26803208 (Pages : 2) Reg. No.....

Name.....

THREE YEAR UNITARY LL.B. DEGREE EXAMINATION
SEPTEMBER 2026

Fourth Semester

UL 18—INTERPRETATION OF STATUTES AND PRINCIPLES OF LEGISLATION

(2024 Admissions—Regular, 2020–2023 Admissions—Supplementary, 2019 Admissions—First Mercy Chance, 2018 Admissions—Second Mercy Chance)

Time : Three Hours Maximum : 75 Marks

Part A

Answer any **five** *questions.*
Each question carries 3 *marks.*

1. Statutes and Their Nature.
2. Meaning and Need for Interpretation.
3. Internal Aids to Construction.
4. Parliamentary Discussion and Legislative History.
5. Doctrine of *Ejusdem Generis*.
6. Presumption in Statutory Construction.

(5 × 3 = 15 marks)

Part B

Answer any **three** *questions.*
Each question carries 10 *marks.*

7. A provision prohibits a person from "drawing blood" without consent. A doctor draws blood to save a life. Which rule of interpretation is to be followed and why ?
8. A social welfare statute provides benefits to "workmen." A marginally higher-paid employee claims coverage. Should the court apply a liberal or restrictive interpretation ?

Turn over

9. A law refers to "banks, financial institutions, and brokers." Should "brokers" be interpreted in a financial or general commercial sense ? R v Cooper

10. A statute empowers an authority to grant compensation but does not make it mandatory. Can courts compel the authority to act ?

(3 × 10 = 30 marks)

Part C

Answer any **two** *questions.*

Each question carries 15 *marks.*

11. Discuss the literal, golden, and mischief rules of interpretation, illustrating with relevant case law.

12. Evaluate the judicial policy of interpretation to prevent abuse or evasion of law, balancing equity with statutory text.

13. Explain the principles of legislative drafting and the qualities of a good draftsman with examples of legislative clarity and ambiguity.

(2 × 15 = 30 marks)