

Vasan to raise issue of subsidies to manufacturers of dentistry equipment

Addresses silver jubilee meeting of Federation of Operative Dentistry of India

Special Correspondent

CHENNAI: The Union Minister for Shipping, G.K. Vasan, has assured dentists that he would represent to the Union government to consider providing subsidies to manufacturers of dentistry equipment.

While advancing technology has revolutionised the field of dentistry, the costs were still high. The best technology should be made available at a reasonable price to patients, he added. In this context, providing subsidies would lessen the cost burden on patients, and hence, he would take up the issue with the Ministry concerned to facilitate this. He was speaking at the inaugural of the silver jubilee conference of the Federation of Operative Dentistry of India and the 18th conference of the Indian Endodontic Society.

The advancements in dentistry have extended the average life of teeth in its functional form and retard tooth loss from dental caries. Restorative dentistry has witnessed a complete metamorphosis from silver fillings to tooth-coloured fillings, thereby taking the science of smile designing to the reach of the common man.



Union Minister of Shipping G.K.Vasan releasing the Journal of Conservative Dentistry at the 18th IES National Conference at Chennai Trade Centre in Nandambakkam on Friday. — PHOTO: A. MURALITHARAN

Mr. Vasan released the conference souvenir, and the Journal of Conservative Dentistry. Anil Kohli, chief patron, FODI, urged the young dentists to serve the underprivileged.

R.C. Kakkar, president, In-

dian Endodontic Society said while treatment modalities had improved, the focus should be on early detection and treatment. He also expressed concerns about increasing obesity among children, as the same diet that

makes them obese is also bad for their teeth. Studies have shown the link between diabetes, obesity and periodontal disease.

B. Mohan, joint secretary, FODI, presented the annual report, while K.S. Banga, sec-

retary, IES, made a report on the society's activities.

Anil Chandra, president, Federation of Operative Dentistry of India, S.Ramachandran, organising chairman, M.Rajasekaran, organising secretary, also spoke.