

Daily Practice — Legal Reasoning · Logical Reasoning · Quantitative Techniques

Every question is passage-based, CLAT-2026 grade. Darken one bubble. Negative marking applies. Full solutions with examiner notes are in the companion answer sheet.

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SECTION — LEGAL REASONING

LEGAL PRINCIPLE — ADMINISTRATIVE LAW · PROMISSORY ESTOPPEL: WHEN A GOVERNMENT MUST KEEP ITS WORD (Q1-Q5)

Administrative law does not allow the State to break its word at will. Under the doctrine of promissory estoppel, as laid down by the Supreme Court in *Motilal Padampat Sugar Mills Co. Ltd v. State of Uttar Pradesh* (1979), where the government makes a clear and unequivocal promise, intending it to be acted upon, and the person to whom it is made acts on it and alters his position, the government is bound to honour the promise. It does not matter that the promise was not supported by consideration or was not executed as a contract in the form required by Article 299 of the Constitution; the doctrine rests on equity, not on contract. Nor need the promisee prove that he suffered a loss; it is enough that he altered his position in reliance on the promise. The doctrine has firm limits, however. First, it cannot compel the government to do what a statute forbids, or what the authority had no power to do: there is no estoppel against a statute. Second, the government may withdraw from its promise where an overriding public interest so requires, but it must place before the court the material showing that interest, and it is for the court, not the government, to decide whether the public interest outweighs the equity in favour of the promisee. A mere change of policy, or the wish to raise more revenue, is not by itself enough. In *Kasinka Trading v. Union of India* (1995), the Court upheld the early withdrawal of a duty exemption because the government showed that the public interest required it. Third, the doctrine protects reliance alone: a person who has not altered his position on the strength of the promise cannot complain of its withdrawal.

1. To attract investment to its drought-hit Banda region, the State of Vindhya Pradesh announced that new factories set up there before March 2024 would be exempt from electricity duty for five years. Relying on this, Sangam Textiles built a mill and began production in January 2024. In 2025 the State withdrew the exemption, saying only that its finances were under strain. Which is correct?

- ☐ A. The State may withdraw, because a promise not executed as a contract under Article 299 can never bind the government in law
- ☐ B. The State may withdraw, because Sangam must also prove an actual monetary loss caused by the withdrawal itself
- ☐ C. The State is bound, because Sangam altered its position on the promise and a wish for revenue is not enough
- ☐ D. The State is bound, because a promise announced publicly by a government can never be withdrawn for any reason

2. The State Excise Act levies duty on all liquor and allows no exemption. A Deputy Commissioner of Excise writes to Madhuban Distillery that it may sell a new brand without paying this duty. Relying on the letter, Madhuban doubles its plant. When the duty is demanded, Madhuban pleads promissory estoppel. Which is correct?

- ☐ A. Madhuban fails, because promissory estoppel cannot compel the State to grant an exemption the statute forbids
- ☐ B. Madhuban succeeds, because it doubled its plant and so altered its position on the strength of the promise
- ☐ C. Madhuban succeeds, because a written promise by an official binds the State even without any consideration
- ☐ D. Madhuban fails, because a promise binds the State only when it is made by a minister and not by an official

3. In February 2025 a State announced a stamp duty concession for warehouses registered within one year. Kalyani Logistics read the notice and discussed a warehouse at a board meeting, but bought no land and signed nothing. In May, before Kalyani took any step, the State withdrew the concession without giving reasons. Kalyani sues. Which is correct?

- ☐ A. Kalyani succeeds, because the promise was clear and unequivocal and was intended by the State to be acted upon
- ☐ B. Kalyani succeeds, because the State has placed before the court no material at all showing an overriding public interest
- ☐ C. Kalyani fails, because a stamp duty concession concerns taxation, to which the doctrine of estoppel never applies
- ☐ D. Kalyani fails, because it took no step in reliance on the promise and so did not alter its position before withdrawal

4. The Agriculture Department wrote to Harit Agro promising a capital subsidy of Rs 2 crore if it set up a cold-storage chain in three hill districts. Harit did so. The Department now refuses to pay, arguing (i) that its letter was not executed in the form Article 299 requires and (ii) that Harit gave the State nothing in return. Which is correct?

- ☐ A. Both arguments succeed, because without Article 299 form and without consideration no promise can be enforced at all
- ☐ B. Neither argument succeeds, because the doctrine rests on equity and needs neither contractual form nor consideration
- ☐ C. Only the first argument succeeds, because Article 299 form is required for any promise, though consideration is not
- ☐ D. Only the second argument succeeds, because consideration is required for any promise, though Article 299 form is not

5. Two States each promised a ten-year exemption from water cess to factories in an industrial estate, and factories were built in reliance. After four years both withdrew it. State X filed reservoir data showing that drinking water for three districts could be secured only by charging industry, and the court was satisfied. State Y's affidavit said only that the government had decided, as a matter of policy, that the exemption no longer served the public interest. In which case can the withdrawal be upheld?

- ☐ A. In both cases, because the government is the sole judge of what the public interest requires at any given time
- ☐ B. In neither case, because a promise acted upon by the promisee binds the government for its entire stated period
- ☐ C. Only in State X, because it placed material before the court, and the court found the public interest overriding
- ☐ D. Only in State Y, because a considered policy decision of the government outweighs data about reservoir levels

LEGAL PRINCIPLE — INTERNATIONAL LAW · DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY UNDER THE VIENNA CONVENTION ON DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, 1961 (Q6-Q9)



Diplomatic relations between States are governed by the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, 1961, which India has given the force of law through the Diplomatic Relations (Vienna Convention) Act, 1972. Under Article 29, the person of a diplomatic agent is inviolable: he cannot be arrested or detained. Under Article 31(1), he enjoys immunity from the criminal jurisdiction of the receiving State, the country where he is posted. He also enjoys immunity from its civil and administrative jurisdiction, with three exceptions only: (a) a real action relating to private immovable property situated in the receiving State, unless he holds it on behalf of the sending State for the purposes of the mission; (b) an action relating to succession in which he is involved as a private person, such as an executor or heir; and (c) an action relating to any professional or commercial activity he carries on in the receiving State outside his official functions. Under Article 31(4), immunity in the receiving State does not exempt him from the jurisdiction of his own State. Under Article 37(1), members of his family forming part of his household enjoy the same immunities, if they are not nationals of the receiving State. Under Article 32, immunity belongs to the sending State, which alone may waive it, and the waiver must always be express. The receiving State's remedy is political: under Article 9, it may at any time, without giving reasons, declare a diplomat persona non grata, and the sending State must then recall him. Finally, under Article 39(2), when his functions end, his immunities normally cease when he leaves the country, but immunity continues for acts he performed in the exercise of his functions as a member of the mission.

6. A Second Secretary at the Valdoran embassy in New Delhi drives his own car to a friend's wedding and injures a cyclist, Ramesh. Ramesh sues him for damages in a Delhi civil court. Valdora has not waived immunity. Which is correct?

- ☐ A. The court cannot hear the suit, because a road accident falls within none of the three exceptions to civil immunity
- ☐ B. The court can hear the suit, because driving to a private wedding is an activity outside the diplomat's official functions
- ☐ C. The court can hear the suit, because immunity from civil jurisdiction covers only acts done in performing official duties
- ☐ D. The court cannot hear the suit unless Ramesh first obtains the written consent of India's Ministry of External Affairs

7. Ms Ilsa Brandt, a Counsellor at the Valdoran embassy, buys in her own name, for family holidays, a villa in Goa. The seller sues her in a Goa court to recover the villa, alleging fraud in the sale. Separately, a landlord sues the Valdoran ambassador to evict him from the official residence, which he holds on behalf of Valdora for the mission. Which is correct?

- ☐ A. Both suits may proceed, because each one is a real action relating to immovable property situated in India
- ☐ B. Neither suit may proceed, because a diplomat enjoys complete immunity from civil jurisdiction in India
- ☐ C. Only the eviction suit may proceed, because the official residence is rented and not owned by Valdora
- ☐ D. Only the suit against Ms Brandt may proceed, because the residence is held for the purposes of the mission

8. The 19-year-old daughter of a Valdoran diplomat, a Valdoran national who lives in his household in Mumbai, is accused of assaulting a nightclub bouncer. The Valdoran Foreign Ministry sends India a formal note expressly waiving her immunity for this case. She herself objects to the waiver. Which is correct?

- ☐ A. She cannot be prosecuted, because immunity can be waived only by the person enjoying it, and she has not waived it
- ☐ B. She can be prosecuted, because her immunity belongs to Valdora, which has expressly waived it for this case
- ☐ C. She can be prosecuted, because a family member is immune only for acts done in support of the mission's work
- ☐ D. She cannot be prosecuted, because a waiver of criminal immunity needs the prior approval of the receiving State

9. Mr Tavi Rennick served as First Secretary of the Valdoran embassy until 2024, when his posting ended and he left India. While posted, he (i) signed, on his embassy's instructions, a letter refusing a businessman a visa, which the businessman says defamed him, and (ii) assaulted a neighbour in a parking dispute. He returns to India as a tourist in 2026. Which proceedings can now be brought against him?

- ☐ A. Both, because all of his immunities ceased for good when his posting ended and he left India in 2024
- ☐ B. Neither, because acts done while he was a serving diplomat stay immune from the receiving State for life
- ☐ C. Only the assault case, because immunity survives only for acts done in exercising his functions at the mission
- ☐ D. Only the defamation suit, because it is a civil claim, and civil claims against former diplomats are never immune

SECTION — LOGICAL REASONING

LOGICAL REASONING — ASSUMPTION · THE METRO AND THE LAST KILOMETRE (Q10-Q13)

The Pratapnagar Metro carries about 2.4 lakh passengers a day, well below the 4 lakh its planners forecast. A survey commissioned by the metro corporation asked 6,000 residents who live within three kilometres of a station, but who do not use the metro, why they avoid it. Sixty-two per cent said that the station nearest to them was more than a kilometre from their home and that no convenient bus or auto-rickshaw service covered that distance. The corporation now proposes to dock 5,000 app-based rental bicycles at its 30 stations, at a rent of five rupees for each half-hour. Its managing director argues that, since the main obstacle to using the metro is the distance between home and station, the bicycle scheme will draw most of these non-users onto the metro and lift daily ridership close to the original forecast within two years.

10. The managing director's argument depends on which of the following assumptions?

- ☐ A. Residents living over three kilometres from a station would also use the metro if bicycles were docked at stations
- ☐ B. The bicycle scheme will cover its running costs from rentals within two years, without any subsidy from the corporation
- ☐ C. Most of the 6,000 residents surveyed have travelled on the metro at least once since it first opened to the public
- ☐ D. A substantial share of the non-users citing distance are able and willing to cycle that distance to and from a station

11. The bicycles are to be docked only at the 30 stations. On which further assumption does the managing director's prediction rely?

- ☐ A. Non-users will be able to find a bicycle near their homes for the first leg of their journey to a station
- ☐ B. Passengers who already use the metro will not switch from walking to cycling once the rental bicycles are introduced
- ☐ C. The rent of five rupees for each half-hour is lower than the fare most residents now pay for an auto-rickshaw
- ☐ D. The corporation will reduce its metro fares once ridership approaches the original forecast of four lakh a day

12. Each of the following is an assumption required by the managing director's argument EXCEPT:

- ☐ A. The non-users who cite distance are not also kept away from the metro by fares that they regard as too high
- ☐ B. The 5,000 bicycles will be used mainly by residents who had never travelled on the metro before the scheme



- ☐ C. The 6,000 non-users who answered the survey are broadly representative of all non-users living near stations
- ☐ D. The roads between residential areas and stations are safe enough that residents will be willing to cycle on them

13. The prediction that daily ridership will come close to four lakh relies on which assumption about numbers?

- ☐ A. The number of passengers using the metro each day has not fallen in any month since the metro first opened
- ☐ B. The survey of 6,000 residents is the largest survey of travel habits that has ever been held in the city of Pratapnagar
- ☐ C. Non-users near stations who would switch are numerous enough to add roughly 1.6 lakh trips a day between them
- ☐ D. Residents who now take buses to reach the metro will switch to the rental bicycles once these are available

LOGICAL REASONING — FLAW · PRIVATE TUITION AND THE BOARD RESULTS (Q14–Q17)

In a circular to schools, the district education officer of Sonpur argues that private tuition is harming students. Last year, she notes, 1,400 of the district's Class 10 students failed the board examination, and 70 per cent of them had attended private tuition classes. 'Tuition clearly does more harm than good,' she writes. 'Students who rely on tutors stop paying attention in school, and the results show it. If parents are persuaded to stop sending their children to tuition, the district's pass rate will rise.' She adds that every one of the district's ten highest scorers last year studied at a government school, which, she says, proves that a government school education alone is enough to reach the top.

14. Which of the following most accurately describes a flaw in the officer's reasoning about the 1,400 students who failed?

- ☐ A. It assumes that the board examination is a fair test of what students actually learned during the school year
- ☐ B. It does not compare the 70 per cent with the share of all Class 10 students who attended private tuition
- ☐ C. It relies on figures from a single year, and a single year's results can never show anything about a trend
- ☐ D. It treats the opinion of a district education officer as decisive on a question that concerns classroom teaching

15. Which of the following, if true, would most clearly show that the 70 per cent figure does not support the officer's conclusion?

- ☐ A. Some of the students who failed had attended tuition classes for only a few weeks before the examination
- ☐ B. The number of Sonpur students who failed the board examination last year was lower than the year before
- ☐ C. Tuition centres in Sonpur charge monthly fees that many of the poorer families in the district are unable to afford
- ☐ D. Eighty-five per cent of all the district's Class 10 candidates had attended private tuition classes last year

16. The officer's causal claim is also open to the objection that it overlooks the possibility that

- ☐ A. students who were already weak in their studies were the ones most likely to have been sent to tutors
- ☐ B. some students who attended private tuition last year went on to score very high marks in the examination
- ☐ C. parents who pay for tuition may also buy their children more guidebooks and sample papers to work through
- ☐ D. teachers at some of the district's schools themselves run private tuition classes during the evening hours

17. The officer's reasoning about the ten highest scorers is most similar in its flaw to which of the following?

- ☐ A. Most of the city's road accidents happen after dark, so driving after dark must be what causes the city's accidents
- ☐ B. Fewer people visited the museum this year than last, so the new exhibition must be less popular than the old one
- ☐ C. All of this year's prize-winning mango growers sowed the new hybrid seed, so the seed is all a grower needs to win
- ☐ D. Half the learners who passed the driving test had taken lessons, so lessons make no difference to passing the test

SECTION — QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

QUANT — PUBLIC FINANCE & BUDGETS · DATA TABLE DI · WHERE THE DEVGARH MUNICIPAL CORPORATION'S MONEY COMES FROM (Q18–Q21)

The Devgarh Municipal Corporation finances its services from five sources of revenue receipts. The table gives the corporation's receipts from each source, in crore rupees, for 2024-25 and 2025-26. Property tax, water charges, advertisement and licence fees and other receipts are raised by the corporation itself and together form its own-source revenue; grants from the state government are transferred to it on the recommendation of the State Finance Commission. The corporation's finance committee uses these figures to judge how far the city pays its own way and which sources are driving the growth in its receipts.

Source of receipts	2024-25 (Rs crore)	2025-26 (Rs crore)
Property tax	420	483
Water charges	150	162
Advertisement & licence fees	80	72
Grants from state government	350	378
Other receipts	100	105
Total	1,100	1,200

18. By what percentage did receipts from property tax rise from 2024-25 to 2025-26?

- ☐ A. 15% ☐ B. 13%
- ☐ C. 5.25% ☐ D. 5.73%

19. What percentage of the corporation's total receipts in 2025-26 came from its own-source revenue?

- ☐ A. 31.5% ☐ B. 68.2%
- ☐ C. 70.0% ☐ D. 68.5%

20. Total receipts rose by Rs 100 crore from 2024-25 to 2025-26. What percentage of this increase came from property tax?

- ☐ A. 58.3% ☐ B. 63%
- ☐ C. 15% ☐ D. 40.25%

21. Among the sources whose receipts rose from 2024-25 to 2025-26, which one's share of total receipts is the largest number of percentage points?

- ☐ A. Property tax



- ☐ B. Water charges
☐ C. Grants from state government
☐ D. Other receipts

QUANT — HEALTH & EDUCATION · PIE CHART DI · WHY PATIENTS CAME TO KIRATPUR'S PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRES (Q22-Q26)

The health society of Kiratpur district classifies every outpatient visit at its primary health centres by the main reason for the visit. The table reproduces, as percentage shares, the pie chart of the 3,60,000 outpatient visits recorded in 2025-26. In a pie chart, the central angle of a sector equals its percentage share multiplied by 3.6 degrees. For 2026-27, the society expects the total number of visits to rise by 20 per cent, because two new health and wellness centres will open, and it is planning its staff and medicine budget on the basis of how this larger total will be divided among the categories.

Main reason for outpatient visit	Share of visits (%)
Fevers & infections	30
Maternal & child health	25
Non-communicable diseases	20
Injuries	10
Dental & eye care	8
Others	7

22. What is the central angle of the sector for non-communicable diseases?

- ☐ A. 20 degrees
☐ B. 72 degrees
☐ C. 54 degrees
☐ D. 90 degrees

23. In 2025-26, how many more visits were made for fevers & infections than for injuries and dental & eye care combined?

- ☐ A. 72,000
☐ B. 79,200
☐ C. 43,200
☐ D. 64,800

24. In 2026-27, the number of visits for non-communicable diseases is expected to be 50% higher than in 2025-26. What share of the 2026-27 total will these visits form?

- ☐ A. 25%
☐ B. 30%
☐ C. 24%
☐ D. 16.7%

25. If the number of maternal & child health visits in 2026-27 stays exactly the same as in 2025-26, what will be the central angle of its sector in the 2026-27 pie chart?

- ☐ A. 90 degrees
☐ B. 108 degrees
☐ C. 72 degrees
☐ D. 75 degrees

26. If fevers & infections form 24% of all visits in 2026-27, by what percentage will the number of such visits change from 2025-26?

- ☐ A. A fall of 6%
☐ B. A fall of 4%
☐ C. A fall of 20%
☐ D. A rise of 4%

RAPID FIRE — ONE-LINE RECALL

31 quick questions · not negatively marked

- Which 1979 case laid down promissory estoppel against the government? _____
- Which Article of the Vienna Convention lets a State declare a diplomat persona non grata? _____
- Devgarh: state grants as a share of 2025-26 receipts? _____
- Kiratpur: central angle for injuries in 2025-26? _____
- On what does promissory estoppel rest: contract or equity? _____
- Must the promisee prove a loss for promissory estoppel? _____
- Is consideration needed for promissory estoppel? _____
- Which Article prescribes the form of government contracts? _____
- Can estoppel compel the State to do what a statute forbids? _____
- Who decides whether public interest justifies withdrawing a promise? _____
- Is a wish to raise more revenue enough to withdraw a promise? _____
- Which 1995 case upheld early withdrawal of a duty exemption? _____
- What must the government place before the court to resile? _____
- Can a person who never acted on a promise invoke estoppel? _____
- Is a mere change of policy enough to withdraw a promise? _____
- Two elements of the government's promise for estoppel? _____
- Indian Act giving force to the Vienna Convention? _____
- Year of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations? _____
- Which Article makes a diplomat's person inviolable? _____
- Can a diplomatic agent be arrested in the receiving State? _____
- Which Article grants immunity from criminal jurisdiction? _____
- How many exceptions to a diplomat's civil immunity? _____
- Is private immovable property an exception to civil immunity? _____
- Is a succession action as private heir an exception? _____
- Is private commercial activity an exception to civil immunity? _____
- Does immunity abroad exempt a diplomat from his own State's courts? _____
- Which Article extends immunity to household family members? _____
- Which family members lose that immunity? _____
- To whom does diplomatic immunity belong? _____
- Must a waiver of immunity be express? _____
- Receiving State's remedy against a diplomat? _____

