



Subject: Law of Crimes Paper I: Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita - LAWLLI1504

Type of course: Major (Core)

Prerequisite:

Students should have a basic understanding of the Indian legal system, constitutional framework, and fundamental principles of criminal law. Prior knowledge of concepts such as crime, liability, punishment, and legal terminology will help learners understand the provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 effectively. Familiarity with social, political, and judicial institutions is also desirable for analyzing offences against individuals, property, public order, and the State.

Rationale:

The course is designed to provide comprehensive knowledge of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 and its application in contemporary criminal justice administration. It enables students to understand substantive criminal law, general exceptions, offences against the human body, State, property, and public tranquility along with procedural and evidentiary aspects connected to criminal offences. The syllabus also focuses on newly introduced provisions relating to organized crime, terrorism, cyber offences, sexual offences, and public justice, thereby preparing students to address modern legal challenges and develop analytical, practical, and professional skills required in legal education and criminal justice practice.

Teaching and Examination Scheme:

Teaching Scheme			Credits	Examination Marks			Total Marks
CI	T	P	C	Theory Marks		CA	150
				SEE	MSE	ALA	
05	01	00	06	100	30	20	

Legends: CI-Classroom Instructions; T- Tutorial; P- Practical; C- Credit; SEE- Semester End Evaluation; MSE- Mid Semester Examination; CA-Continuous Assessment; ALA- Active Learning Activities.



Course Content:

Sr. No.	Course Content	Hrs.	% Weightage
1	General Rules and General Exception • Objects and reasons of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, Introduction of newly inserted and amended provisions of BNS • Conception of Crime, Stages of Crime, Mens Rea, • Commencement and application of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 • Intra-Territorial Jurisdiction and Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction, General Explanations Sec. 3(1) to (9) • Punishments: Various Theories of Punishment and Kinds of Punishments • Mistake of Fact, Mistake of Law, Act of Judge, Act done pursuant to judgment/order of court etc... Accident as a defense, act without criminal intent • Mental Incapacity, Minority, consent, involuntary intoxication and Insanity as a defense, Act by a person compelled by threats, communication made in good faith, act causing slight harm etc. • Right of Private Defense of person and property: Justification and limits, When private defense extends to causing of death to protect body and property? • Abetment and its kinds. Abetment outside India for Offences in India (sec.48). Criminal Conspiracy, • Punishment for attempt to commit offence punishable with life imprisonment or other imprisonment	15	20
2	Offences Affecting the Human Body • Offences affecting Life • Murder & culpable homicide • Organised crime (Sec.111), Petty organized crime (Sec 112), Terrorist Act (Sec 113)	15	20



	• Hurt and Grievous hurt, Aggravated forms, Grievous hurt by Acid etc. • Wrongful restraint, wrongful confinement • Criminal Force, Assault • Kidnapping, Abduction, Trafficking of person, Unlawful compulsory labour etc. • Rape and other sexual offences. Punishment thereof • Gang Rape and its punishment, other related provisions • Sexual harassment, Assault/use of Criminal Force to women with intent to disrobe • Cybercrimes: voyeurism, stalking on line modes of these offences and punishment • Dowry Death, marrying again during lifetime of husband/wife Husband/relatives of husband of women subjecting her to cruelty, other marriage related offences and punishments • Offences against Child • Provisions relating to abortion of child in womb		
3	Offences against the State: • Waging War against Government of India and related offences • Act endangering sovereignty, unity and integrity of India (Sec 152) • Public Servant negligently allowing Prisoner of State or war to escape and related offences. • Aiding escape of, rescuing or harboring prisoner • Offences relating to the Army, Navy and Air Force • Abetting mutiny and related offences, attempt to seduce a soldier, sailor or airman from his duty, abetment of assault by soldier, sailor or airman on his superior officer etc. • Harboring deserter, Abetment of Act of insubordination etc. • Offences relating to Elections	15	20



	• Bribery in elections • Undue influence at elections • Failure to maintain election accounts • Breach of secrecy of voting • Promoting enmity on grounds of religion, caste, language, etc. during elections • Offences relating to Coin, Currency Notes, Bank Notes and Government Stamps		
4	False Evidence and Offences against Public Justice, Offences affecting Public Health, safety, Public Tranquility • Giving and fabricating False Evidence, punishment • Using evidence known to be false, issuing/signing false certificate, using as true certificate known to be false etc., giving false information and related offences dishonestly making • Harboring offender and related offences • Offences affecting the Public Health, Safety etc. • Public Nuisance and related offences • Adulteration of food or drink intended for sale, sale of noxious food/drink adulteration of drugs and sale thereof, related offences • Offences against Public Tranquility • Rioting, Affray, • Unlawful Assembly • Common Object • Common Intention (Sec. 190 and Sec.3(5))	15	20



5	Offences against Property, documents and Property Marks, Criminal Intimidation, Defamation and Miscellaneous • Theft, Extortion, punishment thereof. • Robbery and Dacoity • Criminal Misappropriation, Criminal Breach of Trust • Mischief including Mischief by causing loss to Government property etc. (sec. 324(3)) • Cheating: Types of Cheating, Punishment • Criminal Trespass, House Trespass and House Breaking, and punishment • Making False Document and Forgery, • Criminal Intimidation • Intentional Insult with intent to provoke breach of peace, statements conducting to public mischief • Act caused by inducing person to believe that he will be rendered an object of Divine Displeasure • Defamation: types of defamation	15	20
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Continuous Assessment:

Sr. No	Active Learning Activities	Marks
1	Group Presentation & PPT Activity (Legal Language): Students shall be divided into groups of three members. Each group shall prepare and deliver a PowerPoint presentation on an important topic under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, such as the Introduction to BNS, newly inserted provisions, significant amendments, or other contemporary criminal law reforms. The group shall highlight the key legal principles, statutory provisions and practical implications, and submit the presentation along with a brief summary through the GMIU Web Portal.	10
2	Criminal Court Visit: Students are supposed to visit the criminal court of the District and observe the proceedings of the Court. Students will then write their observations in a report form and upload it on GMIU web portal.	10
Total		20



List of Suggested Tutorials:

Sr. No.	Suggested tutorials	Credit Hrs.
1	Prepare a comparative chart of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 by identifying at least ten newly inserted, amended and omitted provisions. Explain the legal significance of each change and present your findings before the class.	1
2	Examine a judicial decision relating to Mistake of Fact and Mistake of Law. Identify the ratio decidendi, distinguish between the two concepts and evaluate the Court's reasoning with reference to the relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.	2
3	Discussion on Abetment, Criminal Conspiracy and Attempt – Explain the meaning and kinds of abetment under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. Discuss criminal conspiracy and the punishment for attempting to commit offences with relevant provisions.	2
4	Students shall analyse a reported case of food adulteration and identify the applicable provisions under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 and the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. They shall prepare a brief legal report explaining the offences committed and the prescribed punishments.	1
5	Case Study on Dowry Death, Cruelty and Offences against Children – Analyze the legal provisions relating to dowry death, cruelty by husband or relatives and offences against children. Discuss important judicial principles and the protection available to victims.	1
6	Draft legal notice and complaint regarding criminal trespass.	2
7	Group Discussion on Preparation and Attempt under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita – Distinguish between preparation and attempt in the commission of offences. Explain the circumstances in which preparation becomes punishable with suitable examples.	1
8	Case Study on the Right of Private Defence – Solve hypothetical cases relating to the private defence of body and property under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. Discuss the principles of necessity, proportionality and limitations on the use of force	2
9	Prepare a case brief of <i>Navjot Sandhu v. State (Parliament Attack Case)</i> or another relevant judgment, identifying facts, issues, decision and legal principles.	1
10.	Presentation on Stalking, Voyeurism and Online Harassment – Explain the offences of stalking, voyeurism and online harassment under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. Present practical examples, legal remedies and the protection available to victims of such offences.	2
Total		15



Suggested Specification table with Marks (Theory): 100

Distribution of Theory Marks (Revised Bloom's Taxonomy)						
Level	Remembrance (R)	Understanding (U)	Application (A)	Analyze (N)	Evaluate (E)	Create (C)
Weightage	40%	40%	10%	10%	--	--

Note: This specification table shall be treated as a general guideline for students and teachers. The actual distribution of marks in the question paper may vary slightly from above table.

Course Outcomes:

After learning the course, the students should be able to:	
CO1	Understand the foundational principles of criminal law under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, including the concept of crime, stages of crime, mens rea, jurisdiction, and general exceptions.
CO2	Examine and differentiate various offences against the human body, including murder, culpable homicide, sexual offences, organized crime, cybercrimes, and offences against women and children.
CO3	Apply legal principles to property-related offences, including theft, robbery, extortion, cheating, forgery, criminal breach of trust, defamation, and criminal intimidation.
CO4	Enhance professional and ethical understanding of criminal justice administration and its role in maintaining law, order, and justice in society.
CO5	Analyze the legal provisions relating to offences against property, documents, property marks, criminal intimidation, defamation, and allied offences under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (BNS) by identifying the essential ingredients of offences, distinguishing between various forms of property offences and document-related crimes, and evaluating their legal consequences through statutory interpretation and case-based analysis.

Instructional Method:

The course delivery method will depend upon the requirement of content and the needs of students. The teacher, in addition to conventional teaching methods by black board, may also use any tools such as demonstration, role play, Quiz, brainstorming, MOOCs etc.

From the content 10% topics are suggested for flipped mode instruction. Students will use supplementary resources such as online videos, NPTEL/SWAYAM videos, e-courses. The internal evaluation will be done on the basis of Active Learning Assignment.

Practical/Viva examination will be conducted at the end of semester for evaluation performance of students in the laboratory.



Reference Books:

- [1] Jani, D. R. (2024). *Bhartiya Dand Sanhita* (1st ed.). New Era Law Publication.
- [2] Ratanlal, & Dhirajlal. (2025). *The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023* (37th ed.). LexisNexis.
- [3] Mishra, S. N. (2024). *Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023* (1st ed.). Central Law Publications.

