

VRET- SYLLABUS

[Syllabus for Vishwavidyalaya Research Entrance Test (VRET) for Law]

The syllabus is divided into two sections, i.e., (Section A & Section B). Section A is related to Research Methodology and Section B is related to core course papers in discipline of Law.

SECTION –A (50 MARKS)

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Unit I: Introduction to Research

Meaning of Research; Objectives of Research; Types of Research; Research Approaches; Significance of Research; Research Methods versus Research methodology; Research Process; Characteristics of Good Research; Meaning and objectives of Legal research; Social legal research.

Unit II: Research Design

Meaning and purpose of Research Design; Major component of research design; Types of research design—Exploratory or Formulative, Descriptive and Diagnostic, Experimental or Explanatory; Characteristics of good research design.

Unit III: Skill of doing Research

Identification of Research Problems; Techniques involved in defining a research problem; Meaning of Hypothesis and its kinds; its importance in legal research; Characteristics of Workable Hypothesis; Review of literature.

Unit IV: Data Collection

Quantitative and Qualitative data; Primary and secondary source of data in legal research; advantages and disadvantages of primary and secondary data; Tools of collection of Primary data in legal research—Survey; Interview; Questionnaire; Observation; Case study; Techniques of Sampling, its kind, its merits and demerits.

Unit V: Data Analysis and Report Writing

Various steps in process of data analysis—Editing, Classification or categorization, Coding, Tabulation and Interpretation of data; Data Analysis and its Types; Component of legal research report writing; Preparation Bibliography, References and Footnotes.

SECTION–B (50 MARKS)

LAW

Unit I: Jurisprudence

Nature and sources of law; Schools of jurisprudence; Law and morality; Concept of rights and duties; Legal personality; Concepts of property, ownership and possession; Modernism and postmodernism.

Unit II: Constitutional and Administrative Law

Preamble, fundamental rights and duties, directive principles of state policy; Union and State executive and their interrelationship; Union and State legislature and distribution of legislative powers; Judiciary; Emergency provisions; Election Commission of India; Nature, scope and importance of administrative law; Principle of natural justice; Judicial review of administrative actions – Grounds.

Unit III: Public International Law and IHL

International law – Definition, nature and basis; Sources of International law; Recognition of states and governments; Nationality, immigrants, refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs); Extradition and asylum; United Nations and its organs; Settlement of international disputes; World Trade Organization (WTO); International humanitarian law (IHL) – Conventions and protocols; Implementation of IHL – Challenges.

Unit IV – Law of Crimes

General principles of criminal liability – Actus reus and mens rea, individual and group liability and constructive liability; Stages of crime and inchoate crimes – Abetment, criminal conspiracy and attempt; General exceptions; Offences against human body; Offences against state and terrorism; Offences against property; Offences against women and children; Drug trafficking and counterfeiting; Offences against public tranquility; Theories and kinds of punishments, compensation to the victims of crime.

Unit V: Law of Torts and Consumer Protection

Nature and definition of tort; General principles of tortious liability; General defenses; Specific torts – Negligence, nuisance, trespass and defamation; Remoteness of damages; Strict and absolute liability; Tortious liability of the State; The Consumer Protection Act 1986 – Definitions, consumer rights and redressal mechanism; The Competition Act, 2002 – Prohibition of certain agreements, abuse of dominant position and regulation of combinations.

Unit VI: Commercial Law

Essential elements of contract and e-contract; Breach of contract, frustration of contract, void and voidable agreements; Standard form of contract and quasi-contract; Specific contracts – Bailment, pledge, indemnity, guarantee and agency; Sale of Goods Act, 1930; Partnership and limited liability partnership; Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881; Company law – Incorporation of a company, prospectus, shares and debentures; Company law – Directors and meetings; Corporate social responsibility.

Unit VII: Family Law

Sources and schools; Marriage and dissolution of marriage; Matrimonial remedies – Divorce and theories of divorce; Changing dimensions of institution of marriage – Live-in relationship; Recognition of foreign decrees in India on marriage and divorce; Maintenance, dower and stridhan; Adoption, guardianship and acknowledgement; Succession and inheritance; Will, gift and wakf; Uniform Civil Code.

Unit VIII: Environment and Human Rights Law

Meaning and concept of 'environment' and 'environmental pollution; International environmental law and UN Conferences; Constitutional and legal framework for protection of environment in India; Environmental Impact Assessment and control of hazardous waste in India; National Green Tribunal; Concept and development of human rights; International Bill of Rights; Group rights – Women, children, persons with disabilities, elderly persons, minorities and weaker sections; Protection and enforcement of human rights in India – National Human Rights Commission, National Commission for Minorities, National Commission for Women, National Commission for Scheduled Castes, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes and National Commission for Backward Classes.

Unit IX: Intellectual Property Rights and Information Technology Law

Concept and meaning of intellectual property; Theories of intellectual property; International conventions pertaining to intellectual properties; Copyright and neighboring rights – Subject matters, limitations and exceptions, infringement and remedies; Law of patent – Patentability, procedure for grant of patent, limitations and exceptions, infringement and remedies; Law of trademark – Registration of trademarks, kinds of trademarks, infringement and passing off, remedies; Protection of Geographical Indications; Biodiversity and Traditional Knowledge; Information technology law- digital signature and electronic signature, electronic governance, electronic records and duties of subscribers; Cyber-crimes, penalties and adjudication.

Unit X: Comparative Public Law and Systems of Governance

Comparative Law – Relevance, methodology, problems and concerns in Comparison; Forms of governments – Presidential and parliamentary, unitary and federal; Models of federalism – USA, Canada and India; Rule of Law – 'Formal' and 'substantive' versions; Separation of powers – India, UK, USA and France; Independence of judiciary, judicial activism and accountability – India, UK and USA; Systems of constitutional review – India, USA, Switzerland and France; Amendment of the Constitution – India, USA and South Africa; Ombudsman –Sweden, UK and India; Open Government and Right to Information – USA, UK and India.
