

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2695

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2013

FOUR YEAR COURSE FOR HONOURS PROGRAMME

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Chitthan Shri N.S.V.;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

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

- (a) whether academic council of University of Delhi has decided to have a four year course for honours programme instead of three years;
- (b) if so, the purpose for which this step has been initiated;
- (c) whether the council has also decided to have two year and three year baccalaureate degree;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the council will also allow inter-disciplinary work and extra-curricular activities including sports for four year honours course; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): According to the information furnished by the University of Delhi, the programme aims at knowledge development, which cuts across the domains of traditional courses, as well as skill and value-building. It requires the students of all disciplines to undertake certain mandatory courses in order to meet the needs and challenges of the modern society and the nation. The programme is designed in such a way that it blends practical application with high-end knowledge, facilitating the students either to seek jobs, to become entrepreneurs or to undertake high-end research.

(c): Yes, Madam.

(d): The Nomenclature of the degree awarded on completion of two, three and four years will be, the Associate Baccalaureate, the Baccalaureate and the Baccalaureate with Honours/B.Tech., respectively. The University has informed that it shall implement the programme in compliance with Section 22(3) of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956, which stipulates that the Universities can confer such degree as may, with the previous approval of the Central Government, be specified by the Commission by notification in the official Gazette. The above degrees are presently not specified by the UGC.

(e) & (f): The University has informed us that the programme is an effort to ensure that the students undertake interdisciplinary learning. In addition to this, extra-curricular and co-curricular activities shall also earn credit for the students towards their degree.