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Title: Need to establish Kendriya Vidyalayas in Gulf countries in order to impart quality education to the children of blue collar Indian workers.

SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN (KOZHIKODE): The Gulf countries have about 4 million Indian emigrant labourers, which form a significant part of the Gulf workforce. Most of them are blue collar workers with a low income. With the worsening economic conditions including the ongoing recession, many workers are without jobs or working for lesser wages. Even with this low income, the cumulative remittance from the Gulf sector is about 60 billion USD annually. This remittance has a salutary effect on the Indian economy and particularly to the economy of Kerala.

Most of the Indians are maintaining family in their respective host countries and because of their blue collar status, imparting quality education to their children has become a difficult task. Though there are a number of privately run Indian schools, the blue collar workers are unable to impart good education to their wards due to the prevailing high fee structure.

Many Gulf countries have International Branch Campuses of various universities and institutions. The children of the blue collar Indian work force are unable to meet the required international standards due to non-availability of educational facility to them.

In view of the above, it is suggested that the Government of India should consider to establish a few Kendriya Vidyalayas in the gulf countries including UAE (Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Sharjah), Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Kuwait. In fact, overseas Indians maintain a sense of attachment to their parent country and the country should recognize the difficulties to help the Indian Diaspora not only in business but also in educational field. Hence, necessary steps should be taken to establish KVs in above countries. In fact, large number of Indian schools situated in the Gulf sector are affiliated to the CBSE and establishment of KVs in these countries is not a hurdle.