

Mess in Delhi University

*7. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the explanation of the Ministry regarding the mess created in the Delhi University by introducing the most controversial Four-Year Degree Programmes during the last academic year;

(b) the role of UGC when this mess was in the making; and

(c) the current stand of the Academic Council of Delhi University when almost all the colleges have restarted the three-year degree course?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development *vide* his letter dated 03-06-2013, wrote to Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC) that since the Four Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUP), constitutes a major departure from the existing three year programmes being followed in the country, and especially in view of the concerns expressed by several academics, it would be important to set up an advisory committee of eminent academics to closely monitor the implementation of the new programme in University of Delhi and to keep the Commission informed so that necessary corrective action could be taken by UGC from time to time. Accordingly, UGC constituted an Advisory Committee comprising of 5 eminent academics and chaired by Prof S.K. Joshi. The Committee submitted its report to UGC on 25-02-2014.

University of Delhi wrote to the Ministry on 19.7.2013 forwarding copies of Amendments to Ordinances and Appendices to the Ordinance of the University, as approved by the University Court in its meeting held on 22.03.13 and approved by the Executive Council at its meeting held on 09.05.13 and on 07.06.13, for information of the Visitor of the University as required under Section 31(4) of the Delhi University Act, 1922. The above said letter of University of Delhi was examined in MHRD. On 30.07.13, the MHRD informed University of Delhi that it had received only five copies of Amendments to Ordinances and Appendices to Ordinances of the University as approved by the University Court on 22.03.13 and that it had not received five copies of the amendments said to be approved by the Executive Council (EC) in its meeting held on 09.05.13 and 07.06.13. A clarification was sought whether the Amendments to Ordinances and Appendices to Ordinances were placed before the University Court after the approval of the Executive Council on 09.05.13 and 07.06.13, since under Section 31(4) of the Delhi University Act, 1922, the amendments are to be submitted to the University Court and the Visitor after

approval from the Executive Council. The University of Delhi was also informed that it had earlier informed the Ministry that the nomenclature of degrees under the Four Year Undergraduate programme (FYUP) shall not be Baccalaureate but in the amendments, same has been mentioned. Accordingly, University of Delhi was requested to furnish clarification on incorporation of the Baccalaureate degrees as well as justification of extensive amendments to the Ordinances. The University of Delhi has so far not responded to this letter.

The Report of the Committee constituted by UGC, along with information furnished by the University of Delhi on 28th May, 2014, was considered by the Commission in its 501st Meeting held on 13th June, 2014. The Commission, while observing that the FYUP was a deviation from the pattern of 10+2+3 structure enshrined in the National Policy on Education (NPE), also observed that the ordinances effecting the departure from the established national pattern did not have the approval of the competent authority. In view of the same, the Commission decided to issue an advisory to the University of Delhi to review /reconsider the continuation of FYUP. This advisory was issued by UGC to University of Delhi on 16th June, 2014.

Thereafter, the Commission, after taking into consideration the various developments in the matter, the National Policy of Education (NPE) [1986], the deviation of the FYUP from the 10+2+3 system of education thereby resulting in the non-adherence by the University of Delhi to the NPE 1986, the obligation of the Commission as enumerated under Section 12 of the UGC Act, the directive by the Central Government under Section 20(1) of the UGC Act, 1956, in larger interest of the students and the necessity of ensuring that they are not put under any undue hardship because of the said deviation, the fact that the FYUP introduced by the University of Delhi would create complications for the students who are going to opt for migration in other universities since all other universities follow a system of three-years undergraduate education for general degree programmes, and in the exercise of powers conferred under section 12 of the UGC Act, 1956, issued the following directive to the University of Delhi on 20th June, 2014:

- (i) The admissions for the academic year 2014-15 and the subsequent academic years in the University of Delhi (including the constituent and other colleges under it) for the general undergraduate programmes shall be made in the three year structure which was prevalent in the University of Delhi prior to introduction of FYUP;
- (ii) Appropriate arrangement shall be made by the University of Delhi for students, already admitted in the academic year 2013-14 in the FYUP, to migrate to

the three year undergraduate programme structure so that they do not lose an academic year for obtaining undergraduate degrees, and for this purpose, ensure that students acquire necessary academic and other competences during the next two academic years;

- (iii) Take all other steps as may be necessary to adhere to the 3-year undergraduate programme as envisaged under the 10+2+3 structure under the NPE 1986, while ensuring that students are facilitated through the process of transacting the curriculum under the 10+2+3 structure.

These directives were reiterated by the UGC vide its order dated 22nd June, 2014 in which University of Delhi was further directed to ensure that admission for academic session 2014-15 at the undergraduate level in the general degree programmes in various colleges under University of Delhi shall only be to the three year general undergraduate programmes which were offered prior to the introduction of FYUP and to inform all colleges to comply with the directives of the UGC. The UGC also wrote a letter dated 22nd June, 2014 to all the colleges under the University of Delhi for complying with the directives issued by the UGC and ensuring that colleges admit students at undergraduate level for academic year 2014-15 only to the 3 year undergraduate programme which was offered prior to introduction of FYUP.

(c) University of Delhi has reported that the Academic Council of University of Delhi, vide its resolution dated 28-06-2014, decided to replace, with effect from the academic year 2014-15, the syllabi/scheme of examination under the FYUP with scheme/syllabi which was in existence in 2012-13.

Linking of MGNREGA with Agriculture

*8. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering any proposal to link the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) with agriculture, so that the works taken up under the scheme help enhance productivity in agriculture by creating infrastructure and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards criticism for the problems such as poor quality of assets it created, delays in payment of wages and gaps in the implementation of MGNREGA; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps/measures proposed for proper implementation of MGNREGA in the country?