



All India Bar Examination

Presentation to Expert Committee,
New Delhi, July 27, 2010



Q: What is the purpose of the All India Bar Examination, and who will have to appear for the examination?

- ☒ To assess an advocate's ability to practice the profession of law
- ☒ To assess capabilities at a basic level
- ☒ To set a minimum standard for admission to the practice of law
- ☒ To assess an advocate's analytical abilities and basic knowledge of law

A: The All India Bar Examination will test skills and basic knowledge critical for a new entrant to the practice of the profession of law. It is intended to check for eligibility, rather than expertise.

Any law student graduating in Academic Year 2009-10 onwards would have to appear for the All India Bar Examination (after enrolment as an advocate) in order to practice law in India.



Q: What subjects will be tested in the All India Bar Examination?

- ☒ Twenty subjects from amongst those prescribed by the BCI for the syllabi of three- and five-year LL.B. programmes
- ☒ Subjects tested in bar examinations conducted in jurisdictions across the world
- ☒ Category I Subjects: 'Foundational' in nature
- ☒ Category II Subjects: Also critical for a new entrant to the practice of the profession of law

(Handout): Subject structure and mark allocation scheme for the AIBE, 2010.



Q: What methodology will be adopted to conduct the All India Bar Examination?

- ☒ Will be conducted in nine languages, and at twenty-seven examination centres across India;
- ☒ Application Fee of Rs.1,300/- (includes price of receiving preparatory materials)
- ☒ 'Open-book' format: advocates may bring preparatory materials, books, handwritten notes into the examination hall
- ☒ A hundred multiple-choice questions, to be marked on OMR answer sheets; Focus is on reasoning ability, rather than ability to memorise large texts
- ☒ No percentage or ranks - advocates will merely pass or fail the All India Bar Examination

A: The Examination adopts a format that is aimed at ensuring that a basic amount of preparation would be sufficient to clear it.



We will use the calibration test to investigate the correlation of certain variables with candidates' performance. The findings of this exercise will help us scope and plot correctly the difficulty level for the AIBE. We will use statistical methods as well as the R programming language to analyse the data and test our hypotheses. The variables which we will investigate for in the calibration test are:

- ☒ Caste
- ☒ Gender
- ☒ Location
- ☒ Language in which AIBE is taken
- ☒ Access to preparatory material
- ☒ Type of question (Knowledge-based v. Reasoning-based)
- ☒ Difficulty level of questions
- ☒ Tier-wise College
- ☒ 3 yr or 5 yr LL.B degree



Q: In how many centres will the All India Bar Examination be conducted?

- ☒ Twenty-seven centres spread across the country
- ☒ Centres have been selected on basis of convenience of reach for the candidates (a candidate will have a centre within 400 kms of their location)
- ☒ Each centre has also been chosen per the number of advocates enrolling annually in each state. For example, Uttar Pradesh has 2 centres
- ☒ At least one centre under the jurisdiction of each State Bar Council
- ☒ Candidates can choose any centre irrespective of place of enrollment

Centres:

Ahmedabad, Allahabad, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Cochin, Dehradun, Dharwad, Gangtok, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jammu, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, Nagpur, New Delhi, Panaji, Patna, Raipur, Ranchi, Shillong, Shimla, and Visakapatnam



Q: What languages will the All India Bar Examination be conducted in ?

- ☒ **Nine languages**
- ☒ **Languages chosen based on number of speakers from amongst enrolled advocates (more than 40,000 speakers)**
- ☒ **Languages chosen on English literacy data of the region (For instance, Oriya included and Malayalam exempted)**

Languages:

English, Hindi, Tamil, Gujarati, Bengali, Marathi, Telugu, Kannada, and Oriya.



Q: What support systems have been provided for candidates?

- ☒ Details of the AIBE in English and Hindi posted on BCI website
- ☒ 54 frequently asked questions on the AIBE in English and Hindi posted on BCI website
- ☒ Study materials in all nine languages (candidate gets study material in chosen language)
- ☒ Study materials to be given to each candidate at least 6-8 weeks before the AIBE
- ☒ Study materials to be posted for free on BCI website
- ☒ Sample question papers to be posted on BCI website
- ☒ Helpline numbers for clarifications of queries in English and Hindi
- ☒ Video on how to fill the OMR Application form
- ☒ Instruction sheets in English and Hindi handed over along with each OMR Application form
- ☒ Over 700 queries from over 275 persons already answered through email
- ☒ Posters on AIBE put up at all State Bar Councils
- ☒ Handbooks on the AIBE handed over to all State Bar Councils to help answer candidates' queries

A: The All India Bar Examination aims at being the most candidate friendly examination conducted in India



Q: Will advocates receive any preparatory materials for the All India Bar Examination?

- ☒ Advocates will receive preparatory materials in each of the subjects being tested
- ☒ The preparatory materials will be provided in the language that the advocate has chosen to appear for the examination
- ☒ Model question papers will be provided along with the preparatory materials, as well as online
- ☒ Advocates will also receive a guide to the examination, as well as answers and explanations to the model question papers

A: Adequate preparatory materials will be provided to each advocate, so as to ensure that lack of access to resources is not an impediment to preparing well for the All India Bar Examination. (Sample Module)



Q: How will the question papers for the All India Bar Examination be prepared?

- ☒ The first model papers will undergo calibration at some law schools
- ☒ Results from the calibration tests will be collated and analysed
- ☒ Analysis of calibration test results will be presented to the Expert Committee
- ☒ Final drafts of question papers will be prepared based on feedback from the Expert Committee
- ☒ Final question paper will be secure and not released to any party

A: Question papers for the All India Bar Examinations will be created and calibrated in a scientific manner, to ensure that the objectives of the All India Bar Examination are met. (Sample questions)



Q: What is the timeline for the All India Bar Examination?

- ☒ Registration for the All India Bar Examination (forms available at all State Bar Councils and online): July 15 – October 31, 2010
- ☒ Despatch of Preparatory Materials to advocates: August 16, 2010 – first week of October, 2010
- ☒ Publication of list of candidates and examination centres on the BCI website: November 1, 2010
- ☒ Date of the first All India Bar Examination: December 5, 2010
- ☒ Declaration of results: By December 31, 2010

A: The timeline ensures that advocates have sufficient time to prepare for the All India Bar Examination, and that the entire process is completed in an efficient manner.



Thank you