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Passage No 142

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

The Madras High Court on Friday granted 30 days of ordinary leave to S. Nalini, 52, a life convict in the former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's assassination case. The order was passed after she argued her case in person and made a **fervent** plea to the judges in a choked voice that she may be allowed to step out of prison for some days to make arrangements for the marriage of her daughter, who is residing in London.

Nalini had many years ago come out on short paroles of a day each to attend her brother Bhagyanathan's wedding and her father's last rites.

Justices M.M. Sundresh and M. Nirmal Kumar took judicial notice that the State Cabinet itself had on September 9 last year made a recommendation to the Governor to release all seven convicts in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case. "If, in the view of the government, the petitioner can be allowed to lead a normal life and she would not be a hindrance to the society, the request for leave can never be objected to," they said.

The judges also directed the State government to bear the expenses of providing escort to her during the period of leave since she expressed difficulty in paying the charges.

"There is no material to hold that she is a woman of means. Admittedly, she and her husband are in incarceration for decades. Asking the petitioner to pay the cost would in a way take away the very order passed by us when it is impossible of compliance," they said.

1. Why was S. Nalini sentenced to lifetime imprisonment by the judiciary of the country?

- A. She murdered a lot of people during her school days and that came out in the open later.
- B. She murdered her family out of mercy though her husband had left her for another woman before that.
- C. She did not do anything but the court was of the view that she could do something if left to fend for himself within the society.
- D. She was involved in the assassination of the former Prime Minister of India.
- E. None of the above



2. Which among the following is correct regarding the attitude of the State Government towards the sentence of life imprisonment given to S Nalini?

- A. The state government has nothing to say in the whole issue since the case was dealt with by the central government.
- B. The state government could not understand the fact that there was nothing wrong done by S Nalini many years ago.
- C. The State government is of the opinion that the sentence given to S Nalini can be remitted at once.
- D. The state government wants the convict to continue with the given sentence by the court for the crime committed by her.
- E. None of the above

3. Which among the following is/ are NOT correct, as per the given passage?

- I. This is the first time that S Nalini has been given the permission to come out on parole.
- II. S. Nalini has been granted the right to come out on parole to perform the last rites of her husband.
- III. S Nalini has no child and that is why she is not at all happy with the sentence.

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

4. Which among the following is/are correct regarding the observations of the Madras High Court regarding S Nalini?

- I. S Nalini is a very rich woman and that is why no monetary support is required to be given to her.
- II. S Nalini is a dreaded criminal and that is why she should be put behind the bars for life with no chance at any kind of reformation.
- III. S Nalini has intentionally jeopardized her relationship with her husband and that is why she should be punished for that.

- A. Both I and II
- B. Both II and III
- C. Both I and III
- D. Only III
- E. None of I, II and III

5. Which among the following would be similar in meaning to the word *Fervent* as used in the passage?

- A. Ardent
- B. Vehement
- C. Feeling
- D. Pragmatic
- E. None of the above

Correct Answers :

1	2	3	4	5
D	C	E	E	A

Explanations:

1. Refer to, **“The Madras High Court on Friday granted 30 days of ordinary leave to S. Nalini, 52, a life convict in the former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi’s assassination case.”**

Among the given options, we can see that our answer is described in Option D whereas all the other options are incorrect as per the given information in the passage.

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

2. Refer to, **“Justices M.M. Sundresh and M. Nirmal Kumar took judicial notice that the State Cabinet itself had on September 9 last year made a recommendation to the Governor to release all seven convicts in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case.”**

It is the case that the state government already moved a petition to free all the seven prisoners in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case implying that they have no issue with the rest of the sentence getting remitted by the competent authority. Among the given options, we can see that Option C is our pick whereas others are not correct as per the given information given in the passage.

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

3. Statement I is not correct for the fact that S Nalini has been given the permission to come out on parole for the third time as she was given the permission twice before also. Refer to, **“Nalini had many years ago come out on short paroles of a day each to attend her brother Bhagyanathan’s wedding and her father’s last rites.”**

Statement II is also not correct for the fact that S Nalini has been released on parole in order to attend her daughter’s wedding and to make arrangements for the marriage. Her daughter is staying in London. Refer to, **“The order was passed after she argued her case in person and made a fervent plea to the judges in a choked voice that she may be allowed to step out of prison for some days to make arrangements for the marriage of her daughter, who is residing in London.”**

Statement III is also not correct for the fact that it is already said that S Nalini has a daughter and that easily makes this particular statement incorrect.

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

4. Statement I is not correct because the Madras HC has observed that S Nalini is a woman of no means since she does not have any regular source of income. That is why the court has asked the state to bear the expenses of her security during the parole. Refer to, “The judges also directed the State government to bear the expenses of providing escort to her during the period of leave since she expressed difficulty in paying the charges. “There is no material to hold that she is a woman of means.....” they said.

Statement II is not correct for the fact that the first part seems to be correct since S Nalini was sentenced to life imprisonment by the courts for assassination of our former PM Rajiv Gandhi but it is nowhere referred to in the passage that she should not be given any chance to reform herself.

Statement III is also not correct because the court has held that there is no relation between S Nalini and her husband but there is no reference that she is the reason behind it.

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

5. The word *fervent* has been used in the passage in the sense that S Nalini made a very passionate plea that she wanted to attend the marriage of her daughter staying in London. The plea was heartfelt and obviously an emotional one and the court granted her permission to come out on parole for the preparations of the wedding. Among the given options, *ardent* can be used as the word similar in meaning for the given word as used in the passage. The other words *vehement* and *feeling* can also be used as similar in meaning but they are not fitting in this context. *Pragmatic* implies *practical and sensible approach to something*.

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





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