

**NISHANT PRAKASH LAW CLASSES**  
**COMMON LAW ADMISSION TEST 2025-26**  
**MOCK CLAT 140**

**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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## SECTION-A: ENGLISH LANGUAGE

**Passage:-** 1 The Trump White House is 1,000% wrong in “actively looking at” suspending habeas corpus in the context of immigration. It is the only protection written into the Constitution, not the Bill of Rights, a fundamental shield — stretching back to the Magna Carta — to contest one’s detention by the government: “The Privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in Cases of Rebellion or Invasion the public Safety may require it.” There is no rebellion, as there was during the Civil War, and there is no invasion, despite what President Donald Trump claims and what White House Deputy Chief of Staff Stephen Miller, the aide who floated the habeas corpus suspension idea, says.

Notably, it is not Article II, which lays out the powers of the president. Lincoln did suspend habeas corpus during the Civil War, but it was with the consent of the Congress. President Ulysses S. Grant did the same for a limited time in nine counties in South Carolina during Reconstruction, again, with the agreement of Congress. The other two instances were in U.S. territories, in the Philippines during a 1905 rebellion and in Hawaii after Pearl Harbor, when the Territory of Hawaii was under martial law, but each time acting under congressional grant.

As with many such moves, the administration would certainly try to justify this under the banner of immigration enforcement and vague national security. Aside from the fact that these justifications have never actually stopped the government from applying expanded powers more broadly there is an obvious paradox between the notion that these policies would be applied exclusively to those that deserve it and that there would be no due process.

Determining whether or not someone has committed an offense and how they should be punished for it is the entire underlying premise for due process in the first place. If the right to contest a detention disappears, how exactly is one meant to prove that you’re not actually a national security threat, or actually a citizen?

We don’t have to speculate much about how this looks because it is the *modus operandi* of despots around the world already. Republicans and Democrats alike on the federal, state and local levels must refuse this Trump power grab and effort to illegally suspend what is our most fundamental right. Some harms cannot be undone.

[[https://www.reflector.com/opinion/editorials/editorial-no-justification-for-suspending-habeas-corpus/article\\_159c9b2c-0375-4308-a08e-d37e0729dd17.html](https://www.reflector.com/opinion/editorials/editorial-no-justification-for-suspending-habeas-corpus/article_159c9b2c-0375-4308-a08e-d37e0729dd17.html)]

**Q1.** The author states, “We don’t have to speculate much about how this looks because it is the **modus operandi** of despots around the world already.” The term “**modus operandi**” most nearly means:

- A. a formal declaration of intent issued by governments
- B. the characteristic method or way of operating of a person or organization
- C. an unpredictable and spontaneous reaction to crises
- D. a legally mandated procedure for judicial review

**Q2.** According to the Suspension Clause quoted, habeas corpus may be suspended only when:

- A. the president declares a national emergency and Congress concurs by simple resolution
- B. the Supreme Court issues an order supporting the suspension under Article II
- C. there is rebellion or invasion and public safety requires it
- D. the Senate approves by a two-thirds majority and the House concurs

**Q3.** The author calls it “an obvious paradox between the notion that these policies would be applied exclusively to those that deserve it and that there would be no due process.” This most nearly implies that:

- A. one cannot determine who “deserves it” without due process protections
- B. due process is unnecessary when the government acts in good faith
- C. immigration enforcement should override constitutional rights entirely
- D. the policy would only affect a very small number of individuals

**Q4.** Which best describes the author’s attitude toward the proposed suspension of habeas corpus?

- A. Mild skepticism, suggesting a further legal review but offering no strong criticism
- B. Vehement opposition, denouncing it as an unlawful power grab that must be resisted
- C. Neutral analysis, presenting historical facts without moral judgment
- D. Qualified approval, believing it is acceptable during crises short of formal invasion

**Q5.** Select the option that best revises the underlined clause for clarity and conciseness:

“White House Deputy Chief of Staff Stephen Miller, the aide **who floated the habeas corpus suspension idea, says.**”

- A. who has proposed suspending habeas corpus, says      B. who floated the idea of suspending habeas corpus, and he says  
C. responsible for floating the habeas corpus suspension idea, says      D. who floated the habeas corpus suspension idea, he says

**Q6. Main Idea**

The primary purpose of the passage is to:

- A. outline the historical instances when Congress approved habeas corpus suspension  
B. defend the president’s power to act swiftly on immigration matters  
C. argue that suspending habeas corpus absent rebellion or invasion is unconstitutional and authoritarian  
D. propose a new amendment to clarify the Suspension Clause

**Passage:- 2** In contemporary spaceflight, cost, reliability and time form a tense triangle. Whether more money can ensure more reliability is tricky to answer, more so following the failure of ISRO’s PSLV-C61 mission to launch the EOS-09 earth-observation satellite into a sun-synchronous polar orbit. EOS-09 was designed to produce high-quality radar images for civilian applications such as land-use mapping and hydrology studies and for defence surveillance, even if inclement weather prevailed over the areas of interest thanks to a synthetic aperture radar and a C-band data-link. Against the backdrop of tensions with Pakistan, such all-weather data would also have informed tactical decisions. The Department of Space had also invited several Members of Parliament to the launch event, which would have been unusual for a strictly civilian earth-observation satellite. ISRO chairman V. Narayanan later said that his team noted a glitch in the vehicle’s third stage minutes after liftoff that prevented the satellite from reaching its intended altitude. While the cause is yet to be ascertained, the failure is a reminder that a “textbook” launch of a rocket even as well-understood as the PSLV is not a given.

India is just embarking on its ambitious Space-Based Surveillance-3 programme to launch 52 surveillance satellites; 31 are to be built in the private sector, which still needs ISRO’s guidance. Focus on the programme also comes against the backdrop of Operation Sindoor, which revealed at least one gap in the country’s space-based military surveillance capabilities when it depended on a foreign commercial operator for more frequent data. Small margins of error in a rocket components’ operations separate success from failure, and thus cost from reliability. Time, however, is a separate matter: the pressing need for surveillance capabilities, if not improving the understanding of climate change and disaster risk over India, means that developers lack the luxury of time while also coming under greater pressure to deliver across both civilian and military domains. The PSLV-C61 failure follows the failure in January to place the NVS-02 navigation satellite into its designated orbit. Between an increasingly crowded launch manifest, research and development, data acquisition and processing pipelines, limited access to manufacturing capacity, and the human spaceflight programme, it will not be remiss to increase the resources available to ISRO if only to ensure its ability to meet India’s military needs while carrying on with other enterprises, all of which are becoming time-sensitive in a highly competitive global industry.

[<https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/tough-timing-on-isro-pslv-c61-mission-indias-space-programme/article69590117.ece>]

**Q7. What is the main purpose of the passage?**

- A. To argue that the failure of PSLV-C61 demonstrates that private-sector involvement should replace ISRO’s role entirely in India’s space programmes.  
B. To propose that India abandon ambitious surveillance projects in favour of purely climate-change research satellites.  
C. To chronicle the technical specifications of the EOS-09 satellite and celebrate the successes of India’s synthetic aperture radar technology.  
D. To analyse how the recent PSLV-C61 launch failure underscores the delicate balance between cost, reliability and time in spaceflight, and to advocate increased resources for ISRO to meet both civilian and military demands.

**Q8. In the context of the passage, the word “inclement” (Paragraph 1) most nearly means:**

- A. unusually frigid and cold      B. characterised by severe weather unsuitable for normal activity  
C. exceptionally hostile in a political sense      D. moderate and unremarkable

**Q9. Which inference about the Department of Space’s invitation to Members of Parliament (MPs) is best supported by the passage?**

- A. The EOS-09 mission had significant strategic importance, prompting unusually high-level political interest.  
B. The MPs were invited primarily to compensate for public relations failures in earlier missions.

- C. The Department of Space regularly invites MPs to all PSLV launches, regardless of payload type.
- D. The invitation was extended to satisfy defence-sector lobbyists demanding classified briefings.

**Q10.** Which choice is the closest antonym of “remiss” as used in the final paragraph?

“...it will not be **remiss** to increase the resources available to ISRO...”

- A. judicious
- B. negligent
- C. dismissive
- D. improvident

**Q11.** Complete the analogy based on the passage’s logic:

Small margins of error : success in spaceflight :: \_\_\_\_\_ : reliability of satellite data.

- A. imposing arbitrary tariffs on satellite components
- B. increasing the number of launch attempts within 90 days
- C. leveraging private-sector manufacturing without oversight
- D. synthetic aperture radar enabling imaging through clouds

**Q12.** The author’s statement “it will not be remiss to increase the resources available to ISRO” most nearly implies that:

- A. allocating additional funds to ISRO is a reasonable and necessary step given the urgency and complexity of its missions.
- B. ISRO should be replaced by better-funded foreign agencies for urgent surveillance needs.
- C. boosting funding is optional but would be an extravagant indulgence.
- D. any further investment in ISRO would be misguided due to its recent launch failures.

**Passage:- 3** Until six months ago, Abu Mohammad al-Jolani was a specially designated global terrorist, with a \$10 million bounty fixed on his head by the U.S. government. A native of Syria’s Golan Heights and a former member of al-Qaeda in Iraq, one of the group’s most brutal branches, Jolani founded Jabhat al-Nusra, the al-Qaeda’s Syria affiliate, in 2012, during the early stages of the civil war. Thirteen years later, on May 14, Jolani — now known as Ahmed al-Sharaa — met with U.S. President Donald Trump in Riyadh. Mr. Trump, who earlier in the week lifted America’s decades-long sanctions on Syria, praised Mr. Sharaa, saying he was “a tough guy. Strong past... Fighter”. The meeting was a diplomatic victory for Mr. Sharaa, whose Islamist Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) captured Damascus in December 2024 by toppling the secular dictatorship of President Bashar al-Assad. Mr. Sharaa met Qatar’s Emir in Doha in April, seeking support for his fledgling Islamist regime. He enjoys the strong backing of Türkiye. He was welcomed by French President Emmanuel Macron earlier this month at the Élysée Palace in Paris. And in Riyadh, Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman played a key role in facilitating his meeting with Mr. Trump. With regional and international recognition, Ahmed al-Sharaa appears poised to shape Syria’s present and future.

The lifting of American sanctions opens the door for Syria to join the global economic mainstream and attract foreign investments. Mr. Sharaa has already invited American companies to invest in Syria’s oil and gas. Money could flow from wealthy Arab monarchies to war-torn Syria for reconstruction and other business opportunities. But one question remains: what kind of Syria are Mr. Sharaa and his fellow Islamists planning to build? Mr. Sharaa has promised to uphold the rule of law, respect women’s rights and protect religious and ethnic minorities. Yet, ever since the HTS captured power, Syria has seen instances of targeted violence against minority communities. In March, hundreds of Alawites, the sect to which ousted President Assad belongs, were killed by Islamist gunmen in the coastal Latakia region. Sectarian tensions remain high in central Syria, where targeted killings and abductions are frequently reported. In recent weeks, Syria’s Druze minority has come under sustained attacks, with community leaders describing the violence as a “genocidal campaign”. The Kurds in the northeast have called for a decentralised, democratic Syria, firmly opposing the HTS’s centralised style of governance. The removal of sanctions and international recognition present a historic opportunity for Mr. Sharaa to steer Syria toward recovery and prosperity. But to that end, he must first stabilise the country internally, dismantle extremist armed groups and adopt an inclusive constitution that guarantees the rights of all citizens. If not, Syria risks following the path of Libya or Afghanistan.

[<https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/new-beginning-on-syrias-present-and-future/article69579650.ece>]

**Q13.** The passage refers to Hayat Tahrir al-Sham as “his **fledgling** Islamist regime.” The word “**fledgling**” most nearly means:

- A. fully established and long-standing
- B. in the early stages of development and untried
- C. precariously on the brink of collapse
- D. ideologically moderate and compromising

**Q14.** Which of the following details about Jolani’s status and timeline is **accurate** according to the passage?

- A. Until six months ago, he was under a \$10 million U.S. bounty and met President Trump in Riyadh on May 14
- B. He founded HTS in the Golan Heights in 2012 and met the Emir of Qatar on May 14
- C. He was designated a terrorist in 2024 and received backing from Türkiye in December 2024
- D. He met President Macron in Riyadh before sanctions were lifted earlier this week

**Q15.** The author's remark that "The lifting of American sanctions opens the door... But one question remains: what kind of Syria are Mr. Sharaa and his fellow Islamists planning to build?" most nearly suggests that:

- A. foreign investment alone guarantees peace and prosperity in Syria
- B. regime change in Damascus has universally ended sectarian violence
- C. economic opportunity without political inclusivity may fail to address underlying conflicts
- D. HTS has already drafted an inclusive constitution ensuring minority rights

**Q16.** "HTS captured Damascus by toppling the secular dictatorship of President Bashar al-Assad" is to **political overthrow** as "lifting of sanctions" is to:

- A. economic liberation
- B. cultural assimilation
- C. military escalation
- D. legal retrenchment

**Q17.** Select the option that best **revises** the underlined parenthetical for clarity and correctness:

"Thirteen years later, on May 14, Jolani — **now known as Ahmed al-Sharaa** — met with U.S. President Donald Trump in Riyadh."

- A. Jolani, now going by Ahmed al-Sharaa, met with
- B. Jolani (now gone by the name Ahmed al-Sharaa) met with
- C. Jolani — now calling himself Ahmed al-Sharaa — met with
- D. Jolani, now known Ahmed al-Sharaa to many, met with

**Q18.** The primary purpose of the passage is to:

- A. celebrate Ahmed al-Sharaa's diplomatic triumphs and unilaterally endorse his regime's vision for Syria
- B. propose that HTS's model of centralized Islamist governance be exported to other Middle Eastern nations
- C. argue that foreign investment in Syria's oil and gas sectors will automatically eliminate sectarian tensions
- D. chronicle the rebranding and international recognition of a former terrorist leader while warning that political and sectarian instability must be resolved for genuine recovery

**Passage:-** 4 President Donald Trump signed an executive order Jan. 20, defining sex as a biological classification "at conception." The order requires gender markers on several forms of government-issued identification, including passports and visas, to reflect as such. As a result of the anti-LGBTQ+ legislation, individuals nationwide have reported worsening mental health and an increase in anxiety and fear, according to the Human Rights Campaign. The order is a direct infringement on the liberties of American citizens, revoking a private right that individuals have had for decades.

The census of gender diverse people and their experiences will become nearly impossible under this order as questions on gender identity will be removed from federal surveys. It will make the betterment of transgender and gender-diverse people's lives unfeasible in America. An executive order signed Feb. 6 seeks to remove funding toward nongovernmental organizations that "undermine the national interest," which could include those dedicated to serving transgender people or research that may be inclusive of trans people. This may hurt transgender adults' access to hormone replacement therapy and other medications, as well as gender-affirming surgeries.

Those who have experienced a conflict with insurance or been denied their prescription understand the dangers to wellness, privacy and independence this may cause. LGBTQ+ individuals are at high risk of suicide not because of their sexual orientation or gender identity but because of how mistreated and stigmatized they are within our society, according to The Trevor Project. In Texas, 54% of surveyed LGBTQ+ youth reported a significant negative impact from recent politics, and 36% reported sometimes being negatively impacted.

In the 89th Texas Legislative Session, there are currently 126 anti-trans bills in play, according to Trans Legislation Tracker, an independent research resource. One of the many attacks on the health and privacy of transgender individuals is House Bill 847, which aims to prohibit the use of taxpayer dollars for programs funding "gender reassignment." This is an oversimplification of what the majority of these clinics seek to achieve. They provide both those within and outside of the transgender community who need to seek hormone therapy or surgery of a sex characteristic for any reason with access to safe care. Restricting gender-affirming operations will harm more than just the transgender community.

With these orders in place targeting the community and the countless House and Senate bills in practice and on the floor, it has become more crucial than it has been in years to remind the public that trans people deserve the same rights as everyone else. Just as allies stood with the transgender community in the 1960s with the legal victories and protests of the Gay Liberation Movement, they are needed now.

[[https://www.theshorthorn.com/opinion/editorial-transgender-rights-are-human-rights/article\\_a09038e6-0a43-4646-9fd3-ee682b63b597.html](https://www.theshorthorn.com/opinion/editorial-transgender-rights-are-human-rights/article_a09038e6-0a43-4646-9fd3-ee682b63b597.html)]

**Q19.** What is the primary purpose of the passage?

- A. To trace the legal history of LGBTQ+ rights in America, from the Gay Liberation Movement to present-day executive orders, and argue that past victories guarantee future protections.
- B. To highlight recent anti-transgender executive orders and legislation, demonstrate their harmful impacts on mental health, data collection, and medical access, and call for renewed public solidarity.
- C. To compare gender classification policies in the United States with those in other Western democracies, demonstrating that America's approach is uniquely restrictive.
- D. To propose a legislative framework for ensuring private insurers cover hormone therapies and gender-affirming surgeries without government funding.

**Q20.** In the context of the passage, the word "unfeasible" (Paragraph 2) most nearly means:

- A. insufficiently funded by government grants
- B. likely to be overturned by future legislation
- C. beyond practical possibility or capability
- D. deliberately obstructed by private interests

**Q21.** Which of the following is a factual statement supported by the passage?

- A. President Trump's executive order defines gender identity as including non-binary classifications, but restricts their use on federal forms.
- B. The Trevor Project reports that LGBTQ+ individuals' suicide risk is inherent to their identities rather than societal treatment.
- C. In Texas's 89th Legislative Session, 126 anti-trans bills are currently under consideration, according to Trans Legislation Tracker.
- D. House Bill 847 explicitly bans hormone-replacement therapy for all patients, whether transgender or non-transgender.

**Q22.** Complete the analogy based on the passage's logic:

Removal of gender-identity questions from surveys : census of diverse experiences becoming nearly impossible :: defunding NGOs serving transgender people : \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. increase in privately funded clinics replacing public services
- B. erosion of comprehensive data on LGBTQ+ health outcomes
- C. mandatory disclosure of hormone-therapy prescriptions
- D. establishment of new government-run transgender support programs

**Q23.** Which revision best corrects the misplaced modifier in this sentence?

"As a result of the anti-LGBTQ+ legislation, individuals nationwide have reported worsening mental health and an increase in anxiety and fear, according to the Human Rights Campaign."\*\*

- A. "As a result of the anti-LGBTQ+ legislation, the Human Rights Campaign has reported that individuals nationwide have experienced worsening mental health and increased anxiety and fear."
- B. "Individuals nationwide, as a result of the anti-LGBTQ+ legislation, have reported worsening mental health and an increase in anxiety and fear, according to the Human Rights Campaign."
- C. "Individuals nationwide have reported, as a result of the anti-LGBTQ+ legislation, worsening mental health and an increase in anxiety and fear, according to the Human Rights Campaign."
- D. Leave as is.

**Q24.** Which statement best reflects the author's stance towards the recent anti-transgender measures?

- A. The author believes these measures are necessary to protect the national interest and should be implemented universally.
- B. The author presents a neutral overview of policy changes without indicating any moral or political position.
- C. The author condemns these measures as infringements on liberties that worsen mental health, undermine data collection, and necessitate public allyship reminiscent of the 1960s movement.
- D. The author suggests that transgender rights are secondary to broader public-health concerns and can be compromised for fiscal savings.

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

**Passage:- 1** World Water Day, which falls on March 22, has been an audacious attempt. Under different themes, the attempt has been to raise awareness among stakeholders about the importance of freshwater. As everyone knows, there was a time when clean water was available in wells, ponds, streams, rivers and other sources, but the situation is vastly different now. There is a problem of water availability with respect to quantity or quality.

This water crisis may be physical or economic based on multiple factors such as rapid urbanisation, industrialisation, unsustainable agricultural practices, climate change, erratic rainfall patterns, water overuse and inefficient water management, pollution, inadequate infrastructure, a lack of 'belongingness' among stakeholders, runoff due to high rain along with soil erosion and sedimentation. Water scarcity leads to the poor functioning of ecosystems, threatens food and water security, and, ultimately, affects peace. According to the World Resources Institute, 17 countries face 'extremely high' levels of water stress which is threatening to result in conflict, unrest and peace among people. India is not an exception to these problems. In India, water availability is already low enough to be categorised as water stressed, and is expected to reduce further to 1341m<sup>3</sup> by 2025 and 1140m<sup>3</sup> by 2050. Also, 72% of all water withdrawals are for use in agriculture, 16% by municipalities for households and services, and 12% by industries.

[<https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/water-an-instrument-to-build-world-peace/article67977390.ece>]

**Q25.** When was World Water Day officially designated by the United Nations General Assembly and what global conference proposed its idea?

- A. 1991; Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment
- B. 1993; based on the 1992 Rio Earth Summit
- C. 1995; UNFCCC COP1 Geneva
- D. 1990; Montreal Biodiversity Protocol

**Q26.** Which Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) aligns directly with the global observance of World Water Day?

- A. SDG 13 – Climate Action
- B. SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- C. SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities
- D. SDG 6 – Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

**Q27.** What was the central focus of the "Jal-Jangal-Jan" Abhiyan launched alongside Jal Shakti Abhiyan 2025?

- A. Expanding groundwater mining capacity in arid regions
- B. Promoting solar-powered irrigation through decentralized grids
- C. Restoring ecological links between forests, rivers, and springs
- D. Digitizing water records and flood forecasting mechanisms

**Q28.** What was the theme of the 6th edition of the Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain campaign 2025?

- A. People's Action for Water Conservation – Towards Intensified Community Connect
- B. Smart Infrastructure for Water Security in Urban Slums
- C. Hydrological Reforms for Agricultural Productivity
- D. Forest-Water Interface: A Conservation Approach

**Q29.** What is the declared theme of World Water Day 2025, and what global concern does it emphasize?

- A. Water Justice – Addressing Transboundary Water Conflicts
- B. Groundwater Recharge – The Invisible Lifeline
- C. Glacier Preservation – Responding to Melting Ice and Water Scarcity
- D. Rivers for Resilience – The Role of Wetlands in Urban Planning

**Passage:- 2** Last week, India hosted its premier geopolitical forum, the Raisina Dialogue, which provides an annual snapshot of how India understands its foreign policy and role in the world. Over ten years, the pageant has become more and more triumphal as India enters what it sees as its golden age.

This year, there was a certain element of smugness evident.

After the invasion of Ukraine, India was criticised for not taking a position on Ukraine. In 2022, Raisina was dominated by the European high representative plus leader after leader hectoring India over its refusal to condemn Russia. In 2023, it was criticised for providing a platform for Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov.

India stood its ground. There were some practical reasons for this, such as military reliance on Russian hardware and the economic benefits of trading with a sanctioned Russia. But it wasn't just that. As a country of the North, South, East and West that aspires to be friends to all, it genuinely did not want to take a position.

When there's an international conflict – with push and pull in two directions – there will be the need to arrive somewhere in the middle.

As the Russia-Ukraine conflict heads into its diplomatic phase, India now feels vindicated.

If you come from a country that does take positions – Australia's Chief of the Defence Force Angus Campbell described the invasion as a clear violation of international law at Raisina 2023 – it's worth trying to understand this point of view.



**Q30.** When was the Raisina Dialogue first launched, and which institutions are responsible for organizing it annually?

- A. 2016; Ministry of External Affairs in collaboration with Observer Research Foundation
- B. 2014; NITI Aayog and the Indian Council for World Affairs (ICWA)
- C. 2017; Ministry of Defence and the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA)
- D. 2015; National Security Council Secretariat and India Foundation

**Q31.** Which of the following global strategic conferences is the Raisina Dialogue most commonly compared to in terms of purpose and global participation?

- A. Davos Economic Forum and G20 Summit
- B. Belt and Road Forum and SCO Leaders' Summit
- C. Munich Security Conference and Shangri-La Dialogue
- D. UNGA and Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting

**Q32.** What was the central theme of the 10th Raisina Dialogue held in 2025?

- A. Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam – Interconnected Security and Development
- B. Kālchakra – People, Peace and Planet
- C. Digital Horizons – AI, Innovation and Global Regulation
- D. Samvad for Sustainability – Climate, Commerce, and Consensus

**Q33.** Which of the following best reflects India's current strategic stance on trade policy as articulated during the 2025 Raisina Dialogue?

- A. Commitment to tariff liberalization and open global markets under WTO leadership
- B. Prioritization of trade pacts with economies that ensure trust, transparency, and strategic alignment
- C. Reluctance to engage in multilateral negotiations due to regulatory divergences on carbon border taxes
- D. Complete decoupling from economies practicing digital surveillance and cryptocurrency monopolies

**Q34.** What specific invitation did India receive from the Philippines during the Raisina Dialogue 2025 concerning Indo-Pacific maritime affairs?

- A. To co-lead the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM+) as a regional security guarantor
- B. To join the Squad alliance with the US, Japan, Australia, and the Philippines to counter Chinese aggression in the South China Sea
- C. To sign a bilateral defence cooperation pact and deploy Indian naval assets in the West Philippine Sea
- D. To mediate peace talks between China and ASEAN nations over South China Sea territorial disputes

**Passage:- 3** On March 9, Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav announced that the Centre had declared the Madhav National Park in Madhya Pradesh as the country's 58th tiger reserve.

While tigers were historically abundant in India, hunting, poaching and the colonial exploitation of forests for timber started a precipitous decline in their numbers in the early 20th century. It was estimated in 1964 that there would have been around 40,000 tigers in the country at the turn of the 20th century. By the 1960s, these numbers were down to between 2,000 and 4,000, attributed to wanton hunting aided by a proliferation of gun licences issued in the years following 1947, improved access to the forest, clearing of large tracts of forests for various purposes, mushrooming of the new businesses of "Shikar Companies" and fur trade.

[<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/why-has-india-got-another-tiger-reserve/article69333519.ece>]

**Q35.** Which Indian national initiative marked the formal beginning of tiger conservation efforts and when was it launched?

- A. Project Tiger, officially launched in April 1973 at Corbett Tiger Reserve
- B. National Biodiversity Mission, launched in 1980 under the Forest Conservation Act
- C. Save the Tiger Campaign, launched in 1969 following the IUCN Red Data Book declaration
- D. National Tiger Monitoring Authority, constituted under the Environment Protection Act, 1986

**Q36.** What is the correct classification of zones within a tiger reserve, and what is the primary purpose of each?

- A. Central Zone – Core breeding area; Fringe Zone – Peripheral development hub
- B. Habitat Zone – Wildlife refuge; Buffer Zone – Eco-tourism and recreation area
- C. Core Zone – Strictly protected habitat; Buffer Zone – Regulated human activity to support conservation
- D. Core Zone – Agricultural allotment; Buffer Zone – Industrial green belt for ecological balance

**Q37.** What is the Centre-State funding structure for tiger reserves in Himalayan and Northeastern states under the Project Tiger scheme?

- A. Centre covers 70%, state bears 30%
- B. Centre covers 60%, state bears 40%
- C. Centre covers 90%, state bears 10%
- D. Funding is fully borne by the Centre under Article 275(1)

**Q38.** Why has Madhav National Park in Madhya Pradesh been designated as India's 58th Tiger Reserve in 2025?

- A. To protect endangered wetland birds and link it with Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary
- B. To support the reintroduction of Asiatic lions as a predator diversification strategy
- C. To conserve tigers and ensure landscape connectivity between Ranthambore and Kuno
- D. To promote adventure tourism as part of India's Green Growth initiative

**Q39.** What ecological challenge could emerge from consolidating tiger, cheetah, and lion populations across Madhav and Kuno parks?

- A. Rapid desertification due to overlapping prey competition
- B. Increased predator-predator competition impacting prey balance and species survival
- C. Spread of zoonotic diseases among herbivore prey from overlapping grazing grounds
- D. Deforestation caused by higher tourism and park administration infrastructure

**Q40.** Which of the following statements best describes the process of notifying a new tiger reserve in India?

- A. The NTCA initiates the reserve on its own, with a final directive issued by the Supreme Court
- B. The State Government submits a proposal, NTCA evaluates and recommends, and the State notifies the reserve
- C. The Prime Minister's Office approves it after consultation with MoEFCC, following a Cabinet-level clearance
- D. The National Board for Wildlife consults with UNESCO before granting eco-sensitive zone recognition

**Passage:- 4** After nine months in space, Nasa astronauts Butch Wilmore and Suni Williams have finally arrived back on Earth.

Their SpaceX capsule made a fast and fiery re-entry through the Earth's atmosphere, before four parachutes opened to take them to a gentle splashdown off the coast of Florida.

A pod of dolphins circled the craft.

After a recovery ship lifted it out of the water, the astronauts beamed and waved as they were helped out of the hatch, along with fellow crew members astronaut Nick Hague and cosmonaut Aleksandr Gorbunov.

[<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c0mw221z2yyo>]

**Q41.** When was the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) established and what is its primary mandate?

- A. 1958; To conduct civilian space programs and aerospace research for peaceful purposes
- B. 1947; To develop military rocketry and satellite surveillance programs
- C. 1962; To coordinate international space partnerships and nuclear propulsion technologies
- D. 1955; To replace the U.S. Air Force in all aerospace operations and planetary defense

**Q42.** What is the core objective of India's Gaganyaan mission in the context of global space exploration?

- A. To establish the world's first orbital robotic factory at 600 km above Earth
- B. To demonstrate human spaceflight by sending three astronauts on a 3-day mission to 400 km orbit
- C. To place a permanent human base on the Moon with three astronauts rotating every 60 days
- D. To develop India's first space telescope capable of exoplanet detection and deep-sky spectroscopy

**Q43.** What is the timeline and structure of the planned Bhartiya Antriksh Station (BAS)?

- A. First module by 2028; full operationalization by 2035 at 400–450 km orbit
- B. Temporary launch pad by 2027; modular orbital expansion between 2035 and 2045
- C. Single-dock research capsule launched in 2026 for 60-day microgravity tests
- D. Orbiting prototype by 2024 followed by human residency in 2026

**Q44.** Why did astronauts Butch Wilmore and Sunita Williams return to Earth using SpaceX's Crew Dragon instead of Boeing's Starliner?

- A. Starliner developed propulsion system issues during return phase, necessitating backup transport
- B. Crew Dragon was part of the original mission but returned early due to medical emergency
- C. Starliner was grounded due to geopolitical restrictions on U.S. launch protocols
- D. NASA replaced Starliner mid-mission due to internal disagreements with Boeing on AI use

**Q45.** Which of the following health conditions is most directly linked to microgravity-induced hypersensitivity of the feet upon returning from space missions?

- A. Cosmic Ray Syndrome    B. Optic Displacement Disorder    C. Baby Feet Syndrome    D. Neural Ataxia Syndrome

**Q46.** What critical concern does NASA associate with long-term deep-space missions, particularly to Mars and the Moon?

- A. Sudden atmospheric pressure collapse within crew habitats
- B. Long-term solar radiation and cosmic ray exposure causing DNA mutations
- C. Viral infections from extraterrestrial particles brought back from Martian soil
- D. Robotic override failures in AI-supported life support systems

**Passage:-** 5 As NITI Aayog celebrated its 10th anniversary on January 1, 2025, on popular demand, I share my top insights from my 8 years at the organization.

While the think tank model holds great potential, it often struggles to navigate the complexities of a bureaucratic environment alongside the integration of lateral entrants. The success of this model is heavily reliant on individual leadership styles. Many, including myself, advocate for a think tank to be predominantly composed of lateral entrants — sector experts, research professionals, and policy analysts — rather than traditional bureaucrats. This is essential for embedding high-quality research & practices into the policymaking process.

A think tank should fundamentally differ from a line ministry, where bureaucratic experience & administrative skills are paramount. Initially, some former Planning Commission staff were resistant to the entry of lateral entrants in the organization, and I perceive that this underlying tension still persists, sometimes overtly & often in more subtle ways. As a lateral entrant, your experience at the institution can be rewarding, but it largely depends on the individuals you collaborate with & the prevailing leadership. The variability of these experiences can be significant.

[<https://www.impriindia.com/insights/decade-insights-niti-aayog/>]

**Q47.** Which of the following statements correctly identifies the legal and constitutional status of NITI Aayog?

- A. It is neither a Constitutional body nor a statutory body; it was created through a Union Cabinet resolution
- B. It is a statutory body under the NITI Aayog Act, 2015
- C. It is a Constitutional body under Article 280 of the Indian Constitution
- D. It is an executive body constituted by the President under Article 74

**Q48.** Which of the following does *not* form part of the Governing Council of NITI Aayog?

- A. Chief Ministers of States  
B. Lt. Governors of Union Territories  
C. Chief Secretaries of States  
D. Union Ministers nominated by the Prime Minister as Ex-Officio Members

**Q49.** In the NITI Aayog framework, who holds the position of Chief Executive Officer (CEO), and what is the nature of the appointment?

- A. A technocrat or senior IAS officer appointed by the Prime Minister for a fixed tenure in the rank of Secretary to the Government of India
- B. The Cabinet Secretary of India as per tradition, appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Prime Minister
- C. Any Vice-Chairperson of NITI Aayog assumes the CEO's functions as an ex-officio arrangement
- D. Elected by members of the Governing Council through a majority vote

**Q50.** How does NITI Aayog promote competitive federalism among Indian states and union territories?

- A. By ranking states based on parameters like fiscal management, water usage, and climate action using data-driven index systems
- B. By disbursing discretionary grants and tied aid through state-wise funding quotas
- C. By enabling state governments to frame their own state constitutions
- D. By allowing states to opt out of centrally-sponsored schemes through mutual consensus with NITI Aayog

**Q51.** Which among the following programs is best known for showcasing NITI Aayog's contribution to cooperative federalism and district-level transformation?

- A. Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP)
- B. Digital India Mission
- C. Rural Infrastructure Development Scheme
- D. Jal Jeevan Abhiyaan

**Q52.** What was the key purpose of creating State Institutions of Transformation (SITs) with assistance from NITI Aayog?

- A. To strengthen decentralized governance and build long-term policy and governance capacity in states
- B. To offer a parallel budgeting mechanism bypassing the Finance Commission
- C. To centrally control district magistrates for uniform implementation of welfare schemes
- D. To develop state-level examination boards replacing CBSE for secondary schooling

### SECTION-C: LEGAL REASONING

**Passage:-** 1 Privity of contracts is an essential concept under the Indian Contract Act, 1872. Section 2(d) of the Act defines a contract as an agreement that is enforceable by law. This means that only parties to a contract have the right to enforce it, and no third party can claim a right under it. Under Indian law, the doctrine of privity of contract is a well-established principle. The Act recognizes that only parties to a contract are bound by its terms and are entitled to its benefits. The principle of privity of contract means that no person can acquire any rights under a contract to which he is not a party. This means that a third party who is not a party to a contract cannot sue for its breach, nor can he enforce any rights or obligations under the contract. However, over time, certain exceptions to this general rule have emerged, which allow even non-contracting parties to bring legal action. These exceptions include:

1. The beneficiary under a contract: If a contract is made for the benefit of a third party who is not a party to the contract, that third party can enforce their right against the contracting parties if there is a failure to perform. For example, if a contract is made between Alex and James and it creates a beneficial right for Robin over some property, Robin can enforce their claim based on this right. This exception has been established in the case of Muhammad Khan v. Husaini Begum.
2. Conduct, acknowledgement or admission: In situations where there is no privity of contract between two parties, but one of them acknowledges the other's right or recognizes it through their conduct, they may be liable under the law of estoppel. (Narayani Devi v. Tagore Commercial Corporation Ltd). For instance, if A enters into a contract with B to pay Rs. 5000 every month during their lifetime, and after that to A's son C, and A acknowledges this in C's presence, then C can sue A if they default, despite not being a party to the contract.
3. Provision for maintenance or marriage under family arrangement: Such provisions are treated as exceptions to the doctrine of privity of contract to safeguard the rights of family members who may not receive a specific share and to give effect to the testator's will. For example, if A bequeaths their property in equal portions to their three sons with the condition that after A's death, each son gives Rs. 10,000 to C, A's daughter, then C can sue if any one of them fails to comply with this provision.

[Source: <https://lawbhoomi.com/privity-of-contract-under-contract-law/>]

**Q53. Scenario:** Mr. Kapoor, a successful entrepreneur, enters into a written contract with QuickBuild Ltd. under which the company will construct a guesthouse on his hillside estate and, upon completion, transfer title to his nephew, Neel. Neel is not a party to the contract. After construction, QuickBuild refuses to execute the transfer deed. Mr. Kapoor then sends QuickBuild a formal letter copied to Neel, acknowledging that the company's refusal breaches their agreement and demanding immediate compliance. Despite this, QuickBuild remains silent, so Neel files suit to compel transfer of title.

**Which principle allows Neel to enforce the contract against QuickBuild?**

- A. General privity rule, since only parties may enforce contracts under Section 2(d) of the Act.
- B. Beneficiary exception, because the contract was expressly made for Neel's benefit.
- C. Family-arrangement exception, as the transfer resembles a will provision for a family beneficiary.
- D. Estoppel, since Mr. Kapoor's acknowledgement binds QuickBuild to perform.

**Q54. Scenario:** Sunita contracts with UrbanClean Services to deliver purified drinking water to her daughter Meera's daycare center every week. Meera's daycare is not party to the contract. UrbanClean fails to deliver for two consecutive weeks. Sunita makes no written acknowledgement copying Meera or her center, nor does she promise future performance. Meera's center files suit against UrbanClean for breach of contract.

**Which doctrine governs Meera's daycare's inability to enforce the contract?**

- A. Beneficiary exception, since the contract benefits Meera's center.
- B. Estoppel, because UrbanClean delivered water previously without protest.

- C. Family-arrangement exception, as daycare care is akin to family support.
- D. General privity rule, because Meera's center is not a contracting party and no exception applies.

**Q55. Scenario:** Dr. Rao agrees in writing with MedEquip Pvt. Ltd. that the company will provide advanced medical equipment to his charity clinic and, upon delivery, transfer ownership to his daughter Preeti. Preeti is not a contracting party. When delivery is delayed, Dr. Rao sends MedEquip an email copied to Preeti, admitting the delay is wrongful and promising immediate dispatch. MedEquip still delays, prompting Preeti to sue for specific performance.

**Which exception enables Preeti's suit?**

- A. Estoppel, since Dr. Rao's written admission copied to Preeti binds MedEquip to perform (20–30 words).
- B. Beneficiary exception, because the contract was intended to benefit Preeti.
- C. Family-arrangement exception, as gifting to a daughter resembles a will.
- D. General privity rule, barring Preeti's enforcement as a non-party.

**Q56. Scenario:** Late in life, Mrs. Gupta executes a will leaving equal shares of her estate to her two sons, Vikram and Arjun, and stipulates that each must pay ₹20,000 annually to their younger sister, Tanya. Tanya is not party to any contract. Vikram complies, but Arjun refuses. Tanya sends Arjun a formal notice demanding payment under their mother's arrangement, then files suit on grounds of non-compliance.

**Which principle supports Tanya's right to sue Arjun?**

- A. Beneficiary exception, because Tanya benefits under the will-turned-contract.
- B. Estoppel, since Mrs. Gupta acknowledged Tanya's right when signing her will in Tanya's presence.
- C. Family-arrangement exception, enforcing maintenance provision under the testamentary family arrangement (20–30 words).
- D. General privity rule, as Tanya was not party to any contract.

**Q57. Scenario:** MobileMates Ltd. contracts with Mr. Desai to supply 500 smartphones for donation to an orphanage, ShineHome. The contract states explicitly that ShineHome will receive title and ownership upon delivery. ShineHome, not a contracting party, awaits delivery; after delivery, MobileMates refuses to transfer title deeds. ShineHome then sues MobileMates to compel transfer of title based on the original agreement's terms.

**Which exception allows ShineHome to sue?**

- A. Estoppel, because Mr. Desai acknowledged ShineHome's entitlement during delivery.
- B. Beneficiary exception, as the contract expressly confers a direct benefit and enforcement right on ShineHome (20–30 words).
- C. Family-arrangement exception, since ShineHome resembles a family institution.
- D. General privity rule, barring third-party enforcement.

**Q58.** Based on the passage, which statement correctly describes the family-arrangement exception?

- A. It permits any third party to enforce contracts if they stand to gain, without express testamentary language.
- B. It allows non-contracting parties to sue when a contract is clearly intended to benefit them.
- C. It binds parties who acknowledge another's right by conduct or admission even absent beneficiary designation.
- D. It enforces provisions for maintenance or marriage under family or testamentary arrangements benefitting non-parties (20–30 words).

**Passage:- 2** Contributory negligence operates on the principle that individuals have a duty to exercise reasonable care for their own safety and well-being. When someone fails to meet this duty and their actions or omissions contribute to their own injury or damages, they may be considered partially at fault for the harm suffered. The application of contributory negligence principles allows courts to assess the relative fault of each party and determine the appropriate allocation of liability and damages in such cases.

#### **Elements of Contributory Negligence**

1. The plaintiff owes themselves a duty of care to exercise reasonable caution and prudence for their own safety. This duty extends to actions taken or omitted in circumstances where harm is foreseeable.
2. Contributory negligence arises when the plaintiff breaches their duty of care by failing to exercise the level of caution expected of a reasonable person in similar circumstances. This breach may involve actions that directly contribute to the harm suffered or a failure to take reasonable precautions to prevent harm.
3. The plaintiff's breach of duty must be a proximate cause of their own injury or damages

**How are damages ascertained in such cases?**

The principles of damages awarded in cases of contributory negligence align more closely with the concept of proportionate liability. While India does not have a specific statute codifying contributory negligence, courts often consider principles of fairness and equity in determining liability and apportioning damages. In India, the concept of comparative negligence is applied, where damages are allocated based on the comparative fault of each party involved and judges exercise discretion based on the facts and circumstances of each case.

The **“last opportunity rule”** is a principle in tort law that applies in cases involving negligence, particularly in the context of accidents or injuries where multiple parties may have contributed to the harm suffered by the plaintiff. This rule addresses situations where the defendant had the final opportunity to prevent the harm, even if others were also negligent. It essentially places greater responsibility on the party who had the last chance to avoid the accident.

The last opportunity rule is most commonly applied in negligence cases, where the plaintiff alleges that the defendant had the final chance to prevent the harm but failed to do so. Under this rule, the defendant is held accountable if they had the last clear opportunity to prevent the accident or injury, even if others, including the plaintiff, were also negligent to some extent. The last opportunity rule imposes greater responsibility on the defendant because they had the final chance to avert the harm. This principle aligns with the overarching goal of tort law to allocate liability based on fault and prevent accidents when reasonable precautions could have been taken.

[Source: <https://lawctopus.com/clatalogue/clat-pg/contributory-negligence-under-tort-law/>]

**Q59. Scenario Paragraph:** Deepak is riding his motorcycle at night without his headlight on. Ahead of him, Ravi swerves abruptly to avoid a pothole and his car skids into Deepak’s path. Deepak has the final clear chance to apply his brakes but fails to perceive the hazard until it’s too late. Both parties sustain injuries and sue each other. Which principle will determine Deepak’s liability for his own injuries?

- A. **Pure contributory negligence**, barring Deepak entirely because he rode without a headlight.
- B. **Last opportunity rule**, since Deepak had the final clear chance to brake and avoid the collision.
- C. **Comparative negligence**, apportioning fault between Deepak’s lack of light and Ravi’s swerve.
- D. **General duty of care**, as only breach and proximate cause matter without any rule on final opportunity.

**Q60. Scenario Paragraph:** While shopping in a department store, Meera texts on her phone and fails to notice a spilled liquid on the floor. She slips and fractures her arm. The store had placed a “Caution: Wet Floor” sign but did not cordon off the area. Meera sues the store for negligence.

**Issue:** How will the court determine Meera’s damages?

- A. **Allocate damages proportionately**, reducing Meera’s award to reflect her failure to exercise reasonable care for her own safety (20–30 words).
- B. **Bar recovery under contributory negligence**, because Meera’s inattention alone caused her injury.
- C. **Apply the last opportunity rule**, holding Meera entirely responsible for not seeing the spill.
- D. **Invoke duty of care breach only**, ignoring Meera’s role since the store owed an absolute duty.

**Q61. Scenario Paragraph:** At a busy crosswalk, Rajesh crosses against the “Don’t Walk” signal and is struck by a car driven at the speed limit. Rajesh sues the driver for negligence.

**Issue:** Which element of contributory negligence must Rajesh prove to affect his claim?

- A. That Rajesh owed a duty of care to himself while crossing lawfully.
- B. That Rajesh’s breach of duty did not actually cause his injury.
- C. That Rajesh’s breach of duty was a proximate cause of his own harm
- D. That Rajesh had the last opportunity to avoid the collision.

**Q62.** Anand, a pedestrian, uses headphones and does not hear surrounding traffic. He steps onto the road and is hit by a delivery van that had an unobstructed view and time to brake but did not. Anand sues the driver for negligence.

**Issue:** Which doctrine will most likely govern the outcome?

- A. **Comparative negligence**, dividing fault between Anand’s inattention and the driver’s speeding.
- B. **Pure contributory negligence**, barring Anand entirely because he wore headphones.
- C. **Beneficiary exception**, irrelevant since this is tort, not contract.
- D. **Last opportunity rule**, because the driver had the final clear chance to avoid hitting an inattentive pedestrian (20–30 words).

**Q63. Scenario Paragraph:** Sonal cycles along the shoulder of a highway. She suddenly veers into the traffic lane to avoid debris and collides with a bus that had been signalling to slow down. Sonal sues the bus driver for injuries.

**Issue:** How will the court allocate liability?

- A. **Pure contributory negligence**, barring Sonal completely due to her dangerous maneuver.
- B. **Comparative negligence**, assigning percentages for Sonal's veer into traffic and the driver's failure to exercise caution despite signalling (20–30 words).
- C. **Last opportunity rule**, holding the driver solely responsible for not preventing the collision.
- D. **Duty of care breach**, ignoring apportionment and focusing solely on the driver's breach.

**Q64.** Which statement best describes the "last opportunity rule" as outlined in the passage?

- A. It bars any recovery if the plaintiff contributed to their own harm, regardless of defendant fault.
- B. It mandates strict percentage allocation of damages under comparative negligence.
- C. It holds a defendant accountable if they had the final clear chance to prevent harm, even when others were also negligent (20–30 words).
- D. It permits non-contracting third parties to enforce family-arrangement or testamentary provisions.

**Passage:- 3** The concept of insanity as a defense gained prominence in the 19th century with the famous M'Naghten case in England. It created a legal standard stating that a defendant is not criminally responsible if, at the time of the crime, they were suffering from a mental disorder that rendered them incapable of understanding the nature and quality of their actions. Section 84 of the Indian Penal Code gives the statutory recognition to this defence with the following key elements:

1. The person should be of unsound mind at the time of commission of the offence.
2. That due to the unsoundness of the mind the person is incapable of knowing the nature of the act, or that he is doing is either wrong or contrary to law. The burden of proving the defense of insanity rests on the accused. It is up to the accused to establish, on the balance of probabilities, that they were suffering from a mental disorder at the time of the offense.

It has been time and again held in a plethora of judgments that the courts are concerned with Legal Insanity and mere medical insanity cannot be held to be unsoundness of mind. The mere fact that the accused is odd, eccentric and his brain is not quite all right, or that the physical and mental ailments from which he suffered had rendered his intellect weak and affected his emotions or indulges in certain unusual acts, or had fits of insanity at short intervals or that he was subject to epileptic fits and there was abnormal behavior are not sufficient to attract the application of Section 84.

The rule is that to establish a defence on the ground of insanity, it must be clearly proved that commission of the act, the party accused was labouring under such a defect of reason, from disease of the mind, as not to know the nature and quality of the act he was doing or if he did know it that he did not know he was doing what was wrong. The act, apart, there should be some clear and distinct proof of mental delusion or intellectual aberration existing previously or at the time of the perpetration of the crime. The derangement must be shown to one which impairs the cognitive faculties of the accused, that is, the faculty of understanding the nature of his act in its bearing on the victim or in relation to himself, that is, his own responsibility for it. The Court is only concerned with the state of mind of the accused at the time of the act and the antecedent and subsequent conduct of the man is relevant only to show what the state of the mind was at the time when the act was committed.

[Source: <https://www.lawfinderlive.com/Articles-1/Article138.htm?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>]

**Q65. Scenario:** Harish, a 42-year-old man, was diagnosed with schizophrenia five years ago. On several occasions, he exhibited hallucinations and aggressive outbursts, though he continued to function normally at his job. One evening, without provocation, Harish stabbed his neighbor, claiming that the neighbor was spying on him through electromagnetic waves. Medical records show that Harish had discontinued medication a month ago. A forensic psychiatrist testified that Harish was "likely under delusional influence" at the time of the act but still retained "basic understanding" of his conduct. The defense pleads Section 84 IPC.

**Which of the following most accurately states whether Harish can take the defence of legal insanity?**

- A. **No, because despite his schizophrenia, Harish understood the nature and quality of the act, so he does not meet the threshold of legal insanity under Section 84.**
- B. Yes, because the existence of schizophrenia and delusions is sufficient to establish mental unsoundness under law.
- C. Yes, because he had been diagnosed previously and his medical history indicates periodic psychotic episodes.
- D. No, because only continuous insanity is covered under Section 84 and not isolated delusional episodes.

**Q66. Scenario:** Aditi was under extreme stress and suffered an epileptic seizure at night. Witnesses report that she walked into her neighbor's home post-seizure and attacked their pet dog with a knife. When restrained, she appeared disoriented and later

could not recall the incident. The defense counsel argues that the act was committed during a psychotic episode brought on by neurological disturbance. However, the prosecution provides evidence that Aditi had **no delusions**, was **not hallucinating**, and gave consistent post-incident statements acknowledging what she had done.

**Can Aditi claim the protection under Section 84 IPC?**

- A. Yes, because she was disoriented and unaware of what she was doing due to her neurological seizure.
- B. No, because momentary disorientation or post-seizure confusion without cognitive impairment at the time of act is insufficient under Section 84.
- C. Yes, because loss of memory is a strong indication of legal insanity under the IPC.
- D. No, because epilepsy is classified under medical insanity and therefore never qualifies under Indian law.

**Q67. Scenario:** Ravinder, a patient with a documented history of paranoia, was found wandering naked in a market, muttering that demons were chasing him. Two days later, he strangled a stranger claiming the man was “possessed by the devil.” A psychiatric evaluation conducted **two weeks after the incident** revealed severe delusions. However, his behavior during arrest was calm, and he correctly answered all questions asked by the police. Witnesses state he approached the victim deliberately, with no signs of visible confusion.

**Will Ravinder’s insanity defence succeed?**

- A. Yes, because the presence of documented delusions indicates unsoundness of mind.
- B. No, because delusions must be continuous for at least a week before the incident to be legally relevant.
- C. No, because there was no evidence of cognitive incapacity at the time of the act, and post-incident mental illness does not prove legal insanity.
- D. Yes, because wandering naked is clear evidence of legal derangement under Indian law.

**Q68. Scenario:** A retired army officer, Colonel Thomas, is known for his meticulous routine. Recently, he’s developed a compulsion to cover all household mirrors in the belief that they contain surveillance devices. One day, he mistakenly identifies a schoolboy standing outside his gate as an “enemy agent” and fatally shoots him. At trial, psychiatrists testify he suffers from a persecutory delusion. However, CCTV footage shows he reloaded his gun, checked his security camera feed, and called the police post-incident to report “mission accomplished.”

**Does this qualify for the defence of insanity?**

- A. Yes, because he was acting under a clear mental delusion during the act.
- B. Yes, because his military background and paranoia impaired his judgment.
- C. No, because a retired officer is held to a higher standard of responsibility.
- D. No, because his deliberate conduct before and after the act shows he knew the nature and wrongfulness of his act.

**Q69. Scenario:** Nasir, a 29-year-old with no history of mental illness, suddenly pushes a stranger onto a railway track and then sits down calmly until police arrive. He later claims voices in his head ordered him to do so. A psychiatrist finds no ongoing disorder but suggests a “transient psychotic episode” might have occurred. His family testifies that Nasir had no prior symptoms, but had been showing signs of stress and insomnia for weeks.

**Can Nasir successfully plead insanity under Section 84 IPC?**

- A. No, because he must prove, on the balance of probabilities, that he was incapable of knowing the nature or wrongness of the act at the time.
- B. Yes, because voices in the head and stress qualify as indicators of unsoundness of mind.
- C. Yes, because transient episodes are covered under Section 84 if the act is spontaneous.
- D. No, because first-time offenders cannot claim mental disorder retrospectively.

**Q70.** Which of the following best reflects the legal standard under Section 84 IPC?

- A. An accused person suffering from any form of mental instability or eccentricity is protected under Section 84 IPC.
- B. An accused must prove that due to unsoundness of mind, they were incapable of knowing the nature of the act or that it was wrong or contrary to law.
- C. It is sufficient to show a previous diagnosis of mental illness to establish unsoundness of mind.
- D. If post-incident behaviour appears delusional, the defence of insanity is presumed by the court.

**Passage:- 4** The doctrine of reasonable classification is a legal principle ensuring fair and just treatment under Article 14 of the Constitution of India. It allows for the lawful grouping of individuals or entities based on intelligible differentia, with a rational



connection to the legislative purpose. This classification recognises that not all cases are identical and permits tailored treatment for specific groups, preventing arbitrary discrimination. Ensuring equality before the law, it safeguards against misuse by requiring a legitimate nexus between the classification and the law's objective. Judicial review plays a crucial role in scrutinising the reasonableness of classifications, maintaining a balance between recognising diverse realities and upholding constitutional principles.

The essentials of the doctrine include intelligible differentia and rational nexus. A valid classification must be based on intelligible differentia, a characteristic that differentiates the grouped individuals from those excluded. The differentia must have a rational nexus with the objective the legislation seeks to achieve. The classification should serve a legitimate legislative purpose, such as addressing social inequalities or specific challenges faced by distinct groups. It must be fair and non-arbitrary and must avoid class legislation, which arbitrarily selects large groups without reasonable justification. Judicial review is essential to prevent misuse.

Article 14 guarantees equal protection of laws. It recognises that different classes may require distinct treatment and does not mandate laws to be universally applicable. It ensures that equals are treated equally while permitting distinctions based on differing circumstances. For example, the state may enact laws tailored to different places or apply legitimate control policies, as long as the distinctions are grounded in reason. It supports specific regulations or legislation tailored to certain circumstances, acknowledging the inherent diversity among individuals. Treating them equally could lead to unfairness; thus, differential treatment can promote social welfare and justice. The legislature is empowered to enact laws based on intelligible differentia, thereby equitably addressing varied societal needs.

In *Saurabh Chaudhari v. Union of India*, the Supreme Court emphasised that classification must be based on intelligible differentia and must have a rational relation to the object sought to be achieved. For instance, the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, and the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961, reflect reasonable classification based on specific needs. In administrative law, the doctrine guides statutory interpretation, tests the legitimacy of laws, and sets a standard for judicial review. Discretionary powers are not immune—they too are subject to this doctrine, ensuring they are exercised fairly and without arbitrariness.

[Source: <https://lawbhoomi.com/doctrine-of-reasonable-classification/>]

**Q71. Scenario Paragraph:** Over the past decade, State X's agricultural sector has faced land fragmentation and declining productivity. To counter this, legislators passed the "Agricultural Land (Citizenship) Act," which prohibits non-citizens—including OCI cardholders like Maria—from purchasing or leasing farmland. Maria, who has invested ₹50 lakhs in rural development and employs local laborers, applies to buy 100 acres for organic farming. Despite her long residency and significant contributions, her bid is summarily rejected. The government defends the law, citing national food security and safeguarding ancestral farmlands. Maria files a petition under Article 14.

**Is the classification under the Act reasonable?**

- A. Yes, because long-term residents are effectively citizens in their economic impact, so excluding them violates equality.
- B. No, because arbitrary nationality-based exclusions undermine legislative goals of productivity and food security.
- C. No, because OCI holders possess rights indistinguishable from citizens for property matters.
- D. Yes, because citizenship is an intelligible differentia with a rational nexus to protecting land resources for nationals.

**Q72. Scenario Paragraph:** The Municipal Health Board launches "Prime Women's Wellness," offering free cervical-cancer screenings exclusively to women aged 30–40. The Board asserts epidemiological data shows highest incidence in this group. Meena (age 42), a cancer survivor, applies nonetheless and is refused. The Board provides no specific study justifying the upper age limit. Critics note rising cervical-cancer rates among women over 40 in neighboring districts. Meena files a writ petition claiming violation of Article 14.

**Is the age-based classification reasonable?**

- A. Yes, because 30–40 represents the median age of highest risk, satisfying policy objectives.
- B. No, because without concrete data justifying the 40-year cutoff, the classification lacks a rational nexus to its stated purpose.
- C. No, because screening should be universal across all age groups to ensure equality.
- D. Yes, because health-related schemes enjoy broad deference and are exempt from strict scrutiny.

**Q73. Scenario Paragraph:** The State Bar Council amends recruitment rules to require all judicial candidates possess an LLB degree from a recognised university. Pooja, a 32-year-old legal researcher with 8 years' practical courtroom experience but no formal degree, is disqualified. The Council defends the rule, citing the complexity of legal codes and need for formal training. Pooja argues her expertise matches or exceeds that of many degree-holders and files a petition under Article 14.

**Does this educational classification pass the muster of Article 14?**

- A. Yes, because formal legal education is an intelligible differentia with a rational nexus to ensuring minimum jurisprudential competence for judicial office.
- B. No, because excluding experienced practitioners is arbitrary and undermines meritocratic principles.
- C. Yes, because all educational qualifications are immune from Article 14 scrutiny once legislated.
- D. No, because professional experience equates to formal education, so the classification fails rational nexus.

**Q74. Scenario Paragraph:** To promote cultural heritage, State Y rolls out a “Heritage Trust Tax Credit,” granting tax breaks only to trusts managed by members of the majority religion. Minority-led trusts performing identical restoration work receive no benefit. Petitioners argue religion-based exclusion is arbitrary and violates equality. The State contends it aims to preserve ancient sites historically stewarded by the majority community.

**Is this religious classification constitutionally valid?**

- A. Yes, because cultural stewardship by the majority is an intelligible differentia with rational nexus to preservation.
- B. Yes, because religious distinctions for historical purposes receive heightened deference.
- C. No, because religion-based classification lacks a rational nexus to the objective of cultural preservation and is arbitrary.
- D. No, because taxes are not subject to Article 14 review.

**Q75. Scenario Paragraph:** State Z launches the “High-Altitude Solar Subsidy,” offering ₹1 lakh per household in villages above 1,500 meters to offset grid-connectivity costs. Villages at 1,450 meters with frequent blackouts are excluded. Complaint is filed by residents of a 1,470-meter village. The government provides topographical studies showing a steep increase in line-drop at elevations above 1,500 meters. Petitioners assert the cutoff is arbitrary.

**Does the elevation-based classification satisfy Article 14?**

- A. Yes, because all off-grid villages suffer equally, so the distinction is legitimate.
- B. No, because while elevation is an intelligible differentia, the rational nexus is questionable given frequent outages below 1,500 meters.
- C. Yes, because any rural subsidy enjoys broad legislative deference under Article 14.
- D. No, because subsidies are immune from equality scrutiny.

**Q76.** Which statement correctly identifies a **legitimate legislative purpose** under the doctrine of reasonable classification?

- A. To arbitrarily select large population groups for exclusive benefits without explanation.
- B. To treat all persons identically regardless of differing social or economic conditions.
- C. To exempt only minority-owned businesses from regulation without policy rationale.
- D. To address specific social challenges—such as land security or health risks—through targeted legal measures.

**Q77.** Which of the following best explains **why discretionary powers** are also subject to the doctrine of reasonable classification under Article 14?

- A. Because administrative action enjoys plenary authority, and classifications made under executive discretion need no intelligible differentia or nexus.
- B. Because delegated powers allow the executive to create arbitrary distinctions so long as the legislature provided broad policy goals.
- C. Because judicial review of discretionary classifications ensures they rest on intelligible differentia and rational nexus, preventing misuse of power and arbitrary decision-making.
- D. Because discretion under statute is immune from constitutional constraints unless expressly limited by the legislature.

**Passage:- 5** Product liability is explicitly defined in Section 2(34) of Consumer Protection Act as the responsibility of a product manufacturer, product seller, or product service provider to compensate for any harm caused to a consumer due to:

1. Defective products sold.
2. Deficiency in services relating to the product.

The scope of product liability extends beyond the physical product to the services associated with its sale, repair, or maintenance. The Act specifies that claims for product liability can be made against the product manufacturer, product seller, and product service provider. The law imposes strict liability on product manufacturers, meaning they can be held liable even if they were not negligent. This ensures a higher level of consumer protection as it shifts the burden to the manufacturer, who is in the best position to ensure the safety and quality of their products. Under Consumer Protection Act, a consumer can bring a product liability action against a

manufacturer, seller, or service provider if the product is defective or the service is deficient. Some of the specific grounds for initiating a product liability claim include:

1. **Defective Product:** A product can be considered defective if it does not meet reasonable safety expectations or causes harm during its intended use. This could include manufacturing defects, design defects, or defects due to inadequate warnings or instructions.
2. **Excessive Pricing:** A product may be deemed defective if the consumer is charged excessively for it, especially when there is no justifiable reason for the high price.
3. **Unsafe Products:** Any product that poses a risk to life and safety can be the basis of a product liability action. This applies when a trader sells hazardous products despite being aware of their unsafe nature, or when products do not meet prescribed safety standards.
4. **Unfair or Restrictive Trade Practices:** Consumers can file claims for harm caused by any unfair or restrictive trade practices adopted by the seller, including false or misleading advertising or denial of proper service after purchase.

One of the most significant features of Consumer Protection Act is the **imposition of strict liability** on manufacturers. A manufacturer can be held liable for harm caused by a defective product even if they were not negligent. Strict liability applies in the following situations:

- **Manufacturing Defect:** If a product deviates from its intended design or specification, causing it to become unsafe.
- **Design Defect:** When the product's design is inherently dangerous or defective, leading to harm.
- **Lack of Adequate Warnings:** If the manufacturer fails to provide sufficient instructions or warnings about potential dangers associated with the use of the product.

Consumer Protection Act does impose certain limitations on product liability claims. For example, a manufacturer or seller may not be held liable if:

- The product was misused or altered by the consumer.
- The consumer failed to follow adequate instructions or warnings.
- The harm caused was due to factors unrelated to the product itself.
- The manufacturer/seller has complied with regulatory standards.

[Source: <https://lawbhoomi.com/product-liability-under-the-consumer-protection-act-2019/>]

**Q78. Scenario Paragraph:** Over three years, Nova Pharmaceuticals manufactured a cough syrup according to its approved formula. In January, a batch contained a contaminant due to a hidden flaw in the manufacturing process. Several consumers developed kidney damage after using the syrup as directed. Nova's quality-control report confirms the batch deviated from specifications, but Nova argues it exercised all due care. Multiple lawsuits are filed under Section 2(34) CPA for harm caused by the defective product.

**Which principle governs Nova's liability?**

- A. Nova cannot be held liable unless negligence is proved against its quality-control procedures.
- B. Strict liability, because the contaminated batch deviated from intended design or specification even without negligence.
- C. Nova is exempt if it shows compliance with all regulatory standards for pharmaceuticals.
- D. Liability arises only if consumers misused the syrup contrary to instructions.

**Q79. Scenario Paragraph:** TechGear Electronics sold a rechargeable battery pack equipped with a warning: "Use only with approved chargers." Ravi purchased an unlicensed charger online and used it with the battery. The battery overheated, exploded, and caused severe burns. Ravi sues TechGear for defects and seeks compensation for his injuries. TechGear points to the warning label and argues misuse by Ravi absolves it of liability under the CPA.

**Which defence is available to TechGear?**

- A. TechGear is strictly liable despite misuse, because warnings cannot absolve liability.
- B. TechGear must bear full liability as the CPA imposes strict liability without exceptions.
- C. TechGear is liable for design defects since the battery design allowed overheat even with the correct charger.
- D. Limitation for misuse, as the consumer used an unapproved charger contrary to provided warnings.

**Q80. Scenario Paragraph:** ClearView Plastics manufactures safety goggles and offers a service contract for lens replacement. During repair, service technician applies an incompatible sealant, causing lens delamination that injures Sunita's eyes. She sues ClearView under CPA for service deficiency. ClearView argues that the goggles themselves were safe and that the fault lies solely in the service.

**On what basis can Sunita succeed?**

- A. Service deficiency liability, because CPA extends product liability to defective services related to maintenance or repair.

- B. Sunita must sue the technician personally, as manufacturers aren't liable for third-party service errors.
- C. No liability exists since the original product was not defective and the injury was due to unrelated service actions.
- D. Liability is barred because ClearView disclosed that sealant choice was outside its control.

**Q81. Scenario Paragraph:** Zenith Gadgets launched a smartwatch priced at ₹15,000. Consumers discovered that identical features are available on competitor's watches at ₹5,000, with no discernible quality difference. A consumer association files a mass claim alleging excessive pricing constitutes a defect under CPA. Zenith defends its price based on brand premium and R&D costs.

**Can Zenith be held liable for excessive pricing?**

- A. No, because premium pricing for brand value and R&D is a legitimate business decision exempting it from defect claims.
- B. No, because CPA's defect definition excludes pricing; only safety or performance defects apply.
- C. Yes, because Section 2(34) includes excessive pricing without justification as a ground for product liability.
- D. Yes, but only if the goods also pose a safety risk; pricing alone is insufficient.

**Q82. Scenario Paragraph:** HomeSafe Appliances produced an electric kettle lacking an over-pressure release valve. Despite meeting industry standards, several kettles exploded, causing burns. Consumers allege HomeSafe knew about valve failures during internal tests. HomeSafe contends no statutory safety standard mandated such valve, so no defect exists.

**What liability ground applies?**

- A. No defect claim because kettle complied with prescribed safety standards.
- B. Unsafe product liability, since product poses risk to life and safety despite regulatory compliance.
- C. Misleading trade practice liability, as failure to advertise absence of valve misled consumers.
- D. Misuse defence, as consumers could have used kettles without pushing steam outlet.

**Q83. Scenario Paragraph:** PureSkin Cosmetics ran an ad claiming its sunscreen "100% blocks UV rays with no need for reapplication." After widespread use, consumers suffered sunburns consistent with scientific studies requiring reapplication. A consortium sues PureSkin for unfair trade practices under CPA. PureSkin defends that no consumer relied solely on the claim.

**What principle supports the consortium's claim?**

- A. Strict liability applies to false advertising regardless of harm.
- B. Service deficiency, since application advice qualifies as service.
- C. Excessive pricing, given consumers paid premium believing full protection.
- D. Unfair or restrictive trade practices liability, because misleading claims about product efficacy harmed consumers.

**Q84.** Which statement best summarises the **scope of strict liability** under Section 2(34) CPA?

- A. Manufacturers are liable for harm from manufacturing defects, design defects, or inadequate warnings, irrespective of negligence.
- B. Sellers alone bear strict liability for defective products sold, while manufacturers face negligence-based liability.
- C. Strict liability applies only to physical injuries; economic losses from defects are excluded.
- D. Liability is strictly fault-based, requiring proof of negligence or recklessness by the producer.

#### SECTION-D: LOGICAL REASONING

**Passage:- 1** It is in times of chaos and turmoil that leaders most need to lead. The world has been thrown into chaos, turmoil and grim uncertainty since Donald Trump announced his tariffs and India is vulnerable, but our leaders are behaving as if all is well. The Prime Minister visited his constituency last week and as is his wont, spent much time at religious gatherings and posting on X details of his spiritual experiences. So, on Mahavir Jayanti, he posted that 'the ideals of Bhagwan Mahavir have greatly inspired countless people including me'.

From Varanasi, the Prime Minister spoke of how he was blessed to be able to visit the Sankat Mochan mandir on the birth anniversary of Lord Hanuman. And how it was the blessings of Lord Vishwanath that inspired him to continue working for the development of his constituency. There were political posts as well, but they related to domestic matters such as the new Waqf law and the achievements of his government. Not a word of reassurance about how he had put in place the safeguards needed for the people of India to be protected against the economic chaos that his 'friend' has unleashed upon the world. If there ever was a week in which your leadership was on test Prime Minister, it was the one just gone by and there was no sign of it. Surely religion and constituency visits could have waited for another time.

Meanwhile, the Leader of the Opposition was in Ahmedabad attending the 84th session of the All-India Congress Committee and as the keynote speaker at this 'historic' meeting made a long, passionate speech in which he touched upon his favourite subjects.

A caste census, reservations for the lower castes beyond the 50% limit, the tragedy of the hard work of workers going unrecognised, the absence of Dalits, OBCs and tribals at the economic high table, and Narendra Modi's crony capitalism. Ambani-Adani had been given a monopoly on India's wealth, Rahul Gandhi said, and money that should have been invested in public sector companies was now in their hands.

In passing he touched on the tariffs, and he did this to mock Modi for the way he had been let down by his friend. He mocked the Prime Minister for sitting quietly while Donald Trump told him about his plans to raise duties on Indian imports. It is not clear to me what Modi could have said in the Oval Office or whether it would have deterred Trump, but Rahul made it plain that he thought this was possible. Would it not have been more useful for him to have called on senior Congress leaders, like the man who writes the column next to this one, and ordered a full analysis of the implications for India of the tariffs? Now that would have been leadership would it not?

[<https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/tavleen-singh-writes-absent-leaders-in-chaotic-times-9941018/>]

**Q85.** Which of the following statements most clearly encapsulates a foundational premise of the passage?

- A. Leaders are expected to engage in routine public activities to maintain their popularity regardless of the prevailing circumstances.
- B. The chaotic global environment necessitates a constant display of spiritual commitment by leaders as a means of reassuring the public.
- C. In times of turbulence and uncertainty, it is imperative for leaders to adopt a proactive stance and address critical issues rather than merely engaging in ceremonial or religious activities.
- D. The prevailing belief is that political leaders should always prioritize domestic ceremonial engagements over addressing international economic disruptions.

**Q86.** Based on the passage, which inference can be most reasonably drawn about the Prime Minister's recent actions?

- A. The Prime Minister's focus on religious gatherings and local constituency visits suggests a deliberate strategy to appeal exclusively to his religious base, ignoring all economic concerns.
- B. His routine attendance at religious events indicates a personal commitment to spirituality that overshadows any political responsibilities during crises.
- C. The Prime Minister's activities reflect an attempt to balance his political duties with his cultural and spiritual obligations in times of both stability and crisis.
- D. The Prime Minister's emphasis on traditional and spiritual events, even during serious economic challenges, implies that he is neglecting his leadership duties by not addressing the more pressing issues of national economic security.

**Q87.** Which of the following conclusions best summarizes the central critique presented in the passage?

- A. The passage concludes that leaders should exclusively focus on addressing domestic political issues, sidelining any ceremonial or religious functions.
- B. The passage concludes that, during periods of national and global uncertainty, leadership requires a direct confrontation of economic and political crises rather than an overemphasis on religious or ceremonial symbolism.
- C. The passage concludes that the reliance on traditional religious symbolism by political leaders undermines their credibility, regardless of the context in which it is used.
- D. The passage concludes that the actions of the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition are equally flawed for failing to address the economic consequences of international policy decisions.

**Q88.** Which of the following assumptions underlies the argument critiquing the Prime Minister's recent leadership approach?

- A. Effective leadership in times of crisis necessarily involves prioritizing tangible economic and political measures over symbolic or religious displays.
- B. The public uniformly expects that political leaders must always demonstrate spiritual piety during times of national adversity.
- C. Economic turbulence can be mitigated solely through proactive political interventions without any reliance on cultural or religious symbolism.
- D. Political legitimacy is best maintained by balancing ceremonial religious engagements with efforts to resolve domestic and international issues simultaneously.

**Q89.** Which of the following best captures a paradox or inherent contradiction highlighted in the passage?

- A. The paradox that, while leaders are expected to inspire confidence during crises by addressing core issues, they often engage in

activities that appear disconnected from the urgent needs of the economy.

- B. The paradox that leaders may use religious symbolism to project strength, yet such symbolism can be seen as a distraction from the real issues that require immediate attention.
- C. The paradox that, amid severe economic and global turmoil instigated by external forces such as tariffs, political leaders continue to prioritize religious and ceremonial duties, thereby neglecting the practical leadership needed during crises.
- D. The paradox that although spirituality is traditionally considered a source of strength, excessive focus on it during times of crisis can undermine a leader's perceived competence in handling economic challenges.

**Q90.** Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the passage's argument regarding the insufficiency of the Prime Minister's leadership during crises?

- A. Evidence showing that religious and ceremonial engagements have historically bolstered public morale and indirectly contributed to national stability during periods of economic or political uncertainty.
- B. Research indicating that a balanced approach combining ceremonial duties and direct economic interventions has been effective in maintaining public confidence and ensuring stability during crises.
- C. Data suggesting that public opinion in India overwhelmingly supports the Prime Minister's current approach, viewing religious visits as an essential part of his leadership even during turbulent times.
- D. Observations that similar leadership styles have been adopted successfully by other nations during periods of economic turmoil, thereby challenging the notion that such behavior is inherently negligent.

**Passage:- 2** One September night a family had gathered round their hearth, and piled it high with the driftwood of mountain streams, the dry cones of the pine, and the splintered ruins of great trees that had come crashing down the precipice. Up the chimney roared the fire, and brightened the room with its broad blaze. The faces of the father and mother had a sober gladness; the children laughed; the eldest daughter was the image of Happiness at seventeen; and the aged grandmother, who sat knitting in the warmest place, was the image of Happiness grown old. They had found the "herb, heart's-ease," in the bleakest spot of all New England. This family were situated in the Notch of the White Hills, where the wind was sharp throughout the year, and pitilessly cold in the winter,—giving their cottage all its fresh inclemency before it descended on the valley of the Saco. They dwelt in a cold spot and a dangerous one; for a mountain towered above their heads, so steep, that the stones would often rumble down its sides and startle them at midnight.

The daughter had just uttered some simple jest that filled them all with mirth, when the wind came through the Notch and seemed to pause before their cottage—rattling the door, with a sound of wailing and lamentation, before it passed into the valley. For a moment it saddened them, though there was nothing unusual in the tones. But the family were glad again when they perceived that the latch was lifted by some traveller, whose footsteps had been unheard amid the dreary blast which heralded his approach, and wailed as he was entering, and went moaning away from the door.

Though they dwelt in such a solitude, these people held daily converse with the world. The romantic pass of the Notch is a great artery, through which the life-blood of internal commerce is continually throbbing between Maine, on one side, and the Green Mountains and the shores of the St. Lawrence, on the other. The stage-coach always drew up before the door of the cottage. The wayfarer, with no companion but his staff, paused here to exchange a word, that the sense of loneliness might not utterly overcome him ere he could pass through the cleft of the mountain, or reach the first house in the valley. And here the teamster, on his way to Portland market, would put up for the night; and, if a bachelor, might sit an hour beyond the usual bedtime, and steal a kiss from the mountain maid at parting. It was one of those primitive taverns where the traveller pays only for food and lodging, but meets with a homely kindness beyond all price. When the footsteps were heard, therefore, between the outer door and the inner one, the whole family rose up, grandmother, children and all, as if about to welcome some one who belonged to them, and whose fate was linked with theirs.

[<https://englishliterature.net/nathaniel-hawthorne/the-ambitious-guest>]

**Q91.** Which of the following statements most clearly encapsulates a foundational premise underlying the portrayal of the family's life in the passage?

- A. The family's daily interactions with transient visitors demonstrate that isolation in the Notch inevitably leads to a complete disconnection from the world beyond their mountain refuge.
- B. Despite their remote and harsh environment, the family maintains a vibrant connection with the external world, evidenced by the regular visits of wayfarers and travellers, which underscores the idea that even in isolation, human connection endures.
- C. The precarious and dangerous location of the cottage, positioned under the looming threat of falling stones from a mountain, is the primary reason the family experiences moments of melancholy amidst their otherwise joyful existence.

D. The rustic simplicity of the family's life, marked by communal warmth around the hearth, reflects a deliberate choice to forgo modern conveniences in favor of traditional values and self-sufficiency.

**Q92.** Based on the passage, which inference can most reasonably be drawn regarding the role of the travellers and wayfarers in the family's life?

- A. The constant passage of travellers is the sole factor that prevents the family from succumbing to the debilitating effects of their secluded environment.
- B. The presence of travellers and stage-coaches implies that the family's isolation is absolute and completely devoid of any human interaction beyond necessary commerce.
- C. The regular arrival of diverse travellers suggests that despite the family's remote location, they experience a continual influx of external influence that enlivens their daily routine and mitigates the harshness of their environment.
- D. The family's warm reception of every traveller indicates that they deliberately rely on outsiders to define their communal identity, foregoing any unique local traditions or autonomy.

**Q93.** Which of the following conclusions best summarizes the central narrative conveyed by the passage?

- A. The depiction of the family's life in a rugged locale illustrates that isolation invariably leads to vulnerability and fear, overriding any semblance of familial warmth.
- B. The narrative emphasizes that living in the wilderness is fraught with constant peril and hardship, leaving little room for the joys of communal living or simple pleasures.
- C. The passage concludes that modern progress and technology have no place in remote regions, where traditional lifestyles are preserved despite external intrusions.
- D. The passage concludes that even in a harsh and isolated environment marked by physical dangers and the relentless forces of nature, the warmth of family life and the transient bonds with passing strangers engender a sense of belonging and shared humanity.

**Q94.** Which of the following assumptions is implicit in the passage's depiction of the family's interactions with outsiders?

- A. The family assumes that regular and varied human contact—despite the inherent risks of their environment—is essential for maintaining their emotional well-being and sense of community.
- B. The family assumes that the unpredictable arrival of travellers and their transient nature is sufficient to shield them from the psychological impacts of isolation.
- C. The family assumes that the dangerous and chilly surroundings naturally predispose them to melancholy, making any external interaction merely an occasional distraction.
- D. The family assumes that every stranger who arrives carries with them a hidden agenda that ultimately enriches the family's experience through unexpected cultural exchanges.

**Q95.** Which of the following best captures a paradox inherent in the passage's portrayal of the family's lifestyle?

- A. Although the family lives in a perilous and inhospitable environment, they are completely detached from any form of modern commerce or external assistance.
- B. The family thrives on the warmth and laughter within their secluded household despite being surrounded by the bitter cold and dangerous elements of the wilderness, highlighting the contrast between external adversity and internal comfort.
- C. Even though the environment around the family is continuously shaped by destructive natural forces, these same forces inadvertently facilitate a unique form of communal interaction that appears both precarious and sustaining.
- D. The family's reliance on transient visitors for social interaction contradicts the idea that lasting relationships can only be built through long-term, stable bonds formed in familiar settings.

**Q96.** Which of the following statements, if true, would most weaken the passage's underlying argument that the family's connections with the outside world are indispensable for their emotional well-being?

- A. Evidence showing that families living in similarly isolated and harsh environments can maintain robust emotional well-being solely through tightly knit internal relationships, independent of external interactions.
- B. Research indicating that regular contact with strangers invariably leads to unpredictable social complications that may cause more harm than comfort to isolated families.
- C. Data suggesting that in some remote regions, the quality of communal bonds within the family itself is so strong that reliance on transient external interactions is minimal and not crucial for their overall happiness.

D. Observations that families in remote locations have gradually reduced their dependency on outside contacts as modern communication technologies have allowed them to connect emotionally without physical visits.

**Passage:- 3** In Milan Kundera's novel *The Joke*, the protagonist, Ludvik, sends a postcard with a satirical message that is misinterpreted by the Communist authorities, leading to severe consequences. This narrative illustrates the regime's intolerance to irony and humour.

The recent kerfuffle surrounding stand-up comedian Kunal Kamra's remarks on Maharashtra's deputy chief minister Eknath Shinde has turned into a cause célèbre, once again exposing how uncomfortable the political class feels these days at being the focus of irreverence and humour. The tsunami of outrage from political circles and vandalism at the performance venue, raises deeper questions: Have today's comedians become the proverbial fly in the ointment, daring to call out the hubris and double standards of our politicians? By all indications, yes.

In the 1990s and early 2000s, Indian comedy was a gentler, more inclusive affair. It used to be more nuanced and safer. Icons like Jaspal Bhatti, Raju Srivastava, and Sunil Pal, to name a few, offered humour that resonated with us. In his popular programme *Flop Show*, Jaspal Bhatti satirised bureaucracy, the flawed education system, power cuts, and unemployment — the everyday afflictions of the Indian middle-class household — using wit, irony, and subtle satire. Raju Srivastava stretched the boundaries of comedy by anchoring his humour in the lives of everyday Indians: the nosy neighbour, the pesky and overzealous TV reporter, the travails of office-goers commuting on Mumbai's local trains. He mainly highlighted the daily struggles of the common man, but did so with a lightness of touch, a deliberate avoidance of direct political provocation. Srivastava's humorous take on the peculiarities of Indian weddings was a classic example of observational humour.

Fast forward to today, and the stand-up scene is markedly different. Indian comedy clubs and streaming platforms have given rise to a new generation of performers who are unafraid to name names, question power, and comment on the political climate with biting candour. Kunal Kamra, Munawar Farooqui, Agrima Joshua, and others have taken an unfiltered approach to their comedy, lambasting the establishment and delving into topics once considered taboo in public humour: nationalism, religious polarisation, political corruption, and media manipulation. Their style is edgier, their language more confrontational, and their targets unmistakably clear.

This shift is partly the result of evolving audience sensibilities. With increased access to global content, urban Indian audiences have developed an appetite for political satire in the style of *Last Week Tonight* (John Oliver), or *Saturday Night Live* — shows where lampooning presidents, prime ministers, and lawmakers is not only expected but celebrated. Social media, too, has played a catalytic role, encouraging sharp, viral content that often thrives on controversy.

[<https://thewire.in/humour/politics-punchline-comedians-india>]

**Q97.** Which of the following statements most clearly encapsulates a foundational premise underlying the passage's critique of contemporary political responses to satire?

- A. The recent controversies involving political figures and stand-up comedians demonstrate that humor has become an essential medium for political discourse in modern democracies, replacing traditional news platforms.
- B. The backlash against comedians like Kunal Kamra is indicative of a broader cultural shift where political elites now insist on absolute reverence and decorum, leaving no room for even subtle criticism through humor.
- C. The passage assumes that regimes—be they historical or modern—are inherently intolerant of irony and humor when it exposes their hypocrisy, thereby fostering an environment where satirical commentary is met with disproportionate backlash.
- D. It is taken for granted that the evolution of humor, from the gentle satire of the past to today's unabashedly political stand-up routines, has naturally led to greater polarization in society and heightened tensions between the public and the political class.

**Q98.** Based on the passage, which inference can be most reasonably drawn about the evolution of Indian comedy over recent decades?

- A. The transition from the subtle, observational humor of the 1990s to the confrontational style of modern stand-up is directly attributable to the pervasive influence of global media, which has reshaped audience expectations and comedic approaches.
- B. The current wave of political satire in India has completely replaced the older, gentler forms of comedy, rendering the previous style obsolete and irrelevant in the contemporary socio-political context.
- C. The passage infers that while older comedians focused on everyday issues with light humor, today's comedians deliberately and sharply target political power structures, reflecting a shift in both audience sensibility and societal expectations.
- D. It may be inferred that the present climate of political intolerance has forced contemporary comedians into an even more aggressive form of satire, resulting in fewer instances of subtle humor and more outright political provocation.



**Q99.** Which of the following conclusions best summarizes the central argument of the passage regarding the reception of satire in political circles?

- A. The passage concludes that the increasing intolerance to satire among political elites is a direct consequence of the heightened politicization of humor, which has led to widespread censorship and stifling of free speech.
- B. The passage concludes that the evolution of Indian comedy, in its move towards sharper political commentary, has brought about a cultural revolution that benefits the public by exposing corruption and hypocrisy.
- C. The passage concludes that historical instances of satire, such as those in Milan Kundera's *The Joke*, serve merely as cautionary tales, with little relevance to contemporary political dynamics or the challenges faced by modern comedians.
- D. The passage concludes that both historical and contemporary episodes—ranging from Kundera's narrative to the controversy around Kunal Kamra's remarks—demonstrate a recurring pattern of political discomfort and overreaction when humor directly criticizes authority.

**Q100.** Which of the following best represents the argument presented in the passage about the role of political satire and its impact on public discourse?

- A. The argument is that political satire, whether delivered subtly or confrontationally, invariably strengthens democratic engagement by holding power to account, even if it results in momentary unrest.
- B. The passage argues that the increased boldness in today's stand-up comedy is a necessary adaptation to the evolving demands of modern audiences, regardless of the risks of political retaliation.
- C. The argument suggests that while satire is an essential tool for critiquing political power, its effectiveness is undermined by a political class that is increasingly incapable of handling humor that exposes its double standards.
- D. The passage advances the argument that political regimes, past and present, share an inherent intolerance toward irony, which leads them to react harshly against comedians who use humor to highlight and ridicule their inconsistencies.

**Q101.** Which of the following assumptions underlies the critique presented in the passage regarding the reaction of political authorities to satire?

- A. It is assumed that any effective satire must expose political hypocrisy and that political leaders inherently prefer to be unchallenged by humorous critique, regardless of its tone or style.
- B. The passage assumes that the backlash against comedians is primarily driven by the public's inability to distinguish between constructive criticism and offensive mockery, rather than by a genuine intolerance for humor.
- C. It is assumed that the evolution of humor into more confrontational and irreverent forms has necessarily alienated a section of the political class, which remains steeped in traditional expectations of reverence.
- D. The assumption is that if political authorities were more secure in their positions, they would not react so vehemently to satirical content that challenges their policies and exposes their inconsistencies.

**Q102.** Which of the following statements, if true, would most strengthen the passage's argument that modern political elites are particularly vulnerable to satire that challenges their authority?

- A. Studies demonstrate that public approval ratings for political figures drop significantly when they are the subjects of satirical commentary, indicating that such humor directly undermines their authority.
- B. Empirical evidence reveals that in political environments where humor is tolerated, there is a corresponding decrease in political scandals and corruption, thereby indirectly validating the effectiveness of satire as a tool for accountability.
- C. Research indicates that contemporary comedians deliberately choose provocative topics and language because historical data shows that mild satire rarely provokes a strong reaction from political figures.
- D. Surveys confirm that younger generations, who consume a vast amount of global satirical content, are more critical of political hypocrisy, thereby pressuring political elites to react strongly to prevent public humiliation.

**Passage:- 4** The UK's last two remaining blast furnaces have hovered on the brink of shutting down over the past week. It has emerged that Jingye, the Chinese owner of Scunthorpe-based British Steel, was poised to refuse to buy further supplies of the coke and iron ore required to keep them running, at which point it would not have been possible to restart them; effectively, a unilateral decision to put an end to Britain's capacity to produce primary steel. In these circumstances, the government had no choice but to recall parliament for an emergency sitting to pass legislation to give business secretary Jonathan Reynolds the power to direct British Steel.

The UK is starting from a low steel-producing base: it produced just 7.2m tonnes in 2021, compared with 13.9m tonnes in France, 24.4m tonnes in Italy and 40.1m tonnes in Germany. If British Steel were to shut its furnaces, this would leave the UK as the only

G7 nation without primary steel-making capacity, with significant economic and security consequences. A range of industries rely on steel: construction, defence, transport, green energy. Without British-produced steel, global giant ArcelorMittal would attain what the defence thinktank Rusi has described as a “virtual monopoly” in the production of structural steel building frames for the UK market. Network Rail sources about 95% of its track from Scunthorpe. Parts of the defence industry are heavily reliant on British-produced steel; 90% of the steel used in Queen Elizabeth-class aircraft carriers was produced by Tata Steel at Port Talbot, for example.

There would be significant risks if UK industry were to become wholly reliant on steel imports, in a world characterised by increasing instability and the trade protectionism of Donald Trump’s White House. Europe may be considered a reliable trading partner, but the steel tariffs imposed by the US, combined with pressures for increased defence capability as the US goes cold on Nato, means the UK may not be able to count on sufficient supply from our European allies.

So the government had to intervene in this way: to let the furnaces in Scunthorpe go out would have been not only to lose thousands of jobs, affecting the community, but to put Britain’s security at risk. The power to direct British Steel does not amount to nationalisation, but this seems an all-but-certain outcome, given the situation with Jingye. It could end up costing the British taxpayer dear, but the risks of not maintaining domestic primary steel production would be even more costly. It is far from ideal that ministers have found themselves in this situation, and for that governments of both colours over decades bear responsibility. The history of British steel-making has been lurching from crisis to crisis: the Scunthorpe furnaces were sold by Tata Steel to the private equity fund Greybull Capital in 2016, which left just three years later.

[<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2025/apr/12/the-observer-view-on-british-steel-saved-for-now-but-for-how-long>]

**Q103.** Which of the following statements most clearly encapsulates a foundational premise underlying the government’s intervention in British Steel as described in the passage?

- A. The decision to intervene was motivated primarily by the need to counteract the potential negative effects of privatization in the British steel industry.
- B. The intervention was based on the belief that foreign ownership of key industries automatically endangers national sovereignty in a globalised economy.
- C. The government’s action was predicated on the assumption that every disruption in domestic steel supply will immediately lead to widespread social unrest.
- D. The intervention was fundamentally driven by the premise that the loss of domestic primary steel production would not only jeopardize thousands of jobs and economic stability but also compromise national security by granting excessive influence to foreign steel providers.

**Q104.** Based on the passage, which inference can most reasonably be drawn regarding the potential consequences of British Steel shutting down its blast furnaces?

- A. The shutdown would compel the UK to immediately develop cutting-edge alternative technologies to replace traditional steel-making methods.
- B. A shutdown would leave the UK uniquely vulnerable among G7 nations by making it wholly dependent on imported steel, thereby increasing risks related to economic instability and security, especially given unpredictable global trade policies.
- C. The closure of the furnaces would primarily disrupt the local economy in Scunthorpe, with negligible effects on national security or the broader industrial supply chain.
- D. The shutdown would lead to a rapid realignment of international steel trade partnerships, ultimately benefiting the UK’s export market in the long run.

**Q105.** Which conclusion best summarizes the central message of the passage?

- A. The passage concludes that privatization in the British steel industry has brought inevitable and irreversible hardships, leading only to the loss of manufacturing capacity.
- B. The passage concludes that economic pressures alone can justify extreme government interventions, regardless of their long-term costs to taxpayers.
- C. The passage concludes that government intervention in British Steel is necessary to preserve domestic primary steel production—a safeguard for national security and economic independence—even if such measures may resemble nationalisation and incur significant taxpayer costs.
- D. The passage concludes that market forces, once allowed to operate freely, will ultimately force the UK to rely on foreign steel suppliers, thereby rendering government intervention futile.

**Q106.** Which of the following best represents the argument presented in the passage regarding the rationale for government intervention in British Steel?

- A. The argument is that government intervention, even if it leads to de facto nationalisation, is essential to prevent the collapse of domestic steel production—a collapse that would have severe economic and security repercussions given the UK's low steel-producing base and heavy reliance on domestic steel for critical industries.
- B. The passage argues that government intervention in British Steel is primarily about protecting jobs in Scunthorpe, with economic and security concerns taking a secondary role in the decision-making process.
- C. The passage asserts that without government intervention, market forces alone would have corrected the deficiencies in the British steel industry, thereby preserving national interests.
- D. The argument presented is that only a complete withdrawal of government support would allow British Steel to modernise effectively and re-enter the competitive global market.

**Q107.** Which of the following assumptions is implicit in the government's decision to intervene in British Steel?

- A. That private equity firms have a proven track record of effectively managing critical national industries without any risk to economic stability.
- B. That British Steel's continued operation would automatically lead to a surge in global steel exports, destabilizing world markets.
- C. That domestic steel production is irrelevant in modern manufacturing if sufficient steel imports can be secured from reliable international partners.
- D. That the combination of global trade protectionism, volatile international relationships, and a reliance on foreign steel supplies makes it too risky for the UK to lose its domestic primary steel production, thus justifying government intervention.

**Q108.** Which of the following statements, if true, would most strengthen the passage's argument for government intervention in British Steel?

- A. Data showing that countries with fully nationalised steel industries invariably outperform those with privatised ones in terms of economic stability and job creation.
- B. Research indicating that any interruption in domestic steel production, however brief, results in significant economic losses and security vulnerabilities—particularly in industries such as defence, transport, and green energy—thus substantiating the need for emergency government measures.
- C. Evidence proving that British consumers strongly prefer domestically produced steel over imported alternatives, regardless of price or quality differences.
- D. Historical analysis demonstrating that previous government interventions in the steel industry have invariably led to long-term improvements in production capacity and market competitiveness, thereby justifying similar actions in the current crisis.

#### SECTION-E: QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

**Direction [Q. 109 – Q. 114]:-** A suburban estate in Bangalore spans a rectangular plot measuring 350 meters by 220 meters. One half of this land (175 m × 220 m) has been allocated for a community center, while the other half serves as a landscaped public park with the following features:

- A jogging track of 6 meters in width encircles the entire park area, providing a continuous loop for walkers and runners.
- Inside this track lies a central grass meadow measuring 160 meters by 200 meters, kept as an open lawn for picnics and informal sports.
- Four circular flower beds, each with a radius of 8 meters, are evenly spaced along one side of the jogging loop; these beds showcase seasonal blooms and ornamental shrubs.
- In a shaded corner of the park sits a rectangular reflecting pond, 25 meters long and 12 meters wide, edged with low stone curbswork.
- The entire park perimeter is secured by a boundary wall 3.5 meters in height, constructed of painted brick and topped with wrought-iron fencing.

The municipal corporation has contracted to paint the exterior of the 3.5-meter-high boundary wall at a rate of ₹35 per square meter. Around the reflecting pond, decorative mosaic tiling will be laid at ₹300 per square meter, covering the strip immediately adjacent to the water's edge. Maintenance of each flower bed is budgeted at ₹18 per square meter per month, to cover soil conditioning, fertilization, and seasonal planting.

**Q109.** What is the total area (in square meters) occupied by the jogging track around the park?

- A. 6,500
- B. 4,596
- C. 2,694
- D. 231,000

**Q110.** Approximately what percentage of the total park's area does the central grass meadow occupy?

- A. 94.40%      B. 41.47%      C. 83.12%      D. 88.56%

**Q111.** Each of the four circular flower beds has radius 8 meters and is maintained at ₹18 per square meter per month. What is the total monthly maintenance cost (rounded to the nearest rupee) for all four beds combined?

- A. ₹3,619      B. ₹7,238      C. ₹28,953      D. ₹14,477

**Q112.** The boundary wall encloses the park's outer edge (175 m by 220 m) and stands 3.5 meters high, to be painted at ₹35 per square meter. What is the total painting cost for the entire wall surface?

- A. ₹83,100      B. ₹124,575      C. ₹96,775      D. ₹4,720,125

**Q113.** What is the ratio of the reflecting pond's area to the inner rectangular area enclosed by the jogging track (i.e., the rectangle formed by subtracting the 6 m track from the park boundary)?

- A. 3 : 320      B. 75 : 8,476      C. 37 : 371      D. 6 : 770

**Q114.** If decorative mosaic tiling around the pond covers an area exactly equal to the pond's surface area, what is the total tiling cost at ₹300 per square meter?

- A. ₹11,100      B. ₹75,000      C. ₹90,000      D. ₹135,000

**Direction [Q. 115 – Q. 120]:-** A renowned institution in Chennai organized its annual literature competition, attracting 240 participants divided equally into four categories: Poetry, Short Story, Playwriting, and Journalism. Within each category, a fixed percentage of entrants were declared winners—15% of Poetry contestants, 20% of Short Story writers, 25% of Playwriting submissions, and 40% of Journalism entries received awards.

Each participant paid a registration fee of ₹150, and each category winner received a cash prize of ₹600. The school dedicated a total prize pool of ₹40,000 to cover these category awards, with any surplus returning to the institution's scholarship fund. Beyond those category awards, the competition also honored the Top 3 Laureates—the highest-scoring individuals across all four categories—with an extra ₹1,200 each, in addition to the ₹600 they already received as category winners. These Laureates were selected from among the existing category winners and did not constitute additional winning slots.

**Q115.** What was the total registration fee revenue collected by the institution?

- A. ₹32,000      B. ₹36,000      C. ₹34,000      D. ₹30,000

**Q116.** How many participants in total received category prizes (before selecting and awarding the extra Laureate bonuses)?

- A. 60 winners      B. 59 winners      C. 58 winners      D. 57 winners

**Q117.** What percentage of all category winners came from the Journalism category?

- A. 35%      B. 25%      C. 30%      D. 40%

**Q118.** What was the total amount remaining from the ₹40,000 prize pool after all category prizes and Laureate bonus payments were made?

- A. ₹3,600      B. ₹1,600      C. ₹400      D. ₹2,400

**Q119.** What is the ratio of total winners (including the Top 3 Laureates) to total participants?

- A. 60 : 240      B. 63 : 240      C. 62 : 240      D. 61 : 240

**Q120.** If one Laureate was chosen from each of three different categories, how many category winners did not receive the Laureate bonus?

- A. 60      B. 58      C. 55      D. 57