

2025
SRMUJ
4th Semester Examination
M.A.
English
ENG-404B
DALIT AND ADIVASI LITERATURE

Full Marks: 40

Time: 2 Hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks. Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

1. Answer any *two* of the following questions **5×2**

- a) What role did colonial rule in India play in reinforcing caste-based hierarchies?
- b) How did Ambedkar address the issue of violence faced by Dalits during the Mahad Satyagraha?
- c) Briefly analyse the metaphor Bama uses to describe her transformation from a silenced individual to someone who asserts her identity and voice.
- d) Why is Mahasweta Devi's work described as a "cartography of the soul" or a "mapping of the unseen landscapes of power"? Discuss.

2. Answer any *three* of the following: **10×3**

- a) Why is education portrayed as a crucial tool for empowerment in Dalit literature? Illustrate your answer with examples from some classic Dalit texts.
- b) Was Ambedkar's decision to burn the *Manusmriti* a calculated strategic move to highlight the ideological roots of untouchability? Substantiate your answer.
- c) How did the Mahad Satyagraha address the intersectionality of civil rights, including issues of gender within Dalit communities?
- d) How does Bama address the internalization of inferiority and shame among Dalit women, and what strategies of resistance or empowerment does she propose?
- e) How does Mahasweta Devi's narrative style in *Imaginary Maps* challenge the reader's understanding of tribal suffering and resilience?