## BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE, PILANI

## Instruction Division/Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

## GANDHIAN THOUGHTS (HSS F345) Closed Book

Mid-semester Exam 2016-7 (I) Sat 08 October '16; 11-1230 hrs in R. No. 6106 and 6107

Please answer all four questions. Each question carries 15 marks, and wherever necessary, the break-up for each specific query is in parentheses. Please structure your answers for which you might want to use a page for ordering your thoughts while keeping an eye on the time.

 $4Qs \times 15 \text{ marks} = 60$ ; 90 minutes

- 1. Please cite the most attractive or innovative representation of Gandhi (or Gandhian values) in popular culture (movies/cartoons/advertisements...) and explain why it has appealed to you. (5) List any three criticisms against Gandhi that you may have encountered on your own or from others; and rationalize these from the point of view of the critic. (6) Briefly elaborate any two elements from either Gandhi, the man or his thoughts or his actions or from studies on Gandhi that may have been rewarding to you. (4)
- 2. The *Hind Swaraj* is considered to be Gandhi's single most important work. Write a short note explaining the context within which it was written. (5) How did Gandhi or the 'Editor' understand the idea of swaraj? (5) And, how did the extremists as represented by the 'Reader'- envision swaraj? (5)
- 3. It is believed that the making of the Mahatma took place in South Africa during the 21 years that Gandhi lived there. But, why did he go to South Africa in the first instance? (2) Can you outline the different ways in which Indians were discriminated against in South Africa by the people of European origin? (6) Explain the significant contributions of Gandhi while leading the Indian struggle for dignity in South Africa and in developing a unique mode of resistance. (7)
- 4. What was Gandhi's purpose in writing his autobiography? (3) What were the arguments raised by Gandhi's critic against writing his autobiography? (3) Why does Gandhi refer to his father's death as his double shame? (2) What were environs of the Gandhi household that fostered religious toleration? (4) As a reader of *The story of my experiments with truth*, what are your views on Gandhi, the writer? (3)