BLOGS

CLAT PG 2026 Exam Analysis

Adtiya Aryan · 10 Dec 2025

The CLAT PG 2026 examination has now concluded, and the feedback from students, faculty and mentors paints a clear picture. The paper this year was easy to moderate in its overall difficulty level, highly predictable in structure, and extremely lengthy.

In many ways, CLAT PG 2026 rewarded consistency, stamina and reading discipline more than anything else. What emerged strongly was that the examination tested not only the depth of one's legal understanding, but also how efficiently a candidate could navigate long comprehension based questions within a strict time frame.

Overall Structure and Nature of the Paper

CLAT PG 2026 followed the now familiar trend of presenting candidates with 24 passages. This structure, although surprising when first introduced years ago, has now become the new normal.

Students who had anticipated the same number felt right at home, but the real challenge was the length. Several passages were long and dense, which meant reading speed became a major differentiator this year. The exam often felt like a reading comprehension marathon.

The nature of the questions further reinforced this. A large portion of the paper was purely RC based. Many answers were traceable within the passages themselves and could be solved with careful reading even if the student did not have deep subject knowledge.

At the same time, conceptual clarity helped in understanding some of the heavier passages and in interpreting tricky questions. The consortium also appeared to adopt a student friendly approach overall, which came as a relief after past years marked by ambiguity or uneven difficulty.

Despite the ease, it was not uncommon to see students make avoidable errors. Several questions used words like "not" or "incorrect", which could mislead candidates who were rushing through. Accuracy mattered as much as speed.

Predictability and Repetition

What stood out this year was the degree of repetition. Students who took previous year papers seriously received a clear advantage. Direct passages and even some exact questions reappeared from earlier papers.

This kind of repetition is unusual in CLAT PG, but it undoubtedly benefited anyone who had been diligent with PYPs. It also validated the long standing advice that PYPs are not just for pattern recognition but can also turn into direct scoring opportunities.

Because of this approachable and predictable nature, it is widely expected that the highest score this year will be significantly higher than earlier years.

Many experts project that AIR 1 may go 5 to 10 marks above the previous record and even comfortably cross the 100 mark threshold.

Subject Wise Performance and Trends

The paper offered a balanced mix of core legal subjects. Most of the expected areas were covered, with a few interesting surprises.

Jurisprudence saw the inclusion of Bentham's utilitarian theory and Hofield's jurial relations. While the topics were predictable, the Bentham passage was particularly long and needed a deeper understanding to answer one of the questions.

Corporate and Labour Law received noticeable attention. Several important cases were asked, including Mosir Bar Karmachari Union and State of Goa versus Namita Tripathi. Bore Water Supply versus A. Rajappa was directly repeated from a PYP, which might lead to some objections regarding the answer key.

Constitutional and Tort Law were fairly comfortable. The constitutional tort discussion, including the Uphaar tragedy context, was easy to handle. Medical negligence in the Neeraj Sood case was also approachable and expected.

Public International Law had some of the longest passages in the entire exam. These covered topics ranging from the Nuremberg Trials to the Paris Agreement. The Paris Agreement passage was unexpectedly tough, but most questions were still solvable with careful reading.

Tax Law made an unexpected entry as a full passage for the first time. Although surprising, it turned out to be entirely RC driven and simple to attempt.

Property Law, **Criminal Law**, and **Family Law** were all quite approachable. Surprisingly, the new criminal law codes did not make a direct appearance, although the bracketed sections allowed students to use either the old or the new provisions to answer. The Family Law cases, including Indira Sharma, were predictable and even repeated from mock tests.

Expected Cutoffs and Safe Attempts

With the paper being easy and predictable, high cutoffs are expected across the board. Most experts believe that students with 95 or more attempts will be in a strong position. Anything below 90 attempts may place a student at a disadvantage because most aspirants attempted a high number of questions.

For Tier 1 NLUs, the cutoff is expected to settle around 72 to 75 marks. Tier 2 NLUs might close in the 65 to 70 range, while Tier 3 colleges are expected to close around 60 to 62 marks by the final list. For JAG entry, a score of 60 or above should be enough for further progression.

Conclusion

CLAT PG 2026 reaffirmed that the exam is now heavily focused on comprehension ability rather than purely on legal knowledge. The length of the paper and the stamina required to solve 120 questions within the time limit became the real test.

The exam resembled the CLAT UG 2011 format which was entirely comprehension-based. Students who were consistent in reading, practiced PYPs and approached the paper methodically have likely performed very well.

The exam rewarded discipline more than anything else, and this trend may well shape the future direction of CLAT PG.