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Title: Need to ensure safety of female students in both private and government educational institutions.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): I would invite the attention of the Government to the need for ensuring safety and security for girl students in educational institutions in the country. There are increased incidents of attack against female students in both private and Government educational institutions. These horrific incidents have created concern among both parents and students.

Last week in a horrific incident, a 20 year old student, Lakshmi, doused with petrol by an outsider. She came to the college for a written exam. She was set on fire in full view of other students at a medical college in Kottayam district of Kerala. Her assailant was also died in the incident.

Eyewitnesses said that the man was a former student of the college. On Wednesday afternoon, he had walked into the classroom and poured petrol on the woman and himself. As the woman ran out, he chased and caught her. He then used a lighter to set her clothes ablaze. Then, he set fire to his own clothes as well.

Similar attacks against female students have been reported from other parts of the country, particularly from the State of Kerala. It is highly necessary to ensure the safety of female students in both private and Government educational institutions. The Government has to issue strict regulations under the direction of UGC and MHRD in association with respective State Governments. Thank you, Madam.

HON. SPEAKER: Adv. Joice George is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri K.C. Venugopal.