

TILAK MAHARASHTRA VIDYAPEETH, PUNE
BACHELOR OF LAWS (LL.B.) (Three Years Semester Pattern)/
B.A. LL.B. (ACADEMIC LAW)
(FIVE YEARS SEMESTER PATTERN) CREDIT SYSTEM
EXAMINATION : DECEMBER - 2024
EIGHTH/FOURTH SEMESTER
Sub.: Interpretation of Statutes (LW-8003/403)

Date : 12/12/2024

Total Marks : 60

Time: 2.00 pm to 4.30 pm

Instructions: 1) All questions are compulsory.
2) Figure indicate to the right full marks.

Q. 1. Answer the following question. (15)

A) Explain the **Golden Rule of Interpretation** and discuss its significance in resolving ambiguities in statutory language with relevant case laws.

OR

B) Internal and External Aids to Interpretation. Support your answer with examples.

Q. 2. Answer the following question. (15)

A) Define the term "**Beneficial Construction.**" How is this principle applied in interpreting social welfare legislation? Support your answer with examples.

OR

B) Examine the concept of **Legislative Intent** and its role in the interpretation of statutes. How do courts ascertain legislative intent?

Q. 3. Write Short Notes. (any four) (20)

- Literal Rule of Interpretation
- Mischief Rule (Heydon's Rule)
- Presumptions in Statutory Interpretation
- Penal Statutes and their Interpretation
- Importance of Proviso in Statutes
- Ejusdem Generis Rule

Q. 4. Answer the following questions. (10)

A) **Conflict Between Provisions:** Section 10 of an Act states, "No person shall cut down trees in a public park without permission from the authorities." However, Section 15 states, "Trees that are older than 50 years in public parks must be removed for safety concerns."

- How would the doctrine of harmonious construction be applied to resolve this conflict?

OR

B) **Scenario:** A law prohibits "*fishing in protected waters using mechanical equipment.*" A man is fined for using a fishing rod with a reel (which has a mechanical function). He argues that the law intends to prohibit large fishing machines, not manual rods.

Question: Analyze this situation using the **rule of strict construction** for penal statutes. Should the man be fined? Support your answer with reasons.



Caricature Description:

- A riverbank scene where a fisherman holds a rod labeled "Reel Trouble!"
 - A park ranger writes a ticket, saying "The law is clear!"
 - A large fishing trawler is visible in the distance with a sarcastic banner reading "Not Fined Yet!"
 - A nearby fish has a speech bubble saying "Define mechanical, please!"
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