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Title: Need to provide education loan to students particularly in Kerala.

SHRI P.T. THOMAS (IDUKKI): I invite the attention of the Government towards the serious issue being faced by students for getting education loan from banks to complete their studies. Despite strict Government directions banks are reluctant to provide education loans. Thousands of students are struggling to continue their studies due to discrimination by banks in granting education loan. The decision of Indian Banks Association to limit the education loan for students who secure admission to professional courses in merit quota will badly affect students. The impact of this decision will affect a large number of students especially in highly literate states like Kerala. The Indian Banks Association is claiming that they have consulted experts in the metropolitan cities. But they are not aware of the pathetic situation of the rural India. In rural and backward areas, students especially SC/ST students are not getting higher marks. The circular of IBA is against the guidelines of Government of India and the RBI. I request the Government to take necessary steps to revert this decision. I also request the Government to take necessary measures for timely disbursement of educational loans and to take prompt action against banks defaulting on education loan disbursement to the students.