

(ix) Need to accord early approval for setting up a medical

College at Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN (TIRUNELVELI): Tuticorin, an Assembly segment of my parliamentary constituency, Tirunelveli is a Pearl City. It is the birthplace of the great freedom fighter Shri V.O. Chidambaranar who sacrificed his entire life for the freedom of the nation. There is a port in this city which is famous for export and import at the international level. Lot of business community from all over the country is settled in this city. The Tamil Nadu Government made an announcement in the Budget of 1997-98, that a Medical College would be opened at Tuticorin. Necessary proposal has already been sent to the Medical Council of India for their approval. A building is also hired by the State Government to house this Medical College. An amount of Rs. 20 lakh has already been sanctioned by the State Government to improve the quality of the rented building. 87 acres of municipal land have already been acquired by the State Government for construction of college building and Rs.5 crore have already been allotted for the construction. Professors and staff have been appointed. Students have already been selected through entrance examination for the year 1998 and 1999. A team from the Medical Council of India have already inspected the place and submitted a report. But the Medical Council of India has not yet approved the proposal of the medical college. Students are facing many problems for their admission. I request the Union Government to persuade the Medical Council of India for its early approval in order to save the students from impending problems.