

Regarding need to create more infrastructure for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) patients in the country- laid

SHRI SHAFI PARAMBIL (VADAKARA): There is an alarming increase in the number of parents who commit suicide after killing their intellectually challenged child. Twenty differently-abled people have been killed by their parents in Kerala in the last two years. All twenty tragic events mentioned above occurred out of a deep sense of frustration and social exclusion that they had to suffer due to the disability of their children. Children and adults suffering from intellectual disability require lifelong support and care, as they are unable to distinguish between food and excrement. Naturally, caring for a disabled child leads to high levels of stress, tension, and financial burden to the parents. As of now, the early intervention centres and rehabilitation centres for children suffering from ASD are inadequate in comparison with the number of ASD patients. There is a direct correlation between the homicide of ASD children with ASD and the depression of parents. The existing social security schemes cannot address the fundamental issues faced by these people. They need wholehearted support from the Government, society, and institutions. Therefore, there is an urgent need to intervene and support disabled people with more rehabilitation centres, care homes, and financial support for their treatment and medicine.