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title: Need to provide adequate financial support and fill up vacant posts in the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): The Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology (SCTIMST), Thiruvananthapuram is an 'Institute of National Importance' established by an Act of the Parliament. It is established with a vision to develop as a Global Leader in Medical Devices Development, High Quality Patient Care, and Health Sciences Studies by 2020. The institute offers, Doctoral, Post-doctoral and Post graduate courses in medical specialties, Public health, Nursing, Basic Sciences and Health care technology, It has a tertiary referral advanced multi-specialty hospital for treatment of cardiac and neuro diseases with annual attendance of 16,806 new patients and 1,24,559 patients for review. 10,487 patients were admitted for treatment, from all over the country. The institute is the only Centre in Asia which developed Indigenous heart valves. The funds are routed through Dept. of Science and Technology, is not adequate for the smooth functioning of hospital services. It is requested that fund may be directly allocated to the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology in Union budget by enhancing the budget in tune with the developmental plans of the Institute. Sree Chithra Institute spends Rs 15 - 20 crore every year towards subsidy for treatment of patients from poor socio-economic background. Earlier this amount was reimbursed to the Institute. At present this practice is stopped. It is requested that the funds allocation for reimbursing poor patient's treatment may be resumed. The post of Director is vacant for the last 17 months and a senior doctor is holding charge. Though land is available, construction of new hospital block has not yet started. It is requested that all the senior level posts, top administrative posts are filled at the earliest. It is also requested that sufficient financial and other supports may be extended for the hospital services at the Institute to develop into an institute of international standards.