

BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCE, PILANI
First Semester - 2017-2018
Professional Ethics
HSS F343 (Close Book)
Mid Semester Examination

Room No. 3201/3246/3247/3248
Date: 14.10.2017

Max Marks: 30.0
Duration: 90 Minutes

- Attempt All Three Questions.
 - All Questions Carry Equal Marks.
1. Define profession. State and discuss the concept of profession with the help of six features of profession and the additional normative feature of profession. You may use examples to strengthen your answer.
 2. Describe and discuss the nature of and the complementary role of the issues of Corporate Social Responsibility and Stakeholders. You may conclude your answer with the critical assessment.

3. **The rise of whistleblowers:**

Bengaluru: Eighteen months ago, a driver's complaint triggered a chain of events that resulted in the chief executive officer's (CEO's) firing at the Indian unit of a global company. The driver's complaint against the CEO insinuated that he was doing something illegal. A discreet investigation showed he had been running a parallel business for over five years. Worse, he used the company's resources and even poached its employees for his own business. "The driver's complaints were just the tip of the iceberg. The MNC (multinational company) not only fired the CEO but also sued the Indian chief for causing losses of about Rs.100 crore to the business," said Reshmi Khurana, managing director of risk consulting firm Kroll Associates India that did the investigation.

Last year, a whistleblower at a large information technology (IT) firm alleged the administrative head was taking kickbacks from vendors while procuring taxis for official purposes. A probe showed the person had indeed been doing this for a year, costing the firm about \$2 million, said Arpinder Singh, partner, fraud investigation and dispute services, EY, the consulting firm previously known as Ernst & Young. Instances such as these, of employees turning vigilantes, are on the rise. Do you agree with the rise in the number of whistleblowers? Is it a healthy practice? Discuss. [Use theoretical details of the issue of Whistle Blowing and an ethical theory of your choice to discuss the scenario. You may use and apply theoretical detail of any other ethical issue that is relevant and listed in the course handout.]