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# Comprehension Test Questions for IBPS PO Pre, SBI PO Pre, SBI Clerk Mains, IBPS Clerk Mains and LIC AAO Exams.

## Passage No 139

**Direction: Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.**

The most striking feature of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address to the nation on the decision to scrap Articles 370 and 35A was its temporal focus: the future. This served to both fill the narrative with hope and skirt the messy political discord preceding and accompanying the decision to remove Jammu and Kashmir's special status.

He also held out the promise that J&K would make the transition from Union territory to full statehood, without setting a deadline for that change. He also made it clear that Ladakh's separation from what once was a kingdom of disparate regions would be permanent.

The speech carries forward the project of integrating the troubled state into the Indian mainstream by laying out before them an array of opportunities for building a new future for themselves and for the country as a whole.

The prime minister held out carrots aplenty, juicy ones. Better salaries and service conditions for civil servants and J&K policemen, an immediate flurry of jobs as the government moved to fill all vacancies, new scholarships and educational opportunities, new rights as full-fledged citizens of India and new jobs that Indian enterprises, State-owned and private, would create.

If a leader holds out a carrot, a stick cannot but be part of the package. But if the prime minister wielded one, it was not on display. He did refer to separatism and terror, but implicitly treated them as nothing more than bumps along the road to normalisation and return to statehood.

The detailed list of benefits and legal entitlements that the people of Jammu and Kashmir now stand to gain, governed as they would be by the Constitution and legal system of India, is likely to have the desired impact of shifting the spotlight on the benefits of the political change, from the costs that have been most obvious.

The prime minister did well to announce relaxation, as early as next Monday, when Eid would be celebrated, on the lockdown in place in the state. His call to the rest of India to join in rebuilding the state should rein in lumping temptation to target Kashmiris outside Kashmir.



**1. As per the passage, what was the effect of the most striking feature of the Prime Minister's address to the nation regarding the decision to scrap Articles 370 and 35A?**

- I. Help in having a debate regarding the pros and cons of scrapping the aforementioned articles
- II. Help in avoiding the dissonance that was caused due to the scrapping of the said articles
- III. Help in painting a picture of hope for the future.

- A. Only III                      B. Only I and III                      C. Only I                      D. Only II and III  
E. All I, II and III

**2. "If a leader holds out a carrot, a stick cannot but be part of the package" What is a carrot and stick policy?**

- A. Offering incentives to increase productivity
- B. Offering carrots roasted on a stick to increase strength
- C. Offering dieting which is difficult but produces good health
- D. Offering reward and threatening with punishment
- E. None of the above

**3. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?**

- I. Benefits given to the J&K residents have stolen the limelight from the cost.
- II. India is no longer under any threat from Pakistani terrorists.
- III. There was a lockdown in Jammu and Kashmir.

- A. Only II                      B. Only I                      C. Only I and II                      D. Only I and III  
E. All I, II and III

**4. Which of the following is/are not incentive(s) referred to in the passage ?**

- A. New scholarships and educational opportunities Three-fourth
- B. New rights as full-fledged citizens of India
- C. Better salaries and service conditions for civil servants
- D. Maternity leave for working women
- E. All of the above

**5. Which of the following statements is the author most likely to agree with?**

- A. Articles 370 and 35 A should not have been scrapped
- B. The prime minister made a mistake in addressing the issue.
- C. Separatism and terror are acting as invisible sticks.
- D. The incentives given out are not enough.
- E. None of the above

**Correct Answers**

<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
D	D	D	D	C



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## Explanations:

### 1. Refer to:

The most striking feature of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address to the nation on the decision to scrap Articles 370 and 35A was its temporal focus: the future. **This served to both fill the narrative with hope and skirt the messy political discord preceding and accompanying the decision to remove Jammu and Kashmir's special status.**

The highlighted portion validates the information given in statements II and III. Thus, statements II and III are correct. However, the address did nothing to encourage further debate regarding the pros and cons of scrapping the articles once the decision had been made. Hence, statement I is incorrect

Clearly, option D is the correct answer.

### 2. Carrot and stick (Idiom):

Meaning: A motivational tactic that uses a reward and punishment system to encourage improved performance or behaviour.

Example: Management dangled the carrot of a possible raise before strikers, but at the same time waved the stick of losing their pension benefits.

Hence, option D is the correct answer.

### 3. Statement I : Benefits given to the J&K residents have stolen the limelight from the cost.

#### Refer to:

The detailed list of benefits and legal entitlements that the people of Jammu and Kashmir now stand to gain, governed as they would be by the Constitution and legal system of India, is likely to have the desired impact of **shifting the spotlight on the benefits of the political change, from the costs that have been most obvious.**

The highlighted part of the passage validates statement I to be correct.

**Statement II :** India is no longer under any threat from Pakistani terrorists.

Pakistani terrorists have not been mentioned in the passage. Hence, statement II is invalid.

**Statement III :** There was a lockdown in Jammu and Kashmir.

#### Refer to:

The prime minister did well to **announce relaxation**, as early as next Monday, when Eid would be celebrated, **on the lockdown in place in the state.**

The highlighted part of the passage validates statement III to be correct.

Hence, option D is the correct answer.

**4. Refer to:**

The prime minister held out carrots aplenty, juicy ones. **Better salaries and service conditions for civil servants and J&K policemen, an immediate flurry of jobs as the government moved to fill all vacancies, new scholarships and educational opportunities, new rights as full-fledged citizens of India and new jobs that Indian enterprises, State-owned and private, would create.**

The highlighted part shows that apart from maternity leave, all other benefits have been mentioned in the passage.

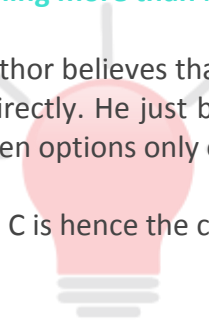
Clearly, option D is the correct answer.

**5. Refer to:**

If a leader holds out a carrot, a stick cannot but be part of the package. **But if the prime minister wielded one, it was not on display. He did refer to separatism and terror, but implicitly treated them as nothing more than bumps along the road to normalisation and return to statehood.**

The author believes that the Prime Minister was using a carrot and stick policy but was not showing the stick directly. He just brushed over the threats that were looming by mentioning them briefly. Out of the given options only option C can be a valid point which can be inferred from the passage.

Option C is hence the correct answer.



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