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Title: Need to set up a branch of CGHS at Tellichery or Vatakara in Kerala.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN (VADAKARA): Attention of the Government is drawn towards the acute lack of CGHS service in various parts of the country. The reach of the scheme is so limited that many eligible people, especially in the later years of life, are unable to avail of the facility because the area where they ultimately settle after retirement is not covered by the scheme. Such areas are plenty. The northern districts of Kerala is a stark example. Patients in such areas cannot bank on the CGHS which has office, clinic and outlet only in Thiruvananthapuram.

I understand that this is the position in many other states also. There is an urgent need to extend the functioning of CGHS to all areas, atleast by way of Branches. I earnestly call upon the Health Minister to set up a branch of CGHS at Tellichery or Vatakara in Kerala for the benefit of people of North Kerala.