Question : For which of the following ordered pairs (μ, δ), the system of linear equations

$x + 2y + 3z = 1$

$3x + 4y + 5z = \mu$

$4x + 4y + 4z = \delta$

is inconsistent?

(a) (4, 6) (b) (3, 4) (c) (1, 0) (d) (4, 3)

Answer: (d)

Solution:

$$D = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 4 & 4 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 2R_1 + 2R_2$$

$$D = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

For inconsistent system, one of D_x, D_y, D_z should not be equal to 0.

Now,

$$D_x = \begin{vmatrix} \mu & 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \\ \delta & 4 & 4 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$D_y = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & \mu & 5 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 4 & \delta & 4 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$and$$

$$D_z = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 4 & \mu \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 4 & 4 & \delta \end{vmatrix}$$

For inconsistent system, $2\mu \neq \delta + 2$

Therefore, the system will be inconsistent for $\mu = 4$, $\delta = 3$.