

SCHOOL OF LAW
HAMDARD INSTITUTE OF LEGAL STUDIES & RESEARCH (HILSR)
JAMIA HAMDARD, NEW DELHI
Special Supplementary Theory Examination, July 2025
B.A.L.L.B-Xth Semester

Subject: Interpretation of Statutes (BALLB-1001)

Time: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks-75

Instructions

- I. Write your Roll Number on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.*
- II. Attempt five questions selecting one from each Unit. All questions carry equal marks.*

Unit -I

(15 marks)

1. Discuss the role of the General Clauses Act, 1897 in statutory interpretation. How does it assist when a term is not defined in the statute? Illustrate with examples.

OR

2. Define statutory law. Discuss the meaning, nature and scope of statutory laws. How do statutory laws differ from customary and judge-made laws in terms of interpretation?

Unit-II

(15 marks)

3. Critically examine whether courts can legislate while interpreting statutes. Discuss with reference to relevant case laws.

OR

4. Explain the rule of Generalia Specialibus Non Derogant in the interpretation of statutes. How does this principle help in resolving conflicts between general and special laws? Illustrate with case law.

Unit- III

(15 marks)

5. Discuss the role of external aids to the interpretation of statutes. Illustrate your answer with examples.

OR

6. What are internal aids to the interpretation of statutes? Provide examples and briefly explain their significance.

Unit -IV

(15 marks)

7. Discuss the concepts of restrictive and beneficial interpretation in the interpretation of statutes. How do Courts decide when to apply these methods and what are the implications for the rights of individuals and the intent of the legislature?

OR

8. How do Courts determine whether a provision is directory or mandatory, and what is the effect of such determination in interpretation of legislature?

Unit-V

(15 marks)

9. Discuss the Role of doctrine of pith and substance and colourable legislation while interpreting The Constitution of India.

OR

10. How do the ancillary powers and residuary powers help in determining the scope of legislative authority while interpreting the Constitution of India?
