

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5486
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2012
FOUR YEAR BACHELOR IN SCIENCES
Rani Killi Krupa

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

- (a) whether the National Knowledge Commission 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 STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. D. PURANDESWARI)

(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 Ph.D programme and provide them with inter-disciplinary skills and 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.