



UGC Halts PhD Admissions in Three Rajasthan Universities

Why in News?

The [University Grants Commission \(UGC\)](#) has prohibited three universities in Rajasthan from enrolling new **Ph.D. students**. This action follows investigations into **allegations of issuing fake and backdated degrees**.

Key Points

- **Universities Affected:** The institutions barred from enrolling new Ph.D. scholars are **OPJS University, Churu, Sunrise University, Alwar and Singhania University, Jhunjhunu**.
- **Allegations:** A Standing **Committee** appointed by UGC has found that the three Universities did not follow the **provisions of the UGC PhD Regulations** and the **academic norms** for awarding of PhD degrees.
- **UGC's Action:** The **Standing Committee** has recommended that the **UGC** may debar these Universities from **enrolling PhD students** for the **next five years**.
- **Implications:** This incidence raises concerns about the quality and credibility of higher education institutions in Rajasthan.
 - It underscores the need for stringent oversight to maintain academic standards and protect students' interests.

University Grants Commission (UGC)

- UGC came into existence on **28th December, 1953** and became a **statutory Organisation** of the Government of India under the **University Grants Commission Act, 1956** for the **coordination, determination** and maintenance of standards of **teaching, examination** and **research** in university education.
- The UGC operates under the **Ministry of Education**, the Central Government appoints a **Chairman, a Vice-Chairman**, and **ten other members to the UGC**.
 - The Chairman is chosen from people who are not officers of the Central Government or any State Government.
- Apart from **providing grants** to eligible universities and colleges, the Commission also advises the Central and State Governments on the measures that are necessary for the development of Higher Education.
- It functions **from** New Delhi as well as its six Regional offices located in Bangalore, Bhopal, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Pune.
- It also **regulates the recognition of fake universities**, autonomous colleges, deemed to be universities and distance education institutions.

