



# No need to scrap NEET, says BJP's Piyush Goyal

Says Centre has agreed to request for NEET to be conducted in Tamil



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AT a time when the general public mood in the State is tilted against the national common medical entrance examination -- NEET, and almost every major regional party and the Congress have promised to try and abolish the system, senior BJP leader and Union Minister **Piyush Goyal** raised a few eyebrows on Friday by stating that NEET "need not be scrapped".

"I don't think NEET should be scrapped," said Goyal, who is BJP's in-charge for Tamil Nadu, in Chennai. When asked about their ally AIADMK's promise in its manifesto to "urge the Centre" to scrap NEET, Goyal said: "We will talk to them and convince the AIADMK leadership." Goyal also said the Centre had already agreed to AIAD-

MK's request for NEET to be conducted in Tamil.

Meanwhile, Congress president Rahul Gandhi, who was campaigning across four districts in the State on Friday, reiterated in Salem that his party "was committed to abolishing the NEET". "We do not want anymore suicides in the State because of NEET, which is why we have mentioned in our manifesto that States will have the freedom to opt for or out of NEET," Gandhi said. Rahul was referring to the suicide of S Anitha, allegedly over NEET.

When Goyal was asked about the Congress' stand on NEET, he said: "The issue has already been settled. Rahul Gandhi is promising to revive an old system which benefits college managements that take large capitation fees. I am sure people of Tamil Nadu want seats to be given based on merit."

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