



# Madras HC halts PG med admissions across India

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**Chennai:** Ongoing post-graduate medical admissions across India to a screeching halt, as Madras high court on Tuesday directed the Director General of Health Services (DGHS), New Delhi and Tamil Nadu's state selection committee not to allot seats to any students both under the all India quota and state quota until further orders. The authorities can go on with the counselling process, but they shall not allot seats till further orders, said Justice S Vaidyanathan in his interim orders.

The judge was passing the orders on a batch of petitions, including those filed by in-service candidates seeking direction to DGHS to comply with Post Graduate Medical Education Regulations, in admissions to PG medical courses,

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The court said the authorities can continue the counselling process, but they can't allot seats

and award due weightage (incentive) marks for service rendered in remote/difficult areas. Some of the petitions also wanted reservation of 50% of seats for service candidates under all India quota as well.

The petitions filed by Dr C Sudhan and six others said they were in-service candidates in Tamil Nadu Medical Services, working as assistant surgeons in government medical facilities. They had appeared for NEET

PG-2018 and secured more than 50% marks and were duly declared as eligible for admission to PG medical courses this year.

"The places we serve are notified as remote/difficult by the state government and hence we are entitled for additional weightage (incentive) marks as per Regulation 9 (IV) of PG Regulations 2000 under all India quota seats. But, authorities are proceeding to conduct counselling for admissions to PG courses without awarding such weightage marks for in-service candidates," the petitioners said.

Claiming that the move was in violation of MCI regulations, they added that it would adversely affect the interests of the petitioners who were entitled to weightage marks for service rendered by them in remote/difficult areas for determination of merit in selection.