

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4171
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2021

Assaults on Students

4171. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION शिक्षा मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of a moral policing incident and physical assault on a higher secondary student in Kannur district of Kerala state;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has sought a report from the Government of Kerala in this regard as this incident highlights growing presence of freely operating unruly and criminal elements near schools who violate the right and liberty of students;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and whether the Government is conceptualizing a regulatory framework that addresses prevention of such events near educational institutions and ensures safety of students beyond the premises of schools; and
- (d) whether according to the report 'Free to Think 2019', brought out by Scholars at Risk, based in New York University that after Turkey and China, India has seen the highest number of attacks on students?

A N S W E R

**MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')**

- (a): As per the information received from State Government of Kerala, one such incident has come to the notice but the incident has not occurred in the premises of the school. Action have been taken by the Police and State Child Rights Commission in the matter as per due procedure.
- (b): As education is a subject in the concurrent list of the constitution, a majority of schools are under the control of the respective State Governments. Further, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and the responsibility to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including crimes against children, rest with respective State government and UT administration.

(c) & (d): The Ministry of Education has issued guidelines in October, 2014 which were reiterated in 2017, to all State and UTs for ensuring safety and security of school children, including preventive mechanisms and procedures required to be put in place in the schooling system along with relief and redressal strategies in case of any incident. The process of preparing guidelines for fixing the accountability of school management in the matter of safety of children studying in schools is underway. Further, University Grant Commission has also issued guidelines on the safety of students on and off campuses of Higher Educational Institutions.
