

Status of Eastern Institute for Integrated Learning in Management (EILM) (Private University), Jorethang, District Namchi, Sikkim

Eastern Institute for Integrated Learning in Management University (EILM), 8th Mile, Malbasey, Budang, West Sikkim-737121 was established by an Act of State Legislature of Sikkim as a Private University and was empowered to award degrees as specified under Section 22 of the UGC Act through its main campus in regular mode with the approval of Statutory Bodies/Councils, wherever its required.

Eastern Institute for Integrated Learning in Management University (EILM), 8th Mile, Malbasey, Budang, West Sikkim-737121 was not authorized to open study centre/ off campus centre beyond the territorial jurisdiction of the state as per the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in case of Prof. Yashpal Vs. State of Chhattisgarh. The University was not permitted to open its centre(s) even within the state as per the provision of UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003 without the approval of UGC. The UGC has not granted any approval to the University to open off campus/study centre.

Complaints were received by UGC from individuals across the country against Eastern Institute for Integrated Learning in Management (EILM) University (Private University), Jorethang, District-Namchi, Sikkim about numerous programmes run through distance mode, opening of unauthorized study centre(s), franchising of higher education, issuing degrees to students without conducting any exams or practicals, misleading students by promoting wrong information on website, selling degrees by charging money instead of providing classes or conducting exams, selling degrees in India, conducting programmes through collaborative mode with Industries/firms/companies and abroad by conducting courses in one sitting and establishment of off-shore campus at Mauritius.

A Fact Finding Committee was constituted by the UGC to:

- (i) Look into the above complaints
- (ii) To examine whether Eastern Institute for Integrated Learning in Management (EILM) University (Private University), Jorethang, District-Namchi, Sikkim is conducting programmes in accordance with UGC (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities) Regulations, 2003 and fulfilling criteria in terms of programmes, faculty, infrastructural facilities, financial viability, etc. as laid down from time to time by the UGC and other concerned statutory bodies.
- (iii) To enquire into the adherence by the University to the guidelines of the erstwhile Distance Education Council (DEC), approvals/recognition given by DEC to the University, the policy of territorial jurisdiction laid down by UGC and DEC, and fulfilment of other quality standards for offering programmes in distance mode.
- (iv) To visit the University and its various offices/premises, inspect such documents as it may consider necessary, and take copies thereof, record statement and have discussion with such functionaries and other persons of the University as it may deem fit.

The Fact Finding Committee visited the University from 27-29th April, 2015. Since the Vice-Chancellor, Registrar, Controller of Examination and Director of Distance Education Programmes were absconding (as informed by the State Government officials), the Committee met Dean, one Administrative Staff and two Assistant Professors of Management.

