

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:933

ANSWERED ON:16.07.2014

DURATION OF DEGREE PROGRAMME

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

- (a) the reasons for increasing the duration of degree programme from three years to four years by the University of Delhi;
- (b) whether the approval was accorded by the University Grants Commission (UGC) to the above University before introduction of the said degree programme;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether due to lack of coordination between the UGC and Universities in the country, the controversies like above have come up; and
- (e) if so, the corrective steps taken by the Government with a view to ensuring smooth functioning of the educational institutions in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) The University of Delhi had reported that the Four Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUP) was introduced by the University of Delhi in 2013-14 to provide for multiple exit options where a student could exit after two years with a Diploma, after three years with an Undergraduate degree, and after four years an Undergraduate (Honours) degree.

(b) & (c) The University of Delhi had written to University Grants Commission (UGC) on 5th April, 2013 seeking approval for recognition of a new nomenclature by the name of Baccalaureate for its new undergraduate programme. The UGC vide its letter dated 1st May, 2013 informed the University that it may adopt any of the suitable nomenclature out of the list of degrees already specified by the Commission under Section 22 of the UGC Act and not the nomenclature proposed by the University.

(d) & (e) The central government had issued directives to UGC on 20th June 2014 to ensure that the 10+2+3 pattern envisaged by the National Policy on Education is followed by all universities. Since the FYUP was a major departure from the existing 3 years programmes being followed in the country, under the 10+2+3 pattern, the UGC, in the exercise of powers conferred under section 12 of the UGC Act, 1956, issued directives to University of Delhi on 22nd June, 2014 in which University of Delhi was directed to ensure that admission for academic session 2014-15 at the under-graduate level in the general degree programmes in various colleges under University of Delhi shall only be to the 3 year undergraduate (UG) programme which was offered prior to the introduction of FYUP. The UGC has also reported that it had issued a notice dated 11th July, 2014 to all universities in the country to adhere to Section 22 of the UGC Act, 1956.