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The Kindergartens

The first five years are considered to be the most crucial period of a child's life. The influences he is subjected to then colour the rest of his life. As such it is the duty of the parents to provide to their children the best possible environment for his healthy growth. That is why in all the advanced countries now-a-days there are nurseries and kindergarten schools in which children from the age of three are admitted. The purpose is not so much to get them education in formal sense of the term but to give them a suitable environment to learn in natural process through 'learn while you play' method, and get trained in social relationship.

The more and more crowded our capital city and district towns are becoming parents and guardians are feeling the necessity of such establishments for their children and wards. As a result kindergarten schools are springing up like pine-trees and new signboards seem to be popping up every now and then in various localities.

The motive behind running many of these nurseries and schools, however, as observed, is purely commercial. Of course, understandably, every public institution has to have its financial back-up which is generally provided by tuition fees and other sundry charges. But the exorbitant tuition fees fixed according to the sweet will of the management is indefensible. Allegedly, some of these schools compel the students to purchase stationeries, books and uniform from the school which could be available in the open market at cheaper prices.

Apart from high rates of fees, the curriculum is much too heavy for small children. Further, the children have to return home with a cartload of books and plenty of homeworks and they simply feel tired and overburdened, even scared to attend classes. All this happens due to lack of training and expertise of the teachers concerned. In a kindergarten education has to be informal. Through various activities the children are to be kept happy and cheerful and through those play activities they will gradually be led to the knowledge of the three R's and their environment. Nursery rhymes, story telling, music and dance and other playful activities modern quiz equipment etc. should be introduced. These play group students who have had the opportunity to learn in collective environment do much better when they are admitted into schools which impart formal education.