



HIMACHAL PRADESH NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, SHIMLA

SEMESTER-VIII

B.A./B.B.A. LL.B.

PAPER CODE: LB 801

Media Law

Module 1

Introduction, Evolution and Constitutional Perspective

- 1.1 concept and evolution of Media in India
- 1.2 Forms of Media: Print, Broadcast and Electronic Media
- 1.3 Freedom of Press: Constitutional Perspective (Article 19)
- 1.4 Power to legislate: Article 246 read with Seventh Schedule
- 1.5 Restrictions of Freedom of press: Media Reporting and Contempt of Court

Module 2

Media Regulations and Society

- 2.1 Regulation of Press: Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867 and Press Councils Act, 1978
- 2.2 Censorship: Print and Electronic Media; Cinematograph Act, 1952.
- 2.3 Working Journalists Act, 1978 and Cable T.V.Networks (regulation) Act of 1995.
- 2.4 Trial by Media: Media Reporting and Hate Speech
- 2.5 Regulation of Internet and Social Media: social Media as Electoral Stimulator

Module 3

Media Ethics and Advertisements

- 3.1 Fundamentals of Journalistic ethics: Objectivity, Balance, accuracy and Fairness; Invasion to privacy, Plagiarism, Vulgarity, Bias, Paid News, and Sting Operations.

3.2 Advertisements and Ethics

3.3 Commercial Advertisement and its socio-economic effects: Advertising Standards Council of India

3.4 Indecent Representation (Prohibition) Act, 1996.

3.5 Competition Act 2002 and its effects on Advertisements

Module 4

Right to Information

4.1 Evolution of Right to Information: International and National Perspective

4.2 Right to Know versus Right to Privacy

4.3 Definitions, Right to information and Obligations of Public Authorities

4.4 Central and State information Commissions: Powers and Functions of the Information Commissions

4.5 Appeals, Penalties, Miscellaneous provisions

Prescribed Legislations

1. Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867,
2. Press Councils Act, 1978
3. Cinematograph Act, 1952
4. Working Journalists Act, 1978
5. Indecent Representation (Prohibition) Act, 1996.
6. Cable T.V. Networks (regulation) Act of 1995;

Prescribed Books:

1. D.D Basu, Law of the Press, Lexisnexis, 2016.
2. S. D Sharma, Right to information: Implementation, Problems and solutions, Regal Publications, 2016

Reference Books:

1. Mcquail, Dennis, Mass Communication Theories, Sage Publication, 2000.
2. Asa, Berger, Essentials of Mass Communication, Sage Publication, 2000.

3. D.D. Basu, Law of the Press in India, Practice Hall of India, 2003.
4. D.D. Basu, Commentary to the Constitution of India, 2007.
5. H.M. Seervai, Constitution of India (IVth Ed.), 1996.
6. Radha Krishna Murthi, Indian Press Laws, Indian Publishers, Distributors, 1997.
7. Madhavi Goradia Divan, Facets of Media Law, Eastern Book Co., Lucknow, 2006.
8. Peter Carey and Jo Sanders, Media Law, Sweet & Maxwell Ltd., London, 3rd Ed. 2004.
9. Joseph R. Dominick, Barry L. Sherman&Fritz Messere, Broadcasting, cable, the internet, and beyond: An introduction to modern electronic media.
10. J. N Barowalia ,Commentary on Right to Information, Universal Publication, 2012.
11. S.K.P Shrinivas, Exhaustive Commentary on The Right to Information Act, 2005, Premier Publications, 2016.

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