

Title: Need to set up a National Institute at par with the National Institute for Pharma Education and Research, in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM (KRISHNAGIRI): The milestone reached by the Indian Pharmaceutical Industry is due to relentless, dedicated contribution of Indian Pharma leaders and the pharmacists. The role of Pharmacists at various level viz., Formulations, Quality Control, Quality Assurance, Marketing, Training and Post-Market Survey are inevitable.

Further, the prices of most of the drugs become dearer during the WTO regime. To cater the needs of the Pharma Industry, the Government should develop research activities in the industry from the grass-root level. Without making available sufficient quantity of trained expertise, i.e. Pharma Scientists, this is not possible.

The population of our country is about 15-16% of global population whereas our pharmaceutical production is not even 1% of global pharmaceutical production (as per late 1990s). Hence, there is an urgent need for pharmaceutical industrial growth of at least 4-5 times in order to provide cost effective drugs.

In recent years, Tamil Nadu has become hub for health care and technology. Moreover, the existence of more than fifty pharmacy colleges in Tamil Nadu also generate about 2,000 pharmacy graduates and hundreds of post graduates every year. However, there is not much scope for research activities in Pharma.

Hence, there is an urgent need to set up a National Institute at par with the National Institute for Pharma Education and Research (NIPER) in Tamil Nadu.