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Comprehension Test Questions for SBI Clerk Pre, IBPS Clerk Pre, LIC Assistant Pre and IBPS RRB Asst. Pre Exams.

Passage No. 156

Direction: Read the following passage carefully and answer the following questions.

Former Delhi Metro chief E. Sreedharan, popularly called Metro man for his contribution towards setting up the Delhi Metro, has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi asking him not to agree to the Delhi government's proposal to make travel free for women commuters.

The Aam Aadmi Party government in Delhi had recently announced its decision to give free travel facility to women passengers on buses and Metro trains. As the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation is an equal partnership between the Delhi government and the Centre, Mr. Sreedharan, a principal advisor to DMRC, said the Prime Minister's "personal intervention" was required.

"One shareholder cannot take a **unilateral** decision to give concession to one section of the community and push Delhi Metro into inefficiency and bankruptcy," he wrote in his letter of June 10. After being an instrumental part of the Delhi Metro since its inception, Mr. Sreedharan stepped down as managing director in 2011. He wrote that he had decided not to intervene in the working of the Delhi Metro after stepping down, but the Delhi government's decision had forced him to come forward.

"Sir, when the first section of the Delhi Metro was to be opened, I had taken a firm and conscious decision that no one would be given any travel concession on Delhi Metro. This stand was taken to maximize revenues so that Metro fares could be kept low so as to be **affordable** to ordinary citizens..." At the same time, Metro would make sufficient operational surpluses to pay back loans taken from JICA, Mr. Sreedharan wrote.

He recalled that the then Prime Minister Atal Bijari Vajpayee bought a ticket for himself when he went to inaugurate the first section of the Metro on December 23, 2002. "Now, if ladies are to be given free travel concession in Delhi Metro, it would set an alarming precedence for all other Metros in the country. The argument of Delhi Govt. that the revenue losses would be reimbursed to DMRC is a poor solace. The amount involved is about Rs. 1,000 crores per annum today. This will go on increasing as the Metro network expands and with further fare hikes on the Metro," he wrote.

He said other sections of commuters, including the "more deserving" like students, the disabled and senior citizens, as well as other Metros in the country would raise similar demands if Delhi's proposal for free travel for women becomes a reality.

Questions :

1. What has Mr Sreedharan written to the Prime Minister regarding the decision taken by the Delhi Government allowing free travel for women in metro trains?

- A. He has supported the decision and has asked the Prime Minister to replicate the same in all the other metro networks in the country.
- B. He has supported the move but he is not satisfied with the extent of relaxation being given by the Delhi Government.
- C. He has requested the Prime Minister to make sure that this decision is disapproved by the PM.
- D. He has requested the Prime Minister to reimburse the Delhi Metro for the losses it would incur due to the latest decision taken by it.
- E. None of the above

2. When did Mr Sreedharan quit as the Managing Director of Delhi Metro?

- A. 2012
- B. 2010
- C. 2013
- D. 2017
- E. 2011

3. What will the Delhi Government do in order to take care of the losses incurred by Delhi Metro due to free travel permission for women?

- A. The government will make sure that other commuters pay more amount so that there is no revenue shortfall.
- B. The government will make sure that nobody can travel without ticket so that fines can reimburse the loss.
- C. The government will reimburse the loss incurred by the Delhi Metro due to the decision of the government.
- D. The government has not taken any decision regarding the reimbursement of the losses incurred by the Delhi Metro for the decision to allow free travel to women commuters.
- E. None of the above

4. Which among the following is correct regarding the ownership pattern of the Delhi Metro as described in the given passage?

- A. It is an equal partnership between the Delhi Government and Uttar Pradesh Government as it covers areas of both.
- B. It is an equal partnership between the central government and the Delhi Government.
- C. It is wholly owned by Indian Railways and no central government ministry is involved in its general administration.
- D. It is wholly owned by the Delhi Government and foreign agencies have lent support to the government for it.
- E. None of the above



5. Which among the following is correct regarding the concerns raised by Mr Sreedharan regarding the decision taken by the Delhi Government?

- A. It is going to make sure that Delhi Metro is always crowded with women and this will actually increase crimes against them.
- B. It will be very difficult to make sure that male commuters use the metro network to go to work from now onwards.
- C. It will set a precedent for all the other metro networks operating in the country as similar demands will be raised there also.
- D. Both A and B
- E. All A, B and C

6. Which among the following gave loan for construction of Delhi Metro as described in the passage?

- A. The Government of India
- B. JICA
- C. World Bank
- D. International Monetary Fund
- E. World Economic Forum

7. Which among the following is SIMILAR in meaning to the word unilateral as used in the passage?

- A. Descent
- B. Ascending
- C. One-sided
- D. Assisted
- E. None of the above

8. Which among the following is OPPOSITE in meaning to the word affordable as used in the given passage?

- A. Reasonable
- B. Utility
- C. Thrifty
- D. Expensive
- E. None of the above

Correct Answers :

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	E	C	B	C	B	C	D

Explanations:

1. Refer to, **“Former Delhi Metro chief E. Sreedharan, popularly called Metro man for his contribution towards setting up the Delhi Metro, has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi asking him not to agree to the Delhi government’s proposal to make travel free for women commuters.”**

It is clear from the above lines that Mr E Sreedharan is not agreeing with the decision taken by the Delhi Government and he feels that it will affect the finances of Delhi Metro in the long run. Therefore he is not at all supporting this decision.

Among the given options, we can see that Option C is there that is making this point clear whereas all the others are not correct as per the information given in the passage. Therefore Option C is our pick whereas all the other options can be eliminated from consideration.

This makes Option C the correct choice among the given options.

2. Refer to, **“After being an instrumental part of the Delhi Metro since its inception, Mr. Sreedharan stepped down as managing director in 2011.”**

It is clear from the above quoted lines that Mr Sreedharan stepped down from the post of Managing Director of Delhi Metro in the year 2011 and now he is being forced to intervene due to the fact that the Delhi Government has taken a decision that will jeopardize the interest of the Delhi Metro.

Among the given options, we can see that Option E gives us the correct answer whereas all the others are incorrect as per the information given in the passage.

This makes Option E the correct choice among the given options.

3. Refer to, **“The argument of Delhi Govt. that the revenue losses would be reimbursed to DMRC is a poor solace. The amount involved is about Rs. 1,000 crores per annum today.”**

It is clear from the above lines that the revenue losses incurred by the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation will be reimbursed so that there is no revenue shortfall at all. Only Option C explains this fact correctly whereas all the others are out of context and hence can be eliminated from consideration.

This makes Option C the correct choice among the given options.



4. Refer to, **“As the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation is an equal partnership between the Delhi government and the Centre, Mr. Sreedharan, a principal advisor to DMRC, said the Prime Minister’s “personal intervention” was required.”**

So, it is clear that the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation is an equal participation between the Delhi Government and the Government of India. It is because of this reason Mr Sreedharan has written to the Prime Minister to intervene regarding the decision taken by the Delhi Government on unilateral basis.

Among the given options, we can easily pick our answer as Option B since it gives us the correct pattern of ownership between the two whereas others are completely out of context and hence should be eliminated.

This makes Option B the correct choice among the given options.

5. Refer to, **“He said other sections of commuters, including the “more deserving” like students, the disabled and senior citizens, as well as other Metros in the country would raise similar demands if Delhi's proposal for free travel for women becomes a reality.”**

It is clear from the above lines that similar demands for concession will be raised from other metro networks also in the country apart from the fact that other sections of the commuters such as students may also raise similar demands in the future. It will hurt the financial health of the metro network in the long run.

Statements A and B can be eliminated since they do not follow from the passage as there is no reference regarding the prevalence of crimes against women in the metros. Statement C follows from the passage and it is correct.

This makes Option C the correct choice among the given options.

6. Refer to, **“At the same time, Metro would make sufficient operational surpluses to pay back loans taken from JICA, Mr. Sreedharan wrote.”**

It is clear from the above lines that JICA gave loan to Delhi Metro for its construction and that is why the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation will have to repay the same to it. That is why Mr Sreedharan has expressed concern regarding the financial health of the Delhi Metro.

Among the given options, we can easily pick Option B as the correct answer since it gives us the correct financier of the Delhi Metro. Other options can be eliminated for being incorrect.

This makes Option B the correct choice among the given options.

7. The word *unilateral* has been used in the passage in the sense that the Delhi Government has taken a decision without discussing with the other stakeholder i.e. Government of India though both are equal stakeholders in the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation.

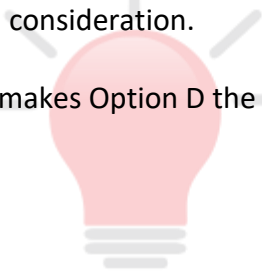
Among the given words, we can easily pick out the correct answer as *one sided* since it correctly explains the meaning of the given word. *Descent* means *an act of moving downward* whereas *ascending* is the opposite of the same. *Assisted* means *being helped* and that is why it is also not correct as the synonym of the given word.

This makes Option C the correct choice among the given options.

8. The word *affordable* has been used in the passage in the sense that the metro fares will be within the financial reach of the common people. That is why it was decided that no subsidy would be given to any class of commuters in the Delhi Metro.

Among the given options, *reasonable* and *thrifty* are synonyms to the given word whereas *utility* means *the ability to give service*. Only *expensive* is there that implies the opposite meaning of the given word. That is why our answer is Option D whereas the rest can be eliminated from consideration.

This makes Option D the correct choice among the given options.



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