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Title: Regarding scrapping of screening test for FMGE Examination in India for Foreign Medical Degree holders.

DR. K. GOPAL (NAGAPATTINAM): Madam Speaker, I wish to bring the attention of the House to the urgent necessity of scrapping of screening test for Indian students to study in foreign universities. I wish to make this representation regarding the long-pending issue of the foreign medical graduates and solemnly seek your valuable intervention to redress the anomalies in the screening test process forthwith.

This system of screening test came into effect in 2002 as per the Eligibility Requirement for taking Admission in an Undergraduate Medical Course in a Foreign Medical Institution Regulations 2002. The test was introduced to overcome the then prevailing human problem created with a large number of foreign medical graduates not being given registration by the MCI. This problem has been overcome now, as most of the affected doctors have cleared the screening test by March 2008.

Based on the figures obtained from the MCI, from 2008, the year in which the first batch of students who were issued eligibility certificates in the year 2002 appeared for the screening test, the average pass percentage is an abysmal 15 per cent despite the students having qualified from institutions recognized by the MCI or from institutions finding a place in the World Directory of Medical Schools published by the WHO in compliance with the MCI Act.

Hon. Speaker, I would, therefore, request that that this screening test be abolished.