THE INDIAN LAW INSTITUTE

(Deemed to be University)
New Delhi

LL.M. (1 Year) 1st Semester end- Examination
December 2025
PAPER – NATIONAL SECURITY

Time: 3 hours Max. Marks: 50

Answer any five questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. The State Police received intelligence reports indicating that **"**ABC**",** an organisation recently declared as an *unlawful association* under Section 3 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), has been holding clandestine meetings to plan violent demonstrations against government establishments. During an investigation into a series of arson incidents near Government warehouses, the police arrest Mr. R, an engineer, who was in a foreign country at the time of the incident, attending a workshop on AI. During the investigation, it was found that his phone contains a WhatsApp group titled *"ABC Research Circle"* and he had attended two meetings of the group in the past year. In light of the above facts, analyse whether Mr. R 's alleged conduct constitutes "membership of an unlawful association" under the UAPA. Discuss the distinction between active and passive membership, the evidentiary thresholds required, and the constitutional implications of criminalising mere association.

2. How have the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions shaped and influenced India's approach to counter-terrorism legislation? Discuss the impact of these international mandates on the formulation and evolution of India's legal framework, particularly in relation to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA),1967 and other anti-terror laws.

3. "To tackle International Terrorism the initial approach was the imposition of Individual responsibility' rather than 'State Obligations". Analyse the statement in the light of the International Conventions on Terrorism.

4. "Evaluate whether Indian law lays down adequately defined and proportionate thresholds for cyber 'terrorism', and discuss how ambiguities if any, impact investigation standards and prosecutorial discretion.

5. Critically distinguish between 'sedition' and 'treason'. In your answer, explain: (a) the conceptual and doctrinal differences between the two offences; and (b) how far, if at all, the replacement of sedition under the Indian Penal Code with the new offence under the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) has affected the distinction.

6. Evaluate the adequacy of procedural safeguards, such as, burden of proof and proportionality tests, in light of Supreme Court jurisprudence upholding UAPA. Discuss whether India's regime of unlawful-organisation declaration meets international human rights standards under ICCPR."

7. Write short note on any *TWO* of the following:-

a) Compensation for wrongful prosecution in national security cases
b) *Bilkis Yakub Rasool* v. *Union of India,* 2023 (*Bilkis Bano* Case)
c) Protected system under IT Act

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LL.M. (1 YEAR) 1ST SEMESTER END- EXAMINATION
DECEMBER 2025

PAPER – CENTRE-STATE RELATIONS

Time: 3 hours **Max. Marks: 50**

Answer any FIVE questions. All questions carry equal marks.

Q1. The Indian Constitution is often described as establishing a "federal system with a strong Centre." Explain the key components of federalism and assess whether the Indian model is genuinely federal or quasi-federal. In your answer, also compare the federal foundations of India with those of the United States, and discuss how the ideas of "coming together" and "holding together" federations help us understand India's choice of a strong Union combined with regional autonomy.

Q2. The three lists in the Seventh Schedule lay down the detailed allocation of legislative power between the Union and the States. Explain the scheme of these lists and what happens when there is a conflict between Union and State legislation. Discuss how such conflicts are resolved with reference to Articles 245, 246 and 254, as well as the key doctrines developed by the Supreme Court. In your view, does this framework, in practice, favour the Centre over the States? Give reasons.

Q3. Critically evaluate how GST, including the GST Council mechanism, has transformed the financial relations between the Union and the States. Also assess the role of the Finance Commission and NITI Aayog in shaping Centre-State financial relations. Have these institutions strengthened fiscal federalism or increased policy influence of the Union?

Q4. Article 301 provides that trade, commerce and intercourse throughout the territory of India shall be free. Is this freedom absolute, or is it subject to restrictions? Discuss with reference to Articles 302 to 304 and trace the development of the doctrine of compensatory and regulatory taxes from *Atiabari Tea Co.* v. *State of Assam* through *Automobile Transport (Rajasthan)* v. *State of Rajasthan* to *Jindal Stainless (2)* v. *State of Haryana*.

Q5. For a long time the courts refused to examine the validity of a proclamation under Article 356 of the Constitution of India, treating it as a political question. Explain how this position evolved, particularly after the *Rajasthan* v. *Union of India* and *S. R. Bommai* v. *Union of India* decisions. Has judicial review made misuse of Article 356 less likely?

Q6. Do you agree with the view that adjudication under Article 262 of the Constitution of India is an unsatisfactory way of dealing with inter-State river water disputes and that negotiated settlement is preferable? Answer with reference to the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956, major river disputes and the experience of tribunals, such as, those established or contemplated for Krishna, Godavari, Ravi-Beas, and Cauvery river systems.

Q7. Write short note on any TWO of the following:

a) Inter-State Council as a forum for co-operative federalism.
b) Proclamation of National Emergency under Article 352 of the Indian Constitution
c) Asymmetric federalism under the Indian Constitution.

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LL.M. (1 YEAR) 1ST SEMESTER END- EXAMINATION
DECEMBER 2025

PAPER – CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION

Time: 3 hours **Max. Marks: 50**

Answer any five questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Critically examine how the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (BNSS) seeks to transform criminal justice administration in India by comparing it with the previous Criminal Procedure Code in India.

2. Analyse the extent to which the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (BNSS) marks a shift from an accused-centric model of criminal justice to one that meaningfully incorporates victims' rights. Discuss statutory provisions and assess whether a victim-centric approach can be implemented without compromising the rights of the accused.

3. "The Indian judiciary has repeatedly stressed that 'bail is the rule and jail is the exception,' yet bail decisions remain highly discretionary. Examine the constitutional, statutory, and judicial parameters that guide the courts' discretion in granting bail.

4. Discuss the concept of rehabilitative sentencing under the Probation of Offenders Act, 1958, focusing on how the Act aims to replace short-term imprisonment with alternative mechanisms.

5. "Plea bargaining is premised on voluntariness, informed consent, and judicial oversight." In this context, evaluate India's decision to restrict plea bargaining to sentence bargaining and offender-victim settlements, while expressly prohibiting charge bargaining.

6. What are the key factors considered by Indian judiciary while determining sentences? Analyse the constitutional, statutory, and judicial principles guiding sentencing.

7. Write short note on any TWO of the following:
   a. Compounding of offences
   b. Anticipatory Bail
   c. Remission and Commutation of sentence

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LL.M. (1 YEAR) 1ST SEMESTER END- EXAMINATION
DECEMBER 2025

PAPER – COMPARATIVE PUBLIC LAW

Time: 3 hours **Max. Marks: 50**

Answer any FIVE questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss the idea of constitutionalism as it relates to the rule of law, separation of powers, and independence of the judiciary. Evaluate whether constitutionalism can be sustained without a written constitution. Support your answer with comparative perspective.

2. Examine the constitutional foundations of legislative supremacy. Compare and evaluate how Parliamentary Sovereignty is conceptualized and limited in the United Kingdom, Australia, and India.

3. Discuss the concept of federalism in comparative perspective. Explain different models of federalism and analyse how courts have shaped the federal balance in the United States, Australia, and India.

4. Critically analyse the nature and goals of a Constitution. Compare how the idea of Constitutional supremacy is guarded in India, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

5. Distinguish between the Parliamentary and Presidential forms of Government. Explain the comparative strengths and weaknesses of each model and illustrate how they operate within Constitutional systems. Support your answer with comparative examples.

6. Compare the nature, scope, and limitations of judicial review in India, the United States, and Germany. Explain how different models of judicial and political review influence Constitutional governance.

7. Write short note on any *TWO* of the following:

   a. Constitutional Amendments and limitations on amending power
   b. Separation of Powers *v.* Separation of Functions
   c. The Basic Structure doctrine and its comparative significance

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LL.M. (1 Year) 1st SEMESTER END- EXAMINATION
DECEMBER 2025

PAPER – FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS, FUNDAMENTAL DUTIES AND DIRECTIVE PRINCIPLES OF STATE POLICY

Time: 3 hours Max. Marks: 50

Answer any five questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. What is your understanding about 'Fundamental Rights'? Critically examine the jurisprudential developments of various phases through which Fundamental Rights evolved in India.

2. Critically analyze the concept of "secularism" in relation to Article 25 (freedom of religion). Examine relevant case laws.

3. How Article 29 (2) (Non-discriminatory clause) act as controlling grip on Article 30(1) (autonomy to minority) and minority rights. Elucidate with the help of relevant case laws.

4. Elucidate the concept of "Un-enumerated fundamental rights". How do these rights result in the expansion of Socio Economic Rights in India?

5. Discuss whether there are any conceptual conflicts between Fundamental Rights (FRTs) and Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs) under the Constitution of India? Critically analyze the judicial interpretations.

6. Article 19(1) (a) of the Constitution of India deals with "species of freedoms." Discuss in the light of relevant cases.

7. Write short note on any *TWO* of the following:-

   (a) ERP TEST
   (b) Uniform Civil Code *vis-à-vis* Cultural Relativism
   (c) 'Other authorities' under Article 12 of the Constitution of India

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LL.M. (1 YEAR) 1ST SEMESTER END- EXAMINATION
DECEMBER 2025

PAPER – GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF CRIMINAL LAW

Time: 3 hours **Max. Marks: 50**

Answer any five questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss the evolution of criminal law from classical notions of retributive liability to modern principles reflected in the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.

2. A has endured years of severe domestic abuse by her husband, who frequently threatened to kill her. One night, fearing for her life, she fatally stabbed him while he was asleep. Charged with homicide under BNS. Discuss how loss of control, psychological trauma can establish culpability or diminished responsibility.

3. Strict liability represents an exception to the traditional rule that criminal liability requires mens rea. Discuss how strict liability modifies the mental element in criminal offences and analyse the rationale behind this modification

4. In light of Section 69 of the BNS, critically analyse how consent functions both as a defence that negates criminal liability and as a constitutive element of sexual offences. Discuss the statutory and judicial limits of valid consent

5. What are the different forms of *mens rea* recognised under Indian criminal law? Explain their application with reference to statutory provisions and case law.

6. Discuss the statutory framework governing the right to private defence of body and property under Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, highlighting its extent, restrictions, and judicial interpretation.

7. Write short note on any *TWO* of the following:

    a. Legal Causation
    b. Defence of Unsoundness of Mind
    c. Theories of punishment.

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LL.M. (1 YEAR) 1ST SEMESTER END- EXAMINATION
DECEMBER 2025

PAPER – JUDICIAL PROCESS

Time: 3 hours **Max. Marks: 50**

Answer any five questions. All questions carry equal marks.

Q1. Cardozo describes judicial decisions as a "strange compound" of logic, history, custom and social welfare. Explain the four methods identified by Cardozo and examine how they operate together in the Indian judicial process, with suitable illustrations.

Q2. Discuss the doctrine of presumption of constitutionality and its role in the legal system. How does the judiciary apply this presumption while interpreting laws? Explain with suitable illustrations and case law.

Q3. Compare and contrast the doctrines of severability, reading down and reading into. How have these tools been used by the Supreme Court to preserve legislation while protecting fundamental rights, with reference to cases like *RMD Chamarbaugwala*, *Kedar Nath Singh* and *Navtej Singh Johar*?

Q4. Explain how the doctrine of precedent promotes certainty, clarity and continuity in law. Do you think that the same precedent can, at times, hinder legal reform or perpetuate injustice? Illustrate your answer with at least two examples from Indian Jurisdiction.

Q5. A High Court judgment contains a detailed discussion of several hypothetical situations, followed by a short operative order confined to the facts of the case. Later, a lower court relies mainly on the hypothetical discussion to decide a new case.

In the light of the given situation, critically evaluate the concepts of *ratio decidendi* and *obiter dicta*, and examine whether the trial court was justified in treating the High Court's hypothetical discussion as binding?

Q6. "Executive primacy in appointments risks pliable judges; judicial primacy risks opacity and self-perpetuation." Discuss this dilemma in the light of debates around the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC), the collegium and proposals for reform. Which model of appointments would you suggest, and why?

Q7. Write short note on any TWO of the following:

a) The counter-majoritarian role of courts in protecting minorities from legislative excess.
b) Conscious vs. Subconscious elements in adjudication
c) Rule of Purposive interpretation.

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LL.M. (1 YEAR) 1ST SEMESTER END- EXAMINATION
DECEMBER 2025

PAPER – LAW OF COPYRIGHT AND DESIGNS

Time: 3 hours **Max. Marks: 50**

Answer any FIVE questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss the historical and contemporary objectives of copyright law**.** How has the shift from a traditional *use-based* to an *ownership-based* understanding of creative works shaped modern copyright jurisprudence? Support your answer with doctrinal principles and statutory developments.

2. *Aditi*, an educational YouTuber, creates a series of short videos explaining Indian history. In one of the videos, she uses four minutes of a copyrighted documentary produced by a private company. She adds voiceover critique, contextual explanation, and commentary throughout the clip. The copyright owner issues a takedown notice alleging infringement. Analyse whether Aditi's use qualifies as fair dealing under Indian copyright law, with comparative reference to the U.S. fair use doctrine.

3. Explain the economic rights and moral rights of authors under the Copyright Act. Evaluate whether moral rights provide adequate protection in the age of digital reproduction and remix culture, particularly in relation to attribution, integrity, and technological challenges.

4. *Studio Prism* owns the copyright in an illustrated children's book. A gaming company creates a mobile game using the same characters, visual style, and storyline, but adds interactive elements, background music, and gameplay features. The company claims that the game is a new derivative work and does not "copy" the book. Examine whether the game constitutes copyright infringement, with specific reference to substantial similarity, derivative works, economic rights, and the idea–expression dichotomy.

5. Discuss the concept and scope of neighbouring rights. How do these rights expand the contours of copyright protection in modern creative industries? Illustrate through relevant case laws and statutory provisions.

6. Explain the law of industrial designs in India, including the concept, eligibility criteria, registration process, and rights of the registered proprietor. Critically analyse the challenges posed by rapidly evolving product aesthetics. How do Indian courts address conflicts in overlapping copyright and design protection?

7. Write short note on any TWO of the following:

   a. Exhaustion of Intellectual Property Rights
   b. Remedies under Copyright Law
   c. Infringement of Designs: Tests and Judicial Approach

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NEW DELHI

LL.M. (1 YEAR) SEMESTER END- EXAMINATION
DECEMBER-2025

PAPER – LAW OF PATENTS AND UNDISCLOSED INFORMATION

Time: 3 hours **Max. Marks: 50**

Answer any FIVE questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Critically examine the evolution of patent protection from its early monopoly-based foundations to modern innovation-driven justifications. Discuss the objectives and scope of patent law in this context, and briefly evaluate how international instruments have contributed to harmonising global patent standards.

2. BioHeal Pharma owns a patent for a life-saving antiviral drug that is priced far beyond the reach of the Indian population. Despite repeated requests, the company refuses to license the technology to local manufacturers. A public-sector company applies for a compulsory licence, arguing that the drug is not "reasonably affordable," and the drug is not worked in India, and that there exists a national health emergency. BioHeal argues that compulsory licensing would destroy its global R&D incentives and that it is already importing "adequate quantities" of the drug. Analyse the claim for compulsory licensing under Indian patent law, applying statutory criteria, the public-interest test, the working requirement, and relevant TRIPS flexibilities.

3. Discuss the procedure for the grant of patents in India. Evaluate whether the current opposition framework strengthens patent quality or leads to excessive delays and uncertainty.

4. NutriCore Beverages develops a unique herbal formulation for a sports drink, protecting the recipe as a trade secret. An employee leaves to join a competitor and begins producing a similar drink using confidential manufacturing notes taken from NutriCore. The employee claims that the formula is based on "common knowledge" and that no registered IP right exists. Using principles governing undisclosed information, analyse whether the competitor is liable for misappropriation and discuss available remedies under Indian law.

5. Explain the rationale behind limitation on patent rights, including government use, compulsory licensing, parallel importation, and the doctrine of exhaustion. Critically evaluate their importance in balancing private patent rights with public interest in access, affordability, and technological dissemination.

6. Explain the rights of a patentee under the Patents Act. How do these rights operate in practice, particularly in relation to assignment and licensing?

7. Write short note on any TWO of the following:

(a) Patent Revocation under the Patents Act
(b) Patentable *v*. Non-Patentable Subject Matter in India
(c) Scope and Rationale of Protection of Undisclosed Information

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LL.M. (1 YEAR) 1ST SEMESTER END- EXAMINATION
DECEMBER 2025

PAPER – LAW OF TRADEMARKS AND GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION

Time: 3 hours **Max. Marks: 50**

Answer any FIVE questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Critically examine the concept of well-known trademarks under the Trade Marks Act, 1999. Discuss the tests for determination, the doctrine of dilution, and the extent to which Indian jurisprudence aligns with international standards under the TRIPS Agreement**.**

2. *Aurora Cosmetics Pvt. Ltd.* owns the registered trademark **"**AURORA GLOW**"** for premium skincare creams and serums sold in minimalist white-and-gold packaging, and the mark enjoys high consumer recognition in India. A new company, *AuroRa Naturals*, launches herbal skincare products under the mark **"**AURO'RA GLO**"**, using packaging with similar colour combinations and layout, and promotes these products extensively through social-media influencers and e-commerce platforms. Aurora Cosmetics files a suit for infringement and passing off**,** while the defendant argues that the term *Aurora* is descriptive of light, that the apostrophe and spacing create visual distinction, that "Glow/Glo" is generic in the skincare industry, and that its products are *herbal* whereas the plaintiff's products are *cosmetic.* Analyse the dispute by applying the tests for visual, phonetic and conceptual similarity, the standard of likelihood of confusion, the relevance of the plaintiff's well-known mark status, and the governing principles of infringement of registered trademarks and passing off under the Trade Marks Act, 1999.

3. Discuss the significance of major international treaties governing trademarks. Evaluate how these instruments harmonise global trademark standards and assess their impact on India's domestic trademark regime.

4. Discuss the evolution of the international framework governing Geographical Indications, with special reference to the Lisbon Agreement**,** Madrid Agreement (GIs), and TRIPS Agreement. Evaluate whether these instruments effectively address the concerns of developing countries.

5. A producer group from Karnataka holds a registered GI for "Malnad Herbal Tea." A Delhi-based company sells a product labelled "Malnad Inspired Herbal Tea"**,** using similar green-and-gold packaging and imagery of the Malnad Hills. The company argues that it merely indicates *inspiration*, not origin. Advise the GI proprietors on whether this constitutes infringement**,** misuse, or misleading indication, and discuss the remedies available under Indian GI law, supporting your analysis with relevant legal principles.

6. Compare and contrast Domain Names with Trademarks. Discuss issues related to cybersquatting, and explain the functioning of the UDRP. How does the UDRP mechanism interact with Indian trademark protection and judicial remedies?

7. Write short notes on any *TWO* of the following:

   (a) Absolute v Relative Grounds for Refusal of Trademark Registration
   (b) Comparative Advertising and Trademark Law
   (c) Trademark v Geographical Indication: Conceptual and Legal Differences

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THE INDIAN LAW INSTITUTE
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LL.M. (1 YEAR) SEMESTER END- EXAMINATION
DECEMBER-2025

PAPER – RESEARCH METHODS AND LEGAL WRITING

Time: 3 hours **Max. Marks: 50**

Answer any five questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. "Legal research involves systematic analysis of legal materials through carefully planned methods, yet the philosophical approach guiding such inquiry remains fundamentally consistent across different legal issues." Define the concept of legal research in the light of the above statement. Critically differentiate between Research Methodology and Research Methods. Illustrate your answer with suitable examples from contemporary Indian legal developments.

2. "A hypothesis in legal research functions as a bridge between abstract legal theory and verifiable empirical reality." Discuss the meaning, characteristics, and types of hypothesis in legal research. Frame an appropriate hypothesis for a proposed study on "Constitutional and Democratic Implications of 'One Nation, One Election' proposal in India."

3. "A literature review in legal research is not a mere compilation of authorities; it is a critical dialogue with existing scholarship that reveals gaps, tensions, and emerging trajectories." Elaborate on the nature, purpose, and stages of writing a literature review in legal research. Prepare a structured plan for a literature review on the topic: "Constitutional Challenges of Algorithmic Governance in India."

4. "Doctrinal and non-doctrinal methods are complementary lenses through which legal reality is perceived, constructed, and critiqued." Compare and contrast doctrinal and non-doctrinal legal research methods with suitable examples. How can mixed-method approaches strengthen a study on "Institutionalisation versus Internalisation of Dowry Practices in Contemporary India"?

5. "Sampling in empirical legal research is not merely a statistical exercise; it is a normative choice that shapes whose voices are heard and whose realities are represented." Explain the meaning, need, and types of sampling in legal research, distinguishing between probability and non-probability sampling. Design a sampling framework for a study on "Implementation of Environmental Jurisprudence of the Supreme Court at the grassroots level."

6. "Tools of AI-assisted legal research have transformed the way legal materials are accessed, interpreted, and deployed in scholarship and practice." What is the role of digital databases, AI-assisted legal research platforms, and e-resources in contemporary legal research? What are the advantages and risks associated with relying on such tools in a study on "Comparative Constitutional Responses to Online Hate Speech"?

7. Write short notes on any TWO of the following:
   a) Observation as a method in empirical legal research
   b) Use of secondary data and official statistics in legal research
   c) Ethical issues in legal research

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New Delhi

LL.M. (1 YEAR) 2ND SEMESTER END- EXAMINATION-MAY 2026

PAPER – GENDER AND CRIMINAL LAW

Time: 3 hours **Max. Marks: 50**

Note: Answer any FIVE questions. All questions carry equal marks

1. Article 5(a) of CEDAW mandates States Parties:
"To modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women, with a view to achieving the elimination of prejudices and customary practices based on stereotyped roles."
Comment in the light of India's constitutional commitment to Gender Equality.

2. "The concept of consent in Indian rape law has undergone a significant transformation from a patriarchal and resistance-based understanding to a more autonomy-oriented and affirmative standard". In the light of the above statement critically examine the evolution of the concept of consent in Indian rape law under the Mathura case, consent standards post-2013 amendments and Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.

3. Critically examine whether the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, is truly gender-neutral, allowing female perpetrators to be prosecuted for offences like penetrative sexual assault in cases involving women abusing minor boys. Analyse evidentiary challenges, societal stereotypes, and alignment with child-centric justice.

4. Evaluate the efficacy of Section 69 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, in addressing consent vitiated by misrepresentation and its potential for misuse in live-in relationships, and alignment with evolving feminist consent standards.

5. Indian law addresses obscenity through key provisions in the Indian Penal Code (IPC), now transitioned to Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), and indecent representation of women *via* a dedicated statute. Supreme Court judgments have refined these, balancing free speech under Article 19(1)(a) with public morality. Comment.

6. Critically examine the distinction between 'sex' as a biological concept and 'gender' as a socially constructed identity in contemporary legal discourse. Analyse how recognition of this distinction has influenced and transformed Indian constitutional jurisprudence and legislative frameworks.

7. Answer any TWO Short questions.

   a) Four waves of feminism
   b) Offences related to women under BNS
   c) Major theoretical perspectives on vulnerability

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LL.M. (1 YEAR) 2ND SEMESTER END- EXAMINATION
MAY 2026

PAPER – SOCIO ECONOMIC CRIMES

Time: 3 hours **Max. Marks: 50**

Answer any FIVE questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Critically analyze the reasons why socio-economic offenders often escape social stigma despite the serious impact of their crimes on society and the economy.

2. "A penal policy that would accord a distinct categorization to the deviance of the privileged classes may not be in conformity with the existing postulates of the criminal justice system". Evaluate the various theories on "Privileged Class Deviance (PCD)' in the emergence of Socio Economic Crimes in the light of the above mentioned statement?

3. Critically examine the emergence and growth of socio-economic criminality in the international scenario, with special reference to the global recognition of white-collar and corporate crimes as major anti-social threats.

4. Elucidate whether Professor E.H. Sutherland's theory of White Collar Crimes were restrictive in terms of offender status and occupational criteria.". Also critically examine relevant case laws.

5. Comment on the recommendation of the Santhanam Committee that the growing magnitude and significance of socio-economic crimes require the development of a definite theoretical framework within the traditional criminal law framework.

6. What is the effect of non-compliance with section 17 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 which corresponds to section 5 (A) of the PCA Act, 1947? Examine with the help of relevant case laws.

7. Answer any TWO of the followings:

   a. Food Business Operators
   b. *Strict Liability* concept of Socio Economic Criminality
   c. Offences and penalties under FSSAI Act, 2006

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LL.M. (1 Year) 2nd Semester end- Examination
MAY-2026

Paper – Law and Justice in Globalising World

Time: 3 hours **Max. Marks: 50**

Answer any Five questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. "Globalization is no longer merely an economic phenomenon but a structural transformation that reconfigures power relations between states, markets, and societies. The increasing dominance of digital economies, platform capitalism, and cross-border data flows has further complicated traditional regulatory frameworks." In this background, critically examine the evolving concept and forms of globalization. How do these emerging dimensions challenge the traditional legal regulation?

2. "The discourse on gender in globalization has moved beyond formal equality to address the structural discrimination, and the impact of global economic systems on marginalized identities." Critically analyze how globalization reshapes gender justice, including its implications for women and LGBTQ+ communities. Support your answer with examples.

3. "Globalization has reshaped the internal constitutional arrangements of states by influencing fiscal policies, regulatory standards, and governance priorities. In federal systems, these pressures often create tensions between central authority and regional autonomy." Discuss how globalization affects the functioning of federal structures, particularly in developing countries like India. Illustrate your answer with relevant examples.

4. "The emergence of transnational law reflects a shift from state-centric legal systems to a more complex network of overlapping legal orders involving states, international organizations, and private actors. This development has significantly expanded the scope of legal regulation across borders." Explain the concept and forms of transnational law. Analyze the factors responsible for its growth and evaluate its application in the areas of International Refugee Law and Migration Law, and International Criminal Law.

5. "Courts across jurisdictions increasingly engage with foreign judgments, international norms, and comparative reasoning. While this trend promotes legal harmonization, it also raises concerns about democratic legitimacy and constitutional identity." Examine the role

of the judiciary in mediating between global influences and domestic legal principles. Should there be limits on the use of comparative law? Substantiate your answer with relevant example.

6. "The idea of justice in a globalized world is increasingly shaped by international institutions, development agendas, and global governance frameworks. However, the effectiveness of these mechanisms is often questioned due to issues of accountability, inclusiveness, and implementation." Discuss the role of global governance framework such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in advancing global justice.

7. Write short notes on **any TWO** of the following:

(a) Impact of globalization on sovereignty of States

(b) Cosmopolitan Responsibility v State Obligation

(c) Millennium Development Goals and Post-2015 Development Agenda

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LL.M. (1 YEAR) 2ND SEMESTER END- EXAMINATION-MAY 2026

PAPER – INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AND PUBLIC POLICY

TIME: 3 HOURS **MAX. MARKS: 50**

ANSWER ANY FIVE QUESTIONS. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS

1. "Intellectual Property Rights are often justified as mechanisms for promoting innovation and economic growth; however, they also generate concerns relating to exclusion, concentration of power, and distributive injustice." Critically evaluate the extent to which contemporary IP regimes successfully reconcile private proprietary interests with constitutional values, public welfare, and developmental objectives.

2. "The exercise of Intellectual Property Rights may itself become anti-competitive." Critically analyse this statement with reference to refusal to license, excessive pricing, standard-essential technologies, and market foreclosure.

3. A multinational biotechnology corporation obtains patent protection in India over a genetically engineered seed variety and imposes restrictive licensing conditions preventing farmers from saving or reusing seeds. Farmer groups argue that the technology was partly derived from indigenous agricultural knowledge and that the corporation's practices threaten food security and biodiversity. Critically analyse the legal and policy issues relating to patent protection, farmers' rights, public interest, traditional knowledge and India's obligations under the TRIPS Agreement.

4. Discuss the relationship between Intellectual Property Rights, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the Right to Health. Critically evaluate whether contemporary patent regimes facilitate or hinder equitable access to medicines in developing countries.

5. Discuss the evolution of global intellectual property governance from the Paris and Berne regimes to the TRIPS framework and contemporary TRIPS-plus arrangements. Critically evaluate whether developing countries retain meaningful policy space within the present international IP order.

6. Critically examine the National Intellectual Property Rights Policy, 2016 in the context of innovation, commercialization, access to knowledge, and public interest. Has the Policy succeeded in creating a balanced and inclusive IP ecosystem in India?

7. Write Short Notes (Attempt ANY TWO only):

a) North–South asymmetries in global IP norm creation
b) Compulsory licensing as a public policy tool
c) Intellectual Property and Space Law

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New Delhi

LL.M. (1 YEAR) 2ND SEMESTER END- EXAMINATION-MAY 2026

PAPER – IPR IN DIGITAL AGE

Time: 3 hours **Max. Marks: 50**

Answer any FIVE questions. All questions carry equal marks

1. The digital ecosystem has fundamentally altered the conceptual foundations of Intellectual Property law. Critically examine how Web 3.0 technologies, platform economies, and data-driven markets challenge traditional assumptions regarding ownership, territoriality, control, and enforcement.

2. Discuss the challenges posed by digital technologies to copyright law with special reference to streaming, caching, linking, embedding and peer-to-peer dissemination. To what extent have the WIPO Internet Treaties addressed these challenges?

3. Critically evaluate the intermediary liability regime under the Copyright Act, 1957 and the Information Technology Act, 2000. Does the existing safe harbour framework strike an appropriate balance between innovation, free expression, and effective copyright enforcement?

4. A company operating an AI-based metaverse platform allows users to create and sell AI-generated artworks and virtual branded products as NFTs. Trademark owners allege sale of counterfeit virtual goods, while artists and performers claim unauthorized use of copyrighted works and digital replicas for training AI systems. The platform claims protection as an intermediary hosting user-generated content. Critically analyse the legal issues relating to copyright, trademarks, intermediary liability, NFTs, AI-generated content, and personality rights in digital environments.

5. Critically examine the debates surrounding authorship and inventorship in Artificial Intelligence-generated works and inventions. Should AI systems be recognized as authors or inventors under contemporary intellectual property regimes? Discuss with reference to recent global developments.

6. Data has emerged as a critical economic resource in digital markets. Critically examine the interface between data protection, database rights, and competition law, with special reference to issues of market concentration, data monopolies, and barriers to innovation in the digital economy.

7. Write Short Notes (Attempt ANY TWO only)

   (a) Text and Data Mining (TDM) exceptions
   (b) Rights Management Information (RMI) and Digital Rights Management (DRM)
   (c) Creative Commons

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THE INDIAN LAW INSTITUTE
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NEW DELHI

LL.M. (1 YEAR) 2ND SEMESTER END- EXAMINATION
MAY 2026

PAPER – CYBER CRIME, CYBER TERRORISM AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Time: 3 hours **Max. Marks: 50**

Answer any FIVE questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss the major types of cybercrime as classified under international frameworks and Indian law. Distinguish between 'cybercrimes' proper and 'cyber contraventions' under Indian law, illustrating your answer with relevant statutory provisions and landmark judicial precedents.

2. Critically analyse the concepts of impersonation and identity theft as distinct yet interlinked cyber offences, with reference to their classification under the Information Technology Act, 2000 and Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023. Evaluate the adequacy of current Indian provisions for addressing emerging threats of impersonation and synthetic identity fraud.

3. Evaluate the legal framework governing cyber obscenity and pornography with particular reference to the Information Technology Act, 2000 (as amended), and its interplay with Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023. Distinguish between 'obscene material' and 'sexually explicit content', with reference to landmark judgments.

4. Examine the criminal liability of Internet Service Providers (ISPs), focusing on the safe harbor provisions and intermediary due diligence under the IT Rules. Analyse the judicial evolution through distinguishing active facilitation from passive hosting liability. Discuss the liability of active and passive sites.

5. Explain the jurisdictional challenges in cyberspace, comparing international principles of personal jurisdiction (minimum contacts), effects doctrine, and targeting tests. Evaluate the application of Section 75 of the IT Act to cross-border cybercrimes, assess its adequacy, and harmonise it with private international law.

6. Assess the philosophical underpinnings of cyber governance models and the theories of cyber crime, and explain how Indian law has interpreted and balanced these approaches through the Information Technology Act, 2000.

7. Write short note any *TWO* of the following:

   (a) Computer- related offences
   (b) Cyber Terrorism
   (c) Cyber Stalking

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NEW DELHI

LL.M. (1 YEAR) 2nd SEMESTER END EXAMINATION
MAY 2026

PAPER – MEDIA AND LAW

Time: 3 hours **Max. Marks: 50**

Answer any five questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Liberal constitutionalism treats freedom of speech and expression not merely as an individual liberty but as a structural necessity for democratic legitimacy. Competing theories offer different normative justifications for protecting speech. In contemporary India, where media ownership, political influence, and digital monopolies shape public discourse, the theoretical foundations of free speech require deeper scrutiny beyond formal constitutional guarantees.

   In this backdrop, critically evaluate the major theoretical justifications of free speech and expression. In light of concentrated media ownership and platform capitalism, does the classical liberal defence of free speech remain adequate for safeguarding democratic discourse in India?

2. "Although the Constitution of India does not explicitly mention "freedom of press," judicial interpretation has read press freedom into Article 19(1)(a). Simultaneously, Article 19(2) permits reasonable restrictions. The constitutional challenge lies not merely in defining "reasonable restrictions," but in ensuring that State power does not convert regulation into censorship, especially in preventive and indirect forms."

   Examine the constitutional framework governing media freedom under Article 19(1)(a) read with Article 19(2), with reference to prior restraint and indirect censorship over media institutions.

3. "The relationship between the State and the media is naturally marked by tension, as the State often seeks confidentiality for effective governance while the media demands transparency in the public interest. This conflict becomes sharper when laws relating to public order, national security, and digital regulation are used in ways that may restrict journalistic freedom and public access to information."

   In this context, evaluate the respective roles of the legislature, executive, and judiciary in regulating the media in India. Examine this question with reference to specific episodes of state intervention and the doctrines evolved by the courts to limit or permit such intervention.

4. "Privacy and press freedom are both essential constitutional values, yet they often come into conflict when personal information becomes the subject of public reporting. In the age of digital media and instant dissemination, the challenge lies in determining how far the media may intrude into private lives in the name of public interest and where the limits of legitimate scrutiny should be drawn."

In this light, critically examine the tension between the right to privacy and the freedom of the press in the present constitutional landscape with the help of case laws. Analyse whether existing judicial doctrines and legislative frameworks provide a coherent and principled basis for resolving this tension, and explore the implications for investigative journalism and digital media in India.

5. "Commercial speech occupies a unique position within freedom of expression because it involves both the right of businesses to advertise and the right of consumers to receive information. At the same time, advertising carries persuasive power that can mislead the public, making regulation necessary to protect consumer welfare, public health, and fair market practices."

   Examine the constitutional and regulatory framework governing commercial speech in India. Critically evaluate whether the existing statutory and self-regulatory mechanisms provide a doctrinally consistent and practically effective regime for balancing the right to advertise against consumer protection and public interest concerns, with particular attention to emerging challenges in the digital advertising ecosystem.

6. "The internet has transformed freedom of expression by making communication instant, inexpensive, and borderless, allowing individuals to participate in public discourse on an unprecedented scale. At the same time, digital platforms have also amplified misinformation, hate speech, and harmful content, creating difficult questions about how far the State may regulate online speech without undermining constitutional freedoms."

   Undertake a critical constitutional and regulatory analysis of India's evolving framework for governing social media and digital intermediaries. Evaluate whether the current framework strikes a constitutionally defensible balance between the freedom of speech and expression, the legitimate interest of the state in preventing harm, and the autonomy of digital platforms, with reference to relevant judicial developments and comparative perspectives.

7. Write short notes on any TWO of the following:

   a) Role of Media in ensuring free and fair elections

   b) Conflict between the right to information and the media's claim of public interest reporting.

   c) Regulation of deepfakes, misinformation, and platform accountability in the age of digital media.

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NEW DELHI

LL.M. (1 YEAR) 2nd SEMESTER END- EXAMINATION MAY 2026

PAPER – ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION MECHANISM IN INDIA

Time: 3 hours **Max. Marks: 50**

Answer any five questions. All questions carry equal marks.

Q1. *"The concepts of environmental personhood and rights of nature challenge the traditional anthropocentric foundations of environmental law and promote a shift towards ecocentric environmental governance."* Critically examine this statement with reference to the concepts of anthropocentrism, ecocentrism, stewardship, and environmental personhood. Discuss the judicial and legislative developments relating to the recognition of rivers as legal persons in India and other jurisdictions.

Q2. *"International environmental law has evolved from a state-centric and developmental framework towards a more cooperative and sustainability-oriented regime; however, challenges of enforcement, equity, and climate justice continue to undermine its effectiveness."* Critically examine this statement with reference to the evolution of international environmental law from the Stockholm Declaration to the Paris Agreement. Discuss the role of key principles such as sustainable development, precautionary principle, polluter pays principle, and Common But Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR).

Q3. A multinational chemical corporation operating a pesticide manufacturing plant in the State of Madhya Bharat experienced a major gas leak due to failure in its safety systems. The leak resulted in several deaths, long-term health injuries, contamination of groundwater, and large-scale environmental damage affecting nearby villages. The company argues that the accident was caused by sabotage by unknown persons and that it had complied with all statutory safety requirements. A public interest petition is filed before the Supreme Court seeking compensation for victims, environmental restoration, closure of the industry, and criminal prosecution of the company officials.

Discuss the liability of the company under Indian environmental law governing hazardous and inherently dangerous activities. In your answer, critically trace the evolution of the principle of absolute liability in the aftermath of the Bhopal Gas Tragedy and analyse the major judicial and legislative responses relating to the regulation and handling of hazardous substances.

Q4. A pharmaceutical company illegally discharged untreated chemical waste into a river used by nearby villages for drinking and irrigation purposes. Residents complained of foul smell, fish deaths, skin diseases, and contamination of groundwater. Despite repeated complaints, the local municipal authorities and Pollution Control Board failed to take timely action. The affected residents approach the District Magistrate seeking immediate closure of the discharge outlet and removal of the nuisance under Section 152 BNSS (earlier section 133 CrPC).

Discuss the remedies available against environmental harm caused by industrial pollution. In your answer, also examine the scope of public nuisance under Section 152 BNSS with the help of decided cases.

Q5. *"The evolution of forest laws and policies in India reflects a gradual shift from colonial resource exploitation towards conservation, sustainable development, and community participation, though significant tensions continue to persist between ecological protection and developmental priorities."* Critically examine this statement with reference to the judicial and legislative evolution of forest governance in India during the colonial and post-colonial period.

Q6. *"The Forest Rights Act, 2006 was enacted to remedy the historical injustice suffered by forest-dwelling communities by recognizing their customary, cultural, and livelihood rights, while also promoting decentralized forest governance through Gram Sabhas."* In the light of the above statement, critically examine the significance of the Forest Rights Act, 2006. Discuss the role of Gram Sabhas in the recognition, protection, and management of forest rights and the preservation of the cultural heritage of forest-dwelling communities. Support your answer with relevant judicial decisions.

Q7. Write short note on any TWO of the following:

a) Environment Impact Assessment and Precautionary principle.
b) The National Green tribunal and its role in environment protection.
c) Brundtland Commission and its contribution.

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LL.M. (1 YEAR) 2nd SEMESTER END- EXAMINATION MAY 2026

PAPER –GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

Time: 3 hours **Max. Marks: 50**

Answer any five questions. All questions carry equal marks.

Q1. *"Administrative law is the legal response to the expansion of the welfare state."* Discuss the above statement with reference to the growth of administrative agencies, public welfare functions, regulation, and the need for accountability.

Q2. A government college removes a student from its rolls on the ground of alleged misconduct. The removal order merely states that "disciplinary action has been taken in institutional interest." The student was not supplied with a copy of the complaint, was not given an opportunity to present a defence, and the order does not disclose any reasons.

In light of the above facts, examine whether the action of the college is legally sustainable. Discuss the principles of natural justice and the appropriate writ remedy available to the student under the Constitution of India, with reference to decided cases.

Q3. A State Control Order empowers the licensing authority to grant, refuse, suspend, cancel, or modify trade licences "as it thinks fit." The order does not lay down any criteria for the exercise of this power. It also does not provide for appeal, review, or any effective procedural safeguard. Acting under this provision, the licensing authority cancels the licence of a trader dealing in an essential commodity, stating only that cancellation is "necessary in public interest."

In light of the above facts, examine the legality of the cancellation order and the validity of the power conferred on the licensing authority, while discussing the grounds of judicial review relating to administrative discretion.

Q4. *"Delegated legislation is constitutionally valid in India, but the legislature cannot delegate its essential legislative function."*Discuss the above concept with reference to the meaning, necessity, limits, and control of delegated legislation. Refer to relevant case laws.

Q5. *"Global Administrative Law is a framework for asking accountability questions where public power is exercised beyond ordinary domestic institutions."* Discuss the above statement with reference to the meaning and emergence of Global Administrative Law. In your answer, explain the definition of GAL, its core principles, and the role of key actors. Refer to suitable institutional examples.

Q6. *"WTO-related Global Administrative Law operates in vertical, internal, and horizontal* dimensions." Critically examine Richard Stewart's view of the WTO as an example of Global Administrative Law. In your answer, explain how the WTO disciplines domestic trade-related administration in its vertical dimension, how its own processes raise accountability concerns, and how its reliance on external standard-setting bodies reflects the horizontal dimension of GAL. Refer to suitable WTO provisions and case laws to support your answer.

Q7. Write short note on any TWO of the following:

a) Why ordinary private law is insufficient to control public power.
b) Wednesbury unreasonableness.
c) Use of writ of Mandamus in administrative law.

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