

## RAJYA SABHA

*Friday, 3rd May, 2013/13th Vaisakha, 1935 (Saka)*

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

### ORAL ANSWER TO QUESTION

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 521. ...*(Interruptions)*... Question No. 521, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the answer be given. ...*(Interruptions)*... Any supplementaries?...*(Interruptions)*... Bhunderji, any supplementaries?...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल : माननीय सभापति जी, ...*(व्यवधान)*... सरबजीत सिंह का मृत शरीर जो पाकिस्तान ने भेजा है, ...*(व्यवधान)*... उसमें से दिल निकाल लिया गया है, ...*(व्यवधान)*... किडनी निकाल ली गई है।...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE CHAIRMAN: Any supplementaries on Question No. 521. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप लोग अपनी सीट्स पर जाइए।...*(व्यवधान)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... अब आपकी बात पूरी हो गई...*(व्यवधान)*... Let the Question Hour run, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... आपने अपनी बात कह ली, अब अपनी सीट्स पर जाइए।...*(व्यवधान)*... आपने अपनी बात कह ली, अब प्रश्न काल चलने दीजिए।...*(व्यवधान)*... The House is adjourned till 1200 hours.

### **Introduction of four-year degree courses in the University of Delhi**

\*521. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the University of Delhi is going to start four-year graduation courses from the coming academic session;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the names of courses that would have four-year duration;
- (c) the reasons for increase of one year in the graduation courses;
- (d) whether the issue was discussed with various stakeholders before arriving at the decision; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard and the stand of various stakeholders on this issue?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

*Statement*

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to the information furnished by the University of Delhi, under the Four-Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUP), there is a provision of awarding diverse degrees, namely, Diploma, Bachelor Degree and Honours Degree on the completion of two, three and four years, respectively. The programme provides flexibility to the students to exit after two and three years and such students can return within a span of ten years, if otherwise eligible, to complete the Degree and/or Honours Degree. The courses under the FYUP comprise of Foundation Courses (11 in number), compulsory for all students to be taught in the first four semesters in order to strengthen their educational base; Discipline Courses-I (20 in number) which are subject specific courses promoting in-depth knowledge; Discipline Courses-II (6 in number) meant for students who wish to gain 'minor' knowledge of a subject other than Discipline-I; Application Courses which are skill based; Integrating Mind, Body and Heart and Cultural Activities leading to value-based education and NSS/NCC/Sports which encourages physical fitness as well as engagement with the community. Semester-wise course distribution is given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) The University has informed the Ministry that the FYUP 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 to meet the needs and challenges of the modern society and the nation. It 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 research. A comprehensive curriculum like this requires 4 years to transact them properly and facilitate its absorption by the students for their all-round holistic growth.

(d) and (e) The University has informed the Ministry that as far back as in the year 2008 the Academic Council (AC) had resolved to hold wide consultation for introducing 4 year dual subject honours degree course. The Ministry has been further informed that the university held extensive consultations with various stakeholders, such as students, parents, teachers, Deans of faculty, Heads of

Departments, Principals of Colleges, employers etc. over a period of two years. All stake-holders were in favour of rectifying the ills of the existing programme and making it relevant for the students by addressing the contemporary needs of the society. In the process of consultation, an Open Academic Congress was also held on 6-7th September, 2012, which was attended by over 1400 stakeholders, which recommended introduction of the FYUP. Thereafter, a 61-members Task Force, including Deans, Heads, Principals of Colleges, Professors and Teachers, was constituted, which also endorsed the recommendations of the Open Academic Congress to introduce the FYUP. The fruits of these consultations were taken to the Statutory Authorities of the University for decision. The proposal to introduce the FYUP from July, 2013 was approved by the AC by a majority, recording only 6 dissents out of 86 members who attended this meeting held on 24th December, 2012. The resolution of the AC was presented to the Executive Council (EC) in the meeting held on 26th December, 2012 for its approval. The 22 members EC, attended by 20 members, approved the proposal with 2 dissents. This proposal was also approved by the Court of the University, in its meeting held on 22nd March, 2013. The FYUP was later discussed in the Student's Parliament organized by the Delhi University Student's Union (DUSU) on 20th March, 2013. The Vice-Chancellor with his team was there to respond to the queries of the students. After the discussion, the students expressed support for the new FYUP.

### *Statement*

#### *Four Year Undergraduate Programme*

Semester	Foundation Course (FC)	Discipline Course-I (DC-I)	Discipline Course-II (DC-II)	Applied Course (AC)	Integrating Mind Body and Heart (IMBH)/ Cultural Activities (CA)•
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	4	2			1-IMBH
2	3	2		1*	1-IMBH
3	2	2	1	1	1-CA

1	2	3	4	5	6
4	2	2	1	1	1-CA
5		3	1	1	1-CA
6		3	1	1	1-CA
7		2+1 (Research Methodology and Project Work)	1		1-CA
8		2+1 (Research)	1		1-CA

• Cultural Activities include NCC, Sports, NSS etc.

\*Language course.

The House then adjourned at two minutes  
past eleven of the clock.

The House reassembled at twelve noon.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

### Effect of MGNREGA on agriculture

\*522. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that introduction of MGNREGA has led to acute shortage of farm labour across the country, not only affecting food production, but also increasingly forcing small farmers to abandon agriculture;

(b) if so, the preventive steps taken by Government;

(c) whether guidelines for convergence of MGNREGA with programmes of his Ministry, issued by Government, are not being followed; and

(d) what concrete steps are being taken to save farmers from prevailing agrarian distress apart from notifying new works related to agriculture and allied activities under MGNREGA?