

Title: Request the Government to withdraw the hike of annual fees of Sainik Schools in India.

MR. SPEAKER: Anything from the Government's side? I think nothing. Now Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : I am raising a very serious issue regarding the poor parents who have to send their children to Sainik Schools in India. The annual fees of Sainik Schools have been exorbitantly increased from Rs.14,000 to Rs.25,000. This is a very big enhancement. Not only that, this will again be increased by ten per cent annually. So, a parent will have to pay Rs.35,000 for sending his ward to a Sainik School.

This prestigious institution was started to train the future generation for defence purposes. If this continues to be the intention of the Government, then there is no justification for enhancing the fees to Rs.35,000. So, I request the hon. Defence Minister to withdraw the hike and do justice to the poor parents who have sent their children to Sainik Schools in India.