The National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) is a statutory body established through an Act of Parliament (NCTE Act, 1993, hereafter the Act). The main objective of the NCTE is to achieve planned and coordinated development of the teacher education system throughout the country, the regulation and proper maintenance of Norms and Standards in the teacher education system and for matters connected therewith. One of the mandates provided to NCTE under the NCTE Act, 1993 is to grant/refuse/withdraw recognition/permission to any teacher training institution/University intending to offer/offering teacher education courses.

3. Any institution/University intending to start teacher training course(s) has to obtain recognition/permission from NCTE under Section 14 and 15 of the NCTE Act, prior to start of such course(s). The said sections are extracted below:

Section 14: RECOGNITION OF INSTITUTIONS OFFERING COURSE OR TRAINING IN TEACHER EDUCATION

(1) Every institution offering or intending to offer a course or training in teacher education on or after the appointed day, may, for grant of recognition under this Act, make an application to the Regional Committee concerned in such form and in such manner as may be determined by regulations:

Provided that an institution offering a course or training in teacher education immediately before the appointed day, shall be entitled to continue such course or training for a period of six months, if it has made an application for recognition within the said period and until the disposal of the application by the Regional Committee.

(2) The fee to be paid along with the application under sub-section (1) shall be such as may be prescribed.

(3) On receipt of an application by the Regional Committee from any institution under sub-section (1), and after obtaining from the institution concerned such other particulars as it may consider necessary, it shall:

(a) if it is satisfied that such institution has adequate financial resources, accommodation, library, qualified staff, laboratory and that it fulfils such other conditions required for proper functioning of the institution for a course or training programme.
in teacher education, as may be determined by regulations, pass an order granting recognition to such institution, subject to such conditions as may be determined by regulations; or

(b) if it is of the opinion that such institution does not fulfill the requirements laid down in sub-clause (a), pass an order refusing recognition to such institution for reasons to be recorded in writing:

Provided that before passing an order under sub-clause (b), the Regional Committee shall provide a reasonable opportunity to the concerned institution for making a written representation.

(4) Every order granting or refusing recognition to an institution for a course or training in teacher education under sub-section (3) shall be published in the Official Gazette and communicated in writing for appropriate action to such institution and to the concerned examining body, the local authority or the State Government and the Central Government.

(5) Every institution, in respect of which recognition has been refused shall discontinue the course or training in teacher education from the end of the academic session next following the date of receipt of the order refusing recognition passed under clause (b) of sub-section (3).

(6) Every examining body shall, on receipt of the order under sub-section (4),-

(a) grant affiliation to the institution, where recognition has been granted; or

(b) cancel the affiliation of the institution, where recognition has been refused.

Section 15: PERMISSION FOR A NEW COURSE OR TRAINING BY A RECOGNISED INSTITUTION

(1) Where any recognised institution intends to start any new course or training in teacher education, it may make an application to seek permission to the Regional Committee concerned in such form and in such manner as may be determined by regulations.

(2) The fees to be paid along with the application under sub-section (1) shall be such as may prescribed.

(3) On receipt of an application from an institution under sub-section (1), and after obtaining from the recognised institution such other particulars as may be considered necessary, the Regional Committee shall, -

(a) if it is satisfied that such recognised institution has adequate financial resources, accommodation, library, qualified staff, laboratory, and that it fulfills such other conditions required for proper conduct of the new course or training in teacher education, as may be determined by regulations, pass an order granting permission, subject to such conditions as may be determined by regulations; or

(b) if it is of the opinion that such institution does not fulfill the requirements laid down in sub-clause (a), pass an order refusing permission to such institution for reasons to be recorded in writing:
Provided that before passing an order refusing permission under sub-class (b), the Regional Committee shall provide a reasonable opportunity to the institution concerned for making a written representation.

(4) Every order granting or refusing permission to a recognised institution for a new course or training in teacher education under sub-section (3), shall be published in the Official Gazette and communicated in writing for appropriate action to such recognised institution and to the concerned examining body, the local authority, the State Government and the Central Government.

4. It has come to the notice of National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) that some Institutions/Universities are offering Teacher Training Course(s) without formal approval from NCTE. As per the NCTE Act 1993, recognition of all Teacher Education Courses by the NCTE is mandatory for purposes of employment of students undergoing these courses and any teacher education course(s) offered without approval from NCTE attracts section 17(4) of the NCTE Act, which states as under:-

(4) If an institution offers any course or training in teacher education after the coming into force of the order withdrawing recognition under sub-section (1) or where an institution offering a course or training in teacher education immediately before the appointed day fails or neglects to obtain recognition or permission under this Act, the qualification in teacher education obtained pursuant to such course or training or after undertaking a course or training in such institution, shall not be treated as a valid qualification for purposes of employment under the Central Government, any State Government or University, or in any school, college or other educational body aided by the Central Government or any State Government.

Similarly, section 16 also puts certain restrictions on unrecognised courses.

6. NCTE-HQrs, would like to have your comments about any institution (s) which are running unrecognised Teacher Education Programme(s) at present or had done so in the past so that appropriate action may be taken against the said institution(s).

The desired information may be supplied to the undersigned by the close of office hours on 31-3-2017 and oblige.

Yours faithfully,

(Sanjay Awasthi)
Member Secretary