

The education business



Comments 1



Rituparna Goswami Pande 19 November 2007 14224 views

“The aim of education is the knowledge not of facts but of values,” a maxim which seems to have lost its true meaning in the rampant commercialization of education in our present day. Value education is an important rung in the ladder of education but sadly our schools and colleges fail to provide the same to our students. Today education has been taken over by the syllabus as education ends with the completion of the syllabus, a trend which in turn has given rise to a number of institutes and universities carrying forward the wheel of education in a mechanical sense.

Imparting of knowledge has become a business to certain people who claim to provide various courses for exorbitant fees. Guwahati itself has witnessed the boom of such spurious colleges in every nook and corner of the city by self styled educationists. Some colleges are even seen to be running in ramshackle conditions where the students are accommodated in tiny thatched classrooms by in some cases incompetent teachers.

‘Have money will open a school or college’ that is the prevalent attitude of some of the owners of such schools. There are many universities in India who sell degrees for a price which is a mockery of the education system. The students too are aware of such a trend and prefer to seek

greener pastures in such institutes where education can be brought and sold.

There are some autonomous universities which fall under the deemed university category but sometimes fail to fall under the Distance Education Council (DEC) which are therefore de-recognized by the UGC. DEC is a statutory body of University Grants Commission (UGC) which provides university status to such universities if they fulfill certain norms and for this the UGC gives them a few years time. If the university fails to fulfill these norms the university is de-recognised.

In such cases some universities find themselves in a soup if they are not approved by the UGC. And in such cases the students are the worst sufferers as they run the risk of being stripped off their degrees. The government needs to tighten its reign over these universities who allot study centres in different parts of the country and charge exorbitant fees without providing proper infrastructure and facilities. Therefore before enrolling in such colleges students and guardians need to check the background of these universities which can be done by visiting the UGC website which lists all the recognized as well as de-recognised universities.

The business of education may have a lot of pitfalls and the potential consumer needs to be aware of these in order to avoid falling into their trap.

Rituparna Goswami Pande

Journalist, writer

BY RITUPARNA GOSWAMI PANDE

Women of Substance

My Waxen Wings

I, Kaziranga

A day for Women!

Assam - a killing field for the wild

ON THIS DAY

BJP leader likely to surrender

Congress demands CM's resignation

Durga puja ends in Kokrajhar

Award for BVFCL Daily Bazaar Puja

Dalai Lama to visit Manipur on October 17
