

DU writes to UGC on issue of St Stephen's principal

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi University has written to University Grants Commission on the issue of the reappointment of the principal of St Stephen's College. The university has sought the intervention of the commission to "preclude any act of defilement of UGC regulations" by the college. DU stated that as the college had violated UGC provisions, it was constrained from recognising John Varghese as the principal. This is the fourth letter written by DU on the matter. The earlier three letters were DU's communication to the college.

Varghese was appointed the college's principal on March 1, 2016 for five years and was then re-appointed to the post. According to the university, the due procedure of forming a committee with nominees of the vice-chancellor and UGC was not followed during the re-appointment. As per UGC Regulations 2010, a principal can be appointed only for five years.

The letter, signed by the assistant registrar of the university, stated: "The university

noted that without following any provision of the UGC regulations, the term of professor John Varghese was extended. The university advised the college to follow the relevant clauses of the UGC Regulations 2010 and 2018 in the matter. However, the college has been repeatedly justifying the reappointment, citing the resolutions of its supreme council. However, neither in the Act/ statutes/ ordinances of the university nor in the UGC regulation is there a provision of the supreme council (sic)."

The letter stated that DU was only the duly constituted governing body that was authorised to appoint a principal after following due processes. "It may be noted the UGC Regulations, 2018, do not provide any exception to any category of educational institution from complying with the norm of re-appointment of a principal," it added.

The college principal did not respond to queries from **TOL**.

THE UNIVERSITY'S LETTER SAYS

The college has been repeatedly justifying the principal's reappointment, citing the resolutions of its supreme council. But neither in the Act/statutes/ ordinances of the university nor in the UGC regulation is there a provision of supreme council (sic)



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