Daily Practice — Legal Reasoning · Logical Reasoning · Quantitative Techniques

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SECTION — LEGAL REASONING

LEGAL PRINCIPLE — LEGAL CURRENT AFFAIRS · ASSENT TO STATE BILLS: ARTICLES 200 AND 201 AND THE SUPREME COURT'S RULINGS OF 2025 (Q1–Q5)

When a Bill passed by a State Legislature is presented to the Governor, Article 200 of the Constitution gives the Governor three courses: to declare that he assents to the Bill, to declare that he withholds assent from it, or to reserve it for the consideration of the President. The first proviso adds that the Governor may, as soon as possible, return a Bill that is not a Money Bill to the House with a message asking it to reconsider the Bill or any of its provisions; if the House passes the Bill again, with or without amendments, and presents it to him, he shall not withhold assent from it. The second proviso obliges the Governor to reserve for the President any Bill which, in his opinion, would, if it became law, so derogate from the powers of the High Court as to endanger the position that the Constitution designs for that Court. Under Article 201, the President declares either that he assents or that he withholds assent; where the Bill is not a Money Bill, he may direct the Governor to return it to the House for reconsideration, the House must reconsider it within six months, and if it is passed again it is presented once more for the President's consideration. Nothing in Article 201 obliges the President to assent at that stage. In State of Tamil Nadu v Governor of Tamil Nadu (April 2025), a two-judge Bench held that a Governor who withholds assent must follow the first proviso and return the Bill, and cannot simply keep it pending; it laid down time limits for the Governor and the President and, using Article 142, treated ten long-pending Tamil Nadu Bills as having received assent. On a Presidential Reference under Article 143, a Constitution Bench gave its opinion in November 2025. It accepted that withholding assent must be accompanied by return of the Bill to the House, but held that courts cannot impose time limits that the Constitution does not prescribe, that there is no concept of 'deemed assent', and that Article 142 cannot be used to substitute the Court's decision for that of the Governor or the President. Where, however, a Governor's inaction is prolonged, unexplained and indefinite, a court may issue a limited direction asking him to decide within a reasonable time, without commenting on the merits of his decision.

1. The Governor of State X receives an ordinary Bill (not a Money Bill), records on the file that he withholds assent, and keeps the Bill in his office without sending any message to the House. Which statement is correct?

- ◯ **A.** He acted within Article 200, since withholding assent is one of the three courses that the Article expressly leaves open to him
- ◯ **B.** He erred, since both 2025 rulings require a Bill from which assent is withheld to be returned to the House
- ◯ **C.** He erred, but only because he took longer than the one-month limit that the 2025 rulings laid down for Governors
- ◯ **D.** He acted correctly, since a returned Bill would simply come back to him, and he would then have to assent to it

2. The House reconsiders a returned Bill, passes it again with two amendments of its own, and presents it to the Governor. He now declares that he withholds assent because he still disagrees with the Bill. Decide.

- ◯ **A.** Valid, because the House's own amendments make it a fresh Bill that the Governor may deal with afresh under all three courses
- ◯ **B.** Valid, because the bar on withholding assent operates only where the House passes the Bill again without any amendment
- ◯ **C.** Invalid only if the House passed it again within six months, the period Article 200 allows a House for reconsideration
- ◯ **D.** Invalid, because once the House passes the Bill again, with or without amendments, the Governor shall not withhold assent

3. A Bill reserved for the President is returned on his direction. The House reconsiders it within four months and passes it again unchanged. The State argues that the President must now assent. Is the State right?

- ◯ **A.** No, because Article 201 requires the re-passed Bill to be presented for his consideration but does not oblige him to assent
- ◯ **B.** Yes, because the bar on withholding assent after reconsideration binds the President in the same way that it binds a Governor
- ◯ **C.** Yes, because the House reconsidered and passed the Bill again well within the six months that Article 201 allows the House
- ◯ **D.** No, because a Bill reserved for the President lapses unless he assents to it within the three months allowed by the Constitution

4. A Governor has kept a Bill for 26 months without assenting, withholding assent, reserving it or giving any reason. The State asks the Supreme Court for relief. Applying the November 2025 opinion, what may the Court do?

- ◯ **A.** Declare that the Bill has received deemed assent, since the delay exceeds every time limit fixed by the April 2025 ruling
- ◯ **B.** Grant assent itself under Article 142, since the Governor has failed to choose any of the three courses open to him
- ◯ **C.** Direct the Governor to decide on the Bill within a reasonable time, without commenting on the merits of his decision
- ◯ **D.** Decline to act, since a Governor's handling of a Bill under Article 200 lies wholly beyond the reach of the courts

5. A Bill takes away the High Court's power to hear appeals in land-revenue cases. The Governor is of the opinion that it would endanger the High Court's constitutional position. What must he do?

- ◯ **A.** Reserve the Bill for the President, because the second proviso makes reservation compulsory once he holds that opinion
- ◯ **B.** Withhold assent and return the Bill, because that is the only course open to him when a Bill affects a High Court
- ◯ **C.** Assent to the Bill, because a Governor may reserve a Bill only after the House has reconsidered it and passed it again
- ◯ **D.** Return the Bill for reconsideration, and reserve it only if the House passes it again, since reservation is a last resort

LEGAL PRINCIPLE — INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW · REGISTRABLE DESIGNS, PIRACY AND UNREGISTERED DESIGNS UNDER THE DESIGNS ACT, 2000 (Q6–Q9)

The Designs Act, 2000 protects the look of a manufactured article, not the way it works. Section 2(d) defines a 'design' as only the features of shape, configuration, pattern, ornament or composition of lines or colours applied to an article by any industrial process or means, which in the finished article appeal to and are judged solely by the eye. The definition excludes any mode or principle of construction and anything that is in substance a mere mechanical device, and it also excludes trade marks and artistic works as defined in the Copyright Act, 1957. Under section 4, a design cannot be registered if it is not new or original; if it has been disclosed to the public anywhere in India or in any other country, by publication in tangible form or by use or in any other way, before the date of filing the application; if it is not significantly distinguishable from known designs or combinations of known designs; or if it contains scandalous or obscene matter. Registration gives the proprietor copyright in the design for ten years from the date of registration, which

extended once by a further five years. Under section 22 it is piracy, while that copyright subsists, for any person, without the proprietor's licence or written consent, to apply the design or any fraudulent or obvious imitation of it, for the purpose of sale, to any article in a class in which the design is registered, or to import such articles for sale. For every contravention the pirate is liable to pay the proprietor a sum not exceeding twenty-five thousand rupees, recoverable as a contract debt, but the total recoverable in this way in respect of any one design cannot exceed fifty thousand rupees; alternatively, the proprietor may sue for damages and an injunction. In a piracy suit, the defendant may plead as a defence any ground on which the registration could be cancelled under section 19, such as prior publication. A design that is never registered falls back on section 15(2) of the Copyright Act: copyright in a design capable of registration but not registered ceases as soon as any article to which it has been applied has been reproduced more than fifty times by an industrial process by the owner or, with his licence, by any other person.

6. Rekha devises a hidden ratchet inside a kitchen tap that lets it close with a quarter turn. The ratchet cannot be seen and does not change how the tap looks. She applies to register it as a design.

- ◯ **A.** It is registrable, because the ratchet is new and has never been disclosed to the public in India or abroad
- ◯ **B.** It is registrable, because it is applied to an article by an industrial process, which is all that section 2(d) requires
- ◯ **C.** It is not registrable, because a mechanical device that is not judged by the eye falls outside the definition of a design
- ◯ **D.** It is not registrable, because a kitchen tap is a functional article and such articles can never carry a registered design

7. Lumen filed for a lamp-shade design in January 2025 and got it registered. It sues Glowco for piracy. Glowco proves that Lumen itself sold the same shade in Dubai and showed it on its online shop in 2024.

- ◯ **A.** Glowco must fail, because once a design is registered its validity cannot be questioned in a suit for its piracy
- ◯ **B.** Glowco may succeed, because prior publication is a ground for cancellation and may therefore be pleaded as a defence
- ◯ **C.** Glowco may succeed only if the earlier disclosure happened in India, as sales abroad do not affect a design's novelty
- ◯ **D.** Glowco must fail, because Lumen's own disclosure cannot count against Lumen; only disclosures by others destroy novelty

8. Without consent, Rajat applies Nayan's registered bottle design to bottles on three separate occasions and once to drinking glasses, a class in which it is not registered. Nayan sues for the sum recoverable as a contract debt. What is the most he can recover?

- ◯ **A.** Rs 1,00,000, being twenty-five thousand rupees for each of the four separate acts in which Rajat used the design
- ◯ **B.** Rs 75,000, being twenty-five thousand rupees for each of the three acts that were done in the registered class
- ◯ **C.** Rs 25,000 only, because the Act allows one single sum of that amount however many contraventions take place
- ◯ **D.** Rs 50,000, because the sum of up to Rs 25,000 per contravention is capped at fifty thousand rupees per design

9. Priya creates an original pattern for bedsheets that could have been registered but never registers it. Her licensee mill prints 3,000 sheets. A rival copies the pattern, and Priya sues under the Copyright Act.

- ◯ **A.** She fails, because copyright in a registrable but unregistered design ends once it is industrially reproduced over fifty times
- ◯ **B.** She succeeds, because the pattern is an artistic work, and copyright in such works lasts for the author's life plus sixty years
- ◯ **C.** She fails, because copyright can never arise in any pattern applied to a textile, whether or not the design is registrable
- ◯ **D.** She succeeds, because the 3,000 sheets were printed by a licensee mill and not by Priya herself as owner of the copyright

SECTION — LOGICAL REASONING

LOGICAL REASONING — ASSUMPTION · SELLING BHAGALPUR SILK SARIS THROUGH A NATIONAL ONLINE MARKETPLACE (Q10–Q13)

The secretary of a weavers' cooperative in Bhagalpur argues as follows. At present our members' tussar silk saris reach buyers through wholesale traders, who resell them to city shops. Our survey shows that a sari which sells in a city shop for Rs 5,000 earns the weaver who made it only Rs 3,000; the remaining 40 per cent of the price is taken by the traders and the shopkeepers. From next month the cooperative will list its saris on a national online marketplace and sell them directly to buyers. Because there will be no traders and no shops in the chain, the margin that these intermediaries now take will reach the weavers instead. A sari that now earns its weaver Rs 3,000 will therefore earn her at least Rs 4,000, so every member's income from each sari she sells will rise by at least a third.

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

- ◯ **A.** Buyers who shop online for silk saris are, on average, younger than buyers who visit city shops to buy them
- ◯ **B.** The cooperative will be able to list every one of its members' saris on the marketplace in its very first month
- ◯ **C.** Online sales of silk saris will grow faster over the next year than sales of saris through traditional city shops
- ◯ **D.** The marketplace will not itself keep a share of each sale comparable to the share that intermediaries now keep

11. If which of the following assumptions turned out to be false, the secretary's conclusion would be most seriously undermined?

- ◯ **A.** Weavers in other districts of Bihar will not start selling their own tussar saris online during the coming year
- ◯ **B.** Buyers on the marketplace will pay roughly what buyers now pay for the same sari in city shops
- ◯ **C.** The traders who now buy the saris will not stop buying from the cooperative once it begins to sell its saris online
- ◯ **D.** The cooperative's members will not need to change the designs of their saris to suit the tastes of online buyers

12. The secretary's argument assumes each of the following EXCEPT:

- ◯ **A.** The cost of packing and shipping each sari to an online buyer will not swallow most of the margin saved on intermediaries
- ◯ **B.** The cooperative will pass on to its weavers the money that it receives from online sales, and not keep most of it
- ◯ **C.** Online buyers will buy at least as many saris every month as the wholesale traders now buy from the cooperative
- ◯ **D.** Saris sold online will not be returned by buyers so often that the cost of returns cancels the weavers' expected gain

13. Which of the following, if assumed, allows the secretary's conclusion about a weaver's earnings per sari to be properly drawn?

- ◯ **A.** Each sari sells online for Rs 5,000, all selling costs total at most Rs 1,000, and the rest goes to the weaver
- ◯ **B.** Each sari sells online for Rs 5,000, and the online marketplace charges a fee of only 10 per cent of the price
- ◯ **C.** All selling costs online total at most Rs 1,000 a sari, and the cooperative sells more saris than it does now
- ◯ **D.** Online buyers pay at least Rs 5,000 for each sari, and the cooperative passes its online receipts to the weavers

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LOGICAL REASONING — FLAW · HYGIENE-RATING STICKERS AND FOOD-POISONING COMPLAINTS IN A CITY'S RESTAURANTS (Q14–Q17)

Two years ago a city's food safety office invited restaurants to display, at their entrance, the hygiene-rating sticker each had been awarded after an inspection. Display was voluntary, and each restaurant decided for itself whether to put up its rating. Last year the restaurants that displayed a sticker received, on average, one customer complaint of food poisoning for every five received by restaurants that displayed none. The office's annual report concludes that displaying a hygiene rating makes a restaurant cleaner, and proposes that display be made compulsory, since this will bring food-poisoning complaints across the city down to the level now seen among the restaurants that display stickers. Two replies followed. The restaurant owners' association wrote: 'Last month a restaurant displaying a top-grade sticker was found with rats in its kitchen, so stickers have nothing to do with cleanliness.' A councillor said: 'Either we make display compulsory or we accept that our restaurants will go on poisoning their customers.'

14. The office's reasoning is most vulnerable to criticism on the ground that it:

◯ **A.** takes for granted that food poisoning is the only kind of complaint that customers ever make about the restaurants that they visit
◯ **B.** fails to state how many restaurants the city has, a figure essential to the comparison that the report makes
◯ **C.** overlooks that the restaurants which chose to display their ratings may have been the cleaner ones before any sticker went up
◯ **D.** relies on findings of the food safety office, which has an interest in seeing its own sticker scheme declared a clear success

15. Which of the following arguments contains a flaw most similar to the one in the office's reasoning?

◯ **A.** Pupils who chose optional revision classes scored higher than the rest, so compulsory classes will lift every pupil to that level
◯ **B.** Every restaurant that displayed a sticker had passed its inspection, so every restaurant that passed must have displayed a sticker
◯ **C.** Most residents of the ward oppose the flyover, and Meena lives in the ward, so Meena must oppose the flyover too
◯ **D.** A new signal went up at the crossing in March and accidents rose there in April, so the signal caused the accidents

16. The owners' association's reply is flawed chiefly because it:

◯ **A.** attacks the motives of the food safety office instead of examining the figures on which the office's report actually relies
◯ **B.** assumes that a restaurant with rats in its kitchen will receive many more food-poisoning complaints than any other restaurant
◯ **C.** treats the absence of a sticker at a restaurant's entrance as proof that the restaurant must have failed its last inspection
◯ **D.** uses a single exception to reject a claim about averages across many restaurants, which one counter-example cannot refute

17. The councillor's statement is best described as reasoning that:

◯ **A.** draws a general conclusion about all restaurants from the experience of the single restaurant in which rats were found
◯ **B.** presents two options as the only ones available, ignoring others such as more frequent inspections or stricter penalties
◯ **C.** assumes that a policy which has worked well in another city must work equally well when applied in this particular city
◯ **D.** rejects the report's proposal because of the past conduct of the officials who prepared the report rather than its merits

SECTION — QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

QUANT — ENERGY & POWER · RATIO & PROPORTION · FUEL MIX, A SOLAR-PARK PARTNERSHIP AND COAL BLENDING IN A STATE GRID (Q18–Q22)

At the start of 2026, the installed generating capacity of a state's grid was 24,000 MW, shared among coal, solar, wind and hydro plants in the ratio 9 : 5 : 4 : 2. During the year, the changes shown in the table were made, and no other plant was added or retired. One of the new solar parks is owned by a partnership: Kiran invested Rs 48 crore at the start of the year and kept it in for all twelve months; Lata invested Rs 36 crore four months after the start; Mohan invested Rs 60 crore at the start but withdrew Rs 20 crore at the end of six months. The partners share profit in proportion to capital multiplied by the time for which it was invested, and the park earned a profit of Rs 12.2 crore in the year. Separately, a coal plant burns a blend of imported coal with 10% ash and domestic coal with 40% ash, mixed so that the blend contains 28% ash.

Source	Share at start of 2026	Change during 2026
Coal	9 parts	1,800 MW retired
Solar	5 parts	3,000 MW added
Wind	4 parts	1,200 MW added
Hydro	2 parts	No change

18. What was the installed solar capacity at the start of 2026?

◯ **A.** 4,800 MW
◯ **B.** 6,000 MW
◯ **C.** 7,200 MW
◯ **D.** 10,800 MW

19. After the year's changes, what is the ratio of coal capacity to the combined capacity of solar, wind and hydro?

◯ **A.** 9 : 11
◯ **B.** 3 : 5
◯ **C.** 15 : 29
◯ **D.** 15 : 44

20. What is Mohan's share of the solar park's profit for the year?

◯ **A.** Rs 5 crore
◯ **B.** Rs 5.08 crore
◯ **C.** Rs 5.55 crore
◯ **D.** Rs 4.80 crore

21. The coal plant has 9,000 tonnes of domestic coal and wants to use all of it in the blend. How much imported coal must it add?

◯ **A.** 13,500 tonnes
◯ **B.** 15,000 tonnes
◯ **C.** 5,400 tonnes
◯ **D.** 6,000 tonnes

22. After the year's changes, how much more solar capacity must be added, with no other change, for solar to make up 40% of total installed capacity?

◯ **A.** 1,560 MW
◯ **B.** 600 MW
◯ **C.** 2,600 MW
◯ **D.** 10,560 MW

QUANT — SPORTS & TOURNAMENTS · AVERAGES · QUALIFICATION SCORES AND FINALS AT A NATIONAL AIR-PISTOL CHAMPIONSHIP (Q23–Q26)

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At a national shooting championship in Bhopal, a state's five-member 10 m air-pistol team recorded the qualification scores shown in the table, each out of a maximum of 600. A team's ranking depends on the average score of its members. In the final, scores are recorded in tenths of a point for each shot. In the open qualification round of the same event, 12 men and some women took part. The men averaged 578 points, the women averaged 583 points, and all the shooters together averaged exactly 581 points. After the round, the jury cancelled the score of one woman, who had scored 591, for an equipment violation, and her score was removed from all the averages.

Shooter	Qualification score (out of 600)
Ananya	584
Bhavesh	577
Charu	579
Devansh	571
Esha	589

23. What is the average qualification score of the state's five-member team?

◯ **A.** 579 ◯ **B.** 581.6
◯ **C.** 578.4 ◯ **D.** 580

24. Devansh is replaced in the team by a reserve, Farhan, and the team's average rises by 1.6 points. What was Farhan's qualification score?

◯ **A.** 572.6 ◯ **B.** 579
◯ **C.** 581.6 ◯ **D.** 577

25. In the final, Esha's first 10 shots averaged 10.25 points and her next 14 shots averaged 10.40 points. What was her average per shot over all 24 shots, to two decimal places?

◯ **A.** 10.34 ◯ **B.** 10.33
◯ **C.** 10.38 ◯ **D.** 10.30

26. After the jury cancels the woman's score of 591, what is the average score of the remaining shooters in the open round, to two decimal places?

◯ **A.** 580.57 ◯ **B.** 582.53
◯ **C.** 580.66 ◯ **D.** 580.68

RAPID FIRE — ONE-LINE RECALL

42 quick questions · not negatively marked

1. Which Article governs the Governor's assent to State Bills?
2. How many courses does Article 200 give the Governor?
3. Can a Governor return a Money Bill for reconsideration?
4. If the House re-passes a returned Bill, may the Governor withhold assent?
5. Which Bills must the Governor reserve under the second proviso to Article 200?
6. Which Article deals with Bills reserved for the President?
7. Within what period must a House reconsider a Bill returned under Article 201?
8. Is the President bound to assent to a Bill re-passed under Article 201?
9. Which case of April 2025 concerned the Tamil Nadu Governor's delay over Bills?
10. How many Tamil Nadu Bills did the April 2025 ruling treat as assented?
11. Which Article did the April 2025 Bench use to treat the Bills as assented?
12. Under which Article did the President make a Reference to the Supreme Court?
13. When did the Constitution Bench give its opinion on the Reference?
14. Did the November 2025 opinion accept 'deemed assent'?
15. May courts fix time limits for the Governor's decision on Bills?
16. What relief remains for prolonged, unexplained inaction by a Governor?
17. Does that limited direction examine the merits of the Governor's decision?
18. Which Act governs industrial designs in India?
19. Which section of the Designs Act defines 'design'?
20. A design's features must be judged by what?
21. Is a mere mechanical device a 'design'?
22. Is a mode or principle of construction registrable as a design?
23. Which section of the Designs Act bars registration of designs?
24. Does disclosure abroad before filing bar registration of a design?
25. Can obscene matter be registered as a design?
26. How long does copyright in a registered design first last?
27. By how much can design copyright be extended?
28. Which section of the Designs Act deals with piracy?
29. Maximum sum per contravention recoverable as a contract debt for piracy?
30. Cap on the contract-debt sum for any one design?
31. Which section's cancellation grounds may be pleaded as a defence to piracy?
32. Which Copyright Act provision governs unregistered registrable designs?
33. After how many industrial reproductions does that copyright cease?
34. Does reproduction by a licensee count under section 15(2)?
35. Shop price and weaver's earning per sari in the Bhagalpur argument?
36. What share of a sari's shop price goes to traders and shops?
37. What per-sari earning does the secretary predict after selling online?
38. What intermediary does the secretary's argument overlook?
39. Is the secretary's conclusion about total income or per-sari income?
40. Was display of hygiene stickers voluntary or compulsory?
41. Complaint ratio, sticker restaurants to non-sticker restaurants?
42. Name the flaw in the food safety office's reasoning.

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