## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

## LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 135 ANSWERED ON – 01/12/2025

## **Fake Universities**

135. Shri K E Prakash Md Abu Taher Khan

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission (UGC) has flagged 22 fake Universities operating in the country during the current year, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the total number of Universities listed as fake by UGC, State-wise and stream-wise;
- (c) the measures being taken by the Government to ensure the education continuity and compensation or relief for students who were enrolled in such fake Universities;
- (d) the steps undertaken by the Government and UGC to raise awareness among students and parents to prevent them from falling prey to such fraudulent institutions;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to introduce or enforce any strict, nation-wide protocols or monitoring mechanisms to prevent the establishment and operation of such fake universities in the future, and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether existing norms and regulatory bodies are sufficient in tackling the problem of fake Universities in the country, if so, the details thereof?

## **ANSWER**

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

(a) to (f): The list of fake universities is available on the website of the University Grants Commission (UGC) at <a href="https://www.ugc.gov.in/universitydetails/Fakeuniversity">https://www.ugc.gov.in/universitydetails/Fakeuniversity</a>. Currently, 24 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 State Governments 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.

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