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## Kyiv.Press

## Ukrainian educational mafia in India

Опросы

"Glory" about the Ukrainian corruption has long spread to the expanses of the Western world, and yet every day new directions, schemes, new faces open.



Foreign students are a "golden bottom" for Ukrainian universities, and where money - there are Ukrainian officials.

Schemes of "pumping out" money from foreign students are diverse, but they all differ in their cynicism, because corrupt people speculate on one of the most vulnerable categories of people - young people who are trying to gain knowledge and to know the world, as well as their parents who very often give The last money to get a child education. And what is the picture of the world shown by Ukrainian officials, demanding exorbitant bribes, creating artificial insurmountable obstacles and making the life of many students unbearable.

One of the most striking examples of the infamous corruption system is the organization of the training of foreign students in Ukraine. Recently, a great response is getting information about the abuse of admission of students from India.

Not so long ago in the Indian press a whole wave of publications swept over how a group of parents of applicants from the city of Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh) came to the Ukrainian consulate in New Delhi with a request to explain the groundless refusal to grant visas to potential students. A peculiarity of the situation is that they were not all "recruited" by the BobTrade-related company, but were picked up by other agents. The latter has been successfully operating in Ukraine for a long time, which can be explained by the strong friendship of its founders, Indian citizens Sachin Koshik and Hardip Singh, with Ukrainian diplomats and other officials. Friendship is supported by financial "cooperation". For example, for each visa issued to an Indian student, as they themselves noted, picked up by "BobTrade", the latter "thanked" Ukrainian diplomats \$ 1000. However, these Indians are "friends" not only with diplomatic personnel, but also with officials on Ukrainian territory, for example Elena Shapovalova, director of the State Enterprise

"Ukrainian State Center for International Education". The friendly relations between the officials and Hardip Singh were formed during her work in Kharkov, where the current official was in charge of the Center for International Cooperation in Kharkiv National University named after Karazin. There was organized a stable scheme of attracting students from India under the monopoly control of "BobTrade". As the sources in the Kharkov educational environment say, even now for foreigners to become a student of the same high schools as the Kharkov National University named after N.V. Karazin or Kharkov National Medical University is possible only through the company "BobTrade" and with the "blessing" of Elena Shapovalova. And such approval of the official can be obtained only for a round amount of foreign currency.

The cooperation of A. Shapovalova from S. Koshik and H. Singh received a new impetus after her appointment in 2016 as Director of the State Enterprise "Ukrainian State Center for International Education". The direct contact of officials of this level with commercial entities such as BobTrade, Ukrstady, StadiaAA (all affiliated and have a single end-owner), which organize the training of foreign students, opened up new horizons and opportunities for corruption abuses. Indirect evidence is that the trip of E. Shapovalova to India began to take place without grounds.

In July 2016, at Kochi (India), Ms. Shapovalova, as part of the Ukrainian delegation, took part in a seminar on the popularization of Ukrainian education organized by the Indian private company ANIX EDUCATION. In an interview with the publication "New Indian Excess" on August 1, 2016 E.Shapovalova, among other things, calls already now to file documents through the "State Commissioner of the official (agent)" ANIX EDUCATION ".

In turn, the already mentioned company "BobTrade" operates in India through its representative - the very "ANIX EDUCATION". Thus, a Ukrainian official, acting in an official status, advertises a commercial company in which he has unofficial (commercial) interest. At the same time, there are many recorded acts of deliberately blocking the activities of competing agent companies.

The situation becomes even more interesting in the informal sphere. So, Hardeep Singh in the inner circle calls Elena Shapovalov "keeping wife", whatever that means in Mr. Hardip's understanding. By the way, on the official website of the State Enterprise "Ukrainian State Center for International Education" of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine in July 2016, a clear explanation was provided that, we quote: "None of the recruiting companies (agents / firms) is an official representative of the Center or the Ministry of Education and Science Ukraine! We do not give any licenses to recruiting companies! Previous licenses are not valid. "

Moreover, the current high office opens up new opportunities for Mrs. Shapovalova, especially corruption ones.

Thus, one small company united in a rush of corruption Ukrainian officials and businessmen of different views and from different parts of the world. It is a pity that such a harmonious work is directed only at one's own interests. Worst of all, such actions by officials other than financial losses of the state and disregard for foreign students, are fatal to the already dubious image of Ukraine. And the actions of such officials as E. Shapovalova are being made to ridicule the international community by the words of the leaders of our state about the positive changes in the country.

We believe that the competent authorities should pay attention to the above and verify all the circumstances described.

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