BLOGS

Passage-Based Questions on Legal Reasoning for CLAT UG [Part 20]

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Passage 1 (P.1)

The legal framework governing forest rights in India recognises that many forest-dwelling communities have traditionally depended on forest resources for their livelihood and cultural practices. Historically, however, colonial and post-colonial forest policies often treated forests primarily as state property, leading to restrictions on the activities of local communities. To address this historical imbalance, legislation was introduced to recognise the rights of forest-dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest residents.

The law allows such communities to claim certain rights over forest land and resources, including habitation, cultivation for livelihood, and access to minor forest produce.Importantly, the framework also emphasises the role of local self-governance institutions in determining and verifying such claims. At the same time, the law attempts to balance community rights with environmental conservation, recognising that forests are ecologically sensitive areas.Thus, the legislation seeks to correct historical injustice while ensuring that forest governance incorporates both conservation goals and community participation.

1. The legislation discussed in the passage is most closely associated with which of the following statutes?

a) Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act
b) Forest Conservation Act
c) Wildlife Protection Act
d) Biological Diversity Act

2. Which institution plays a key role in verifying claims to forest rights at the local level?

a) District Court
b) Gram Sabha
c) Parliament

d) National Green Tribunal

3. Which of the following rights would most likely fall within the scope of the law discussed?

a) Right to commercial mining in forests
b) Right to sell forest land to corporations
c) Right to construct industrial projects in forests
d) Right to collect minor forest produce for livelihood

4. Which of the following institutions is primarily responsible for resolving environmental disputes and cases relating to ecological protection in India?

a) Supreme Court
b) National Green Tribunal
c) Lok Sabha
d) Election Commission

5. The broader objective of the legislation described in the passage is to ?

a) privatise forest land
b) remove all environmental regulations
c) balance community rights with conservation
d) transfer forests entirely to private companies

Passage 2 (P.2)

Modern economies require an efficient system for resolving situations where individuals or companies are unable to repay their debts. Without such a system, financial disputes can remain unresolved for years, affecting creditors, employees, and the broader economy. To address this issue, India introduced a comprehensive insolvency and bankruptcy framework that consolidates earlier fragmented laws dealing with financial distress.

The legislation provides a structured process through which creditors may initiate proceedings when a debtor fails to meet repayment obligations. A central feature of the framework is a time-bound resolution process, during which a professional administrator may take control of the debtor’s assets and attempt to reorganise the company or liquidate it if necessary. The law aims to maximise asset value and ensure fair distribution among creditors. The system also establishes

specialised adjudicating authorities to oversee insolvency proceedings and ensure that disputes are resolved efficiently.

6. The legislation referred to in the passage is ?

a) Companies Act
b) Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code
c) Banking Regulation Act
d) Securities Contracts Regulation Act

7. Which authority acts as the primary adjudicating body for corporate insolvency proceedings?

a) National Company Law Tribunal
b) High Court
c) Supreme Court
d) Debt Recovery Appellate Tribunal

8. Which of the following professionals is responsible for managing the debtor's assets during the insolvency process?

a) Public Prosecutor
b) Insolvency Resolution Professional
c) Company Secretary
d) Chartered Accountant

9. Which of the following institutions regulates insolvency professionals and related entities in India?

a) Reserve Bank of India
b) Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India
c) Securities and Exchange Board of India
d) Finance Commission

10. The primary objective of the insolvency framework is to ?

a) punish borrowers for financial failure
b) ensure efficient resolution of debt disputes
c) eliminate corporate borrowing

d) replace banking institutions

Passage 3 (P.3)

In many systems of governance, corruption or abuse of authority may remain hidden unless individuals within institutions are willing to disclose wrongdoing. Such individuals, commonly known as whistleblowers, expose illegal acts, corruption, or misuse of public power by reporting them to competent authorities. Recognising the importance of such disclosures, legal frameworks have been developed to provide protection to individuals who report wrongdoing in public offices.

These laws generally allow citizens or public servants to make complaints regarding corruption, misuse of power, or criminal offences committed by public officials. A key feature of such legislation is the protection of the identity of the person making the disclosure, as whistleblowers may otherwise face retaliation, harassment, or professional consequences.

At the same time, the framework aims to ensure that complaints are made responsibly and are not used for malicious or frivolous allegations. By protecting individuals who expose wrongdoing, the law attempts to strengthen transparency and accountability within public institutions.

11. The legislation primarily associated with the protection of whistleblowers in India is ?

a) Prevention of Corruption Act
b) Right to Information Act
c) Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act
d) Whistle Blowers Protection Act

12. Which authority at the national level is empowered to receive complaints against corruption involving high public officials?

a) Election Commission
b) National Human Rights Commission
c) Comptroller and Auditor General
d) Lokpal

13. Which of the following situations best reflects whistleblowing?

a) A government employee secretly leaking defence secrets to foreign media

b) A public servant reporting corruption by a senior official to a competent authority

c) A company disclosing its profits publicly

d) A citizen filing a routine complaint about electricity supply

14. Which of the following institutions investigates corruption cases against central government officials under anti-corruption law?

a) Central Bureau of Investigation

b) Reserve Bank of India

c) Finance Commission

d) Planning Commission

15.The primary objective of whistleblower protection laws is to ?

a) restrict information about government activities

b) punish government employees who criticise officials

c) encourage reporting of corruption while protecting informants

d) replace anti-corruption agencies

Answers

1. A
2. B
3. D
4. B
5. C
6. B
7. A
8. B
9. B
10. B
11. D
12. D

13. B
14. A
15. C