

# Newspaper Clips

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# JNU students demand rise in scholarship money

**HT Correspondent**

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**NEW DELHI:** Claiming that the Means-cum-Merit (MCM) scholarship was insufficient to make ends meet for students from unprivileged background at the Jawaharlal University (JNU), nearly 100 students staged a protest outside Parliament House on Monday afternoon.

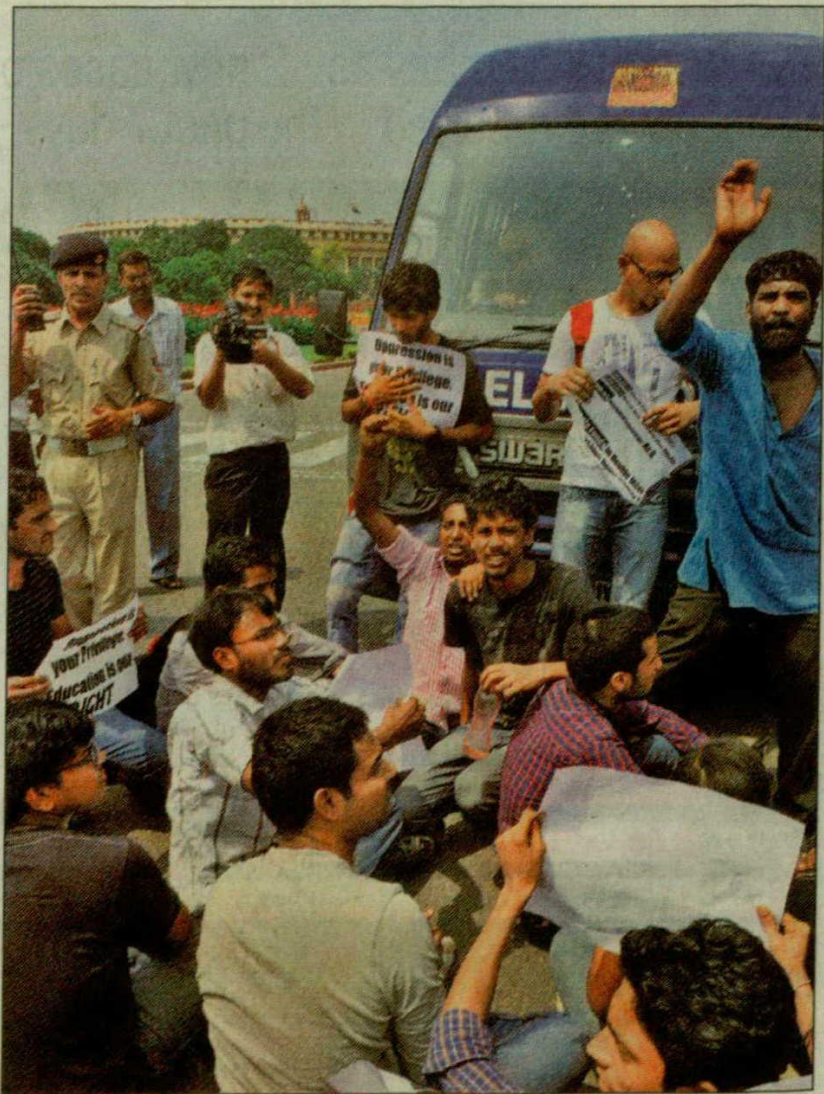
The protest, however, was short-lived as the students were bundled into police vans and taken to the Parliament Street police station.

The students of the Jawaharlal University Students' Union (JNUSU) have been demanding a rise in the grant for the MCM scholarship for long, hence the protest.

Currently, the scholarship provides students a grant of ₹1,500, which is usually utilised to cover the tuition and mess expenses. Each year, the varsity receives more than 2,000 applications for the scholarship from students belonging to underprivileged backgrounds whose family incomes is below ₹1 lakh.

JNUSU members have been protesting against the meager amount and want it to be raised to ₹3,000 as it is 'inadequate' to cover the students' cost.

"This amount is used to cover



■ Nearly 100 students staged a demonstration outside Parliament House and were detained.

SONU MEHTA/HT PHOTO

a student's tuition and mess bills. The current amount is paltry and doesn't help cover anything. Since 2006, there has

not been a rise in this amount and it is only fair that it be increased," said Lenin, president, JNUSU.

# Docs seek more PG seats to meet dearth of specialists

**healthcare**  
PART-I

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**NEW DELHI:** Donning their signature white coats and stethoscopes, doctors thronged Bangalore's Cubbon Road on Monday as part of the "Save the Doctor" campaign, which is lobbying for equalisation of under-graduate (UG) and post graduate (PG) seats in medical colleges.

Apart from highlighting the issue of the shortage of specialist doctors, the campaign will also ask for mandatory rural posting be included in internship and post-graduate training.

"Sending doctors to villages to run primary health centres is a waste of talent. There are 30,000 Ayush trained in alternative medicine who can undergo a six-month bridge course to prescribe basic allopathic medicines," said Dr Devi Shetty, former governing body member, Medical Council of India (MCI) and founder of Bangalore's Narayana Hrudalayaya.

There is an acute shortage of doctors in India, especially in villages. India has 0.9 bed for 1,000 people, which is below the global average of 2.9 beds.

To meet the shortage, the MCI had recently increased the number of UG seats to 45,600, which are likely to reach 50,000. There are 12,000 PG seats, for which 1.1 lakh doctors vie for each year. In

## WHY INDIA NEEDS MORE

As many as 56,000 women, one every 8 minutes, die in a childbirth-related complication every year. If they had been referred to a specialist, 70% of these complications could have been prevented or treated



### TOP 10 CAUSES OF DEATH

#### IN US

- 1 Heart disease
- 2 Cancer
- 3 Chronic lower respiratory diseases
- 4 Stroke
- 5 Accidents
- 6 Alzheimer's disease
- 7 Diabetes
- 8 Influenza and pneumonia
- 9 Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis
- 10 Suicide

#### IN INDIA

- 1 Heart disease
- 2 Diarrhoeal diseases
- 3 Chronic lower respiratory diseases
- 4 Stroke
- 5 Influenza and pneumonia
- 6 Tuberculosis
- 7 Low birth weight
- 8 Suicide
- 9 Liver disease
- 10 Road accidents

comparison, a developed country such as the US has 19,000 UG seats and 32,000 PG seats.

The less number of seats coupled with mandatory rural posting is stretching medical education for up to 13 years for some doctors. In the last PG entrance exam under the National Eligibility Entrance Test, over 1.1 lakh doctors took the exam to claim one of the 12,000 seats.

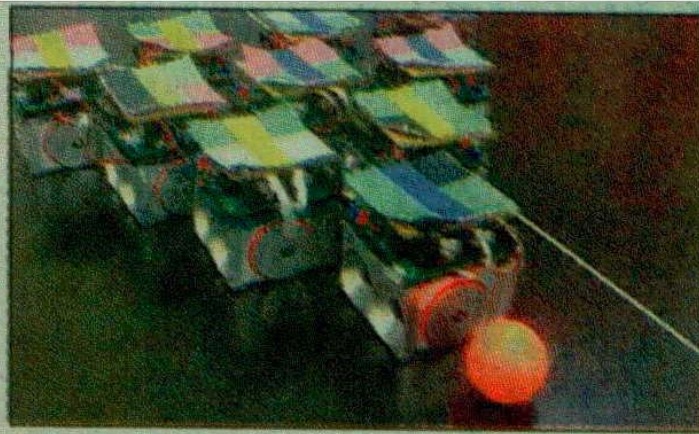
"If things continue to remain the way they are and senior specialist doctors/ surgeons continue to retire, there will be dearth of

specialist doctors and surgeons in India," said a senior resident at New Delhi's Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital.

"IMA supports rural posting but making it compulsory is not feasible because there is no structured posting in rural areas. Every PG student must do six months of rural posting as part of course, or internship" Dr Narendra Saini, secretary general, IMA.

#### TOMORROW

Dr Devi Shetty on the way ahead



■ There's a team

OFFICIAL PHOTO

# IIT-K robots to play football in Kuala Lumpur

**Vanita Srivastava**

**KOLKATA:** A group of robots made by engineering students of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, are ready to play football at an international event in Malaysia to begin this week.

Robots built by Kharagpur RoboSoccer Students' Group are all set to represent India at the World Cup organised by the Federation of International Robotsoccer Association (FIRA).

This year's World Cup football for robots is scheduled to take place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. IIT Kharagpur shall be representing India in two leagues namely: MiroSot and SimuroSot.

Thirteen students from various years, departments are in Malaysia for the event.

HT Chandigarh

# Students shy away from research

**NEW DELHI:** Less than one per cent of students pursuing higher studies opt for research oriented courses, Minister of State in HRD, Shashi Tharoor told the Rajya Sabha on Monday.

As per the data provided by the University Grants Commission, the number of students enrolling in research oriented courses in 2011-12 was 1,60,872 against the total enrolment of 20,327,478 in universi-

ties and colleges.

The minister also said that the government had taken various measures for promotion of post graduate level studies which include continuous increase in successive plan allocations for scientific departments, setting up of new institutions for science education and research among others and strengthening R&D infrastructure. **HTC**