

**Daily Practice — Legal Reasoning · Analytical Reasoning · Quantitative Techniques**

Darken one bubble per question. Negative marking applies. Answers and detailed explanations are provided in a separate companion sheet.  
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**SECTION A — LEGAL REASONING**

**Q1-12 · 12 Marks**

**PRINCIPLE A — DOCTRINE OF PROMISSORY ESTOPPEL (Q1-6)**

**PRINCIPLE:** Where one party, by words or conduct, makes an unequivocal promise intended to create legal relations, knowing that it will be acted upon by the promisee, and the promisee actually alters its position relying on that promise, the promisor is estopped from going back on the promise even in the absence of consideration. The doctrine applies to the State and its instrumentalities, and may be enforced against the Government in matters of contract and policy. **EXCEPTIONS:** Promissory estoppel will not lie (1) where the promise is contrary to a statutory prohibition or public policy; (2) where overriding public interest justifies the change of position by the State; (3) where the promisee has not in fact altered position to its detriment; or (4) where the representation was made by an officer acting outside the scope of authority. **Authorities:** Motilal Padampat Sugar Mills v. State of UP (1979) and Union of India v. Anglo Afghan Agencies (1968).

**1. The State of Karnataka publicly announces a 10-year tax holiday for new electronics manufacturing units in a notified industrial zone. Relying on the announcement, Vega Ltd buys land, secures bank loans, and commences plant construction. Two years later, before commercial production begins, the State withdraws the holiday citing 'revenue compulsions' but pleads no overriding public interest. Vega Ltd sues. Decide:**

- A. Vega Ltd loses because tax exemptions can always be withdrawn by the State at will
- B. Vega Ltd succeeds; the State is estopped and the announcement must be honoured for the promised period
- C. Vega Ltd loses because no formal contract was signed with the State
- D. Vega Ltd succeeds only if it shows that the new tax demand exceeds its annual profits

**2. Which of the following best captures the distinction between a contractual obligation and an obligation arising under promissory estoppel?**

- A. Both require offer, acceptance, and consideration; the only difference is the remedy available
- B. Promissory estoppel requires no consideration but does require detrimental reliance on a clear promise
- C. Promissory estoppel applies only to oral promises while contracts must be in writing
- D. A contract binds the State; promissory estoppel only binds private individuals

**3. The Director of Industries, acting beyond the powers delegated to him under a State scheme, assures a developer that import duties on capital equipment will be waived. The developer makes large investments. Treasury later refuses the waiver. Which is the most accurate legal position?**

- A. The State is estopped because the developer relied to its detriment
- B. Promissory estoppel does not arise because the assurance was beyond the officer's authority
- C. The developer can sue the officer personally for fraud regardless of authority
- D. The waiver must be granted to avoid violating the developer's fundamental right to property

**4. Which of the following statements is INCORRECT based on the stated principle?**

- A. Promissory estoppel can be invoked even where there is no consideration in the strict contractual sense
- B. Promissory estoppel can be enforced against the Government acting in its sovereign capacity for matters of policy
- C. A promise that contradicts an express statutory prohibition can still found a successful estoppel claim
- D. The promisee must show that it altered its position based on the promise to claim estoppel

**5. A municipal corporation invites bids for a 30-year leasehold and represents in its tender document that no fresh charges will be levied during the lease. After award, it imposes a 'civic infrastructure cess' across the city pursuant to a new statute. The lessee challenges the cess on estoppel grounds. The most likely outcome is:**

- A. Lessee wins because the corporation's representation was clear and acted upon
- B. Lessee loses because estoppel cannot operate against an obligation that arises out of valid statutory authority
- C. Lessee wins only if the cess exceeds twenty per cent of annual lease rent
- D. Lessee loses because municipal corporations are not 'State' for the purposes of the doctrine

**6. The Supreme Court's reasoning in Motilal Padampat Sugar Mills is best understood as establishing that:**

- A. Government promises are unenforceable absent a written contract under Article 299
- B. The Government may resile from a promise only by showing a supervening overriding public interest, not mere administrative convenience
- C. Promissory estoppel grants damages but never specific performance against the Government
- D. Tax exemptions can never be promised by the executive without parliamentary approval

**PRINCIPLE B — VICARIOUS LIABILITY OF THE MASTER (Q7-12)**

**PRINCIPLE:** A master is vicariously liable for torts committed by a servant in the course of employment, even where the master had not authorised the wrongful act. The act must be (1) committed by a person in a master-servant relationship and (2) done in the course of employment, meaning either an act authorised by the master or an unauthorised mode of doing an authorised act. A servant acting on a 'frolic of his own' — for purposes wholly unconnected with the employment — falls outside the master's liability. The 'control test' (whether the master controls the manner of work) and the 'integration test' (whether the worker is part of the business) are both used to identify a master-servant relationship. Independent contractors are generally outside the doctrine, except where the work is inherently dangerous, where statute imposes a non-delegable duty, or where the principal authorised the wrongful act. **Leading cases:** Limpus v. London General Omnibus Co. (1862) and State Bank of India v. Shyama Devi (1978).

**7. A delivery driver employed by FastLogix Pvt Ltd, while making authorised deliveries on the company's route, drives negligently and injures a pedestrian. The company argues it had specifically instructed drivers to obey all traffic rules. The most accurate position is:**

- A. FastLogix is not liable because it had instructed drivers to obey traffic rules
- B. FastLogix is vicariously liable; negligent driving is an unauthorised mode of doing an authorised act
- C. FastLogix is liable only if the driver had a prior history of negligent driving known to it
- D. FastLogix is not liable because the pedestrian was not a customer of the company

**8. A chauffeur, asked to drop her employer at the airport, makes an unauthorised 40-kilometre detour to attend a personal wedding and, while returning, collides with another car. The employer's liability is best described as:**

- A. The employer is vicariously liable as the chauffeur was on duty for the day
- B. The employer is not vicariously liable; the chauffeur was on a frolic of her own at the time of the accident
- C. The employer is liable only if the chauffeur was wearing the official uniform
- D. The employer is liable in proportion to the kilometres driven on official duty

**9. A municipal council engages an independent contractor to demolish a heritage building. The contractor uses excessive explosives causing collateral damage to neighbouring property. The council pleads it is not liable as the contractor was independent. Which is most accurate?**

- A. The council is not liable in any circumstance for the acts of an independent contractor
- B. The council may be liable because demolition using explosives is inherently dangerous, attracting a non-delegable duty
- C. The council is liable only if the contractor is later proven insolvent
- D. Liability lies on the architects who designed the building, not on the council

**10. Which of the following is NOT a recognised exception under which a principal can be held liable for the acts of an independent contractor?**

- A. The work entrusted is inherently dangerous in nature
- B. The principal authorises or ratifies the wrongful act
- C. Statute imposes a non-delegable duty on the principal
- D. The contractor's negligence merely embarrasses the principal commercially

**11. A bank cashier, unauthorised by the bank, persuades a customer to give him cash for 'speedier deposit' and absconds with the money. Following the principle in State Bank of India v. Shyama Devi, the bank's vicarious liability is:**

- A. Established, because the cashier was an employee of the bank when the act occurred
- B. Not established, because the cashier acted outside the scope of his employment by accepting cash informally for personal misappropriation
- C. Established, because banks are absolutely liable for any loss to customers on bank premises
- D. Not established, because the customer was contributorily negligent in handing over cash informally

**12. Which of the following statements is INCORRECT based on the stated principle?**

- A. An employer can be liable for a servant's tort even where the employer expressly forbade the wrongful act
- B. An employer is generally not liable for the torts of an independent contractor outside recognised exceptions
- C. An act done on a frolic of the servant's own can ground vicarious liability if it occurs during business hours
- D. Both the control test and the integration test are used to determine a master-servant relationship

## SECTION B – ANALYTICAL REASONING

Q13–20 · 8 Marks

### PUZZLE 1 – LINEAR SEATING ARRANGEMENT – EIGHT FRIENDS (Q13–16)

Eight friends — Aarav, Bhavna, Chirag, Diya, Eshan, Falak, Gauri and Hari — are seated in a single row of eight chairs, all facing north. The following conditions apply: (1) Bhavna sits at one of the extreme ends of the row. (2) There are exactly three persons between Bhavna and Hari. (3) Diya sits immediately to the right of Hari. (4) Eshan sits second to the left of Diya. (5) Chirag sits immediately to the left of Aarav. (6) Falak does not sit at either extreme end. (7) Gauri sits adjacent to Falak but not adjacent to Diya. (8) Aarav and Hari are not adjacent to each other. Use the conditions strictly; any seat unmentioned by a condition is determined only by elimination.

**13. Who sits at the extreme right end of the row?**

- A. Aarav
- B. Gauri
- C. Falak
- D. Chirag

**14. How many persons sit between Eshan and Aarav?**

- A. One
- B. Two
- C. Three
- D. Four

**15. Which of the following pairs sits adjacent to each other?**

- A. Bhavna and Eshan
- B. Falak and Hari
- C. Chirag and Diya
- D. Gauri and Eshan

**16. If Diya and Falak interchange their positions, who would then sit second to the right of Hari?**

- A. Falak
- B. Gauri
- C. Aarav
- D. Chirag

### PUZZLE 2 – FLOOR-PROFESSION MATRIX – FIVE FLOORS (Q17–20)

Five professionals — Pawan, Qadir, Riya, Sneha and Tarun — live on five different floors of a building, with floor 1 being the lowest and floor 5 the highest. Each follows a different profession from among Architect, Banker, Chef, Doctor and Engineer (not necessarily in order). The following conditions hold: (1) The Doctor lives on an even-numbered floor. (2) Riya lives immediately above the Engineer. (3) Sneha is neither the Architect nor the Doctor and lives on the lowest floor. (4) Pawan, who is the Banker, lives exactly two floors below Tarun. (5) The Chef lives on a floor whose number is a prime number. (6) Qadir does not live adjacent to the Banker. Determine the unique arrangement.



27. How many Free-tier users are projected to convert to a paid tier in May 2026, in absolute numbers?

- A. 3.6 lakh  B. 4.2 lakh  
 C. 4.8 lakh  D. 5.4 lakh

28. Of the converters in May, how many will join the Premium tier?

- A. 72,000  B. 96,000  
 C. 1,08,000  D. 1,20,000

29. What is the average revenue per paid user (ARPPU) across Basic, Standard and Premium tiers in April 2026?

- A. ₹248  B. ₹268  
 C. ₹284  D. ₹297

30. If the Premium-tier price is increased by 20% in May with no change in subscriber count, by how much (in ₹ crore) does Premium-tier monthly revenue increase?

- A. ₹9.98 crore  B. ₹11.98 crore  
 C. ₹13.97 crore  D. ₹14.96 crore

**SECTION D – RAPID-FIRE MIXED REASONING & GK**

**Q31-43 · 13 Marks**

*Standalone questions covering blood relations, direction sense, syllogism, coding-decoding, simple arithmetic and basic GK. No passage required.*

31. Pointing to a man in a photograph, Sara said, 'He is the only son of my mother's father.' How is the man related to Sara?

- A. Brother  B. Father  
 C. Maternal uncle  D. Cousin

32. A walks 8 km north, then turns right and walks 6 km, then turns right and walks 8 km, then turns left and walks 4 km. In which direction is A from the starting point?

- A. North  B. East  
 C. South-East  D. North-East

33. Statements: All judges are honest. Some honest persons are wealthy. Conclusions: (I) Some judges are wealthy. (II) Some wealthy persons are honest. Which conclusion follows?

- A. Only I  B. Only II  
 C. Both I and II  D. Neither I nor II

34. If COURT is coded as 3-15-21-18-20, how is JUDGE coded?

- A. 10-21-4-7-5  B. 10-20-4-7-5  
 C. 9-21-4-7-5  D. 10-21-4-6-5

35. Find the next term in the series: 2, 6, 12, 20, 30, ?

- A. 40  B. 42  
 C. 44  D. 46

36. A trader marks his goods 40% above cost and offers a 25% discount on the marked price. What is his profit per cent?

- A. 5%  B. 10%  
 C. 12%  D. 15%

37. In a class of 60 students, the ratio of boys to girls is 7 : 5. If 5 more girls join the class, what is the new ratio?

- A. 7 : 6  B. 35 : 30  
 C. 7 : 5  D. 6 : 5

38. Which Article of the Indian Constitution provides for the protection of life and personal liberty?

- A. Article 14  B. Article 19  
 C. Article 21  D. Article 32

39. Who has the constitutional authority to grant pardons under Article 72 of the Indian Constitution?

- A. Prime Minister  
 B. Chief Justice of India  
 C. Governor  
 D. President of India

40. The Quit India Movement was launched by the Indian National Congress in which year?

- A. 1939  B. 1940  
 C. 1942  D. 1945

41. If 1 January 2024 was a Monday, what day of the week was 1 January 2026?

- A. Monday  B. Tuesday  
 C. Wednesday  D. Thursday

42. A train 240 m long crosses a stationary platform 360 m long in 30 seconds. What is the train's speed in km/h?

- A. 54 km/h  B. 60 km/h  
 C. 72 km/h  D. 80 km/h

43. What is the normal tenure of the Lok Sabha as fixed by the Constitution, unless dissolved earlier?

- A. 4 years  B. 5 years  
 C. 6 years  D. 7 years