

Fake certificate racket run by NGOs busted

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PATNA: The racket run by a number of NGOs engaged in selling fake technical certificates to candidates appearing at the recruitment test for appointment of government "amins" has been busted.

These NGOs allegedly charged nearly Rs 3,000 for each of the fake technical

certificates sold to such candidates, said an official.

A candidate for the class III post of government "amin" is required to have technical certificate from a government-recognised "amin" training institute as one of the essential criteria for appearing at the recruitment test conducted by the Staff Selection Commission (SSC). The minimum academic qualification for the post is matriculation.

Following a tip-off, the SSC conducted a scrutiny of the technical certificates submitted by 50 candidates selected for the posts of "amins".

It was found that out of the 50 selected candidates, 49 had obtained the certificates from unauthorised NGOs located in different parts of the state, including Patna, Bhagalpur, Muzaffarpur and Vaishali.

Immediately after the probe, the SSC cancelled the results of all the 49 selected candidates. It also lodged separate FIRs with the Shashtrinagar police station here against all these candidates and over a dozen NGOs allegedly involved in selling fake technical certificates to the candidates.

The SSC has charged them with forgery, cheating, conspiracy, wrongful gain and concealing of facts.

Soon after the expose of fake NGOs, the SSC directed the Patna DM to probe such NGOs located in the city.

In course of a recent raid on the office premises of one of the NGOs - Nagar Gram Vikas Kalyan Sansthan, Anisabad (Patna) - the raiding party seized several forged certificates, national emblem seal and rubber stamps.

In course of the probe the alleged involvement of some SSC officials came to light. An office assistant has been put under the suspension.

The secretary, joint secretary and a member of the SSC have also been replaced. A new team has taken over in the commission, said new SSC joint secretary U N Pandey.

Pandey told TOI that the SSC will soon put up grievance-cum-suggestion boxes on its office premises in order to get secret information relating to different examinations conducted by it. The identity of the person giving such information will be kept secret, said another official.

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Several NGOs, including the Survey Training Board, Lok Seva Parishad, Uddyami Kalyan Seva Sansthan, Gram Vikas Evam Lok Kalyan Samiti (all in Patna), Sarkari Survey School, Areraj (East Champaran), Adarsh Yuva Kalyan Seva Sansthan, Hajipur, and Adhunik Takniki Shiksha Samaj Kalyan Sansthan at Hajipur and Muzaffarpur, have been identified as fake. FIRs have already been lodged against them, said the official.

According to official sources, the registration of these NGOs is likely to be cancelled.

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/patna/Fake-certificate-racket-run-by-NGOs-busted/articleshow/1465116.cms>