 120 units are occupied at their **base monthly rents only**, what percentage of the **total base rent revenue** is contributed by the **Vault** units?

- A. 20%                      B. 30.5%                      C. 40.23%                      D. 50%



**Q.110.** A client leases one Standard unit and one Climate-Controlled unit (each at the average unit area implied in the passage) on an 18-month contract. What is their **net combined monthly rent** after the **8% long-term lease discount** but **before** any surcharges or energy/insurance levies?

- A. ₹120,520      B. ₹122,640      C. ₹118,760      D. ₹124,320

**Q.111.** During the **peak season** (Oct–Dec), what is the **additional surcharge revenue** collected **per Vault unit** per month?

- A. ₹8,000      B. ₹10,000      C. ₹12,000      D. ₹14,000

**Q.112.** What is the **monthly energy levy** paid **per Climate-Controlled unit**?

- A. ₹15,000      B. ₹18,000      C. ₹22,500      D. ₹25,000

**Q.113.** A Climate-Controlled client moves an average of four pallets in and out each month. In a **non-peak** month with an 8% lease discount, what **percentage** does their **monthly handling fee** represent of their **net monthly rent**?

- A. 0.2%      B. 0.4%      C. 0.6%      D. 1.0%

**Q.114.** If **every** unit (all 120) is leased, what is the **total security deposit** the warehouse must collect (one month's undiscounted rent per unit)?

- A. ₹8,440,000      B. ₹9,740,000      C. ₹10,440,000      D. ₹11,040,000

**Passage:-2** Uniform Mart operates a chain of 50 retail outlets specializing in consumer electronics, sourcing products from three primary suppliers—Alpha Tech, Beta Devices, and Gamma Gadgets—each contributing 40%, 35%, and 25% of total inventory by cost, respectively. Alpha Tech goods have an average cost price of ₹18,000 per unit, Beta Devices ₹15,500, and Gamma Gadgets ₹12,200. Uniform Mart applies a standard markup of 25% on Alpha Tech products, 30% on Beta Devices, and 20% on Gamma Gadgets. Seasonal promotions introduce a 10% discount on marked prices during the Spring Sale and a 15% discount in the Autumn Clearance; two flash-sale days each quarter further offer an additional flat ₹1,000 off per unit on orders exceeding ten units. Overhead and logistics costs amount to ₹1,200 per unit, regardless of supplier, while return handling incurs a restocking fee equal to 5% of the marked price. During the Autumn Clearance, Alpha Tech items sold at a 15% loss relative to their cost price to clear last-year's models, whereas Beta Devices and Gamma Gadgets maintain a minimum 5% profit margin after discounts and fees. Bulk corporate clients purchasing more than 100 units in a single order receive an extra 2% rebate on the net invoice value.

**Q.115.** What is the weighted average cost price per unit across all inventory?

- A. ₹16,240      B. ₹16,905      C. ₹15,675      D. ₹17,250

**Q.116.** After applying its standard markup, what is the marked price of a Beta Devices unit, and by what percentage does this exceed its cost price?

- A. ₹19,600; 26.45%      B. ₹20,000; 28.57%      C. ₹20,150; 29.84%      D. ₹20,150; 30.00%

**Q.117.** During the Spring Sale, what is the net selling price of a Gamma Gadgets unit before any flash-sale discount?

- A. ₹13,176      B. ₹13,000      C. ₹13,500      D. ₹14,000

**Q.118.** On a flash-sale day when a customer orders 12 Alpha Tech units, what is the effective discount per unit (combining the 10% Spring Sale discount and the flat ₹1,000 reduction)?

- A. ₹3,250      B. ₹3,000      C. ₹3,500      D. ₹3,750

**Q.119** In the Autumn Clearance, what is the net selling price of a Gamma Gadgets unit after the 15% discount on its marked price?

- A. ₹12,000      B. ₹12,644      C. ₹12,444      D. ₹13,000

**Q.120** What is the **restocking fee** charged on a **Gamma Gadgets** unit when it is returned, based on its marked price?

- A. ₹600      B. ₹732      C. ₹750      D. ₹900