

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3984
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2014
DURATION OF PROGRAMMES
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has accepted that the universities have the right to choose the duration of the programmes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reasons for objecting to transformations and independence of universities and undo its earlier stand?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): The University Grants Commission (UGC) has indicated the minimum duration of the degrees, in the list of degrees specified by it under Section 22(3) of the UGC Act. The specified list of degrees is at http://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/1061840_specification-of-degrees-july-2014.pdf.

These durations are in accordance with the minimum standards laid down by the UGC for the First Degree, Master's Degree and M.Phil./ Ph.D. Further, the University of Delhi had introduced a Four Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUP) with effect from the academic session 2013-14. After evaluating the FYUP, the University Grants Commission (UGC) asked the University of Delhi vide its order dated 20th June, 2014 to discontinue the programme. The order of the UGC is available at http://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/3011108_FYUP-of-Delhi-University.pdf.

The UGC further informed that, after it had asked the University of Delhi to discontinue Four Year Undergraduate Program (FYUP), it sought information regarding conduct of four year undergraduate general degree programs, from 7 universities, namely: O P Jindal University, Sonapat; Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; Shiv Nadar University, Noida, Symbiosis International University, Pune; B.R. Ambedkar University, New Delhi; Ashoka University, Sonapat and Azim Premji University, Bangalore. The Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; Shiv Nadar University, Noida and Symbiosis International University, Pune reported that they are conducting 4 years BA and BS programmes. The Central Government was informed by the UGC that the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; Shiv Nadar University, Noida and Symbiosis International University, Pune have been asked to discontinue Four Year BA and BS Programme and follow the UGC notification on specification of degrees.