

SAMPLE PAPER - I [CLAT - 2023]

Section I - English Language

Directions: Each set of questions in this section is based on topics that arise out of the excerpted passage. Answers may be implied by facts mentioned in the passage but need not be so. Please answer each question on its own merit on the basis of your knowledge of current affairs and general knowledge.

1

Solitude can mean introspection, it can mean the concentration of focused work, and it can mean sustained reading. All of these help you to know yourself better. But there's one more thing I'm going to include as a form of solitude, and it will seem counterintuitive: friendship. Of course friendship is the opposite of solitude; it means being with other people. But I'm talking about one kind of friendship in particular, the deep friendship of intimate conversation. Long, uninterrupted talk with one other person. Not Skyping with three people and texting with two others at the same time while you hang out in a friend's room listening to music and studying.

Introspection means talking to yourself, and one of the best ways of talking to yourself is by talking to another person. One other person you can trust, one other person to whom you can unfold your soul. One other person you feel safe enough with to allow you to acknowledge things—to acknowledge things to yourself—that you otherwise can't. Doubts you aren't supposed to have, questions you aren't supposed to ask. Feelings or opinions that would get you laughed at by the group or reprimanded by the authorities.

This is what we call thinking out loud, discovering what you believe in the course of articulating it. But it takes just as much time and just as much patience as solitude in the strict sense. And our new electronic world has disrupted it just as violently. Instead of having one or two true friends that we can sit and talk to for three hours at a time, we have 968 "friends" that we never actually talk to; instead we just bounce one-line messages off them a hundred times a day. This is not friendship, this is distraction.

How will you find the strength and wisdom to challenge an unwise order or question a wrongheaded policy? How will you find words of comfort that are more than just empty formulas?

These are truly formidable dilemmas. The time to start preparing yourself for them is now, when you are still young. And the way to do it is by thinking through these issues for yourself—morality, mortality, honour—so you will have the strength to deal with them when they arise. Waiting until you have to confront them in practice would be like waiting for your first firefight to learn how to shoot your weapon. Once the situation is upon you, it's too late. You have to be prepared in advance. You need to know, already, who your and what you believe: not what you're peers believe (that may be exactly the problem), but what you believe.

Source: [Extracted, with edits and revisions, from: "Solitude and Leadership", *The American Scholar*, Spring 2010, William Deresiewicz, <https://theamericanscholar.org/solitude-and-leadership/#.XnxKA4gzY2w>]

1. According to the author, which among the following is an example of friendship as a form of solitude?
 - (a) Anup and Rajat play chess for a very long time sitting by the side of a pool.
 - (b) Reshma and Donna are childhood friends who trust each other immensely; they meet after a year, and talk to each other without holding anything back.
 - (c) Sweekar and Roshni are neighbours and study together for two days before their maths exam.
 - (d) Vrinda, Karuna, Neha, and Divya encounter each other in the park while taking morning walks and spend an hour every morning discussing efforts to clean up the neighbourhood of filth.

2. Which of the following, if true, weakens the arguments made by the author about deep friendship and uninterrupted conversation with one other person?
- (a) The internet and electronic mediums help people tide over the barrier of excessive self-consciousness and share things about themselves that they would not have during face-to-face interaction.
 - (b) Free and transparent communication over the internet is not possible due to the grave threats to one's privacy and the looming dangers of hacking and identity theft.
 - (c) A person whose interaction is limited to only a handful of people may find it hard to engage a person in long, deep conversation since such a person may be considered boring in today's times.
 - (d) Both (a) and (c) above.
3. 'Counterintuitive' means:
- (a) seemingly absurd
 - (b) using words to convey a meaning that is the opposite of its literal meaning
 - (c) consisting of many different and connected parts
 - (d) contrary to common-sense expectation
4. The underlined sentence in the passage above is:
- (a) Incorrect; it should read: "You need to know, already, who your are and what you believe: not what you're peers believe (that may be exactly the problem), but what you believe."
 - (b) Incorrect; it should read: "You need to know, already, who yours are and what you believe: not what you're peers believe (that may be exactly the problem), but what your believe."
 - (c) Incorrect; it should read: "You need to know, already, who you are and what you believe: not what your peers believe (that may be exactly the problem), but what you believe."
 - (d) Correct.
5. 'Waiting for your first fire fight to learn how to shoot your weapon' - this is:
- (a) An explanation of waiting to do something when you confront it in practice.
 - (b) A criticism of waiting to do something only when you confront it in practice.
 - (c) A metaphor for waiting to do something till you confront it in practice.
 - (d) A specific example of the general phenomenon of waiting to do something till you confront it in practice.

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2

You are home to trillions and trillions of tiny living things and they do a surprising amount of good. They provide you with about 10% of your calories by breaking down foods that you couldn't otherwise make use of, and in the process extract beneficial nutriment like vitamins B2 and B12 and folic acid. Humans produce twenty digestive enzymes, which is a pretty respectable number in the animal world, but bacteria produce ten thousand, or five hundred times as many, according to Christopher Gardner, director of nutrition studies at Stanford University.

Individually they are infinitesimally small and their lives are fleeting – the average bacterium weighs about one trillionth of the weight of a dollar bill, and lives for no more than twenty minutes – but collectively they are formidable indeed. The genes you are born with are all you are ever going to have. You can't buy or trade them for better ones. But bacteria can swap genes among themselves, and they can pick up DNA from dead neighbours. These horizontal gene transfers, as they are known, massively accelerate their capacity to adapt to whatever nature and science throw at them. Bacterial DNA is less scrupulous in its proofreading, too, so they mutate more often, giving them even greater genetic nimbleness.

We can't begin to compete with them for speed of change. *E. coli* can reproduce seventy-two times in a day, which means that in three days they can rack up as many new generations as we have managed in the whole of human history. A single parent bacterium could in theory produce a mass of offspring greater than the weight of the Earth in less than two days. In three days, its progeny would exceed the mass of the observable universe. Clearly that could never happen, but they are with us already in numbers beyond imagining. If you put all the Earth's microbes in one heap and all the other animal life in another, the microbe heap would be twenty-five times greater than the animal one.

Make no mistake. This is a planet of microbes. We are here at their pleasure. They don't need us at all. We'd be dead in a day without them.

Source: [Extracted, with edits and revisions, from *The Body: A Guide for Occupants*, by Bill Bryson, Penguin Books, 2019.]

6. Based on the passage above, which of the following is most likely to be true?
 - (a) Because they are so small, bacteria cannot digest as wide a variety of foods as humans.
 - (b) Because they produce so many more digestive enzymes, bacteria are able to digest a wider variety of foods than humans.
 - (c) Because they are so small, bacteria are not adaptable to changes in nature.
 - (d) Because they produce so many more digestive enzymes, a single bacteria can live longer than a human.

7. Which of the following best describes an instance of 'horizontal gene transfer', based on the information provided in the passage?
 - (a) Bacteria causing disease in a human by adding its DNA to that of human cells.
 - (b) A bacterium mutating without adding any new parts or portions to its DNA.
 - (c) A single bacterium reproducing rapidly until the mass of bacteria so produced exceeds the mass of the Earth.
 - (d) A bacterium gathering DNA from a deceased bacterium that is in proximity to it.

8. Which of the following is the author most likely to disagree with, based on the information in the passage above?
 - (a) Bacteria weigh very, very little, and so, all bacteria put together could clearly never weigh as much as all other animal life on Earth put together.
 - (b) Bacteria reproduce very quickly, and can rapidly generate more offspring than humans ever could.
 - (c) It would be difficult for us to obtain vitamins B2 and B12 without the bacteria in our body.
 - (d) The genes we are born with are with us for life, and we cannot replace them easily.

9. 'Bacteria' is the plural form of 'bacterium', which of the following is the plural form of 'virus'?
- (a) Virium (b) Viriti
(c) Virenia (d) None of the above.
10. Why, based on the information in the passage, is it that there are far more bacteria in the world than humans? Choose the most likely of the following reasons:
- (a) Because they produce far more digestive enzymes than humans do.
(b) Because they reproduce far more rapidly than humans, and can adapt easily to changing circumstances.
(c) Because they can generate folic acid from food, whereas humans cannot.
(d) Because they do not need to sleep, whereas humans need to sleep and rest.

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3

When news broke that Facebook users' private messages were not necessarily private, Taunya Richards, 44, immediately panicked: Had she endangered her son? She thought back to her chats with her mother in Idaho, who prefers Facebook's messenger to texting. Her son is a specialist in the Army; using the Facebook-owned encrypted messaging platform WhatsApp, he had kept her updated as he travelled to what she described as a dangerous foreign base whose location she was supposed to keep secret. She had then sent those location updates to her mother using Facebook Messenger. Now she wonders who has that data.

"For a mother," she told me, "especially one whose whole life has been about protect your kid from these harms, and she's just doing what a mother does, which is responding to him telling her something that he needs her to know so he's protected, and someone can come in and take that and just sell it to people as data? You're putting my kid's life in danger."

But don't count Ms. Richards among the growing ranks of people deleting Facebook. "All it does is punish me," she said. "It doesn't punish Facebook. It doesn't change anything. It cuts me off from my family." Even if a boycott bankrupted Facebook, what's to stop the next company from doing the same thing? "We need the laws to say, You can't do this," she said.

Ms. Richards's dissension from the swelling chorus of #DeleteFacebook is notable and worth considering. In refusing to delete her Facebook account, she is refusing to turn the power abuses of the tech industry into an issue of personal responsibility.

The impulse to delete Facebook is understandable. In an era of political gridlock and dysfunction, it feels good to start somewhere. There is the hope that waves of deletions will sent a signal to the company's leaders and to the lawmakers who are meant to regulate it.

But it would also seem to be the case that if millions of angry individuals were going to save us from the worst excesses of the tech industry, we would have been saved from them by now. Collective action is difficult against a global behemoth like Facebook. Were such action to succeed, the company also owns WhatsApp and Instagram. With a couple of billion users on Facebook alone, it is hard to fathom how many deleted accounts it would take to drive genuine change.

And it's possible that #DeleteFacebook might actually play into Facebook's hands, by recasting a political issue as a willpower issue.

If I were Mark Zuckerberg, I might actually relish seeing my users agonize over the question of “to delete or not to delete.”

Source: [Extracted, with edits and revisions, from: “Deleting Facebook Won’t Fix the Problem”, by Anand Giridharadas, *The New York Times*, <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/01/10/opinion/delete-facebook.html>]

11. Why did Taunya Richards panic?
 - (a) Because she found out that her son was a WhatsApp user.
 - (b) Because she discovered that her mother used Facebook Messenger
 - (c) Because she had sent her son’s location updates to her mother using Facebook Messenger and she found out that these messages were not always private.
 - (d) Because she found out that her son was in a dangerous foreign base.

12. Why did Taunya Richards refuse to delete Facebook?
 - (a) Because she did not wish to punish Facebook.
 - (b) Because it would not make a difference to Facebook, but would affect her ability to communicate with her family.
 - (c) Because she believed that it would harm her son and as a mother, her whole life had been about protecting her kid from harm.
 - (d) Because she did not want Mark Zuckerberg to relish seeing his users agonise over the question of “to delete or not to delete”.

13. According to the author, what type of issue is the issue of the power abuses of the tech industry?
 - (a) A political issue
 - (b) A willpower issue
 - (c) A political issue and a willpower issue
 - (d) None of the above

14. According to the author, the impulse of those wanting to delete Facebook is understandable due to the following reasons, except:
 - (a) Deleting Facebook in huge numbers might send a message to the company’s management that their policies are flawed.
 - (b) Deleting Facebook in huge numbers might alert lawmakers about Facebook’s excesses.
 - (c) Deleting Facebook is a good start when the political system is in a state of dysfunction.
 - (d) Deleting Facebook may prompt Mark Zuckerberg to empathize with the agony of the users of Facebook.

15. ‘Gridlock’, as used in the passage, means:
 - (a) a situation in which laws that satisfy the needs of the people are not being passed
 - (b) traffic congestion
 - (c) a complex system
 - (d) a point of no return

16. Which change in the underlined sentence in the passage above will make it grammatically correct?
 - (a) removing 'the' before hope
 - (b) replacing 'sent' with 'send'
 - (c) replacing 'will' with 'can'
 - (d) all of the above

17. Choose the antonym of the word 'dissension' from the following:
- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| (a) ascension | (b) concurrence |
| (c) assertion | (d) melodic |

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4

The path of social reform, like the path to heaven (at any rate, in India), is strewn with many difficulties. Social reform in India has few friends and many critics. The critics fall into two distinct classes. One class consists of political reformers, and the other of the socialists.

It was at one time recognised that without social efficiency, no permanent progress in the other fields of activity was possible; that owing to mischief wrought by evil customs, Hindu society was not in a state of efficiency; and that ceaseless efforts must be made to eradicate these evils. It was due to the recognition of this fact that the birth of the National Congress was accompanied by the foundation of the Social Conference. While the Congress was concerned with defining the weak points in the political organisation of the country, the Social Conference was engaged in removing the weak points in the social organisation of Hindu society. For some time the Congress and the Conference worked as two wings of one common activity, and they held their annual sessions in the same pandal (tent).

But soon the two wings developed into two parties, a 'political reform party' and a 'social reform party', between whom there raged a fierce controversy. The 'political reform party' supported the National Congress, and the 'social reform party' supported the Social Conference. The two bodies thus became two hostile camps. The point at issue was whether social reform should precede political reform. For a decade the forces were evenly balanced, and the battle was fought without victory to either side.

It was, however, evident that the fortunes of the Social Conference were ebbing fast. The gentlemen who presided over the sessions of the Social Conference lamented that the majority of educated Hindus were for political advancement and indifferent to social reform; and that while the number of those who attended the Congress was very large, and the number who did not attend but who sympathised with it was even larger, the number of those who attended the Social Conference was very much smaller.

This indifference – the thinning of its ranks – was soon followed by active hostility from the politicians. Under the leadership of the late Mr. Tilak, the courtesy with which the Congress allowed the Social Conference the use of its pandal was withdrawn, and the spirit of enmity went to such a pitch that when the Social Conference desired to erect its own pandal, a threat to burn the pandal was held out by its opponents. Thus in the course of time the party in favour of political reform won, and the Social Conference vanished and was forgotten.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from Annihilation of Caste, by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Critical Annotated Edition, Navayana, 2014.]

18. What reason does the author offer in the passage above for why the foundation of the National Congress was accompanied by the foundation of the Social Conference?
- The recognition of the fact that costs could be saved by both organizations sharing the same pandal.
 - The awareness of the fact that the path of social reform in India is strewn with many difficulties.
 - The acknowledgment of the fact that lasting progress in other fields was not possible without social efficiency.

- (d) The realization that two separate parties could be developed from these organizations.
19. Which of the following is the author most likely to agree with?
- (a) The demise of the Social Conference was caused entirely due to the hostility of the politicians.
 - (b) The demise of the Social Conference was caused in some measure due to the hostility of the politicians.
 - (c) The disappearance of the Social Conference was caused by the fact that they did not have a pandal to host their meetings in.
 - (d) The vanishing of the Social Conference was due to the realization that Hindu society did not need any reform.
20. Why, according to the author, did the National Congress and the Social Conference become hostile camps?
- (a) Because they disagreed over which should happen first, political reform or social reform.
 - (b) Because they could not agree upon which wing should use the pandal for their meetings first.
 - (c) Because of differences over the date on which their meetings should be organized.
 - (d) Because its opponents threatened to burn the pandal of the Social Conference.
21. In the first ten years, after they became hostile with each other, what, according to the author, was the outcome of the differences between the National Congress and the Social Conference?
- (a) Neither side was able to overcome the other
 - (b) Neither side made any efforts to prove their point
 - (c) There was no difference
 - (d) The National Congress won the debate
22. What is the meaning of the expression 'ebbing away', as used in the passage?
- (a) Floating gently
 - (b) Increasing gradually
 - (c) Flowing back and forth like the tide
 - (d) Declining or decaying

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5

The crime figures of Uttar Pradesh clearly show that illegal weapons are widely used for murder, extortion and other crimes in the state. In the four years from 2009 to 2012, the number of murders committed using illegal weapons rose constantly. But the number of illegal weapons not used to commit crimes is much higher. "For every legal weapons licence, there are an estimated 40 illegal weapons on an average in the state."

I ask Guddu, "So, why are the guns needed during the elections?"

"During rallies politicians have to show muscle and their ability to defend their people. Celebrations require gunfire. These are the crackers for their henchmen. And the more guns a particular group under a politician or group of politicians possesses, better are the chances of them making an impact on the village voters. Guns can get any work done, and the villagers know it very well."

It is, after all, a feudal society where machismo is celebrated, or at least respected more than a person's ability to serve well. If a loyal voter needs help, a man with a gun and a man with organisational skills are sent with him, and his work gets done in no time. A man who has the ability to deliver results so quickly surely deserves to be voted to power. And a *bahubali* needs his guns.

Guddu asks, "Have you ever seen a (*desi*) rifle?" He pulls out a basket and unties the packing. Then he puts his hand in and pulls out a brand new rifle, almost half a metre in length. It is a non-automatic gun with a single barrel.

The metal on it shines bright in the moonlight and the smoothness of its surface indicates that the smith has done a perfect job. The stock seems to have been made out of wood from an old, sturdy piece of furniture. The wood has been polished well and almost glows, dark beige. The barrel looks thicker than usual 9mm rifles, probably to make it stronger and to prevent it from bursting open when a shot is fired.

"*Barreta toh jaante ho na? Usi ki bullet dalti hai isme.* (You surely know what a Beretta is, don't you? The bullet used in it is the one used in this too)," Guddu says, referring to the 9mm bullets. "Guns that are compatible with magazines are available too. But the ones manufactured in Nepal and Bihar are of better quality, not the ones made here."

He aims at me and pulls the trigger. It is an empty shot, but he has a whale of a time looking at my expression.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from: "Guns and roses on the Ganga", by Arpit Parashar, Fountain Ink Magazine, <https://fountainink.in/reportage/guns-and-roses-on-the-ganga>]

23. During what time of the day does the conversation between the author and Guddu in the passage above take place?
- (a) Late morning (b) Afternoon
(c) Night (d) Any of the above
24. 'Machismo' means
- (a) the enjoyment of an activity that appears to be painful or tedious
(b) dislike of, contempt for, or ingrained prejudice against women
(c) qualities or attributes regarded as characteristic of men
(d) strong or aggressive masculine pride
25. All of the statements below can be inferred from the passage above, except:
- (a) The villagers know that if a politician does not possess many guns, he will get their work done.
(b) The statistics on the use of illegal weapons used in committing crimes in Uttar Pradesh are not representative of the actual number of illegal weapons in circulation.
(c) Guns made in Uttar Pradesh that are compatible with magazines are of poorer quality in comparison to those made in Nepal and Bihar.
(d) Politicians in Uttar Pradesh use gunfire in their celebrations
26. What is the implication of the underlined paragraph in the passage?
- (a) Guddu kills the author by pulling the trigger
(b) Guddu threatens to kill the author by pretending to pull the trigger
(c) Guddu unintentionally presses on the trigger, causing injury to the author.
(d) Guddu pulls the trigger but the gun is not loaded, so no harm is caused to the author.

27. Going by the passage, among the following politicians, who is most likely to be voted to power in Uttar Pradesh?

- (a) Raju, who does not possess any guns himself but has the support of hundreds of goons who possess guns.
- (b) Ramu, who possesses a handful of guns but does not have the support of armed loyalists.
- (c) Ranga, who does not possess guns or have the loyalties of those who do, but is committed to undertaking honest work for the betterment of villages.
- (d) Rana, who does not have guns, but has the support of a few law-abiding people and is committed to undertaking honest work for the betterment of villages.

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6

A couple of years after the partition of the country, it occurred to the respective governments of India and Pakistan that inmates of lunatic asylums, like prisoners, should also be exchanged. Muslim lunatics in India should be transferred to Pakistan and Hindu and Sikh lunatics in Pakistani asylums should be sent to India. Whether this was a reasonable or unreasonable idea is difficult to say. One thing, however, is clear. It took many conferences of important officials from the two sides to come to the decision. Final details, like the date of actual exchange, were carefully worked out. Muslim lunatics whose families were still residing in India were to be left undisturbed, the rest moved to the border for the exchange. The situation in Pakistan was slightly different, since almost the entire population of Hindus and Sikhs had already migrated to India. The question of keeping non-Muslim lunatics in Pakistan did not, therefore, arise.

While it is not known what the reaction in India was, when the news reached the Lahore lunatic asylum, it immediately became the subject of heated discussion. One Muslim lunatic, a regular reader of the fire-eating daily newspaper *Zamindar*, when asked what Pakistan was, replied after deep reflection, 'The name of a place in India where cut-throat razors are manufactured.'

This profound observation was received with profound satisfaction.

Not all inmates were mad. Some were perfectly normal, except that they were murderers. To spare them the hangman's noose, their families had managed to get them committed after bribing officials down the line. They probably had a vague idea why India was being divided and what Pakistan was, but, as for the present situation, they were equally clueless.

As to where Pakistan was located, the inmates knew nothing. That was why both the mad and the partially mad were unable to decide whether they were now in India or in Pakistan. If they were in India, where on earth was Pakistan? And if they were in Pakistan, then how come until only the other day it was India?

One inmate had got so badly caught up in this India-Pakistan-Pakistan-India rigamarole that one day, while sweeping the floor, he dropped everything, climbed the nearest tree and installed himself on a branch, from which vantage point he spoke for two hours on the delicate problem of India and Pakistan. The guards asked him to get down; instead he went a branch higher, and when threatened with punishment, declared, 'I wish to live neither in India nor in Pakistan. I wish to live in this tree.'

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from *Toba Tek Singh*, by Saadat Hasan Manto, from *Mottled Dawn: fifty Sketches and Stories of Partition*, Penguin, 1997.]

28. When the author says "Muslim lunatics whose families were still residing in India were to be left undisturbed, the rest moved to the border for the exchange", in which country are the lunatics he is talking about?
- (a) Pakistan (b) India
(c) On the border between India and Pakistan (d) None of the above
29. Which of the following sentences best explains why the families of some murderers had them committed to the Lahore lunatic asylum?
- (a) So as to ensure they were sent to India.
(b) So as to ensure they escaped the partition riots.
(c) So as to pay bribes to officials down the line.
(d) So as to help them escape a sentence of capital punishment.
30. What does the expression 'fire-eating' mean?
- (a) Violent and belligerent (b) Calm and sedate
(c) Haphazard and disorganised (d) Equivocal and non-committal
31. Why does the author say that the question of keeping non-Muslim lunatics in Pakistan did not arise?
- (a) Because almost all of the Muslim population from India had already migrated to Pakistan.
(b) Because almost all of the Muslim lunatics from India were being sent to Pakistan.
(c) Because almost all of the Hindu and Sikh lunatics from Pakistan had already migrated to India.
(d) Because almost all of the Hindu and Sikh population from Pakistan had already migrated to India.
32. Which of the following most plausibly captures the significance of the inmate saying "I wish to live neither in India nor in Pakistan. I wish to live in this tree"?
- (a) After the partition of Indian and Pakistan, there were so many inmates at the Lahore lunatic asylum that some inmates had to live on trees.
(b) After the partition of India and Pakistan, many people wanted to migrate to a different country from the one they were in.
(c) After the partition of India and Pakistan, many people just wanted to remain where they were, rather than be forced to choose a country.
(d) After the partition of India and Pakistan, Pakistan started manufacturing cut-throat razors.

Section II - Current Affairs

Directions: Each set of questions in this section is based on topics that arise out of the excerpted passage. Answers may be implied by facts mentioned in the passage but need not be so. Please answer each question on its own merit on the basis of your knowledge of current affairs and general knowledge.

7

The National Investigation Agency on Thursday morning launched a massive nationwide search operation in connection with anti-terror activities. The operation, being described as the “largest ever”, involves searches across 10 states, and has so far led to the arrest of as many as 100 people linked to the Popular Front of India (PFI).

The searches, according to news agency PTI, are part of a crackdown against those allegedly involved in terror funding, organising training camps, and radicalising people to join proscribed organisations.

The premises being searched by the NIA include at least 10 places across Bengaluru and other parts of Karnataka, including the residence of PFI state president Nazeer Pasha.

The formation of the PFI was formally announced at a rally in Bengaluru during what was called the “Empower India Conference” on February 16, 2007.

The PFI, which emerged in the aftermath of the ban on the Students Islamic Movement of India (SIMI), has projected itself as an organisation that fights for the rights of minorities, Dalits, and marginalised communities. It has frequently targeted the alleged anti-people policies of the Congress, the BJP, and the JD-S in Karnataka, even as these mainstream parties have accused one another of being in cahoots with the PFI to gather the support of Muslims at the time of elections.

The PFI has never contested elections. It has been involved in carrying out social and Islamic religious work among Muslims. The PFI does not maintain records of its members, and it has been difficult for law enforcement agencies to pin crimes on the organisation after making arrests.

The PFI has had the most visible presence in Kerala, where it has been repeatedly accused of murder, rioting, intimidation, and having links with terrorist organisations.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from: “Who are the PFI, and why are premises linked to them being searched by the NIA?”, The Indian Express, September 24, 2022,

<https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-politics/popular-front-of-india-nia-raids-kerala-karnataka-explained-8165781/>

33. Which of the following were among the organizations that merged to form the PFI in 2007?

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (a) National Democratic Front | (b) Karnataka forum for dignity |
| (c) Manitha Neethi Pasarai | (d) All of the above |

34. What is the name of the political party affiliated to the PFI?

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| (a) Social Democratic Party of India | (b) Democratic National Party of India |
| (c) Social National Party of India | (d) Indian Social Democratic Party |

35. Who is the National Chairman of the PFI?

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| (a) Nasaruddin Elamara | (b) K. Mohammed Ali |
| (c) O.M.A. Salam | (d) K.P. Jamshad |

36. Under which of the following legislation has the Students Islamic Movement of India been banned?
(a) Indian Penal Code, 1860 (b) Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, 1967
(c) National Security Act, 1980 (d) Central Industrial Security Act, 1968
37. Who among the following is a journalist arrested and charged under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, 1967 by the Uttar Pradesh Police in 2020?
(a) Rana Ayyub (b) Mohammed Zubair
(c) Rupesh Kumar Singh (d) Siddique Kappan
38. In August 2022, the Supreme Court granted bail to which of the following, a poet and activist arrested in connection with the Bhima Koregaon case?
(a) Varavara Rao (b) Father Stan Swamy
(c) Perala Gopi (d) Khurram Parvez
39. What is the name of the monument built by the British at Bhima Koregaon as a memorial for soldiers killed in the Bhima Koregaon battle of 1818?
(a) Vijay Sthamb (b) Iron Pillar
(c) Shaheed Minar (d) National War Memorial

Each set of questions in this section is based on topics that arise out of the excerpted passage. Answers may be implied by facts mentioned in the passage but need not be so. Please answer each question on its own merit on the basis of your knowledge of current affairs and general knowledge.

8

Shehbaz Sharif was sworn-in as the new Prime Minister of Pakistan on Monday, bringing to an end the political uncertainty that had gripped the country since March 8.

Earlier, Sharif was elected unopposed as the Prime Minister by Parliament after rival candidate Shah Mahmood Qureshi announced that his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party will boycott the voting and staged a walkout.

Shehbaz Sharif said he wants good relations with India, but it can't be achieved without resolution of Kashmir issue.

The newly-elected Prime Minister termed ousted premier Imran Khan's 'foreign conspiracy' claims as "drama", saying he will resign and go home if it is proved.

Addressing Parliament after his election as the country's 23rd Prime Minister, Shehbaz said that good has prevailed over evil.

"Pakistan's National Security Committee would be briefed on a controversial letter related to the so-called foreign conspiracy," he said, terming Khan's 'foreign conspiracy' claims as "drama".

Khan had alleged that the US was involved in a conspiracy to topple his government.

"I will resign and go home if conspiracy is proved in letter controversy," Shehbaz said.

Shehbaz, 70, was elected unopposed as the new Prime Minister of Pakistan by Parliament after rival candidate Shah Mahmood Qureshi announced that his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party will boycott the voting and staged a walkout.

Shehbaz, the younger brother of former three-time prime minister Nawaz Sharif, received 174 votes — two more than the simple majority of 172.

He has served as chief minister of the country's most populous and politically crucial Punjab province thrice.

Former president and Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) co-chair Asif Ali Zardari had proposed Shehbaz's name for prime minister's position in a joint opposition's meeting to replace Imran Khan through a no-confidence motion.

Pakistan has struggled with political instability since its formation in 1947 with multiple regime changes and military coups. No prime minister has ever completed a full five-year term.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from "Shehbaz Sharif takes oath as new PM of Pakistan, calls Imran Khan's 'foreign conspiracy' claims as 'drama'", The Tribune, <https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/world/shehbaz-sharif-set-to-be-elected-new-pakistan-pm-385429>]

40. Who was the first Prime Minister of Pakistan to be removed from office after losing a vote of no-confidence?
- (a) Nawaz Sharif (b) Benazir Bhutto
(c) Asif Ali Zardari (d) Imran Khan
41. Which of the following political parties is Shehbaz Sharif a member of?
- (a) Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (b) Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz)
(c) Pakistan Peoples Party (d) Awami National Party
42. Which of the following South Asian countries witness an annual inflation rate of 70.6% in August 2022 as a part of its worst economic crisis in over seven decades?
- (a) Pakistan (b) Nepal
(c) Sri Lanka (d) Bangladesh
43. Which of the following, Pakistan's largest freshwater lake, overflowed during the catastrophic floods of the second half of 2022?
- (a) Lake Manchar (b) Paristan Lake
(c) Attabad Lake (d) Rush Lake
44. The current La Niña phase of the equatorial Pacific Ocean, one of the longest such phases in recorded history, and blamed in parts for the floods in Pakistan, is now being classified as:
- (a) El Niño (b) Godzilla
(c) Triple Dip La Niña (d) Karaburan
45. Who is the current Prime Minister of Sri Lanka?
- (a) Gotabaya Rajapaksha (b) Mahindra Rajapaksha
(c) Dinesh Gunawardena (d) Ranil Wickremesinghe
46. With which of its neighbors has India decided to proceed with the Sapta Kosi high Dam Project?
- (a) Sri Lanka (b) Nepal
(c) Bhutan (d) Bangladesh

Directions: Each set of questions in this section is based on topics that arise out of the excerpted passage. Answers may be implied by facts mentioned in the passage but need not be so. Please answer each question on its own merit on the basis of your knowledge of current affairs and general knowledge.

9

The story of vaccines did not begin with the first vaccine – [1]’s use of material from cowpox pustules to provide protection against smallpox. Rather, it begins with the long history of infectious disease in humans, and in particular, with early uses of smallpox material to provide immunity to that disease.

Evidence exists that the Chinese employed smallpox inoculation (or variolation, as such use of smallpox material was called) as early as 1000 CE. It was practiced in Africa and Turkey as well, before it spread to Europe and the Americas.

[1]’s innovations, begun with his successful 1796 use of cowpox material to create immunity to smallpox, quickly made the practice widespread. His method underwent medical and technological changes over the next 200 years, and eventually resulted in the eradication of smallpox.

Louis Pasteur’s 1885 [2] vaccine was the next to make an impact on human disease. And then, at the dawn of bacteriology, developments rapidly followed. Antitoxins and vaccines against diphtheria, tetanus, anthrax, cholera, plague, typhoid, tuberculosis, and more were developed through the 1930s.

The middle of the 20th century was an active time for vaccine research and development. Methods for growing viruses in the laboratory led to rapid discoveries and innovations, including the creation of vaccines for polio. Researchers targeted other common childhood diseases such as measles, mumps, and rubella, and vaccines for these diseases reduced the disease burden greatly.

Innovative techniques now drive vaccine research, with recombinant DNA technology and new delivery techniques leading scientists in new directions. Disease targets have expanded, and some vaccine research is beginning to focus on non-infectious conditions such as addiction and allergies.

More than the science behind vaccines, these timelines cover cultural aspects of vaccination as well, from the early harassment of smallpox variolators (see the intimidation of a prominent minister described in the 1721 Boston Smallpox Epidemic entry) to the establishment of vaccination mandates, to the effect of war and social unrest on vaccine-preventable diseases. [1], Louis Pasteur, and Maurice Hilleman, pioneers in vaccine development receive particular attention as well.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from: "The History of Vaccines",

<https://www.historyofvaccines.org/timeline/all>

47. Whose name has been replaced with '[1]' in the passage above?
- (a) Alexander Fleming (b) Robert Koch
(c) Joseph Lister (d) Edward Jenner
48. What is the name of the disease, whose name has been replaced with '[2]' in the passage above?
- (a) Polio (b) Rabies
(c) Cholera (d) Chickenpox
49. Which amongst the following most accurately describes the achievements of Maurice Hilleman, mentioned in the passage above?
- (a) He pioneered the use of anesthetics in surgeries
(b) He pioneered the use of antiseptics in surgery.
(c) He developed over 40 vaccines, including those for measles and mumps.
(d) He developed a therapeutic treatment for AIDS.

50. Primarily for what disease is BCG, or bacilli Calmette-Guerin, a vaccine for?
- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| (a) Tuberculosis | (b) Meningitis |
| (c) The Seasonal Flu | (d) The Common Cold |
51. In which year did the Government start BCG vaccinations in India?
- | | |
|----------|----------|
| (a) 1992 | (b) 1948 |
| (c) 2010 | (d) 1963 |

Directions: Each set of questions in this section is based on topics that arise out of the excerpted passage. Answers may be implied by facts mentioned in the passage but need not be so. Please answer each question on its own merit on the basis of your knowledge of current affairs and general knowledge.

10

The Supreme Court on Friday ended constitutional protections for abortion that had stood in America for nearly a half-century. The decision by the court’s conservative majority overturned the landmark “[1]” ruling and is expected to lead to abortion bans in roughly half the states.

The ruling, unthinkable just a few years ago, was the culmination of decades of efforts by abortion opponents, made possible by an emboldened right side of the court that has been fortified by three appointees of former President Donald Trump.

Both sides predicted the fight over abortion would continue, in state capitals and in Washington, and Justice Clarence Thomas, part of Friday’s majority, called on the court to overturn other high court rulings protecting same-sex marriage, gay sex and the use of contraceptives.

Clinics in at least two states, Wisconsin and West Virginia, stopped performing abortions after Friday’s decision.

Abortion foes cheered the ruling, but abortion-rights supporters, including President Joe Biden, expressed dismay and pledged to fight to restore the rights.

“It’s a sad day for the court and for the country,” Biden said at the White House. He urged voters to make it a defining issue in the November elections, declaring, “This decision must not be the final word.”

The ruling came more than a month after the stunning leak of a draft opinion by Justice Samuel Alito indicating the court was prepared to take this momentous step.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from: “US Supreme Court overturns landmark verdict that legalised abortion in country”, India Today, June 24, 2022, <https://www.indiatoday.in/world/story/us-supreme-court-overturns-landmark-verdict-legalised-abortion-in-country-1966449-2022-06-24>]

52. The name of the landmark case replaced by “[1]” in the passage above is:
- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (a) Marbury v. Madison | (b) Brown v. Board of Education |
| (c) Mapp v. Ohio | (d) Roe v. Wade |
53. The name of the case that the passage above is about, in which constitutional protections for abortion in America were ended, is:
- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| (a) Biden v. Texas | (b) Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization |
| (c) Concepcion v. United States | (d) Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta |
54. Which of the following laws regulates abortions in India?
- | |
|---|
| (a) The Indian Abortion Act, 1995 |
| (b) The Women’s Health Rights Act, 1987 |

(c) The Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971

(d) The Maternity Benefit Act 1961

55. The Indian legislation governing women's right to abortion was amended in 2021 to allow which of the following:
- (a) Abortions based on the advice of one doctor for pregnancies up to 20 weeks
 - (b) Abortions based on the advice of two doctors for pregnancies between 20 and 24 weeks, in certain circumstances
 - (c) Both, (a) and (b)
 - (d) None of the above
56. This academician and activist, who fought a landmark case in 1986 that overturned laws that did not allow Syrian Christian daughters to inherit property, passed away in September 2022. What is her name?
- (a) Mary Roy
 - (b) Kamla Bhasin
 - (c) Shehla Masood
 - (d) Gail Omvedt
57. According to Indian law, how many days miscarriage leave are women entitled to?
- (a) Four weeks
 - (b) Seven days
 - (c) None
 - (d) Six weeks
58. According to the India Discrimination Report 2022, published by Oxfam, Indian women's labour force participation rate for 2021 has been estimated at:
- (a) 43%
 - (b) 25%
 - (c) 75%
 - (d) 10%
59. According to Oxfam's India Discrimination Report 2022, the reason for Indian women's labour force participation in the labour force is:
- (a) Gender discrimination in wages and opportunities
 - (b) Availability of better opportunities overseas
 - (c) Unwillingness to engage in productive labour
 - (d) Refusal to work during regular hours
60. Which of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals related to achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls?
- (a) SDG 17
 - (b) SDG 5
 - (c) SDG 1
 - (d) SDG 10
61. Earlier this year, India's National Medical Association banned which of the following, a practice that queer people are subjected to, in order to 'cure' them?
- (a) Queer Therapy
 - (b) Straightening Therapy
 - (c) Conversion Therapy
 - (d) Cis Therapy

Directions: Each set of questions in this section is based on topics that arise out of the excerpted passage. Answers may be implied by facts mentioned in the passage but need not be so. Please answer each question on its own merit on the basis of your knowledge of current affairs and general knowledge.

11

India's rice production is estimated to fall six per cent while total foodgrain output is estimated to fall four per cent. This is according to the First Advance Estimate of foodgrain production for the kharif season during 2022-23 released September 21, 2022.

The Union Ministry of "[1]", which came out with the figures, has estimated that 149.92 million tonnes (MT) of kharif crops will be produced in 2022-23. This will be 6.12 MT or 3.9 per cent less than last year, when the figure was 156.04 MT.

Foodgrain production was estimated to decrease in the last rabi season. The Fourth Advance Estimate for 2021-22 had projected production at 159.68 MT, lower than the previous season's production of 160.17 MT. Rice production has been affected the most in the current kharif season. It is estimated that 104.99 MT of rice will be produced in 2022-23, compared to 111.76 MT in the kharif season according to last year's Fourth Advance Estimate. That is, production might decrease by 6.77 MT or 6.05 per cent this year.

Kharif coarse grain production is estimated to decline by 28 per cent. It has been estimated at 36.56 MT as against 50.9 MT in the previous season. The production of coarse cereals last saw a sharp decline in 2009-10, when it was 33.55 MT. There is no change in pulses production. It has been estimated at 8.37 MT during 2022-23, which was the same last year.

The total kharif oilseeds production in the country during 2022-23 is estimated at 23.573 MT, as against 23.888 MT estimated last year.

The 2022 monsoon is believed to be primarily responsible for the decline in foodgrain production in the current kharif season. The uneven distribution of the monsoon has caused major damage to crops.

The severe lack of rainfall from June to August in Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Bihar and West Bengal has had a major impact on sowing. In Jharkhand, paddy transplantation has decreased in 0.937mha so far, while in Madhya Pradesh, paddy transplantation has decreased in 0.632 mha.

The government had already anticipated that rice production could be low. It had, therefore, imposed restrictions on the export of broken rice a few days ago.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from: "First Advance Estimate 2022-23: Rice output to fall 6%, total foodgrain output 4%", by Raju Sajwan, DownToEarth,

<https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/agriculture/first-advance-estimate-2022-23-rice-output-to-fall-6-total-foodgrain-output-4--85060>]

62. What is the name of the Union Ministry, responsible for publishing the Advance Estimates of foodgrain production, that has been replaced with "[1]" in the passage above?

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| (a) Food Production | (b) Agriculture and Farmers Welfare |
| (c) Rural Affairs | (d) Farmers Benefits |

63. Before the period mentioned in the passage above, which was the last year in which there was a dip in food grain production in India?

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| (a) 2015-2016 | (b) 2010-2011 |
| (c) 2000-2001 | (d) 1995-1996 |

64. Which of the following Indian states produces the most rice?
(a) Uttarpradesh (b) Jharkhand
(c) Bihar (d) West Bengal
65. At what time of year are kharif crops typically sown?
(a) At the onset of winter (b) At the end of winter
(c) At the onset of monsoon (d) At the end of monsoon
66. India banned the exports of which of the following crops in May 2022?
(a) Tea (b) Sugarcane
(c) Cotton (d) Wheat
67. Which of the following, a Nobel laureate, played a central figure in India's 'Green Revolution', contributing through his research into the genetic mutation in plants, which lead to an increase in wheat production?
(a) Verghese Kurien (b) Chidambaram Subramaniam
(c) Norman E. Borlaug (d) B. Sivaraman

Section III - Legal Reasoning

Directions: Each set of questions in this section is based on topics that arise out of the excerpted passage. Answers may be implied by facts mentioned in the passage but need not be so. Please answer each question on its own merit on the basis of your knowledge of current affairs and general knowledge.

12

In September 2018, the Supreme Court, responding to a petition seeking the live telecast of court proceedings for public viewing, acknowledged the importance of open justice and the benefits that can be derived from live streaming and ordered that such live streaming of Supreme Court proceedings should commence. Such live streaming would be conducted only via the facilities to be arranged by the Supreme Court administrative officials, it said.

Since courtrooms have limited seating capacity, citizens and litigants have limited time and resources to physically be present in court. Live streaming of proceedings can, in the words of the Supreme Court judges, 'virtually expand the courtroom area beyond the physical four walls of the courtrooms'.

There is a strong need for live streaming from courts when cases of 'national importance' are being heard.

Witnessing experienced lawyers argue in court can prepare law students better for litigation, considering the curricula in law colleges do not always cater to clinical education. It will also help self-representing litigants and litigants who wish to acquaint themselves with courtroom procedures to be in a better position to demand accountability from their lawyers.

The Supreme Court judgment did reaffirm adherence to open courts principle — which suggests that everyone has the right to attend court proceedings, as fundamental to our legal system.

But there are some problematic aspects to this judgment as well.

Permission of the presiding judge must be obtained before proceedings can be recorded or live streamed. While rightly acknowledging cases related to sexual offences as exceptions to the category of cases that can be live streamed, the court also widened the discretion of the presiding judge to refuse permission to record the proceedings of several different types of cases. It stated that granting of permission for live streaming would be informed by the 'sensitivity of the matter', but that it was within the discretion of the judge to grant or not grant permission for live streaming in such cases.

The judges also prohibited the use of such footage for commercial purposes. The apex court also prohibited the use of such recordings for light entertainment or satire.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from "Live from centre court", by Chitrakshi Jain, *The Economic Times*, <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/blogs/et-commentary/live-from-centre-court/>]

68. Hamsa stays in Hyderabad, and has been involved in a criminal case for several years. The matter has now reached the Supreme Court, and the Court has directed Hamsa to be present so as to answer questions whenever they may arise, at every hearing of the matter. Hamsa has been travelling to Delhi regularly to attend the hearings of the matter in the Supreme Court. When Hamsa finds out about the judgment of the Supreme Court discussed in the passage above, he prays before the Court that he be allowed to attend hearings by watching the live streaming from his home in Hyderabad now, so as to avoid the cost of travelling to and from Delhi. Is Hamsa likely to succeed?

- (a) Yes, since there would effectively be no difference between Hamsa attending the proceedings in person and through live streaming.
- (b) No, since the judgment of the Supreme Court only relates to the recording and live streaming of cases, and not to how people may attend such proceedings remotely.

- (c) Yes, since Hamsa has to incur expenses in travelling to and from Delhi, and the intent of the Supreme Court's judgment is to 'virtually expand the courtroom'.
- (d) No, since the presiding judge has the discretion to decide whether or not permission should be given to record or live stream proceedings.
69. In an ongoing matter in the Supreme Court relating to a sexual offence, one of the parties to the case asks the presiding judge to grant permission to live stream the proceedings. That party argues that live streaming the case would serve as a lesson to miscreants across the country, and discourage them from committing similar offences. The presiding judge grants permission to live stream the proceedings. The other party to the case, however, argues that it is not permissible to do so. Has the judge made an error in granting permission to live stream the proceedings?
- (a) No, since the presiding judge has the discretion to decide whether permission should be granted to live stream any proceedings.
- (b) Yes, since the judge should have consulted the other party before granting permission.
- (c) Yes, since cases related to sexual offences fall outside the category of cases that can be live streamed.
- (d) No, since the judge was only following the directions laid out in the judgment of the Supreme Court discussed in the passage.
70. Simran is a journalist working for one of India's leading business websites, run by a commercially successful newspaper. She regularly covers legal matters for the newspaper, and is widely respected for her work on informing the general public on such issues. The Supreme Court was hearing a major commercial matter involving two of India's leading companies, and Simran sought permission from the Supreme Court that the proceedings be live streamed, so that she could use snippets from the live stream for the website of the news media company that she worked for. The presiding judge, however, refused such permission. Simran files an appeal against this order. Will she succeed?
- (a) No, since this was a commercial matter, and permission cannot be granted to live stream proceedings in such cases.
- (b) Yes, since Simran's work would help educate a lot of people about the proceedings.
- (c) Yes, since the matter related to two of India's leading companies, and was of national importance.
- (d) No, since there is a prohibition on the use of footage of Supreme Court proceedings for commercial purposes.
71. John is a student at a law school, and is in Delhi for the summer break. During the break, John works as an intern in the offices of a senior Supreme Court lawyer, and regularly goes to court with the senior lawyer. One day, a matter of great national importance is being heard in the Court, and John starts filming the proceedings on his mobile phone. When the judge asks him not to, John says that he is live streaming the proceedings, so that his classmates could get the benefit of watching the proceedings, and learn from the manner in which the senior lawyers argue the matter. The judge orders him to stop, and says this is not permissible. Is the judge right in doing so?
- (a) Yes, since the matter may have been sensitive in nature.
- (b) Yes, since Supreme Court proceedings may only be live streamed via the facilities organised by the Court's administrative officials.

(c) No, since witnessing experienced lawyers argue in court can prepare law students better for litigation.

(d) No, since the matter did not lie within any of the categories for which live streaming is prohibited.

72. Rubeena was involved in a property dispute with some members of her family, and the proceedings were being heard before the Supreme Court. One of the opposing parties in the case asked the presiding judge to grant permission to live stream the proceedings, so that their other family members could also view the case. The judge granted permission, but Rubeena claimed that this would embarrass her before her other family members, and that permission should not have been granted given the sensitivity of the matter. Was it beyond the judge's authority to grant permission to live stream the proceedings?

(a) Yes, since this was a particularly sensitive matter.

(b) Yes, as this was a family matter, and could provoke enmity between the family members.

(c) No, since many persons would have benefited from watching the live stream of the proceedings.

(d) No, since it was within the judge's discretion to decide whether to grant permission to live stream the proceedings.

Directions: Each set of questions in this section is based on topics that arise out of the excerpted passage. Answers may be implied by facts mentioned in the passage but need not be so. Please answer each question on its own merit on the basis of your knowledge of current affairs and general knowledge.

13

John, Paul, George, and Ringo (the "**four defendants**") are members of the Speluncean Society, an organisation of amateurs interested in the exploration of caves. Early in May of 2020, they, in the company of Stuart, then also a member of the Society, penetrated into the interior of a limestone cavern. While they were in a position remote from the entrance to the cave, a landslide occurred. Heavy boulders fall in such a manner as to block completely the only known opening to the cave. When the men discovered their predicament, they settled themselves near the obstructed entrance to await a rescue party. When the imprisoned men were finally released it was learned that on the twenty-third day after their entrance into the cave, Stuart had been killed and eaten by his companions.

The four defendants said, which statement was accepted by the judge, that they had no food to eat after the tenth day of their captivity, and that it was Stuart who first proposed that they might find the food without which survival was impossible, in the flesh of one of their own number. It was also Stuart who first proposed the use of some method of casting lots, calling the attention of the four defendants to a pair of dice he happened to have with him.

Before the dice was cast, however, Stuart declared that he withdrew from the arrangement, as he had decided on reflection to wait for another week before undertaking such a frightening exercise. The others accused him of going back on his word, and proceeded to cast the dice. When Stuart's turn to cast the dice came, one of the others cast the dice for him, and he was asked to state any objections he may have. The throw of the dice went against him, and Stuart was then put to death and eaten by his companions.

The four defendants were accused of murder. The law states that "Whoever shall wilfully take the life of another shall be punished by death."

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from "The Case of the Speluncean Explorers", by L.L. Fuller, reproduced in Freeman, M.D.A. (Ed.), *Lloyd's Introduction to Jurisprudence*, 7th ed., Sweet & Maxwell, 2001.]

73. Are the four defendants guilty of murder?
- (a) No, since it was Stuart who had originally proposed the arrangement that led to his death.
 - (b) No, since they took Stuart's life only in order to ensure their own survival.
 - (c) Yes, since they wilfully took Stuart's life.
 - (d) Yes, since Stuart had withdrawn from the arrangement he had proposed.
74. Assume the law provides that an act is not murder if done by a person, while deprived of the power of self-control by grave and sudden provocation. Can the four defendants rely upon this exception to protect themselves?
- (a) Yes, since they had had no food for thirteen days, and so had been deprived of their self-control because of the grave circumstances they found themselves in.
 - (b) No, since they had been trapped for twenty-three days, and were not deprived of their self-control by any sudden provocation when they killed Stuart.
 - (c) Yes, since Stuart's proposal caused them to lose their self-control as it was a grave and sudden provocation.
 - (d) No, since Stuart had decided not to go ahead with the arrangement even though he had proposed it.
75. Assume the law provides that an act is not murder if it is committed without premeditation in a sudden fight in the heat of passion upon a sudden quarrel. Can the four defendants rely upon this exception to protect themselves?
- (a) Yes, since they were very angry, and thus, killed Stuart in the heat of passion.
 - (b) Yes, since Stuart's withdrawal from the arrangement had made them very angry.
 - (c) No, since they had asked Stuart to voice his objections before throwing the dice for him.
 - (d) No, since they were not involved in a sudden fight, and did not kill Stuart in the heat of passion upon a sudden quarrel.
76. Assume the law provides that an act is not murder if it is committed in the course of self-defence while protecting oneself against an imminent likelihood of death, and is done without premeditation. Can the four defendants rely upon this exception to protect themselves?
- (a) No, since the four defendants had thought about what they were going to do before they killed Stuart.
 - (b) Yes, since the four defendants had killed Stuart only in the course of trying to save themselves from imminent death due to starvation.
 - (c) No, since it was Stuart who had proposed the arrangement in the first place.
 - (d) Yes, since the four defendants would have died unless they killed Stuart.
77. Assume the law provides that an act is not murder when the person whose death is caused, suffers death or takes the risk of death with his own consent. Can the four defendants rely upon this exception to protect themselves?
- (a) Yes, since it was Stuart who had first proposed the arrangement that led to his death.
 - (b) No, since Stuart had decided to withdraw from the arrangement, and as such, he cannot be said to have consented to it when he was killed.

- (c) Yes, since the four defendants had asked Stuart if he had any objections before they threw the dice for him.
- (d) No, since Stuart had not thrown the dice himself.

Directions: Each set of questions in this section is based on topics that arise out of the excerpted passage. Answers may be implied by facts mentioned in the passage but need not be so. Please answer each question on its own merit on the basis of your knowledge of current affairs and general knowledge.

14

As work from home (“WFH”) becomes the new normal — at least for the next few weeks — businesses are rushing to put in place more structured WFH policies, say employment law experts.

While business continuity is the primary concern of most corporates, what complicates the matter is the need to ensure the security of client data even in a WFH scenario.

India doesn’t have a data protection law or a dedicated law on cybersecurity. Also, there is no specialised law on privacy. Experts say this complicates the scenario for businesses as they continue to be liable for a leak of client data even when employees work out of the home.

“Employers have started reviewing their policies and formalising their practices,” says one expert. Another points out that data confidentiality provisions would apply even while an individual is working from home. “Employers would be advised to remind employees of the same and educate them on best practices to ensure that data continues to remain secure.”

The second expert says an employer can initiate legal action against an employee for a breach of the employment contract and WFH policy/ telecommuting policy.

Take the instance of the \$190-billion technology industry in India that employs 4 million people, and is involved in several mission-critical operations for global clients. To transition the bulk of its workforce to work out of home required several regulatory approvals from various government departments, apart from the consent of clients.

Experts say companies looking at this transition must immediately first come up with detailed WFH policies, put them up on their websites, and get electronic consent from regular employees. Only those employees who agree with such policies should be allowed to work from home, say experts. An employee who does not consent to such a policy is not bound by it, and should not be allowed to work from home. Furthermore, such companies should also ensure they obtain the consent of their customers before permitting such customers’ data to be accessed by employees who are working from home, and without such customer consent, they would be liable to their customers for a data breach.

All security protocols that are normally in place relating to not sharing of passwords, shredding of printed documents, not creating back-ups, and not using unsecured networks should be rigorously maintained, experts add.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from "Work from home: Ensuring data security a challenging task for businesses", by Sudipto Dey, Business Standard, https://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/work-from-home-ensuring-data-security-a-challenging-task-for-businesses-120032900972_1.html]

78. Pinaki works at a large information technology company and has been asked to work on a sensitive project for one of the company’s customers. Pinaki works from home two days a week, and his company has long permitted him to do so. Once, while working from home, Pinaki left his laptop unattended for a short while; in that time, his five-year-old son pressed some keys on the laptop’s keyboard, and as a result, some of the customer’s data was posted on Pinaki’s Facebook profile (Pinaki

had left Facebook open in one of the tabs on his browser). When the customer found out about this, it sued Pinaki's company for leaking the data. Is the company liable?

- (a) No, since the act that led to the data being leaked was committed by a five-year-old, who cannot be held guilty in law.
- (b) Yes, since Pinaki's employer would be liable for the data leak despite the fact that Pinaki was working from home.
- (c) No, since Pinaki's employer had permitted him to work from home for a long time.
- (d) Yes, since Pinaki should not have used Facebook on the same computer he used for work.

79. Pinaki's employer, Supergood IT Solutions Limited ("Supergood"), now wishes to take action against Pinaki. Supergood's WFH policy states that "Employees working from home should ensure they lock their laptops or shut them down in a manner that others cannot access any information on the machine every time they are away from their laptops. Access to laptops used for work must be permitted only through the employee's fingerprint scan and a ten-character password." Supergood claims Pinaki has violated the WFH policy. Is Supergood correct?

- (a) No, since Pinaki only left the laptop unattended for a short while.
- (b) No, since the policy cannot possibly extend to employee's children.
- (c) Yes, since the fact that the child was able to press a few keys and cause the leak shows the laptop was not locked in the way the policy required it to be while Pinaki was away.
- (d) Yes, since Pinaki clearly chose a very simple password that even the five-year-old child was able to guess.

80. When Supergood tells Pinaki that it plans to take legal action against him for violating the WFH policy, Pinaki is infuriated. He speaks with his lawyer, who verifies certain facts with him, and advises Pinaki to respond to Supergood, pointing out that he had never provided his consent to the WFH policy, and so, it was not binding on him. Pinaki does so. Is Pinaki right in claiming that the WFH policy does not apply to him, given that he had not consented to it?

- (a) Yes, but only because Pinaki had been working from home for a long time.
- (b) Yes, the WFH policy would only have applied to Pinaki had he consented to it.
- (c) No, since the contents of the policy should have been obvious to any reasonable person.
- (d) No, since Pinaki's actions were clearly in violation of the WFH policy.

81. Upset at Supergood for threatening to take legal action against him, Pinaki speaks with some of the other employees at Supergood, who tell him that they have never consented to the WFH policy either. He then writes to Ultragood, one of Supergood's biggest customers, and informs them of this. Ultragood claims that Supergood is liable to them for a data breach because Supergood did not obtain its employees' consent to its WFH policy. Is Ultragood right?

- (a) No, the fact that Supergood's employees had not consented to the WFH policy would not render Supergood liable for a data breach to Ultragood.
- (b) Yes, since Supergood had not taken care to obtain its employees' consent to the WFH policy, it is liable for a data breach to Ultragood.
- (c) No, since Pinaki was not authorised to share this information with Ultragood.
- (d) Yes, since Supergood was clearly not taking the necessary level of care to protect its customers' data.

82. Hypergood is another of Supergood's customers. When Hypergood hears about the disputes between Supergood and its employees, and between Supergood and Ultragood, it decides to take action against Supergood for committing a data breach. Hypergood claims that while there was a clause in its contract with Supergood allowing for Supergood's employees to access Hypergood's data when working from home, Hypergood had only accepted this by signing a paper copy of the contract, and had not provided electronic consent. Is Hypergood right in claiming that Supergood had committed a data breach by providing its employees access to Hypergood's data when working from home, given that Hypergood had not provided electronic consent for this?
- (a) Yes, since signing a paper contract does not amount to providing electronic consent.
 - (b) No, since there is nothing to show that Supergood had in fact allowed those of its employees who worked from home to access Hypergood's data without obtaining such employee's electronic consent to Supergood's WFH policy.
 - (c) No, it does not matter whether Hypergood provided consent by signing the paper consent and not by giving electronic consent to its data being accessed by those of Supergood's employees who worked from home.
 - (d) Yes, since Supergood had allowed its employees to access its customers' data while working from home even though they had not provided electronic consent to Supergood's WFH policy.

Directions: Each set of questions in this section is based on topics that arise out of the excerpted passage. Answers may be implied by facts mentioned in the passage but need not be so. Please answer each question on its own merit on the basis of your knowledge of current affairs and general knowledge.

15

In an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19, the Supreme Court issued a directive to lessen the overcrowding in prisons, and within three days of the order, Maharashtra's Home Minister, Anil Deshmukh, announced that the State would release convicts and undertrials (i.e., people who have been detained for alleged crimes and are facing trials in competent courts) on bail from 60 prisons. Convicts/undertrials imprisoned for offences with prescribed punishment of imprisonment up to 7 years or less would be released on temporary bail to reduce overcrowding in prisons.

Prior to this, on March 17, 2020, the State Prisons department had already initiated action to try and contain the spread of the virus. At a press conference, Additional Director General of Police (Prisons) Sunil Ramanand said, the reduction of the prison population was essential as they were overpopulated at present. "About 45 per cent inmates at Yerwada Central Jail, Arthur Road jail, and Thane and Nashik jails are undertrials. They are taken to various courts for hearings. To prevent the spread of coronavirus we have to stop taking prisoners out of the jail. Over the next 15 days they will be produced before the courts via video conferencing," he said. Meetings with families were also cancelled for a fortnight. Isolation cells had been created within the prison and medical checks of prisoners had commenced, he said.

Until March 27, 2020, Maharashtra reported 135 positive COVID cases. Like most decisions made in a crisis, this could be a double-edged sword. While there will be a double benefit of relief to the undertrials and a lessening of the virus spreading within the prison, there is another obvious danger. Prison staff who have contact with the outside world could easily have been passing on the virus to prisoners who, when released, will carry this to their families and neighbours.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from: "Maharashtra to release 11,000 undertrials on bail over COVID fears", by Lyla Bavadam, Frontline, <https://frontline.thehindu.com/dispatches/article31183492.ece>]

83. Raju is a convict imprisoned in Maharashtra for having committed an offence punishable with imprisonment of a minimum of 5 years and a maximum of 10 years. Raju has been sentenced to 6 years of imprisonment for the offence committed by him. Is he eligible to receive temporary bail?
- (a) No, since the prescribed punishment for the offence committed by Raju can extend beyond 7 years and up to 10 years.
 - (b) No, since Raju has been convicted prior to the onset of COVID-19.
 - (c) Yes, since Raju has received punishment of less than 7 years of imprisonment.
 - (d) Yes, since the prisons in Maharashtra are overcrowded and overcrowding of prisons can cause health hazards.
84. Imran spent 3 years in imprisonment in a prison in Maharashtra for his first offence and on the last day of his sentence, was handed another sentence of 5 years for an unrelated offence, as a result of which his imprisonment in the same prison continued without a break. The maximum prescribed punishment for the second offence committed by Imran is 7 years of imprisonment. The announcement by the Home Minister of Maharashtra takes effect during Imran's second year in imprisonment in relation to his sentencing for the second offence and fifth year in imprisonment overall. Is Imran eligible to receive temporary bail pursuant to the announcement in the passage above?
- (a) No; Imran's total imprisonment for the two offences amounts to 8 years.
 - (b) No; Imran's second offence is punishable with 7 years of imprisonment.
 - (c) Yes; Imran's second offence is punishable with 7 years of imprisonment.
 - (d) Yes; Imran's sentence for the second offence is only for 5 years.
85. The maximum punishment for kidnapping under the law is 7 years of imprisonment. Minal becomes aware of the Supreme Court order to the police to avoid arrests where the accused face a maximum of seven years in jail if convicted. She kidnaps her nephew and gets caught by the police. She argues that she has not committed any offence. Is Minal's argument valid?
- (a) Yes, since the Supreme Court is the highest court of law in India.
 - (b) Yes, since she engaged in the act of kidnapping after the Supreme Court order was issued.
 - (c) No, since she got caught by the police for kidnapping.
 - (d) No, since kidnapping continues to be an offence and the Supreme Court's directive was only in relation to arresting accused persons who face a maximum of seven years of jail.
86. The Arthur Road jail in Mumbai frames a policy for release of prisoners on June 1, 2020 on limited grounds where it is "reasonably necessary" due to "the risk to the prison and the health of its staff and inmates" but excluding serious offenders such as prisoners convicted of murder, serious sex offences, and terrorism. Sajjan Singh is an inmate of the jail who was convicted of terrorism and sentenced to 10 years of imprisonment starting from May 1, 2010. When will he be released from the prison?
- (a) On June 1, 2020
 - (b) On May 1, 2020
 - (c) On May 1, 2030
 - (d) Not known from the facts.

87. David Ibrahim is an inmate of the Arthur Road jail who is convicted of a petty offence and was visited on May 25, 2020, by a family member who was diagnosed with COVID-19 the next day. Should David Ibrahim be released on June 1, 2020 pursuant to the policy referred to in the question above?
- (a) Yes, because he is likely to have been infected with COVID-19, and that presents a risk to his health and the health of the staff and inmates of the Arthur Road jail.
 - (b) Yes, because he is not convicted of terrorism.
 - (c) Yes, because he can get medical help for his family member who has been diagnosed with COVID-19.
 - (d) No, because he may infect members of the general public if released.

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16

The Supreme Court of India struck down the Reserve Bank of India's (the "RBI's") banking ban against cryptocurrencies on March 4, 2020, stating the directive as disproportionate. A three-judge bench consisting of Justice Rohinton Fali Nariman, Justice S. Ravindra Bhat, and Justice V. Subramaniam quashed the RBI's April 6, 2018 circular (the "Crypto Circular"), which restricted banks from providing services to businesses dealing with cryptocurrencies.

The Crypto Circular provided that "Banks shall not deal in Virtual Currencies/ Cryptocurrencies ("VCs") or provide services for facilitating any person or entity in dealing with or settling VCs. Such services include maintaining accounts, registering, trading, settling, clearing, giving loans against virtual tokens, accepting them as collateral, opening accounts of exchanges dealing with them and transfer/ receipt of money in accounts relating to purchase/ sale of VCs. Banks which already provide such services shall exit the relationship within three months from the date of this circular."

While placing the ban, the RBI had stated that VCs raise concerns of consumer protection, market integrity and money laundering, among other risks.

The Supreme Court struck down the Crypto Circular on the grounds that: there is no empirical evidence of any harm caused by VCs or individuals and entities dealing in VCs, to the RBI regulated entities, including banks, set out in the Crypto Circular; cryptocurrencies are not currently banned — despite several committees coming up with proposals and two draft bills, the government has not been able to decide on their legality; the ban is not proportionate to the risk sought to be addressed by such ban.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from "With SC verdict, cryptocurrency exchanges in Indian begin to integrate bank services once again", by Trisha Jalan, MediaNama,

[https://www.medianama.com/2020/03/223-surpeme-court-rbi-cryptocurrencies-ban/.](https://www.medianama.com/2020/03/223-surpeme-court-rbi-cryptocurrencies-ban/)]

88. Shana Kapoor is the C.E.O. of Maybe Bank. On April 5, 2018, he approved the opening of an account at Maybe Bank for a business named "Cryptic Currency". Cryptic Currency is a cryptocurrency exchange provider, and conducts various businesses related to the trade and marketing of VCs; it is owned and operated by Shana Kapoor's son, Gana Kapoor. Did Maybe Bank violate the Crypto Circular by opening an account for Cryptic Currency.
- (a) Yes, since the Crypto Circular clearly prohibits opening accounts for exchanges dealing with VCs.
 - (b) Yes, since it was illegal for Shana Kapoor to approve the opening of an account at Maybe Bank for a business owned by his son.

- (c) No, since the Crypto Circular was only issued on April 6, 2018, and at the time the account was opened, there was no prohibition on banks opening accounts for businesses dealing with VCs.
- (d) No, since Cryptic Currency was owned by Rana Kapoor's son, and so, Maybe Bank could keep a close eye on the account.
89. Shana Kapoor is very interested in the latest technological developments and emerging businesses, and as such, also has a keen interest in VCs. On May 4, 2019, he bought a certain amount of VCs for himself from Cryptic Currency in exchange for INR 5,00,000 in cash. Had Shana Kapoor violated the Crypto Circular by doing so?
- (a) Yes, since the Crypto Circular had come into effect on April 6, 2018, and so, Rana Kapoor's act of purchasing the VCs was illegal on May 4, 2019.
- (b) No, since the Crypto Circular only prohibited banks from dealing with VC businesses, and did not prohibit individuals from purchasing VCs.
- (c) No, the Crypto Circular only prohibited individuals from opening accounts for VC businesses, and did not prohibit them from purchasing VCs.
- (d) Yes, since the Crypto Circular clearly prohibited any form of dealing in VCs.
90. Which of the following should Maybe Bank have done once the Crypto Circular came into effect, so as to avoid violating the Crypto Circular?
- (a) It should have closed Cryptic Currency's account and ceased all dealings with it before July 5, 2018.
- (b) It should have closed Cryptic Currency's account and ceased all dealings with it before March 5, 2020.
- (c) It need not do anything, since it had not violated the Crypto Circular by opening the account for Cryptic Currency.
- (d) It should have told Shana Kapoor to resign from his position before July 5, 2018.
91. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the first of the three grounds on which the Supreme Court struck down the Crypto Circular?
- (a) Cryptocurrencies are banned in India, and as such, banks should not provide services for individuals or entities dealing in VCs.
- (b) The Crypto Circular clearly provided a list of examples of how VCs and dealing in VCs caused great harm to banks.
- (c) Banks need to be on the cutting edge of technological developments, and as such, they should be permitted to conduct business with entities dealing in VCs.
- (d) Banks need to expand their customer base; by prohibiting them from providing services to individuals or entities dealing in VCs, the Crypto Circular caused them great harm.
92. Which of the following, if true, would be an example of one of the concerns that the RBI stated VCs raise, at the time it issued the Crypto Circular?
- (a) VCs employ the latest technology.
- (b) VCs are a very strong and reliable way of ensuring there is no fraud in currency transactions.
- (c) VCs provide very strong security features, so that it is always possible to trace the owner of any unit of VC.

- (d) VCs are often used by people to process their black money, and to convert such black money into money that circulates legally.

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17

Bluelandia is a country which has a regulation that protects endangered marine species by prohibiting acts of individuals that jeopardise endangered marine species. Jeopardising endangered marine species is defined as an act committed in relation to any member of such endangered marine species that has the effect of “harassing, harming, pursuing, hunting, shooting, wounding, killing, trapping, capturing, or collecting or attempting to engage in any such conduct” (the “**Jeopardy Regulation**”). The term “harm” has been defined further to include acts that impair the essential behaviour patterns of the members of such species, including touching, feeding, or sheltering them. The individuals who violate the Jeopardy Regulation receive penalties.

Another regulation of Bluelandia requires that, prior to setting up any factory in the proximity of any water body, the company that proposes to set up the factory should disclose all the main commercial and non-commercial activities proposed to be undertaken at the factory to the Bluelandia Marine Regulator and obtain a no-objection letter from them that certifies, based on such activities proposed to be undertaken at the factory, that “such factory is not likely to jeopardise the continued existence of any endangered marine species by damaging or degrading their habitat” (the “**Factory Regulation**”). Companies that violate the Factory Regulation receive penalties.

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93. Fennywala Limited is a company that has set up a factory very close to a river in Bluelandia. Spearwala, an employee of Fennywala Limited, comes to the river bank next to the factory on a Sunday for a casual evening stroll and spots an endangered Ganges River Dolphin (a “GR Dolphin”) in the river. He decides to kill it using a sharp object lying on the bank of the river. The Government of Bluelandia imposes penalties on Fennywala Limited for violating the Jeopardy Regulation. Fennywala Limited challenges it in court. Will it succeed?
- (a) No, since it has set up the factory in close proximity to the river.
 - (b) No, since its employee has killed a GR Dolphin.
 - (c) Yes, since it had obtained the no-objection letter from the Bluelandia Marine Regulator.
 - (d) Yes, since the Jeopardy Regulation only applies to individuals and not companies.
94. The GR Dolphins feed on fish and crustaceans such as lobsters and crabs. Biscuitwala, the brother of Spearwala, visits the river one day and feeds the GR Dolphins biscuits, unaware of their food habits. The Government imposes penalties on Biscuitwala for violating the Jeopardy Regulation. Is the Government right in doing so?
- (a) Yes, since Biscuitwala fed the GR Dolphins.
 - (b) Yes, since Biscuitwala did not bother to find out about the food habits of the GR Dolphins.
 - (c) No, since Biscuitwala did not harm the GR Dolphins.
 - (d) No, since Biscuitwala did not jeopardise the GR Dolphins.

95. Crabwala, a neighbour of Biscuitwala, visits the river bank and offers crabs to the GR Dolphins and receives a penalty from the Government. Was the Government right in handing Crabwala a penalty?
- (a) No, since the GR Dolphins feed on crabs and Crabwala offered crabs to the GR Dolphins.
 - (b) No, since Crabwala did not jeopardise the GR Dolphins.
 - (c) Yes, since Crabwala fed the GR Dolphins.
 - (d) Yes, since Crabwala touched the GR Dolphins.
96. Fennywala Limited undertakes the activity of distilling alcohol at the factory, which activity it had disclosed to the Bluelandia Marine Regulator prior to setting up the factory and from whom it had even obtained a no-objection letter. However, a study finds that after the factory had been in operation for one year, there is significant degradation of the river as a habitat for the GR Dolphins. The Government charges Fennywala Limited with violation of the Factory Regulation. Is the Government right in doing so?
- (a) No, Fennywala Limited made the disclosure and obtained the no-objection letter as required under the Factory Regulation.
 - (b) No, Fennywala Limited did not cause the degradation of the river.
 - (c) Yes, Fennywala Limited caused the degradation of the river.
 - (d) Yes, Fennywala Limited had not disclosed to the Bluelandia Marine Regulator that it would cause degradation of the river prior to setting up its factory.
97. The factory operated by Fennywala Limited is raided by the police under an official Government order. One of the police officers lights a cigarette within the factory premises during the raid and ends up inadvertently setting a distillation unit of the factory on fire, causing noxious emission that further harms the river and the population of the GR Dolphins. The Government charges Fennywala Limited on another count of violation of the Factory Regulation. Is the Government right in doing so?
- (a) Yes, since the activity inside the factory of Fennywala Limited resulted in the degradation of the river.
 - (b) Yes, since Fennywala Limited had not disclosed that smoking would take place in its factory premises.
 - (c) Yes, since Fennywala Limited should have taken precautions to prevent such a fire accident.
 - (d) No, since Fennywala Limited did not undertake any activity in the factory that was not disclosed to the Bluelandia Marine Regulator.
98. Swachchwala Limited also has set up a factory next to Fennywala Limited's factory and undertakes the activity of producing cleaning accessories. Since the owners of Swachchwala Limited do not consider the activities of their factory harmful in any way to the adjacent river, they do not obtain any no-objection letter from the Bluelandia Marine Regulator. The Government charges Swachchwala Limited with violation of the Factory Regulation. Is the Government right in doing so?
- (a) Yes, since the requirement of obtaining the no-objection letter applies regardless of the activities to be undertaken by the factory proposed to be set up.
 - (b) Yes, since Swachchwala Limited did not disclose the activities it proposed to undertake at the factory.
 - (c) No, since Swachchwala Limited did not undertake activities that caused degradation to the river.
 - (d) No, since Swachchwala Limited did not cause any harm to the GR Dolphins in the river.

99. Sheeshawala Limited is a company that manufactures various types of glass lenses that are used in high-resolution cameras. It, too, decides to set up a factory on the banks of the same river, next to the factories of Fennywala Limited and Swachchwala Limited. Sheeshawala Limited disclosed this activity to the Bluelandia Marine Regulator and obtained a no-objection certificate from them before setting up the factory. In order to test their lenses, the employees of Sheeshwala Limited regularly stand on the terrace of the factory and take pictures of the GR Dolphins (the terrace is at a distance from the river bank). The Government charges Sheeshawala Limited with a violation of the Factory Regulation. Is the Government right in doing so?
- (a) Yes, since Sheeshawala Limited's employees took the pictures in order to test the products made by Sheeshawala Limited.
 - (b) No, since Sheeshawala Limited's employees taking the pictures did not pose any harm to the GR Dolphins.
 - (c) No, since Sheeshawala Limited had disclosed the main activities that would be carried out in their factory to the Bluelandia Marine Regulator and had obtained a no-objection certificate from them before setting up the factory.
 - (d) Yes, since Sheeshawala Limited was causing a degradation of the GR Dolphins' habitat.
100. Percy Fennywala is the main shareholder and C.E.O. of Fennywala Limited, and has made a lot of money through the factory set up on the banks of the river. When his daughter, Shenaz Fennywala, graduated from college, she told her father that she did not wish to join his company. Percy therefore gifted a large amount of money to Shenaz to set up her own business. Shenaz took this money, and built a factory on the banks of the river, next to Fennywala Limited's factory. Since Shenaz owned the factory herself, she decided to pursue her passion for automobiles by manufacturing cars in the factory. She did not disclose this to the Bluelandia Marine Regulator, nor did she obtain a no-objection certificate from them prior to setting up the factory. The factory releases a lot of effluents that pollute the water in the river, and even causes the death of some GR Dolphins. Which of the following is true in such a situation?
- (a) The Government can take action against Shenaz Fennywala for violating the Factory Regulation only.
 - (b) The Government can take action against Shenaz Fennywala for violating the Jeopardy Regulation only.
 - (c) The Government can take action against Shenaz Fennywala for violating both, the Factory Regulation as well as the Jeopardy Regulation.
 - (d) The Government can take action against Percy Fennywala under the Factory Regulation for giving Shenaz Fennywala the money that she used to set up her factory.

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18

"Aaya Ram Gaya Ram" was a phrase that became popular in Indian politics after a Haryana MLA Gaya Lal changed his party thrice within the same day in 1967. The anti-defection law seeks to prevent such political defections which may be due to reward of office or other similar considerations.

The Tenth Schedule was inserted in the Constitution in 1985, and sets out the anti-defection law of India. The anti-defection law provides that legislators may be disqualified on grounds of defection by the Speaker of a legislature based on a petition by any other member of the same House. A legislator is deemed to have defected if he either voluntarily gives up the membership of his party or disobeys the directives of the party leadership on a vote. This implies that a legislator defying (abstaining or voting against) the party whip on any issue can lose his membership of the House. The law applies to both Parliament and state assemblies.

Legislators may change their party without the risk of disqualification in certain circumstances. The law allows a party to merge with or into another party provided that at least two-thirds of its legislators are in favour of the merger. In such a scenario, neither the members who decide to merge, nor the ones who stay with the original party will face disqualification.

The law provides for a member to be disqualified if he 'voluntarily gives up his membership'. However, the Supreme Court has interpreted that in the absence of a formal resignation by the member, the giving up of membership can be inferred by his conduct. For instance, party members who have publicly expressed opposition to their party or support for another party were deemed to have resigned.

101. Sardar Singh is an MLA in the state of Punjab and belongs to the Janata Raj Party (the "JRP"). One day, Sardar Singh announces that he is joining the opposing Sabka Raj Party (the "SRP"). Seeing this, Kartar Singh, another member of the JRP, and a member of the legislative assembly of Uttar Pradesh files a complaint against Sardar Singh with the Speaker of the Punjab legislative assembly. The Speaker disqualifies Sardar Singh under the anti-defection law. Was Sardar Singh's disqualification valid?

- (a) Yes, since Sardar Singh had announced that he was planning to join the SRP.
- (b) No, since the complaint against him had not been filed by another member of the Punjab legislative assembly.
- (c) No, since Sardar Singh had not yet joined the SRP.
- (d) Yes, since the complaint had been filed with the Speaker of the Punjab legislative assembly.

102. Shandar Singh, the head of the JRP, and a member of the Punjab legislative assembly is upset at the developments relating to Sardar Singh. He, therefore, files another complaint with the Speaker of the legislative assembly, accusing Sardar Singh of anti-national activities, and demanding his disqualification from the legislative assembly for that reason. Can the Speaker of the legislative assembly disqualify Sardar Singh for this reason under the anti-defection law?

- (a) No, since Sardar Singh had not actually committed any anti-national activities.
- (b) Yes, since the complaint had been filed with the Speaker of the legislative assembly.
- (c) No, since the anti-defection law does not apply in respect of anti-national activities.
- (d) Yes, since the complaint had been filed by a member of the legislative assembly.

103. Shandar Singh and Sardar Singh decide to put their differences behind them, and this upsets Kartar Singh. He holds a press conference, where he says "The JRP is a party of stooges and sycophants. It is nothing but the personal fiefdom of Shandar Singh. The party has no principles at all." When Shandar Singh hears of this, he is very upset. Aware that Kartar Singh is a member of the legislative assembly of Uttar Pradesh, he tells the head of the JRP in Uttar Pradesh, and a member of the Uttar Pradesh legislative council, Bhajan Chand, to file a complaint against Kartar Singh. Bhajan Chand files a complaint with the Speaker of the Uttar Pradesh legislative council under the anti-defection law for the disqualification of Kartar Singh. Kartar Singh claims the complaint is invalid. Is he right?

- (a) Yes, since the complaint was not filed with the Speaker of the same House of which Kartar Singh was a member.
 - (b) Yes, since Kartar Singh had not done anything that may disqualify him under the anti-defection law.
 - (c) No, since the complaint had been validly filed with the Speaker of the legislative council.
 - (d) No, since he had publicly expressed his opposition to the JRP at the press conference.
104. Seeing all the chaos amongst the members of her party, another JRP MLA from Uttar Pradesh, Supreeti Sharma, is very upset. She bumps into the head of the SRP while entering the legislative assembly of Uttar Pradesh, and is seen speaking with her for about five minutes. Another JRP MLA from Uttar Pradesh, Sureshi Sinha, notices this, and files a complaint with the Speaker of the Uttar Pradesh legislative assembly, seeking Sharma's disqualification under the anti-defection law. Will Sureshi succeed?
- (a) No, since Supreeti had not done anything to violate the anti-defection law.
 - (b) No, since Supreeti did not belong to the same House in which the complaint had been filed.
 - (c) Yes, since the complaint had been filed with the Speaker of the same House that Supreeti belong to.
 - (d) Yes, since the complaint had been filed by another member of the same House as Supreeti.
105. Some days after the incident described in the previous question, a vote is held in the Uttar Pradesh legislative assembly. The JRP leadership decided to vote against the issue and issued a whip to this effect, whereas the SRP decided to vote in favor of the issue, and also issued a whip to that effect. When the votes are tallied, Sumeet Seth, an Uttar Pradesh MLA from the SRP, notices that Supreeti had actually voted in favor of the issue. He, therefore, files a complaint with the Speaker of the Uttar Pradesh legislative assembly, seeking Supreeti's disqualification. Will his complaint succeed?
- (a) Yes, since Supreeti had voluntarily joined another party.
 - (b) No, since Supreeti had not publicly voiced any opposition to her party.
 - (c) No, since Sumeet did not belong to the same party as Supreeti.
 - (d) Yes, since Supreeti had defied the JRP party whip.

Section IV - Critical Reasoning

Directions: Each set of questions in this section is based on topics that arise out of the excerpted passage. Answers may be implied by facts mentioned in the passage but need not be so. Please answer each question on its own merit on the basis of your knowledge of current affairs and general knowledge.

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Bob is close to retirement, and has invested his savings in a very valuable old car, which he has not been able to insure. The car is his pride and joy. Not only does Bob get pleasure from driving and caring for his car, he also knows that its rising market value means that he will be able to sell it and live comfortably after retirement. One day when Bob is out for a drive, he parks the car near a railway siding and goes for a walk up the track. As he does so, he sees that a runaway train, with no one aboard, is rolling down the tracks. Looking farther down the track, he sees the small figure of a child who appears to be absorbed in playing on the tracks. Oblivious to the runaway train, the child is in great danger. Bob can't stop the train, and the child is too far away to hear his warning shout, but Bob can throw a switch that will divert the train down the siding where his car is parked. If he does so, nobody will be killed, but the train will crash through the decaying barrier at the end of the siding and destroy his car. Thinking of his joy in owning the car and the financial security it represents, Bob decides not to throw the switch.

Peter Unger developed this story to challenge us to think about how much we should sacrifice in order to save a child's life; the story has a factor crucial to thinking about real-world poverty: uncertainty about the outcome of sacrifice. Bob cannot be certain that the child will die if he does nothing and saves his car. Perhaps at the last moment, the child will hear the train and leap to safety. In the same way, most of us can summon doubts about whether the money we give to a charity is really helping the people it's intended to help.

People respond that Bob acted badly when he did not throw the switch and destroy his most cherished possession, thereby sacrificing his hope of a financially secure retirement; we can't take a serious risk with a child's life merely to save a car, no matter how valuable the car may be. By implication, we should also believe that with the simple act of saving money for retirement, we are acting as badly as Bob. For in saving money for retirement, we are effectively refusing to use that money to help save lives. This is a difficult implication to confront. How can it be wrong to save for a comfortable retirement? There is, at the very least, something puzzling here.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from *The Life You Can Save: How to Do Your Part to End World Poverty*, by Peter Singer, 10th ed., <https://www.thelifeyoucansave.org/>]

106. Which of the following is Bob from Peter Unger's story most likely to agree with?

- (a) It is more important to save a child's life than anything else.
- (b) It is more important to protect one's own interests rather than those of others.
- (c) Charity is more important than improving one's own lot.
- (d) One must look out for others' interests, especially children.

107. Which of the following provides an example most closely resembling Bob's decision resulting from 'uncertainty about the outcome of sacrifice' that the author discusses in the passage?

- (a) Gurmeet earns very little and spends his entire income on providing for the needs of his family.
- (b) Roger earns very well and distributes a large amount of food amongst the needy every week.
- (c) Ahmed earns very little but donates a significant portion of his salary to charity every month.

(d) Ravi earns well but does not donate to charity, because he is not sure whether charitable money reaches the poor.

108. What, according to the author, is 'puzzling' about how people react to Bob's actions, and the implications of such a reaction?
- (a) That one could be criticized for ensuring one's comfort in retirement.
 - (b) That one could be criticized for ensuring one's comfort in retirement rather than donating one's money to help others.
 - (c) That one could be criticized for not saving a child's life.
 - (d) That one could be criticized for protecting other people.
109. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the implication the author draws in the last paragraph of the passage, from people's reactions to Bob's actions?
- (a) People consider Bob's actions bad since he should have saved his retirement money in a bank rather than spending it on a car.
 - (b) People consider Bob's actions good since unauthorized persons should not fool around with railway track switches.
 - (c) People consider Bob's actions good since in saving the car, he also ensured a comfortable old age despite not helping other people.
 - (d) People consider Bob's actions bad since he should not have gone for a walk near the railway tracks.
110. Which of the following would provide a solution to what the author describes as the puzzling question of "How can it be wrong to save for a comfortable retirement?"
- (a) One should save for a comfortable retirement, but not at the cost of putting others in peril.
 - (b) One should save for a comfortable retirement but should donate all surplus money to help others.
 - (c) Both, (a) and (b).
 - (d) Neither (a) nor (b)

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Ambedkar had opined that the reservations he was proposing should have a time-frame. He had envisaged that during this period, with the help of reservations, there would be a significant social as well as economic development in the lives of the under-privileged who would not need such support once the development is achieved.

In my alma mater – the Hyderabad Public School (the "HPS") – there are seats earmarked for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, with rooms being provided to them in the school hostel. A common complaint heard is that the school's standard gets affected by these allotments, since these students fare poorly at studies.

Instead of smirking at such students, a deeper analysis is perhaps required. I was born to educated parents. My father, a highly regarded lawyer, was always buried neck deep in his law books. Similarly, my mother would have a book in her hand in her spare time. Thereby, it was inculcated subconsciously in me that my future lay in doing well academically.

On the other hand, if the boy allotted a seat under reservation is the child of labourers, then he believes that studies are transient and that he will soon be toiling manually like his parents. When such a boy is translocated into a highly academic zone, it is only natural that he feels lost. While he might go through the motions of classroom activities, homework would certainly not be a priority.

Therefore, a responsible, socially-oriented school or government should oversee that the true benefits of admitting him in the HPS accrue to him. The seed of academic interest should be implanted in his mind through counselling. Teachers should be given the responsibility to ensure that children are able to study by themselves. Special classes should be organised for all of them in the evening after recreation hours.

But then, the purpose of the powers that be is not how the students are faring in their studies. Their purpose is creating vote-banks for themselves by such allotments. Another similar motive is through three acres of land to the Schedule Castes in Telangana that is being promised by the present Telangana government. If at all such an allotment is implemented, then it is purely again to make these sections into vote-banks. And over a period of time, if a person benefited by the scheme sells that land, there will be a loud murmur heard: "Why should lands be allotted for these people if they are going to be sold?"

Ambedkar envisaged reservations, allocation of seats to the poor in good schools, and allotment of lands for the development of the allottees. Not to make them vote-banks.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from "The Misinterpretation of Ambedkarism", by Vinay Kumar, The Wire, <https://thewire.in/caste/the-misinterpretation-of-ambedkarism>]

111. Which of the following is/ are examples of how, according to the author, the purpose of the powers that be in providing benefits to certain sections of society is different from the manner in which Ambedkar envisaged reservations?
- (a) Politicians provide seats in good schools to students from such sections in order to garner more votes.
 - (b) Politicians allocate land to people from such sections so as to gain popularity with them.
 - (c) Politicians provide seats in good schools to students from such sections so as to ensure the students have a bright future.
 - (d) (a) and (b), but not (c).
112. Which of the following is the author most likely to agree with about students from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes ("SCs and STs") who are allocated seats in good schools?
- (a) They would benefit more from a vocational, rather than mainstream education.
 - (b) They would do better academically if they were provided the same kind of support and encouragement as students from more privileged backgrounds.
 - (c) They would do better academically if they were allocated seats in schools that were not as good.
 - (d) They would benefit more from an allocation of land.
113. Which of the following could be a premise for the author's argument that Ambedkar's objectives for allocating seats in good schools to SCs and STs have not been achieved?
- (a) Despite being allocated such seats, such students are not able to perform as well academically as others.
 - (b) Such students are able to reap the benefits of such education, and SC and ST society has developed socially and economically as a result.
 - (c) Such students are provided a lot of additional support in schools.
 - (d) Such students are able to do better academically than others.

114. Which of the following can be inferred from the author's arguments in the passage above?
- (a) The present powers that be are deeply concerned with the well-being of the underprivileged.
 - (b) Democracy is an inefficient system as regards ensuring the upliftment of the underprivileged.
 - (c) The present powers that be are more concerned with gaining power than the development of the underprivileged.
 - (d) Higher taxes should be imposed on the rich to provide more benefits to the underprivileged.
115. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's arguments in the passage above?
- (a) Despite not getting adequate support, students from SCs and STs who are allocated seats in good schools have managed to ensure the social and economic development of their communities.
 - (b) Despite being allocated seats in good schools, students from SCs and STs are not able to ensure the social and economic development of their communities.
 - (c) Both, (a) and (b).
 - (d) None of the above.

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Given that the poor have little access to credit to finance their ventures, and limited insurance to cope with risks, shouldn't they try to save as much as they can? Saving would give them a buffer against a bad year in the field or an illness. It could also hold the key to starting a business.

At this point, one common reaction is, "How could the poor save – they have no money?" But this is only superficially sensible: The poor should save because, like everybody else, they have a present and a future. They have little money today, but unless they expect to stumble on a pile of cash during the night, they presumably also expect to have little money tomorrow. Indeed, they should have more reason to save than the rich, if there is at least some possibility that, in the future, a little bit of buffer could shield them from a disaster. Such a financial cushion would, for example, allow the poor families in India's Udaipur District to avoid cutting meals when money runs out, which they claim makes them extremely unhappy. Likewise in Kenya, when a market vendor falls ill with malaria, the family ends up spending a part of the business working capital to pay for medicine, but that makes it hard for the recovering patient to go back to work because he now has little or nothing to sell. Couldn't they avoid all that if they had some money set aside to pay for the drugs?

The Victorians thought that was just how the poor were – much too impatient and unable to think far enough ahead. Consequently, they believed that the only way to keep the poor from sinking into a life of sloth was to threaten them with extreme misery if they ever strayed from the straight and narrow. So they had the nightmarish poorhouse (where the indigent were housed) and the debtors' prisons that Charles Dickens wrote about. That view of the poor as essentially different people, whose innate inclination towards shortsighted behaviour is what keeps them poor, has persisted over the years in slightly different forms. We see a version of the same view today among the critics of microfinance institutions ("MFIs") who accuse the MFIs of preying on the profligacy of the poor. In a very different vein, Gary Becker, the Nobel Prize winner and father of the modern economics of the family, argued in a 1997 paper that the possession of wealth encourages people to invest in becoming more patient: By implication, therefore, poverty makes people (permanently) more impatient.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from Poor Economics: Rethinking Poverty and the Ways to End It, by Abhijit V. Banerjee and Esther Duflo, Penguin, 2011]

116. Which of the following are the authors of the passage most likely to disagree with?
- (a) Falling ill with malaria for a market vendor in Kenya can lead to difficulties in their resuming their business.
 - (b) The Victorian view of poor people was that they had no capacity to plan for the future, and that they would slip into laziness.
 - (c) The poor have little money and little hope of getting more, so they needn't bother trying to save.
 - (d) Saving money would be beneficial for the poor as it may help protect them against future economic hardships or collect capital to start a business.
117. Which of the following can be validly implied from the authors' argument for why the poor should have more reason to save than the rich?
- (a) The poor should spend all their money as soon as they get it.
 - (b) The rich have less reason to save than the poor, because they can expect to get more money in the future.
 - (c) The rich are lazy and indigent and do not bother to plan ahead and save money for the future.
 - (d) The poor are very good planners and are masters at financial management.
118. The Victorians' establishment of poorhouses and debtors' prisons was premised on the belief that:
- (a) The poor would slip into indolence unless they were threatened with great hardship.
 - (b) The poor did not have the ability to plan ahead, and had no patience.
 - (c) Neither (a) nor (b).
 - (d) Both, (a) and (b).
119. Which of the following best describes the similarities between the Victorians and the critics of MFIs in their way of thinking about the poor?
- (a) They both thought that poverty was only a problem in the developing world.
 - (b) They both considered poor people as being impatient and unable to think ahead for the future.
 - (c) They both considered poor people as being unable to do simple mathematical calculations.
 - (d) They both thought that possessing wealth encourages people to invest in becoming more patient.
120. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the authors' arguments for why the poor should save whatever they can?
- (a) Most savings institutions provide very high rates of interests.
 - (b) Governments always step in to support poor people who fall upon hard times.
 - (c) The poor cannot predict when they may have to face hardship.
 - (d) The rich can expect to earn more money in the future, whereas the poor cannot.

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22

About two-and-a-half months before the storming of the Bastille in Paris, which was effectively the beginning of the French Revolution, the political philosopher and orator, Edmund Burke, said in Parliament in London: 'An event has happened, upon which it is difficult to speak, and impossible to be silent.' This was on 5 May 1789. Burke's speech had nothing much to do with the developing storm in France. The occasion, rather, was the impeachment of Warren Hastings, who was then commanding the British East India Company, which was setting up British rule in India, beginning with the Company's victory in the Battle of Plassey (on 23 June 1757).

In impeaching Warren Hastings, Burke invoked the 'eternal laws of justice' which, Burke claimed, Hastings had 'violated'. The impossibility of remaining silent on a subject is an observation that can be made about many cases of patent injustice that move us to rage in a way that is hard for our language to capture. And yet any analysis of injustice would also demand clear articulation and reasoned scrutiny.

Burke did not, in fact, give much evidence of being lost for words: he spoke eloquently not on one misdeed of Hastings but on a great many, and proceeded from there to present simultaneously a number of separate and quite distinct reasons for the need to indict Warren Hastings and the nature of the emerging British rule in India.

No argument was separated out by Burke as the reason for impeaching Warren Hastings. Instead, Burke presented a collection of distinct reasons for impeaching him. The underlying issue here is whether we have to agree on one specific line of censure for a reasoned consensus on the diagnosis of an injustice that calls for urgent rectification. What is important to note here, as central to the idea of justice, is that we can have a strong sense of injustice on many different grounds, and yet not agree on one particular ground as being the dominant reason for the diagnosis of injustice.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from *The Idea of Justice*, by Amartya Sen, Allen Lane, 2009.]

121. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

- (a) Burke did not think the French Revolution was worthy of comment.
- (b) Burke thought the storming of the Bastille was an inconsequential event.
- (c) Burke thought Hastings's actions meant Hastings should be impeached.
- (d) Burke had no words to describe Hastings's misdeeds.

122. Each of the following is an example of a case of patent injustice to which, according to the author, "the impossibility of remaining silent on a subject" is an observation that can be made, except:

- (a) A man got so angry with his neighbor for playing loud music in the middle of the night that he starts berating the neighbor from his window.
- (b) A person being so upset at being slapped unfairly by another that they have no words to say to the other person.
- (c) A child being so badly bullied by others that they cannot even say anything to the bully.
- (d) An old person left mouth agape on the road when a thief snatches their purse and runs away with it.

123. What is the author's main point in the passage above?
- (a) We may sometimes feel that something is unjust, but others may not agree with us.
 - (b) We may sometimes feel that something is unjust for many different reasons, but cannot agree upon the main reason why it is unjust.
 - (c) Burke was an eloquent speaker.
 - (d) Burke did not like Warren Hastings and would do anything to see him peached.
124. Why, according to the author, would not being able to respond with words to patent injustice, not help in the analysis of injustice?
- (a) Because if Burke had not spoken out against Warren Hastings, he would have continued with his injustices.
 - (b) Because such analysis requires that we take immediate action in response to such cases of patent injustice.
 - (c) Because such analysis requires that we present our thoughts and reasons clearly.
 - (d) Because then such instances would not count as cases of patent injustice.
125. Which of the following is the author most likely to agree with?
- (a) We need not agree that something is unjust for it to be classified as unjust and requiring an immediate solution.
 - (b) Justice is such a complicated issue that we can never agree that something is unjust and requires an immediate solution.
 - (c) Unless we can agree upon one main cause for why something is unjust, we cannot agree that it is unjust and requires an immediate solution.
 - (d) There is no need for us to agree upon one main cause for why something is unjust, to agree that it is unjust and requires an immediate solution.

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23

We in India worry a lot about the possible missteps that can happen in the implementation of large-scale transfers; the money (or the food) may end up in the wrong hands, some intermediary may get rich at the expense of the taxpayer. But in times like these, amidst the pandemic, with the nation in lockdown and with lives and livelihoods at stake, it is the wrong set of concerns.

As it becomes clear that the lockdown will go on for quite a while, in a total or a more localized version, the biggest worry right now, by far, is that a huge number of people will be pushed into dire poverty or even starvation by the combination of the loss of their livelihoods and interruptions in the standard delivery mechanisms. That is a tragedy in itself and, moreover, opens up the risk that we see large-scale defiance of lockdown orders — starving people, after all, have little to lose. We need to do what it takes to reassure people that society does care and that their minimum well-being will be secure.

We have the resources to do this; the stocks of food at the Food Corporation of India (the “**FCI**”) are more than three times the “buffer stock norms”. This is likely to grow over the next weeks as the Rabi crop comes in.

Indeed the government already has shown a willingness to use the stocks — it has offered a supplementary PDS (Public Distribution System, or 'Ration') provision of 5 kg/person/month for the coming three months. However, it is quite likely that three months will not be enough, since even if the lockdown ends soon, the process of reopening the economy will take time. More importantly, a substantial fraction of the poor are excluded from the PDS rolls, for one reason or another (such as identification barriers to get a ration card that turn out to be hard to overcome), and this supplementary provision only applies to those who are already on it. There is also evidence that there are a lot of bona fide applications (for example of old-age pensioners) held up in the verification process, partly because the responsible local authorities try to avoid letting anybody in by mistake to avoid any appearance of malfeasance.

Such punctiliousness has its merits, but not in the middle of a crisis. The correct response is to issue temporary ration cards with minimal checks to everyone who wants one and is willing to stand in line to collect their card and their monthly allocations. The cost of missing many of those who are in dire need vastly exceeds the social cost of letting in some who could perhaps do without it.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from "Huge numbers may be pushed into dire poverty or starvation...we need to secure them", by Amartya Sen, Raghuram Rajan, and Abhijit Banerjee, *The Indian Express*, <https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/coronavirus-india-lockdown-economy-amartya-sen-raghuram-rajan-abhijit-banerjee-6364521/>]

126. Which of the following best represents the authors' views on the Government's decision to offer supplementary PDS provisions to people, mentioned in the passage above?
- (a) They oppose it, and do not think it is enough, as three months of supplementary provisions may not be enough, and many needy people are not enrolled on the PDS lists.
 - (b) They support it, but do not think it is enough, as three months of supplementary provisions may not be enough, and many needy people are not enrolled on the PDS lists.
 - (c) They oppose it, and think it is too much, as three months of supplementary provisions is excessive, and many well-off people are enrolled on the PDS lists.
 - (d) They support it, and think it is more than enough.
127. Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the author's position on whether the supplementary PDS provision offered by the Government would be sufficient in the circumstances described in the passage?
- (a) The FCI does not have a wide variety of food grains in stock.
 - (b) India's economy will eventually rebound to the levels it was at prior to the pandemic.
 - (c) The lockdown is likely to go on for more than three months.
 - (d) Every needy person in India has been added to the PDS rolls.
128. Based on the authors' views on the actions of local authorities responsible for the verification process for adding people to the PDS rolls in the passage above, which of the following are the authors least likely to agree with?
- (a) It is critical that public officials ensure there is no appearance of wrongdoing, even at the cost of some deserving persons not receiving benefits from the state.
 - (b) Public officials should be focused on ensuring the well-being of people, even at the cost of a loss to the state.
 - (c) The most important duty of public officials is to ensure that state-sponsored benefits reach needy people.

- (d) In a crisis such as the pandemic or the lockdown, public officials should take a more compassionate view of the needs of poor people.
129. Which of the following would, if it were not true, have the effect of weakening the author's proposals relating to PDS provisions in the passage above?
- (a) The FCI was established many years ago.
 - (b) The FCI was established to support farmers and provide them with a minimum support price for their harvest.
 - (c) The FCI has very meagre stocks.
 - (d) The FCI has much more stock than it is required to maintain as a buffer stock.
130. Which of the following would be the most accurate summary of the main ideas set out in the passage above?
- (a) The FCI has bumper stocks; the government needs money to kickstart the economy after the lockdown; the government should therefore sell the FCI's stocks at an inflated price to earn the money required.
 - (b) The FCI has bumper stocks; farmers need support at a time like the lockdown; therefore, the government should destroy the FCI's stocks and buy more grain from farmers at high prices to support them.
 - (c) The FCI has bumper stocks; many people in India face the prospect of poverty and hunger because of the pandemic and the lockdown; therefore the government should distribute the FCI's stocks among the needy without worrying too much about less-deserving people getting the benefit of such distribution.
 - (d) The FCI has bumper stocks; many people in India face the prospect of poverty and hunger because of the pandemic and the lockdown; the government should not, however, dilute its standards for enrolment of people on the PDS rolls, as this may result in less-deserving people getting the benefit of PDS provisions.

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24

David Frakt's presentation to the Florida Coastal School of Law's faculty did not seem to pose a challenge. A law professor for several years, Frakt was a finalist for the school's deanship, and the highlight of his two-day visit was this hour-long talk, in which he discussed his ideas for fixing what he saw as the major problems facing the school.

But midway through Frakt's presentation, he was interrupted when Dennis Stone, the school's president, entered the room. Stone told Frakt to stop "insulting" the faculty, and told him that if he didn't leave the premises immediately, security would be called. Frakt packed up his belongings and left.

What had happened? Florida Coastal is a for-profit law school, and in his presentation to its faculty, Frakt had catalogued disturbing trends in the world of for-profit legal education. This world is one in which law schools accredited by the American Bar Association admit large numbers of severely underqualified students; these students in turn take out hundreds of millions of dollars in loans annually, much of which

they will never be able to repay. Eventually, federal taxpayers will be stuck with the tab, even as the schools themselves continue to reap enormous profits.

Florida Coastal is owned by InfiLaw System, a corporate entity created by a Chicago-based private-equity firm.

InfiLaw bought Florida Coastal around the same time that a set of changes in federal loan programs for financing graduate and professional education made for-profit law schools tempting opportunities. In 2006 the Federal Direct plus Loan program was changed, allowing any graduate student admitted to an accredited program to borrow the full cost of attendance directly from the federal government. The program limits neither the amount that a school can charge for attendance nor the amount that can be borrowed in federal loans.

Since private-equity firms seek to maximise profits and returns on investments, this is, for a private-equity firm, a remarkably attractive arrangement: the investors get their money up front, in the form of the tuition paid for by student loans. Meanwhile, any subsequent default on those loans is somebody else's problem—in this case, the federal government's. This situation, from the perspective of investors in higher education, comes remarkably close to the capitalist dream of privatizing profits while socializing losses.

From the perspective of graduates who can't pay back their loans, however, this dream is very much a nightmare. Educational debt can almost never be discharged in bankruptcy, and will continue to follow borrowers throughout their adult lives. And anecdotal evidence suggests that many law degrees that do not lead to legal careers have a negative value, because most employers outside the legal profession don't like to hire failed lawyers.

[Extracted, with edits and revisions, from "The Law-School Scam", by Paul Campos, The Atlantic, <https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2014/09/the-law-school-scam/375069/>]

131. Based on the information in the passage above, had David Frakt done which of the following, would he have been unlikely to be asked to leave the premises of the Florida Coastal Law School?
- (a) Avoid criticizing the emerging developments in the world of for-profit legal education.
 - (b) Point out the greedy tactics of private equity firms that wanted to take advantage of law students.
 - (c) Worn a more professional outfit more suited for the occasion.
 - (d) Talk about how for-profit legal education was immoral and should be prohibited.
132. Based on the information in the passage above, which of the following about the Federal Direct plus Loan program, if true, would be most likely to have made for-profit law schools less attractive opportunities for private-equity firms?
- (a) Upper limits, or caps, on the fees that law schools can charge for attendance.
 - (b) A minimum amount that could be borrowed by students.
 - (c) Both, (a) and (b).
 - (d) Neither (a) nor (b).
133. Which of the following, if implemented as a reform to the Federal Direct plus Loan program, would be likely to help avoid the problem of law students taking on massive loans that they find difficult to pay back?
- (a) Loans under the program would only be provided to students who were likely to obtain high-paying jobs on graduation.
 - (b) A maximum amount would be specified, beyond which loans would not be provided to students.
 - (c) Both, (a) and (b).

(d) Neither (a) nor (b)

134. Which among the following, if true, would most weaken the author's explanation for why the 'situation' described in the passage "comes remarkably close to the capitalist dream of privatizing profits while socializing losses" for private-equity firms?
- (a) If a law student from a for-profit law school is unable to pay back their loans, the corporation that owns the law school need not pay back the loan.
 - (b) Money earned from the education sector, such as through the fees charged by for-profit law schools, is exempt from tax.
 - (c) If students are unable to pay back their loans, the Federal Government can take strict measures to collect their dues, such as possessing students' homes and belongings.
 - (d) If the federal government is faced with a situation where many students at for-profit law schools are unable to pay back their loans, they can order the private-equity firms that own such law schools pay back the loans.
135. Which of the following would, if it were true, help alleviate the problems faced by law graduates who cannot pay back their loans?
- (a) The federal government circulates a 'blacklist' of loan defaulters amongst employers.
 - (b) Employers across sectors are very keen to hire people who have had a legal education.
 - (c) Interest rates on loans provided under the Federal Direct plus Loan program are very high.
 - (d) Employers do not like hiring people who have huge loans to pay back.

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27

150 workers were commissioned to build a water tank measuring 24m in length, 16 m in width and 10 m in depth, in 20 days. They worked together for 5 days, after which the construction was accelerated and had to be finished in another 10 days. There was enough food for 150 workers for 30 days at the start of the construction. The tank was fitted with three pipes – A, and B, each of which alone filled the tank in 12 hours and 8 hours respectively, and C, which drained the tank alone in 6 hours.

146. How many additional workers were required to finish the construction of the tank after the first 5 days?

- (a) 100 (b) 225
(c) 75 (d) 125

147. How long would the food remaining after the first 5 days last for all the workers?

- (a) 13 days 8 hours (b) 16 days 16 hours
(c) 12 days 12 hours (d) 15 days 4 hours

148. To start filling the tank with water, pipe A was opened for 3 hours and then pipe B was also opened. How long will it take to fill the tank completely?

- (a) 3 hours 36 minutes (b) 4 hours 48 minutes
(c) 6 hours 36 minutes (d) 7 hours 48 minutes

149. 4 hours after the pipes were opened in the manner described in the previous question, it was noticed that the water in the tank was contaminated by a nearby oil well. On examination, the ratio of water to oil in the tank is found to be 7:5. What is the quantity of water in the tank?

- (a) 1,026.67 m³ (b) 1,760 m³
(c) 2,036.33 m³ (d) 1,600 m³

150. Even after the contamination was observed, pipes A and B kept running but pipe C was started. An hour later, the inlet pipes A and B were closed, and pipe C was kept running. How long did it take to drain the tank after the inlet pipes were closed?

- (a) 5 1/2 hours (b) 4 1/3 hours
(c) 3 2/3 hours (d) 3 hours