

M.A. Examination, 2019
Semester-II
Communication and Journalism
Paper VII
(Media: Laws, Ethics & Evolution)

Time: 4 Hours

Full Marks: 80

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin

Answer **Question no. 8** and **any four** from the rest.

1. Explain defamation and the ten exceptions to defamation. What are the journalistic defences against a charge of defamation? 5+5+5=15
 2. "The object of the discipline enforced by the Court in case of contempt of court is not to vindicate the dignity of the Court or the person of the Judge, but to prevent undue interference with the administration of justice." Discuss the validity of the statement in relation to the Contempt of Court act and the media's right to free and fair reporting. Also differentiate between Civil and Criminal contempt. 10+5=15
 3. Discuss the evolution of various media forms of human communication down the ages. Also put forward your opinion whether it has completed a full round since its evolution. 15
 4. "Privacy is the claim of individuals, groups, or institutions to determine for themselves when, how, and to what extent information about themselves is communicated to others." Discuss the validity of the statement in relation to the Right to Information and the Right to Privacy enshrined in the Indian Constitution. 15
 5. Discuss the General and Commercial Codes of Ethics laid down by All India Radio. 5+10=15
 6. "...social media should be brought under the ambit of Press Council of India." Do you agree with the statement? Also briefly describe the history and structure of the Press Council of India. 7.5+7.5=15
 7. Do you think freedom of speech and expression is absolute right? Discuss in relation to the provisions enshrined in the Indian Constitution with suitable examples. 10+5=15
 8. Write short notes on **any two** of the following: (Word Limit: 300 Words) 2×10=20
 - (a) Explain the following terms: plaintiff, defendant, evidence, bail, sub judice.
 - (b) Parliamentary Privileges
 - (c) Right to Privacy
 - (d) Copyright Act
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