

RAJ BHAVAN, TAMIL NADU - PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

**HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF TAMIL NADU FELICITATED AND
INTERACTED WITH NEET UG 2023 TOPPERS FROM TAMIL NADU
AT BHARATHIAR MANDAPAM, RAJ BHAVAN, CHENNAI,
TODAY (12.08.2023)**

Raj Bhavan felicitated NEET achievers and celebrated their success in the NEET Exam. Hon'ble Governor felicitated the NEET achievers and also congratulated the achievers' Parents and teachers for their monumental roles.

Governor Ravi said the NEET achievers, with their determination, hard work, and self-confidence, have proven that our students have the talent and capability to achieve anything. Today's world is a competitive one where merely having a degree will not be enough. Our youth have to compete, and then only the best will come out. In our state, a fake impression against NEET has been created that they can't face the competition, as if they are intellectually challenged. It is extremely unfair and unjust. Today, the NEET topper is from our state; it is a matter of pride for us and dispels this myth. Our young boys and girls are among the best in the world.

Health is the primary requirement for building a strong Nation. India's Health care services are going through an unprecedented transformation. Today, health facilities are more accessible and affordable for the last person. In the past 7-8 years, seats in UG have been doubled. The number of medical colleges has also doubled. Last year, 11 new medical colleges were inaugurated. This has given a long-awaited boost to our health ecosystem.

He further said that by cracking NEET, our students have proven that they are excellent. Now the next challenge is to be among the medical fraternity; you must be excellent doctors.

Today, India is an aspirational country. Today, the world looks at India with respect and expectations. One of those expectations is to be the best health care service provider in the world. Our doctors, with their professional knowledge and care, have proven that they are the best.

He urged the students to regularly visit their schools and be in touch with school students. He said their experiences and success stories will be true inspiration for young and aspiring minds.

In a response to a question on giving assent to the anti-NEET bill, the Hon'ble Governor said the bill has been sent for the Hon'ble President's consideration. As it is a concurrent subject and the Hon'ble President is the competent authority. But given to me, I shall never give assent to the anti-NEET bill. Because I don't want our bright children to feel intellectually disabled. I want our talented and brilliant minds to compete and be the best. The necessity of coaching for NEET is a myth. There are students who have cleared NEET without any coaching. Because their teachers at school have taught them well. We cannot blame the examinations if the teaching standards are low. We have to raise the standards.

A wrong impression has been created that without NEET, we were doing well. Before NEET was introduced, the number of poor students in Government Schools was hardly less than 200. In 2016–17, when NEET was introduced, the number came down. Then the Government brought out an ordinance for 7.5% reservations. Which gave opportunity to eligible students of Government Schools who are from weaker sections

to fulfil their dreams. As a result, the number reached more than 600. Before NEET, it was highly commercialised and controlled by a strong and powerful lobby. It was this lobby that made all the noise and misled innocent people in the name of students committing suicide. I have not heard any such news of suicide in the last year. Earlier, whenever such an unfortunate incident happened, it was wrongly linked to NEET. They glorified the suicide of our innocent students for their own vested interests. NEET has reduced corruption in medical studies. NEET has made it possible for poor students to get admission to a good medical college. Before NEET, it was all-out corruption. Our students are the victims of this false propaganda. NEET has done justice to the poor and meritorious students coming from Government schools. One of the NEET achievers in the interaction said the parents need to guide the students, not mislead them.

The Hon'ble Governor said that with clarity, hard work with self-discipline, and self-confidence, any goal is achievable. Any exam, including NEET, cannot define your true capability. All those who were not able to crack NEET introspect, where did I miss? Did I put my heart and soul into it and manage my time efficiently? By any chance, if you miss, there are other fields to excel in. If you have trust in yourself, you can excel in any field.

In the function, the student participants shared their experiences of achieving in NEET UG 2023. The members of G.K. Educational Trust, Doctors fraternity, NEET Topper Thiru.J.Prabanjan, parents, dignitaries, officials and staff of Raj Bhavan were present.

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Raj Bhavan, Chennai-22

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