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Reg. No.....

Name.....

FIVE YEAR B.A./B.Com./B.B.A., LL.B. (HONOURS) DEGREE EXAMINATION, OCTOBER 2025

Sixth Semester

FL 15—INTERPRETATION OF STATUTES AND PRINCIPLES OF LEGISLATION

(2022 Admissions—Regular/2018 to 2021 Admissions—Supplementary)

Time : Three Hours

Maximum : 75 Marks

Part A

Write short notes on any **five** *of the following.*
Each question carries 3 *marks.*

1. Literal Rule of interpretation of statutes.
2. *Travaux Preparatoires.*
3. Doctrine of 'Pith and Substance'.
4. *Ejusdem generis.*
5. Retrospective operation of statutes.
6. Montesquieu's rules of legislative diction.

(5 × 3 = 15 marks)

Part B

Answer any **three** *of the following problems.*
Each question carries 10 *marks.*

7. Section 77 of the Road Traffic Act requires the driver of a motor vehicle 'to stop' the vehicle after an accident. In one case, the driver of a car, soon after the accident, stopped the engine for a moment, then started again and continued his journey. Can the driver be held liable for violation of section 77 of the Road Traffic Act ? How should the said legal provision be interpreted so as to suit the intention of legislature ? Decide.

Turn over

8. According to section 2 (g) of the Medicinal Preparations (Excise Duties) Act, the expression "medicinal preparation" includes all drugs which are a remedy or 'prescription' prepared for internal or external use of human beings or animals and all substances intended to be used for or in the treatment, mitigation or prevention of disease in human beings or animals. Examine whether 'OLD SPICE' AFTER SHAVE LOTION comes within the ambit of "medicinal preparation" for purposes of imposition of Excise Duty under the Act.

9. Section 418 of the Delhi Corporation Act authorised the Corporation to round up the 'abandoned' cattle grazing on the government land. The Corporation authorities rounded up the cattle belonging to Mr. 'K'. It was contended by Mr. 'K' that the word 'abandoned' meant the loss of ownership and those cattle which were rounded up belonged to him and hence, was not abandoned. Decide, by applying appropriate principle of interpretation of Statutes, whether K's cattle, which was left unattended, came within the purview of Section 418 of the Delhi Corporation Act.

10. 'X' was charged for rape. The maximum punishment for rape was seven years' imprisonment and fine up to 50,000. While the trial of 'X' was being conducted, the Criminal Law Amendment Act was passed and the punishment of rape was enhanced to minimum imprisonment of 10 years and maximum Life Imprisonment. Examine whether 'X' could be awarded 10 years' imprisonment for rape.

(3 × 10 = 30 marks)

Part C

Answer any **two** *of the following questions.*
Each question carries **15** *marks.*

11. Briefly explain the internal and external aids to statutory interpretation. How far are the international legal instruments helpful in interpreting national legislations ?

12. Briefly discuss the important presumptions of law applied while interpreting Statutes.

13. Explain Bentham's Theory of Utility and examine its applicability in the field of legislation.

(2 × 15 = 30 marks)