

university education, there is a high potential for borderless education in Sri Lanka, which has been exploited by many private HEIs.

These private HEIs are registered under the Registrar of Companies or Board of Investment (BOI). However, majority of them have not obtained the approval of the UGC. Some of the private HEIs, which have affiliations with foreign universities, do not have even basic physical and human resources, and the poor quality of education provided results in many students failing examinations and abandoning the course after spending large amounts of money. In addition, some of these private HEIs, which claim affiliation to foreign universities, are found to be bogus institutions.

However, the private HEIs which have received the approval of the UGC and BOI offer degrees from prestigious foreign universities and their graduates are readily acceptable in the employment market. They have an advantage over most of the graduates of state universities due to their fluency in English, better IT knowledge and communication skills.

Some of the Sri Lankan universities are also engaged in borderless education through private HEIs in some Asian countries. However, this is mainly for subjects such as Buddhist Studies.

Key words: Sri Lanka, Borderless Education, Buddhist studies, private HEIs