

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:39
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2010
RECOMMENDATIONS OF NKC
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Knowledge Commission (NKC) has proposed to bring graduate degrees in science at par with other professional streams and to introduce a four year Bachelor in Sciences;
- (b) if so,the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.39 ON 24.02.2010, ASKED BY SHRI VARUN GANDHI, HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, REGARDING RECOMMENDATIONS OF NKC.

(a) to (c): The National Knowledge Commission in its report on " More talented students in Maths and Science" had proposed that a four-year bachelor degree may be introduced in science programs to bring graduate degrees in science at par with other professional streams to enable students aspiring for a research career to directly enter a Ph. D. programme. The intent of the proposal was that it would enable students aspiring for a research career to directly enter a PhD programme and provide them with inter-disciplinary skills, niche skills required in industry or training,inter alia, in science education and communication. Universities have academic autonomy to introduce courses and programmes in accordance with the UGC (Minimum Standards of Instruction for the grant of first degree through formal education) Regulations, 2003, wherein such programmes shall be not less than 3 years' duration.