

Public Notice

on

Courses/Study Centres/Off Campuses & Territorial Jurisdiction of Universities

No. F.27-1/2012(CPP-II)

27th June, 2013

The Commission has come across many advertisements published in National Dailies offering opportunities for the award of university degrees through various franchise programmes conducted by certain private institutions. These private establishments claiming themselves as study centres or learning centres of different universities enrol students for various degree programmes and also claim to be responsible for teaching and conduct of examinations. The faculty and the infrastructure belong to these private agencies. The concerned university except providing syllabus and teaching materials, has no mechanism to monitor and maintain the academic standards of teaching being imparted at these centres. This blatant compromise with the standards of education has led to widespread criticism. The Commission has taken a serious view of these misleading advertisements appearing in various newspapers.

It is, therefore, clarified for the information of all concerned, including students and parents that:

- a) a Central or State Government University can conduct courses through its own departments, its constituent colleges and/or through its affiliated Colleges;
- b) a university established or incorporated by or under a State act shall operate only within the territorial jurisdiction allotted to it under its Act and in no case beyond the territory of the state of its location;
- c) the private universities and deemed universities cannot affiliate any college or institution for conducting courses leading to award of its diplomas, degrees or other qualifications.
- d) no University, whether central, state, private or deemed, can offer its programmes through franchising arrangement with private coaching institutions even for the purpose of conducting courses through distance mode.
- e) all universities shall award only such degrees as are specified by the UGC and published in the official gazette.
- f) the Universities shall conduct their first degree and Master's degree programmes in accordance with the regulations notified by the Commission in this regard.

In this connection, the students and the general public are also hereby informed of the following regulating provisions pertaining to different types of universities:

A. UGC Regulations on Private Universities

A private university established under a State Act shall be a unitary university. A private university may be permitted to open off campus centres, off shore campuses and study centres after five years of its coming into existence subject to the fulfillment of conditions as laid down under UGC (Establishment of & Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003. As on now, the UGC has not granted permission to any Private University to establish off-campus/study centre.

B. UGC Regulations on Deemed Universities

A Deemed University shall operate only within its Headquarters or from those off campuses/off shore campuses which are approved by the Government of India through notification published in the official gazette.

In case of distance education programmes, no Institution deemed to be university, so declared by the Govt. of India after 26th May, 2010 [date of publication of UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2010] is allowed to conduct courses in the distance mode.

The institutions deemed to be universities declared before 26th May, 2010 are not allowed to conduct courses in distance mode from any of its off-campus centres/off-shore campus approved after 26th May, 2010.

Approval for new courses and extension of approval of the courses already run by the Deemed to be Universities under distance mode would be granted by the UGC subject to the fulfillment of conditions as laid down by the UGC.

The UGC has not granted approval to any deemed to be university to establish study centre.

Any information /clarification with regard to recognition of Private Universities/Deemed Universities and the courses offered by them may be obtained from JS (CPP-I) UGC, Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, New Delhi.

C. Distance Education programmes of the Central Universities and State Universities

The Central/State Govt. Universities can conduct courses through distance mode in accordance with the provisions of their respective Act and after the approval of the UGC.

The information relating to recognized universities, list of specified degrees and all the regulations/instructions/guidelines of the UGC are available on UGC website: www.ugc.ac.in

The students are advised not to take admission in the unapproved Study Centres, Off-Campus Centres, Franchisee Institutions, Colleges/Institutions claiming to be affiliated with Central Universities or Deemed Universities.

(Akhilendra Singh)



श्री. (डॉ.) जसपाल एस. सन्धु
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Secretary

विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग
University Grants Commission

(मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
(Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India)

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11 JUL 2014

10th July 2014

D.O.No.F.5-1/2014(CPP-II)

Dear Madam/Sir,

As you are aware, under Section 22 of the UGC Act, 1956, which is reproduced below, degrees, which may be awarded by the universities, are specified by the Commission:

"The right of conferring or granting degrees shall be exercised only by a University established or incorporated by or under a Central Act, A Provincial Act or a State Act or an institution deemed to be a University under section 3 or an institution specially empowered by an Act of Parliament to confer or grant degrees."

(2) *Save as provided in sub-section (1), no person or authority shall confer, or grant, or hold himself or itself out as entitled to confer or grant, any degree.*

(3) *For the purposes of this section, "degree means any such degrees as may, with the previous approval of the Central Government, be specified in this behalf by the Commission by notification in the official Gazette."*

This provision is mandatory and binding on all Universities. The Commission has been, time and again, requesting the Universities to award degrees only within the framework of Section 22 of the UGC Act.

It has further been directed by the UGC that:

"No University shall confer a degree in violation to the provisions of this notification. It shall be mandatory for the Universities to adhere to the approved nomenclature of degree(s) and ensure the observance of the minimum standards of instruction before award of a degree as hereinafter prescribed."

The consolidated list of UGC approved nomenclature of degree(s) for the purpose of Section 22(3) of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 notified in The Gazette of India published in July, 2014, is available on UGC website (www.ugc.ac.in).

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It has been observed that some universities/institutions are awarding unspecified degrees leading to litigations and different problems for the students conferred with such degrees. Even NET qualified candidates with such unspecified degrees are also denied certificates.

It is further mentioned that the UGC Regulations being statutory in nature are binding for Universities and Colleges and any violation thereof may warrant appropriate action against the erring institutions. Contravention of the provisions relating to the specification of degrees shall render the defaulting university and its affiliated colleges liable for appropriate action by the UGC.

The Universities, are once again, requested to abide by the provision of Section 12 of the UGC Act, 1956 and award only such degrees as have been specified by the UGC Gazette of India published in July, 2014.

If a university wishes to award a degree other than the one specified by the UGC, it should change the duration of the course specified as minimum in the said notification, approach the UGC for its approval six months prior to starting the degree program and submit full justification on the course to be started.

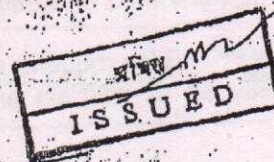
The period of six months is granted for aligning the degrees as per the notification available on UGC website (www.ugc.ac.in) and report the compliance to the University Grants Commission.

With kind regards,

Yours


(Jaspal S.)

The Vice Chancellor of all Universities as per list attached. o/c





उच्च शिक्षण समुदाय

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Secretary



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विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग
University Grants Commission

(मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
(Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India)

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F.No. UGC/DEB/QMC/2013

August, 2014

The Vice Chancellors/ Directors
SOUs/DEIs/DDEs

D 9 SF
(1007-1010)

Subject: Territorial Jurisdiction & offering of programmes through off campus
Study Centres etc by Institutions/Universities- reg.

Sir/Madam,

The University Grants Commission has from time to time been notifying its policy on territorial jurisdiction and offering of programmes through off campuses/centres/study centres by Universities/Institutions. Vide its Public Notice No. F.27-1/2012 (CPP-II), dated 27th June 2013 (copy enclosed); UGC has notified its policy on territorial jurisdiction to be followed by all Universities/Institutions including Open and Distance Learning Institutions, which is as under:

- i) a Central or State Government University can conduct courses on its own departments, its constituent colleges and/or through its affiliated colleges;
- ii) a University established or incorporated by or under a State Act shall operate only within the territorial jurisdiction allotted to it under its Act and in no case beyond the territory of the State of its location;
- iii) the private universities and deemed universities cannot affiliate any college or institution for conducting courses leading to award of its diplomas, degrees or other qualifications;
- iv) no university, whether central, state, private or deemed, can offer its programmes through franchising arrangement with private coaching institutions even for the purpose of conducting courses through distance mode;
- v) all universities shall award only such degrees as are specified by the UGC and published in the official Gazette;
- vi) the universities shall conduct their first degrees and Master's degree programmes in accordance with the regulations notified by the UGC in this regard.

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2. The UGC has also issued regulations relating to Private Universities which should be strictly followed by the concerned Institutions. The regulations are hosted on UGC website www.ugc.ac.in.

3. However, it has come to the notice of the UGC that some Universities/Institutions have opened their study centres in violation of erstwhile DEC on territorial jurisdiction. Some Institutions are giving in newspapers and other public media that the programmes offered are approved by the UGC. The same is not permissible by UGC and has to be stopped.

4. Therefore, all Universities/Institutions are hereby requested to stop offering programmes which are approved by UGC/erstwhile DEC and for territorial jurisdiction, study centres, and non-franchising of such programmes through distance mode. The activities at the study centres, examination, conduct of Personal Conduct Programmes (PCPs) etc. in concerned University. Study centres cannot conduct examinations and award degree/diploma etc. No sub-letting of study centres should be done. Any centre opened by any University/Institution would be in violation of the above policy.

5. The UGC/erstwhile DEC has not given approval to any University/Institution to open study centres outside India. Thus, operation of any such centre is not permissible and should be immediately closed. Universities/Institutions are also requested to close any study centres opened in violation of above policy. Also any programme not recognized by UGC/erstwhile DEC and wherever necessary by other Apex regulatory bodies, should be stopped. The same should be done in distance mode.

Yours faithfully,

(Jaspal Singh Sandhu)
Secretary

Encl. : As above.

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Dept of Higher Education, Govt of all States and Union
2. Member Secretary, All India Council of Technical Education, New Delhi