Past cases involving dubious titles and qualifications

July 3, 2012
Twenty people paid RM4,888 each to a syndicate that sold fake Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) degrees. The syndicate promised to upload the names of the buyers onto a USM database but did not even respond to phone calls after the money had been banked in.

July 27, 2012
A syndicate sold up to RM5mil worth of fake certificates and degrees. Certificates were sold online, with a bachelors degree priced at RM6,500, a Masters for RM8,500 and a PhD for RM10,500.

June 20, 2013
A customary chieftain in Melaka had reportedly handed out scores of unrecognised Datukships and other titles to people. An "investiture" ceremony, where titles were conferred on 42 recipients, were held at his official residence.

July 29, 2015
Two people claimed trial in the Sessions Court in Kuala Lumpur to eight charges of cheating several individuals over awarding fake datukships involving RM705,000. The duo were said to have duped each victim into handing over between RM60,000 and RM120,000.

March 20, 2016
A university in a neighbouring country had reportedly accepted unqualified students for its medical programmes. The Higher Education Ministry verified the SPM results of a batch of students enrolled in a foreign university in the region but found that they did not qualify.

June 12, 2016
Two people claimed that a Malaysian Pharmaceutical Society "life member", had cheated them into buying expensive products that did not work. However, it turned out that the man wasn't even a registered pharmacist.

Oct 23, 2016
Universiti Malaya issued a statement saying it never conferred any doctorate in entrepreneurship on a well-known motivational speaker. Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia and Infrastructure University Kuala Lumpur also denied conferring any doctorates on the man.