

Pub. Opinion

Why private medical college?

Some people including the medical students have sharply reacted to learn that a private medical college is in the offing. Many other educated people are also in a great confusion as to why such a college should at all be needed in a country like ours.

It is true that not more than one tenth of the students liking to study medicine get chance in the existing eight government medical colleges combinedly having only 1200 seats. No one can also deny that the present doctor-patient ratio in our country is very much deplorable and this unwan-

ted condition must be improved.

But how to do that? The problem is related to the economic and political factors and no isolated solution is possible. Even the very smaller number of medical graduates coming out now every year from the eight government medical colleges cannot be absorbed by the government and the new doctors are struggling for long to get rid of this problem.

Under the situation therefore the establishment of private medical college is likely to enhance the employment problem of new doctors further.

Secondly the graduates of our government medical colleges are not recognised by many other particularly western countries. Will not this recognition problem be more acute for the graduates of the non-government medical college?

Thirdly the shortage of experienced and properly qualified teaching staff is felt even in the government medical colleges. It is therefore difficult to understand how a private college can expect to get adequate number of qualified teachers. Can any such college depend only on some retired doctors cum teachers?

Finally, the tuition fees and other expenses required by any student in such a college are likely to be so high that many students not belonging to richer section of people may fall to study there.

Another question is how many of the students not getting chance in the government medical colleges could be given the educational facilities in such a private medical college? Before considering all the above points seriously a final decision we feel should have been taken in this regard.

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