

Although the report of the National Commission on Teachers-I was also sent to State Governments for their consideration, the Department cannot use pay or other service conditions fixed by State Government as a basis for teachers' pay in the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.

Fake degrees awarded by bogus institutes

163. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the UGC has discovered some 27 self styled Universities /Vishwa Vidyalayas/Vidyapiths which are not recognised by UGC and are functioning in violation of the UGC Act, 1956; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps are being taken to put an end to such malpractices and the awarding of fake degrees thereby ruining the career of young people.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The University Grants Commission Act, 1956, provides that only universities which are established under an Act of Parliament or a State Legislature, or granted deemed-to-be university status, are entitled to call themselves as universities and confer degrees. According to the information furnished by the Commission, 27 institutions styling themselves as Universities/Vishwa-vidyalayas/Vidyapeethas have been functioning in contravention of UGC Act, 1956. A list of these institutions is given in the statement.

The University Grants Commission has issued press notes, from time to time, warning students and general public against these institutions. UGC has also issued notices to such institutions asking them not to call themselves as universities and award degrees. Central Government has requested State Government/Union Territory Administrations to keep a strict vigil and prosecute such institutions for violation of the UGC Act and other penal laws. UGC has filed court cases against some institutions.

The University Grants Commission constituted a Committee to make comprehensive recommendations for checking the establishment, functioning and proliferation of such fake institutions. The Committee has recommended to the Commission that the UGC Act, 1956, be suitably amended so as to make the activity of associating the expression University/Vishwa-vidyalaya/Vidyapith with the name of an institution a cognizable offence with provision for imprisonment. The Commission has accepted the recommendation of the Committee.

Statement

List of self styled Universities/Vishwa-vidyalaya/Vidyapiths.

1. Maithili University/Vishwa-vidyalaya, Darbhanga, (Bihar).
2. Takshila Kendriya Vishwa-vidyalaya, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi.
3. Mahila Gram Vidyapith/Vishwa-vidyalaya (Women's University) Prayag, Allahabad (U.P.).
4. Varanaseya Sanskrit Vishwa-vidyalaya, Varanasi (U. P.)
5. Commercial University Ltd., Darya Ganj, Delhi.
6. Testator Research University, Bodinaya-Kanur (Tamil Nadu).
7. Sree Narayan Open University, Quilon (Kerala).
8. Gandhi Hindi Vidyapith, Prayag, Allahabad (Uttar Pradesh).
9. National University of Electro Complex Homoeopathy, Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh).
10. University Newjerusalem. Kuthuparamba Cannore (Kerala).
11. World Social Work University, Perunguzhi (Kerala).
12. Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose University, (Open University) Achaltal, Aligarh (U.P.).
13. Shrimati Mahadevi Verma Open University Mughal Sarai (U.P.)

14. D.D.B. Sanskrit University, Puthur, Trichi (Tamil Nadu).
15. Amritsar University, Amritsar.
16. Arya University, Srinagar.
17. Bible University, Ambur (North Arcot).
18. Eastern Orthodox University, Ambur (North Arcot).
19. Globe University of Science, Kumakonam.
20. St. John's University, Kizhanattam.
21. National University, Nagpur.
22. Self-Culture University, Kizhanattam.
23. United Nations University, Delhi.
24. Vocational University, Amritsar and Delhi.
25. Western University of Kapurthala.
26. Uttar Pradesh Vishwavidyapith, Kosi Kalan (Mathura).
27. Maharana Pratap Shiksha Niketan Vishwavidyalaya, Pratapgarh (Uttar Pradesh).

Setting up a panel on vehicular pollution control

164. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHAND-
RAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a panel on vehicular pollution control has been set up under the Chairmanship of Justice K. N. Saikia; and

(b) if so, what are the terms of reference of the panel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) the terms of reference of the panel are as under:

(i) to make an assessment of the technologies available for vehicular pollution control in the world;

(ii) to make an assessment of the current status of technology available in India for controlling vehicular pollution;

(iii) to look at the low cost alternatives for operating vehicular at reduced pollution levels in the metropolitan cities of India;

(iv) to examine the feasibility of measures to reduce/eliminate pollution from motor vehicles both on short term and long term basis and make appropriate recommendations in this regard;

(v) to make specific recommendations on the administrative/legal regulations required for implementing the recommendations in (iii) above.

Proposal to introduce radical electoral reforms

165. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to introduce radical electoral reforms to save future of democracy by holding absolutely free and fair elections in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) The Government is committed to bring about electoral reforms. In addition to the proposals pending in the Parliament, in the light of the experience gained in the last General Election, a greater indepth study of the entire gamut of the electoral reforms is required and such a study will be undertaken before further proposals for electoral reforms are finalised.