

**GUJARAT NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY  
GANDHINAGAR**

Course: Media and Telecommunication Laws  
Semester- I (Batch: 2022-23)

End Semester Examination: November 2022 (LL M)

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2022

Duration: 3 hours

Max. Marks: 50

**Instructions:**

- Read the questions properly and write the answers in the given answer book.
- Do not write anything on the question paper.
- The respective marks for each question are indicated in-line.
- Indicate correct question numbers in front of the answer.
- No questions or clarification can be sought during the exam period, answer as it is, giving reason, if any.
- Word Limit: 10 Marks: 1000-1500 words, 5 Marks: 650-700 words.

**Part: A**

(Answer any two of the following:)

**Marks**

- Q.1 “Democracy thrives through the vigilant eye of the legislature, care and guidance of public opinion and press par excellence. Freedom of speech includes the right to propagate one’s views through print media or any other communication channel e.g radio, television subject to reasonable restrictions imposed under Article 19(2) of Indian Constitution.” (10)
- In light of the above statements elaborate various facets of freedom of speech and expression with the help of landmark judgements.
- Q.2 Considering the overall impact of a film Hidayatullah, C.J. in a landmark judgment observed that: "It had been almost universally recognized that motion pictures must be treated differently from other forms of art and expression, because a motion picture's instant appeal both to the sight and to hearing, and because a motion picture had become more true to life than even the theatre or any other form of artistic representation. Its effect, particularly on children and immature adolescents was great." (10)
- In light of the above observation, elaborate the Constitutionality of Film Censorship with the help of important judicial pronouncements.
- Q.3 “An advertisement is no doubt a form of speech but its true character is reflected by the object for the promotion of which it is employed.” (10)
- Justify the statement with the help of case laws and the related provisions of law.

**Part: B**

(Answer the following questions:)

- Q.4 “If all mankind minus one, were of one opinion, and only one person were of the contrary opinion, mankind would be no more justified in silencing that one person, than he, if he had the power, would be justified in silencing mankind.” (10)
- Analyse the Mill's arguments on absolute freedom of speech and expression and discuss it in light of contemporary issue of fake news.

Enumerate the steps taken by various governments and other stakeholders on fake news on social media and critically analyse their consequences on free speech.

- Q.5 Write short Notes on **any two** of the following: (5x2=10)
- a) Sting operations : a Necessary Evil.
  - b) Media coverage in conflict zones: Government's puppet or TRP monger.
  - c) Paid News and Elections: democracy in question.
  - d) Cross ownership in media: a challenge to free press.
- Q.6 Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), established in 1997, is one example of the shift from hierarchical command and control to decentered regulation in India. (10)  
Analyze the evolution and development of India's telecommunications regulatory framework in light of the above statement.

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