

Chapter - 1

General Principles of Law, history and various Acts related to Drugs and Pharmacy profession

Law:

- Law are the sets of rules and regulation to control, conduct of human individual in society.
- Law are the statutory binding on every person in the state or nation. Law are mandatory violation of which may result in punishment in term of increment or fine or both.

The purpose of introducing this subject in the curriculum of pharmacy students is twofold-

1. To aid practicing pharmacist to understand their legal and ethical responsibility and there to avoid the pitfalls that leads to legislation
2. To serve as a text providing the students with some insight into the legal aspects of the practice of his profession.

History:

- The **first time in India a chemist shop was opened in about 1811 by Mr. Bathgate** who come in India with East India company **in Calcutta.**
- After one hundred years this firm started manufacture of tincture and spirits.
- Another firm **Smith stanistreet and Co. Started abothecar by shop in 1821** and commenced the manufacturing in 1918.

- Bengal chemical and pharmaceutical works a small factory was started in Calcutta in **1901 by Achary Prafulla Chandra Ray.**

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- In 1903 under the leadership of **prof. TK. Gajjar** a small factory at **Parel** was started which led to the development of other pharmaceutical units the Alembic Chemical Works Ltd at Baroda.
- These units were not sufficient to fulfill the requirements of Indian public in those days most of the medicines were being imported from abroad mainly from U.K, France and Germany.
- Then the situation was changed with the First World War cheaper drugs were imported from abroad. There were also increasing demands for indigenous drugs. The Indian and Foreign concern entered in competition grew up and the Indian market got flooded with inferior substandard and even harmful drugs.
- With this issue the public made the government to take notice of such situations of drug trade and industry and to think of introducing effective legislation to control the import manufacture, distribution and sale of the drugs.
- In those days **opium Act 1878 poison Act 1919 and Dangerous Act 1930** were in existence.
- Thus as such there was no legal control on Pharmacy profession at the beginning of this century with rapid expansion in pharmaceutical industries and market more comprehensive legislation was required Hence to have a comprehensive legislation the Indian Government appointed a "**Drug enquiry committee**" (**DEC**) under the **chairmanship of Lt. Col R.N. Chopra in 1931.**
- The committee was asked to make enquiries in the said matter and then to make recommendations for smooth control of manufacture import distribution and sell of drugs in the interest of public health.

Various Acts related to Drugs and Pharmacy Profession:

- **There are also some act which are directly or indirectly related to drugs and pharmacy.**
1. Prevention of Food adulteration Act 1954
 2. Development and regulation Act 1951
 3. Industrial employment (Standing order) Act 1946
 4. Industrial dispute Act 1947
 5. Factory Act 1948
 6. Indian patent design Act 1970.
 7. Trade and merchandise mark Act 1958
 8. Epidemic disease Act 1897.
 9. Shops establishments, Act of respective State.