

## GMCH students demand increase in PG seats

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Guwahati:** Around 100 students of the Gauhati Medical College and Hospital (GMCH) took out a rally on Monday demanding equalization of under-graduate (UG) and postgraduate (PG) seats in medical studies. The rally was a part of nationwide campaign called 'Save the Doctors'.

There are 45,600 UG seats in the entire

### 'SAVE THE DOCTORS'

country. But, the number of PG seats is only 19,000, of which 12,000 are clinical studies-related seats. They said that the number of UG and PG medical seats in the country is not sufficient and should be increased.

The president of the Junior Doctors Association, Manash Jyoti Taw, said, "Pursuing post-graduation in any stream

of medicine is essential for a doctor to become a specialist such as a gynaecologist, neurologist, surgeon, radiologist etc. India lacks specialist doctors due to the low number of PG seats. Though there are many medical institutions, the disparity in the number of seats allotted for PG and UG students, along with the mandatory rural posting, is affecting young doctors."

The scenario in the state is no better. In the civil hospital and first referral units, there are no specialized doctors. "The GMCH authorities and the Directorate of Medical Education recently appealed to the Medical Council of India to increase the number of PG seats in the state. The authorities have asked for around 71 seats but only six seats have been increased. The doctor-patient ratio should be around one doctor for 3,300 patients but, at present, the ratio is around one doctor for around 6,000 patients," he added.