



17076



# BRAINWARE UNIVERSITY

Term End Examination 2025-2026

Programme – BBA LL.B.-2022/B.A. LL.B.-2022

Course Name – Media & Law

Course Code - BBALLB705B/BALLB705B

( Semester VII )

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Barasat, Kolkata -700125

Full Marks : 60

Time : 2:30 Hours

[The figure in the margin indicates full marks. Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.]

## Group-A

(Multiple Choice Type Question)

1 x 15=15

1. Choose the correct alternative from the following :
  - (i) Identify the false statement regarding the censorship of the press.
    - a) It is prohibited by the Constitution
    - b) It has to be judged by the test of reasonableness
    - c) It is a restriction on the freedom of the press mentioned in Article 19
    - d) All of these
  - (ii) Choose the name of the Committee that Doordarshan should devote at least 20 percent of the total broadcasting time on each channel to socially relevant programmes.
    - a) The Verghese Committee
    - b) The Varadan Committee
    - c) The Naidu Committee
    - d) The Chanda Committee
  - (iii) Choose the criteria(s) that have to be satisfied in order to adjudge the restriction to be 'reasonable'.
    - a) The restriction must have a rational connection with the object sought to be achieved by the law
    - b) The restriction imposed must not be in excess of the mischief sought to be prevented or the object sought to be achieved by the law
    - c) Both (a) and (b)
    - d) Neither (a) nor (b)
  - (iv) Identify the fundamental right that supports freedom of the press in India.
    - a) Article 21
    - b) Article 19(1)(a)
    - c) Article 32
    - d) Article 368
  - (v) Tell which media ownership type is most likely to promote rural voices.
    - a) Privately Owned Media
    - b) Community-Owned Media
    - c) Government Media
    - d) International Conglomerates
  - (vi) Recall the major case that struck down Section 66A of the IT Act.
    - a) Romesh Thappar v. State of Madras
    - b) Sakal Papers v. Union of India
    - c) Bennett Coleman v. Union of India
    - d) Shreya Singhal v. Union of India
  - (vii) Choose the first vernacular newspaper in India.

- a) Kesari  
c) Samachar Darpan
- b) The Hindu  
d) Sambad Kaumudi
- (viii) Recall the institution that certifies films before release.
- a) Censor Board of India  
c) Film Commission
- b) Central Board of Film Certification  
d) Broadcast Authority
- (ix) Identify the organization responsible for content on OTT platforms under 2021 rules.
- a) Cinematograph Board  
c) Digital Media Regulatory Body
- b) Press Council of India  
d) Ministry of Electronics & IT
- (x) Which of the following is NOT a reasonable restriction on freedom of the press?
- a) Public order  
c) Criticism of government
- b) Security of the state  
d) Decency or morality
- (xi) Select the colonial motivation behind the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867.
- a) To promote education  
c) To suppress nationalist content
- b) To empower local printers  
d) To export newspapers
- (xii) Choose the type of contempt involving disobedience of court orders.
- a) Criminal contempt  
c) Moral contempt
- b) Civil contempt  
d) Judicial contempt
- (xiii) Identify the limitation of Press Council of India (PCI).
- a) Regulates social media  
c) Confined to print media
- b) Has punitive power  
d) Controls broadcast media
- (xiv) Relate plagiarism with its core ethical violation.
- a) Invasion of privacy  
c) Lack of attribution
- b) Lack of balance  
d) Unethical interviewing
- (xv) Infer the reason why media ethics codes emphasize corrections.
- a) To satisfy employers  
c) To build trust and credibility
- b) To protect advertisers  
d) To attract viewers

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**Group-B**  
(Short Answer Type Questions)

3 x 5=15

2. What do you mean by freedom of Press? What are the Constitutional provisions protecting and promoting the same? (3)
3. Explain defamation and its importance in journalism. (3)
4. Summarize the history of legislative efforts in media regulation. (3)
5. Identify the role of Right of access to information in the exercise of freedom of expression. (3)
6. "Judgements can be criticised but not judges." Evaluate the statement with the help of relevant case laws and the Contempt of Court Act, 1971. (3)

**OR**

"Sting operation is an invasion of the right to privacy." Discuss. (3)

**Group-C**  
(Long Answer Type Questions)

5 x 6=30

7. When does the freedom of speech become subject to reasonable restrictions under Article 19 of the Constitution of India? What is the law of prior restraint in India? (5)
8. Explain journalistic ethics and briefly enumerate the Code of Ethics formulated by the Press Council of India. (5)
9. Briefly explain the recommendations of the First Press Commission. Do you think First Press Commission could successfully promote freedom of press in India? (5)
10. Examine the objective and relevance of the Official Secrets Act, 1923. (5)
11. Examine the impact of yellow journalism on the code of journalistic ethics with examples. (5)
12. Would you make a case for 'or against' governmental control of free speech on social media? Substantiate your response with existing legal provisions and judicial (5)

pronouncements.

OR

Assess the validity and extent of "gag orders" issued by courts during the pendency of trials. Can the same be issued while the matter is still under investigation? (5)

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