**Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani**

**Work-Integrated Learning Programmes Division**

**Second Semester 2013-2014**

**Mid-Semester Test**

**(EC-2 Regular)**

Course No. : SS ZG515

Course Title : DATA WAREHOUSING

Nature of Exam : Closed Book

No. of Pages = 1

# No. of Questions = 6

Weightage : 35%

Duration : 2 Hours

Date of Exam : 15/02/2014 (AN)

Note:

1. Please follow all the *Instructions to Candidates* given on the cover page of the answer book.
2. All parts of a question should be answered consecutively. Each answer should start from a fresh page.
3. Assumptions made if any, should be stated clearly at the beginning of your answer.
4. Briefly explain why do you need a separate data staging component in a data warehouse environment? [3]
5. Explain at least six characteristics or features of a data warehouse? [6]
6. Briefly explain any three advantages of STAR schema. Can you think of any disadvantages of the STAR schema with respect to reporting? [6]
7. Explain the significance of slowly changing dimensions. Explain each type with an example. [7]
8. Briefly explain initial load, incremental load and full refresh with an example. [5]
9. Explain the differences between ETL vs. ELT, which is best suitable for a global data warehouse with users accessing the system from different time zones round the clock. [8]

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