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Screening of newborn babies mandatory

■ **NT Staff Reporter**
Panaji, Feb 6

The cabinet today gave its approval for mandatory screening of newly born babies for deformities. With the implementation of this proposal Goa would become the first state in the country to have such check-ups.

Briefing reporters after a cabinet meeting this evening the Chief Minister, Mr Digambar Kamat said that screening of newly born babies would be carried out in all government hospitals. He also said that such screening could be carried out in private hospitals also.

The Health Minister, Mr Vishwajit Rane, who was also present on the occasion told reporters that all treatable disorders would be identified during screenings of newly born children, within 48 hours of their birth and take corrective measures.

Detection of the disorders would help in treating the disorders at early stage and cut huge costs incurred in treating them at later stage, said the Health Minister adding these would help the poor people who normally visit the government run hospitals.

The cabinet also gave its approval to implementation of the

Cabinet also approved implementation of Fifth Pay Commission recommendation regarding granting of senior scale to graduate and undergraduate teachers, who have completed 12 years of service.

Fifth Pay Commission recommendation with regards to grant of senior scale to graduate and undergraduate teachers, who have completed 12 years of service, said the Chief Minister.

He further said with this, the government has fulfilled the as-

surance given to teachers earlier. He also said that government has also accepted the demand of benefit of two-increments would be given to the teachers who have already retired from the service.

Mr Kamat also said that cabinet gave its approval to the memorandum of understanding signed between the state government, the Corporation of the City of Panaji and the government of India with regards to implementation of the Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission schemes in the state.

The approval would now enable

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