

# PAPER – 2: CORPORATE AND OTHER LAWS



### **DIVISION A: MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS**

#### **Case Scenario**

ABC Limited, was incorporated on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2023. It operates in the manufacturing sector and aims to expand its business model to include e-commerce operations. ABC Limited's first financial year ended on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2024, and the board is preparing for its first Annual General Meeting (AGM) to present the financial statements and discuss the new business model. ABC Limited's current board consists of five directors, including two independent directors appointed in line with best corporate governance practices.

The company has a wholly owned subsidiary, XYZ Limited, which is primarily involved in research and development for new products. XYZ Limited's financial year also ended on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2024. Additionally, ABC Limited has a 30% stake in an associate company, MNO Limited, which provides logistics and distribution services. The board is assessing if it is required to prepare consolidated financial statements (CFS) that combine the financials of ABC Limited, XYZ Limited, and MNO Limited, considering the exemptions available under the Companies Act, 2013.

# The AGM agenda includes:

- 1. Approval of the financial statements for the financial year 2023-24.
- 2. Discussion of a special resolution to adopt a new e-commerce business model, which requires a threefold majority approval.
- 3. Approval of consolidated financial statements, if required.

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4. Appointment of auditors and other general meeting proceedings.

The board has provided notice to all members about the AGM agenda, including the proposal for the special item requiring special resolution. This notice was sent by email and registered post to ensure compliance with statutory notice requirements. All shareholders, including minority stakeholders, received this notice with proof of delivery available with the company.

Solve the MCQs (1-5) on the basis of the Companies Act, 2013.

- 1. Given that ABC Limited's first financial year ended on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2024, and it was incorporated on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2023, what is the latest date by which ABC Limited must hold its first AGM?
  - (a) 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2024.
  - (b) 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2024.
  - (c) 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2025.
  - (d) 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2025.
- 2. Suppose ABC Limited holds its first AGM on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2024. By when must it hold its subsequent AGM to remain compliant?
  - (a) 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2025.
  - (b) 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2025.
  - (c) 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2025.
  - (d) 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2025.
- 3. Under the Companies Act, 2013, does ABC Limited need to prepare consolidated financial statements (CFS) to present at the AGM?
  - (a) Yes, because it has one wholly owned subsidiary and an associate company.
  - (b) No, because it qualifies for exemption as a wholly owned subsidiary.
  - (c) Yes, only if XYZ Limited and MNO Limited are listed companies.
  - (d) No, if shareholders provide written consent exempting it from CFS preparation.

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- 4. What must ABC Limited ensure to pass the special resolution approving the adoption of a new e-commerce business model at the AGM?
  - (a) The resolution must have more than 50% of votes in favor.
  - (b) The resolution must be stated as special in the notice, and votes in favor must be three times the votes against.
  - (c) The resolution can be passed if votes in favor exceed votes against without being stated as special.
  - (d) The resolution must have unanimous support from the board of directors.
- 5. Under which conditions would ABC Limited be exempt from preparing consolidated financial statements?
  - (a) If ABC Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary, all members agree in writing to the exemption, and proof of delivery of this intimation is available.
  - (b) If XYZ Limited's shareholders unanimously agree to waive CFS requirements.
  - (c) If MNO Limited's financials are not significant to ABC Limited's overall financial position.
  - (d) If ABC Limited's board decides to skip CFS preparation with a simple majority vote.

### **Independent MCQs**

6. XYZ LLP is a consulting firm where four partners—A, B, C, and D—are responsible for various functions. Partner B, without consulting the other partners, enters into a contract with a third party, Mr. P, for a high-value procurement deal on behalf of XYZ LLP. It is later found that Partner B did not have authority to engage in such deals, and XYZ LLP has no history of involvement in procurement. Mr. P, who is an experienced business- person, was aware that Partner B was not authorized to enter into procurement deals for XYZ LLP.

In this scenario, which of the following is correct based on the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008?

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- (a) XYZ LLP is bound by the contract because partner B is a partner in the LLP.
- (b) XYZ LLP is bound by the contract as Mr. P believed partner B was authorized to act on behalf of the LLP.
- (c) XYZ LLP is bound by the contract because Mr. P is a third party and was not aware of the internal matters of XYZ LLP.
- (d) XYZ LLP is not bound by the contract as partner B lacked authority, and Mr. P knew of this lack of authority.
- 7. ABC LLP was incorporated with two partners, Mr. Raj and Ms. Rani. Due to certain differences, Ms. Rani resigned from the LLP on 1st January, 2024, leaving Mr. Raj as the sole partner. Mr. Raj continued running the business without admitting a new partner and was aware that he was the only remaining partner. On 1st August of the same year, ABC LLP incurred a debt of ₹ 5 lakh from a vendor. Given the provision in the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008, which of the following statements correctly describes Mr. Raj's liability in this situation?
  - (a) Mr. Raj will not be personally liable for the ₹ 5 lakh debt as the debt was incurred by the LLP.
  - (b) Mr. Raj will be personally liable for the ₹ 5 lakh debt since he was the sole partner of the LLP for more than six months.
  - (c) Mr. Raj and Ms. Rani will both be liable for the ₹ 5 lakh debt as they were originally partners.
  - (d) The LLP will be automatically dissolved after six months, and no personal liability will arise for Mr. Raj.
- 8. Mr. Amit, a Chartered Accountant, is the appointed auditor of Grey Limited. Mrs. Anita, Mr. Amit's wife, recently acquired equity shares in Grey Limited with a face value of ₹ 1 lakh. Which of the following statements is correct regarding M/s Amit & Co. eligibility to continue as the auditor of Grey Limited?
  - (a) M/s Amit & Co. must vacate the position of auditor immediately due to the disqualification arising from his wife's holding of shares.

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- (b) M/s Amit & Co. can continue as the auditor only if Mrs. Anita divests her shares within 30 days.
- (c) M/s Amit & Co. can continue as the auditor since the shares held by Mr. Amit's wife do not exceed the limit specified under the Companies (Audit and Auditors) Rules, 2014.
- (d) M/s Amit & Co. cannot continue as the auditor, as any acquisition of shares by a relative leads to automatic disqualification.
- 9. XYZ Limited is a company with 51% of its equity shares held by the State Government of Maharashtra and 49% by private investors. The Board of XYZ Limited seeks to appoint an auditor for the upcoming financial year. As per the Companies Act, 2013, which of the following statements is correct regarding the appointment of the auditor?
  - (a) The Board of XYZ Limited has the authority to appoint the auditor through a board resolution.
  - (b) The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India will appoint the auditor for XYZ Limited.
  - (c) The shareholders of XYZ Limited will appoint the auditor in the annual general meeting.
  - (d) The State Government of Maharashtra, holding the majority stake, will appoint the auditor.
- 10. X purchased a car from Y, believing that Y was the legitimate owner. Although X paid the full purchase price and took possession of the car, he did not check the Registration Certificate (RC) of the car to verify the authenticity of Y's ownership. Later, it was discovered that Y was not the rightful owner, and the car had been stolen. In the context of "good faith" as defined in the General Clauses Act, 1897, determine the validity of X's ownership claim over the car.
  - (a) X holds valid ownership of the car because he paid the full price and believed Y to be the legitimate owner.
  - (b) X does not hold valid ownership because his purchase was made without due care and attention, even though he acted honestly.

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- (c) X holds valid ownership because he had no knowledge of the car being stolen, showing he acted in "good faith."
- (d) X's ownership is valid because he did not act negligently, and his actions were deemed "in good faith."

# **Descriptive Questions**

11. XYZ Limited issued a prospectus to raise funds for a new manufacturing project. After successfully raising the funds, the company identified an investment opportunity in a different industry six months later, requiring a significant portion of the funds. The proposed investment involved trading in equity shares of other listed companies.

The board of directors suggested varying the original objectives for which the funds were raised to allow this new investment and recommended passing a special resolution in the company's general meeting. While the promoters and controlling shareholders supported this change, some shareholders expressed concerns, particularly regarding the deviation from the initially stated purpose of the funds.

Based on the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, advise on the validity of the proposal to redirect the funds toward this new investment.

12. XYZ Tech Solutions Limited is a growing technology company that has seen significant contributions from its employees and directors in the development of a ground breaking software product. To reward these key contributors, the board proposed issuing sweat equity shares to certain employees and directors. XYZ Tech Solutions Limited already has issued ordinary equity shares but has never issued sweat equity shares before.

The company has a paid up equity share capital ₹ 20 crore. The company has proposed to issue sweat equity shares worth ₹ 4 crore of face value. The company's board has drafted a special resolution outlining the proposed issuance of sweat equity shares and including specific details, such as the number of shares, the current market price, consideration (if any), and the classes of directors and employees eligible to receive the shares.

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The company has approached you to advise them about the issue of the said sweat equity shares, in line with the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013.

13. PQR Limited, a manufacturing company, is in the process of expanding its operations. To support this expansion, PQR Limited has acquired a plot of land along with the buildings on it from ABC Limited, another company in the same industry. The property, however, is subject to an existing charge, created in favor of a bank as security for a loan taken by ABC Limited. This charge had been registered by ABC Limited at that time. The directors of PQR Limited are of the opinion that as the charge for the property was already created, there is no further obligation to be fulfilled from the side of PQR Limited.

After negotiations, the bank, as the charge holder, consents to the sale and transfer of the property to PQR Limited with the condition that PQR Limited must register a new charge over the acquired property as security for its own loan obligations.

Advise whether the contention of directors of PQR Limited is correct. Give your answer in terms of the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013.

14. Vishal Limited is an unlisted public company, having five directors in its board which includes two independent directors.

Sam (P) Limited, is subsidiary company of Vishal Limited, actively carrying on its business, having paid up capital of ₹ 1.5 crore with 40 members and turnover of ₹ 18 crore, respectively and the said company is not a start-up company.

It is also provided that Sam (P) Limited is not a start up company.

In the context of aforesaid case-scenario, please answer to the following question(s):-

Whether Sam (P) Limited is mandatorily required to prepare cash flow statement for the financial year as a part of its financial statements?

Provide your answer by analyzing Sam (P) Limited into following category of companies:-

(i) Small company, and

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- (ii) Dormant company, respectively.
- 15. Pran Limited is an unlisted company, having its registered office at Agartala. The company scheduled its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2024 in Goa. The meeting commenced at 3:00 PM and concluded at 6:00 PM.
  - It is also provided that by 1st July, 2024, the company had obtained written consent from all members via email, agreeing to hold the AGM at this out-of-state location. As per the Companies Act, 2013, evaluate whether the AGM was validly conducted.
- 16. HD Software Limited is engaged in the business of providing software services. The company appointed its statutory auditors (not the first auditor). The Board of directors of the company informed the auditor that the fees shall be fixed by the Board of directors only.
  - But the auditor objected to the same. Now the directors have approached you to advise them whether they can solely fix the remuneration of the auditor.

### The Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008

17. Amit and Priya are partners in XYZ LLP, a consulting firm. Recently, Priya moved to a new address but forgot to notify the LLP within the required period. A month later, Amit's cousin, Ramesh, expressed interest in joining XYZ LLP as a partner, and after a few discussions, he was accepted as a new partner.

However, XYZ LLP did not immediately update the Registrar of Companies (RoC) regarding Priya's address change or Ramesh's admission as a partner. Two months after Ramesh joined, the LLP filed a notice with the RoC about these changes.

Advise the LLP about the default on part of LLP about the non compliance in respect to not informing the ROC about:

- (i) Priya's address change
- (ii) Ramesh's admission as a partner.

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### **The General Clauses Act, 1897**

18. The Parliament recently passed the Environment Protection Amendment Act, 2024, to strengthen regulations on industrial waste disposal. The Act specified the commencement date as 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2024. The President gave assent to the Act on 15th July, 2024.

Green Earth Limited, an industrial company, is uncertain about when the provisions of the Environment Protection Amendment Act, 2024, will start to apply. The company's legal team has raised question on whether they need to immediately comply with the new regulations or if they have a grace period until the commencement date. Give your answer in reference to the provisions of the General Clauses Act, 1897.

### **Interpretation of Statutes**

19. At the time of interpreting a Statute what will be the effect of 'Usage' or 'customs and Practices'?

## The Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999

20. Ravi, an Indian citizen, works as a software engineer for an international company. During the previous financial year (2023-2024), Ravi resided in India for 200 days. However, in April of the current financial year, he accepted a job offer in Canada and left India with a long-term work visa, planning to settle in Canada indefinitely.

Analyse the residential status of Ravi for the financial year 2024-2025, as per the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999.



# **SUGGESTED ANSWERS/HINTS**

## **Multiple Choice Questions**

MCQ No.	Most Appropriate Answer
1.	(b)
2.	(b)
3.	(a)

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4.	(b)
5.	(a)
6.	(d)
7.	(b)
8.	(c)
9.	(b)
10.	(b)

### **Descriptive questions**

11. According to section 27(1) of the Companies Act, 2013, the terms of a contract referred to in the prospectus or objects for which the prospectus has been issued can be varied, but only with the authority of the company given by it in general meeting by way of special resolution.

The second proviso to sub-section (1) prescribes that such company is not to use any amount raised by it through the prospectus for buying, trading or otherwise dealing in equity shares of any other listed company.

In the given question, XYZ Limited, is planning to use the amount initially raised for investing in a different industry, which also involves trading in equity shares of other listed companies.

Though XYZ Limited has passed a special resolution for the said proposal but it cannot use any amount raised by it through the prospectus for buying, trading or otherwise dealing in equity shares of any other listed company. Hence, the said proposal for new investment is not valid.

- **12.** According to section 54(1) of the Companies Act, 2013, a company may issue sweat equity shares if all of the following conditions are fulfilled:
  - a. Share of that class must be already issued
  - b. Issue is authorised by a special resolution passed by the company;
  - c. Resolution specifies the details regarding the number of shares, the current market price, consideration, if any, and the class or

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classes of directors or employees to whom such equity shares are to be issued:

The special resolution authorising the issue of sweat equity shares shall be valid for making the allotment within a period of not more than 12 months from the date of passing.

During a year, the maximum amount/limit for which sweat equity shares can be issued is higher of:

- a. 15% of the existing paid up equity share capital or
- b. Shares of the issue value of rupees 5 crore.

The issuance of sweat equity shares (cumulative, including all previous issues, if any) shall not exceed 25% of the paid-up equity capital of the company at any time.

In the given question, the company has proposed to issue sweat equity shares to the tune of ₹ 4 crore. However, the maximum limit to which it can issue such shares is- Higher of:

- a. 15% of the issued paid up share capital, i.e. ₹ 3 crore, or
- b. 5 crore

Thus, company can issue sweat equity shares to the tune of ₹ 5 crore. However, the company cannot issue such shares more than 25% of the paid-up equity capital= 25% of ₹ 20 crore= ₹ 5 crore.

Hence, the company can issue sweat equity shares of ₹ 4 crore.

- **13.** The provisions of section 77 relating to registration of charges shall, so far as may be, apply to:
  - a. a company acquiring any property subject to a charge within the meaning of that section; or
  - b. any modification in the terms or conditions or the extent or operation of any charge registered under that section.

According to section 79(a) of the Companies Act, 2013, in case of a property where charge is already registered and if it is sold with the permission of the holder of charge, it shall be the duty of the company acquiring it to get the charge registered in accordance with section 77.

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According to the provisions of section 77, when a company acquires property that is subject to an existing charge, it is the duty of the acquiring company (PQR Limited in this case) to register the charge as its own. This means that PQR Limited must create a fresh charge over the acquired property and register it with the Registrar of Companies (RoC) as per section 77.

Now upon acquisition, it is PQR Limited's responsibility to ensure that the previous charge is effectively discharged and that the new charge is registered in its name, reflecting PQR Limited as the current owner and debtor of the charge. Hence, the contention of directors of PQR Limited that since the charge for the property was already created, there is no further obligation on part of PQR Limited, is not correct.

**14.** According to section 2(10) of the Companies Act, 2013,

Financial statement in relation to a company, includes:

- (i) a balance sheet as at the end of the financial year;
- (ii) a profit and loss account, or in the case of a company carrying on any activity not for profit, an income and expenditure account for the financial year;
- (iii) cash flow statement for the financial year;
- (iv) a statement of changes in equity, if applicable; and
- (v) any explanatory note annexed to, or forming part of, any document referred to in sub-clause (i) to sub-clause (iv):

Provided that the financial statement, with respect to one person company, small company, dormant company and private company (if such private company is a start-up) may not include the cash flow statement.

For considering the applicability of preparation of cash flow statement in case of Sam (P) Limited, it is required first to analyze that Sam (P) Limited does not fall in the following categories:

(i) Small company – A company which is a subsidiary company cannot be categorized as a small company as per proviso to section 2(85). Thus, even though its paid up capital and turnover are within the

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prescribed limits, as Sam (P) Limited is a subsidiary company of Vishal Limited, it cannot be considered as small company.

(ii) Dormant company – It is given that the company is actively carrying on its business, so it cannot be also categorized as a dormant company based upon the facts given.

So, Sam (P) Limited shall be deemed to be a public company as it is subsidiary of Vishal Limited, an unlisted public company and so it will not fall into this category of exemption as well.

Thus, it can be concluded that Sam (P) Limited is mandatorily required to prepare cash flow statement for the financial year as a part of its financial statements as it does not fall in any of the categories of companies mentioned under proviso to section 2(10) of the Companies Act. 2013.

**15.** Section 96(2) of the Companies Act, 2013, states that every annual general meeting shall be called during business hours, that is, between 9 AM and 6 PM on any day that is not a National Holiday and shall be held either at the registered office of the company or at some other place within the city, town or village in which the registered office of the company is situated.

Provided that annual general meeting of an unlisted company may be held at any place in India if consent is given in writing or by electronic mode by all the members in advance.

In the given question, Pran Limited is an unlisted company and consent of all members to conduct the AGM at Goa has been received in advance (by 1st July, 2024). Also, the meeting was started well within the prescribed time i.e. at 3.00 PM. Hence, the meeting was validly called.

**16.** Section 142 of the Companies Act, 2013, provides for remuneration of auditors. According to this section the remuneration of the auditors of a company shall be fixed by the company in general meeting or in such manner as the company in general meeting may determine. However, the Board may fix remuneration of the first auditor appointed by it.

The remuneration shall, in addition to the fee payable to an auditor, include the expenses, if any, incurred by the auditor in connection with the audit of the company and any facility extended to him but does not

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include any remuneration paid to him for any other service rendered by him at the request of the company.

As per the facts of the question and stated provision, remuneration of the appointed statutory auditors of a company shall be fixed by the company in general meeting or in such manner as the company in general meeting may determine as they are not the first auditor.

Hence, the contention of the Board of directors that they can fix the remuneration of the auditor on their own is not valid.

- 17. According to section 25 of the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008,
  - (1) Every partner shall inform the LLP of any change in his name or address within a period of 15 days of such change.
  - (2) A LLP shall—
    - (a) where a person becomes or ceases to be a partner, file a notice with the Registrar within 30 days from the date he becomes or ceases to be a partner; and
    - (b) where there is any change in the name or address of a partner, file a notice with the Registrar within 30 days of such change.
  - (3) A notice filed with the Registrar under sub-section (2)—
    - (a) shall be in such form and accompanied by such fees as may be prescribed;
    - (b) shall be signed by the designated partner of the LLP and authenticated in a manner as may be prescribed; and
    - (c) if it relates to an incoming partner, shall contain a statement by such partner that he consents to becoming a partner, signed by him and authenticated in the manner as may be prescribed.
  - (i) Priya's Address Change: Under the provision, Priya was required to inform XYZ LLP of her address change within 15 days of the move. Following that, XYZ LLP was required to file a notice with the RoC within 30 days of being notified of Priya's new address. As

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Priya did not inform the LLP about change of address and consequently LLP did not file a notice regarding the change in address of Priya with the Registrar, XYZ LLP is not in compliance with the required timeline.

- **(ii)** Ramesh's Admission as a Partner: For new partners, XYZ LLP must file a notice with the RoC within 30 days of a person becoming a partner. This notice should include Ramesh's consent statement, signed by him and authenticated as prescribed. The delay in filing means XYZ LLP did not meet the 30-day requirement.
- **18.** According to section 5 of the General Clauses Act, 1897, where any Central Act has not specifically mentioned a particular date to come into force, it shall be implemented on the day on which it receives the assent of the Governor General in case of a Central Acts made before the commencement of the Indian Constitution and/or, of the President in case of an Act of Parliament.
  - In the given question, the Environment Protection Amendment Act, 2024, received assent of President of India on 15th July, 2024. The commencement date is prescribed as 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024. Accordingly, the Environment Protection Amendment Act, 2024, shall come into enforcement 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2024.
- 19. Effect of usage: Usage or practice developed under the statute is indicative of the meaning recognized to its words by contemporary opinion. A uniform notorious practice continued under an old statute and inaction of the Legislature to amend the same are important factors to show that the practice so followed was based on correct understanding of the law. When the usage or practice receives judicial or legislative approval it gains additional weight.

In this connection, we have to bear in mind two Latin maxims:

- (i) 'Optima Legum interpres est consuetude' (the custom is the best interpreter of the law); and
- (ii) 'Contemporanea Expositio est optima et fortissinia in lege' (the best way to interpret a document is to read it as it would have been read when made).

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Therefore, the best interpretation/construction of a statute or any other document is that which has been made by the contemporary authority. Simply stated, old statutes and documents should be interpreted as they would have been at the time when they were enacted/written.

Contemporary official statements throwing light on the construction of a statute and statutory instruments made under it have been used as *contemporanea expositio* to interpret not only ancient but even recent statutes in India.

**20.** As per section 2(v) of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999, the term 'person resident in India' means the following entities:

A person who resides in India for more than 182 days during the preceding financial year.

The following persons are not persons resident, in India even though they may have resided in India for more than 182 days.

- A. A person who has gone out of India or stays outside India for any of the three purposes given below,
- B. A person who has come to or stays in India otherwise than for any of the three purposes given below;

#### Three Purposes

- (1) For or on taking up Employment
- (2) For carrying on a business or Vacation
- (3) For any other purpose in such circumstances as would indicate stay for an uncertain period.

Ravi's Residential Status: Ravi resided in India for more than 182 days in the preceding financial year, which would typically qualify him as a "person resident in India." However, his decision to leave India for long-term employment in Canada changes his status. According to the provision, a person who has left India for the purpose of employment abroad is not considered a "person resident in India" even if they meet the 182-day requirement. Thus, Ravi does not qualify as a resident for the current financial year.

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#### **Case Scenario 1**

Tejas Infra Limited was incorporated by Tejasvi Singh and his wife Meenakshi along with seven other family members in the year 2001 with an aim to undertake infrastructure projects relating to transportation in the country. The company had successfully completed construction of roads and canals in Delhi, UP and Chandigarh and rose to become one of the prominent construction companies in India.

The Registered Office of the company is situated in Connaught Place, New Delhi with a capital base of ₹ 100 crore divided into ten crore equity shares of ₹10 each. The company has eight directors of which three are independent directors. In the year 2019, the company got new projects from the State Government of Punjab to build four flyovers and underpasses in different cities of Punjab.

In order to increase its capital base, Tejas Infra Limited decided to issue 1,00,000 preference shares of  $\ref{thmos}$  100 each to the existing shareholders. For this, purpose it was decided to increase the Authorised Capital by  $\ref{thmos}$  500,00,000 divided into 5,00,000 shares of  $\ref{thmos}$  100 each.

The projects went off well and the turnover rose to the tune of ₹ 3600 crore in the immediately preceding financial year 2022-23. The net worth of the company stood at ₹ 550 crore.

As they crossed the threshold limit in the immediately preceding financial year 2022-23, a Board level Committee headed by one of the independent

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directors, namely, Paritosh was constituted to allocate budget, review the progress and provide guidance on various Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and sustainability initiatives. It was decided to spend the requisite amount towards skill development, vocational training, provision of safe drinking water facility, etc. Lokesh, one of the directors, is also a member of this Corporate Social Responsibility Committee. He is in favour of Janta Andolan Manch, a political party. This party is quite prominent in undertaking social work. As per his advice, the Board by a unanimous resolution resolved to contribute ₹ 5,00,000 to the said political party i.e. Janta Andolan Manch and to treat such contribution as part of CSR activity.

### **Multiple Choice Questions**

- From the case scenario, it is evident that Tejas Infra Limited decided to issue 1,00,000 preference shares of ₹ 100 each to the existing shareholders. From the options given below choose the one which indicates the maximum period which is permitted to the company for redemption of preference shares.
  - (a) Tejas Infra Limited being involved in infrastructural activities is permitted to specify maximum period of thirty-five years for redemption of preference shares subject to the condition that it shall redeem minimum 20% of preference shares per year commencing from 31<sup>st</sup> year onwards or earlier, on proportionate basis at the option of preference shareholders.
  - (b) Tejas Infra Limited being involved in infrastructural activities is permitted to specify maximum period of thirty-five years for redemption of preference shares subject to the condition that it shall redeem minimum 10% of preference shares per year commencing from 26<sup>th</sup> year onwards or earlier, on proportionate basis at the option of preference shareholders.
  - (c) Tejas Infra Limited being involved in infrastructural activities is permitted to specify maximum period of thirty years for redemption of preference shares subject to the condition that it shall redeem minimum 10% of preference shares per year commencing from 21<sup>st</sup> year onwards or earlier, on proportionate basis, at the option of preference shareholders.

### **REVISION TEST PAPER**

#### **CORPORATE AND OTHER LAWS**

- (d) Tejas Infra Limited being involved in infrastructural activities is permitted to specify maximum period of thirty years for redemption of preference shares subject to the condition that it shall redeem minimum 20% of preference shares per year commencing from 26<sup>th</sup> year onwards or earlier, on proportionate basis, at the option of preference shareholders.
- 2. The case scenario states that the turnover of Tejas Infra Limited rose to the tune of ₹ 3600 crore and net worth of the company stood at ₹ 550 crore in the immediately preceding financial year 2022-23 which required formation of CSR Committee. What is the third criterion which if crossed shall also require that a CSR Committee be formed. Choose the correct option from those stated below:
  - (a) The third criterion which also requires formation of CSR Committee is that the company has net profit of ₹ two crore or more in the immediately preceding financial year.
  - (b) The third criterion which also requires formation of CSR Committee is that the company has net profit of ₹ three crore or more in the immediately preceding financial year.
  - (c) The third criterion which also requires formation of CSR Committee is that the company has net profit of ₹ five crore or more in the immediately preceding financial year.
  - (d) The third criterion which also requires formation of CSR Committee is that the company has net profit of ₹ six crore or more in the immediately preceding financial year.
- 3. According to the legal provisions, it is mandatory to redeem preference shares at the stipulated time. Keeping in view the above case scenario, which source is required to be used by Tejas Infra Limited for the redemption of outstanding preference shares:
  - (a) Tejas Infra Limited is required to redeem preference shares out of the profits which would otherwise be available for dividend.
  - (b) Tejas Infra Limited is required to redeem preference shares out of the proceeds of a fresh issue of shares made for the purposes of such redemption.

#### **REVISION TEST PAPER**

#### INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION

- (c) Both (a) and (b).
- (d) Tejas Infra Limited is required to redeem preference shares out of its Capital Redemption Reserve.
- 4. While constituting a CSR Committee, how many minimum directors are required to be appointed by Tejas Infra Limited:
  - (a) CSR Committee formed by Tejas Infra Limited shall have minimum two directors.
  - (b) CSR Committee formed by Tejas Infra Limited shall have minimum three directors of which at least one director shall be an independent director.
  - (c) CSR Committee formed by Tejas Infra Limited shall have minimum four directors of which at least one director shall be an independent director.
  - (d) CSR Committee formed by Tejas Infra Limited shall have minimum four directors of which at least two directors shall be independent director.

#### Case scenario 2

Greenfield LLP and Bluewave LLP were two thriving businesses operating in the renewable energy sector. Greenfield LLP specialized in solar panel manufacturing, while Bluewave LLP was known for its innovations in wind turbine technology. Both companies saw a strategic opportunity to join forces and create a more comprehensive renewable energy solution provider. They decided to merge into a single entity, to be named EcoFuture LLP.

To facilitate this merger, the management of both companies proposed a scheme of compromise and arrangement under Section 60 of the LLP Act. They approached the Tribunal to sanction this scheme, which involved transferring all assets, liabilities, and ongoing legal proceedings of both Greenfield LLP and Bluewave LLP to EcoFuture LLP.

The Tribunal reviewed the proposal and found that the merger scheme was designed for the reconstruction and amalgamation of Greenfield LLP and Bluewave LLP. The Tribunal issued an order under Section 62, sanctioning the scheme and setting forth several provisions to ensure a smooth transition:

#### **REVISION TEST PAPER**

#### **CORPORATE AND OTHER LAWS**

- 1. All assets and liabilities of Greenfield LLP and Bluewave LLP were to be transferred to EcoFuture LLP.
- 2. Any ongoing legal proceedings involving either of the original LLPs would continue under the name of EcoFuture LLP.
- 3. Both Greenfield LLP and Bluewave LLP would be dissolved without the need for winding up.

However, a few partners from Greenfield LLP were not in favor of the merger. They dissented from the compromise and arrangement. The Tribunal provided specific directions to ensure that their interests were adequately addressed.

After the order was made, both LLPs had to file a certified copy of the Tribunal's order with the Registrar within 30 days for registration. Unfortunately, due to some administrative delays, this filing was not completed within the stipulated time, leading to penalties for both EcoFuture LLP and its designated partners.

# Answer the following MCQs in the light of the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008

- 5. What was the main purpose of the scheme proposed between Greenfield LLP and Bluewave LLP?
  - (a) To dissolve both LLPs.
  - (b) To transfer all assets to a third party.
  - (c) For the reconstruction and amalgamation of the LLPs.
  - (d) To liquidate the companies.
- 6. What authority does the Tribunal have when it sanctions a compromise or arrangement under Section 60?
  - (a) It can only supervise the arrangement.
  - (b) It has no authority after sanctioning the arrangement.
  - (c) It can supervise, modify, and give directions for the arrangement.
  - (d) It can dissolve the LLPs directly without any conditions.

#### **REVISION TEST PAPER**

#### INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION

- 7. What penalty applies if an LLP fails to comply with the 30-day filing requirement?
  - (a) Immediate dissolution of the LLP.
  - (b) A fine of ₹10,000 and additional penalties for continuing contravention.
  - (c) Suspension of all business activities.
  - (d) Revocation of the Tribunal's order.

### **Independent MCQs**

- 8. Mr. X had resided in India for less than 182 days during the financial year 2022-2023. He arrived in India on April 1, 2023, to conduct business and intends to leave the business on April 30, 2024, with plans to depart from India on June 30, 2024. What is Mr. X's residential status for the financial year 2023-2024 under the FEMA, 1999? How many days did Mr. X stay in India during the financial year 2023-2024?
  - (a) Non-Resident, 182 days
  - (b) Resident, 365 days
  - (c) Resident but Not Ordinarily Resident (RNOR), 240 days
  - (d) Resident, 91 days
- 9. Apex Manufacturing is an industrial company based in India. Recently, the company found itself embroiled in legal issues concerning two separate offences under different enactments. The first offence involved a violation of environmental regulations, for which the company was prosecuted and fined. Subsequently, Apex Manufacturing was charged under a different law for a similar but not identical environmental violation.

The first offence was under the Environment Protection Act, 1986, for failing to dispose of hazardous waste properly. The second offence, under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, involved discharging untreated wastewater into a river.

Mr. Sharma, the company's legal advisor, consulted on said issue. He determined the prosecution outlined in Section 26 of the General

#### **REVISION TEST PAPER**

#### **CORPORATE AND OTHER LAWS**

Clauses Act, 1897, and Article 20(2) of the Constitution of India, which protects against double jeopardy. Comment upon the validity of protection that can be given to the Apex Manufacturing.

- (a) Yes valid, because both involve environmental violations.
- (b) Not valid, because the specific actions and legal provisions violated are different.
- (c) Its valid, because both result in environmental harm.
- (d) Its valid, though were prosecuted under different Acts but nature of act is similar.
- 10. Regal Textiles, a well-established fabric manufacturing company, has been operating under the Textile Regulations Act of 1980 for several decades. Over the years, various provisions of this Act have been subject to interpretation by both the company and the industry at large. One such provision pertains to the definition of "sustainable practices," which has been a point of contention. "Sustainable practices" to include the use of organic materials and recycling waste products. This interpretation has been widely accepted and acted upon without any legal challenges.

Recently, a new regulatory body has argued that "sustainable practices" should be strictly defined to include only carbon-neutral processes, excluding the use of non-organic recycled materials. This new interpretation has created confusion and potential compliance issues for Regal Textiles, which has long adhered to the established understanding of the term. He prepares to argue that the long-standing interpretation of "sustainable practices" should be upheld. What principle will Mr. Kumar likely rely on to argue against the new interpretation proposed by the regulatory body?

- (a) The principle of judicial activism.
- (b) The principle of strict construction.
- (c) The principle of historical usage.
- (d) The principle of prospective overruling.

### **REVISION TEST PAPER**

#### INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION

## **Descriptive questions**

- 11. Prashant incorporated a "One Person Company" making his sister Priya as the nominee. Priya is an Indian citizen. She was born and brought up in Kanpur. However, now Priya and her husband are leaving India permanently to stay with their son who is settled abroad for the last 15 years. Due to this fact, she is withdrawing her consent of nomination in the said One Person Company. Taking into considerations the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 answer the questions given below.
  - (i) If Priya is leaving India permanently, is it mandatory for her to withdraw her nomination in the said One Person Company?
  - (ii) In case Priya withdraws her nomination as a nominee to the OPC, whether Prashant can appoint his minor son Rushang as the nominee of the OPC?
- 12. (i) In the light of the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, discuss the status of Gram Pte, which is a company registered in Singapore, that is conducting online business through telemarketing in India without a physical place of business. It is also informed that for the telemarketing business in India, its main server located outside India.
  - (ii) In continuance of (i) above, Prism Ltd. (registered in India), a wholly owned subsidiary company of Gram Pte decided to follow different financial year for consolidation of its accounts outside India. State the procedure to be followed in this regard.
- 13. XYZ Ltd., a prominent manufacturing company, is in the process of appointing a new auditor for the upcoming financial years. Mr. A is a renowned auditor being considered for the role. During the due diligence process, the following details come to light:
  - 1. Mr. B and Mr. A are partners in ABC & Co. Mr. B has taken a personal loan of ₹4 Lacs from XYZ Ltd.'s subsidiary, EFG Ltd., six months ago.
  - 2. Mr. A's relative, Ms. C, has an outstanding debt of ₹2 Lacs with DEF Ltd., an associate company of XYZ Ltd., which was taken three months ago.

#### **REVISION TEST PAPER**

#### **CORPORATE AND OTHER LAWS**

Discuss about the eligibility of Mr. A for being appointed as an auditor of XYZ Ltd. in view of the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013.

- 14. Om Ltd. served a notice of General Meeting upon its members. The notice stated that the following resolutions will be considered at such meeting:
  - (i) Resolution to increase the authorised share capital of the company.
  - (ii) Appointment and fixation of the remuneration of Mr. Pramod as the statutory auditor.

A shareholder complained that the amount of the proposed increase and the remuneration was not specified in the notice. Is the notice valid under the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013.

- 15. (i) K Ltd. in its first year of incorporation maintained its books of account under Single Entry System of Accounting. Is it permitted under the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013?
  - (ii) State the person responsible for complying with the provisions regarding maintenance of Books of Accounts, etc. of a Company.
- 16. ABC Pvt. Ltd., a company that has been operational for two years, was incorporated with the submission of false information and suppression of material facts. The company's founders, Mr. X and Ms. Y, provided incorrect financial statements and concealed significant liabilities during the incorporation process. This misrepresentation was recently uncovered during an internal audit initiated by the company's new CFO, Mr. Z.

Upon discovering these fraudulent actions, Mr. Z has filed an application with the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT). Explain the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 in respect where a company has been incorporated by furnishing false or incorrect information.

### The Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008

17. XYZ LLP was registered under the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008 (LLP Act) with a name that was later found to be identical to an existing company's name, XYZ OPC Pvt Ltd. This similarity was not noticed at the time of registration.

### **REVISION TEST PAPER**

#### INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION

Explain the provisions of the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008, in respect of the following:

- (i) When the name of LLP is identical.
- (ii) Formalities with the Registrar of Companies after name change of

### The General Clauses Act, 1897

18. Mr. Chaggan Lal is an importer dealing in luxury perfumes. Recently, a new enactment was passed which imposes a duty of 15% on the value of luxury goods, including perfumes.

Now Mr. Chaggan Lal has approached you to explain to him the provisions in relation to 'Duty to be taken pro rata in enactments' of the General Clauses Act, 1897. Also, help him to calculate the amount of duty on a Shipment of 100 bottles of perfumes, each valued at \$50.

### **Interpretation of Statutes**

19. Imagine you are a legal advisor for a company drafting a new contract. One of the clauses in the contract states: "Notwithstanding anything contained in any other provisions of this agreement, the company reserves the right to terminate the agreement without notice if there is a breach of confidentiality by the employee." Explain to the management of the company the meaning of a non-obstante clause in legal documents and its effect on overriding other provisions with reference to decided case law.

# The Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999

20. Mr. Arjun, an Indian resident, had been working abroad for the past 10 years. During his tenure abroad, he acquired foreign currency and held investments in foreign securities. He also inherited a property located in New York from his late grandfather, who was a non-resident Indian. After returning to India permanently, Mr. Arjun wishes to understand the provisions under the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA) regarding the ownership and utilization of his foreign assets.

### **REVISION TEST PAPER**

**CORPORATE AND OTHER LAWS** 



# **SUGGESTED ANSWERS/HINTS**

MCQ No.	Most Appropriate Answer
1.	(c)
2.	(c)
3.	(c)
4.	(b)
5.	(c)
6.	(c)
7.	(b)
8.	(b)
9.	(b)
10.	(c)

### **Descriptive questions**

**11. (i)** According to Rule 3 of *the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014, only* a natural person who is an Indian citizen whether resident in India or otherwise shall be eligible to incorporate a One Person Company.

In the given question Priya is an Indian citizen and a resident of India.

Thus, if Priya is able to maintain her Indian citizenship status in India after moving abroad then she can remain as nominee in OPC of Prashant irrespective of her residential status.

(ii) The memorandum of One Person Company shall also indicate the name of the natural person, other than minor; who is an Indian citizen, whether resident in India or otherwise (as nominee), along with his prior written consent, who shall, in the event of the

### **REVISION TEST PAPER**

#### INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION

subscriber's death or his incapacity to contract become the member of the company.

In the light of the above provision, it is clear that a minor cannot be appointed as a nominee/ member of OPC. Hence, Prashant cannot appoint his son Rushang as a nominee to his OPC.

- **12. (i)** According to section 2(42) of the Companies Act, 2013, "foreign company" means any company or body corporate incorporated outside India which
  - (a) has a place of business in India whether by itself or through an agent, physically or through electronic mode; and
  - (b) conducts any business activity in India in any other manner.

According to Rule 2(1)(c)(iv) of the *Companies (Registration of Foreign Companies) Rules, 2014*, "electronic mode" means carrying out electronically based, whether main server is installed in India or not, including, but not limited to, online services such as telemarketing, telecommuting, telemedicine, education and information research.

In view of the above provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and the facts of the question, it can be said that being involved in *online business of telemarketing* services in India having its main server outside India, Gram Pte will be treated as foreign company.

(ii) Where a company or body corporate, which is a holding company or a subsidiary or associate company of a company incorporated outside India and is required to follow a different financial year for consolidation of its accounts outside India, the Central Government may, on an application made by that company or body corporate in such form and manner as may be prescribed, allow any period as its financial year, whether or not that period is a year.

Here, Prism Ltd. is advised to follow the above procedure accordingly.

**13.** According to section 141(3)(d)(ii) of the Companies Act, 2013, an auditor is disqualified to be appointed as an auditor if he or his relative or

### **REVISION TEST PAPER**

#### **CORPORATE AND OTHER LAWS**

partner is indebted to the company, or its subsidiary, or its holding or associate company or a subsidiary of such holding company, in excess of ₹ 5 Lacs.

#### In this scenario:

- 1. Mr. A's partner, Mr. B, has a debt of ₹ 4 Lacs from EFG Ltd., a subsidiary of XYZ Ltd.
- 2. Mr. A's relative, Ms. C, has a debt of ₹ 2 Lacs from DEF Ltd., an associate company of XYZ Ltd.

The total indebtedness linked to Mr. A's partner and relative is  $\ref{total}$  6 Lacs ( $\ref{total}$  4 Lacs +  $\ref{total}$  2 Lacs), which exceeds the  $\ref{total}$  5 Lacs threshold mentioned in the provision.

Therefore, Mr. A is disqualified from being appointed as the auditor of XYZ Ltd. under section 141(3)(d)(ii) of the Companies Act, 2013, as the combined indebtedness of his partner and relative surpasses the permissible limit.

**14.** Under section 102(2)(b) of the Companies Act, 2013, in the case of any meeting other than an Annual General Meeting, all business transacted thereat shall be deemed to be special business.

Further, under section 102(1), a statement setting out the following material facts concerning each item of special business to be transacted at a general meeting, shall be annexed to the notice calling such meeting, namely:-

- (a) the nature of concern or interest, financial or otherwise, if any, in respect of each items, of:
  - (i) every director and the manager, if any;
  - (ii) every other key managerial personnel; and
  - (iii) relatives of the persons mentioned in sub-clauses (i) and (ii);
- (b) any other information and facts that may enable members to understand the meaning, scope and implications of the items of business and to take decision thereon.

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The information about the amount is also a material fact that may enable members to understand the meaning and implication of items of business to be transacted and to take decision thereon.

Section 102 also prescribes ordinary businesses for which explanatory statement is not required.

Part (i) of the question relating to increase in the Authorized Capital falls under special business and hence in the absence of amount of proposed increase of share capital, the notice will be treated as invalid.

Part (ii) is an ordinary business and hence explanatory statement is not required. However, considering the two resolutions mentioned in the question are to be passed in the same meeting, notice of the meeting is invalid.

Thus, the objection of the shareholder is valid since the details on the item to be considered are lacking.

The information about the amount is a material fact with reference to the proposed increase of authorized share capital and remuneration of Mr. Pramod as the auditor.

The notice is, therefore, not a valid notice under Section 102 of the Companies Act, 2013.

**15. (i)** According to section 128(1) of the Companies Act, 2013, every company shall prepare books of account and other relevant books and papers and financial statement for every financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the company, including that of its branch office(s) if any, and explain the transactions effected both at the registered office and its branches and such books shall be kept on accrual basis and according to the double entry system of accounting.

Hence, maintenance of books of account under Singly Entry System of Accounting by K Ltd. is not permitted.

(ii) Persons responsible to maintain books

As per section 128 (6) of the Companies Act, 2013, the person responsible to take all reasonable steps to secure compliance by

### **REVISION TEST PAPER**

#### **CORPORATE AND OTHER LAWS**

the company with the requirement of maintenance of books of accounts etc. shall be:

- (a) Managing Director,
- (b) Whole-Time Director, in charge of finance
- (c) Chief Financial Officer
- (d) Any other person of a company charged by the Board with duty of complying with provisions of section 128.
- **16. Order of the Tribunal**: According to section 7(7) of the Companies Act, 2013, where a company has been got incorporated by furnishing false or incorrect information or representation or by suppressing any material fact or information in any of the documents or declaration filed or made for incorporating such company or by any fraudulent action, the Tribunal may, on an application made to it, on being satisfied that the situation so warrants—
  - (a) pass such orders, as it may think fit, for regulation of the management of the company including changes, if any, in its memorandum and articles, in public interest or in the interest of the company and its members and creditors; or
  - (b) direct that liability of the members shall be unlimited; or
  - (c) direct removal of the name of the company from the register of companies; or
  - (d) pass an order for the winding up of the company; or
  - (e) pass such other orders as it may deem fit.

However, before making any order under this sub-section, -

- (i) the company shall be given a reasonable opportunity of being heard in the matter; and
- (ii) the Tribunal shall take into consideration the transactions entered into by the company, including the obligations, if any, contracted or payment of any liability.

### **REVISION TEST PAPER**

#### INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION

- 17. According to section 17 of the LLP Act, 2008,
  - (i) Notwithstanding anything contained in sections 15 and 16, if through inadvertence, or otherwise, the LLP, on its first registration or on its registration by new name, is registered by a name which is identical with or too nearly resembles to-
    - (a) that of any other LLP or a company; or
    - (b) a registered trade mark of a proprietor under the Trade Marks Act, 1999

as likely to be mistaken, then on an application of such LLP or proprietor referred to in clauses (a) and (b) respectively or a company, the Central Government may direct such LLP to change its name or new name within a period of 3 months from the date of issue of such direction,

Provided that an application of the proprietor of the registered trade marks shall be maintainable within a period of 3 years from the date of incorporation or registration or change of name of the LLP under this Act.

- (ii) Where an LLP changes its name or obtains new name, it shall within a period of 15 days from the date of such change, give notice of the change to Registrar along with the order of the Central Government, who shall carry out necessary changes in the certificate of incorporation and within 30 days of such change in the certificate of incorporation, such LLP shall change its name in the LLP agreement.
- **18.** According to section 12 of the General Clauses Act, 1897, where, by any enactment now in force or hereafter to be in force, any duty of customs or excise or in the nature thereof, is leviable on any given quantity, by weight, measure or value of any goods or merchandise, then a like duty is leviable according to the same rate on any greater or less quantity.

The amount of duty would be= (100\*50)\*15%= \$750.

**19.** A clause that begins with the words "notwithstanding anything contained" is called a *non-obstante* clause. Unlike the "subject to" clause,

### **REVISION TEST PAPER**

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the notwithstanding clause has the effect of making the provision prevail over others. When this term is used then the clause will prevail over the other provision(s) mentioned therein. (K. Parasurammaiah v. Pakari Lakshman AIR 1965 AP 220)

In conclusion, a non-obstante clause plays a crucial role in legal drafting by ensuring that the specified provision prevails over conflicting provisions, thereby enhancing legal certainty and consistency in judicial interpretation.

**20.** Under the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA), Mr. Arjun, being a resident in India, can hold, own, transfer, or invest in foreign currency, foreign securities, or immovable property situated outside India under certain conditions. These conditions are clarified by the RBI through A.P. (DIR Series) Circular No. 90 dated 9th January, 2014, which elaborates on section 6(4) of the Act.

### Clarifications under section 6(4) of FEMA

# 1. Foreign Currency Accounts

 Mr. Arjun can maintain foreign currency accounts that were opened and maintained by him when he was resident outside India.

#### 2. Income and Investments

- o Income earned through employment, business, or vocation outside India while Mr. Arjun was a non-resident.
- o Investments made abroad during his non-resident status.
- o Gifts or inheritance received from a non-resident Indian.

### 3. Foreign Exchange and Income therefrom

 Foreign exchange holdings, including income arising from them, held outside India by Mr. Arjun, acquired through inheritance from a non-resident Indian.

### **REVISION TEST PAPER**

#### **INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION**

### 4. Utilization of Assets After Return to India

- Mr. Arjun may freely utilize all eligible assets abroad, including the income on such assets or sale proceeds received after his return to India.
- He can make payments or fresh investments abroad without the approval of the Reserve Bank of India, provided the funds used are from eligible assets held by him abroad and the transaction complies with FEMA provisions.

Therefore, Mr. Arjun is eligible to hold and utilize his foreign assets as per the provisions outlined in section 6(4) of FEMA and the RBI circular. These provisions allow him to manage his foreign currency, securities, and inherited property located outside India in compliance with the regulations governing residents' dealings in foreign assets under FEMA.



# PAPER – 2: CORPORATE AND OTHER LAWS

# PART – I: ANNOUNCEMENTS STATING APPLICABILITY FOR MAY, 2024 EXAMINATIONS

# Applicability for May, 2024 examinations

The Study Material (April 2023 edition) is applicable for May, 2024 examinations. This study material is updated for all amendments till 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2023.

Further, all relevant amendments/ circulars/ notifications etc. in the Company law part for the period 1st May, 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2023 are mentioned below:

### **THE COMPANIES ACT, 2013**

# I. Chapter 3: Prospectus and Allotment of Securities

Notification S.O. 4744(E) dated 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2023

The Central Government has inserted sub- section (3) and sub- section (4) to section 23 of the Companies Act, 2013, through the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2020.

#### Amendment:

In **section 23**, the following sub- sections to be included:

- "(3) Such class of public companies may issue such class of securities for the purposes of listing on permitted stock exchanges in permissible foreign jurisdictions or such other jurisdictions, as may be prescribed.
- (4) The Central Government may, by notification, exempt any class or classes of public companies referred to in sub-section (3) from any of the provisions of this Chapter, Chapter IV, section 89, section 90 or section 127 and a copy of every such notification shall, as soon as may be after it is issued, be laid before both Houses of Parliament."

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### **REVISION TEST PAPER**

### **INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION**

# [Enforcement Date: 30th October, 2023]

(Pg 3.6)

Sub- section (3) and sub- section (4) to section 23 have been inserted through the Companies (Amendment) Act, 2020. However, the said sub- sections have been enforced w.e.f. 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2023.

## II. Chapter 7: Management and Administration

Notification S.O. G.S.R. 801(E) dated 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2023

The Central Government has amended the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014, through the Companies (Management and Administration) Second Amendment Rules, 2023.

### Amendment:

- in **Rule 9**, after sub-rule (3), the following sub- rules shall be inserted, namely:-
- "(4) Every company shall designate a person who shall be responsible for furnishing, and extending co-operation for providing, information to the Registrar or any other authorised officer with respect to beneficial interest in shares of the company.
- (5) For the purpose of sub-rule(4), the company may designate-
- (i) a company secretary, if there is a requirement of appointment of such company secretary under the Act and the rules made thereunder; or
- (ii) a key managerial personnel, other than the company secretary; or
- (iii) every director, if there is no company secretary or key managerial personnel.
- (6) Until a person is designated as referred under sub-rule (4), the following persons shall be deemed to have been designated person;
- (i) company secretary, if there is a requirement of appointment of such company secretary under the Act and the rules made thereunder; or
- (ii) every Managing Director or Manager, in case a company secretary has not been appointed; or

**MAY 2024 EXAMINATION** 

#### **REVISION TEST PAPER**

# **CORPORATE AND OTHER LAWS**

- (iii) every director, if there is no company secretary or a Managing Director or Manager.
- (7) Every company shall inform the details of the designated person in Annual return.
- (8) If the company changes the designated person at any time, it shall intimate the same to the Registrar in e-form GNL-2 specified under the Companies (Registration Offices and Fees) Rules, 2014."

Old Law (Pg 7.13)

Sub-rule (4), (5), (6), (7) and (8) of Rule 9 is newly inserted

#### **PART - II: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**



#### **DIVISION A: MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS**

#### **Case Scenario 1**

Golden Limited is a listed company which is incorporated in 2013 having its registered office at Delhi and corporate office in Noida. It is registered with an authorised share capital of ₹ 20 crore divided into 2 crore equity shares of ₹ 10/- each. The paid-up share capital of the company is ₹ 10 crore divided into 1 crore equity shares of ₹ 10/- each. The company is in construction activities like construction of buildings, roads, etc.

On 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2022, the company incorporated a wholly owned subsidiary, D Limited which is involved in supplying of construction materials like steel, iron, cement, bricks, etc. D Limited elects to choose to prepare its first financial statements for the period from 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2022, Golden Limited incorporated a new wholly owned subsidiary, E Limited for providing project management consultancy service to its customers or to parent company. On 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2022, Golden Limited through its subsidiary, E Limited acquired 100% partnership interest in XYZ & Co., partnership firm. E Limited elects to choose to prepare its first financial

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statements for the period from 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2023 and conducted its Annual General Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2023.

On 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2022, the subsidiary company, D Limited incorporated a new wholly owned subsidiary, F Limited.

Golden Limited prepared its standalone financial statements for the year 2021-22 and presented before the Board of Directors of the company on 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2022 for their approval and the same were adopted by the shareholders in the Annual General Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2022.

Golden Limited prepared its standalone and consolidated financial statements for the year 2022-23 and presented before the Board of Directors of the company on 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2023 for their approval and the same were adopted by the shareholders in the Annual General Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2023.

On the basis of above facts and by applying applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and the applicable Rules therein, choose the correct answer (one out of four) of the following MCQs given herein under: -

- 1. What is the last date for conducting AGM for E Limited?
  - (a) 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2022
  - (b) 31st December, 2022
  - (c) 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2023
  - (d) 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2023
- 2. What is the due date for conducting AGM for Golden Limited for the year ended March 31, 2023?
  - (a) 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2023
  - (b) 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2023
  - (c) 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2023
  - (d) 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2023
- 3. The Companies Act, 2013 provides that in addition to standalone financial statement, the company shall also prepare consolidated financial statements which shall also be presented at AGM. Accordingly,

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the consolidated financial statements of Golden Limited for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022 includes, financial statements:

- (a) Golden Limited and D Limited
- (b) Golden Limited, D Limited and E Limited
- (c) Golden Limited, D Limited, E Limited and XYZ & Co., partnership firm
- (d) Golden Limited, D Limited, E Limited, F Limited and XYZ & Co., partnership firm
- 4. The Companies Act, 2013 provides that in addition to standalone financial statement, the company shall also prepare consolidated financial statements which shall also be presented before AGM. Accordingly, the consolidated financial statements of Golden Limited for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2023 includes:
  - (a) Golden Limited and D Limited
  - (b) Golden Limited, D Limited and E Limited
  - (c) Golden Limited, D Limited, E Limited and XYZ & Co., partnership firm
  - (d) Golden Limited, D Limited, E Limited, F Limited and XYZ & Co., partnership firm
- 5. Please select which is the correct option/ which is the most correct statement:
  - (a) Golden Limited had given the notice for holding AGM in Mumbai on Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 at 11.00 A.M.
  - (b) Golden Limited had given the notice for holding AGM in Delhi on Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 at 11.00 A.M.
  - (c) Golden Limited had given the notice for holding AGM in Noida on Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 at 11.00 A.M.
  - (d) Golden Limited had given the notice for holding AGM in Delhi on Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 at 8.30 A.M.

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#### **Case Scenario 2**

Omx Software Private Limited is a private company and having its registered office in Bangalore and is a wholly owned subsidiary of Omx Software Inc, situated in USA. Mr. Rajat Kapoor, Mr. Shubham and Mr. Peter are directors of Omx Software Private Limited. Mr. Rajat and Mr. Shubham are Indian residents while Mr. Peter is a non-resident and stays in USA. Mr. Peter is also a director in Omx Software Inc.

Mr. Rajat left India on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2021 for the purpose of looking after the business of Omx Software Inc. Mr. Rajat came to back to India on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 to meet his family and left India on 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 and went back to USA to look after the business of Omx Software Inc. Mr. Rajat again visited India on 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2022 and stays in India for the whole year.

Omx Software Private Limited had availed a consultancy service from a company situated in USA for development of software for the purpose of rendering service to its customers situated in India.

Mr. Rajat had purchased a residential property in USA on 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 which was self-occupied by him for his residential use.

- 6. Considering the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999, which of the following options correctly determines the residential status of Mr. Rajat Kapoor:
  - (a) Mr. Rajat Kapoor to be treated as resident in India for Financial Year (FY) 2022-2023 and FY 2023-2024 since he stays in India for more than 182 days
  - (b) Mr. Rajat Kapoor to be treated as non-resident in India for FY 2022-2023 since he left India for the purpose of carrying business of Omx Software Inc and resident for FY 2023-2024
  - (c) Mr. Rajat Kapoor to be treated as non-resident for FY 2022-2023 and FY 2023-2024
  - (d) Mr. Rajat Kapoor to be treated as resident in India for FY 2022-2023 since he stays in India for more than 182 days and nonresident for FY 2023-2024

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- 7. Considering the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999, how much amount can company remit outside India:
  - (a) Permissible amount remitted to US company for obtaining consultancy without obtaining prior approval of RBI is USD 1,000,000 per project
  - (b) Permissible amount remitted to US company for obtaining consultancy without obtaining prior approval of RBI is USD 100,000 per project
  - (c) Permissible amount remitted to US company for obtaining consultancy without obtaining prior approval of RBI is USD 200,000 per project
  - (d) Permissible amount remitted to US company for obtaining consultancy without obtaining prior approval of RBI is USD 2,000,000 per project
- 8. Considering the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999, in respect of purchase of residential property by Mr. Rajat in USA which of the following statement is correct?
  - (a) Purchase of residential property by Mr. Rajat is a current account transaction
  - (b) Mr. Rajat has to sell his property before returning to India permanently as he becomes resident in subsequent years
  - (c) Purchase of residential property by Mr. Rajat is neither capital account transaction nor current account transaction
  - (d) Purchase of residential property by Mr. Rajat is a capital account transaction
- 9. Bhavesh, Yash and Chirag incorporated a Limited Liability Partnership for doing the business of trading of timber under the name Solid Lakkad LLP. Chirag has shifted his residence from 12, Block C, Kamla Nagar, Agra to 808, Sector 1, Bodla, Agra on 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2023. Chirag informed the firm about change of his address on 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2023 sending a written notice. Now, by which date Solid Lakkad LLP is required to file a notice with the registrar?

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- (a) 01<sup>st</sup> December, 2023
- (b) 05<sup>th</sup> December, 2023
- (c) 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2023
- (d) 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2023
- 10. Druk Software Company Inc., a company incorporated in Australia, proposes to establish a place of business at Mumbai. The list of the Directors includes (i) Mr. Arun Managing Director, (ii) Mr. Ranveer Director, (iii) Mr. Ramesh Malik Director and (iv) Mr. Navaaz Director. Ms. Lavina has been appointed as the Secretary of Druk Software Company Inc. It is to be noted that Mr. Ramesh Malik and Mr. Navaaz, resident in India, are the persons who have been authorised by Druk Software Company Inc. to accept on behalf of the company service of process, notices or other documents required to be served on Druk Software Company Inc. In relation to the company's establishment, you are required to enlighten the Druk Company Inc. with respect to whose, a declaration will be required to be submitted to the Registrar of Companies by Druk Software Company Inc. for not being convicted or debarred from formation of companies in or outside India.
  - (a) Mr. Arun, Mr. Ranveer, Mr. Ramesh Malik, Mr. Navaaz and Ms. Lavina
  - (b) Mr. Arun, Mr. Ramesh Malik, Mr. Navaaz and Ms. Lavina
  - (c) Mr. Ramesh Malik and Mr. Navaaz
  - (d) Mr. Arun, Mr. Ranveer, Mr. Ramesh Malik and Mr. Navaaz

#### **DIVISION B: DESCRIPTIVE QUESTIONS**

#### **PART I: COMPANY LAW**

#### **The Companies Act, 2013**

11. Ram Pvt. Ltd. is the holding company of Laxman Pvt. Ltd. As per the last profit and loss account for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2023 of Laxman Pvt. Ltd., its turnover was ₹ 1.80 crore; and paid up share capital was ₹ 80 lakh. The Board of Directors wants to avail the status of a small company. The Company Secretary of the company advised the directors that the company cannot be categorized as a small company. In the light

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- of the above facts and in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, you are required to examine whether the contention of Company Secretary is correct, explaining the relevant provisions of the Act.
- 12. Prakash and some of his friends are members of Focus Limited, a company with a paid-up share capital of ₹ one crore. They all intend to propose a resolution at the forthcoming General Meeting of the company which is going to be held in CP, New Delhi i.e. the place where Registered Office of Focus Limited is situated.
  - (i) Kindly provide guidance to Prakash and his friends on the requisite minimum paid-up share capital they should hold to initiate a members' resolution.
  - (ii) What are the other requirements that Prakash and his friends need to keep in mind for moving a members' resolution.
- 13. PQR Private Limited operates as a manufacturing company, generating a turnover of ₹ 150 crore and holds an outstanding loan of ₹ 75 crore from a public financial institution solely in the previous financial year (with a total loan availed of ₹ 110 crore, but ₹ 35 crore were repaid during the same year). The company's Board has delegated the authority to Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to designate an internal auditor to conduct internal audit. However, the CEO believes that the company is not legally obligated to have an internal auditor. Analyse the accuracy of the CEO's perspective by referring to the provisions outlined in the Companies Act, 2013. What would be your response if the Board of Directors wanted to appoint the Mr. Nagendra (an ex- employee who is a qualified Chartered Accountant) as an internal auditor?
- 14. The Governments of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh collectively hold 60% of the paid-up Equity Share Capital of Orange Limited. The audited financial statements of Orange Limited for the financial year 2022-23 were presented at its Annual General Meeting convened on 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2023. However, pending the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) on the said accounts the meeting was adjourned without adoption of the accounts. Therefore, the company did not file its financial statements with the Registrar of Companies. Afterwards, on receipt of CAG comments on the accounts, the adjourned annual

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general meeting was held on 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 whereat the accounts were adopted. Thereafter, Orange Limited filed its financial statements relevant to the financial year 2022-23 with the Registrar of Companies on 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2023.

Examine, with reference to the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, whether, Orange Limited has complied with the statutory requirement regarding filing of accounts with the Registrar.

15. NOP Limited, since its incorporation in 2002, is engaged in the production of premium quality glass bottles. According to financial results of the company as on 31.3.2023 net worth of the company was ₹ 90 crore and turnover for the year 2022-23 was ₹ 510 crore. The company proposed to accept the deposits as on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2024, which would be due for repayment on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2028 from the public for expansion and redevelopment programs of company.

Furthermore, the company has accepted a loan of ₹ 1.5 crore from Mr. P Kishore (Director) and the loan was to be repaid after 24 months. Company in its books of account, records the receipt as a loan under non-current liabilities. At the time of advancing loan, Mr. P Kishore affirms in writing that such amount is not being given out of funds acquired by him by borrowing or accepting loans or deposits from others and complete details of such loan transaction is furnished in the boards' report.

On the basis of above facts answer the following questions:

- (i) Whether company was eligible to accept deposit from public? What is the criteria for acceptance of deposit and tenure for which deposit can be accepted? Whether the tenure decided by company was in accordance with provisions of the Companies Act, 2013?
- (ii) With reference to the loan advanced by Mr. P Kishore to company, state whether the same is to be classified as a deposit or not?
- 16. Fine Publishers, registered in Tokyo, began operating in India during the financial year 2009. The company has duly submitted all necessary documents to the registrar within the specified due date. On 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2023, Fine Publishers has shifted its principal office in Tokyo. Is Fine

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Publishers required to undertake any steps due to change in address of principal office. Give your answer in reference to the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013.

# **Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008**

17. Mohit is a creditor of ABC LLP. He has a claim of ₹ 10,00,000 against the LLP. However, the assets of the LLP are valued at only ₹ 7,00,000. Now, Mohit seeks to hold the partners of the LLP personally accountable for the shortfall of ₹ 3,00,000. Under the provisions of the Limited Liability Act, 2008, can Mohit demand for the deficit from the partners of ABC LLP?

#### **PART II: OTHER LAWS**

## **The General Clauses Act, 1897**

18. Yogveer Singh has a mango orchard at Manchanga Village, Bilaspur. The orchard has more than one hundred Mango trees. Yogveer Singh has sold orchard along with all the mango trees. Explain, in the lights of provisions of the General Clauses Act 1897, whether the sale of trees will be considered as sale of Immovable Property?

### **Interpretation of Statutes**

19. What does the principle of "reading the statute as a whole" imply in the interpretation of statutes? Explain with the help of an example.

# The Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999

- 20. Mr. Shivesh, an Indian National desires to obtain Foreign Exchange for the following purposes:
  - (i) Remittance of US Dollar 50,000 out of winnings on a lottery ticket.
  - (ii) US Dollar 100,000 for sending a cultural troupe on a tour of U.S.A.

Advise him whether he can get Foreign Exchange and if so, under what conditions?

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# **SUGGESTED ANSWERS/HINTS**

- 1. (d)
- 2. (a)
- 3. (c)
- 4. (d)
- 5. (b)
- 6. (b)
- 7. (a)
- 8. (c)
- 9. (c)
- 10. (d)
- **11.** As per section 2(85) of the Companies Act, 2013, small company means a company, other than a public company:
  - (i) paid-up share capital of which does not exceed four crore rupees, and
  - (ii) turnover of which as per profit and loss account for the immediately preceding financial year does not exceed forty crore rupees:

Provided that nothing in this clause shall apply to—

- (A) a holding company or a subsidiary company;
- (B) a company registered under section 8; or
- (C) a company or body corporate governed by any special Act.

In the instant case, as per the last profit and loss account for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2023 of Laxman Pvt. Ltd., its turnover was to the extent of ₹ 1.80 crore, and paid-up share capital was ₹ 80 lakh. Though Laxman Pvt. Ltd., as per the turnover and paid-up share capital norms, qualifies for the status of a 'small company' but it cannot be categorized

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as a 'small company' because it is the subsidiary of another company (Ram Pvt. Ltd.).

Hence, the contention of the Company Secretary is correct.

12. (i) In terms of section 111 of the Companies Act, 2013, the members of a company are given a statutory right to propose resolutions for consideration at the general meetings. According to sub-section (1), the number of members required to make a requisition for moving resolution shall be same as required to requisition a general meeting as per section 100 (2). The requirement is as under:

"In case of a company having share capital, such number of members who hold minimum 1/10th of the paid-up share capital that carries right of voting shall be eligible to make a requisition for moving a resolution at the general meeting."

Accordingly, Prakash and his friends must hold minimum 1/10<sup>th</sup> of paid-up share capital (*i.e.* ₹ 10 lakh worth of share capital carrying right to vote) of Focus Limited in order to be eligible for moving a resolution at the general meeting.

- (ii) The other requirements as per section 111 for making a requisition to move a resolution at the general meeting which Prakash and his friends should keep in mind are as under:
  - (a) Two or more copies of the requisition are required to contain signatures of all the requisitionists i.e. Prakash and friends.
  - (b) The requisition must be deposited by them at CP where the registered office of Focus Limited is situated.
  - (c) In the case of a requisition requiring notice of a resolution, it needs to be deposited by them not less than six weeks before the meeting.
  - (d) In case of any other resolution, the same is to be deposited by them not less than two weeks before the meeting.
  - (e) A sum reasonably sufficient to meet the expenses to be incurred by Focus Limited in giving effect to proposing the resolution shall also be deposited by Prakash and his friends along with the requisition.

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- **13.** According to the provisions of section 138 of the Companies Act, 2013, read with Rule 13 of the Companies (Accounts) Rules, 2014, every private company having—
  - (A) turnover of 200 crore rupees or more during the preceding financial year; or
  - (B) outstanding loans or borrowings from banks or public financial institutions exceeding 100 crore rupees or more at any point of time during the preceding financial year.

shall be required to appoint an internal auditor which may be either an individual or a partnership firm or a body corporate.

Internal Auditor shall either be a Chartered Accountant or a Cost Accountant, or such other professional as may be decided by the Board to conduct internal audit of the functions and activities of the company.

The internal auditor may or may not be an employee of the company.

Thus, PQR Private Limited is required to appoint an internal auditor as the outstanding loans from public financial institutions during the year have exceeded 100 crore (irrespective of the fact that the outstanding loan during the year is 75 crore rupees).

Hence, the advice of CEO is not correct.

Internal Auditor may be any professional as decided by the Board and may be even an employee of the company. Hence, the Board of Directors may appoint Mr. Nagendra, an ex- employee who is a qualified Chartered Accountant, as an internal auditor.

14. According to first provision to section 137(1) of the Companies Act, 2013, where the financial statements are not adopted at Annual General Meeting (AGM) or adjourned AGM, such unadopted financial statements along with the required documents shall be filed with the Registrar within thirty days of the date of Annual General Meeting and the Registrar shall take them in his records as provisional till the financial statements are filed with him after their adoption in the adjourned Annual General Meeting for that purpose.

According to second proviso to section 137(1) of the Companies Act, 2013, financial statements adopted in the adjourned AGM shall be filed

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with the Registrar within thirty days of the date of such adjourned AGM with such fees or such additional fees as may be prescribed.

In the instant case, the accounts of Orange Limited were adopted at the adjourned AGM held on 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 and filing of financial statements with Registrar was done on 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 i.e. within 30 days of the date of adjourned AGM. However, Orange Limited has not filed its unadopted financial statements within 30 days of the date of the Annual General Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2023.

Hence, Orange Limited has not complied with the statutory requirement regarding filing of unadopted accounts with the Registrar, but has certainly complied with the provisions by filing of adopted accounts within the due date with the Registrar.

- **15. (i)** As per Rule 2(1)(e) of the Companies (Acceptance of Deposits) Rules, 2014, the term "eligible company" means a public company as referred to in section 76(1) of the Companies Act, 2013, which is 'eligible' to accept deposits from the public at large only if it meets the below-mentioned criteria. Accordingly:
  - It should be a public company.
  - It should have net worth of minimum ₹ 100 crore or a turnover of minimum ₹ 500 crore.
  - It has obtained the prior consent by means of a special resolution passed in general meeting.
  - The special resolution has been filed with the Registrar of Companies.
  - An ordinary resolution is sufficient if an eligible company is accepting deposits within the limits specified under section 180 (1) (c).

In the instant case, the turnover of NOP Limited is ₹ 510 crore, hence it is eligible to accept deposits from the public.

**Tenure for which Deposits can be Accepted:** A company is not permitted to accept or renew deposits (whether secured or unsecured) which is repayable on demand or in less than six

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months. Further, the maximum period of acceptance of deposit cannot exceed thirty-six months.

The tenure for the proposed deposits dated 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2024 which would be due for repayment on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2028, is not valid, as the maximum period of acceptance of deposit cannot exceed 36 months. Hence, it is not in compliance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013.

(ii) In terms of Rule 2(1)(c)(viii) of the Companies (Acceptance of Deposits) Rules, 2014, any amount received from a person who is director of the company at the time of giving loan to the company shall not be treated as deposit if such director furnishes to the company at the time of giving money, a written declaration to the effect that the amount is not being given out of funds acquired by him by borrowing or accepting loans or deposits from others and further, the company shall disclose the details of money so accepted in the Board's report.

In the given case, the said deposits by Mr. P Kishore shall not be treated as deposit.

- 16. Section 380 (3) of the Companies Act, 2013, provides that where any alteration is made or occurs in the documents delivered to the Registrar under section 380, the foreign company shall, within 30 days of such alteration, deliver to the Registrar for registration, a return containing the particulars of the alteration in the prescribed form. The Companies (Registration of Foreign Companies) Rules, 2014, has prescribed that the return containing the particulars of the alteration shall be filed along with prescribed fees. Accordingly, Fine Publishers is required to submit to the Registrar the full address of the new registered or principal office of the company by March 30, 2023.
- 17. A limited liability partnership is a body corporate formed and incorporated under the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008 and is a legal entity separate from that of its partners. The LLP itself will be liable for the full extent of its assets but the liability of the partners will be limited. Creditors of LLP shall be the creditors of LLP alone. In other words, creditors of LLP cannot claim from partners. The liability of the partners will be limited to their agreed contribution in the LLP. Hence,

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the creditors of ABC LLP are the creditors of ABC LLP only. Partners of LLP are not personally liable towards creditors. Thus, Mohit can not claim his deficiency of ₹ 3,00,000 from the partners of ABC LLP.

#### **PART II: OTHER LAWS**

- **18.** According to section 3(36) of the General Clauses Act 1897, 'Movable Property' shall mean property of every description, except immovable property. While section 3(26) provides, 'Immovable Property' shall include:
  - (i) Land,
  - (ii) Benefits to arise out of land, and
  - (iii) Things attached to the earth, or
  - (iv) Permanently fastened to anything attached to the earth.

In the given question, Yogveer Singh has sold mango orchard along with all the mango trees. In the lights of provisions of the Act, as trees are benefits arise out of the land and attached to the earth, hence, mango trees are immovable property.

19. It is the elementary principle that construction of a statute is to be made of all its parts taken together and not of one part only. The deed must be read as a whole in order to ascertain the true meaning of its several clauses, and the words of each clause should be so interpreted as to bring them into harmony with other provisions – if that interpretation does no violence to the meaning of which they are naturally susceptible. And the same approach would apply with equal force with regard to Acts and Rules passed by the legislature.

One of the safest guides to the construction of sweeping general words is to examine other words of like import in the same enactment or instrument to see what limitations must be imposed on them. If we find that a number of such expressions have to be subjected to limitations and qualifications and that such limitations and qualifications are of the same nature, that circumstance forms a strong argument for subjecting the expression in dispute to a similar limitation and qualification.

Example: If one section of an Act requires 'notice' should be given, then a verbal notice would generally be sufficient. But, if another section

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provides that 'notice' should be 'served' on the person or 'left' with him, or in a particular manner or place, then it would obviously indicate that a written notice was intended.

- 20. Under provisions of section 5 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 certain Rules have been made for drawal of Foreign Exchange for Current Account transactions. As per these Rules, Foreign Exchange for some of the Current Account transactions is prohibited. As regards some other Current Account transactions, Foreign Exchange can be drawn with prior permission of the Central Government while in case of some Current Account transactions, prior permission of Reserve Bank of India is required.
  - (i) Remittance out of lottery winnings is prohibited as the same is included in First Schedule to the Foreign Exchange Management (Current Account Transactions) Rules, 2000. Hence, Mr. Shivesh cannot withdraw Foreign Exchange for this purpose.
  - (ii) Foreign Exchange for meeting expenses of cultural tour can be withdrawn by any person after obtaining permission from Government of India, Ministry of Human Resources Development, (Department of Education and Culture) as prescribed in Second Schedule to the Foreign Exchange Management (Current Account Transactions) Rules, 2000. Hence, Mr. Shivesh can withdraw the Foreign Exchange after obtaining such permission.

In all the cases, where remittance of Foreign Exchange is allowed, either by general or specific permission, the remitter has to obtain the Foreign Exchange from an Authorised Person as defined in Section 2(c).

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