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Title: Need to recognize all medical degrees awarded by Russia to Indian students.

**SHRI JAYADEV GALLA (GUNTUR):** Students particularly from Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka go to Ukraine to pursue MBBS. But, due to Crimea becoming part of Russia and worsening security situation in Eastern Ukraine, there is a lot of concern among students and parents as to what would happen to their future.

About 650 Indian students are studying in Crimea Medical University (CMU). But, after Referendum last year, Crimea joined Russia resulting in CMU becoming part of Russia and now Russian Government will issue medical degrees. The problem is, as per rules, MCI does not recognize degrees awarded by Russia. Health Minister, in reply to a question in Parliament, said : "Students who are about to graduate from Crimea are entitled to appear in Screening Test, as in case of any other student graduating from a foreign medical institution."

But, nobody has said anything about students who are already enrolled and pursuing their 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year MBBS. Secondly, in view of sanctions imposed by US, even if students go to US or Europe, their degrees are not recognized.

Secondly, there are also 3,500 Indian students pursuing medical education in Lugansk and Donetsk regions in Eastern Ukraine where there is fierce violence between Russian separatists and Government forces.

Hence, I request Government of India to direct MCI to recognize all degrees awarded by Russia to students who enrolled in erstwhile universities of Ukraine which are now part of Russia.