

8 MAY 2023

## NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, JODHPUR

End Term Examination January-May- 2023

Semester: UG VIII Semester

Subject: Media Law

Time: Three Hours

Marks: 100

### Instructions:

1. Answer any five questions.
2. All questions carry equal marks.

Q.1) A was a wealthy businessman in Rajasthan. He was accused of rash and negligent driving leading to the death of B in 2019. However, his trial is still pending. The media has consistently reported that the delay in the trial is the result of political connections of the A. X, a reporter of D News conducted a sting operation along with Y, the main witness of the case, exposing the collusion between the defence and prosecution advocates. In the sting video, the prosecutor agrees to dropping the name of the Y from the witness list. The High Court of Rajasthan initiated suo motu contempt proceedings against both the advocates, and held them guilty of contempt of court. Both the advocates filed an appeal to the Supreme Court against the High Court's decision, and also stated that airing of the show based on the sting operation by news channels amounted to media trial. Critically evaluate the legality of sting operations conducted by media.

(20 marks)

Q.2) Self-regulation is the best form of regulation for media. Do you agree with this statement? Write a critical essay on regulation of media, reflecting on the best possible mode of media regulation, pitfalls and lacunae in the existing system in India.

(20 Marks)

Q.3) Write short notes on following:

- a. Reporting of legislative proceedings by media
- b. History of legislative efforts in media regulations

(10\*2=20 Marks)

Q.4) "Judgements can be criticised but not judges." Discuss with the help of relevant case laws and the Contempt of Court Act, 1971.

(20 marks)

Q.5) "Film must be judged according to the contemporary standards of the country." Critically analyse the different tests applied by courts in deciding the question of obscenity?

(20 Marks)

Q.6) Trial by media is on the rise. Media justifies it as its right under Article 19 (1) (a). Is it covered under freedom of press? Discuss in the light of right of fair trial to accused with the help of relevant case laws. Discuss the recommendations of 200th Law Commission of India report in brief.

(20 Marks)