[RAJYA SABHA]

Acute shortage of medical teachers in the country

LT. GEN. (DR.) D.P. VATS (Retd.) (Haryana) : Respected Chairman, Sir, through you, I draw the attention of the House to the acute shortage of medical teachers in the country.

The Government is embarking upon an ambitious plan to open medical college at divisional headquarters and, subsequently, at district headquarters. But, medical colleges started by the MCI had to be closed because of lack of faculty. Now, I have some suggestions that out-of-box solutions have to be sought for meeting the demand of medical faculty, like increasing the retirement age of medical teachers and optimum utilisation of military medical assets in the country.

Armed Forces, with 8,000 doctors, 7,500 nurses, 38,500 beds and 300 medical units with 50 hospitals are equipped to teach should be utilised in the form of starting PG teaching, either by affiliating these hospitals to local medical colleges or by starting new medical colleges. It is because armed forces do not require those many PGs, because we need general duty medical officers to be with troops on the front line. Due to this, the medical assets in armed forces go unutilised. So, my point is, the way the Armed Forces Medical College is being utilised by the Government of Maharashtra, on the same lines, the other State Governments or the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, by using resources optimally, can start their PG courses, pay their PGs and it will be a win-win situation for armed forces as well as the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and States.

Sir, I again draw your attention to the point that every PG degree-holder in the country should be asked to teach in medical colleges. Through this, we can do force multiplication and proper utilisation of all the facilities, including telemedicine facilities. For example, the Professor and Head of the All India Institute can take a class on telemedicine through videoconferencing like the way coaching institutions are taking classes. With this, there will be a win-win situation for all of us. Thank you.

डा. विकास महात्मे (महाराष्ट्र) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूं।

SHRI AHAMED HASSAN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM (Uttar Pradesh) : Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

Matters raised

SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI (Nominated): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

श्री कैलाश सोनी (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूं।

Need to lift the ban on recruitment of teachers and employees in Allahabad University

श्री रेवती रमन सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : चेयरमैन साहब, में आपके माध्यम से सदन और सरकार का ध्यान इलाहाबाद यूनिवर्सिटी की तरफ आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूं। मान्यवर, दो दशक पहले इलाहाबाद यूनिवर्सिटी के 'ईस्ट ऑफ ऑक्सफोर्ड' कहा जाता था। अन्य प्रदेशों से भी बच्चे वहां पढ़ने जाया करते थे, लेकिन धीरे-धीरे क्रमश: इलाहाबाद यूनिवर्सिटी में शिक्षण का कार्य अच्छा न होने के कारण विश्वविद्यालय में बाहर के लड़के आने बंद हो गए। जो उसकी गरिमा थी, वह गरिमा भी धीरे-धीरे क्रमश: कम होने लगी।

मान्यवर, आज इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय की हालत इतनी खराब है कि वहां पर टीचर्स की जितनी sanctioned strength थी, उसको भी नहीं भरा गया। आज वहां पर 582 पद खाली हैं। इसी तरह से कर्मचारियों के भी पद बड़ी संख्या में खाली हैं, 568 पद खाली हैं। वहां पर दस विभागों में से बहुत से विभागों में एक प्रोफेसर हैं, एसोसिएट प्रोफेसर नहीं हैं, असिस्टेंट प्रोफेसर नहीं हैं और जो ऐसोसिएट कॉलेज हैं, उनमें भी भर्ती रोक दी गई है।

मान्यवर, मैं आपसे आग्रह करता हूं कि आप सरकार को, एचआरडी मिनिस्टर को यह निर्देश देने की कृपा करें कि वहां पर तत्काल खाली पदों को भरने का काम किया जाए, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

Need to upgrade the Rajarshi Chhatrapati Shahu Government Medical College and the Chhatrapati Pramila Raje Hospital at Kolhapur, Maharashtra

SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI (Nominated): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Chhatrapati Pramila Raje Hospital was built in the year 1875 with the blessings of the erstwhile ruler Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj of Kolhapur. The Hospital underwent many changes, each personally overseen by Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj and offered free treatment to everyone. It was a true visionary initiative from one of the most progressive leaders and social reformers the country has ever seen. The changes he brought about to the hospital in a short span of time were essentially quick upgrades, keeping up with the advances in the medical world. In the year 2000, after 125 years since its establishment, the hospital was affiliated to the newly established Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj Government Medical College. The 665-bed hospital serves not only people from the district of Kolhapur but also from neighbouring districts such as Sangli, Satara, Konkan