PRESS RELEASE BY THE PRINCIPAL, SAINIK SCHOOL, AMARAVATHINAGAR

ON THE TRAGIC DEATH THAT TOOK PLACE ON 15 JUL 2016

Roll No.6324 Cadet V P Siddaarth, S/o Mr. T Vijaya Ragavan resident of Palani was admitted into class 6 on 20 Jun 2016.

An unfortunate incident of death of young Cadet VP Siddaarth happened at approximately at 08.05 AM on 15 Jul 2016, enroute from Sainik School Amaravathinagar to Government Hospital, Udumalpet. Cadet VP Siddaarth on 14 Jul 2016, had participated in Spell Bee Competition from 03.30 PM to 05.00 PM and gone back to his dormitory for wash and change. During dinner time at 08.45 PM his House Master noticed that he was looking dull and advised him to go to MI Room. Accordingly Cadet V Siddaarth went to MI Room at 09.15 PM and he had temperature 98.4°F and was given a fever tablet and advised him to sleep in MI Room to be under observation, since Medical Attendant was present in the MI Room on duty during the night.

On 15 Jul 2016 at around 0730 hrs Cadet VP Siddaarth just while attempting to take break-fast, vomited and he then cleaned himself. He came back and sat on his bed. He was asked about break-fast, to which he declined and said that he would have some water. As he was talking he fell unconscious on his bed. Medical Attendant Mr. L Prakash immediately called the School ambulance and the boy was taken to the Primary Health Centre, Amaravathinagar along with Nursing Assistant Mr. Vhanugare.

At PHC, since the Duty Doctor was not arrived, the Ambulance was immediately sent to the Government Hospital, Udumalpet. Simultaneously, the information was given to Principal Gp Capt TN Sridhar and Admin Officer Lt Col PS Borde and the Parent Mr. T Vijaya Ragavan. On the way his pulse rate was found decreasing and mouth to mouth resuscitation was attempted twice by Mr. Vhanugare. On reaching the Government Hospital, Udumalpet the doctors examined him and declared him ‘Brought in Dead’.

The Principal and Admin Officer reached the Government Hospital, Udumalpet. The Doctors present verbally informed that probably the Cadet had sudden death due to aspiration, a case in which vomit fluid goes inside the pulmonary parts and chocks up respiratory system.
It was found that number of report sick cases had increased beyond normal levels. Hence on the order of Principal, all Cadets having fever were admitted in Government Hospital, Udumalpet / PHC, Amaravathinagar.

At 07.00 PM, the District Collector Mrs. Jayanthi, Tiruppur District along with the Principal checked the well being of students admitted at GH, Udumalpet. The District Collector visited MI Room, Mess, and Hostel etc in Sainik School Amaravathinagar and addressed the students to take care and do well. A medical team from the State Health Department was positioned in the School to attend any emerging situation. The School staffs were put on round the clock duties. A short break for a week from 16 Jul to 24 July 2016 was declared and all the cadets were sent home. This was further extended to 15 Aug 2016.

On 16 Jul 16 Hon’ble Health Minister Dr Vijaya Bhaskar and Hon’ble Housing & Urban Development Minister Thiru K Radhakrishnan visited the Cadets at GH, Udumalpet and enquired about the incident from Collector & District Health Officials. The Health Minister instructed to provide all medical support. The District Collector recommended to the Health Minister to provide a Medical Officer on regular basis to take care of Sainik School students as per provisions of Government Order of Tamil Nadu No. Ms No.3108, Education dated 31 December 1962.

Dr.K.Kolandaswamy MBBS,M.A.E,DPH,DIH, Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, District Collector and District Medical Officers visited the School on 16 Jul 2016 from 10.30 AM to 02.00 PM and held discussion with the Principal. The food samples pertaining to the incident of the day was handed over to District food and safety officials. Water samples from 11 points were obtained by District Entomologist for testing. Blood samples of the students were sent for further investigation. Dr R Mohan Kumar, Specialist in Epidemic Control and Head of Technical Support Team also carried out inspection of the School Campus. Complete cleansing of the campus is being done on war footing.

The Officers, the staff and the cadets of Sainik School, Amaravathinagar deeply mourn the sudden demise of a young member of their family and stand beside the bereaved parents and friends of Cadet VP Siddaarth.