

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No-506**  
ANSWERED ON- 24/07/2023

**FOUR YEAR DEGREE COURSE IN UNIVERSITIES**

†506. DR. BHARATIBEN DHIRUBHAI SHIYAL:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to start four-year degree course in Universities of the country as per the higher global standards in foreign Universities and other Indian Universities;
- (b) if so, the time by when such course will be started and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the time by when the four year graduate level course is likely to be started in Universities of the country in the first phase and the number of such Universities; and
- (d) whether this four year course will enable Indian students to get admission in foreign Universities and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a) to (c): The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 envisions that the undergraduate degree will be of either 3 or 4-year duration, with multiple exit options within this period, with appropriate certifications, e.g., a certificate after completing 1 year in a discipline or field including vocational and professional areas, or a diploma after 2 years of study, or a Bachelor's degree after a 3-year programme. The 4-year multidisciplinary Bachelor's programme, however, shall be the preferred option since it allows the opportunity to experience the full range of holistic and multidisciplinary education in addition to a focus on the chosen major and minors as per the choices of the student.

Accordingly, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued Curricular and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programme which is available at link [https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/7193743\\_FYUGP.pdf](https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/7193743_FYUGP.pdf). The UGC has also requested all Higher Educational Institutions to take necessary measures to adopt the Curricular and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programme.

Further, as per information received from the UGC, 105 Universities have started four-year graduate-level courses.

(d): The four-year Undergraduate programme shall help students to pursue their career path by choosing the subjects or fields of their interest. Imaginative and flexible curricular structures, as envisioned under the NEP 2020, will enable creative combinations of disciplines for study, and would offer multiple entry and exit points, thus, removing currently prevalent rigid boundaries and creating new possibilities for life-long learning. The National Higher Education Qualifications Framework (NHEQF) has been released which will ensure international equivalence and comparability nationally and internationally thereby facilitating mobility.

\*\*\*\*\*