ADMIT CARD NUMBER

UG 2027

QUESTION BOOKLET NO: 2027UG14

NISHANT PRAKASH LAW CLASSES
Gurukul for CLAT & AILET

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Duration of Test: 2 Hours (120 minutes) **Maximum Marks : 120**

1. **This Question Booklet (QB) contains 120 (One hundred and twenty) Multiple Choice Questions across 31 (Thirty-One) pages including 2 (Two) blank pages for rough work. No additional sheet(s) of paper will be supplied for rough work.**
2. **You shall enter your Admit Card No. on the first page of the QB at the start of the test.**
3. **You have to answer ALL questions in the separate carbonised Optical Mark Reader (OMR) Response Sheet supplied along with this QB. You must READ the detailed instructions provided with the OMR Response Sheet on the reverse side of this packet BEFORE you start the test.**
4. **No clarification can be sought on the QB from anyone. In case of any discrepancy such as printing error or missing pages, in the QB, request the Invigilator to replace the QB and OMR Response Sheet. Do not use the previous OMR Response Sheet with the fresh QB.**
5. **You should write the QB Number, and the OMR Response Sheet Number, and sign in the space/column provided in the Attendance Sheet.**
6. **The QB for the Undergraduate Programme is for 120 marks. Every Right Answer secures 1 mark. Every Wrong Answer results in the deduction of 0.25 mark. There shall be no deductions for Unanswered Questions.**
7. **You may retain the QB and the Candidate's copy of the OMR Response Sheet after the test.**
8. **The use of any unfair means shall result in your disqualification. Possession of Electronic Devices such as mobile phones, headphones, digital watches etc., is/are strictly prohibited in the test premises. Impersonation or any other unlawful practice will lead to your disqualification and possibly, appropriate action under the law.**

DO NOT OPEN TILL 2PM

Section A: English Language

Passage: In fiction, setting acquires its greatest force when it ceases to function as scenery and begins to possess a history, a temperament, and a future of its own. Kevin Brockmeier's "The Year of Silence" offers a striking example. A city is repeatedly overtaken by unexplained intervals of absolute silence, and the narrative turns upon the inhabitants' changing responses to this altered environment. The setting does not simply contain the action; it generates it.

Michael Ondaatje's The English Patient develops place through accumulated memory. The Italian villa at the centre of the novel has served successively as a nunnery, a military stronghold, and a wartime hospital. Its damaged rooms therefore carry the traces of worship, conflict, and refuge. The villa's past shapes the fragile community that gathers within it, making architecture inseparable from emotional experience.

William Faulkner's "The Bear" gives the wilderness an even more commanding presence. At first, the forest appears vast but passive. Gradually, however, it seems to conceal, test, and finally reveal the legendary bear to the young protagonist. Like a complex character, the wilderness possesses danger, mystery, and an implied fate.

1. In the passage, how is the relationship between character and setting described?
(a) Characters shape places, while settings primarily preserve narrative continuity.
(b) Setting influences both character experience and narrative movement.
(c) Characters and settings exert broadly reciprocal influence upon each other.
(d) Place shapes emotional experience without materially directing narrative action.

2. In Michael Ondaatje's The English Patient, what does the Italian villa principally embody?
(a) Historical refuge
(b) Communal vulnerability
(c) Architectural decline
(d) Layered memory

3. What role does the wilderness play in William Faulkner's "The Bear"?
(a) It becomes a testing force that shapes the encounter.
(b) It conceals the bear chiefly to preserve its mystery.
(c) The forest reflects uncertainty without shaping the eventual encounter.
(d) Its apparent passivity heightens the bear's control of events.

4. What does the phrase "accumulated memory" refer to in the context of the passage?
(a) The residents' inherited memory of conflict and refuge.
(b) Emotional meanings carried by the villa's damaged condition.
(c) The successive histories retained within the villa's structure.
(d) A gradual revival of the villa's earlier communal identity.

5. Which phrase best describes the city in "The Year of Silence"?
(a) Emotional landscape
(b) Narrative catalyst
(c) Collective archive
(d) Social barometer

6. What is the main theme discussed in the passage?
(a) Characters acquire meaning chiefly through histories preserved by particular places.
(b) Settings preserve experience by recording the emotional histories of communities.
(c) Places may function like characters by shaping action and emotion.
(d) Landscapes chiefly mirror the psychological states of those inhabiting them.

Passage: Gentrification is one of the most pressing – and polarising – issues confronting cities today. In popular discussions, defenders of gentrification tend to paint it as an influx of badly needed capital into blighted urban areas. They point to increased commercial activity and tax revenue, new wealth flowing to low-income homeowners, decreased crime and improved public services as evidence of the fact that gentrification is, on balance, a good thing. Critics view gentrification as a quasi-colonial invasion of the privileged into economically vulnerable communities. They point to the displacement of long-time residents, the overpolicing of public spaces, and the homogenisation of the commercial environment as evidence of the fact that gentrification is, on balance, a bad thing. To some extent, the two camps disagree about the empirical facts, particularly the extent to which gentrification actually produces residential displacement. But their deepest disagreements concern political morality: the ends we ought to be pursuing as a political community. It is at the level of value disagreement that political philosophy can make a distinctive contribution to the debate on gentrification.

Gentrification is a fruitful topic of study for economists, sociologists, political scientists and historians, among others. It's less clear where philosophy fits in. A great deal of work in philosophy is difficult to connect to gentrification simply because it exists at such a high level of idealisation and abstraction. However, recent work in political philosophy points the way towards a more practical orientation. In particular, philosophers such as Elizabeth Anderson, Amartya Sen and others have argued that philosophy can play the role of diagnosing injustice. It's worth taking a moment to unpack the metaphor.

A doctor needn't have any particular conception of what a perfectly healthy patient would be in order to identify what's making the patient sick in some respect, and to prescribe treatments on that basis. But a doctor does need to listen, at once sympathetically and critically, to a patient's complaints in order to discern what might be the symptoms of an underlying illness. By analogy, a political philosopher doesn't need a conception of what a perfectly just society would be in order to identify what makes the social world unjust in some respect, and to suggest reforms on that basis. But a political philosopher with a diagnostic orientation does need to listen, at once sympathetically and critically, to the complaints expressed by real-world social movements in order to discern what might be the symptoms of an underlying injustice.

Extracted with edits and revisions from:
https://aeon.co/essays/how-does-philosophy-explain-whats-wrong-with-gentrification

7. What is the central thesis of the above extract?
(a) Gentrification combines urban benefits with serious distributive harms.
(b) Its debate persists because the evidence remains fundamentally unsettled.
(c) Political philosophy can diagnose injustice by examining the value conflicts underlying gentrification.
(d) Gentrification should be judged through empirical outcomes rather than competing political ideals.

8. What does the author mean by "diagnosing injustice" in the second paragraph?
(a) Specific grievances are measured against a comprehensive account of justice.
(b) Particular wrongs are identified without first defining perfect justice.
(c) Social movements' complaints are accepted as sufficient proof of injustice.
(d) Existing institutions are compared with the arrangements of perfect justice.

9. Which of the following words best describes the deepest disagreement between defenders and critics of gentrification?

(a) Empirical	(b) Ideological
(c) Distributive	(d) Normative

10. Which of the following statements is the author most likely to agree with?
(a) Moral judgments should remain provisional until empirical disputes are resolved.

(b) Social complaints deserve sympathetic attention and critical examination.
(c) Injustice can be diagnosed only through a sufficiently complete ideal.
(d) Social complaints deserve sympathetic acceptance rather than critical scrutiny.

11. Which of the following statements is the author most likely to disagree with?
(a) Several disciplines can illuminate distinct dimensions of gentrification.
(b) Factual agreement may coexist with disagreement about political ends.
(c) Injustice cannot be diagnosed without a model of perfect justice.
(d) Social movements' complaints may reveal symptoms of underlying injustice.

12. What makes the comparison between a doctor and a political philosopher appropriate?
(a) Particular defects can be recognised without first defining complete perfection.
(b) A complaint becomes useful only after independent factual verification.
(c) Diagnosis compares present conditions with a sufficiently complete ideal.
(d) Professional judgment can replace testimony from those experiencing harm.

Passage: They walked on past the flower-bed, now walking four abreast, and soon diminished in size among the trees and looked half transparent as the sunlight and shade swam over their backs in large trembling irregular patches.

In the oval flower bed the snail, whose shell had been stained red, blue, and yellow for the space of two minutes or so, now appeared to be moving very slightly in its shell, and next began to labour over the crumbs of loose earth which broke away and rolled down as it passed over them. It appeared to have a definite goal in front of it, differing in this respect from the singular high stepping angular green insect who attempted to cross in front of it, and waited for a second with its antennæ trembling as if in deliberation, and then stepped off as rapidly and strangely in the opposite direction. Brown cliffs with deep green lakes in the hollows, flat, blade-like trees that waved from root to tip, round boulders of grey stone, vast crumpled surfaces of a thin crackling texture—all these objects lay across the snail's progress between one stalk and another to his goal. Before he had decided whether to circumvent the arched tent of a dead leaf or to breast it there came past the bed the feet of other human beings.

This time they were both men. The younger of the two wore an expression of perhaps unnatural calm; he raised his eyes and fixed them very steadily in front of him while his companion spoke, and directly his companion had done speaking he looked at the ground again and sometimes opened his lips only after a long pause and sometimes did not open them at all. The elder man had a curiously uneven and shaky method of walking, jerking his hand forward and throwing up his head abruptly, rather in the manner of an impatient carriage horse tired of waiting outside a house; but in the man these gestures were irresolute and pointless. He talked almost incessantly; he smiled to himself and again began to talk, as if the smile had been an answer. He was talking about spirits—the spirits of the dead, who, according to him, were even now telling him all sorts of odd things about their experiences in Heaven.

"Heaven was known to the ancients as Thessaly, William, and now, with this war, the spirit matter is rolling between the hills like thunder."

Extracted from: "Kew Gardens" in Monday or Tuesday, by Virginia Woolf

13. What does the snail's movement towards a "definite goal" suggest about its behaviour?
(a) Persistent movement continues despite resistance from the terrain.
(b) Cautious progress reflects uncertainty about the intended destination.
(c) Instinctive motion prevents awareness of surrounding obstacles.
(d) Environmental difficulty gradually diverts it from its course.

14. What do you get to know about the younger man's state of mind from his reaction towards his companion?
(a) Patient listening suggests cautious sympathy with the elder man's account.
(b) Measured composure seems to mask unease and reluctance to respond.
(c) Restrained behaviour reflects detached tolerance of the companion's unusual claims.
(d) Delayed replies indicate reflective consideration of the subject being discussed.

15. What does the elder man's habit of smiling "as if the smile had been an answer" reveal about his mindset?
(a) Provoking uncertainty in his companion gives him private amusement.
(b) The companion's silence is mistaken for agreement with his claims.
(c) A self-contained mental exchange absorbs him more than real dialogue.
(d) Humour is used to lend credibility to an improbable account.

16. The description of the elder man's gestures as "irresolute and pointless" shows that:
(a) Attempted confidence repeatedly dissolves into uncertain physical expression.
(b) Restless movement reveals agitation without any settled purpose.
(c) Bodily weakness prevents effective control over otherwise intentional gestures.
(d) Frustration at the younger man's silence produces visible impatience.

17. Which of the following statements are true about the contrast between the snail and the green insect?
Statement I: The snail maintains a definite goal despite encountering obstacles.
Statement II: The insect appears to deliberate but abruptly changes its course.
Statement III: Both creatures display equal consistency in pursuing their destinations.
(a) Statements I and II
(b) Statements I and III
(c) Statements II and III
(d) Statements I, II and III

18. In the light of the above passage, what role does nature play in the presentation of the scene?
(a) Human activity remains central within an otherwise tranquil landscape.
(b) Shifts in scale reduce nature to a frame for human conduct.
(c) Minute objects become vast while human figures pass only briefly.
(d) Natural and human worlds remain adjacent but narratively separate.

Passage: The literary culture of the long eighteenth century was marked not by a single dominant style, but by a succession of competing ideals. Early in the period, writers associated with the Augustan age valued order, restraint and classical proportion. Alexander Pope exemplified this tendency: in translating Homer, he did not merely reproduce the Greek text, but reshaped it into polished English couplets, privileging elegance and formal control. Jonathan Swift employed similarly disciplined prose for a different purpose. In Gulliver's Travels, the apparent simplicity of adventure becomes a vehicle for satire, exposing political vanity and human pretension. Daniel Defoe, by contrast, helped advance the emerging English novel through Robinson Crusoe, whose attention to individual experience and practical survival differed sharply from the elevated conventions of neoclassical poetry.

Romanticism arose partly as a reaction against the austerity and rationalism of this Augustan inheritance. William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge redirected literary attention towards emotion, imagination, ordinary lives and the natural world. Their collaborative Lyrical Ballads announced a poetry less concerned with polished decorum than with inward experience and neglected voices. Yet the two poets were not identical in method. Wordsworth generally found significance in common life and familiar landscapes, whereas Coleridge was drawn to supernatural suggestion, guilt and psychological unease. The Rime of the Ancient Mariner, with its atmosphere of crime, punishment and redemption, displays a hypnotic strangeness unlike Wordsworth's more meditative treatment of nature.

The novel also developed rapidly during this transition. Jane Austen examined social conduct through irony, restraint and closely observed domestic relationships. Her fiction rarely depended upon the historical spectacle favoured by Walter Scott, who popularised the historical novel by placing vividly realised characters within turbulent periods of the past. Scott's range of social voices and regional dialects also connected his prose with the Romantic interest in communities overlooked by elite literary culture.

Thomas Love Peacock absorbed several of these influences without fitting neatly within any one of them. Classical learning, medieval folklore, Romantic landscape and regional tradition coexist in his work. Where Scott transformed Scotland into a powerful imaginative territory, Peacock turned repeatedly towards Wales, its legends and its language. Taken together, these authors reveal a period in which English literature moved from neoclassical discipline towards emotional intensity, historical consciousness and formal experimentation.

19. Who exemplifies the Augustan preference for order, restraint and classical proportion?
(a) Jonathan Swift
(b) Alexander Pope
(c) Daniel Defoe
(d) Thomas Love Peacock

20. Which work uses an apparently simple adventure to expose political vanity and human pretension?
(a) Robinson Crusoe
(b) The Rime of the Ancient Mariner
(c) Gulliver's Travels
(d) Pope's Homer

21. Which writers redirected literary attention towards emotion, imagination and the natural world?
(a) Alexander Pope and William Wordsworth
(b) Jane Austen and Samuel Taylor Coleridge
(c) Walter Scott and William Wordsworth
(d) William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge

22. Which work is associated with individual experience and practical survival?
(a) Robinson Crusoe
(b) Gulliver's Travels
(c) The Rime of the Ancient Mariner
(d) Lyrical Ballads

23. Identify the work marked by supernatural suggestion, guilt and psychological unease.
(a) Gulliver's Travels
(b) Robinson Crusoe
(c) The Rime of the Ancient Mariner
(d) Lyrical Ballads

24. What does the passage highlight as the major development in English literature during this period?
(a) A transition from neoclassical order towards historically grounded expression
(b) A movement towards emotional depth, historical awareness and formal variety
(c) A synthesis of classical inheritance with regional literary identities
(d) A broad shift from elite decorum towards ordinary human experience

Section B: Current Affairs including General Knowledge

Passage: Vande Mataram has occupied a distinctive place in India's cultural history since the freedom struggle. Written by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, the composition became a rallying cry during the anti-colonial movement and was associated with the Swadeshi campaign. Its historical importance, however, has also been accompanied by debate over its religious imagery and the extent to which it can serve as an inclusive national symbol.

During the Monsoon Session of Parliament, the Union Government introduced the Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026, in the Rajya Sabha. The Bill proposes to extend to Vande Mataram the statutory safeguards presently applicable to the National Anthem under the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971. It addresses the intentional prevention of its singing and the disturbance of assemblies engaged in singing it. The Rajya Sabha passed the Bill on 29 July 2026, followed by the Lok Sabha on 30 July 2026. Presidential assent remained necessary for it to become law.

The controversy also revives the constitutional history of India's national symbols. On 24 January 1950, Constituent Assembly President Rajendra Prasad announced that Jana Gana Mana would be the National Anthem, while Vande Mataram would receive honour and status because of its role in the freedom struggle. This arrangement emerged through a formal statement rather than a constitutional provision defining a National Song.

Supporters regard the Bill as recognition of a historically significant symbol. Opponents argue that criminal legislation involving patriotic expression must be framed carefully to avoid coercion, protect liberty and preserve freedom of conscience in a diverse constitutional democracy.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from https://www.republicworld.com/india/vande-mataram-bill-tabled-in-rajya-sabha-know-its-significance-bankim-chandra-chattopadhyay-s-legacy-controversy-bengal-s-pride-2026-07-24-133325]

25. Anandamath, the novel in which Vande Mataram appeared, is set against the background of the eighteenth-century Sannyasi rebellion. Which land-revenue arrangement was subsequently introduced in Bengal by Lord Cornwallis in 1793?
(a) Ryotwari Settlement
(b) Mahalwari Settlement
(c) Permanent Settlement
(d) Tinkathia System

26. What was the full name of the President of the 1911 Calcutta Session of the Indian National Congress, at which Jana Gana Mana was sung for the first time?
(a) Pandit Bishan Narayan Dhar
(b) Rash Behari Ghosh
(c) Bhupendra Nath Bose
(d) Ambica Charan Mazumdar

27. What would be the punishment under the proposed amendment for intentionally disturbing an assembly engaged in singing Vande Mataram?
(a) A monetary penalty not exceeding ₹10,000
(b) Imprisonment extending to three years, a fine, or both
(c) Mandatory imprisonment of at least one year for the first offence
(d) Imprisonment extending to seven years without a fine

28. Which of the following is correct about the Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Act, 2003?
(a) It inserted Section 3A prescribing minimum imprisonment for second and subsequent convictions
(b) It inserted Section 3B prescribing imprisonment for all first-time National Anthem offences
(c) It inserted Section 4 transferring national-symbol offences to the State Emblem legislation

(d) It inserted Section 5 prescribing only monetary fines for every first-time conviction

29. After Vande Mataram began appearing on early nationalist flags, who unfurled a flag bearing the words at the International Socialist Conference in Stuttgart in 1907?
(a) Annie Besant
(b) Bhikhaiji Cama
(c) Sarojini Naidu
(d) Nellie Sengupta

30. In which case did the Supreme Court protect students who respectfully stood during the National Anthem but declined to sing it because of their conscientious religious beliefs?
(a) Bijoe Emmanuel v. State of Kerala
(b) Kedar Nath Singh v. State of Bihar
(c) S. R. Bommai v. Union of India
(d) Shreya Singhal v. Union of India

Passage: The Royal Indian Navy's (RIN) revolt of 1946, a brief armed uprising that began at the naval barracks in Bombay and quickly spread to the streets, gaining popular support.

Eighty years later, one must reassess the significance of this short-lived uprising amid these turbulent years, where South Asia is experiencing a worsening of inter-communal relations.

Characterising the revolt as a mere localised breakdown of military discipline and insubordination by naval ratings, which lacked both centralised leadership and coordination, successive colonial officials often described the insurrection as a mutiny. However, a brief account of the events that unfolded between February 18-22 would help one understand the scale of the 'mutiny'. Historically, the uprising has oscillated between being overlooked and receiving occasional acknowledgment. Early official narratives minimized its political content, presenting it as a temporary breakdown of discipline during demobilization.

On February 21, a more or less peaceful hunger strike transformed into a brief armed uprising in the city. It reached its climax when naval ratings inside the barracks waged a pitched battle with firearms against British military forces after they opened fire on the naval ratings. The threat of a full-scale military conflict hung over the city as the rebel ships, in response, manned guns, intending to defend their fellow ratings on shore. The insurrection revealed the brittleness of British reliance on Indian armed forces at a pivotal point in imperial retreat. It was rooted in deeply ingrained racial hierarchy, exacerbated by wartime expansion, and changed by growing nationalist consciousness.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from https://www.thehindu.com/education/the-1946-royal-navy-revolt-solidarity-amid-sharpening-polarisation/article70642960.ece]

31. Which political party called for a general strike in Bombay in support of the naval ratings?
(a) Indian National Congress
(b) Communist Party of India
(c) All-India Muslim League
(d) Hindu Mahasabha

32. The naval ratings demanded the release of Indian National Army prisoners. Where was the first major INA trial held?
(a) Fort William
(b) Red Fort
(c) Agra Fort
(d) Lahore Fort

33. What was the full name of the Flag Officer Commanding the Royal Indian Navy during the uprising?
(a) John Henry Godfrey
(b) Geoffrey Audley Miles
(c) William Edward Parry
(d) Charles Thomas Mark Pizey

34. Which Japanese military operation brought Japanese and INA forces towards Imphal and Kohima in 1944?

(a) Operation Ha-Go
(b) Operation U-Go
(c) Operation Ichi-Go
(d) Operation Ketsu-Go

35. Taihoku, near which Subhas Chandra Bose's reported plane crash occurred, is presently known by what name?
(a) Kaohsiung
(b) Taipei
(c) Taichung
(d) Tainan

36. Who became the first Indian officer to serve as Chief of the Naval Staff of the Indian Navy?
(a) Ram Dass Katari
(b) Bhaskar Sadashiv Soman
(c) Adhar Kumar Chatterji
(d) Sardarilal Mathradas Nanda

Passage: The Narendra Modi government has revived efforts to secure the numbers needed to pass the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, which seeks to increase the strength of the Lok Sabha from 543 to 850 and pave the way for a fresh delimitation exercise before the 2029 general election. The Bill also provides the constitutional basis for implementing the women's reservation law. The legislation had failed to secure the required two-thirds majority in the Lok Sabha when it was put to vote in April 2026. Since then, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has focused on expanding the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) and reaching out to regional parties that had opposed or abstained on the Bill. The urgency has increased ahead of the Monsoon Session beginning on July 20. The recent induction of 20 Trinamool Congress MPs and six Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) MPs into the NDA has strengthened the ruling coalition, while the Opposition has begun coordinating its strategy to prevent the government from crossing the constitutional threshold. The BJP's calculations extend beyond its formal allies and hinge on persuading regional parties to support the legislation by incorporating safeguards such as a uniform 50% increase in Lok Sabha seats across all States — an assurance several parties had sought earlier. Most parties in the INDIA bloc, including the Congress, Trinamool Congress, DMK, Shiv Sena (UBT), NCP (Sharad Pawar), Samajwadi Party, Rashtriya Janata Dal, Left parties and others, opposed the Bill, arguing that the draft legislation lacked safeguards against population-based redistribution of seats that could reduce the political weight of southern States.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/why-the-numbers-matter-in-the-renewed-push-for-delimitation-explained/article71232647.ece]

37. What was the principal reason for freezing the redistribution of Lok Sabha seats among the States?
(a) To preserve incentives for population-control measures
(b) To postpone the conduct of the national census
(c) To prevent the creation of new Union Territories
(d) To standardise the size of Legislative Councils

38. Under which constitutional provision can a law relating to delimitation ordinarily not be questioned in a court?
(a) Article 324(a)
(b) Article 327(b)
(c) Article 329(a)
(d) Article 329(b)

39. Which of the following is not true about the historical context of delimitation in India?
(a) The Forty-Second Amendment introduced the original freeze on seat allocation
(b) The Eighty-Fourth Amendment extended the freeze until after 2026
(c) The Eighty-Seventh Amendment adopted the 2001 Census for redrawing boundaries
(d) The Eighty-Seventh Amendment redistributed Lok Sabha seats among the States

40. Under which law was the delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies in Assam undertaken in 2023?
(a) Representation of the People Act, 1950
(b) Representation of the People Act, 1951

(c) Delimitation Commission Act, 1962
(d) Delimitation Act, 2002

41. Who headed the Delimitation Commission constituted under the Delimitation Act, 2002?
(a) Justice Ranganath Misra
(b) Justice Kuldip Singh
(c) Justice J. S. Verma
(d) Justice M. N. Venkatachaliah

42. What was the constitutional response when the original freeze on the redistribution of seats approached its expiry?
(a) The freeze was removed through the Eighty-Second Amendment
(b) The freeze was extended through the Eighty-Fourth Amendment
(c) The exercise was transferred entirely to the Election Commission
(d) The allocation of seats was linked with the 1991 Census

Passage: Anahat Singh on Saturday became the first Indian to be crowned world junior squash champion after beating Ruqayya Salem of Egypt in the summit clash here. World No. 20 and top seed Anahat defeated Ruqayya 11-3, 11-7, and 11-9 in the women's final of the World Squash Junior Individual Championships in New Delhi.

Anahat won a bronze medal last year after reaching the semifinals. She said that winning the World Junior Squash Championship means the world to her. It means the world. I still feel like I'm dreaming, Anahat said after her title win. I've been losing in the semis and quarters over the last four years. I've always said, if anyone's asked, This tournament's a curse, and I've never been able to play well in the event, the 18-year-old Delhi girl said.

The triumph is even more special, as this was her last year on the junior circuit. Anahat said she wanted to enjoy the experience of playing in the tournament's final. I knew if I'm stressed, I play terribly, so I just came out on court and hit my lines well… I wanted to enjoy every moment of getting to play in a world championship final, she said. Cyrus Poncha, the secretary-general of the Squash Rackets Federation of India, said Anahat's victory was a historic moment for the sport in the country. (The late) Mr. N. Ramachandran, SRFI patron and visionary of the Indian Squash Academy, always said it was his dream that India produce a world champion in individual events, Mr. Poncha continued

[Extracted with edits and revisions from https://www.thehindu.com/sport/anahat-singh-becomes-first-indian-to-win-world-junior-squash-championship/article71269123.ece]

43. In which sport were women permitted to compete at the first Commonwealth Games?
(a) Athletics
(b) Swimming
(c) Lawn bowls
(d) Gymnastics

44. In which edition did India participate in the Commonwealth Games for the first time?
(a) London 1934
(b) Hamilton 1930
(c) Sydney 1938
(d) Auckland 1950

45. Who became the first Indian male squash player to enter the top ten of the senior world rankings?
(a) Ritwik Bhattacharya
(b) Harinder Pal Sandhu
(c) Saurav Ghosal
(d) Abhay Singh

46. At which Commonwealth Games were team sports introduced for the first time?
(a) Victoria 1994
(b) Kuala Lumpur 1998
(c) Manchester 2002
(d) Melbourne 2006

Passage: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced the constitution of a high-powered task force on examination reforms which will be led by renowned technology expert Nandan Nilekani. In a video message, he said that the task force will focus on examination reforms, and based on its report, steps will be taken as soon as possible to ensure the credibility of upcoming examinations. He said that the country's examination system must be trustworthy, transparent, and leverage technology to the maximum extent.

The task force will also consist of Former IB Director Tapan Deka, former ISRO Chairman S Somnath, IIT Chennai Director V Kamakoti. Besides, former Education Secretary Anita Karwal, and logistics expert Amrit Lal Meena are also part of the task force.

The Prime Minister added that the government is also moving forward toward introducing a new law in Parliament with stringent legal provisions regarding examinations. Mr Modi also emphasised the government's commitment to safeguarding the integrity of competitive exams and protecting the future of millions of students.

"We should ensure that our exam system can be trusted, transparent and tech-savvy. Under the leadership of renowned technology expert Nandan Nilekani, a high-powered task force will be formed, which will focus on exam reforms. The Centre is taking multiple steps to ensure that those who have played with the future of students are punished. We have already announced the formation of fast-track courts. We are bringing a stringent law in Parliament," Mr. Modi said.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from https://newsonair.gov.in/pm-modi-announces-task-force-on-examination-reforms-reaffirms-commitment-to-transparent-exam/]

47. The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) 2026 Amendment Bill proposes that an appeal should ordinarily be filed within thirty days and should not be entertained after ninety days. A comparable ninety-day restriction on appeals is contained in which law?
(a) Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967
(b) Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002
(c) National Investigation Agency Act, 2008
(d) Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023

48. The Public Examinations Amendment Bill, 2026 provides for the designation of Courts of Session as Special Fast Track Courts. Which constitutional provision vests control over district courts and courts subordinate thereto in the High Court?
(a) Article 227
(b) Article 233
(c) Article 234
(d) Article 235

49. Anita Karwal, a member of the examination-reform task force, was closely associated with the formulation of the National Education Policy, 2020. Who chaired the committee that prepared the Draft National Education Policy submitted in 2019?
(a) T. S. R. Subramanian
(b) K. Kasturirangan
(c) Yash Pal
(d) D. S. Kothari

50. Under which entry of the Union List does Parliament have legislative competence over the coordination and determination of standards in institutions for higher education or research and in scientific and technical institutions?
(a) Entry 63
(b) Entry 64
(c) Entry 66
(d) Entry 65

51. In which case did the Supreme Court protect students who respectfully stood during the National Anthem but declined to sing it because of their conscientious religious beliefs?
(a) Bijoe Emmanuel v. State of Kerala
(b) Kedar Nath Singh v. State of Bihar

(c) S. R. Bommai v. Union of India (d) Shreya Singhal v. Union of India

52. Which of the following statements is not correct about the Constitution (One Hundred and Third Amendment) Act, 2019 in relation to education?
(a) It inserted Article 15(6) into the Constitution.
(b) It permits special provisions for economically weaker sections.
(c) It allows reservation of up to ten per cent in educational institutions for economically weaker sections.
(d) It makes such reservation applicable to minority institutions protected under Article 30(1).

Section C: Legal Reasoning

Passage: Punitive detention ordinarily follows adjudication of past conduct, whereas preventive detention seeks to prevent anticipated prejudicial conduct without a criminal trial. Preventive detention remains a deprivation of personal liberty subject to Article 21 and the safeguards prescribed by Article 22. Judicial review of a preventive-detention order is confined to examining whether the detaining authority's subjective satisfaction is legally vitiated. A court cannot reassess the sufficiency of the material or substitute its view for a lawfully formed subjective satisfaction merely because another conclusion is possible. It may intervene for mala fides, non-application of mind, reliance on irrelevant considerations that vitiates the satisfaction, or strict non-compliance with constitutional or statutory procedure.

For an ordinary arrest, Article 22(1) requires the arrested person to be informed, as soon as may be, of the grounds of arrest and protects the right to consult and be defended by a legal practitioner of choice. Article 22(2) requires production before the nearest magistrate within twenty-four hours, excluding necessary journey time, and prohibits custody beyond that period without a magistrate's authority. Article 22(3) makes clauses (1) and (2) inapplicable to an enemy alien and to a person arrested or detained under a law providing for preventive detention.

Under the operative text of Article 22(4), no preventive-detention law may authorise detention beyond three months unless an Advisory Board reports before that period expires that sufficient cause exists for such detention, or the detention accords with a parliamentary law made under Article 22(7)(a) and (b). The Board must consist of persons who are, have been, or are qualified to be appointed as Judges of a High Court. It decides whether sufficient cause exists for detention; it does not determine criminal guilt. Section 3 of the Forty-fourth Amendment would reduce this period to two months and revise the Board's composition, but it has not been brought into force.

The authority must communicate the grounds to the detainee as soon as may be and afford the earliest opportunity to make a representation against the order. The communicated grounds and material relied upon must enable an effective representation. Article 22(6) does not require disclosure of facts which the authority considers against the public interest to disclose; the exception does not erase the duty to communicate grounds.

Article 22(7) authorises Parliament to prescribe circumstances and classes of cases permitting detention beyond three months without an Advisory Board's opinion. Parliament may also prescribe the maximum detention period for specified classes and the procedure governing the Board's inquiry.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from https://www.scobserver.in/journal/the-constitutional-sanction-for-preventive-detention-reeks-of-a-fear-of-freedom/]

53. What is the primary purpose of preventive detention under the passage?
(a) To restrain future misconduct through punishment without prior criminal adjudication.
(b) To restrain future misconduct through detention without prior criminal adjudication.
(c) To restrain past misconduct through detention pending subsequent criminal adjudication.
(d) To restrain past misconduct through punishment following prior criminal adjudication.

54. Who is excluded from the safeguards provided under Article 22(1) and Article 22(2)?
(a) Foreign nationals and persons held under preventive detention laws.
(b) Enemy aliens and persons held under ordinary criminal laws.
(c) Enemy aliens and persons held under preventive detention laws.
(d) Foreign nationals and persons held under ordinary criminal laws.

55. What is the role of the Advisory Board under Article 22(4)?
(a) To report within three months whether adequate grounds justify continued detention.

(b) To report within three months whether adequate proof justifies criminal conviction.
(c) To report after three months whether adequate grounds justify continued detention.
(d) To report after three months whether adequate proof justifies criminal conviction.

56. What is the distinction between communicating detention grounds and withholding particular facts?
(a) Grounds may be withheld for public interest; supporting facts must enable representation.
(b) Grounds must enable representation; supporting facts may be withheld for institutional confidentiality.
(c) Grounds may be withheld for institutional confidentiality; supporting facts must enable representation.
(d) Grounds must enable representation; supporting facts may be withheld for public interest.

57. In which situation may detention grounds validly be communicated after five days?
(a) On day fourteen, extraordinary conditions; detention grounds recorded, not delay reasons.
(b) On day fourteen, extraordinary conditions; delay reasons entered in official records.
(c) On day fourteen, routine conditions; delay reasons entered in official records.
(d) On day fourteen, extraordinary conditions; delayed communication approved without recorded reasons.

58. What is the proper scope of judicial review of a preventive-detention order?
(a) To examine material sufficiency without replacing the authority's conclusion.
(b) To examine vitiating defects by reassessing the material's sufficiency.
(c) To examine vitiating defects without reassessing the material's sufficiency.
(d) To examine the authority's conclusion without identifying vitiating defects.

Passage: Article 19(1)(a) protects expression, while Article 19(2) permits reasonable restrictions for decency or morality. In Apoorva Arora v. State (NCT of Delhi), the Supreme Court held that vulgarity and profanity do not per se amount to obscenity. A work must be judged as a whole, examining challenged portions contextually under contemporary community standards.

Section 67 of the Information Technology Act, 2000 applies to whoever publishes or transmits, or causes to be published or transmitted, in electronic form, material which is lascivious, appeals to the prurient interest, or whose effect tends to deprave and corrupt persons likely, having regard to all relevant circumstances, to read, see or hear it.

Section 67A applies where electronic material contains a sexually explicit act or conduct; involvement of a child is not an ingredient. Section 67B concerns children below eighteen and electronic material depicting them in sexually explicit acts or conduct. It also covers creating text or digital images depicting children in an obscene, indecent or sexually explicit manner, and collecting, seeking, browsing, downloading, advertising, promoting, exchanging or distributing such material. Publication is therefore unnecessary where one of these independent acts is proved. The section also covers inducing children into online relationships for sexually explicit conduct, facilitating online child abuse, and electronically recording abuse involving children.

The proviso to Sections 67, 67A and 67B excludes any electronic book, pamphlet, paper, writing, drawing, painting, representation or figure whose publication is proved justified for the public good because it is in the interest of science, literature, art, learning or another object of general concern. It also excludes such material kept or used for bona fide heritage or religious purposes.

Section 79 protects intermediaries from liability for third-party information if they observe prescribed due diligence and either provide only access to a communication system or neither initiate the transmission, select its receiver, nor select or modify the transmitted information. Internal platform standards cannot replace the due diligence prescribed under the statutory framework. Protection is lost where an intermediary conspires, abets, aids or induces an unlawful act. It is also lost where the intermediary fails expeditiously to remove or disable access to unlawful material after receiving a court order or notification from the appropriate Government or its agency. In Shreya Singhal v. Union of India, the Supreme Court confined legally sufficient knowledge to such an order or governmental notification; a private complaint by itself does not trigger the statutory removal obligation.

Section 294 of the BNS, 2023 covers obscene objects, including electronic content. Section 15 of the POCSO Act separately addresses possession or storage of pornographic material involving a child, depending on intended sharing, transmission, propagation, display, distribution or commercial use; reporting and evidentiary uses are excepted.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from https://www.pmfias.com/obscene-online-content/]

59. What is the primary focus of the passage?
(a) Constitutional standards governing when vulgar electronic expression becomes legally obscene online.
(b) Punishment rules governing adult and child-related sexually explicit electronic material online.
(c) Distinct electronic-content offences, their exceptions and intermediary-liability rules under Indian law.
(d) Judicial distinctions between profanity, vulgarity and obscenity under contemporary community standards.

60. What is the distinction between Sections 67 and 67A, as described in the passage?
(a) Section 67 targets explicit conduct; Section 67A targets material affecting susceptible audiences generally.
(b) Section 67 targets child-related obscenity; Section 67A targets sexually explicit content involving adults.
(c) Section 67 targets vulgar expression; Section 67A targets repeated electronic circulation of it.
(d) Section 67 targets obscenity generally; Section 67A targets material involving sexually explicit conduct.

61. What is the significance of the phrase “publishes or transmits, or causes to be published or transmitted” under Section 67?
(a) Liability is confined to creators who first upload prohibited electronic material.
(b) Liability includes direct electronic dissemination and conduct causing another’s electronic dissemination.
(c) Liability reaches possession when another person’s later electronic circulation appears foreseeable.
(d) Liability reaches viewing because access indirectly sustains the material’s circulation online.

62. According to Section 67B, under which circumstance may liability arise without proof of publication or transmission?
(a) Deliberately seeking, browsing or downloading prohibited child-related electronic material without further circulation.
(b) Knowingly retaining prohibited child-related electronic material after unsolicited receipt without further access.
(c) Treating later circulation by another as necessary before electronic seeking becomes punishable.
(d) Agreeing to distribute prohibited child-related electronic material without accessing or obtaining it.

63. How do the provisos to Sections 67, 67A and 67B balance restrictions on electronic obscenity with artistic expression?
(a) By accepting the maker’s asserted artistic purpose without proof of wider public benefit.
(b) By requiring proof that publication serves public good through art or specified interests.
(c) By treating artistic character as sufficient even without establishing public-good justification for publication.
(d) By requiring official certification that artistic publication advances recognised objects of public concern.

64. For protection under Section 79, which statement correctly expresses the conditions an intermediary must satisfy?
(a) Protection requires either limited-access functionality or neutrality, together with internal due-diligence standards.

(b) Protection requires both limited-access functionality and neutrality, together with prescribed due diligence.
(c) Protection requires either limited-access functionality or neutrality, together with prescribed due-diligence standards.
(d) Protection requires either limited-access functionality or non-initiation, together with prescribed due-diligence standards.

65. What is the position of an intermediary under Section 79 when unlawful third-party content is involved?
(a) Protection survives prompt removal despite the intermediary's earlier inducement of illegality.
(b) Loss of protection follows private complaints despite absence of intermediary participation.
(c) Loss of protection requires inducement and delayed compliance with prescribed directions.
(d) Loss of protection follows inducement or delayed compliance with prescribed directions.

Passage: Chapter III of the Press Council Act, 1978 deals with the powers and functions of the Council and classifies Section 15 as "General powers of the Council." Section 15 operates only for the purpose of performing the Council's functions or holding an inquiry under the Act.

For those purposes, the Council has throughout India the same specified powers as are vested in a civil court while trying a suit under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908. It may summon persons and enforce their attendance; examine persons on oath; require the discovery and inspection of documents; receive evidence on affidavits; requisition any public record, or copies thereof, from any court or office; and issue commissions for the examination of witnesses or documents. Clause (f) includes any other matter which may be prescribed, but it does not confer unenumerated jurisdiction.

The statutory equivalence is confined to the listed matters and the statutory purposes. Possession of these civil-court powers does not transform the Council into a civil court for every purpose or confer the jurisdiction, remedies and status of a civil court.

Section 15(2) restricts those powers. No newspaper, news agency, editor or journalist may be compelled under Section 15(1) to disclose the source of news or information published by that newspaper or received or reported by that news agency, editor or journalist. The restriction protects the source; it does not create a general immunity from inquiry.

Under Section 15(3), every Council inquiry is deemed to be a judicial proceeding within the meaning of Sections 193 and 228 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860. The deeming rule is confined to those statutory purposes and does not make the Council a court generally. Those provisions concerned punishment for false evidence and intentional insult or interruption to a public servant sitting in a judicial proceeding. Following the IPC's repeal, Section 8 of the General Clauses Act, 1897 requires, unless a different intention appears, references to repealed and re-enacted provisions to be construed as references to corresponding provisions. Sections 229 and 267 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 now address those respective matters.

Section 15(4) permits the Council, when it considers this necessary for carrying out its objects or performing its functions, to make such observations as it thinks fit in any decision or report respecting the conduct of any authority, including the Government. This differs from Section 14, which, after hearing and inquiry, permits the Council, for written reasons, to warn, admonish or censure a newspaper, news agency, editor or journalist, or disapprove the conduct of the editor or journalist. Section 15 provides general procedural powers; it does not itself confer the power of censure.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from https://blog.ipleaders.in/press-council-of-india/]

66. Section 15 identifies receiving evidence on affidavits as one of the Council's specified civil-court powers. An affidavit involves a written declaration sworn or affirmed before an authorised officer. Who among the following is covered by this power?
(a) Noren submits a verified written account during inquiry but expressly declines to swear or affirm its contents.
(b) Zorami submits a written declaration sworn before an authorised officer as evidence during the pending Council inquiry.
(c) Tvesa gives oral testimony on oath during inquiry, later signing the written transcript prepared by the Council.
(d) All of the above constitute receipt of evidence on affidavits under Section 15 during a statutory inquiry.

67. During a pending inquiry, the Press Council issues the following document-related directions. Which of the following is not covered by the Council's powers under Section 15?
(a) Koyel, managing editor, produces an existing corrections register for discovery and inspection during the Council's pending statutory inquiry.
(b) Nawang, court records officer, furnishes a copy of a public case record requisitioned during the Council's statutory inquiry.
(c) Azeem, newsroom administrator, prepares a retrospective compliance register for inspection although no such document existed in the office.
(d) All three directions fall within the Council's powers concerning discovery, inspection or requisition of records during inquiry proceedings.

68. During a statutory inquiry, the Press Council states that verifying the accuracy of disputed reporting requires access to confidential-source information. Which option identifies the complete set of directions barred by Section 15?
(a) Compelling Meren, an editor, to identify the confidential official whose information formed the basis of her published report.
(b) Compelling Gulrez, a journalist, to identify the confidential sender of information received but omitted from the agency's report.
(c) Requiring Pritha, a journalist, to submit the report after redacting names and contextual details revealing its confidential source.
(d) Both Meren's and Gulrez's compelled disclosures fall within the source protection recognised by Section 15 during Council inquiries.

69. Section 15(3) treats every inquiry held by the Press Council as a judicial proceeding within the meaning of Sections 193 and 228 of the IPC. Following the IPC's repeal, Section 8 of the General Clauses Act governs references to corresponding re-enacted provisions. Which option most completely states the resulting legal position?
(a) False evidence given during a Council inquiry may attract consequences applicable to false evidence given in judicial proceedings.
(b) Intentional insult or interruption during a Council inquiry may attract consequences applicable to such conduct in judicial proceedings.
(c) Sections 193 and 228 references are construed respectively as BNS Sections 229 and 267 unless different intention appears.
(d) All three propositions accurately state the legal position resulting from the statutory deeming rule and the IPC's repeal.

70. Samten heads a State Publicity Directorate that reallocates government advertisements after a newspaper publishes reports criticising the administration. During an inquiry, the Press Council finds the Directorate's conduct relevant to press freedom but neither determines an independent statutory violation nor initiates censure proceedings. Section 15(4) permits observations respecting the conduct of any authority, including the Government. Therefore:

(a) Council may address Directorate conduct in its report, provided it finds the advertising decision independently breached an enforceable duty.
(b) Council may address Directorate conduct in its report when it considers the observations necessary for performing its statutory functions.
(c) Council may address Directorate conduct in its report, provided it completes Section 14 procedure applied when censuring press respondents.
(d) None of the above accurately describes the Council's statutory power to address Directorate conduct in a decision or report.

71. During an inquiry into Tavish's complaint, the Press Council summons Ishrat, examines her on oath and requisitions a public record. Tavish then seeks compensation through a civil decree, arguing that exercising powers vested in a civil court gives the Council corresponding remedial authority. Which of the following is the most appropriate reason for rejecting Tavish's claim?
(a) Because equivalence is confined to listed procedural matters and does not confer ordinary civil jurisdiction, remedies or court status.
(b) Because nationwide operation confines those powers to disputes involving nationally circulated Indian newspapers or authorities functioning across multiple States.
(c) Because comparison with a court trying a suit permits civil remedies when the complaint resembles an ordinary civil dispute.
(d) All the above reasons correctly explain the Council's remedial authority after it exercises the specified civil-court powers during inquiry.

Passage: "Personal data" means data about an individual identifiable by or in relation to such data. Identifiable biometric records constitute personal data when processed digitally. Irreversibly anonymised information that can no longer identify an individual falls outside the Act's definition. Re-identifiable biometric templates remain personal data.

Section 4 permits processing only in accordance with the Act and for a lawful purpose, either with consent or for certain legitimate uses. A lawful purpose is one not expressly forbidden by law. Consent must be free, specific, informed, unconditional and unambiguous, involve clear affirmative action, and extend only to data necessary for the specified purpose. Consent for entry authentication does not automatically permit unrelated profiling. Under Section 5, a consent request must be accompanied or preceded by notice informing the Data Principal of the personal data and the purpose for which it is proposed to be processed. The notice must also state how withdrawal, grievance and complaint rights may be exercised.

A Data Fiduciary determines the purpose and means of processing, whereas a Data Processor processes personal data on its behalf. Under Section 8, the Data Fiduciary remains responsible for processing undertaken by the Data Processor and must take reasonable security safeguards to prevent a personal data breach. Unless retention is necessary for compliance with law, personal data must be erased when consent is withdrawn or when it is reasonable to assume that the specified purpose is no longer served, whichever is earlier. Section 12 grants correction, completion, updating and erasure rights over data processed on the basis of prior consent, including consent under Section 7(a). Erasure may be refused where retention is necessary for the specified purpose or compliance with law.

Section 17(1)(c) concerns personal data processed in the interest of prevention, detection, investigation or prosecution of an offence or contravention of Indian law. Chapter II, except Sections 8(1) and 8(5), Chapter III and Section 16 do not apply; responsibility and security safeguards remain. Section 17(2)(a) creates a wider exclusion only for an instrumentality of the State notified by the Central Government for enumerated interests, including security of the State and maintenance of public order.

Article 21, as interpreted in K.S. Puttaswamy v. Union of India, subjects State biometric surveillance to legality, a legitimate State aim and proportionality. A surveillance objective does not itself justify collecting every category of biometric data. Section 29 of the Aadhaar Act, 2016 prohibits sharing core biometric information and restricts its use to Aadhaar generation and authentication.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from https://ksandk.com/data-protection-and-data-privacy/regulation-of-biometric-data-under-the-dpdp-act/]

72. Ritika works at Navika Ports, which permits employees to use either a smart card or facial recognition for workplace entry. Its notice states that facial geometry will be converted into a template and that live-video frames used for liveness verification will be discarded after authentication. Ritika selects facial recognition and gives consent for the stated processing. The technology vendor subsequently recommends retaining Ritika's voiceprint to strengthen liveness verification and her iris template as a fallback identifier. No amended notice or further consent is obtained. Which of the following is most appropriate?
(a) The employer may retain facial and voice templates because stronger liveness verification remains sufficiently connected with the same notified workplace-entry purpose.
(b) The employer may retain the facial template and discard liveness frames because that processing corresponds with Ritika's specifically described authentication choice.
(c) The employer may retain facial and iris templates because either identifier verifies identity and therefore advances the same notified workplace-entry purpose.
(d) The employer may retain the iris template instead because Ritika selected biometric access and substitution involves a comparable degree of intrusion.

73. Farhan consented to the processing of his facial template and attendance timestamps for attendance administration and resolution of payroll discrepancies. The employer later combines his arrival patterns with performance ratings to generate a "promotion-readiness score." The scoring dataset excludes the facial template but remains linked to Farhan through his employee number. A human committee reviews the score and may depart from it. The employer does not seek further consent and relies upon the consent originally obtained for attendance processing. Which of the following is most appropriate?
(a) The employer may use the score because human review materially reduces the decisional effect of repurposing Farhan's identifiable attendance information.
(b) The employer may use the score because removing the facial template converts the linked timestamps into ordinary usable performance information.
(c) The employer may continue attendance processing but needs another lawful basis before using Farhan's linked timestamps for workplace promotion-readiness profiling.
(d) The employer may use the score because promotion assessment is sufficiently foreseeable within the employment relationship supporting the original collection.

74. Nawang's facial template was collected by a private stadium operator for entry authentication. Following a serious assault inside the stadium, police obtain lawful authority under criminal-procedure legislation to access relevant records. They request Nawang's template solely for comparison with CCTV footage. The operator transmits an encrypted copy, restricts employee access and preserves an audit trail. Which of the following correctly states the effect of the passage's investigative exemption?
(a) The exemption may cover the operator's disclosure and police comparison, while reasonable-security duties continue during transfer and investigative use.
(b) The exemption may cover police comparison, while operator disclosure remains outside it because the operator collected the template for authentication.
(c) The exemption may cover operator disclosure after a State-instrumentality notification, while police comparison proceeds under the existing lawful authority.

(d) The exemption may cover disclosure and comparison, while security responsibility shifts from the operator after encrypted transfer is completed.

75. If personal data means data about an individual who is identifiable by or in relation to such data, consider the following records:
Record I is an encrypted facial template for which the employer retains the decryption key.
Record II consists of irreversibly aggregated gait statistics from which individuals cannot be identified or re-identified.
Record III is a pseudonymised voice template for which the processor retains a mapping table enabling re-identification.
Which of the following correctly classifies the three records?
(a) Record I falls outside regulation, Record II remains personal data, and Record III remains personal data.
(b) Record I remains personal data, Record II remains personal data, and Record III falls outside regulation.
(c) Record I remains personal data, Record II falls outside regulation, and Record III falls outside regulation.
(d) Record I remains personal data, Record II falls outside regulation, and Record III remains personal data.

76. Police employ biometric surveillance under the same valid statutory authority in two situations.
In the first, three anonymous messages warn of violence during a month-long cultural festival but identify neither a suspect nor a planned act. Police scan the face, iris and gait of every visitor, including Zunaira, link the results with travel records and retain non-matching records for two years. The technology provider claims that combining identifiers reduces false matches.
In the second, CCTV footage and eyewitness accounts identify Tashi as a suspect in an armed robbery. Police compare facial images captured at three bus terminals with a defined watchlist for forty-eight hours. Non-matching records are deleted within twenty-four hours, and trained officers verify each alert. In which situation can the processing be sustained under the passage?
(a) Processing involving Zunaira, because statutory authority, a specified festival threat and accuracy gains make the wider collection proportionate to preventive policing.
(b) Processing involving Tashi, because statutory authority, a defined suspect and prompt deletion make the restricted comparison proportionate to investigative policing needs.
(c) Processing in both situations, because statutory authority, identified security concerns and operational safeguards make each measure proportionate to its stated purpose.
(d) Processing in neither situation, because proportionality depends on prior judicial assessment rather than safeguards adopted during the relevant biometric operation itself.

77. Koyel worked at a pharmaceutical warehouse that used facial templates for entry authentication. Its notice stated that templates and access logs would be used for authentication and investigation of access incidents and retained for ninety days after employment ended. A week before Koyel resigned, medicines disappeared from a restricted room. After her resignation, she requested erasure of her template. A Magistrate subsequently issued a lawful direction requiring preservation of the relevant access logs and corresponding templates for eighteen months. The company isolated the records from its authentication system. Its technology processor then sought permission to copy Koyel's template for training a commercial fraud-detection model unrelated to the theft. No further lawful basis or retention requirement existed beyond the Magistrate's direction. Which of the following is correct?
(a) The company may retain the preserved records but decline model training, then erase them when the preservation direction later expires.
(b) The company should erase the preserved records after ninety days, since the notified period still governs despite the preservation direction.
(c) The company should preserve access logs but erase the template, since Koyel's erasure request receives priority regarding stored biometric identifiers.

(d) The company may retain the preserved records and permit model training, since preservation extends the notified security purpose during investigation.

Passage: A Joint Hindu family is broader than a coparcenary and may exist without property. A Mitakshara coparcenary is the narrower body within it, comprising persons who acquire an interest in coparcenary property. Every coparcener is a family member, but every member is not a coparcener.

Section 6 of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, substituted with effect from 9 September 2005 by the Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act, 2005, makes a coparcener's daughter a coparcener by birth in her own right in the same manner as a son. She bears the same rights and liabilities in coparcenary property, and marriage does not alter that status. In Vineeta Sharma v. Rakesh Sharma, the Supreme Court held that daughters born before or after the Amendment may claim from that date, whether or not their father was then alive.

Coparcenary property does not include every asset held by a member. It includes ancestral property retaining its coparcenary character, acquisitions supported by a sufficient joint-family nucleus, and a coparcener's separate property deliberately thrown into the common stock with a clear intention to abandon exclusive ownership. The existence of a joint family does not presume that property standing in a member's name is joint. The claimant must first prove a sufficient nucleus capable of supporting the acquisition; the burden then shifts to the person asserting self-acquisition.

Separate property is the wider category and includes self-acquired property and property taken individually by gift, will, or succession under Section 8. Self-acquired property is obtained through independent resources without aid from coparcenary assets, and children acquire no interest in it merely by birth. Property devolving under Section 8 is held individually and does not become coparcenary property merely because the heir has children.

Partition may signify severance of joint status or division and allotment. A definite and unequivocal intention communicated to affected coparceners may sever status but does not itself complete division by metes and bounds. For Section 6(5), a pre-20 December 2004 partition ordinarily requires a partition deed duly registered under the Registration Act, 1908, or a court decree. Vineeta Sharma permits oral partition exceptionally when supported by public documents and finally evinced as if effected by a court decree; oral evidence alone is insufficient. A saved partition protects completed transactions from substituted Section 6 but does not extinguish independent succession rights already accrued under Section 8.

A notional partition is a statutory fiction assumed immediately before a coparcener's death to determine the share that would have fallen to the deceased. It neither physically divides the property nor disrupts the coparcenary. Under Section 6(3), the interest devolves by testamentary or intestate succession, not by survivorship; in calculating it, a daughter receives the same share as a son.

[Extracted with edits and revisions from https://blog.ipleaders.in/coparcenary-property-post-amendment/]

78. Ujaan, his brother Ritam and Ujaan's daughter Tvesa were coparceners in an undivided Mitakshara family. The family admittedly owned agricultural land that had retained its character as undivided coparcenary property. After the previous Karta's death, the mutation entry was changed solely to Ujaan's name. Ritam subsequently established a cold-storage business under a licence issued in his name. Audited accounts showed that its entire initial capital came from accumulated income of the agricultural land, while its profits financed later expansion. Tvesa purchased an apartment using her salary and a housing loan serviced through her personal account. Although family members occupied it and the common account funded minor repairs, Tvesa individually paid its taxes and insurance, and no family account treated it as a common asset. When Tvesa sought partition, which classification was most legally sustainable?

(a) The land and business are partitionable; the apartment remains Tvesa's despite family occupation and minor repairs.
(b) The land and business are partitionable; the apartment joins family property because common repairs evidence blending.
(c) The land and apartment are partitionable; the business remains Ritam's because sole registration fixes its character.
(d) The land alone is partitionable; neither later asset joins family property without an express blending declaration.

79. In the above factual scenario, consider a warehouse that Ujaan's father had purchased entirely from his independent earnings. After his father died intestate, the estate was distributed among the heirs, and the warehouse was allotted to Ujaan as his individual share under Section 8. When Tvesa seeks partition of the Mitakshara coparcenary, what is the correct position regarding the warehouse?
(a) It enters partition because its descent through Ujaan's father preserves an ancestral character against the statutory distribution.
(b) It remains separate because property allotted through Section 8 gives Tvesa no interest therein merely by birth.
(c) It enters partition between Ujaan and Tvesa because their shared coparcenary branch governs property received from ancestors.
(d) It remains separate while Ujaan lives but becomes coparcenary property between his heirs immediately upon his death.

80. Based on your reading of the passage, how did substituted Section 6 of the Hindu Succession Act affect the rights of daughters in a Mitakshara coparcenary? Select one option from below:
(a) It conferred coparcenary status by birth on earlier-born daughters from 9 September 2005, provided their fathers remained alive when the Amendment commenced.
(b) It conferred coparcenary status by birth on daughters born after 9 September 2005, while granting earlier-born daughters equal shares only upon partition.
(c) It recognised daughters born before and after the Amendment as coparceners, with rights from 9 September 2005 irrespective of their father's survival.
(d) It recognised earlier-born daughters as coparceners from 9 September 2005 only where their fathers' succession had not opened before the Amendment commenced.

81. Devika, her brother Yashil and their father Omesh were coparceners in an undivided Mitakshara family possessing admitted coparcenary land. Following a disagreement in 2026 concerning the family accounts, Devika sent separate signed notices to Yashil and Omesh stating that she intended to separate from the coparcenary immediately and claim her lawful share. Both acknowledged receiving the notices. No partition deed was executed, no court proceeding was instituted, and no survey or physical allotment followed. The family also continued cultivating the land jointly. Devika seeks advice regarding the legal effect of her notices. Select the correct position.
(a) The notices completed Devika's actual partition upon communication, although identification and allotment of her specific parcel remained to be performed.
(b) The notices expressed Devika's intention to separate, but severance of status awaited either a registered partition deed or court decree.
(c) The notices preserved Devika's joint status because continued common cultivation postponed severance until division and allotment had been physically completed.
(d) The notices severed Devika's joint status upon communication, while physical division and allotment of family property remained incomplete between coparceners.

82. Abhiroop and Tanmoy belonged to different branches of the same Mitakshara coparcenary. In 2026, Abhiroop sought partition of land still described in an old record as ancestral property. Tanmoy claimed that the branches had orally partitioned the land in July 2002, although no registered partition deed or court decree existed. He

produced contemporaneous mutation orders passed after notice to both branches, government maps recording separate parcels, individual tax assessments and later sale deeds executed independently by each branch. Two elderly relatives also furnished affidavits supporting the alleged arrangement. Abhiroop believes that the absence of a registered deed conclusively defeats Tanmoy's claim and approaches a lawyer. Which is the most legally sound advice?

(a) The alleged oral partition may exceptionally be recognised if public documents finally evidence it with decree-like conclusiveness; testimony alone would remain insufficient.

(b) The alleged oral partition remains ineffective because only a registered partition deed or judicial decree can establish partition claimed before December 2004.

(c) The alleged oral partition may be recognised from consistent separate possession and sworn family testimony, even if supporting public records are inconclusive.

(d) The alleged oral partition may be treated as sufficiently proved because mutation orders and separate tax records carry the effect of registration.

83. In the above scenario, Sucharita, Tanmoy's wife and an acknowledged member of the joint Hindu family, managed the agricultural accounts and supervised cultivation for several years. She now argues that her family membership and sustained management of coparcenary assets make her a coparcener with an independent right to demand partition. Based on the passage, what is the correct legal position?

(a) Yes; her sustained management of coparcenary assets gives her a present proprietary interest comparable to that of existing coparceners.

(b) No; her joint-family membership and managerial role do not make her a coparcener entitled to demand its partition independently.

(c) No; a spouse remains outside the joint Hindu family unless the coparceners formally admit her into the common property.

(d) Yes; marriage into the undivided family makes her a coparcener, although her entitlement remains confined to Tanmoy's family branch.

84. Nirjhar and his brother Prachet remained coparceners in an undivided Mitakshara family possessing coparcenary farmland. Nirjhar died intestate in 2024, leaving his widow Oindri, son Ronav and daughter Udita. Neither brother had previously demanded partition, and no physical division had occurred. Prachet continued cultivating the entire land and argued that Nirjhar's interest passed to him by survivorship because the family remained undivided. Udita instituted proceedings to claim through Nirjhar. How should the court determine the property forming part of Nirjhar's intestate estate?

(a) It should divide the property physically as on the suit date, then treat Nirjhar's allotted portion as retrospectively vested in his heirs.

(b) It should calculate Nirjhar's interest immediately before death but transfer that interest to Prachet by survivorship because family possession remained undivided thereafter.

(c) It should assume a partition immediately before Nirjhar's death, quantify his resulting share, and devolve that share among heirs through intestate succession.

(d) It should treat Nirjhar's death as dissolving the entire coparcenary, bringing all joint property directly into his intestate estate for distribution thereafter.

Section D: Logical Reasoning

Passage: At some point in the past two million years, give or take half a million, the genus of great apes that would become modern humans crossed a unique threshold. Across unknowable reaches of time, they developed a communication system able to describe not only the world, but the inner lives of its speakers. They ascended — or fell, depending on your preferred metaphor — into language. The vast bulk of that story is silence. Indeed, darkness and silence are the defining norms of human history. The earliest known writing probably emerged in southern Mesopotamia around 5,000 years ago but, for most of recorded history, reading and writing remained among the most elite human activities: the province of monarchs, priests and nobles who reserved for themselves the privilege of lasting words. Mass literacy is a phenomenon of the past few centuries, and one that has reached the majority of the world's adult population only within the past 75 years. In 1950, UNESCO estimated that 44 per cent of the people in the world aged 15 and over were illiterate; by 2012, that proportion had reduced to just 16 per cent, despite the trebling of the global population between those dates. However, while the full effects of this revolution continue to unfold, we find ourselves in the throes of another whose statistics are still more accelerated.

Extracted with edits and revisions from:
https://aeon.co/essays/when-words-are-not-enough-gestures-or-images-can-say-more

85. What is the central theme of the passage?
(a) Origins of written language
(b) Widening access to recorded expression
(c) Persistence of elite literacy
(d) Acceleration of communication systems

86. According to the passage, what do "darkness and silence" symbolise?
(a) Unrecorded human expression
(b) Deliberately restricted speech
(c) Pre-linguistic human thought
(d) Elite written communication

87. How does the passage describe the historical relationship between writing and social power?
(a) Writing improved communication among governing institutions.
(b) Writing acquired authority through religious and administrative use.
(c) Writing gave elite voices greater permanence in the historical record.
(d) Writing initially widened participation among socially excluded communities.

88. "By 2012, that proportion had reduced to just 16 per cent, despite the trebling of the global population." Which of the following conclusions can be drawn from the above statement?
(a) Population growth created conditions favourable to wider literacy.
(b) Illiteracy declined in both percentage and absolute population.
(c) Literacy expanded at roughly the same rate as population growth.
(d) Literacy expanded substantially despite population growth.

89. Which of the following strengthens the author's description of mass literacy as a recent revolution?
(a) Ancient states produced written records through specialised administrative classes.
(b) Public education reached broad sections of society mainly in modern times.
(c) Oral traditions preserved cultural knowledge across successive generations.
(d) Modern literacy measures include skills absent from earlier definitions.

90. In the context of the passage, what is the significance of "another whose statistics are still more accelerated"?
(a) A subsequent communication transformation is advancing at a faster pace.
(b) Mass literacy is approaching the completion of its social consequences.
(c) Population expansion is beginning to outpace improvements in literacy.
(d) Written expression is becoming concentrated among specialised groups again.

Passage: Generative AI (GenAI) is a specialised subset of AI that creates new, original content, including text, images, music, and code, by learning patterns from vast amounts of data. However, the development of AI has been taking place at an unprecedented pace, while the law has struggled to keep up. Countries around the world are attempting to strike a balance between encouraging innovation in artificial intelligence and regulating it adequately to prevent harm. This balance has proven difficult, particularly with generative AI, where the risks are not always immediately visible.

The legal issues surrounding generative AI arise both from the way these models are developed and from the outputs they generate. On the development side, questions emerge around the data used to train these systems, often involving copyrighted works, personal data, or scraped online content. On the output side, generative AI has raised concerns ranging from copyright infringement and authorship disputes to the creation of deepfakes, misinformation, and other forms of harmful or misleading content.

India currently does not have a dedicated law governing artificial intelligence. Yet, disputes linked to the use and impact of AI technologies have already begun reaching Indian courts. Some of these cases expose the gaps in existing legal frameworks and force courts to rely on laws that were never designed with AI in mind and stretch them to include AI. ANI Media Pvt Ltd Vs OpenAI Inc & Anr[1] is the most influential GenAI legal case in India. ANI filed a lawsuit against OpenAI for copyright infringement alleging that OpenAI has illegally trained ChatGPT on its news content without their permission or payment. The case is further boosted by the various interventions by the Federation of Indian Publishers, Digital News Publishers Association, and big music companies, including T-Series, Saregama, and Sony, and it has turned the litigation into a wider issue against unauthorised AI training in the creative industries. When it comes to AI model training and copyright, there is no settled legal position. One school of thought argues that copyright infringement occurs at the training stage itself, because AI models are trained by copying large amounts of copyrighted material without permission. Another view holds that training is merely a technical learning process and that copyright is implicated only at the output stage, when a generative AI system produces content that is substantially similar to a protected work and competes with it in the market.

Extracted with edits and revisions from:
https://sflc.in/generative-ai-in-india-litigation-over-legislation/

91. Which of the following is the author most likely to agree with?
(a) Regulation should address only harms that can already be clearly demonstrated.
(b) Existing copyright rules should govern AI until courts find them inadequate.
(c) Courts should remain the primary regulators while AI technology continues evolving.
(d) AI regulation should prevent harm without unnecessarily restricting technological innovation.

92. Which of the following, if true, would most strengthen the main argument of the passage?
(a) Countries with dedicated AI frameworks resolve copyright disputes consistently while continuing to attract substantial AI investment.
(b) Countries without dedicated AI frameworks resolve copyright disputes consistently by extending established intellectual-property principles.
(c) Courts applying traditional copyright principles have resolved earlier technological disputes without requiring specialised legislation.
(d) Creative industries receiving commercial exposure from AI systems report fewer objections to unauthorised training practices.

93. Based only on the author's statement that courts are being forced to "rely on laws that were never designed with AI in mind and stretch them to include AI", which of the following would the author be most likely to agree with?

(a) Courts should defer disputed AI questions until legislation provides clearer standards.
(b) Judicial adaptation of existing law may be necessary but cannot eliminate the underlying regulatory gap.
(c) Existing laws should apply only where their original purposes expressly include emerging technology.
(d) Judicial interpretation can address most regulatory gaps without substantial legislative assistance.

94. If the information in the passage above is correct, which of the following must necessarily be true?
(a) Legal concerns arise whenever copyrighted material appears in an AI training dataset.
(b) Output-stage liability depends upon proving unauthorised use during model training.
(c) Generative AI may create legal concerns during both model training and content generation.
(d) Existing legal principles address development-stage and output-stage risks through one framework.

95. Based on the author's arguments, which of the following would weaken, rather than strengthen, India's ability to address generative-AI disputes?
(a) Establishing statutory standards for lawful use of protected material in AI training.
(b) Defining when generated outputs substantially reproduce protected creative expression.
(c) Developing interim judicial principles while specialised legislation is being considered.
(d) Excluding training practices from scrutiny and examining only publicly generated outputs.

96. The author states that one view treats AI training as "merely a technical learning process". For this position to be valid, which of the following must its supporters most likely agree with?
(a) Training alone does not establish copyright infringement.
(b) Training copies require scrutiny only when retained beyond model development.
(c) Copyright owners should control any learning process influenced by protected works.
(d) Output originality depends mainly upon avoiding verbatim reproduction of protected material.

Passage: Imagine you have been appointed as a methodological adviser to an archaeological survey investigating an ancient riverine settlement. The project aims to reconstruct the sequence in which the site was occupied, but its recent findings have produced inconsistent dates and uncertain conclusions. Your task is to identify the causes of this declining chronological reliability and recommend suitable corrective measures.

As you begin your investigation, you gather information and observe the following:

• The survey recently introduced ground-penetrating radar calibrated mainly for dry, compact soil, although the site contains saline and seasonally waterlogged deposits.
• Several excavated trenches contain layers disturbed by medieval well-digging and later agricultural activity.
• Most fieldworkers are trained in artefact classification, but few have expertise in geoarchaeology, resulting in some disturbed deposits being recorded as intact layers.
• A neighbouring survey uses similar radar technology on dry upland terrain and employs sediment specialists, producing a consistent sequence of occupation.
• Radiocarbon dates from charcoal recovered in disturbed trenches conflict with the ceramic sequence, while dates from sealed hearths in undisturbed trenches correspond with it.

97. Based on the information provided, which of the following is a potential root cause of the survey's declining chronological reliability?
(a) Recovery of charcoal from trenches with differing depositional histories
(b) The incorrect classification of disturbed deposits as intact
(c) Identification of medieval disturbance within the ancient settlement
(d) Comparison of ceramic evidence with radiocarbon dates

98. What makes the introduction of ground-penetrating radar a potential contributing factor to the survey's difficulties?
(a) The radar was introduced before the chronological disagreements were resolved.
(b) Similar equipment produced consistent results at the neighbouring survey.
(c) Its calibration may not correspond with the site's soil conditions.
(d) Its findings were compared with ceramic and radiocarbon evidence.

99. What is a critical difference between the present survey and the neighbouring project?
(a) The neighbouring project uses radar mainly to confirm excavated archaeological features.
(b) The neighbouring project dates only materials recovered from sealed occupational contexts.
(c) The present project possesses a more detailed ceramic sequence than the neighbouring survey.
(d) The neighbouring project combines suitable terrain with specialist analysis.

100. How might recording disturbed deposits as intact affect the survey's chronological conclusions?
(a) It may combine materials from different periods into a false sequence.
(b) It may shift each radiocarbon result towards the date of medieval disturbance.
(c) It may cause secure ceramic groups to be classified as disturbed deposits.
(d) It may reduce the technical precision of laboratory radiocarbon measurement.

101. What could be the most appropriate solution to improve the reliability of the survey?
(a) Increase the number of radiocarbon samples collected from disturbed trenches.
(b) Use specialist review and prioritise sealed contexts for dating.
(c) Recalibrate the radar locally and use its readings as the principal chronology.
(d) Reconstruct the sequence from ceramics before reassessing depositional integrity.

102. Based on the information provided, what is a potential consequence of publishing the inconsistent chronology without further verification?
(a) It may discourage radar use even in environments where calibration is appropriate.
(b) It may cause reliable ceramic evidence to be treated as chronologically irrelevant.
(c) It may misrepresent the settlement's history and damage the project's credibility.
(d) It may encourage later disturbance to be treated as evidence against radiocarbon dating.

Passage: The government's recurring policy response is to deal with institutional failures as software problems. The assumption is that securing the platform, digitising the database and centralising management under technocrats will solve social problems. Therefore, let us bring in the master engineer to re-code the system. Similarly, the government has now constituted a "high-powered task force" headed by Infosys co-founder Nandan Nilekani to recommend examination reforms. It follows nearly two months of protests by students and youngsters against the leak of the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test for admission to undergraduate medical courses. This approach conflates logistical efficiency with social equity. It is a manifestation of a deep, chronic flaw in the ruling establishment's imagination that socio-political crises can be engineered away through top-down, technocratic management.

India's Aadhaar experiment supplies ample empirical evidence of why a purely technocratic approach to education and examinations is dangerous. In 2009, when Nilekani was brought in to build Aadhaar, the promise was similar: a frictionless, fraud-proof, digital architecture that would eliminate corruption and streamline the welfare state. Instead, it was a classic case of technocratic hubris. Aadhaar's real-world implementation subordinated human rights to digital server uptime while storing vast amounts of personal data in leaky systems. Welfare systems are vulnerable to two types of errors: inclusion errors (fake/duplicate beneficiaries) and exclusion errors (genuine beneficiaries being turned away). Technocratic solutions are obsessively engineered to catch the former while ignoring the catastrophic damage of the latter.

Research and reporting by civil society groups like Rethink Aadhaar have documented thousands of cases where elderly citizens, manual labourers with worn fingertips, or rural households in connectivity blindspots were denied basic rations and pensions because an Electronic Point of Sale machine failed to authenticate their identity. In the government's dashboard, these were recorded as "savings" or "elimination of ghost beneficiaries." In reality, these were often cases of forced starvation and state denial of legal rights. Technocratic solutions shift the burden of proof onto the vulnerable.

Extracted with edits and revisions from:
https://scroll.in/article/1094624/why-an-aadhaar-fix-for-indias-education-crisis-wont-work

103. As per the author, which one of the following is not likely to be resolved merely by redesigning the examination platform?
(a) Security weaknesses enabling manipulation of examination records
(b) Duplicate candidate entries across fragmented administrative systems
(c) Inequalities affecting access and participation
(d) Processing delays caused by poorly coordinated data systems

104. Which of the following is not true regarding technocratic examination reform, according to the author?
(a) It may improve administrative efficiency without ensuring equitable outcomes.
(b) It provides vulnerable candidates with fair access through reliable verification.
(c) It recasts institutional failures as problems of technical design.
(d) It overlooks social dimensions underlying examination-related crises.

105. Which of the following most strengthens the author's argument regarding exclusion errors?
(a) Independent audits found many rejected claimants were eligible and reinstated after human review.
(b) Automated audits found duplicate claimants were removed without increasing successful appeal rates.
(c) Manual audits found local officers admitted more ineligible claimants when staffing levels were low.
(d) Biometric audits found routine claims were processed faster where connectivity and enrolment records were stable.

106. Which of the following is correct regarding the official description of Aadhaar-related "savings"?
(a) Verified removal of duplicate beneficiaries.
(b) Reduced expenditure following independent confirmation of each rejected claim.
(c) Limited improvement in administrative efficiency.
(d) Lower disbursement figures that may include genuine beneficiaries denied after failed authentication.

107. Which of the following statements reflects the burden imposed upon vulnerable citizens by technocratic systems?
(a) They must seek alternative verification only after repeated authentication failure.
(b) They continue receiving benefits while officials examine disputed digital records.
(c) They must establish their legitimacy when the technological process rejects them.
(d) They may require administrative assistance to identify the source of an error.

108. Which one of the following is not a challenge to equitable technology-based governance?
(a) Presuming failed authentication proves ineligibility
(b) Providing manual review after digital verification fails
(c) Measuring institutional success mainly through reductions in benefit disbursement
(d) Making access depend on unreliable connectivity and biometric matching

Section E: Quantitative Techniques

[Directions for Q.109-Q114]:

An organic-food manufacturing business was started on 1 January 2025 by Arjun, Bilal and Chitra. Deepak joined the partnership later during the year.

Arjun invested ₹6,00,000 throughout the year. Bilal initially invested ₹4,00,000 and increased his capital to ₹8,00,000 on 1 July 2025. Chitra invested ₹5,00,000 throughout the year. Deepak joined on 1 October 2025 with a capital contribution of ₹10,00,000.

The business earned a profit of ₹26,00,000 for the year ending 31 December 2025. The following adjustments were made before distributing the remaining profit:

1. 5% of the annual profit was transferred to a general reserve.
2. Interest on capital was allowed at 10% per annum, calculated according to the actual period for which each amount remained invested.
3. Arjun received a management salary of ₹25,000 per month.
4. Chitra received a performance bonus of ₹25,000.
5. The remaining profit was distributed in the ratio of the partners' time-weighted investments.

Deepak was guaranteed a minimum total profit receipt of ₹3,35,000, including interest on capital and his share of the remaining profit. Any deficiency was to be borne by Bilal and Chitra in the ratio of 1 : 2 from their respective shares of the remaining profit.

109. What is the ratio of the time-weighted investments of Arjun, Bilal, Chitra and Deepak?
(a) 12 : 12 : 10 : 5
(b) 12 : 10 : 10 : 6
(c) 10 : 12 : 10 : 5
(d) 12 : 12 : 8 : 5

110. What is the total interest on capital allowed to all four partners?
(a) ₹1,85,000
(b) ₹1,95,000
(c) ₹2,05,000
(d) ₹1,90,000

111. How much profit remains for distribution in the time-weighted investment ratio after making all the specified appropriations?
(a) ₹19,25,000
(b) ₹19,75,000
(c) ₹19,50,000
(d) ₹20,00,000

112. What is the deficiency in Deepak's total profit receipt before applying the guarantee?
(a) ₹50,000
(b) ₹65,000
(c) ₹55,000
(d) ₹60,000

113. What is Chitra's final total profit receipt after bearing her share of Deepak's deficiency?
(a) ₹5,25,000
(b) ₹5,35,000
(c) ₹5,45,000
(d) ₹5,15,000

114. Approximately what percentage of the total profit distributed among the partners, excluding the general reserve, is finally received by Arjun?
(a) 37.65%
(b) 39.52%
(c) 38.87%
(d) 40.16%

[Directions for Q.115-Q120]:

Eshan, Farah and Gaurav commenced a construction consultancy business on 1 January 2025. Hina joined the business on 1 July 2025.

Eshan invested ₹6,00,000 throughout the year. Farah initially invested ₹4,00,000 and increased her capital to ₹8,00,000 on 1 July 2025. Gaurav invested ₹3,00,000 for the first four months and increased his capital to ₹6,00,000 on 1 May 2025. Hina invested ₹6,00,000 upon joining and retained it until the end of the year.

In addition to her capital contribution, Farah advanced a loan of ₹2,00,000 to the firm on 1 April 2025. The loan carried interest at 12% per annum and was not considered while calculating the capital-based profit-sharing ratio.

The firm earned ₹30,18,000 before charging interest on Farah's loan. After deducting the loan interest, the following appropriations were made:

1. 10% of the profit after loan interest was transferred to a general reserve.
2. Eshan received a salary of ₹30,000 per month.
3. Hina received a commission equal to 10% of the amount remaining after deducting the loan interest and reserve, but before deducting Eshan's salary and Hina's commission.
4. The remaining profit was shared according to the partners' time-weighted investments.

Hina was guaranteed a minimum total profit receipt of ₹6,40,000, including her commission and share of the remaining profit. Any deficiency was to be borne by Eshan and Gaurav in the ratio of 3 : 2 from their respective profit shares.

115. What is the ratio of the time-weighted investments of Eshan, Farah, Gaurav and Hina?
(a) 6 : 5 : 5 : 3 (b) 6 : 6 : 5 : 3
(c) 6 : 6 : 4 : 3 (d) 5 : 6 : 5 : 4

116. How much interest is payable to Farah on the loan advanced by her?
(a) ₹16,000 (b) ₹20,000
(c) ₹18,000 (d) ₹24,000

117. What is the amount of commission payable to Hina?
(a) ₹2,70,000 (b) ₹2,43,000
(c) ₹2,55,000 (d) ₹3,00,000

118. How much profit remains for distribution in the time-weighted investment ratio?
(a) ₹20,40,000 (b) ₹21,00,000
(c) ₹20,25,000 (d) ₹20,70,000

119. What is Eshan's final total profit receipt after bearing his portion of Hina's deficiency?
(a) ₹9,57,200 (b) ₹9,45,300
(c) ₹9,39,500 (d) ₹9,51,000

120. Approximately by what percentage does Hina's guaranteed receipt exceed her normal total profit receipt?
(a) 9.75% (b) 10.85%
(c) 10.25% (d) 11.50%

Rough Work

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