GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 195 ANSWERED ON – 03/02/2025

Fake Universities

195. Shri Y S Avinash Reddy:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has declared 21 universities as "fake" and not empowered to confer any degree, majority of which are in Delhi followed by Uttar Pradesh:
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon, State-wise;
- (c) whether the UGC has warned students not to take admission in these universities and among them, at least 21 self-styled, unrecognised institutions which are functioning in contravention of the UGC Act and are violating UGC guidelines, have been declared as fake universities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to punish the fake universities in order to curb them along with action taken/penalty imposed since 2014, State-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (e): The list of fake universities is available on the website of the University Grants Commission (UGC) at https://www.ugc.gov.in/universitydetails/Fakeuniversity. Currently, 21 Institutions figure in the list. Maintenance of Law and order is a subject matter of State Governments. Accordingly, the Central Government has requested to Chief Secretaries of all the States and U.T. Administration to take legal action for closure of these institutions and take appropriate action against those involved in defrauding and cheating students by misrepresenting themselves as "Universities", awarding degrees and using the word "University" with their name. It was also requested to intimate the Central Government /UGC if there are other fake universities functioning in their States/UTs which are not included in the UGC list of Fake Universities.

Apart from issuing public Notices for general awareness through social media and UGC website for cautioning the general public, students, parents and other stakeholder, the

following steps have also been taken by the UGC/ Government against such fake Universities:

- i. The Government as well as the UGC have requested the Chief Secretaries of all State/UT Governments to take appropriate action against those involved in defrauding and cheating students by misrepresenting themselves as "Universities", awarding degrees and using the word "University" with their name.
- ii. FIRs have been lodged against several self-styled institutions/universities.
- iii. Show Causes Notices/Warning Notices have also been issued to the unauthorized institutes awarding invalid degrees.

As a result, 12 fake universities were closed since 2014.
