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འབྲུག་གེས་ཚད་ཅད་ལྷན་འགྲུབ་འཛུགས་འཛིན།

ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN
BHUTAN QUALIFICATIONS AND PROFESSIONALS
CERTIFICATION AUTHORITY
Higher Education Quality Council



BQPCA/HEQC/ECPF/08/1352

18 August, 2023

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

Sub: ECPF Services and Fake Universities in India

With the increasing trends of individuals exploring opportunities to pursue higher education outside Bhutan, the Higher Education Quality Council (HEQC), Bhutan Qualifications and Professionals Certification Authority (BQPCA) would like to draw the attention of all aspiring students and general public to the following points:

1. Following the enactment of Civil Service Reform Act of Bhutan 2022 and the reorganization of civil service agencies, most of the roles of erstwhile Department of Adult and Higher Education (DAHE) have been subsumed under the BQPCA, and DAHE is no more in existence. Therefore, to access the information related to Education Consultancy and Placement Firm (ECPF) kindly follow the BQPCA website link: www.bqpc.gov.bt
2. The authority has noticed ECPFs promoting themselves in social media platforms by using various generic terms such as, but not limited to, "*one of the best*," "*possessing a highly experienced and certified team*," "*exclusive affiliation with leading overseas colleges and universities*," "*college offering lower fees*," "*being one of the largest/experienced agents*," "*high visa success rate*," and "*guaranteeing no visa refusals*." There is no mechanism or system in place to substantiate many of such claims propagated by ECPFs on social media. Therefore, we would like to caution general public to use your own judgement by visiting registered ECPFs to make choice and avail their services.
3. BQPCA has recently initiated a feedback mechanism for clients to provide feedback pertaining to the services provided by respective ECPFs. The initiative is also aimed at mitigating any undesirable situation related to placement of students abroad. Therefore, kindly scan the QR Code displayed by ECPFs at a prominent place in their office. The link for feedback is <https://forms.gle/eLdC1jetBJBURTEY8> (QR Code attached).
4. Aspiring students and public at large are hereby informed that there are 21 unrecognized institutions which are functioning in contravention of the University Grants Commissions (UGC) Act, India. Therefore, UGC has declared those institutions as "**Fake Universities**" and not empowered to confer any degree. Please follow the link <https://www.ugc.gov.in/page/Fake-Universities.aspx> to avoid undesirable situation.
5. Pursuant to the Public Notification issued by BQPCA dated 1 June 2023, we still notice cases of Bhutanese students availing services of education consultancies not registered in Bhutan. Therefore, to avoid undesirable issues, we would like to once again urge all aspiring



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tudents to avail services from registered ECPFs in Bhutan. The addresses and contact details of ECPFs in Bhutan can be assessed through <http://www.bmhc.gov.bt/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/ECPFs-in-operation-as-of-1st-Aug-2023.pdf>

Director

Kindly share your feedback for ECPF services by scanning the QR Code given below

