



J.K. SHAH[®]
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INTERMEDIATE M'19 EXAM

SUBJECT- LAW

Test Code – PIN 5057

BRANCH - () (Date :)

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ANSWER-1

(30*1 = 30 MARKS)

1. D
2. A
3. A
4. FALSE
5. NO DUES LETTER
6. 25%
7. FALSE
8. TRUE
9. FALSE
10. TRUE
11. C
12. C
13. D
14. C
15. C
16. D
17. B
18. 3 years, 10 years
19. 6 months
20. FALSE
21. A
22. FALSE
23. 10,00,000/-
24. SECURED
25. 9 months
26. B
27. D
28. B
29. A
30. True

ANSWER-2

ANSWER-A

In accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, as contained under section **134 (1), the financial statements, including consolidated financial statement, if any, shall be approved by the Board of Directors before they are signed on behalf of the Board by at least :**

- (1) The Chairperson of the company where he is authorized by the Board; or
- (2) Two directors out of which one shall be the managing director and
- (3) The other Chief Executive Officer, if he is a director in the company
- (4) The Chief Financial Officer and the Company Secretary of the company, wherever they are appointed.

In case of a One Person Company, the financial statements shall be signed by only one director, for submission to the auditor for his report thereon.

The Board's report and annexures thereto shall be signed by its Chairperson of the company, if he is authorized by the Board and where he is not so authorized, shall be signed by at least two directors one of whom shall be a managing director or by the director where there is one director.

(4 MARKS)

- (i) In the given case, the Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Account have been signed by Mr. X and Mr. Y, the directors. In view of the provisions of Section 134 (1), the Managing Director Mr. D should be one of the two signatories. Since the company has also employed a full time Secretary, he should also sign the Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Account. Therefore, authentication done by two directors is not valid.
- (ii) In case of OPC, the financial statements should be signed by one director and hence, the authentication is in order.

(2* 1 = 2 MARKS)

ANSWER-B

As per **Section 44 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881**, when the consideration for which a person signed a promissory note, bill of exchange or cheque consisted of money, and was originally absent in part or has subsequently failed in part, the sum which a holder standing in immediate relation with such signer is entitled to receive from him is proportionally reduced.

Explanation—The drawer of a bill of exchange stands in immediate relation with the acceptor. The maker of a promissory note, bill of exchange or cheque stands in immediate relation with the payee, and the endorser with his endorsee. Other signers may by agreement stand in immediate relation with a holder.

On the basis of above provision, P would succeed to recover Rs. 7,000 only from Q and not the whole amount of the bill because it was accepted for value as to Rs. 7,000 only and an accommodation to P for Rs. 3,000.

(4 MARKS)

ANSWER-3

ANSWER-A

Section 83 of the Companies Act, 2013 provides powers to the registrar to make entries with respect to the satisfaction and release of charges where no intimation has been received by him from the company.

- (i) The Registrar may, on evidence being given to his satisfaction with respect to any registered charge,—
 - (a) that the debt for which the charge was given has been paid or satisfied in whole or in part; or
 - (b) that part of the property or undertaking charged has been released from the charge or has ceased to form part of the company's property or undertaking,
- enter in the register of charges a memorandum of satisfaction in whole or in part, or of the fact that part of the property or undertaking has been

released from the charge or has ceased to form part of the company's property or undertaking, as the case may be, despite the fact that no intimation has been received by him from the company.

- (ii) The Registrar shall inform the affected parties within thirty days of making the entry in the register of charges kept under section 81(1).

According to the *Companies (Registration of Charges) Rules, 2014* with respect to the satisfaction of charge –

- (1) A company shall within a period of thirty days from the date of the payment or satisfaction in full of any charge registered, give intimation of the same to the Registrar along with the fee.
- (2) Where the Registrar enters a memorandum of satisfaction of charge in full in pursuance of section 82 or 83, he shall issue a certificate of registration of satisfaction of charge.

(6 MARKS)

ANSWER-B

Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013 deals with the formation of companies which are formed to promote the charitable objects of commerce, art, science, education, sports etc. Such company intends to apply its profit in promoting its objects. Section 8 companies are registered by the Registrar only when a license is issued by the Central Government to them. Since, Alfa School was a Section 8 company and it had started violating the objects of its objective clause, hence in such a situation the following powers can be exercised by the Central Government:

(1.5 MARKS)

- (i) The Central Government may by order revoke the licence of the company where the company contravenes any of the requirements or the conditions of this sections subject to which a licence is issued or where the affairs of the company are conducted fraudulently, or violative of the objects of the company or prejudicial to public interest, and on revocation the Registrar shall put 'Limited' or 'Private Limited' against the company's name in the register. But before such revocation, the Central Government must give it a written notice of its intention to revoke the licence and opportunity to be heard in the matter.

(2 MARKS)

- (ii) Where a licence is revoked, the Central Government may, by order, if it is satisfied that it is essential in the public interest, direct that the company be wound up under this Act or amalgamated with another company registered under this section.

However, no such order shall be made unless the company is given a reasonable opportunity of being heard.

(1 MARK)

- (iii) Where a licence is revoked and where the Central Government is satisfied that it is essential in the public interest that the company registered under this section should be amalgamated with another company registered under this section and having similar objects, then, notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Act, the Central Government may, by order, provide for such amalgamation to form a single company with such constitution, properties, powers, rights, interest, authorities and

privileges and with such liabilities, duties and obligations as may be specified in the order.

(1.5 MARKS)

ANSWER-C

Alteration in Articles of Association: Section 14 of the Companies Act, 2013, vests companies with power to alter or add to its articles. The law with respect to alteration of articles is as follows:

- (1) **Alteration by special resolution:** Subject to the provisions of this Act and the conditions contained in its memorandum, if any, a company may, by a special resolution alter its articles.
- (2) **Filing of alteration with the registrar:** Every alteration of the articles and a copy of the order of the Tribunal approving the alteration, shall be filed with the Registrar, together with a printed copy of the altered articles, within a period of fifteen days in such manner as may be prescribed, who shall register the same.
- (3) **Any alteration made shall be valid:** Any alteration of the articles registered as above shall, subject to the provisions of this Act, be valid as if it were originally contained in the articles.
- (4) **Alteration noted in every copy:** Every alteration made in articles of a company shall be noted in every copy of the articles, as the case may be. If a company makes any default in complying with the stated provisions, the company and every officer who is in default shall be liable to a penalty of one thousand rupees for every copy of the articles issued without such alteration. **[Section 15]**

(4*1 = 4 MARKS)

ANSWER-D

Principles of Grammatical Interpretation and Logical Interpretation : In order to ascertain the meaning of any law/ statute the principles of Grammatical and Logical Interpretation is applied to **conclude the real meaning of the law and the intention of the legislature behind enacting it.**

Meaning : Grammatical interpretation concerns itself exclusively with the **verbal expression of law.** It does not go beyond the letter of the law, whereas Logical interpretation on the other hand, seeks more satisfactory evidence of the true intention of the legislature.

Application of the principles in the court : In all ordinary cases, the grammatical interpretation is the sole form allowable. The court cannot delete or add to modify the letter of the law. However, where the letter of the law is logically defective on account of ambiguity, inconsistency or incompleteness, the court is under a duty to travel beyond the letter of law so as to determine the true intentions of the legislature. So that a statute is enforceable at law, however, unreasonable it may be. The duty of the court is to administer the law as it stands rather it is just or unreasonable.

However, if there are two possible constructions of a clause, the courts may prefer the logical construction which emerges from the setting in which the clause appears and the circumstances in which it came to be enacted and also the words used therein.

(4 MARKS)

ANSWER-4

ANSWER-A

(i) According to section 103 of the Companies Act, 2013, unless the articles of the company provide for a larger number in case of a public company, five members personally present if the number of members as on the date of meeting is not more than one thousand, shall be the quorum.

In this case the quorum for holding a general meeting is 7 members to be personally present (higher of 5 or 7). For the purpose of quorum, only those members are counted who are entitled to vote on resolution proposed to be passed in the meeting.

Again, only members present in person and not by proxy are to be counted. Hence, proxies whether they are members or not will have to be excluded for the purposes of quorum.

If a company is a member of another company, it may authorize a person by resolution to act as its representative at a meeting of the latter company, then such a person shall be deemed to be a member present in person and counted for the purpose of quorum. Where two or more companies which are members of another company, appoint a single person as their representative then each such company will be counted as quorum at a meeting of the latter company.

Further the President of India or Governor of a State, if he is a member of a company, may appoint such a person as he thinks fit, to act as his representative at any meeting of the company. A person so appointed shall be deemed to be a member of such a company and thus considered as member personally present.

In view of the above there are only three members personally present.

'A' will be included for the purpose of quorum. D will have two votes for the purpose of quorum as he represents two companies 'Y Ltd.' and 'Z Ltd.' E, F, G and H are not to be included as they are not members but representing as proxies for the members.

Thus, it can be said that the requirements of quorum has not been met and it shall not constitute a valid quorum for the meeting.

(5 MARKS)

(ii) Under section 105 (8) of the Companies Act, 2013 every member entitled to vote at a meeting of the company, or on any resolution to be moved thereat, shall be entitled during the period beginning twenty-four hours before the time fixed for the commencement of the meeting and ending with the conclusion of the meeting,

to inspect the proxies lodged, at any time during the business hours of the company, provided not less than three days' notice in writing of the intention so to inspect is given to the company.

In the given case, Sirhj has given proper notice.

However, such inspection can be undertaken only during the period beginning 24 hours before the time fixed for the commencement of the meeting and ending with the conclusion of the meeting. So, Sirhj can undertake the inspection only during the above mentioned period and not two days prior to the meeting.

(3 MARKS)

ANSWER-B

Section 40 (6) of the Companies Act 2013, provides that a company may pay commission to any person in connection with the subscription or procurement of subscription to its securities, whether absolute or conditional, subject to the a number of conditions which are prescribed under *Companies (Prospectus and Allotment of Securities) Rules, 2014*. In relation to the case given, the conditions applicable under the above Rules are as under:

- (a) The payment of such commission shall be authorized in the company's articles of association;
- (b) The commission may be paid out of proceeds of the issue or the profit of the company or both;
- (c) The rate of commission paid or agreed to be paid shall not exceed, in case of shares, five percent (5%) of the price at which the shares are issued or a rate authorised by the articles, whichever is less, and in case of debentures, shall not exceed two and a half per cent (2.5 %) of the price at which the debentures are issued, or as specified in the company's articles, whichever is less;

Thus, the Underwriting commission is limited to 5% of issue price in case of shares and 2.5% in case of debentures. The rates of commission given above are maximum rates. In view of the above, the decision of Unique Builders Ltd. to pay underwriting commission exceeding 2% as prescribed in the Articles is invalid.

The company may pay the underwriting commission in the form of flats as both the Companies Act and the Rules do not impose any restriction on the mode of payment though the source has been restricted to either the proceeds of the issue or profits of the company.

(6 MARKS)

ANSWER-C

(i) The given problem is based on the proviso provided in the section 127 (d) of the Companies Act, 2013. As per the law where the dividend is declared by a company and there remains calls in arrears and any other sum due from a member, in such case no offence shall be deemed to have been committed where the dividend has been lawfully adjusted by the company against any sum due to it from the shareholder.

As per the facts given in the question, Mr. A is holding equity shares of face value of Rs. 10 Lakhs and has not paid an amount of Rs. 1 lakh towards call money on shares. Referring to the above provision, Mr. A is eligible to get Rs. 1.20 lakh towards dividend, out of which an amount of Rs. 1 lakh can be adjusted towards call money due on his shares. Rs. 20,000 can be paid to him in cash or by cheque or in any electronic mode.

(3 MARKS)

(ii) According to section 123(5), dividend shall be payable only to the registered shareholder of the share or to his order or to his banker. Facts in the given case state that Ms. N, the holder of equity shares transferred the shares to Mr. R whose name has been registered on 20th May 2017. Since, he became the registered shareholder before the declaration of the dividend in the Annual general meeting of the company held on 20th September 2017, so, Mr. R will be entitled to the dividend.

(3 MARKS)

ANSWER-5

ANSWER-A

Auditor acts in a fraudulent manner or abetted or colluded in any fraud [Section 140(5) of the Companies Act, 2013]

- (i) **On satisfaction of Tribunal that the auditor of a company has acted in a fraudulent manner etc.:** Without prejudice to any action under the provisions of this Act or any other law for the time being in force, the Tribunal either suo moto or on an application made to it by the Central Government or by any person concerned, if it is satisfied that the auditor of a company has, whether directly or indirectly, acted in a fraudulent manner or abetted or colluded in any fraud by, or in relation to, the company or its directors or officers, it may, by order, direct the company to change its auditors.
- (ii) **Requirement for change of auditor:** If the application is made by the Central Government and the Tribunal is satisfied that any change of the auditor is required, it shall within fifteen days of receipt of such application, make an order that he shall not function as an auditor and the Central Government may appoint another auditor in his place.

(2*2 = 4 MARKS)

ANSWER-B

Section 146 of the Companies Act, 2013 provides for auditors to attend general meeting. According to this section:

- (i) All notices of, and other communications relating to, any general meeting shall be forwarded to the auditor of the company.
- (ii) The auditor shall, unless otherwise exempted by the company, attend either by himself or through his authorised representative, who shall also be qualified to be an auditor, any general meeting.
- (iii) The auditor shall have right to be heard at such meeting on any part of the business which concerns him as the auditor.

(4 MARKS)

ANSWER-C

Meaning of rule Harmonious Construction: When there is doubt about the meaning of the words of a statute, these should be understood in the sense in which they harmonise with the subject of the enactment and the object which the legislature had in view. Where there are in an enactment two or more provisions which cannot be reconciled with each other, they should be so interpreted, wherever possible, as to give effect to all of them. This is what is known as the Rule of Harmonious Construction.

It must always be borne in mind that a statute is passed as a whole and not in sections and it may well be assumed to be animated by one general purpose and intent. The Court's duty is to give effect to all the parts of a statute, if possible. But this general principle is meant to guide the courts in furthering the intent of the legislature, not overriding it.

Application of the Rule: The Rule of Harmonious Construction is applicable only when there is a real and not merely apparent conflict between the provisions of an Act, and one of them has not been made subject to the other. When after having construed their

context the words are capable of only a single meaning, the rule of harmonious construction disappears and is replaced by the rule of literal construction.

(6 MARKS)

ANSWER-D

“Eligible company” means a public company as referred to in sub-section (1) of section 76, having a net worth of not less than one hundred crore rupees or a turnover of not less than five hundred crore rupees and which has obtained the prior consent of the company in general meeting by means of a special resolution and also filed the said resolution with the Registrar of Companies before making any invitation to the Public for acceptance of deposits :

However, an eligible company, which is accepting deposits within the limits specified under clause (c) of sub-section (1) of section 180, may accept deposits by means of an ordinary resolution.

An eligible company shall accept or renew any deposit from its members, if the amount of such deposit together with the amount of deposits outstanding as on the date of acceptance or renewal of such deposits from members exceeds ten per cent. of the aggregate of the Paid-up share capital, free Reserves and securities premium account of the company.

ABC Limited is having a net worth of 120 crore rupees. Hence, it can fall in the category of eligible company.

Thus, ABC has to ensure that acceptance deposits from members should not exceed 10% of the aggregate of the Paid-up share capital, free Reserves and securities premium account of the company.

(6 MARKS)

ANSWER-6

ANSWER-A

Under Section 118 (5) of the Companies Act, 2013, there shall not be included in the Minutes of a meeting, any matter which, in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting :

- (i) is or could reasonably be regarded as defamatory of any person;
- (ii) is irrelevant or immaterial to the proceeding; or
- (iii) is detrimental to the interests of the company;

Further, under section 118(6) the chairman shall exercise absolute discretion in regard to the inclusion or non-inclusion of any matter in the Minutes on the grounds specified in sub-section (5) above.

Hence, in view of the above, the contention of Mukesh, a shareholder of Alpha Limited is not valid because the Chairman has absolute discretion on the inclusion or exclusion of any matter in the minutes for aforesaid reasons.

(4 MARKS)

ANSWER-B

The Companies Act, 2013 under section 13 provides for the process of altering the Memorandum of a company. Since the location or Registered Office clause in the Memorandum only names the state in which its registered office is situated, a change in address from Mumbai to Pune, does not result in the alteration of the Memorandum and hence the provisions of section 13 (and its sub sections) do not apply in this case.

However, under section 12 (5) of the Act which deals with the registered office of company, the change in registered office from one town or city to another in the same state, must be approved by a special resolution of the company. Further, presuming that the Registrar will remain the same for the whole state of Maharashtra, there will be no need for the company to seek the confirmation to such change from the Regional Director.

(4 MARKS)

ANSWER-C

According to section 154 of the Indian Contract Act, 1872, if the bailee makes any use of the goods bailed, which is not according to the conditions of the bailment, he is liable to make compensation to the bailor for any damage arising to the goods from or during such use of them.

Hence, Bimal is liable to make compensation to Amit for the injury done to the horse.

(4 MARKS)

ANSWER-D

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.

Hence, in the given question, SEBI (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) (Fifth Amendment) Regulations, 2015 shall come into enforcement on 1st January, 2016 rather than the date of its notification in the gazette.

(2 MARKS)

ANSWER-E

- (i) Section 139(6) of the Companies Act, 2013 lays down that the first auditor of a company shall be appointed by the Board of Directors within 30 days of the registration of the company.

Section 139 (6) continues to provide further that if the Board of Directors fails to appoint such auditor, it shall inform the members of the company, who shall within ninety days at an extraordinary general meeting appoint such auditor and such auditor shall hold office till the conclusion of the first annual general meeting.

From the above provisions of law if the Board of Directors fails to appoint the first auditors within the stipulated 30 days, it shall take the following steps:

- a. Inform the members of the Company;
- b. Immediately take steps to convene an extra ordinary general meeting not later than 90 days;
- c. Members shall at that extra ordinary meeting appoint the first auditors of the

company;

- d. The first auditors so appointed shall hold office upto the conclusion of the first AGM of the company.

(3 MARKS)

- (ii) **Section 140 of the Companies Act, 2013 prescribes certain procedure for removal of auditors.** Under section 140 (1) the auditor appointed under section 139 may be removed from his office before the expiry of his term only by a special resolution of the company, after obtaining the previous approval of the Central Government in that behalf in the prescribed manner. From this sub section it is clear that the approval of the Central Government shall be taken first and thereafter the special resolution of the company should be passed.

Provided that before taking any action under this sub-section, the auditor concerned shall be given a reasonable opportunity of being heard.

Therefore, in terms of section 140 (1) of the Companies Act, 2013 read with rule 7 of the Companies (Audit & Auditors) Rules, 2014 the following steps should be taken for the removal of an auditor before the completion of his term :

- a. The application to the Central Government for removal of auditor shall made in Form ADT-2 and shall be accompanied with fees as provided for this purpose under the Companies (Registration Offices and Fees) Rules, 2014
- b. The application shall be made to the Central Government within thirty days of the resolution passed by the Board.
- c. The company shall hold the general meeting within sixty days of receipt of approval of the Central Government for passing the special resolution.

(3 MARKS)