

MEDIA AND THE LAW

UNIT – I: MEDIA AND PUBLIC POLICY

- 1.1 Concept and Evolution of media industry in India and entry of foreign print media;
- 1.2 Development of Press, Radio, FM, Doodarshan, Cable TV, Satellite TV and films as a medium of mass communication.
- 1.3 Ownership pattern – Public and private – press, film, radio, TV, internet; Differences between visual and non-visual media; Problems of oligopoly.
- 1.4 Airwaves and Government control – Licensing issues in Broadcasting sectors, Community Radio Advocacy,
- 1.5 Pre-censorship of films in big screens - Cinematography Act 1952; broadcasting in small screens – internal scrutiny & self regulation – problems and perspectives.

UNIT - II: CONSTITUTION AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- 2.1 Freedom of speech and expression and its restrictions
- 2.2 Right to know v. Right to privacy
- 2.3 Interpretation of Art. 19(1)(a) relating to print & electronic media – Case studies
- 2.4 Power of legislature to impose tax on print media.
- 2.5 Media & Criminal Law-Defamation, Obscenity, Seditious under IPC; Media & Tort Law - Defamation & Negligence; Media & Legislature – Privileges of the Legislatures; Media & Judiciary – Contempt of Court; Media & Executive – Official Secrets Act and Right to information Act; Media & Journalists – Working Journalists (Conditions of Service) Act & Press Council Act.
- 2.6 Judicial review on media

UNIT – III: THE NEW MEDIA OF INTERNET

- 3.1 Evolution of internet as new media
- 3.2 Cyber Journalism - search websites, News website, online publication, E-commerce, Advertisement and Social networking sites.
- 3.3 Problems of Information security, Social, Political and Moral Problems; Pornography includes Child pornography & scandals; freedom of expression in social networking sites.
- 3.4 ICT regulations; Information Technology Act, 2000.
- 3.5 Global regulation of internet & e-commerce.

UNIT - IV: MEDIA AND SOCIETY

- 4.1 Role of media in social change and its ethics.
- 4.2 Mass campaigns on specific issues – social concerns, environmental issues, human rights, gender equality.
- 4.3 Uses and utilization of electronic media in education and research.
- 4.4 Trial by media - Accountability v. Independence.

- 4.5 Hate speech and tolerance - yellow journalism: issues and concerns
- 4.6 Press Council of India & Press Commissions.
- 4.7 Government control v. Private monopoly

UNIT – V: MEDIA & ADVERTISEMENT

- 5.1 Concept & origin of Advertisement and its development.
- 5.2 Advertisement & Ethics.
- 5.3 Commercial advertisement and its socio-economic effects.
- 5.4 The Advertising standards council of India.
- 5.5 Indecent Representation (prohibition) Act, 1986.
- 5.6 The Drugs and Magic Remedies (objectionable) Advertisements Act of 1954.
- 5.7 Issues of Consumer Protection.
- 5.8 Competition Act, 2002 and impact on Advertisements.

Statutes to be reviewed:

Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867,
The press(objectionable matters)Act 1957,
The News Paper (prices and Pages)Act, 1956,
Defence of India Act,
Delivery of Books and News paper (public libraries) Act, 1954,
Telegraph Act, 1885;
Broadcasting Bill, 2006;
Cable T.V.Networks (regulation) Act of 1995;

Select Bibliography:

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.
