

Akademi or the Sahitya Akademi, are also consulted.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: How is it, Madam, that out of the five types of classical dance, only one type has been selected always to the exclusion of the remaining four?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has replied; he is not an expert, but he is trying to become one.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: What I would like to know is that there must be some justification given by the experts why only one out of the five types of dance is always being selected. There must be some justification given to the Ministry.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is a suggestion.

UNIFORM SYSTEM OF EDUCATION IN UNIVERSITIES

*75. SHRIMATI DEVAKI GOPIDAS: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme for a uniform system of education as regards syllabus, curriculum and period of education in all the universities; and

(b) if so, the steps so far taken to implement the scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN) : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

This is primarily a matter for the universities concerned to consider as they are autonomous bodies and are free to frame their own syllabi and curricula in the light of their requirements, and facilities available with

them. They are also free to determine the duration of the various courses.

It is, however, the general duty of the University Grants Commission to take, in consultation with the universities or other bodies concerned, all such steps as it may think fit for the promotion and coordination of university education and for the determination and maintenance of standards of teaching, examination and research in universities. They have accordingly set up a number of review committees to look into the question of improvement of syllabi. It is hoped that the reports of these committees would help the universities in modernizing the courses of studies. As regards duration of the first degree course, universities have been requested to introduce a three-year degree course to ensure a national pattern of education. The three-year degree course has been introduced in most of the universities.

SHRIMATI DEVAKI GOPIDAS: Will the Education Minister be pleased to state whether it is not necessary to enforce a uniform system of education in the country as a whole and, if so, what are the appropriate measures taken for the same?

SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN: Madam, this question has been examined several times and it has not been found practicable for the present at least.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: Although there are obvious difficulties, may I enquire if Government is working towards the defined objective, or have they given up the attempt?

SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN: The one step that has been taken so far is the recommendation about the three-year degree course, but I admit that it has not been implemented in some parts of the country.