

Course – V, Hons-IV: Information Technology

Objectives:

We are living in the age of information technology revolution. Information Technology is all pervasive. Progressively omnipresent in all walks of human life be it learning, education, ordinary trade, extraordinary commerce, art, music, any other kind of social, economic and political activity. While advantages and comforts presented Information Technology are delightfully known to all, it also poses challenges and adversities like any other technology. Many efforts are made to plug the threats posed by Information Technology by experts in the field but experience proved *'technology alone is no answer to address the potential Information Technology threats'*. As a result, *techno-legal security is found to be the suitable alternative*. Accordingly, Information Technology Law started taking shape in the legal arena across the globe. In this backdrop a sincere attempt is made through this course to introduce the prevailing legal regime on the subject at the global level in general and India in particular. While the subject is sprawling, as an attempt to introduce insight into the subject, major areas of Information Technology Law with necessary brevity are covered.

Course Outcome:

On successful completion of the course the students shall be able to:

1. understand the extent, applicability and the objective of the Information Technology law
2. understand the International initiatives, which have direct implications in framing the Indian information technology law
3. understand the interrelationship between information technology law with IPR, Criminal Law, and Evidence Act
4. explain different types of cyber offences that can be committed against State, property and individual and the essential ingredients necessary for those acts to be considered as cyber offences.
5. understand the composition, power and functions of regulatory bodies such as Controller, Certifying authorities, intermediaries etc.
6. explain the changes made to the information technology law and related Rules over a period of time to keep up with the changing dynamics of society and civilization.

Contents:

UNIT-I:

Information Technology Terminologies: Computer, Hardware, Software, networks, Computer system, computer source, types of networks, internet, electronic data interchange, website, asymmetric cryptosystem, digital signature

Cyber space: meaning of cyber space, fundamental components, nature and jurisdiction of cyberspace. IPR issues in cyber world.

UNIT- II:

International and National Regime of Information Technology Law

UNCITRAL model Law on E-commerce, European Convention on cyber crimes, Hague Convention on Jurisdiction and foreign judgments.

Information Technology Act, 2000: Background, Salient features of I.T. Act, Amendments to the Act, Amendment made to RBI Act, N.I.Act, and IPC.

Unit-III:

E-commerce: meaning and importance of E-commerce, Kinds of E-commerce.

E-contracts: Formation of E-contracts, Legal requirements of E-contracts and jurisdiction.

E-governance: Meaning and importance of E-governance, provisions dealing with e-records and documents.

Unit IV:

Authorities under the Act: Powers and Functions of certifying authorities, grounds for suspension and removal; controller- powers and functions.

Contraventions and offences under the Information Technology Act- Investigation of cybercrimes and the procedure, punishments.

Unit-V

Electronic evidence- importance of e-evidence.

Powers of civil courts, jurisdiction of High Court, Cyber Appellate Tribunal, Central Government Intermediaries – Liabilities and exemptions.

Books Prescribed:

1. Vakul Sharma- "Information Technology law and practice" Universal Law Publishing Co. New Delhi.
2. Gupta and Agarwal, "Cyber Laws"
3. Barka and Datta, "Cyber crimes"