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Title : Regarding the need to set up a regional All India Institute of Medical Sciences at Trivandrum, Kerala.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has decided to establish six regional All India Institutes of Medical Sciences at six State capitals. Unfortunately, Kerala has been discriminated in this project. We understand that the hon. Chief Minister has petitioned the Prime Minister in this matter. Despite the fact that Kerala has achieved commendable progress in the areas of high life expectancy, reduction of infant mortality etc., the State is yet to have a national level health care institute of the Union Government. Often the achievements of the Government in the primary health care sector is being foisted against the State's rightful demand and eligibility for a national level institute such as AIIMS.

Establishment of an AIIMS at Trivandrum has many added advantages. The city has excellent connectivity with the Gulf countries, Maldives, and other foreign countries. Health tourism is gaining increased acceptance here. This avenue can be most profitably and effectively exploited if such a national institute with modern facilities is set up at Trivandrum. It is, therefore, requested that the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare may be directed to set up a national institute of the status of the AIIMS at Trivandrum.