

IL306: Interpretation of Statutes

Unit – I: Introduction

- a. Meaning of Interpretation
- b. Need for Interpretation and Purpose of interpretation of statutes c. Meaning of the term 'statutes'
- c. Commencement, operation and repeal of statutes,
- d. Different parts of a Statute -Parts, Chapters, Sections, Subsections, Paragraphs and Subparagraphs, etc.

Unit – II: Rules of Interpretation

- a. Literal Rule
- b. Golden Rule
- c. Mischief Rule
- d. Rule of Harmonious Construction
- e. Secondary Rules- Noscitur a sociis, Ejusdem generis, Reddendo singula singulis.

Unit –III. External and Internal aids of construction

A. Internal aids

- a. Title
- b. Preamble
- c. Headings and marginal notes.
- d. Sections and sub-sections
- e. Punctuation marks.
- f. Illustrations, exceptions, provisos and saving clauses
- g. Schedules
- h. Non-obstante clause

B. External aids

- a. Dictionaries
- b. Translations
- c. Statutes in pari materia
- d. Contemporanea Exposito
- e. Debates, inquiry commission reports and Law Commission reports

Unit –IV: Maxims of Statutory Interpretation

- a. Delegatus non potest delegare
- b. Expressio unius exclusio alterius
- c. Generalia specialibus non derogant
- d. In pari delicto potior est conditio possidentis
- e. Utres valet potior quam pareat
- f. Expressum facit cessare tacitum
- g. In bonam partem

Unit –V: Interpretation of Various Statutes

- a. Principles of Legislation
- b. Constitutional Statutes
- c. Construction of Taxing and Fiscal statutes;
- d. Remedial and Penal statutes

Suggested Readings

- 1. Maxwell's on Interpretation
- 2. G.P. Singh's Interpretation
- 3. Craies on Interpretation
- 4. Crawford on Interpretation