

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3132

ANSWERED ON:05.12.2016

Fake Universities

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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has noticed that a large number of fake universities are functioning in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the mechanism in place in the Ministry to detect fake universities at the very early stage itself; and
- (d) the steps put in place during the last one year to stop mushrooming of fake universities in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY)

(a) & (b): Yes Madam. University Grants Commission (UGC) has put a list of 23 fake universities on its website at www.ugc.ac.in. List of these fake universities is at Annexure-I. Apart from this, the names of two universities namely Bhartiya Shiksha Parishad, Lucknow and Indian Institute of Planning and Management (IIPM), New Delhi are not being reflected in the UGC list of fake universities due to their matter being subjudice.

(c) & (d): Presently, there is no mechanism in the Ministry to detect fake universities at the very early stage. However, UGC maintains a updated list of all approved Universities on its website for information to students and their parents. Besides, the Ministry has launched Know Your College (KYC) portal on which all information with respect to any College is available.

Several steps have been taken against known fake universities to check further mushrooming. Since Law & Order is a subject matter of State Government, the Ministry vide its D.O. letter No. 12-3/2015/U3A dated 21st July, 2015 requested the Chief Secretaries of respective State Governments to investigate the matter and register complaints in police station against these fake universities. Prosecution may also be initiated against those who are involved in defrauding and cheating students by misrepresenting themselves as "Universities" awarding degrees with their name.

Apart from above, the following action has been taken by UGC to stop mushrooming of fake universities and also to warn people against such universities:

- (i) For the awareness of general public/students/parents, the UGC puts up the list of fake institutions on its website i.e. www.ugc.ac.in. All self-styled unrecognized and unapproved institutions are cautioned that running of Undergraduate and Postgraduate degree courses and giving misleading advertisements shall attract severe action under the provisions of appropriate laws including the UGC Act and the Indian Penal Code, etc.
- (ii) At the beginning of every academic session, the UGC issues Press Release and Public Notice and state-wise list of fake universities in the country in national dailies and Newspapers in Hindi and English to warn the aspiring students, guardians and the public at large not to take admission in the courses run by the self-styled, unauthorized fake universities/institution of higher education functioning in different parts of the country.
- (iii) Cases have also been filed in various courts by UGC against fake universities/institutions. Various cases are pending in the court of law filed by the fake universities/unrecognized institutes.
- (iv) UGC has also sent letters to the State/UT Principal Secretaries/Education Secretaries to take appropriate action against the fake universities located in their jurisdiction. A reminder letter has also been issued by UGC in April, 2016.
