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Title: Regarding an incident of death of a student in a school in Kalyan, Maharashtra.

DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE (KALYAN): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak in this august House. I stand here to raise an important point of the health of school children. The children while studying at school spend a majority of their daily time here. Hence, it has to be the responsibility of the school to look after the physical and mental health of students.

A recent tragic incident at a school in Kalyan, Maharashtra speaks volumes about nonexistence of any rules in this matter. The five year old KG student in question had brought tiffin from home and consumed the same during lunch hour. He started vomiting and as per reports, the school just informed the parents and made the boy to sleep on a bench outside classroom without any attendant.

It took sometime for the mother to reach the school. While the child was taken to the hospital, no school staff accompanied the child nor did the school provide any vehicle for transport. On reaching the hospital, the child was declared as brought dead. If the school had doctors on call and had the health norms been prescribed for the procedure in such an eventuality, this death could have been avoided. In order to provide prompt and timely medical assistance to the students, I would suggest that schools need to have a tie up with the nearest doctor or hospital available wherein the ailing students get immediate medical assistance.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: This is a State subject. You are not allowed to raise it here.

DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE : I would request the Government to see that these norms are prescribed all over the country without any delay. Educational institutions also need to be sensitized about it. Teachers should be trained on the basic health care.