The best thing that has happened to sports in India in a long, long time — longer perhaps than many of us have existed on this planet — is the laudably idealistic yet remarkably pragmatic intervention of the Supreme Court into Wild West territory — the landscape of cricket administration.

So much of what the well-meaning lay people have expected of the men who control sports has been trampled under mercilessly and maliciously, that a good majority of sports lovers in the country have found refuge in nihilism and come to believe that nothing will change in the state of affairs.

When you think that something has been transformed for the better, very soon you realize it is nothing more than chimerical and it might be foolish and useless to bravely make your way through the haze.

If sports politics is even more Machiavellian than Indian politics in general, then that should come as no surprise. For we resign ourselves to the fact that sport is not a matter quite as important as electing the country’s Prime Minister.

But just when we thought that it is a tunnel without an end, the Supreme Court, headed by its upstanding, noble Chief Justice Mr. T.S. Thakur (who retired recently) has offered us a sliver of hope here or there — in fact much, much more than what we may have come to expect 70 years after the country’s Independence.

A popular, veteran Indian sportsperson, who tried to get into the administration of his sport not long ago, put it succinctly the other day when I asked him what was wrong with sports administration in the country at a time when the nation’s richest, and perhaps one of the world’s wealthiest sports bodies, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), was making front-page news for all the wrong reasons every day.

“You tell me what is right with it. It stinks. I shudder to think that such mismanagement, corruption, nepotism and chaos can exist in 2017,” he said. Most well-meaning people in the world of sports, when asked the same question, not surprisingly come up with the same answer: “a total lack of professionalism.”

This is an over-arching judgment that seems to ignore the nuts and bolts of everyday affairs in major sports in the country. From experts down to lay fans, almost everybody has an opinion on why such a huge nation should not be among the leading performers in the world of sport. Infrastructure, money, attitude, culture...you can think of dozens of reasons why India does not stand tall in the world of sport.

Says Joaquim Carvalho, Olympian and hockey administrator “Sports governance in India lacks transparency and accountability. Most officials are not passionate about sports at all. They use this platform to keep themselves in the news and also indulge in corruption. “I have a poor impression of
sports governance because I have seen these officials as a player and later I as someone connected with the conduct of the game. They have vested interest and development of sport is never a priority for them. Basically, it helps them stay in the news, build connections and enjoy junkets. Sports governance in India is absolutely unprofessional."

While it will be unfair to make a sweeping generalization — there are a few sports that benefit from modern management where the administration is totally transparent in its business. But most are besmirched by feudal attitudes where the top guys have been the same since the days of your childhood, and they appear to claim ownership rights over their ‘property.’

‘Honorary’ positions are not ones manned by individuals with perfectly altruistic intentions. To even expect it is ridiculous. Even saints do what they do to get into the good books of the big, all-knowing, all-powerful man up there.

There is a flip side to all this. Adille Sumariwala, IAAF executive council member and president, Athletics Federation of India, says, “Sports is on the upward swing in India. Television and the leagues in virtually all sports have increased the fan following. Children know the names of kabaddi players, not only cricketers. Television has brought sports to people, there is more awareness. It’s a matter of time before sports emerges much stronger. There are opportunities to make sport a career in life. And so sports is on the upswing’.

But here is the catch. Do we have honest officials with a long-term goal in mind? It is indeed boom-time in Indian sports. But the launching pads, corporate support and fans’ enthusiasm may quickly evaporate if the quality of administration remains the same.

How many of our present sports administrators come in with a clear mandate and then move forward stridently to carry it out? Do they go through the same strict annual evaluation process as do brilliant business school graduates?

Success as sports administrators demands a few basic skills in areas such as communication, organization, decision making, value system and team building. “Indian sports administrators are special. I must admit that. They are in a category of their own,” said the late Peter Roebuck, my best friend among foreign journalists visiting India frequently, during one of our post dinner conversations.

What Roebuck referred to was mainly cricket but he was curious enough to want to know more and more about other sports. Leadership skills can be either cultivated or learned but the men and women who run our sports are keen on only one thing — staying where they are with a great love for being in the spotlight.

How many times have we seen sports bosses appearing prominently in photographs of athletes who return after world-beating success at airports across the country? Long ago, a top Indian sportsman returning after winning the world championship told me something that was shocking. I asked him who the gentleman who was hugging him in the front page of a leading Indian English language paper? “I swear, I have never seen the guy before,” he said of a man who was a senior administrator in the sport.
Of course, the nameless one is part of the Forever Men club.

Q.1 Which among the following can be attributed as the central theme of the passage?

a. Indian cricket administration is not in very efficient hands and that is why it is going to affect sports administration very much

b. Indian cricket administration is going to be more professional in the days to come

c. Sports administration needs to be taught as a course as it needs serious efficiency on the part of the persons responsible

d. Sports administration can never be changed in the country until and unless everybody becomes serious about sports

e. None of the above

Ans: c

Q.2 Which among the following does not contradict the view of the author regarding the solution to the current problem of sports administration in India?

1. The sports fraternity should be made administrators as they understand the game the best

2. The sports ministry should be disbanded with since there should be no government interference in sports in our country

3. The sports management should be made a professional subject in the academic curriculum of the country

a. Both 1 and 2

b. Both 1 and 3

c. Only 2

d. Only 4

e. All the above

Ans: d

Q.3 Which among the following is the main problem of sports management in our country according to the passage?

1. The sports administration in our country is only attentive towards a certain number of games

2. The sports administration does not understand the welfare of the game but is only interested in serving themselves
3. The sports administration is negligent about the sports they are heading and does not even have any long term planning

a. Both 1 and 3
b. Both 2 and 3
c. Both 1 and 2
d. All the above
e. None of the above

Ans: b

Q.4. Which among the following is NOT TRUE in the context of the passage?

a. The sports administration posts in our country do not carry any financial incentive in our country
b. The sports administrators are very poor with respect to their counterparts in other countries
c. The sports administration has strong political connections and that is why they are in the throne for years without any challenge
d. Both (a) and (c)
e. Both (b) and (c)

Ans: e

Q5. Which among the following can be a title for the passage apart from the given one?

a. Sports administration taking a backseat in our country
b. Sports is important but to what extent
c. Sports management is more important that athletic expertise
d. Sports management is the way forward for professional management of sports in the country
e. Other than those given in options

Ans: d

Q6. Which among the following, according to the passage, describes the pathetic attitude of sports administrators towards the game, in our country?

a. The sports bodies do not know the way to go forward in case of any innovative planning
b. The sports administrators and the players are not even in touch properly
c. The sports bodies do not have enough knowledge about the welfare of the sportspersons they are supposed to take care of

d. The sports administrators are arm chair critics who never do anything for development of sports in the country

e. Other than those given in options

Ans: b

Q7. Which among the following is SIMILAR in meaning to the word pragmatic as used in the passage?

a. Sensible

b. Realistic

c. Ballistic

d. Hot-headedness

e. None of the above

Ans: b

Q8. Which among the following is SIMILAR in meaning to the word laudably as used in the passage?

a. Readily

b. Justly

c. Properly

d. Appreciatively

e. None of the above

Ans: b

Q9. Which among the following is OPPOSITE in meaning to the word nihilism as used in the passage?

a. Approval

b. Appreciation

c. Praise

d. Alteration

e. Altercation
Q10. Which among the following is OPPOSITE in meaning to the word Chimerical as used in the passage?

a. Sensitive  
b. Absurd  
c. Fanciful  
d. Realistic  
e. Romantic  

Ans: d

Directions (11-15): Read the following Passage, and answer the questions based on this passage.

The internet has become the integral part of today’s generation of people; from communicating through instant messages and emails to banking, travelling, studying and shopping, internet has touched every aspect of life. With the growing use of the internet by people, protecting important information has become a necessity. A computer that is not having appropriate security controls can be infected with malicious logic and thus any type of information can be accessed in moments. Number of infected Web Pages and malicious websites can be seen every day that infects the computer and allow hackers to gain illegal access to other computer systems. Hacking of important data, network outages, computer viruses and other cyber related threats affect our lives that range from minor inconvenience to serious incidents. Cyber threats can be caused due to negligence and vulnerabilities, or unintentional accidents. The main objectives of such type of system attackers or hackers are to steal confidential information, to make illegal monetary transactions, to destroy or to change data and the like. System attackers can be terrorists, crackers or recreational hackers. They have a variety of tools that can harm or infect the computer; usually they use malicious logic or virus to gain unauthorized access to a computer. Opening email attachments that carry the virus, clicking malicious links or websites or unintentionally downloading a dangerous program are common ways through which a computer can be infected and data can be stolen. As the number of data networks, digital applications, as well as internet and mobile users are growing, so do the chances of cyber exploitation and cyber crimes. Even a small mistake in securing data or bad social networking can prove to be extremely dangerous. If accounts are not properly secured, it makes easier for hackers or unauthorized users to spread viruses or social engineered attacks that are designed to steal data and even money. Such types of issues highlight the need for cyber security as an essential approach in protecting and preventing data from being used inappropriately.

In simple language, Cyber Security or Information technology security means protecting data, networks, programs and other information from unauthorized or unintended access, destruction or change. It encompasses all the mechanisms and processes that protect digital equipment, information and records from illegal or unintended access, manipulation or destruction. In today’s dynamic environment, cyber security has become vital for individuals and families, as well as
organizations (such as military, government, business houses, educational and financial institutions, corporations and others) that collect and store a wide range of confidential data on computers and transmit that to other computers across different networks. For families, protection of children and family members from cyber crime has become substantially important. For an individual, protecting information that could impact social life as well as personal finance is essential. The internet has provided a wide array of learning opportunities, but there are risks too. Photos, videos and other personal information shared by an individual on social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter can be inappropriately used by others may lead to serious and even life-threatening incidents. Social networking sites have become the most popular medium for sharing information and connecting with other people. But these sites have created varied opportunities for cybercrimes, compromised personal identities and information leakage. Therefore, it is important for individuals to understand how to protect against cyber threats, and must also comprehend the difference between virtual and real world. One should learn how to protect computers and personal information from being hacked and should engage in appropriate online behaviour in order to eliminate changes of cyber threats and thereby creating a safer online environment.

Q11. According to the author what does the cyber security means?

(a) Cyber Security means the dispersion of important data and devise a structural engineering that allow easy flow of information

(b) Cyber Security means protecting data, networks, programs and other information from unauthorized or unintended access, destruction or change.

(c) Cyber Security means the blocking of all the websites that are available in free domain

(d) Cyber Security means the Hacking of important data, network outages, computer viruses and other cyber related threats affect our lives that range from minor inconvenience to serious incidents.

(e) None of the above

Ans: b

Q12. According to the author, what is the main reasons behind cyber threats?

(a) the unknown person with malice

(b) due to intelligence, veneration and intentional threats.

(c) due to negligence and vulnerabilities, or unintentional accidents.

(d) by communicating through instant messages and emails to banking, travelling, studying and shopping on internet

(e) None of the above

Ans: c
Q13. What is the downside of Social media, according to the author?

(a) the long hours usage of social media could affect an individual mentally and become the victim of depression

(b) by sharing sensitive information, one can be vulnerable to sudden outburst of emotions

(c) information shared by an individual for socializing purposes can be distorted and can be used for malignant purpose.

(d) the social media owners can steal the information and sell this information for monetary purposes

(e) None of the above

Ans: c

Q14. According to this passage, how the virus gets into the computers?

(a) by saving data and clicking on the desktop

(b) by opening a document file in the search history

(c) by texting online and receiving files on social media platforms

(d) Opening email attachments that carry the virus, clicking malicious links or websites or unintentionally downloading a dangerous program

(e) None of the above

Ans: d

Q15. What will be the apt title for this passage?

(a) life hacks

(b) Cybercrime and hacking

(c) technology and its advantages

(d) technological advances

(e) The impact of social media

Ans: b

Q16. Choose the meaning of the idiom:

The prosecutor knew that the councilman had stolen public funds, but she wanted to get all of her ducks in a row before she charged him with a crime.

(a) She wanted to catch the councilman in the act
b. She wanted to take the time to properly prepare her case  
c. She had other business to take care of before going after the councilman  
d. She had to finish eating lunch before she went back to work  

Ans: b  

Q17. Choose the meaning of the idiom:  

Vince knew that if he wanted to get into college, he’d have to keep his nose to the grindstone all senior year.  

a. Vince would have to apply for college.  
b. Vince would have to work hard for a whole year.  
c. Vince would have to wait patiently for an opportunity.  
d. Vince would have to stay out of trouble for a whole year.  

Ans: b  

Q18. Many entrepreneurs try to control the composition of their boards of directors, but more experienced entrepreneurs tend to share control, inviting participation from institutional investors and outside directors.  

Which option best summarizes the idea that might be guiding experienced entrepreneurs’ behaviour?  

A. The experienced entrepreneurs expect experienced directors to monitor the performance of the enterprise and be a sounding board.  
B. The experienced entrepreneurs expect the institutional investors to support the opinion of entrepreneurs on all major decisions.  
C. The experienced entrepreneurs expect the institutional investors and outside directors to agree to higher remuneration for the board members.  
D. Experienced entrepreneurs expect the experienced directors to engage in day-to-day management of the company.  
E. More the number of influential people on board, the easier it is to raise finances.  

Ans: a  

Q19. Unlike other retail outlets, where items are purchased in any number of units the customer wants, in super-markets items are grouped in bulk packages. This bulk buying offers savings to the customer. The option to buy at wholesale prices by buying in bulk makes super-markets a practical choice for budget-conscious consumers.
Which of the following is an assumption necessary to the author’s argument?

A. Super-markets often have greater buying power and lower overhead costs, so they can offer a greater variety of products than regular retail outlets.

B. Super-markets are often more conveniently located and have better parking facilities.

C. The emergence of super-markets has caused many small retail stores to close down and thus eliminate competition.

D. It is economically wise to buy single items since bulk packages seldom offer significant savings.

E. The financial savings from purchasing bulk packages may outweigh the inconvenience of being unable to purchase in any number of units that suits the customers’ need.

Ans: e

Q.20 Some words are highly inflammable. Fusion is one of them. you can get two sets of people into a war mode by just uttering the words “fusion music”. One set will breathe fire and say it violates the purity of music: the other set will tell you earnestly that it opens up the borders of music.

The statement “Some words are highly inflammable”

A. captures the essence of the passage.

B. is a linguistic embellishment to the passage.

C. is an irrelevant exaggeration used in the passage.

D. is an unsubstantiated dogmatic assertion.

E. is a contradictory statement in the passage.

Ans: a

Q.21 Some words are highly inflammable. Fusion is one of them. you can get two sets of people into a war mode by just uttering the words “fusion music”. One set will breathe fire and say it violates the purity of music: the other set will tell you earnestly that it opens up the borders of music.

From the purists’ perspective, the “war” between the two sets of people can best be

A. categorized as an ideological conflict between two ideas

B. termed as a conflict between generations – the younger versus the older generation.

C. an attempt to preserve the core principles.

D. seen as an attempt of people at the margin to occupy centre-stage.

E. seen as preserving the social identity of purists.
Q.22 When we speak of the “probability of death”, the exact meaning of this expression can be defined in the following way only. We must not think of an individual, but of a certain class as a whole, e.g., “all insured men forty-one years old living in a given country and not engaged in certain dangerous occupations.” A probability of death is attached to the class of men or to another class that can be defined in a similar way. We can say nothing about the probability of death of an individual even if we know his condition of life and health in detail. The phrase “probability of death”, when it refers to a single person, has not meaning at all.

Which of the following conclusions can be drawn from the passage?

1. Singular, non replicable events can be assigned numerical probability value.
2. Probability calculation requires data of the class of people or of events.
3. The data about a class of events can be used to predict the future of any specific event.

A. 1 only
B. 2 only
C. 1 and 2
D. 2 and 3
E. 1 and 3

Ans: b

Q.23 Fill the blank with a suitable article:

_________ food that you cooked was very good!

a. A
b. An
c. The
d. No article

Ans: c

Q.24 Fill the blank with a suitable article:

Do you remember _________ girl that we saw last night?

a. A
b. An
c. The
d. No article
Q.25 Fill the blank with a suitable preposition:

Does this bus go ________ Central City?

a. To
b. For
c. By
d. Since

Ans: a

Q.26 Fill the blank with a suitable preposition:

There is an ink spot ________ your shirt.

a. In
b. On
c. By
d. To

Ans: b

Q.27 Change the voice of the following sentence:

You will never forget this lesson.

a. This lesson will never be forgotten by you.
b. This lesson would never be forgotten by you.
c. This lesson is never been forgotten by you.
d. This lesson will never been forgotten by you.

Ans: a

Q.28 Change the voice of the following sentence:

They have brought a gift for you.

a. A gift was been brought to you by them.
b. A gift is been brought to you by them.
c. A gift has been brought to you by them.
d. A gift is brought to you by them.

Ans: c

Q. 29 Change the speech of the following sentence:

Frank said that the phone had been ringing all day.

Frank said, ______________________________.
Q.30 Change the speech of the following sentence:

Jenny said she would help me with my homework.

Jenny said, ______________________________.

a. “I will help you with your homework.”

b. “I would help you with your homework.”

c. “I am helping you with your homework.”

d. “I will be helping you with your homework.”

Ans: a

Q.31 Fill the blank with a suitable option:

The dress Ariel wore ______ with small, glassy beads, creating a shimmering effect.

a. titillated

b. reiterated

c. scintillated

d. enthralled

e. striated

Ans: c

Q.32 Fill the blank with a suitable option:

Being able to afford this luxury car will ______ getting a better paying job.

a. maximize

b. recombinant

c. reiterate

d. necessitate
e. reciprocate
Ans: d

Q.33 Fill the blank with a suitable option:
Levina unknowingly ______ the thief by holding open the elevator doors and ensuring his escape.
   a. coerced
   b. proclaimed
   c. abetted
   d. sanctioned
   e. solicited
Ans: c

Q.34 Fill the blank with a suitable option:
Shakespeare, a(n) ______ writer, entertained audiences by writing many tragic and comic plays.
   a. numeric
   b. obstinate
   c. dutiful
   d. prolific
   e. generic
Ans: d

Q.35 Fill the blank with a suitable option:
I had the ______ experience of sitting next to an over-talkative passenger on my flight home from Brussels.
   a. satisfactory
   b. commendable
   c. galling
   d. acceptable
   e. acute
Ans: c
Q.36 Choose the correct option from the given choices. You have to find out the pair that has the same relationship at the original pair given in the question.

Biography: Autobiography

a) Memories: History
b) Author: Performer
c) Mobile: Automobile
d) Testimony: Confession
e) None of these

Ans: d

Q.37 Choose the correct option from the given choices. You have to find out the pair that has the same relationship at the original pair given in the question.

Thermometer: Temperature

a) Length: Breadth
b) Millimeter: Scale
c) Cardiograph: Heart rate
d) Solar Energy: Sun
e) None of these

Ans: c

Q.38 Choose the correct option from the given choices. You have to find out the pair that has the same relationship at the original pair given in the question.

Karnataka: Bangalore

a) Mysore: Vrindaban
b) Haryana: Sonepat
c) Gujarat: Anand
d) Orissa: Bhubaneswar
e) None of these

Ans: d

Q.39 Choose the synonym of the following word:
Corpulent

a. Lean
b. Gaunt
c. Emaciated
d. Obese

Ans: d

Q.40 Choose the antonym of the following word:

Commissioned

a. Started
b. Finished
c. Terminated
d. Closed

Ans: c

Q.41 Sentences given in each question, when properly sequenced form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a letter. Choose the most logical order of sentences from amongst the four choices given to construct a paragraph.

A. The number of development studies courses offered by colleges and universities has grown over the last 20 years.
B. What are you hoping to get out of your course?
C. Has your interest been sparked by other studies, travel, or family connections?
D. As the new academic year begins for some people this month, we would like to hear what is motivating you to study development.
E. The content of those courses has also changed to reflect new interests and trends in the sector, with topics covering a range of subjects, from economics and politics, to the environment, gender and anthropology.

a. BDAEC
b. DCBAE
c. DAEBC
d. AEDCB

Ans: d

Q.42 Sentences given in each question, when properly sequenced form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a letter. Choose the most logical order of sentences from amongst the four choices given to construct a paragraph.
A. Instead, the new machines test for viral load, to verify if the virus is in the blood.

B. So, it is not possible to confirm whether the baby is positive.

C. Adults are normally diagnosed on the basis of antibodies, but when babies are born they still have those of their mother.

D. But accurately testing children remains a challenge in much of the country.

E. About 400 centres across Mozambique now have printers that can quickly receive test results by GPRS.
   a. EDCBA
   b. AEBCD
   c. EABDC
   d. CDBAD

Ans: a

Q.43 Sentences given in each question, when properly sequenced form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a letter. Choose the most logical order of sentences from amongst the four choices given to construct a paragraph.

A. These children may look normal but their brain development and immune systems most certainly are not.

B. The media focus on children who are desperately thin and obviously wasting away means that chronic under nutrition – just as deadly – can be overlooked.

C. In the same regions, about 7%-15% of children suffer from wasting.

D. Their stunted height is a grisly marker of multiple deprivations regarding food intake, care and play, clean water, good sanitation and health care.

E. Approximately 40% of all children under five in south Asia and sub-Saharan Africa are short for their age.

   a. ECBAD
   b. BAEDC
   c. EDBCA
   d. ECADB

Ans: b

Q.44 Spot the error in the following sentence:

The chances of (a)/ you being promoted (b)/ is high. (c)/ no error (d)

(a) is incorrect. It should be "The chances of you being promoted is high."
Q.45 Spot the error in the following sentence:
There were a (a)/ Pokémon card stuck (b)/ to the refrigerator. (c)/ no error (d)

a. A  
b. B  
c. C  
d. D

Ans: a

Q.46 Spot the error in the following sentence:
Neither the professor nor his assistants (a)/ were able to solve the mystery of the (b)/ eerie glow in the laboratory. (c)/ no error (d)

a. A  
b. B  
c. C  
d. D

Ans: d

Q.47 Identify the correct sentence from the given options:
a. They saw a fence made of barbed wire behind the house.
b. They saw a fence behind the house made of barbed wire.
c. They behind the house saw a fence made of barbed wire.
d. They made of barbed wire saw a fence behind the house.

a. a  
b. b  
c. c  
d. d

Ans: a
Q.48 Fill the blank with the correct option:

After questioning he ___________ to go home.
   a. allowed
   b. had allowed
   c. was allowed
   d. was being allowed

Ans: c

Q.49 Spot the error in the following sentence:

They are low (a)/ in sodium but (b)/ have many calories. (c)/ no error (d)

   a. A
   b. B
   c. C
   d. D

Ans: c

Q.50 Fill the blank with the correct option:

Which is the ____________ building you have ever been in ?

   a. tall
   b. taller
   c. tallest
   d. most tallest

Ans: c