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Title: Submission regarding recognition of Sikkim Manipal Institute of Medical Science by Medical Council of India (MCI).

SHRI NAKUL DAS RAI (SIKKIM): I would like to bring one important issue to the kind attention of the Government. Gross injustice is being meted to numerous prospective doctors and students of Sikkim Manipal Institute of Medical Sciences under the Sikkim Manipal University.

MR. SPEAKER: This is a matter I would like the Government to take note of.

SHRI NAKUL DAS RAI : Sir, all this is due to the irrational decision of the Medical Council of India in not recognizing the Institute, which was established in the year 2001.[\[R17\]](#) The Institute has made a number of submissions to the Union Ministry of Health as well as the Prime Minister, the Cabinet Secretary and the Health Minister. The Chief Minister of Sikkim had spoken to the Prime Minister twice on the issue. How can MCI not offer recognition to Sikkim Manipal Institute of Medical Sciences even after giving recommendation to the Centre allowing the Institute to admit students since 2001?

I want to bring to your kind notice the plight of the first batch (2001 batch) of the students of MBBS of Sikkim Manipal Institute of Medical Sciences. Till date, the MCI and the Union Ministry of Health have not recognized the MBBS degree issued by the Sikkim Manipal University and not given provisional registration to the first batch of its medical graduates, who passed out in March 2006.

The Union Ministry of Development of North East Region and Director, Medical Education (Government of India) came to the rescue of the students by directing the MCI to visit the institute with regard to recognition and registration. The visit took place in the first week of September this year and Sikkim Manipal Institute of Medical Sciences and Government of Sikkim tried their level best to meet the requirement of the MCI.

Sikkim, being a small hilly State and sparsely populated, its patient load cannot be compared to any hospital of plain areas or bigger cities. Therefore, the present criterion of patient load by MCI should not be the yardstick for recognizing Sikkim Manipal Institute of Medical Sciences. However, if the MCI recognizes the MoU between Sir Thondup Namgyal Memorial (STNM) and Sikkim Manipal University, this issue of patient load is addressed, as the total number of patients.

The Union Health Ministry and the Government of Sikkim have recognized the MoU signed between STNM hospital and Sikkim Manipal University, (for the patient load and faculty of the Medical Institute), which are primary criteria for recognition of a Medical College by MCI.

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your point.

SHRI NAKUL DAS RAI : Therefore, MCI should recognize Sikkim Manipal Institute of Medical Sciences at the earliest keeping in mind the future of the students as the institute fulfils all the criteria.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already requested the Government to take note of it.

SHRI NAKUL DAS RAI : This issue is important concerning the future of hundreds of students.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, I will bring the matter to the notice of the concerned Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: He has already responded.