

STUDENT NAME :

CONTACT NO. :

BATCH :

DATE OF EXAM :

CENTRE NAME :

MAX. MARKS : 120 , DURATION- 120 MINUTES

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. No clarification on the question paper can be sought. Answer the questions as they are.
2. There are 120 questions provided. Candidates must attempt 120 of these questions.
3. Each question carries *One* marks. *Total Marks are 120.*
4. There is a *negative* marking of *0.25mark* for every incorrect answer.
5. Candidates have to indicate the correct answer by darkening one of the four responses provided. with a **BALL PEN (BLUE OR BLACK)** in the **OMR Sheet**.
6. Answering the questions by any method other than the method indicated above shall be considered incorrect and no marks will be awarded for the same.
7. More than one response to a question shall be counted as wrong.
8. The candidate shall not write anything on the OMR Answer Sheet other than the details required and in the spaces provided for.
9. After the Test is over, the candidate has to return the OMR Answer Sheet to the invigilator. The candidate should take the Test Paper along with them.
10. The use of any unfair means by any candidate shall result in the cancellation of his/her candidature.
11. Impersonation is an offence and the candidate, apart from disqualification, may have to face criminal prosecution.
12. Electronic gadgets like mobile phones, pagers or calculators are strictly not permitted inside the Test Centre/Hall.
13. The candidates shall not leave the hall before the Test is over.

English Language

Passage - I

Virtually everything astronomers known about objects outside the solar system is based on the detection of photons—quanta of electromagnetic radiation. Yet there is another form of radiation that permeates the universe: neutrinos. With (as its name implies) no electric charge, and negligible mass, the neutrino interacts with other particles so rarely that a neutrino can cross the entire universe, even traversing substantial aggregations of matter, without being absorbed or even deflected. Neutrinos can thus escape from regions of space where light and other kinds of electromagnetic radiation are blocked by matter. Furthermore, neutrinos carry with them information about the site and circumstances of their production: therefore, the detection of cosmic neutrinos could provide new information about a wide variety of cosmic phenomena and about the history of the universe.

But how can scientists detect a particle that interacts so infrequently with other matter? Twenty-five years passed between Pauli's hypothesis that the neutrino existed and its actual detection: since then virtually all research with neutrinos has been with neutrinos created artificially in large particle accelerators and studied under neutrino microscopes. But a neutrino telescope, capable of detecting cosmic neutrinos, is difficult to construct. No **apparatus** can detect neutrinos unless it is extremely massive, because great mass is synonymous with huge numbers of nucleons (neutrons and protons), and the more massive the detector, the greater the probability of one of its nucleon's reacting with a neutrino. In addition, the apparatus must be sufficiently shielded from the interfering effects of other particles.

Fortunately, a group of astrophysicists has proposed a means of detecting cosmic neutrinos by harnessing the mass of the ocean. Named DUMAND, for Deep Underwater Muon and Neutrino Detector, the project calls for placing an array of light sensors at a depth of five kilometers under the ocean surface. The detecting medium is the seawater itself: when a neutrino interacts with a particle in an atom of seawater, the result is a cascade of electrically charged particles and a flash of light that can be detected by the sensors. The five kilometers of seawater above the sensors will shield them from the interfering effects of other high-energy particles raining down through the atmosphere.

The strongest motivation for the DUMAND project is that it will exploit an important source of information about the universe. The extension of astronomy from visible light to radio waves to x-rays and gamma rays never failed to lead to the discovery of unusual objects such as radio galaxies, quasars, and pulsars. Each of these discoveries came as a surprise. Neutrino astronomy will doubtless bring its own share of surprises.

1. Which of the following titles best summarizes the passage as a whole?

- (A) At the Threshold of Neutrino Astronomy
- (B) Neutrinos and the History of the Universe
- (C) The Creation and Study of Neutrinos
- (D) The DUMAND System and How It Works

2. With which of the following statements regarding neutrino astronomy would the author be most likely to agree?

- (A) Neutrino astronomy will supersede all present forms of astronomy.
- (B) Neutrino astronomy will be abandoned if the DUMAND project fails.
- (C) Neutrino astronomy can be expected to lead to major breakthroughs in astronomy.
- (D) Neutrino astronomy will disclose phenomena that will be more surprising than past discoveries.

3. In the last paragraph, the author describes the development of astronomy in order to

- (A) suggest that the potential findings of neutrino astronomy can be seen as part of a series of astronomical successes
- (B) illustrate the role of surprise in scientific discovery
- (C) demonstrate the effectiveness of the DUMAND apparatus in detecting neutrinos
- (D) name some cosmic phenomena that neutrino astronomy will illuminate

4. According to the passage, one advantage that neutrinos have for studies in astronomy is that they

- (A) have been detected for the last twenty-five years
- (B) possess a variable electric charge
- (C) are usually extremely massive
- (D) carry information about their history with them

5. According to the passage, the primary use of the apparatus mentioned in the passage would be to

- (A) increase the mass of a neutrino
- (B) detect the presence of cosmic neutrinos
- (C) study the internal structure of a neutrino
- (D) see neutrinos in distant regions of space

Passage - II

Federal efforts to aid minority businesses began in the 1960's when the Small Business Administration (SBA) began making federally guaranteed loans and government-sponsored management and technical assistance available to minority business enterprises. While this program enabled many minority entrepreneurs to form new businesses, the results were disappointing, since managerial inexperience, unfavorable locations, and capital shortages led to high failure rates. Even years after the program was implemented, minority business receipts were not quite two percent of the national economy's total receipts.

Recently federal policymakers have adopted an approach intended to accelerate development of the minority business sector by moving away from directly aiding small minority enterprises and toward supporting larger, growth-oriented minority firms through intermediary companies. In this approach, large corporations participate in the development of successful and stable minority businesses by making use of government-sponsored venture capital. The capital is used by a participating company to establish a Minority Enterprise Small Business Investment Company or MESBIC. The MESBIC then provides capital and guidance to minority businesses that have potential to become future suppliers or customers of the sponsoring company.

MESBIC's are the result of the belief that providing established firms with easier access to relevant management techniques and more job-specific experience, as well as substantial amounts of capital, gives those firms a greater opportunity to develop sound business foundations than does simply making general management experience and small amounts of capital available. Further, since potential markets for the minority businesses already exist through the sponsoring companies, the minority businesses face considerably less risk in terms of location and market fluctuation. Following early financial and operating problems, sponsoring corporations began to capitalize MESBIC's far above the legal minimum of \$500,000 in order to generate sufficient income and to sustain the quality of management needed. MESBIC's are now emerging as increasingly important financing sources for minority enterprises.

Ironically, MESBIC staffs, which usually consist of Hispanic and Black professionals, tend to approach investments in minority firms more pragmatically than do many MESBIC directors, who are usually senior managers from sponsoring corporations. The latter often still think mainly in terms of the "social responsibility approach" and thus seem to prefer deals that are riskier and less attractive than normal investment criteria would warrant. Such differences in viewpoint have produced uneasiness among many minority staff members, who feel that minority entrepreneurs and businesses should be judged by established business considerations. These staff members believe their point of view is closer to the original philosophy of MESBIC's and they are concerned that, unless a more prudent course is followed, MESBIC directors may revert to policies likely to re-create the disappointing results of the original SBA approach.

6. Which of the following best states the central idea of the passage?

- (A) The use of MESBIC's for aiding minority entrepreneurs seems to have greater potential for success than does the original SBA approach.
- (B) There is a crucial difference in point of view between the staff and directors of some MESBIC's.
- (C) After initial problems with management and marketing, minority businesses have begun to expand at a steady rate.
- (D) Minority entrepreneurs wishing to form new businesses now have several equally successful federal programs on which to rely.
- (E) For the first time since 1960, large corporations are making significant contributions to the development of minority businesses.

7. According to the passage, the MESBIC approach differs from the SBA approach in that MESBIC's

- (A) seek federal contracts to provide markets for minority businesses
- (B) encourage minority businesses to provide markets for other minority businesses

- (C) attempt to maintain a specified rate of growth in the minority business sector
- (D) rely on the participation of large corporations to finance minority businesses

8. Which of the following does the author cite to support the conclusion that the results of the SBA program were disappointing?

- (A) The small number of new minority enterprises formed as a result of the program
- (B) The small number of minority enterprises that took advantage of the management and technical assistance offered under the program
- (C) The small percentage of the nation's business receipts earned by minority enterprises following the programs, implementation
- (D) The small percentage of recipient minority enterprises that were able to repay federally guaranteed loans made under the program

9. Which of the following statements about the SBA program can be inferred from the passage?

- (A) The maximum term for loans made to recipient businesses was 15 years.
- (B) Business loans were considered to be more useful to recipient businesses than was management and technical assistance.
- (C) The anticipated failure rate for recipient businesses was significantly lower than the rate that actually resulted.
- (D) Recipient businesses were encouraged to relocate to areas more favorable for business development.

10. Based on information in the passage, which of the following would be indicative of the pragmatism of MESBIC staff members?

- I. A reluctance to invest in minority businesses that show marginal expectations of return on the investments
 - II. A desire to invest in minority businesses that produce goods and services likely to be of use to the sponsoring company
 - III. A belief that the minority business sector is best served by investing primarily in newly established businesses
- (A) I only (B) III only (C) I and II only (D) II and III only

Passage - III

Climatic conditions are delicately adjusted to the composition of the Earth's atmosphere. If there were a change in the atmosphere—for example, in the relative proportions of atmospheric gases—the climate would probably change also. A slight increase in water vapor, for instance, would increase the heat-retaining capacity of the atmosphere and would lead to a rise in global temperatures. In contrast, a large increase in water vapor would increase the thickness and extent of the cloud layer, reducing the amount of solar energy reaching the Earth's surface.

The level of carbon dioxide, CO₂, in the atmosphere has an important effect on climatic change. Most of the Earth's incoming energy is short-wavelength radiation, which tends to pass through atmospheric CO₂ easily. The Earth, however, reradiates much of the received energy as long-wavelength radiation, which CO₂ absorbs and then remits toward the Earth. This phenomenon, known as the greenhouse effect, can result in an increase in the surface temperature of a planet. An extreme example of the effect is shown by Venus, a planet covered by heavy clouds composed mostly of CO₂, whose surface temperatures have been measured at 430°C. If the CO₂ content of the atmosphere is reduced, the temperature falls. According to one respectable theory, if the atmospheric CO₂ concentration were halved, the Earth would become completely covered with ice. Another equally respectable theory, however, states that a halving of the CO₂ concentration would lead only to a reduction in global temperatures of 3°C.

If, because of an increase in forest fires or volcanic activity, the CO₂ content of the atmosphere increased, a warmer climate would be produced. Plant growth, which relies on both the warmth and the availability of CO₂ would probably increase. As a consequence, plants would use more and more CO₂. Eventually CO₂ levels would diminish and the climate, in turn, would become cooler. With reduced temperatures many plants would die; CO₂ would thereby be returned to the atmosphere and gradually the temperature would rise again. Thus, if this process occurred, there might be a long-term oscillation in the amount of CO₂ present in the atmosphere, with regular temperature increases and decreases of a set magnitude.

Some climatologists argue that the burning of fossil fuels has raised the level of CO₂ in the atmosphere and has caused a global temperature increase of at least 1°C. But a supposed global temperature rise of 1°C may in reality be only several regional temperature increases, restricted to areas where there are many meteorological stations and caused simply by shifts in the pattern of atmospheric circulation. Other areas, for example the Southern Hemisphere oceanic zone, may be experiencing an equivalent temperature decrease that is unrecognized because of the shortage of meteorological recording stations.

11. The passage supplies information for answering which of the following questions?

- (A) Why are projections of the effects of changes in water vapor levels on the climate so inaccurate?
- (B) What are the steps in the process that takes place as CO₂ absorbs long-wavelength radiation?
- (C) How might our understanding of the greenhouse effect be improved if the burning of fossil fuels were decreased?
- (D) What might cause a series of regular increases and decreases in the amount of CO₂ in the atmosphere?

12. The author is primarily concerned with

- (A) explaining the effects that the burning of fossil fuels might have on climate
- (B) illustrating the effects of CO₂ on atmospheric radiation
- (C) discussing effects that changes in the CO₂ level in the atmosphere might have on climate
- (D) challenging hypotheses about the effects of water vapor and CO₂ on climate

13. The passage suggests that a large decrease in the amount of CO₂ in the atmosphere would result in

- (A) at least a slight decrease in global temperatures
- (B) at the most a slight increase in short-wavelength radiation reaching the Earth
- (C) a slight long-term increase in global temperatures
- (D) a large long-term increase in the amount of volcanic activity

14. The author refers to Venus primarily in order to

- (A) show the inherent weakness of the greenhouse effect theory
- (B) Support the argument that the CO₂ level in the atmosphere has a significant effect on climate
- (C) show the extent to which Earth's atmosphere differs from that of Venus
- (D) support the contention that as water vapor increase, the amount of CO₂ increases

15. The passage suggests that if there were a slight global warming at the present time, it would be

- (A) easy to measure the exact increase in temperature because of the abundance of temperature recording stations throughout the world
- (B) difficult to measure the increase of CO₂ in the atmosphere because of local variations in amounts
- (C) easy to demonstrate the effects of the warming on the water vapor in the atmosphere
- (D) difficult to prove that the warming was caused by the burning of fossil fuels

Passage - IV

Species interdependence in nature confers many benefits on the species involved, but it can also become a point of weakness when one species involved in the relationship is affected by a catastrophe. Thus, flowering plant species dependent on insect pollination, as opposed to self-pollination or wind pollination, could be endangered when the population of insect-pollinators is depleted by the use of pesticides.

In the forests of New Brunswick, for example, various pesticides have been sprayed in the past 25 years in efforts to control the spruce budworm, an economically significant pest. Scientists have now investigated the effects of the spraying of Matacil, one of the anti-budworm agents that is least toxic to insect-pollinators. They studied Matacil's effects on insect mortality in a wide variety of wild insect species and on plant fecundity, expressed as the percentage of the total flowers on an individual plant that actually developed fruit and bore seeds. They found that the most pronounced mortality after the spraying of Matacil occurred among the smaller bees and one family of flies, insects that were all important pollinators of numerous species of plants growing beneath the tree canopy of forests. The fecundity of plants in one common indigenous species, the red-osier dogwood, was significantly reduced in the sprayed areas as compared to that of plants in control plots where Matacil was not sprayed. This species is highly

dependent on the insect-pollinators most vulnerable to Matacil. The creeping dogwood, a species similar to the red-osier dogwood, but which is pollinated by large bees, such as bumblebees, showed no significant decline in fecundity. Since large bees are not affected by the spraying of Matacil, these results add weight to the argument that spraying where the pollinators are sensitive to the pesticide used decreases plant fecundity.

The question of whether the decrease in plant fecundity caused by the spraying of pesticides actually causes a decline in the overall population of flowering plant species still remains unanswered. Plant species dependent solely on seeds for survival or dispersal are obviously more vulnerable to any decrease in plant fecundity that occurs, whatever its cause. If, on the other hand, vegetative growth and dispersal (by means of shoots or runners) are available as alternative reproductive strategies for a species, then decreases in plant fecundity may be of little consequence. The fecundity effects described here are likely to have the most profound impact on plant species with all four of the following characteristics: a short life span, a narrow geographic range, an incapacity for vegetative propagation, and a dependence on a small number of insect-pollinator species. Perhaps we should give special attention to the conservation of such plant species since they lack key factors in their defenses against the environmental disruption caused by pesticide use.

16. Which of the following best summarizes the main point of the passage?

- (A) Species interdependence is a point of weakness for some plants, but is generally beneficial to insects involved in pollination.
- (B) Efforts to control the spruce budworm have had deleterious effects on the red-osier dogwood.
- (C) The used of pesticides may be endangering certain plant species dependent on insects for pollination.
- (D) The spraying of pesticides can reduce the fecundity of a plant species, but probably does not affect its overall population stability.

17. According to the author, a flowering plant species whose fecundity has declined due to pesticide spraying may not experience an overall population decline if the plant species can do which of the following?

- (A) Reproduce itself by means of shoots and runners.
- (B) Survive to the end of the growing season.
- (C) Survive in harsh climates.
- (D) Respond to the fecundity decline by producing more flowers.

18. The passage suggests that the lack of an observed decline in the fecundity of the creeping dogwood strengthens the researchers conclusions regarding pesticide use because the

- (A) creeping dogwood is similar to the red-osier dogwood, but its insect pollinators are known to be insensitive to the pesticide used in the study
- (B) creeping dogwood is a species pollinated by a broader range of insect species than are most dogwood species
- (C) creeping dogwood grows primarily in regions that were not sprayed with pesticide, and so served as a control for the experiment
- (D) creeping dogwood is a species that does not resemble other forest plants

19. The passage suggests that which of the following is true of the forest regions in New Brunswick sprayed with most anti-budworm pesticides other than Matacil?

- (A) The fecundity of some flowering plants in those regions may have decreased to an even greater degree than in the regions where Matacil is used.
- (B) Insect mortality in those regions occurs mostly among the larger species of insects, such as bumblebees.
- (C) Many more plant species have become extinct in those regions than in the regions where Matacil is used.
- (D) The number of seeds produced by common plant species in those regions is probably comparable to the number produced where Matacil is sprayed.

20. It can be inferred that which of the following is true of plant fecundity as it is defined in the passage?

- (A) A plant's fecundity decreases as the percentage of unpollinated flowers on the plant increases.
- (B) A plant's fecundity decreases as the number of flowers produced by the plant decreases.
- (C) A plant's fecundity increases as the number of flowers produced by the plant increases.
- (D) A plant's fecundity is usually low if the plant relies on a small number of insect species for pollination

Passage - V

Many Native Americans view the archaeological excavation and museum display of ancestral skeletal remains and items buried with them as a spiritual desecration. A number of legal remedies that either prohibit or regulate such activities may be available to Native American communities, if they can establish standing in such cases. In disinterment cases, courts have traditionally affirmed the standing of three classes of plaintiffs: the deceased's heirs, the owner of the property on which the grave is located, and parties, including organizations or distant relatives of the deceased, that have a clear interest in the preservation of a particular grave. If an archaeologically discovered grave is of recent historical origin and associated with an identifiable Native American community, Native Americans are likely to establish standing in a suit to prevent disinterment of the remains, but in cases where the grave is ancient and located in an area where the community of Native Americans associated with the grave has not recently lived, they are less likely to be successful in this regard. Indeed, in most cases involving ancient graves, to recognize that Native Americans have standing would represent a significant expansion of common law. In cases where standing can be achieved, however, common law may provide a basis for some Native American claims against archaeologists and museums.

Property law, for example, can be useful in establishing Native American claims to artifacts that are retrieved in the excavation of ancient graves and can be considered the communal property of Native American tribes or communities. In *Charrier v. Bell*, a United States appellate court ruled that the common law doctrine of abandonment, which allows the finder of abandoned property to claim ownership, does not apply to objects buried with the deceased. The court ruled that the practice of burying items with the body of the deceased "is not intended as a means of relinquishing ownership to a stranger" and that to interpret it as such "could render a grave subject to despoliation either immediately after interment or...after removal of the descendants of the deceased from the neighborhood of the cemetery." This ruling suggests that artifacts excavated from Native American ancestral graves should be returned to representatives of tribal groups who can establish standing in such cases.

More generally, United States courts have upheld the distinction between individual and communal property, holding that an individual Native American does not have title to communal property owned and held for common use by his or her tribe. As a result, museums cannot assume that they have valid title to cultural property merely because they purchased in good faith an item that was originally sold in good faith by an individual member of a Native American community.

21. The primary purpose of the passage is to provide an answer to which one of the following questions?

- (A) How should the legal protection of Native American burial grounds be enhanced?
- (B) What characteristics of Native American burial grounds enhance their chances for protection by the law?
- (C) In what ways does the law protect the rights of Native Americans in regards to the contents of ancestral graves?
- (D) Why are the courts concerned with protecting Native American burial grounds from desecration?
- (E) By what means can Native Americans establish their rights to land on which their ancestors are buried?

22. It can be inferred that a court would be most likely to deny standing in a disinterment case to which one of the following Native American plaintiffs?

- (A) one who seeks the return of artifacts taken from the ancient burial grounds of disparate tribes and now displayed in a museum
- (B) one who seeks to prevent tenants on her land from taking artifacts from a grave located on the property
- (C) one who represents a tribe whose members hope to prevent the disinterment of remains from a distant location from which the tribe recently moved
- (D) one who seeks to have artifacts that have been removed from a grave determined to be that of her second cousin returned to the grave

23. According to the passage, which one of the following is true of cases involving ancient graves?

- (A) Once a plaintiff's standing has been established, such cases are usually more difficult to resolve than are cases involving more recent graves.

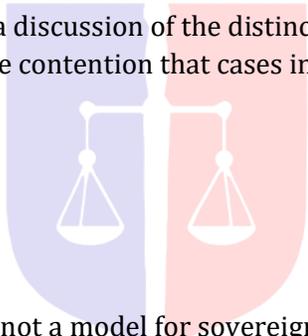
- (B) The distinction between individual and communal property is usually an issue in such cases.
(C) Even when a plaintiff's standing has been established, property law cannot be used as a basis for the claims of Native Americans in most such cases.
(D) In most such cases, common law does not currently provide a clear basis for establishing that Native Americans have standing.

24. The passage suggests that in making the ruling in *Charrier v. Bell* the court is most likely to have considered the answer to which one of the following questions?

- (A) Are the descendants of the deceased still alive?
(B) What was the reason for burying the objects in question?
(C) How long after interment had buried objects been claimed by stranger?
(D) Did the descendants of the deceased remain in the neighborhood of the cemetery?

25. The author uses the second paragraph to

- (A) illustrate the contention that common law may support the claims of Native Americans to the contents of ancestral graves
(B) exemplify the difficulties that Native Americans are likely to encounter in claiming ancestral remains
(C) introduce a discussion of the distinction between individual and communal property
(D) confirm the contention that cases involving ancient graves present unresolved legal problems



Logical Reasoning

Passage - I

Parenthood is not a model for sovereignty, but it may serve as a limited metaphor. On the one hand, parental rights personalize responsibility for children's rights to specific individuals and provide them with the powers and exclusivity required to fulfill those responsibilities. Likewise, sovereignty—the right of a government to get its way in its territory and over its people—delegates responsibility for a population's human rights to the government so that it can best fulfill that responsibility.

On the other hand, delegated rights may be reviewed or removed. A parent who abuses their children should be held accountable for their failures, and their parental rights subjected to external interference or even complete removal. Similarly, a government that tortures its people forfeits its rights to sovereignty and may be legitimately inspected or coerced by other governments or even replaced by a new regime. Additionally, although governments are specifically responsible for the protection of their citizens' human rights, they have a general responsibility to prevent crimes against humanity globally. Merely recognizing that protecting human rights is a just cause for war does not mean it is sufficient. Just war theory's standard tests—proportionality, last resort, and having a reasonable chance of success—still apply. Human rights do not provide an open license to attack North Korea or China.

However, a human rights approach changes the game. The selfish interests of states and their jealousies are limited. Instead of reflecting competition between states, just wars are restricted to policing actions against objectively misbehaving states. Importantly, the new commitment to impartiality ensures that all lives, whether of citizens or foreigners, soldiers or civilians, are treated with equal value.

26. Which of the following is the correct inference from the first passage?

- (a) Parenthood and sovereignty are exactly similar.
(b) Parenthood and sovereignty have some similarities.
(c) Human rights are the universal moral concern that justify and limit the traditional rights of sovereignty.
(d) None of the above

27. Which statement best sums up the author's attitude toward parents and government?

- (a) The rights of both a government and parents are absolute.
- (b) There should be no external interference in the role of governments and parents.
- (c) Just like parents know instinctively about the rights and demands of their child, the government also understands the aspirations of its people.
- (d) None of the above

28. Which of the following is the correct inference?

- (a) Just the fact that human rights are in peril is not reason enough to declare war with other countries.
- (b) North Korea has more severe abrogation of human rights than China.
- (c) Governments should be restricted to protecting human rights in their own country and should not interfere in the affairs of other countries.
- (d) Both (a) and (b).

29. Which of the following is the correct assumption made by the author in the passage?

- (a) Governments should not be restricted and should interfere in matters of other countries as well.
- (b) Parents and governments inherently aim for the well-being of their children and the state, respectively.
- (c) The human rights approach allows for moral policing of errant countries.
- (d) There should be one global government that safeguards human rights.

30. Which of the following is correct in the light of the statement – "Just wars have at least some benefits"

- (a) If the inference is 'definitely true,' i.e., it properly follows from the statement of facts given.
- (b) If the inference is 'probably true' though not 'definitely true' in light of the facts given.
- (c) If the 'data are inadequate,' i.e., from the facts given, you cannot say whether the inference is likely to be true or false.
- (d) If the inference is 'definitely false,' i.e., it cannot be drawn from the facts given because it contradicts the given facts.

Passage - II

The case for men's rights follows straightforwardly from the feminist critique of the structural injustice of gender rules and roles. Yes, those rules are wrong because they oppress women, but they are also wrong because they oppress men, whether by causing physical, emotional, and moral suffering or by callously neglecting their needs and interests. While it is bad luck to be born a woman in our society, it is also bad luck to be born a man in ways that relate directly and indirectly to gender roles and norms. Unfortunately, the feminist movement has tended to neglect this, assuming that if women are the losers in a patriarchal social order, then men must be the winners.

Let's start with matters of life and death. Men die significantly earlier than women in just about every society and historical period known to us. The causes are manifold and interact in complex ways. They include physiological factors (notably the harmful effects of testosterone on the immune system), which make human males frailer than females at every stage of development, including before birth. Covid-19 appears much more deadly to men than women, for example. Gender norms about the value of men's lives aren't directly responsible for this but play an indirect role in deflecting public concern and action.

Other factors reducing men's life expectancy are more directly related to social context and upbringing, such as men's higher propensity for risky behavior (such as smoking) and violence. It might seem to some people that these are factors under men's control and hence our own responsibility. However, a little consideration reveals that these factors are heavily shaped by gender roles and norms, which easy talk of responsibility serves to shield from scrutiny.

31. According to the author, which of the following is the reason for the case for men's rights?

- (a) Since there is criticism by feminists of injustice of gender roles and rules, this criticism is equally applicable to men as well.
- (b) Because rules lead to oppression of both men and women.
- (c) Both (a) and (b).
- (d) None of the above

32. Which of the following is a method employed by the author to weaken the feminist movement?

- (a) The battle of feminism is based on an invalid assumption that if one sect is the victim, the other has to be the winner.
- (b) The fact that if the structure of rules is unsuited to women, then it is unsuited to men too.
- (c) Both (a) and (b).
- (d) None of the above

33. Which of the following would strengthen the author's argument?

- (a) Heart attacks occur more often in males.
- (b) Men are emotionally more stable than women.
- (c) Diseases like diabetes and thyroid disorders occur more commonly in women.
- (d) The girl-to-boy ratio in the world is 2:3.

34. Which of the following would weaken the author's argument?

- (a) The average age for death of men is 84 years, while for females it is 92 years.
- (b) More men have legal cases registered against them than women.
- (c) There has been immense public attention given to the detrimental role of gender norms in the lives of men.
- (d) Diseases are more common in male fetuses than in females.

35. Which of the following is the correct assumption as per the above information of the passage?

- (a) Smoking and violence tend to reduce the life span of an individual.
- (b) Gender norms are solely responsible for the early death of males.
- (c) Factors leading to risky behavior of males are under the control of men.
- (d) Factors leading to risky behavior of males should be scrutinized.

Passage - III

It would be a lie to say that we're not nervous, too. The news from Italy suggests that 20 percent of health care workers have been infected, and several have died. Thousands of Chinese health care workers became sick with the coronavirus. Our job is not without risk, and we debate this every day as we balance family obligations with professional duties. The memories of medical workers who contracted HIV, Ebola, hepatitis C, and tuberculosis are never far from our minds. As a co-worker said ruefully to me, "Our colleagues could soon be our patients."

Hospitals aren't known for their speed in bureaucracy – don't even ask how long it took to get a water cooler for the staff lunch area – but they do know how to mobilize in a crunch.

When Hurricane Sandy flooded Bellevue in 2012, the staff formed a bucket brigade to haul 500 gallons of fuel – hand to hand in small containers – up to the 13th floor to keep the generators running. Later, those same hands helped carry the patients down when we eventually had to evacuate. The vast Northeast blackout of 2003 left hundreds of hospitals without power. A doctor or nurse was stationed at the bedside of every patient on a ventilator, ready to manually pump oxygen if the generators failed. And, of course, there was Sept. 11. Within an hour of the attacks, the emergency departments of New York City's hospitals were overrun with medical volunteers. Most, sadly, ended up idle that day.

In our hospital now, the entire ICU wing of the emergency department has been converted into a respiratory unit for patients with suspected coronavirus infections who are too ill to stay at home. All elective surgeries have been canceled, freeing up surgical staff, operating rooms, and post-op units. Expedited discharges have opened up inpatient beds. Every available corner of the hospital is being repurposed for patient care, to prepare for the onslaught that has already begun. Every hospital is doing the same.

These colossal adjustments have created a breathless pace to our work. Every day, things change, but there's comfort in the agility of the process. Miscalculations will undoubtedly happen – even when adhering to science, logistics often require improvisation – but the staff is moving with purpose.

36. Which of the following can be assumed from the passage?

- (a) The author is a doctor. (b) The author has coronavirus.
(c) The author is no more. (d) The author is a woman.

37. Which of the following situations is similar in nature to the one that the author describes?

- (a) When I was a resident training at Hopkins Hospital in the 1990s, the hospital created a dedicated AIDS ward and a specialized HIV team.
(b) During the AIDS scare, there was an all-hands-on-deck attitude, especially in public hospitals and local health departments.
(c) Many hospitals created 24/7 outpatient clinics during the Ebola outbreak to cater to the maximum number of patients, and in the darkest days, special care wards provided patients private rooms for their final days.
(d) All of the above.

38. Which of the following behaviors is unlike that of the doctors described by the author?

- (a) Doctors and nurses feel just as baffled about coronavirus as everyone else.
(b) Doctors watch the news on coronavirus with as much anxiety as the general public.
(c) Most doctors have never seen anything like coronavirus and this level of anxiety in their careers.
(d) None of the above.

39. If the statements in the passage are true, which of the following would also be true?

I. The epidemics of polio, Ebola, HIV, measles, and now coronavirus remind us that public health is an ongoing, never-take-it-lightly effort.

II. As the coronavirus expands, doctors and nurses working in emergency rooms are positive about being able to help everyone walking in with a cough.

- (a) Only A. (b) Only B. (c) Both A and B. (d) Neither A nor B.

40. Which of the following, if true, most weakens the author's arguments in the passage?

- (a) Doctors, nurses, and other staff members in a variety of hospital departments face new uncertainty with coronavirus.
(b) In intensive care units, health care providers have little exposure to people with coronavirus and hence face less risk.
(c) A doctor in Washington woke up with nightmares of being surrounded by coughing patients.
(d) The story of coronavirus is still being written. Italy and China offer possibilities of how Chapter 1 might play out, but more chapters will certainly follow.

Passage - IV

Study the following information carefully and answer the question given below:

Seven friends R, M, K, P, L, W and B live in three different bungalows viz. X, Y and Z. In any bungalow at least two or maximum three persons reside. Each likes different fruits viz. apple, fig, watermelon, orange, grapes, pine-apple and mango. It is not necessarily in this order. There are three girls living in three different bungalows.

W likes orange and lives in Bungalow Y with only P. M lives in bungalow Z and likes fig. Those who live in bungalow X like neither apple nor grapes. R and L do not live in bungalow X. K is a fast friend of R and she does not like watermelon. L likes pineapple. No girl likes oranges and one of them likes apple R does not like grapes.

41. Who likes mango?

- A. B B. K C. P D. W

42. Which pair lives in Bungalow X?

- A. W and P B. M and L C. K and B D. R and P

43. Which of the following person–fruit–bungalow combinations is correct?

- A. R – apple – Z B. B – grapes – X C. P – grapes – Z D. L – pineapple – X

44. Which of the following is a girl?

- A. W B. K C. L D. B

45. Which bungalow(s) have exactly two residents?

- A. X only B. Y only C. X and Y D. Y and Z

Passage - V

Read the given information carefully and answer the questions:

At a institute, during the placement process of 200 students:

- 70 % students received offers from the Data Science area,
- 40 % students received offers from the Cybersecurity area,
- 30 % students received offers from the Product Management area.
- 40 students received offers from both Data Science and Cybersecurity,
- 30 students received offers from both Cybersecurity and Product Management,
- 20 students received offers from both Product Management and Data Science,

46. How many students received offers from the Data Science area but not from Cybersecurity?

- A. 50 % B. 45% C. 60 % D. 70 %

47. How many students received offers from the Data Science area but from no other area?

- A. 20 B. 30 C. 50 D. 90

48. How many students received offers from all three areas?

- A. 10 % B. 5 % C. 15 % D. 7.5%

49. What is the total number of students who received offers from exactly one area?

- A. 90 B. 140 C. 130 D. 80

50. What percentage of students received offers from both Data Science and Cybersecurity but not from Product Management?

- A. 30% B. 15% C. 10% D. 20%

Legal Reasoning

Passage-I

Disclaimer: The following passage is an academic reconstruction of the “Protection of Interests in Aircraft Objects Bill, 2025.” Certain details are simplified for conceptual clarity. You must rely solely on the facts and principles within this passage to answer the questions.

The Protection of Interests in Aircraft Objects Bill, 2025 seeks to align India’s domestic framework with international obligations under the Cape Town Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment (2001) and the Aircraft Protocol (2001). The Bill aims to protect the interests of creditors, lessors, and conditional sellers of aircraft and aircraft engines by creating a uniform legal regime for financing and leasing arrangements involving aircraft assets.

It defines “aircraft objects” to include aircraft, helicopters, airframes, and engines capable of independent registration and use. The law ensures that any *international interest* — such as a security interest or leasing right — created over an aircraft object is valid, recognizable, and enforceable in India when registered in the International Registry established under the Convention.

Under the Bill, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is designated as the National Supervisory Authority, responsible for maintaining coordination with the International Registry and recognizing registered interests in domestic records.

If an airline defaults on lease payments or violates financing terms, the creditor or lessor has the right to apply for de-registration and export of the aircraft, provided the interest was registered before the default occurred. The DGCA must honour such applications without delay, unless prevented by an order of a competent court in India.

The Bill allows parties to exercise “self-help remedies” — such as repossession or export — without prior judicial intervention, as long as these do not violate Indian public policy. However, it clarifies that national security, public safety, and customs laws may override contractual enforcement in exceptional circumstances.

Creditors’ rights are prioritized: where an international interest is registered, it has priority over any subsequent unregistered interest or claim. Furthermore, insolvency proceedings do not automatically stay the creditor’s right to possession of the aircraft, provided the interest was duly registered.

The Bill also establishes a Central Authority for Aircraft Credit Regulation, tasked with resolving disputes, ensuring data accuracy, and assisting courts in determining the validity of international interests. Violations of registration procedures or false filings are subject to penalties.

Through this framework, India aims to create a transparent and creditor-friendly environment for aviation finance while maintaining judicial oversight and balancing commercial certainty with sovereign interests.

51. A Singapore-based leasing company, SkyLease Ltd., leases an aircraft to IndAir, an Indian airline, for ten years. The lease agreement and security interest are registered in the International Registry. After five years, IndAir defaults on payments and refuses to return the aircraft, claiming domestic law protects Indian operators from arbitrary repossession. SkyLease applies to the DGCA for immediate de-registration and export of the aircraft. The DGCA delays action citing pending insolvency proceedings against IndAir. Based on the Bill’s provisions, which course of action is legally valid?

- A. DGCA must honour SkyLease’s application since the interest was registered and the Bill prioritizes creditor rights despite insolvency proceedings.
- B. DGCA can withhold deregistration until the insolvency tribunal approves.
- C. DGCA must seek Ministry of Civil Aviation clearance before acting.
- D. DGCA may deny deregistration if repossession affects employment of Indian workers.

52. An Indian helicopter operator purchases two foreign-made engines under a conditional sale agreement, with the seller retaining title until full payment. The buyer installs the engines in another aircraft and mortgages it to a domestic bank without informing the seller. The seller later finds that the engines were not registered as an international interest. During a loan default, both the seller and bank claim priority over the engines. How should the conflict be resolved?

- A. The seller’s interest is subordinate since the international interest was not registered.
- B. The seller’s interest prevails because ownership was retained under conditional sale.
- C. The bank’s mortgage is invalid without DGCA permission.
- D. Both claims have equal standing and must be shared proportionately.

53. A foreign creditor repossesses an aircraft from AirWest India using “self-help” under a lease clause allowing repossession without court order. AirWest argues this violates Indian public policy and seeks injunction. The creditor argues the Bill explicitly allows self-help remedies consistent with the Convention. The government intervenes, citing national security concerns because the aircraft carried sensitive defence cargo. What should the court decide?

- A. The repossession is valid under the Bill unless it violates Indian public policy or national security.
- B. The repossession is illegal without prior court approval.
- C. All self-help remedies are barred under Indian law.
- D. The repossession must await the DGCA’s direction.

54. A domestic maintenance company files a claim for unpaid repair bills against an aircraft whose lease was terminated and deregistered by DGCA in favour of a foreign lessor. The company argues that its lien over the aircraft for unpaid maintenance charges should override the lessor’s claim. The lessor argues that its international interest, registered earlier, has priority. Which legal principle applies?

- A. The domestic lien prevails because maintenance claims arise within India.
- B. The registered international interest prevails over subsequent or unregistered claims.
- C. Both interests are equal and should be adjudicated through arbitration.
- D. The DGCA must defer to local creditors under domestic commercial law.

55. A cargo airline BlueJet uses aircraft engines under a finance lease. The engines are registered as international interests by the financier. After multiple safety violations, the DGCA grounds BlueJet’s fleet. The financier demands repossession, but the DGCA refuses, citing national safety obligations. BlueJet sues, arguing that DGCA cannot interfere with registered interests. How should the conflict be interpreted?

- A. DGCA may restrict repossession where necessary to uphold national safety or public policy.
- B. Financiers have absolute right to repossession irrespective of DGCA’s orders.
- C. Safety violations do not justify interference with contractual rights.
- D. BlueJet’s insolvency automatically voids financier’s rights.

56. A leasing company, AeroCap Pvt. Ltd., falsely registers an aircraft in the International Registry claiming ownership, though it was only a service agent. The true owner discovers the misrepresentation and reports it. The Central Authority for Aircraft Credit Regulation investigates and confirms fraud. The agent argues that penalties do not apply since registration errors are civil, not criminal. How should the Authority act?

- A. The Authority can impose penalties for false or fraudulent registration as per the Bill.
- B. Only the DGCA may act, as registry supervision is outside the Authority’s scope.
- C. Fraudulent registration is a contractual dispute beyond regulatory jurisdiction.
- D. The Authority can only recommend civil settlement between the parties.

Passage-II

Disclaimer: *The following passage is a reconstructed legal reasoning text for educational purposes. Certain details are adapted for conceptual clarity. You must rely solely on the principles and facts in the passage to answer the questions.*

The concept of safe harbour is a legal safeguard that protects online intermediaries — such as social media platforms — from being held liable for unlawful or objectionable content posted by third parties. In India, Section 79 of the Information Technology Act, 2000 provides this protection, subject to compliance with due diligence and removal obligations.

Safe harbour is conditional. If an intermediary receives actual knowledge of illegal content and fails to act, it loses immunity. The Supreme Court of India, in interpreting “actual knowledge,” clarified that it means receipt of a court order or government notification, not mere user complaints.

The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 further require intermediaries to:

- Establish a grievance redressal mechanism,
- Appoint a compliance officer in India, and
- Periodically report actions taken on user complaints.

The 2023 Amendment introduced an additional condition — intermediaries must remove content flagged as “fake news” by the Press Information Bureau’s Fact Check Unit to retain safe harbour.

Critics argue that repealing or narrowing safe harbour would expose platforms to civil and criminal liability for every user post, creating pressure to over-censor lawful speech. Proponents, however, argue that unregulated safe harbour lets companies evade responsibility for misinformation, hate speech, and deepfakes.

Without safe harbour, intermediaries would have to pre-screen all content, stifling innovation and burdening smaller platforms. Yet, with unqualified protection, they might ignore harmful material, citing immunity.

Therefore, a balanced approach — retaining safe harbour while enforcing accountability — remains central to India’s evolving framework for digital governance, free expression, and platform responsibility.

57. A social media company, TalkIndia, allows users to post videos freely. A user uploads a clip promoting communal violence, which goes viral. After 24 hours, the Ministry of Home Affairs sends a formal notice ordering the video’s removal. The company removes it after 36 hours. Later, a criminal case is filed against TalkIndia for hosting unlawful content. The company claims protection under Section 79, arguing that it acted promptly after receiving “actual knowledge.” The government counters that delay invalidates immunity. Based on the passage, which conclusion is correct?

- A. TalkIndia is protected under Section 79 since it acted after receiving formal government notification, which constitutes actual knowledge.
- B. TalkIndia loses safe harbour protection as it did not proactively monitor content before publication.
- C. Safe harbour applies only to foreign intermediaries.
- D. TalkIndia can retain immunity only if it removes content within 12 hours of complaint.

58. A user on ChatBoard posts a false claim about a government vaccine, which is later declared “fake news” by the Press Information Bureau’s Fact Check Unit. ChatBoard refuses to remove the post, citing free speech rights. The Ministry of Electronics and IT issues an order withdrawing its safe harbour status. ChatBoard argues that this violates Article 19(1)(a) since the PIB is not a court. According to the passage, what is the legally sound outcome?

- A. ChatBoard retains protection as PIB has no judicial authority.
- B. The amendment rules validly remove safe harbour for failure to remove content labelled “fake news” by PIB’s fact check unit.
- C. The PIB must obtain a court order before classifying content as fake.
- D. The government can act only against users, not platforms.

59. A whistleblower posts documents exposing a corporate environmental violation on EcoShare, an Indian social media app. The corporation files a complaint demanding immediate removal, calling it defamatory. EcoShare refuses, awaiting a court order. The company sues EcoShare, claiming loss of safe harbour for not acting on “actual knowledge.” How should the court rule?

- A. EcoShare acted lawfully since “actual knowledge” arises only upon a court order or government directive.
- B. EcoShare lost immunity because it failed to respond to user complaints.
- C. Safe harbour applies only to non-commercial platforms.
- D. The post must be taken down automatically if any complaint is received.

60. A short-video platform, ClipUp, appoints a grievance officer but fails to publish monthly reports on content removals. The Ministry of I&B suspends its safe harbour protection. The platform argues that reporting requirements are administrative, not statutory. The Ministry contends that failure to comply with the 2021 IT Rules invalidates immunity. Based on the passage, what is the correct position?

- A. ClipUp retains safe harbour as long as it removes illegal content when ordered.
- B. Non-compliance with IT Rules' procedural obligations removes the intermediary's protection under Section 79.
- C. Only non-compliance with court orders can remove safe harbour.
- D. The 2021 Rules do not apply to video-sharing platforms.

61. A citizen sues XSpace, alleging that defamatory posts about him were allowed to remain online for weeks. XSpace argues that it hosts millions of posts and cannot monitor all content proactively. The plaintiff insists that XSpace must pre-screen uploads to prevent harm. The government supports the plaintiff, claiming safe harbour allows platforms to avoid accountability. Considering the passage, which interpretation aligns with legal principles?

- A. XSpace retains protection; intermediaries are not required to pre-screen content under Indian law.
- B. XSpace loses protection for failing to remove the content before it went viral.
- C. Intermediaries must verify every post before publication to retain immunity.
- D. The court may impose joint liability on users and the platform.

62. A social platform, InTalk, receives multiple user complaints about deepfake videos targeting political leaders. It refuses to remove them, stating it has no "actual knowledge." Later, a High Court directs the government to act against InTalk for non-compliance. The company claims it is immune under Section 79. The Court observes that safe harbour cannot shield deliberate inaction against manifestly harmful content. Based on the passage, which conclusion is most consistent?

- A. InTalk is fully protected until a court or government order is issued.
- B. The court may restrict safe harbour if the intermediary wilfully ignores clearly illegal content.
- C. User complaints automatically revoke safe harbour protection.
- D. Only the PIB can determine whether safe harbour applies.

Passage-III

Disclaimer: The following passage is a reconstructed academic text based on the Environment Protection (End-of-Life Vehicles) Rules, 2025. Facts are adapted for conceptual clarity. You must rely solely on the facts and principles mentioned in this passage to answer the questions.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) notified the Environment Protection (End-of-Life Vehicles) Rules, 2025 to ensure environmentally sound management of vehicles at the end of their useful life. The Rules, issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, are based on the principle of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) — where producers of vehicles are accountable for collecting and ensuring the scrapping of such vehicles in an environmentally responsible manner.

These Rules apply to all transport and non-transport vehicles but exclude agricultural tractors, trailers, combine harvesters, and power tillers. Under the EPR framework, producers are required to meet annual targets for scrapping end-of-life vehicles that were placed in the market 15 years earlier (for transport vehicles) and 20 years earlier (for non-transport vehicles).

Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facilities (RVSFs) must handle vehicles that have reached their end of life by carrying out depollution, dismantling, segregation, and disposal. Recovered materials are to be sent to registered recyclers or refurbishers. Non-recyclable or hazardous components must be disposed of at authorized hazardous waste treatment facilities under the 2016 Hazardous Waste Rules.

Producers are required to set up Collection Centres — either independently or through their sales outlets — to receive end-of-life vehicles from registered owners or bulk consumers. Such collection points must handle vehicles in an environmentally sound manner and transfer them to registered RVSFs.

Every producer, RVSF, and bulk consumer must register through the Centralized Online Portal — producers with the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and others with their State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs). The CPCB and SPCBs may suspend or cancel registrations for non-compliance, after providing an opportunity of hearing.

The CPCB and SPCBs are mandated to conduct periodic audits and inspections to ensure compliance. Failure to comply attracts environmental compensation for damage to environment or public health. An Implementation Committee chaired by the CPCB ensures effective coordination among Ministries, recyclers, and producers.

The Rules operate alongside other frameworks — the Motor Vehicles (Registration and Functions of Vehicle Scrapping Facility) Rules, 2021, the Central Motor Vehicles (21st Amendment) Rules, 2021, the Steel Scrap Recycling Policy, 2019, and the CPCB's 2023 Guidelines for dismantling and recycling of vehicles using sustainable, non-polluting technologies.

63. A car manufacturer named EcoAuto Ltd. introduces its first fleet of vehicles in India in 2010. In 2026, CPCB issues a notice asking it to show compliance with its scrapping targets under the 2025 Rules. The company argues that since the vehicles were produced before the Rules came into force, it cannot be compelled to meet retrospective targets. CPCB maintains that the EPR obligations apply to all producers for vehicles placed in the market 15 years prior, irrespective of when the Rules were enacted, as the purpose is environmental protection. EcoAuto further claims that the EPR obligation violates its right to conduct business by imposing excessive retroactive liability. Based on the passage, which conclusion is legally correct?

- A. EcoAuto is bound by the Rules since producers must fulfil scrapping targets for vehicles introduced 15 years earlier, regardless of when the Rules were enacted.
- B. The Rules cannot apply to vehicles sold before 2025 since legislation cannot operate retrospectively.
- C. EPR obligations only apply to government-owned producers, not private companies.
- D. The company can avoid liability by transferring scrapping responsibility to RVSFs.

64. A registered owner of an end-of-life vehicle fails to deposit it at a designated Collection Centre or RVSF even after 180 days. CPCB imposes environmental compensation for non-compliance. The owner argues that as a private citizen, he is not covered by EPR obligations, which apply only to producers, recyclers, and bulk consumers. He further claims that imposing environmental compensation without a specific court order violates natural justice. CPCB defends its action citing express rule provisions. According to the passage, which position is correct?

- A. CPCB cannot impose environmental compensation without prior judicial approval.
- B. The owner is obligated to deposit the end-of-life vehicle within 180 days and failure attracts liability for environmental compensation under the Rules.
- C. Environmental compensation applies only to producers and recyclers, not individual vehicle owners.
- D. The SPCB must initiate prosecution before imposing compensation.

65. A Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility (RVSF) in Gujarat disposes of non-recyclable plastic waste from vehicles at an unauthorized local landfill instead of a facility approved under the Hazardous Waste Rules, 2016. During audit, SPCB suspends its registration. The RVSF challenges the action arguing that it was never given an opportunity to be heard. SPCB maintains that due notice was emailed, but the operator failed to respond. The RVSF claims that minor procedural lapses should not attract cancellation. Considering the passage, what is the correct legal position?

- A. SPCB cannot cancel registration without affording an opportunity of hearing.
- B. SPCB may cancel the registration after giving an opportunity of being heard as mandated, even through electronic communication.
- C. SPCB can cancel registration directly in case of waste mismanagement, hearing is optional.
- D. SPCB must first seek CPCB's approval before suspending registration.

66. A producer establishes Collection Centres across India but fails to update the list on its official website and at its service centres. During inspection, CPCB finds that vehicle owners cannot easily locate nearby Collection Centres and imposes a compliance penalty. The producer argues that the omission was a technical lapse and that physical collection facilities exist. CPCB insists that public disclosure is an integral part of the Rules ensuring transparency and accessibility. Based on the passage, what is the correct interpretation?

- A. The producer is in violation as it failed to publicly disclose Collection Centre information as mandated.
- B. Since physical facilities exist, CPCB cannot impose any penalty.
- C. Only SPCB, not CPCB, can penalize producers for disclosure failures.
- D. The producer can rectify the omission later without facing liability.

67. A large automobile recycler functioning as a bulk consumer fails to register with the State Pollution Control Board but continues to dismantle vehicles and sell recovered parts. SPCB discovers this during an inspection and orders immediate cessation of operations until registration is obtained. The company claims that registration is voluntary for bulk consumers, as their function benefits the environment by promoting recycling. SPCB argues that registration is mandatory and ensures monitoring of environmental compliance. Based on the passage, which conclusion is most appropriate?

- A. SPCB's order is valid; registration through the centralized portal is mandatory for all bulk consumers.
- B. SPCB cannot regulate recyclers since they promote environmental benefits.
- C. SPCB must first obtain CPCB's permission before suspending operations.
- D. Registration is optional for recyclers handling non-hazardous materials.

68. During a CPCB audit, a producer is found to have achieved only 50% of its mandated scrapping target for FY 2025–26. The company argues that the shortfall was due to insufficient RVSF capacity and logistical constraints beyond its control. CPCB considers levying environmental compensation. The producer contends that EPR liability arises only when environmental damage occurs, not for failure to meet numerical targets. Which legal conclusion aligns with the Rules?

- A. CPCB can levy compensation since non-fulfilment of scrapping targets constitutes non-compliance under the Rules.
- B. CPCB cannot impose compensation unless actual pollution or injury is proven.
- C. The producer may transfer its obligations to other registered recyclers to avoid liability.
- D. SPCB, not CPCB, has jurisdiction over producer-related violations.

Passage-IV

Disclaimer: *The following passage is a constructed legal reasoning summary based on the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2025. The facts and principles may not reflect the actual law. You must rely only on the facts and principles in this passage to answer the questions.*

The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2025 introduces major reforms to enhance transparency, competitiveness, and sustainability in India's mining sector. It amends the 1957 Act to align with the nation's strategic and economic needs, particularly in the extraction of critical minerals vital for advanced technologies.

Passed by the Lok Sabha on 12 August and by the Rajya Sabha on 19 August 2025, the Bill seeks to promote trust-based governance in mining. The government calls it a "revolutionary reform," while critics warn of potential misuse and environmental consequences.

One of the Bill's hallmark features is the inclusion of critical and strategic minerals such as lithium, cobalt, nickel, gold, and silver under the scope of leaseholders. Mining companies can now extract these minerals from existing leases without paying additional royalties, provided they are already operating in the area. However, for other

minerals, the usual royalties and auction premiums continue to apply. This provision aims to encourage investment and quick scaling of domestic production for sectors like electronics, renewable energy, and space technology.

The National Mineral Exploration Trust has been renamed the National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust (NMEDT). Its expanded role now includes both exploration and development of mining projects. Contributions by mining companies have been increased from 2% to 3% of royalties, and the Trust can fund international exploration. This structural change aims to strengthen India's global mineral presence.

The Bill also removes the 50% sale restriction for captive mines. Previously, such mines could sell only half of their total production after meeting internal requirements. The amendment now allows unrestricted sale of surplus minerals in the open market, enhancing utilization and reducing wastage.

Another major reform is the extension of lease areas for deep-seated minerals found below 200 metres. Composite licences can be extended by up to 30%, and mining leases by 10%, encouraging deeper and more technologically advanced mining operations.

Finally, the Bill provides for the creation of mineral exchanges — regulated electronic platforms where minerals and metals can be traded. These exchanges are expected to increase price transparency, minimize corruption, and enable better valuation of India's mineral wealth. The government will oversee their registration, set trading norms, and establish grievance redressal mechanisms.

Collectively, the reforms aim to improve resource utilization, boost domestic production, and support India's National Critical Minerals Mission, which has a budget of ₹34,000 crore. Supporters hail the Bill as a leap toward self-reliance and clean technology leadership; detractors argue that unchecked extraction could undermine environmental safeguards and community rights.

69. Royalty Exemption & Equality Challenge (Critical Minerals) : "LithiTech Mining Ltd." holds a long-term iron ore lease. After discovering lithium deposits within the same lease, it begins extracting lithium without paying extra royalties, citing the 2025 Amendment. A competitor, "EcoOre Pvt. Ltd.," files a writ petition claiming that exempting one company from paying extra royalties violates equality and gives large firms an unfair advantage. The government defends its decision, stating that the Bill was designed to incentivize critical mineral extraction essential for national growth and technology independence.

As the adjudicating court, how should you interpret this dispute under the principles in the passage?

- A. The exemption is justified since the Bill promotes technological self-reliance.
- B. The exemption violates equality since fiscal incentives must apply equally to all miners.
- C. The exemption is valid only if it benefits national strategic interests transparently.
- D. The exemption is unconstitutional because it violates revenue neutrality.

70. Funding Beyond Borders (NMEDT's Role) : The National Mineral Exploration and Development Trust (NMEDT) approves a ₹1,200 crore joint exploration mission with an Australian firm to identify cobalt reserves in the Indian Ocean. An RTI activist challenges this, alleging that the Trust cannot spend public money outside India's territory. The Ministry argues that the 2025 Amendment explicitly permits "offshore and international exploration projects." Environmental groups add that such spending dilutes domestic resource allocation.

Under the framework of the passage, what should the court decide?

- A. The Trust's action is invalid because it lacks clear parliamentary oversight.
- B. The action is valid as the amendment empowers international exploration.
- C. The action is permissible only with NITI Aayog's clearance.
- D. The Trust may fund global projects only if they benefit Indian lessees directly.

71. Captive Mine Sales & Resource Regulation : "SteelSphere Industries," which owns a captive mine for manganese, begins selling 80% of its extracted mineral in the open market, claiming the 2025 Amendment removed the 50% sales cap. A state regulator issues a show-cause notice arguing that unrestricted sale could cause regional

shortages for industries dependent on captive supply. The company defends that the new law aims to liberalize mineral trade and enhance utilization. Civil society groups argue this violates the Bill's spirit of balanced resource management.

Under the principles of the passage, how should this issue be resolved?

- A. The company's sale is valid; the Bill allows unrestricted trade for captive mines.
- B. The regulator is right; unchecked sales can harm market equilibrium.
- C. The sale is valid only after regulatory registration to ensure transparency.
- D. The company's action is illegal unless approved by the central mining authority.

72. Deep Mining and Environmental Compliance : "TerraCore Pvt. Ltd.", holding a composite lease for copper, applies to extend its mining area by 40% citing deep-seated deposits discovered at 220 metres below ground. The State Mining Department denies the request, citing statutory limits under the 2025 Amendment — 30% for composite licences and 10% for standard leases. TerraCore argues that advanced drilling technologies justify broader exceptions and that rigid limits discourage innovation. Environmentalists support the state, warning of ecological hazards in deep mining.

Under the passage's principles, which argument should prevail?

- A. TerraCore's request should be approved in the national interest.
- B. The extension must be limited to statutory ceilings to preserve environmental balance.
- C. The request should be conditionally approved subject to NMEDT review.
- D. The company must apply afresh under the National Mineral Exchange Authority.

73. Mineral Exchange Manipulation : "GlobalTrade Minerals Exchange," an online trading platform, is accused of manipulating bids by providing preferential access to a few buyers. It argues that as a private entity, it is not bound by the government's trading regulations. The complainants claim that the exchange should follow central guidelines as mineral trading directly impacts national revenue. The government cites the 2025 Amendment, which mandates regulatory oversight to prevent market manipulation and corruption.

Under the passage, how should this issue be decided?

- A. The exchange is bound by central regulation to ensure transparency.
- B. Private entities may self-regulate under a voluntary disclosure mechanism.
- C. Regulation applies only to state-run exchanges, not private ones.
- D. The government can regulate pricing but not bidding practices.

74. Economic Growth vs Environmental Justice : "GreenEarth Coalition," a community group, challenges a new cobalt extraction project approved under the 2025 Amendment, arguing it violates environmental safeguards and tribal consent norms. The company argues that mining reforms prioritize national economic growth and mineral security. The Ministry insists that environmental clearances will "follow later" once economic feasibility is proven.

Based on the passage, what is the most appropriate resolution?

- A. Economic priorities must override local environmental concerns.
- B. Environmental and community rights must operate concurrently with mining reforms.
- C. The company should proceed provisionally until formal clearances are granted.
- D. The Ministry's assurance suffices since national growth is the ultimate objective.

Passage-V

Disclaimer: *The following passage is a reconstructed academic summary of the National Sports Governance Bill, 2025. The facts and principles mentioned are adapted for educational reasoning. You must rely only on this passage to answer the questions.*

In 2025, the Indian Parliament introduced the National Sports Governance Bill to establish a transparent, accountable, and uniform legal framework for sports administration. It aims to replace fragmented governance structures with a modern, statutory regime covering Olympic, non-Olympic, and professional sports.

The Bill establishes three key statutory bodies — the National Olympic Committee (NOC), the National Paralympic Committee (NPC), and the National Sports Board (NSB). The NOC and NPC will govern Olympic and Paralympic sports, respectively, while the NSB will function as an apex regulatory authority, supervising all national and regional sports federations, including the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). The NSB is empowered to grant recognition, enforce governance codes, and maintain a national registry of federations.

A major reform introduced is the creation of the National Sports Tribunal (NST) — a specialized dispute resolution body having powers equivalent to a civil court. It will adjudicate matters related to athlete selection, governance, elections, and disciplinary issues. Appeals will lie directly to the Supreme Court, and civil courts are barred from intervening.

The Bill also mandates a National Sports Election Panel, ensuring fair elections in all recognized sports bodies, and prescribes a Code of Ethics and Transparency, requiring public disclosure of data on finances, selection criteria, and athlete grievances.

A Safe Sport Policy is compulsory for all sports federations, emphasizing protection of women and minors from harassment, discrimination, and abuse. The Bill strengthens accountability by mandating accessible, athlete-friendly grievance redressal mechanisms.

Further, the Bill raises the upper age limit for administrators to 75 years and removes fixed tenure restrictions to allow continuity and international representation. Critics, however, argue that this may perpetuate entrenched leadership and reduce generational change.

Most significantly, the Bill brings the BCCI — previously outside the scope of government oversight — under the regulatory purview of the National Sports Board and the National Sports Tribunal. Once enacted, the BCCI must seek official recognition from the NSB, and all disputes involving it will be subject to the Tribunal's exclusive jurisdiction.

Supporters hail the Bill as a leap toward professionalism and ethical governance in Indian sports; detractors caution that excessive centralization may erode the autonomy of sporting bodies guaranteed under international Olympic norms.

75. A national-level athlete is suspended by her federation for alleged breach of discipline during an international competition. She immediately files a writ petition in the High Court seeking interim relief for reinstatement and urgent participation in the upcoming world championship trials. The federation points to the National Sports Tribunal (NST) as the exclusive body to adjudicate disciplinary matters and asks the court to stay its proceedings as barred by the new statute. The athlete contends that her right to speedy judicial relief and access to civil courts cannot be ousted by a statutory dispute-resolution regime, especially where the competition schedule is imminent and irreparable sporting harm may follow. The federation responds that the Bill expressly provides for the NST's exclusive jurisdiction over athlete discipline and that Parliament intended finality through the Tribunal and appeal to the Supreme Court alone. Considering the passage's text and the objectives of uniform sports governance, choose the most faithful legal position.

A. The civil court should decline jurisdiction and require the athlete to approach the NST as the statute grants exclusive jurisdiction.

B. The civil court must entertain the writ petition because constitutional remedies cannot be ousted by statute.

- C. The court and NST should both adjudicate concurrently to protect the athlete's urgent interests.
- D. The athlete must first seek relief from the National Sports Board before approaching any forum.

76. An election in a major National Sports Federation occurred two months before the enactment of the National Sports Governance Bill, 2025. Allegations of ballot manipulation and procedural irregularities emerge, and aggrieved contestants file petitions in the High Court challenging the election result. The federation and government argue that all election-related disputes must be routed through the National Sports Election Panel and the NST under the new statutory scheme. The aggrieved parties counter that the Bill cannot operate retrospectively to oust remedies for elections concluded prior to its coming into force and that High Courts retain supervisory jurisdiction over such past elections. The Ministry argues further that to ensure uniformity and avoid conflicting orders, transition rules envisaged by the Bill must be read to permit the Election Panel to address lingering disputes. What outcome best follows from the passage's principles and the Bill's design?

- A. The High Courts must hear all pre-enactment election disputes because the statutory scheme cannot be applied retrospectively.
- B. The Election Panel and NST should decide election disputes even if the polls occurred before enactment, to ensure consistent governance.
- C. Only administrative reconciliation via the National Sports Board can resolve pre-existing election claims.
- D. The matter should be stayed until Parliament issues transitional rules specifically addressing pre-enactment contestations.

77. After the Bill comes into force, the BCCI refuses to register with the National Sports Board, claiming autonomous status as a private body and insisting it alone should determine its governance, selection procedures, and dispute resolution. The NSB issues a notice that recognition is mandatory for all national sports bodies and that failure to register will lead to de-recognition and exclusion from statutory schemes such as fund flow, registry benefits, and participation in national programs. BCCI argues that its long-standing autonomy and unique commercial profile place it outside the Bill's regulatory ambit; further, it warns that government recognition would compromise international sporting independence. The NSB insists the Bill explicitly brings the BCCI under the Board's umbrella and requires formal recognition. According to the passage's text and objectives, which course best aligns with the statute's design?

- A. BCCI's autonomy as a private society exempts it permanently from registration under the NSB.
- B. BCCI must be registered and recognised by the NSB, but transitional arrangements may apply.
- C. BCCI should be subject to joint regulation by the NSB and the International Cricket Council as a special category.
- D. Only the Supreme Court can decide BCCI's regulatory status because of its national significance.

78. A regional sports federation enforces an internal rule that bars anyone over the age of 70 from holding office; as a result, a distinguished administrator aged 73 is declared ineligible to contest the federation presidency. The administrator seeks declaration that the federation bylaw is inconsistent with the National Sports Governance Bill, which raises the upper age limit to 75 and removes fixed tenure restrictions. The federation argues for internal autonomy and says that its pre-existing bylaws should govern its internal elections, as they reflect the membership's democratic choice and local governance needs. The administrator claims the Bill's age and tenure norms were meant to harmonise national practices and to permit experienced administrators to represent India internationally. Under the passage's statements and approach to uniform governance, what result should be reached?

- A. The federation bylaw remains valid and controls internal eligibility as an exercise of association autonomy.
- B. The administrator must seek an advisory opinion from the National Sports Election Panel before challenging the bylaw.
- C. The federation bylaw should be read down to allow those up to 75 years old, since the statute fixes the national upper limit.
- D. The administrator must await an implementing notification from the NSB before any judicial determination.

79. A 16-year-old gymnast complains to her National Federation alleging repeated verbal abuse and intimidation by a senior coach during selection camps. The Federation's internal committee delays action and declines to process certain statements citing "informal training banter." The athlete subsequently files a grievance invoking the Bill's Safe Sport Policy obligations and seeks immediate interim protection, emergency counselling, and formal investigation. The coach argues that no physical assault occurred and that complaints about tone or coaching pressure are not within the Safe Sport mechanism. The federation replies that its codes are voluntary and varies in scope. Based on the Bill's provisions and its protections for vulnerable athletes, which decision most closely follows the statute's spirit and wording?

- A. The athlete's grievance is barred because the training interactions are informal and thus non-justiciable under the Bill.
- B. The complaint is admissible; the Safe Sport Policy requires federations to treat verbal harassment of minors as actionable and time-bound.
- C. The athlete must first pursue internal mediation before invoking statutory protections.
- D. Such matters fall exclusively within civil courts since the Bill does not cover informal interactions.

80. An athlete exhausts the NST appeal process and is unsuccessful; the NST order states that "appeals lie only to the Supreme Court." The athlete files a writ petition in the High Court invoking Article 226 arguing that the High Court should exercise supervisory jurisdiction to correct jurisdictional error, breach of natural justice, or constitutional infirmity in the NST order. The government contends that the Bill intended to centralise appellate review in the Supreme Court for finality and consistency in national sports matters, thereby excluding High Court interference except in exceptional constitutional cases. Considering the passage's text and the Bill's channeling of appeals, which legal position best aligns with the Bill's structure while acknowledging constitutional safeguards?

- A. The High Court has no power to entertain the writ and must dismiss it because appeals lie only to the Supreme Court.
- B. As a general rule, appeals lie to the Supreme Court, but extraordinary constitutional remedies (e.g., under Article 226/32) remain available in exceptional cases.
- C. The athlete must first seek reconsideration from the National Sports Board before initiating constitutional review.
- D. The NST's exclusive appellate channel bars any judicial review, including under Articles 226/32.

General Knowledge

Passage - I

The term Seven Sister States refers to the contiguous states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Tripura, located in India's far northeast. Collectively, these states cover an area of about 255,000 square kilometers and are often described as a bridge between South Asia and Southeast Asia. Their strategic position is of immense geopolitical importance, as the region shares international borders with several countries including Bhutan, China, Myanmar, and Bangladesh.

Geographically, the region is characterized by hilly terrain, lush forests, and high rainfall, making it one of the most biodiverse zones of the Indian subcontinent. The Brahmaputra and Barak river systems dominate the landscape, sustaining agriculture and acting as lifelines for transportation and livelihood. Assam, in particular, is renowned for its tea plantations, oil reserves, and the Kaziranga National Park, home to the one-horned rhinoceros.

Culturally, the Seven Sister States present a mosaic of ethnic groups, languages, and traditions. Each state hosts unique tribal communities with distinct customs, festivals, and attire. For example, Nagaland is famous for the Hornbill Festival, while Manipur is known for its classical dance form. The linguistic diversity is striking, with Tibeto-Burman and Indo-Aryan influences shaping communication across the region.

The region, however, faces several challenges. Insurgency movements and ethnic conflicts have historically affected stability. Connectivity with mainland India is also limited, as the region is linked to the rest of the country only

through the narrow Siliguri Corridor, popularly called the “Chicken’s Neck.” This geographical vulnerability adds to the sense of isolation. In response, successive governments have emphasized infrastructure development, with new roadways, rail links, and airports being constructed to integrate the northeast more effectively with the national economy.

In recent decades, the “Act East Policy” has further elevated the region’s significance, positioning it as India’s gateway to Southeast Asia. By strengthening trade, cultural ties, and people-to-people contact with neighboring countries, the Seven Sisters are envisioned as a hub of connectivity, commerce, and cultural exchange. Thus, the Seven Sister States are not only vital for India’s territorial integrity but also for its aspirations in regional diplomacy and economic growth.

81. Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

1. Manipur – Hornbill Festival
2. Nagaland – Manipuri Dance
3. Mizoram – Chapchar Kut Festival

A) 1 and 2 only B) 3 only C) 2 and 3 only D) 1, 2, and 3

82. Consider the following statements:

1. Meghalaya receives the highest average annual rainfall in India.
2. Cherrapunji and Mawsynram are located in Meghalaya.
3. Meghalaya was carved out of Assam in 1972.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

A) 1 only B) 2 and 3 only C) 1, 2, and 3 D) 2 only

83. Which of the following national parks is/are located in the Seven Sister States?

1. Namdapha National Park
2. Manas National Park
3. Balpakram National Park
4. Silent Valley National Park

A) 1, 2, and 3 only B) 2 and 4 only C) 1 and 3 only D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

84. Which of the following statements about Tripura is/are correct?

1. It shares an international border with Myanmar.
2. The state is known for the Tripuri tribal culture.
3. It is connected to the Indian mainland primarily through Assam.

A) 1 and 2 only B) 2 and 3 only C) 2 only D) 1, 2, and 3

85. Which of the following rivers flow through the Seven Sister States?

1. Lohit
2. Subansiri
3. Teesta
4. Siang

A) 1, 2, and 4 only B) 2 and 3 only C) 1 and 3 only D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

86. Assertion (A): The Siliguri Corridor is considered a strategic vulnerability for India.

Reason (R): It is only 22 km wide at its narrowest point, making the northeastern states geographically isolated.

- A) Both A and R are correct, and R is the correct explanation of A
B) Both A and R are correct, but R is not the correct explanation of A
C) A is correct, but R is incorrect D) A is incorrect, but R is correct

87. Which of the following statements regarding Nagaland is/are correct?

1. It shares a border with Myanmar.
2. The Hornbill Festival is held annually in Kohima.
3. Christianity is the dominant religion in the state.

- A) 1 and 2 only B) 2 only C) 1, 2, and 3 D) 1 and 3 only

88. Match the following states with their cultural identities:

1. Mizoram – Bamboo Dance
2. Assam – Bihu Festival
3. Manipur – Sankirtana Tradition

- A) 1 and 2 only B) 1 and 3 only C) 2 and 3 only D) 1, 2, and 3

Passage - II

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) was established in 1985 with the aim of promoting regional integration, peace, and socio-economic development among its member states. Comprising Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, SAARC represents nearly one-fourth of the world's population. Despite its vast potential, SAARC has struggled with structural and political limitations.

As of 2025, SAARC faces both challenges and opportunities. One of the major challenges remains the strained relationship between India and Pakistan, which has often stalled progress in collective decision-making. The last successful summit was held in Kathmandu in 2014, and subsequent attempts to convene leaders were disrupted due to bilateral tensions. While smaller countries within SAARC consistently emphasize regional cooperation, the political deadlock has limited meaningful outcomes.

Economically, South Asia continues to be one of the least integrated regions in the world. Intra-regional trade accounts for less than 5% of total trade, in sharp contrast to ASEAN or the European Union. To address this, SAARC established the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) agreement in 2006, but its effectiveness has been hindered by protectionist policies and lack of trust among members. In recent years, however, the digital economy, energy cooperation, and disaster management have emerged as areas where incremental progress has been possible.

Geopolitically, SAARC's relevance has been questioned with the rise of alternative regional groupings. BIMSTEC, which links South and Southeast Asia, has gained prominence, particularly because it excludes Pakistan. Similarly, India's increasing participation in global forums such as the G20, BRICS, and QUAD has overshadowed SAARC's role. Nevertheless, analysts argue that SAARC remains indispensable for addressing regional challenges like climate change, food security, migration, and public health, which cannot be managed effectively without cooperation among immediate neighbors.

The year 2025 has renewed debates on whether SAARC can reinvent itself. Advocates suggest focusing on functional cooperation in health, education, and connectivity rather than waiting for political consensus. Others propose reviving people-to-people initiatives, cultural exchanges, and academic networks to rebuild trust. Whether SAARC can overcome its political paralysis remains uncertain, but its survival is often linked with the idea that South Asia's future prosperity depends on greater unity and interdependence.

89. Consider the following statements regarding SAARC:

1. SAARC was established in 1985 in Dhaka.
2. Afghanistan was the last country to join SAARC.
3. The headquarters of SAARC is located in Kathmandu.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only B) 2 and 3 only C) 1 and 3 only D) 1, 2, and 3

90. Which of the following areas have seen incremental cooperation under SAARC in recent years?

1. Digital economy
2. Energy cooperation
3. Space research
4. Disaster management

- A) 1, 2, and 3 only B) 2 and 4 only C) 1, 2, and 4 only D) 1 and 3 only

91. Consider the following statements:

1. SAARC represents nearly one-fourth of the world's population.
2. Intra-regional trade in SAARC accounts for less than 5% of total trade.
3. India's active involvement in QUAD has strengthened SAARC's position in South Asia.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only B) 2 and 3 only C) 1 and 3 only D) 1, 2, and 3

92. Assertion (A): BIMSTEC is emerging as a more effective grouping compared to SAARC.

Reason (R): BIMSTEC includes all SAARC members along with Southeast Asian countries.

- A) Both A and R are correct, and R is the correct explanation of A
B) Both A and R are correct, but R is not the correct explanation of A
C) A is correct, but R is incorrect
D) A is incorrect, but R is correct

93. Which of the following issues are identified as areas where SAARC's role is indispensable?

1. Climate change
2. Food security
3. Migration
4. Nuclear arms reduction

- A) 1, 2, and 3 only B) 2 and 4 only C) 1 and 4 only D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

94. Which of the following statements is/are true regarding Afghanistan and SAARC?

1. Afghanistan became the 8th member of SAARC in 2007.
2. Afghanistan shares borders with India and Maldives, both SAARC members.
3. Afghanistan has actively participated in SAFTA negotiations.

- A) 1 only B) 1 and 2 only C) 1 and 3 only D) 2 and 3 only

95. Consider the following statements about the functioning of SAARC:

1. SAARC summits are held annually.
2. Any decision within SAARC requires unanimity.
3. Observers in SAARC include the USA, EU, and China.

Which of the statements is/are correct?

- A) 1 and 2 only B) 2 and 3 only C) 1 and 3 only D) 1, 2, and 3

Passage -III

Agriculture in India has historically been the backbone of the economy, employing nearly half of the workforce and contributing significantly to rural livelihoods. However, the sector has been marked by low productivity, fragmented landholdings, inadequate infrastructure, and vulnerability to climate shocks. To address these structural issues, successive governments have introduced a series of reforms aimed at modernization, diversification, and market liberalization.

A major shift began with the Green Revolution in the 1960s, which enhanced foodgrain self-sufficiency through the adoption of high-yield varieties, fertilizers, and irrigation. While it secured national food security, it also led to regional imbalances and ecological concerns such as groundwater depletion. Later, reforms focused on broadening crop choices and promoting horticulture, dairy, and fisheries, leading to what is sometimes termed the “Rainbow Revolution.”

In recent decades, reforms have centered on market mechanisms. The Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) Acts regulated the sale of produce, but over time these were criticized for creating monopolistic mandis. Several states initiated reforms allowing farmers to sell directly to private buyers, cooperatives, or through electronic platforms. The central government also launched initiatives like e-NAM (National Agriculture Market) to integrate fragmented markets digitally.

Financial reforms included direct benefit transfers (DBT) for fertilizer subsidies, the PM-Kisan scheme offering income support, and crop insurance programs under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). In parallel, irrigation projects, soil health cards, and digital platforms for extension services were introduced.

The most debated reforms in recent times were the three farm laws of 2020, which sought to deregulate markets, allow contract farming, and remove restrictions on stocking. These laws were withdrawn after widespread farmer protests, highlighting the political sensitivity of agrarian change in India. Despite the repeal, the issues they sought to address—such as supply chain inefficiencies and lack of private investment—remain pressing.

Thus, agriculture reforms in India represent a continuum: from ensuring food security to enabling farmer welfare and integrating into global value chains. The challenge lies in balancing farmer protection, market efficiency, and environmental sustainability—a task central to India’s developmental trajectory.

96. With reference to the Green Revolution, consider the following statements:

1. It introduced High-Yielding Variety (HYV) seeds in India.
2. It led to increased regional disparities in agricultural output.
3. It reduced India’s dependence on foodgrain imports.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only B. 1 and 2 only C. 1 and 3 only D. 1, 2 and 3

97. With reference to APMC reforms, consider the following:

1. Original APMC Acts were meant to protect farmers from exploitation by middlemen.
2. Over time, APMCs created monopolistic markets.
3. Some states amended their APMC Acts to allow private markets and direct sale.

Which of the statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 only B. 1 and 2 only C. 1 and 3 only D. 1, 2 and 3

98. Which of the following government initiatives relate to agriculture reforms?

1. Soil Health Card Scheme
2. e-NAM (National Agriculture Market)
3. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)
4. Ayushman Bharat Yojana

A. 1 and 2 only B. 2 and 3 only C. 1, 2 and 3 only D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

99. Match the following initiatives with their main objectives:

1. PM-Kisan → (a) Income support to farmers
2. PMFBY → (b) Crop insurance against natural calamities
3. e-NAM → (c) Digital integration of mandis
4. Operation Green → (d) Stabilize prices of tomato, onion, potato

Select the correct match:

A. 1-a, 2-b, 3-c, 4-d B. 1-b, 2-a, 3-d, 4-c C. 1-c, 2-d, 3-a, 4-b D. 1-a, 2-c, 3-b, 4-d

100. Which of the following reflect ecological consequences of Green Revolution practices?

1. Declining groundwater levels in Punjab and Haryana
2. Soil degradation due to overuse of fertilizers
3. Loss of crop diversity
4. Expansion of rainfed millet farming

A. 1 and 2 only B. 1, 2 and 3 only C. 2 and 4 only D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

101. Assertion (A): India has been reluctant to sign a comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the U.S. in agriculture.

Reason (R): India fears that full liberalization could hurt small farmers and compromise regulatory autonomy.

- A. Both A and R are true, and R explains A.
- B. Both A and R are true, but R does not explain A.
- C. A is true, but R is false.
- D. A is false, but R is true.

102. Consider the following about the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY):

1. Farmers' premium contributions are capped at 2% for kharif crops and 1.5% for rabi crops.
2. It is a central sector scheme with 100% funding from the Union government.
3. It covers post-harvest losses due to cyclones and unseasonal rains.

Which of the statements is/are correct?

A. 1 only B. 1 and 3 only C. 2 and 3 only D. 1, 2 and 3

103. With reference to future challenges in Indian agriculture reforms, consider the following:

1. Balancing farmer protection with market efficiency
2. Integrating sustainability and climate resilience into cropping patterns
3. Expanding private investment in cold storage and supply chains
4. Reversing urbanization trends to expand agricultural labour force

Which of the above are correct challenges?

A. 1, 2 and 3 only B. 1 and 2 only C. 2 and 4 only D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Passage - IV

India's G20 Presidency in 2023 marked a significant milestone in its global diplomatic journey. It was the first time India hosted the G20 Summit, positioning itself not only as an emerging economic power but also as a voice for the Global South. Under the theme "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam – One Earth, One Family, One Future", India emphasized inclusivity, sustainability, and multilateral cooperation.

One of the most notable achievements was the inclusion of the African Union (AU) as a permanent member of the G20, expanding the grouping into G21. This step was hailed as a recognition of the developmental aspirations of Africa and a rebalancing of global governance structures.

India also advanced the agenda on digital public infrastructure (DPI), highlighting the success of its Aadhaar, UPI, and CoWIN platforms as scalable models for developing countries. Similarly, the Green Development Pact emerged as a key outcome, stressing renewable energy transition, lifestyle changes for sustainability (LiFE initiative), and finance for climate action.

The Presidency also dealt with the complex challenge of geopolitical tensions. The Ukraine conflict created deep divides among members, but India managed to secure a consensus on the New Delhi Leaders' Declaration by focusing on shared concerns like debt relief, climate finance, and global economic stability, while carefully balancing neutrality in political language.

Beyond documents, India's G20 Presidency symbolized the democratization of diplomacy. Over 200 meetings were held across 60 Indian cities, integrating citizens into global policy debates and showcasing India's cultural diversity. This "Jan Bhagidari" approach was unique compared to earlier presidencies, blending soft power with policy.

The legacy of India's G20 Presidency, therefore, lies not only in formal outcomes but also in shaping global narratives. It reinforced India's role as a bridge between advanced and developing economies, set precedents for digital and climate cooperation, and widened global governance through AU membership. The challenge for the future will be sustaining these commitments and ensuring that declarations translate into tangible action.

104. With reference to India's G20 Presidency, consider the following statements:

1. The theme was based on the ancient Indian ideal of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam."
2. The motto was first used during the Non-Aligned Movement in 1961.
3. The theme emphasized inclusivity and sustainability.

Which of the above are correct?

- A. 1 only B. 1 and 3 only C. 2 and 3 only D. 1, 2 and 3

105. Assertion (A): The African Union was admitted as a permanent member during India's G20 Presidency.

Reason (R): This step was seen as recognition of Africa's growing strategic role and developmental aspirations.

- A. Both A and R are true, and R explains A. B. Both A and R are true, but R does not explain A.
C. A is true, but R is false. D. A is false, but R is true.

106. Which of the following reflects India's emphasis on Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) during its Presidency?

1. Highlighting UPI as a model for financial inclusion
2. Promoting CoWIN as a vaccination management tool
3. Proposing a global treaty on artificial intelligence regulation

Select the correct answer:

- A. 1 and 2 only B. 2 and 3 only C. 1 and 3 only D. 1, 2 and 3

107. Match the following G20 outcomes with their descriptions:

1. Green Development Pact → (a) Renewable energy and LiFE initiative
2. Jan Bhagidari → (b) Citizen participation in diplomacy
3. Inclusion of AU → (c) Expansion of membership to G21
4. DPI push → (d) Promotion of Aadhaar, UPI, CoWIN models

Select the correct match:

- A. 1-a, 2-b, 3-c, 4-d
- B. 1-b, 2-c, 3-d, 4-a
- C. 1-c, 2-d, 3-a, 4-b
- D. 1-a, 2-d, 3-b, 4-c

108. Assertion (A): India organized more than 200 meetings across 60 cities under its G20 Presidency.
Reason (R): The objective was to centralize all diplomatic interactions in New Delhi for efficiency.

- A. Both A and R are true, and R explains A.
- B. Both A and R are true, but R does not explain A.
- C. A is true, but R is false.
- D. A is false, but R is true.

109. Consider the following about India's climate agenda during the G20 Presidency:

1. The LiFE initiative was promoted as a lifestyle-based approach to sustainability.
2. The International Solar Alliance was formally adopted as a G20 initiative.
3. Finance for climate transition was emphasized in the Green Development Pact.

Which are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

110. Which of the following best captures the legacy dimension of India's G20 Presidency?

1. Recognition of Global South priorities in global governance
2. Exclusive focus on bilateral issues with the U.S.
3. Expansion of global governance through AU membership
4. Digital and climate precedents for future cooperation

Select the correct answer:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1, 3 and 4 only
- C. 2, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Quantitative Technique

Direction (111 - 115) Study the following information and answer the given question:

A, B, C, and D, four students, took an exam in two subjects: Math and Reasoning. The total marks for each subject are 50. They all received different marks in each subject. A got 30 marks in Math. B got 35 marks in Reasoning. C got 33.33% more marks than A in Math. The ratio of A's Reasoning marks to D's Math marks is 7:5. A's total marks are 65. D got 5 more marks in Math than in Reasoning. The average of C's marks is 25. The total age of A, B, C, and D is 96. D's Math marks are equal to D's age. C's age is one more than double his Reasoning marks.

111. Ratio of age A:B is 12:13. Then what is the age of B?

- (A) 21 (B) 24 (C) 26 (D) 25

112. Ratio of average marks of C and B is 5:6. Then B get in Math is ?

- (A) 21 (B) 25 (C) 20 (D) 30

113. Total marks of A is what percent more and less than total marks of D?

- (A) 21.25% (B) 25% (C) 20% (D) 44.44%

114. What is ratio of total Math marks of all and total Reasoning marks of all together?

- (A) 2:3 (B) 2:5 (C) 29: (D) CND

115. Marks of C in Math is what percent of marks get by D in maths ?

- (A) 120% (B) 125% (C) 160% (D) 144%

Direction (116 - 120) Study the given information and answer the following questions:

In an examination, 5 subjects – Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Hindi have equal maximum marks. The Marks scored by Satyam in maths and biology are in the ratio of 4:5, Satyam got 25 % more marks in physics than in chemistry. Marks obtain in Hindi is double the marks obtain in Physics. The Marks obtain in Maths is 200% of marks obtain in Chemistry. The difference in marks obtained by Satayam in Maths and Biology is 45.

116. In which of the following subject Satayam got equal marks?

- (A) Maths and Biology (B) Biology and Physics (C) Maths and Hindi (D) Hindi and Biology

117. Find out the total marks obtain by satayam in all the subject together?

- (A) 555 (B) 444 (C) 666 (D) NOT

118. Marks obtain in chemistry is how much % less than the marks obtain in Maths?

- (A) 34.8% (B) 37.5% (C) 50% (D) 44%

119. If each subject have maximum 300 marks, then find the % marks got by satayam in that examination?

- (A) 34.5% (B) 37.5% (C) 55.5% (D) 87.5%

120. Find out the ratio of marks got by Satayam in Physics, Hindi and Chemistry.

- (A) 5:10:4 (B) 1:2:5 (C) 2: 6:7 (D) 3: 5: 8

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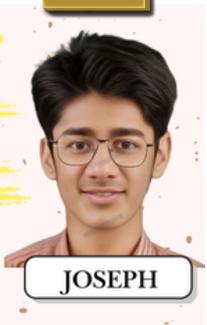
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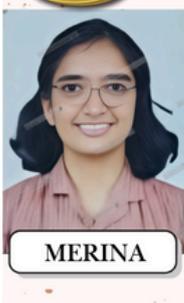
CLAT RESULT 2025

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JOSEPH

3



MERINA

4



ARSALAN AHMAD

5



HARIPRIYA

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YASH RAJYA VARDHAN