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Title: Regarding national entrance test for medical courses.

*SHRI K. ASHOK KUMAR (KRISHNAGIRI): Hon. Madam Speaker, Vanakkam. Thank you for this opportunity. The move of the Union Government to introduce the National Eligibility Entrance Test (NEET) for Medical Admissions is infringement upon the rights and authority of the State Government. The introduction of National Eligibility Entrance Test (NEET) will be unilaterally favouring the urban students besides it posing a danger to the rural students who come from socially and economically deprived sections of the society. The rural students may not be able to compete with urban students as there is no level-playing field for them. The students from rural background, who are socially and economically backward, may not be having access to coaching centres, training and study material, whereas the same would be easily available for urban students. The Notification of the National Eligibility Entrance Test (NEET) would definitely create confusion and frustration in the minds of poor students living in rural areas and small towns of Tamil Nadu.

Under the able leadership of the Hon. Chief Minister *Puratchithalaivi* Amma, Tamil Nadu has been witnessing golden period as regards better public health facilities. Tamil Nadu is a role model and a progressive state in terms of providing better health facilities to all its people. For Post Graduate Medical Courses, the Government of Tamil Nadu gives preference to those who have served in rural areas with additional special weightage to those who work in hilly and tribal areas. The State Government has successfully obtained undertakings from those completing Post Graduate medical education so that Specialist Medical Manpower is made available in Government Hospitals and Primary Health Centres across the State of Tamil Nadu.

The Medical Council of India and Dental Council of India have issued Notification regarding the National Eligibility Entrance Test (NEET) in the year 2013. Hon. Supreme Court, in a petition against this Notification, had upheld all the valid objections of the State Government of Tamil Nadu and quashed the said Notification saying it ultra vires the Constitution. The then UPA Government filed a review petition against the Order of Hon. Supreme Court. Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu *Puratchithalaivi* Amma then wrote a letter to Hon. Prime Minister seeking withdrawal of this review petition by the Union Government filed in the Hon. Supreme Court.

HON. SPEAKER : Yes, it is over.

SHRI K. ASHOK KUMAR: Madam Speaker. A petition was filed by the Tamil Nadu Government against the review petition of Union Government in the Hon. Supreme Court.

HON. SPEAKER : You should not read all the papers.

SHRI K. ASHOK KUMAR: Just a second Madam Speaker. Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu *Puratchithalaivi* Amma has once again stressed the need to oppose the introduction of National Eligibility Entrance Test (NEET) for Medical Admissions in any other name or manner.

HON. SPEAKER : Now you have raised this issue.

SHRI K. ASHOK KUMAR: I therefore urge upon the Union Government to withdraw its review petition in the Hon. Supreme Court seeking to nullify the Apex Court's Judgement. Thank you. Vanakkam,.