

UGC puts out list of fake universities, 1 in Tamil Nadu

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Coimbatore: The University Grants Commission, apex body for higher education in the country on Wednesday published a list of fake universities in the country.

There are 21 universities on the list.

While Uttar Pradesh accounted for eight such universities, the highest in the country. Delhi has six, the notice said.

Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar and West Bengal have one fake university each.

DDB Sanskrit University, Putur, Trichy is identified to be as a fake university by the UGC.

According to the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, only a university established by the Central/State/Provincial Act or an institution deemed to be university un-

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der Section 3 of the UGC Act is allowed to call itself a university.

Thereby, any institution that does not comply with the above rule is prohibited from using the term "university" under Section 23 of the Act.

"Therefore, students and public at large are informed that such 21 self-styled and unrecognized institutions, functioning in contravention of the UGC Act, are declared as fake, and are not entitled to confer any degrees," the UGC said in its notice.

The UGC publishes the list of fake universities every year to curb the mushrooming of fraudulent institutions, and to also

prevent parents and students from getting cheated.

"In the last eight years, the number of educational institutions in the country has almost doubled.

And, at a time when awareness on higher education is also improving, it is difficult for parents and students to identify genuine institutions," said a professor of a state-run university in Coimbatore.

"With admissions in colleges and universities for 2015-16 going on, students are thronging many educational institutions.

While there are no issues with popular institutions, it is very difficult for students and parents to verify the authenticity of lesser known universities," said an UGC official requesting anonymity.

"This list will help students to avoid applying for admissions in these universities and wasting their time and money," the official said.