

Passage 1

Over the past weeks, the nation has witnessed a farmers' agitation unprecedented in its intensity and scale, against what are widely perceived as unjust farm laws enacted by the Central government. The sight of farmers peacefully voicing their conscientious opposition to these laws being subjected to tear gas shells and water cannons on a cold November night must shame the nation.

The use of the state's brute power against citizens exercising their fundamental right of peaceful protest represents the ugly face of a dysfunctional democracy. It is a painful reminder of the "Pagri sambhaal jatta" and the Champaran satyagraha moments led by Sardar Ajit Singh, the uncle of Shaheed Bhagat Singh and Mahatma Gandhi respectively, against the unjust agrarian laws imposed on a subject nation by the British colonialists. In reminding us that might without justice is tyrannical, these movements a century ago also provided the foundational basis of free India's republican charter.

[Excerpt from an Opinion by Ashwani Kumar is former Union minister for law and justice, The wire December 8 2020]

1. In the above passage, the author uses a/an ____ to strengthen his main point of the passage.
 - (a) Metaphor
 - (b) Analogy
 - (c) Personification
 - (d) None of the above
2. Which of the following must be true according to the above passage?
 - (a) Farmer protest can be abandoned by the central government.
 - (b) Protesting farmers are not supposed to oppose the farm as it is in larger interest.
 - (c) Protesting farmers are law abiding citizens.
 - (d) Few Protesting farmers does not seems to be law abiding citizens.
3. Which of the following conclusion can be properly drawn from the above informations?
 - (a) Farmers are well aware of the fact this protest won't be fruitful.
 - (b) If this protest becomes successful, it would strengthen the democratic values.
 - (c) Central government is seriously concerned about the farmers' financial condition.
 - (d) Both state and central government has failed to frame a policy in the interest of the farmers.

Passage 2

The indecent haste with which the divisive farm bills have been legislated into law raises several disquieting questions about the future of our parliamentary democracy. The voice of the opposition was suppressed and dissent against the Bills bludgeoned to ram through with their passage in both Houses of Parliament, without a meaningful debate. This has robbed the farm bills of their democratic and moral legitimacy. Clearly, any law in a functioning democracy that does not enjoy the un-coerced allegiance of the community and is imposed by a government indifferent to wounded societal sensitivities can have no claim to acceptance and obedience by the people. Mahatma's leadership of the freedom movement was anchored in this unquestionable premise.

That opposition to the Bills is widespread and spans the political spectrum is evident from the decisions of 15 political parties to support the farmers' cause and speaks for itself. The alienation of the dominant community in the country including in the border state of Punjab, which has for long borne the brunt of terrorism and insurgency sponsored by Pakistan, could destabilize peace in the state and could adversely impact national security.

At the heart of the farmers' opposition to the laws variously critiqued is the perceived dilution of the guaranteed minimum support price (MSP), linked with the survival, subsistence, economic security, and the dignity of the farming community. This is especially so in states like Punjab and Haryana where the *Mandi* system and MSP regime, now seen as threatened, have served their purpose.

The farmers' organizations view the Bills as a preliminary step towards corporatization of agriculture and the eventual withdrawal of the MSP regime as the logical next step. The rising input costs, it is felt, militate against the logic of better returns to the farmers in a non-regulated open market. Farmers are also apprehensive about the price discovery mechanism being left to the free play of markets. Restricted avenues for settlement of disputes and experiences with the dismantling of wholesale markets leading to the eventual depressing of farm incomes are other reasons for disquiet.

[Excerpt from an Opinion by Ashwani Kumar is former Union minister for law and justice, The wire December 8 2020]

4. Which of the following must be true in context of the above passage?
 - (a) MSP support is the sole reason of farmers protest.
 - (b) Opposition to the bill seems to have minor representation.
 - (c) Alienating Punjab and Haryana is the only way to suppress the protest.
 - (d) None of the above

5. Which of following reasoning techniques is being given by the author to in this phrase. "The alienation of the dominant community in the country including in the border state of Punjab, which has for long borne the brunt of terrorism and insurgency sponsored by Pakistan, could destabilize peace in the state and could adversely impact national security".
 - (a) Providing conditional evidence on which the truthfulness of conclusion depends.
 - (b) Providing conditional evidence on which the truthfulness of another premises depends.
 - (c) Pointing out flaw to refute the conclusion.
 - (d) Arguing about contradiction between premises and conclusion.

6. Which following conclusion would be true in context of the above passage?
 - (a) A circular definition of the opposition of the farm bill.
 - (b) An example of ineffectiveness of parliamentary democracy.
 - (c) An appeal to the office bearer to suppress the voice of dissent.
 - (d) An attack on ethical values of those who are in support if the protest.

7. "Clearly, any law in a functioning democracy that does not enjoy the un-coerced allegiance of the community and is imposed by a government indifferent to wounded societal sensitivities can have no claim to acceptance and obedience by the people"
Which of the following assumption can be made from the above passage?
 - (a) Being law abiding citizen farmers have no others choice.
 - (b) Being law abiding citizen farmers have a right to have different opinion.
 - (c) Being a law abiding citizen farmers have no right to oppose.
 - (d) Democracy is an inefficient system to run a nation.

Passage 3

The timing for the decay is particularly noteworthy as it erupts at a point when the country is embroiled with controversies surrounding 'love-jihad'. Love-jihad as a concept is nothing short of a figment of Hindutva imagination, based on unverified claims and utter lies, that perceives an imminent threat of Hindu girls being lured into marrying Muslim boys in the name of love, and eventually, getting converted. In fact, the draft ordinance, cleared by the Uttar Pradesh cabinet on 26 November prohibiting 'forceful interfaith conversions', also known as, love-jihad, is of little to no surprise.

This goes hand-in-glove with the government's new-found interests in OTT (Over-the-Top platforms) regulations. Last year in October the government made its intentions clear on promulgating a set of 'not to do' lists for the streaming platforms that include Netflix, Hotstar, Amazon Prime, as well as the digital news media.

On 11 November, in the absence of laws regulating these platforms, the government released a gazette notification to bring these platforms into the fold of the information and broadcasting ministry's jurisdiction.

While the government has not yet clarified exactly what awaits these platforms in the future, concerns over the looming censorship are both troubling and worrisome. Particularly, for platforms like Netflix that have in the past contributed to the contents critical to many facets of the Indian society, how much liberty they will be allowed in the future remains vague and questionable.

What is disconcerting is not so much the controversy surrounding Netflix per se, but an overall paradigm of Hindutva politics heralding a kind of 'cancel culture' that is regressive, to say the least.

As this brand of politics has engulfed the online space, how it pushes forth an authoritarian agenda and false propaganda is no secret. Thus, the caution remains over the domino effect of such a perilous online culture, entangled in the socio-political issues of contemporary India. Whether the 'real' (not manufactured troll army) netizens bandwagon for or against it, is going to determine the levels of online toxicity and its social implications in the days to come.

8. What role does the phrase "the caution remains over the domino effect of such a perilous online culture, entangled in the socio-political issues of contemporary India. Whether the 'real' (not manufactured troll army) netizens bandwagon for or against it, is going to determine the levels of online toxicity and its social implications in the days to come", in the overall passage.
- It acts as main conclusion of the passage.
 - It act as a primary evidence on which the main conclusion.
 - It acts an intermediate conclusion of the overall passage.
 - It act as a premise of the main conclusion
9. Which of the following must be true according to the above passage?
- Government treats both love jihad and issue of OTT on similar lines.
 - Government is completely affirmed what need to be done about OTT platforms.
 - Love jihad is concept which will drive the overall action being taken on OTT platform.
- Only I
 - Only II
 - Both I and II
 - None of these
10. Which of the following role does the "Hindu girl" play in the above passage?
- It acts as a illustration on which the OTT issue will be resolved.
 - It as a victim in the context of the passage.
 - It acts as a main point of the passage.
 - It act as main premise of the passage.
11. Which following assumption is being made by the author while he coins the term "cancel culture"
- Government believes that female population of particular faith an audience is being exploited.
 - Government believes that female population of particular faith an audience is being empowered.
 - Government believes that female population of particular faith an audience is being equipped according to modern needs.
 - All of the above
12. Which of follows the similar reasoning techniques that is being followed in the above passage.

-
- (a) Popularity of cricket has overshadowed the national game hockey, thereby cultivates foreign culture in kids.
 - (b) Pop culture should be preferred over boring Hindustani music as former gives new opportunities to kids.
 - (c) Even if football is global sport it should be given more importance over indigenous sports.
 - (d) None of the above.

