



Delhi Greens NGO

D-16/57, II Floor, Sector 7, Rohini, Delhi - 110085, India

+91-8586-924-429 · contact@delhigreens.org · www.delhigreens.org

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To

The Principal

University of Delhi, Delhi

Subject: Proper implementation of Hon'ble Supreme Court's Order and UGC Guidelines on imparting Environment Education – reg

Dear Ma'am/Sir,

This is to kindly remind you of the directions given by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on 06.12. 1999 (in WP No. 860/1991) to all colleges and universities affiliated to University Grants Commission (UGC) to introduce Environmental Studies as a compulsory subject in the curriculum. The UGC had communicated this to all universities on 24.07.2003 for strict compliance. The University of Delhi (DU), through a letter sent on 24.07.2014 to all the Principals of DU colleges (attached) had communicated the decision that Environmental Studies has to be taught to all undergraduate students of the University of Delhi in the first or second semester.

Some colleges adopted this decision arbitrarily and made teachers of other disciplines (e.g. Botany, Zoology, Hindi, English, etc.) teach Environmental Studies to the students. The UGC took objection to this and issued a letter on 07.08.2014 (attached) stating that Environmental Studies needs to be taught by “teachers who fulfill the qualifications laid down by the UGC.” Therefore, guidelines given by UGC must be followed to implement the curriculum and to appoint the faculty to teach the subject. That is, selected teachers must possess a Master's degree in Environmental Studies/Science and should be NET qualified in Environmental Science (unless exempted). We therefore request you to remain mindful of these details while teaching the AECC-Environmental Science paper henceforth.

The National Capital Territory of Delhi today is evidently facing alarming environment and sustainability challenges. Air quality has worsened to an extent that schools have to be shut down to save children. Water pollution, biodiversity loss are some other challenges and the youth needs to be made aware and educated to prevent further loss. Hence, the urgent necessity to implement environment education, and more importantly to appoint the right faculty trained in the subject. The Environmental Studies *ad hoc* panel, as notified by the University of Delhi, is attached for your reference.

We hope you will help the present and future generation by imparting proper environment education by recruiting only the eligible candidate henceforth. Please note that as per UGC letter dated 19.06.2017 (attached), “non-implementation of this order of Hon'ble Supreme Court – *in its letter and spirit* – amounts to Contempt of Court.”

Thanking you,

Sincerely,

Delhi Greens Campaign Coordinator