



HISTORY OF PRESS LAWS IN INDIA

MJMC 4th Sem
Paper 402

PRESENTED BY ●
DR. ARCHANA BHARTI ●
GUEST FACULTY, MMHA&PU PATNA ●
Date-16/04/2020 ●

MEDIA LAWS IN INDIA

Media of mass communication are very important part of the society. They are also very powerful systems that influence the society. But the exercise of power by the media gets regulated and controlled by the various laws and rules enacted from time to time.

Media laws in India have a long history right from the British rule.



Some of the major Media laws in India include the following:-

- First Regulations on the Press (1799)
- Modification of Censorship Law (1813)
- Regulations for Registration (1823)
- Liberalisation moves of Metcalfe and Macaulay Act XI (1835)
- The Mutiny and Vernacular Press Act (1857)
- Indian Penal Code (1860)
- Press and Registration of Books Act (1867)
- Vernacular Press Act (1878)
- The Indian Telegraph Act (1882)
- Indian Post Office Act (1898)
- The Indian Press Act (1910)
- Official Secrets Act (1923)

Continue next slide.....



- Contempt of Court Act (1952)
- Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisement) Act, 1954
- Young Persons (Harmful Publications) Act, 1956
- Parliamentary Proceedings (Protection of Publication) Act, 1956
- Copyright Act (1957)
- Working Journalists (Fixation of rates of wages) Act, 1958
- Defence Of India Act (1962)
- Press Council Of India Act (1965)
- The Criminal Procedure Code (1973)
- The Prasar Bharati Act (1990)
- Cable Television Networks Regulation Act (1995)
- Right to Information Act (2005)



THE EAST INDIA COMPANY (18TH CENTURY)

During the second half of the eighteenth century, the Anglo-Indians and Europeans started their Press operations in India.

These journals used to contain text that was solely dedicated to information and entertainment.

These Journals published extracts from newspapers and journals that were published in English and other parts of Europe.



THE BENGAL GAZETTE (1780)

In 1780, The Bengal Gazette was started by James Augustus Hickey, the father of the Indian Press. The Bengal Gazette censured Mr. Warren Hastings. Consequently, Hickey was arrested and put in Jail. The journal was closed. The British did not want a free Press in India.



FIRST REGULATIONS ON THE PRESS (1799)

Lord Wellesely became the viceroy of India. In 1799, censorship was imposed on all the newspapers being published in India. The Government ordered to publish the names of the editors and proprietors in newspapers. The government of Lord Wellesley laid down the following rules to control the activities of the Press:-



FIRST REGULATIONS ON THE PRESS (1799)

- Every printer of a newspaper shall print his name at the bottom of the paper.
- Every editor and proprietor of a paper shall deliver in his name and place of abode to the Secretary to the Govt.
- No paper is to be circulated on Sundays.
- No paper is to be published at all until it shall have been previously inspected by the Secretary to the Government, or by a person authorised by him for that purpose.





CONTINUE TO THE NEXT DAY

