

SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri Tarun Vijay.

SHRI T. RATHINAVEL (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri Tarun Vijay.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we all associate ourselves with the Special Mention made by Shri Tarun Vijay.

**Demand for introspection over the functioning of
Kendriya Vidyalayas all over the country**

SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, academic and administrative intervention is needed for improving the functioning of Kendriya Vidyalayas. A school run by the Central Government is directly supposed and expected to be a role model to all schools in India. But in the case of Kendriya Vidyalayas it is against these expectations.

Through the Right to Education Act passed by the Government of India it is the right of every child to get free education. But KVs are collecting high fees from the students and it is doubled recently. The amount collected for Vidyalaya Vikas Nidhi needs proper audit. The fee hike is to be reversed.

Many permanent teaching posts are lying vacant. No proper training is provided to the temporary teachers. The transfer policy is inhumane. Presently the teacher-student ratio in primary classes of State school is 30:1 and in higher classes it is 35:1. But in some Kendriya Vidyalayas it is more than 50:1.

The long pending demand to teach mother tongue as an additional language is not yet implemented. Academic atmosphere is pathetically deteriorated due to lack of intervals for food and basic needs except 30 minutes' lunch break. Long duration (20 minutes) of morning assembly is conducted under the hot sun. It is a fact that the children of Kendriya Vidyalayas of Southern States including Kerala are forced to stand in the hot sun everyday to attend the assembly programme for a continuous 20 minutes.

The public is of the impression that the Kendriya Vidyalayas are under the direct control of the Central Government and everything is properly managed. Therefore, nobody is interfering or scrutinizing the running of the Kendriya Vidyalayas.

Therefore, it is requested for a serious introspection over the total functioning of Kendriya Vidyalayas all over India.

SHRI HARI BANSI NARAYAN SINGH (Bihar): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri K. N. Balagopal.

SHRI ALOK TIWARI (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri K. N. Balagopal.

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri K. N. Balagopal.

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri K. N. Balagopal.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri K. N. Balagopal.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we all associate ourselves with the Special Mention made by Shri K. N. Balagopal.

Demand for making NAT testing mandatory for all blood collecting units to check transfusion transmitted infections

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA (Maharashtra): Sir, blood transfusion services are a vital part of modern healthcare system without which efficient medical care is impossible. The aim should be to provide effective blood and components, which are as safe as possible and adequate to meet patients' need. The field of transfusion medicine has undergone tremendous changes in recent past due to vast advancement in this field. Accordingly, the Drugs and Cosmetics Act which governs this field needs revisions. Still it gives licence to old time traditional Whole Human Blood and very few blood components only. It should include latest safer blood components like leuco depleted blood components etc.

This law mandates screening of blood against TTI (Transfusion Transmitted Infections) like HIV-1 & 2, Hepatitis-B, Hepatitis-C, Malaria and Syphilis by conventional methods. However, these Government approved conventional methods (Rapid/ELISA) do not rule out the possibility of infection of HIV, HBV and HCV during transfusion. This is very dangerous for the public health in general. The prevalence of these infections (HIV, HBV and HCV) in general population is about 3.5 per cent and about 2 to 2.5 per cent in blood donors. The latest NAT (Nucleic Acid Amplification Test) technology which is mandatory in many developed and developing countries should also be mandated in India to make blood near zero risk for safety of public health. Many studies at various hospitals in India have shown that NAT detects around 5-10 per cent infected blood units missed by conventional methods. It detects one in 500-1000 infections in donated blood units missed by Government-approved conventional kits/methods, and one unit of collected blood can infect three patients through components -- red cells, plasma and platelets.