

Medical students take out march demanding more PG seats



Mysore, Aug. 27 (KS) - Medical students from across the country under the aegis of Indian Medical Association (IMA) and Association of Healthcare Providers India (AHPI) started a nationwide movement 'Save the Doctor' to equalise Under Graduate (UG) and Post Graduate (PG) medical seats and to

include rural posting to be part of PG curriculum. This mass movement is aimed at influencing the policy makers and medical educational institutions in the country.

Over 300 medical students of city yesterday evening gathered and conducted a walk to once again plead to the Union

Health Ministry to equalize Under Graduation (UG) and Post Graduation (PG) medical seats.

Dressed in their regular lab

coats along with a black ribbon, the students walked from JK Grounds to Gandhi Square as a symbolic gesture to articulate the lack of specialist doctors in the country, the medical students also swept the floor to make their voice heard.

They said that, India lacks specialist doctors due to inadequate number of PG seats in medical institutions. Though the country has the largest number of medical institutions, the disparity in the number of seats allotted for PG and UG students along with the mandatory rural postings are affecting young doctors, as they end up spending 13 years merely studying.

There are 47,600 UG seats which is likely to reach 50,000 shortly due to the progressive steps taken by the Medical Council of India (MCI), whereas,

there are only 12,000 PG seats in clinical disciplines.

With a pass rate of 80% to 90%, nearly 40,000 doctors graduate every year and compete for the 12,000 clinical seats with their batch mates and over a lakh seniors, and in the last PG entrance exam under NEET, over 90,000 doctors appeared for the test to claim one of the 12,000 seats. Also, the one year compulsory rural posting as a pre-requisite to apply for PG course has worsened the situation, they alleged.

Dr. Guruteja, JSS College representative said, "The gathering and the march taken out yesterday across the country is just a humble appeal to make our voices heard. We want the leaders to take action and save the future of medical students."

MLA inaugurates Mega Shopping Utsav Gruhashobe

