

और 6 वर्ष का प्रत्येक बालक सन् 2003 तक किसी न किसी रूप में किसी स्कूल से संबंधित होगा, 2010 तक वह अपनी 8वीं कक्षा पूरी कर लेगा और 2005 तक हम भारत की शिक्षा की दर 75 प्रतिशत कर लेंगे।

सभापति महोदय, मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जो 15 से 35 वर्ष की आयु के लोग हैं, उनको कब्र में पांव लटकाए हुए लोग नहीं कहा जा सकता। हमारे जो वयस्क शिक्षा के प्रोग्राम हैं, प्रौढ़ शिक्षा के प्रोग्राम हैं, वे इस उत्पादक शक्ति के लिए हैं। यह प्रोडक्टिव यूनिट है, इसको थोड़ा पढ़ाने से उत्पादकता बढ़ती है। हमने देखा है कि इन लोगों को शिक्षित करने से शिक्षा, पर्यावरण, महिलाओं की समस्याएं, जनसंख्या नियंत्रण आदि में उनकी रुचि बढ़ती है, क्वालिटी ऑफ लाईफ बढ़ती है, उत्पादकता बढ़ती है। इसलिए यह कहना गलत है कि यह प्रोग्राम केवल कब्र में पांव लटकाए हुए लोगों के लिए है।

Withholding Publication by the ICHR

*122. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:†
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the report captioned, "ICHR under fire for pushing saffron agenda", appearing in the Statesman dated 16th February, 2000;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the publication of two volumes written by Prof. Sumit Sarkar and Prof K.N. Panikkar in the series, 'Towards Freedom', has been withheld;

(c) whether the publisher-Oxford University Press—has been asked to return the typescript, without intimating the authors;

(d) if so, whether this action is purportedly for perusal and review of the contents of these volumes;

(e) if so, whether the review is to be undertaken by any Committee of the ICHR; and

†The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Nilotpall Basu.

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(f) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Government is aware of the report which appeared in The Statesman dated 16.02.2000.' The ICHR has requested the publisher, the Oxford University Press, to temporarily withhold the work of publication of the two volumes written by Prof. Sumit Sarkar and Prof. K.N. Panikkar. Typescripts of these volumes have been requested for perusal. The Council has stated that the purpose is to ensure that the lapses and drawbacks found in an earlier volume are not repeated. As per the agreement executed between the ICHR and the Publisher, the copyright and all accompanying legal responsibilities rest with the ICHR. The Council in its meeting on 20.12.1999 decided that the volumes still to be published should not be sent for publication without having been reviewed by the Council.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Sir, the difficulty with the Government's statements is that, just like its hidden agendas, they conceal more than what they reveal.

I had a specific question. It is whether a review committee was set up by the ICHR and the reasons therefor. No direct reply to that specific question has been given by the hon. Minister in his Statement. So, I presume the reply. The reply is: "Since the ICHR has the copyright of the volumes with the publishers, the Oxford University Press, therefore, they have the right to review." This now brings us to the fundamental question as to what kind of review can the copyright holders have. If it is an academic review, can that academic review, in the process of the review, exclude the Editors of that volume? Can the academic review be done surreptitiously behind the back of the General Editor? Sir, it is a question of academic freedom. I think, the copyright lying with the ICHR does not empower the ICHR to go surreptitiously and do the review. Will the hon. Minister tell us very specifically about the nature of the review?

When was this Committee formed? About the formation of that Committee also, questions have been raised in public by one of the members of the Indian Council of Historical Research. Statements have been issued that the Minutes" were not confirmed. So, I would like to know what exactly has happened. I would also like to know whether the Government is prepared to lay on the Table of the House the Minutes and also the statements of the Member, who has contested the very formation of that Committee.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: I am happy that this question has been raised. I hope the hon. Member would listen to me a little patiently.

Sir, in the year 1997, a note was put up by the Deputy Director (Publications) to the then Chairman of the I.C.H.R., Prof. Sattar, who was not appointed by this Ministry. He said: "Towards the Freedom" volumes, there were certain comments. One of them was that the volume relating to the year 1943-44 compiled by Prof. P.S. Gupta, does not say a word about the ICHR in the introduction by the General Editor and the Editor. Then he says that there is no volume number. Ten volumes were to be published. One does not know whether there is a volume number here. You can see this. I have brought this book here. There is no index in the book. These are 3,500 pages. How can you read this, when there is no index? If you want to find out where the information relating to Mr. Gandhi is there, there is no method to find it out. Where is Jawaharlal Nehru or Mr. Lohia or P.C. Joshi, you cannot find, because there is no index. This is the type of publication. The volume is in three bulky parts, having 3,500 pages. The general direction was that the books would be only 1,000-1,500 pages but the volume is in three bulky parts, with a centralised list of contents in Part-I only. If you are reading Part-II and you don't know what the content is, you have to go to Part-I.

Then, you will see that the Publication Section has never handled this work. It is also not aware of the terms and

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conditions agreed upon by the Oxford University Press. On this, there was a comment by the then Chairman stating that the terms and conditions concluded with the publisher be part of the ICHR record.

You have said that they should now be placed on the record. I have got the record with me.

Sir, he also says: "D.R.A. to take up this matter with the Section of the Council and with the Chief Editors. The steps taken to correct the mistakes. The finalisation of the next number be made with the knowledge of the authorities of the ICHR. That is, now all future volumes, which are to be published, they should be first brought to ICHR; after being scrutinised they should be published. Instructions should be informed to ICHR." This was on 16th October, 1997. At that time, the present Committee was not there, nor was the present Chairman. It was on the order of the earlier Chairman.

Various issues were raised and Prof. Settari, the then Chairman, had written to the then Director General of Archives on 5th November, 1997:

"Dear Dr. Sarkar, I am in receipt of your letter of 13th October, 1997. As I informed you on phone, I am very sorry that the Editors have not taken the required steps to acknowledge the help given by the National Archives of India to give due credit to it."

No mention of National Archives. The project was a joint project of National Archives and ICHR. I apologise for the lapses. So, there were lapses in this project. It was admitted by the then Chairman that these are his orders and there should be a scrutiny by the authorities of the ICHR before these things are published.

Then, Sir. I would give the dates and everything of the Committee's report. "The meeting of the Council was held on the 31st August and 1st September, 1998. In this meeting of the Council, several Members expressed their anxiety about the slow pace of publication of "Towards the Freedom" volumes, non-acknowledgement of debt to the bodies and institutions which were

involved in this project at its early stages, non-receipt of published volumes by those who deserve complimentary copy and suggested that soon after preparing the press copy after publication of the volume, the documents collected on behalf of the ICHR had to be returned to the Office of the Indian Council of Historical Research by the Editors. After an intense deliberation by the Council, they passed the following resolution unanimously. While appreciating the hard work put up by the Editors "Towards Freedom" project, the Council resolves to appoint a committee Consisting of the following to streamline..

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Is he taking a class? ...*(Interruptions)*... क्या आप क्लास ले रहे हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम: इस विषय पर 15 घंटे सदन का समय बर्बाद हो चुका है। इसलिए इसके बारे में सदन को पूरी जानकारी हो जाने दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सदन के 15 घंटे बर्बाद हो चुके हैं। इसलिए सदन इसकी पूरी जानकारी चाहता है। आप रोजाना इस मामले को उठाते हो। अब आप उनको रिप्लाय तो देने दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Honourable Minister, Honourable Member says, please read slowly so that he can understand"

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Sir, if it is a lengthy statement, he could have annexed it to his written reply. ...*(Interruptions)*.

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम: इस विषय पर 15 घंटे सदन का समय बर्बाद हो चुका है। इसलिए इसके बारे में सदन को पूरी जानकारी हो जाने दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सदन के 15 घंटे बर्बाद हो चुके हैं। इसलिए सदन इसकी पूरी जानकारी चाहता है।

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: I will speak slowly. ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: I am sorry, Sir. I am sorry. You have to protect us also. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is giving an answer which spans over 10-15 minutes. Then, I have to analyse what he has said over those 10-15 minutes and put my second supplementary. What he is reading could have come as an annexure ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Doesn't matter. ...*(Interruptions)*... He has a

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right to reply to a supplementary put by Mr. Nilotpal Basu. Let him speak ...(*Interruptions*)... Let him speak.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, on 31.8.1998 and 1.9.1998, the Council meeting resolved, I quote: "While appreciating the hard work put up by the Editors.." Is the speed all right? ...(*Interruptions*)... "...Towards Freedom" project, the Council resolves to appoint a committee consisting of the following to streamline and quicken the pace of the project: Prof. D.R. Nanda, Chairman, (2) Prof. S.C. Mittal, Member, (3) Prof. T.K. Ravindran, Member." That was a committee appointed. But, unfortunately, this committee was never allowed to meet. Then, I find, suddenly, a letter from the then Chairman Prof. Settari, written on 1st February, 1999 to the General Editor of these volumes, Prof. Gopal. I quote from it: "During our meeting, we discussed about the progress made so far by the Council in preparing and publishing "Towards Freedom volumes." There is some amount of concern amongst some senior scholars, whom, I believe, to be objective in their evaluation and constructive in their criticism about the volumes published so far. The volume of Prof. P.S. Gupta...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is not reading a statement. Please, let him speak.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: I am reading from a copy of the letter written by the Chairperson. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is not reading from a statement. He is only quoting. Let him speak.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: "The volume of Prof. Gupta has raised eyebrows of many, for the major body of the material is stated to have been drawn from one category of source, that is, intelligent reports; and published without even proper index and other such requirement expected in a volume of this kind." "Some are not happy even with the introduction written to the Volume. The next volume of Basudeb Chatterjee is all impressive as that of Prof. Gupta in terms of the quantity. But its quality seems to have

already evoked some concern. I do not know the quality contents of the other volumes which are in press or nearing completion."

This Prof. Sarkar, I repeat, I remind hon. Members, was not a Chairman appointed by me or this Ministry. Now, it continues.

"Some efforts are being made to convince me that every one of these Volumes needs to be scrutinised by an Expert Committee before it is being sent to the press. In the recent Council meeting also, a lengthy discussion took place on this and other related matters. If the reviewers of these Volumes were to make some adverse comments on the quality of the work, things are likely to be difficult." That is the reason why Prof. Nanda's Committee was not allowed to meet for one full year, "I have great respect for you and all scholars involved in this project. I am trying my best to resist interference of outside scholar."—That is, the three scholars in this project.—"I am not sure whether lack of coordination among editors"—he agrees, points out or indicates that there was some lack of coordination among editors, specially during the time when he was required to be temporarily detached from this scheme— "affected the quality of the work. Or there is some other reason for this."

He has again reiterated. He has accepted the lapse. He says that the quality has been affected. Then, the meetings of the Council again took place...(*Interruptions*)..,

SHRI JIBON ROY: Let there be a Call-Attention on this.

श्री नरेश यादव: सर, इस पर आधे घंटे की चर्चा रख दीजिए।

श्री नरेन्द्र मोहन: सर, इस पर आधे घंटे की चर्चा चला दीजिए, सभी को संतोष हो जाएगा।

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is all right. We will consider it. No problem. We will consider that also.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, a Second Committee was appointed by the Council...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PRANAB- MUKHERJEE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to a procedural point. My procedural point is, the whole system of laying a statement on the Table of the House

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with reference to a question is to save the time of the House. When the hon. Minister considers that his reply will be lengthy or it will contain a number of figures, the practice has been evolved from the early days of Parliament that a statement is laid on the Table of the House. And, here, I would like to draw your attention specially to the fact that the hon. Minister, in reply to a supplementary, read the resolution of the ICHR of 20th December, 1999. Nothing prevented the Minister from incorporating that part of the resolution in the text of the statement itself. The time of the House could have been saved. Here, my suspicion is that the hon. Minister wants to prevent supplementary raised. Kindly go through the record and look at the supplementaries being raised and the question put to the hon. Minister and the reply which the Minister is giving. Was this relevant? Kindly do find out.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: The hon. Minister is well informed. He is giving a detailed answer. The question is also very long. In fact, six questions are there. (*Interruptions*) Let us have patience.

SHRI MD. SALIM: There are six parts of the question. (*Interruptions*). Then, why does the Minister come out with a one paragraph answer? Now, he is searching for the answer! The question was given well in time with sufficient notice to the Secretariat. The Minister had enough time. (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI: He wants to give you a comprehensive reply so that your taking time daily in the House for this can be prevented.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Joshiji, we can have a longer discussion if you like.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Any time, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you have anything now to add in the reply to Mr. Nilotpal Basu, you may kindly do so. Then we can discuss it.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI: Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What point of order! During the Question Hour, there cannot be any point of order (*Interruptions*)

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम: बोम्माई साहब, क्वेश्चन ऑवर में प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर नहीं होता है।

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI: Sir, a wrong and misleading statement is being made. (*Interruptions*)

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Then the Council again met on 30th June, 1999, and after detailed discussion, the Council decided to wind up the special publication programme and enforced the termination orders of the above officials connected with the programme. However, at the same time, the Council also decided that another Committee comprising Professor Satish Mittal, Professor Hari Om and Professor A.R. Khan may be constituted to work out the modalities for the line of action to be pursued for the residuary work of the project. On receipt of the report of the Committee, the Chairman having been authorised by the Council, may take steps to implement the recommendations of the Committee and report to the Council. So, it is this Committee which is now looking after all these things.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Sir, the Minister did not answer the specific question which was raised by me. I wanted to know whether this is an academic review, and if so, whether such an academic review can take place behind the back of the editors and the general editors. He has not answered that basic question. He is trying to mislead and confuse the House. (*Interruptions*) Now, Sir, I make a very serious charge against him ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI: You have made a comment against him. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Mr. Chaturvedi, you keep quiet. (*Interruptions*) For once, you keep quiet.

SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI: I am not going to listen these

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words from you. *(Interruptions)* You withdraw your words "Keep quiet".
(Interruptions)

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Mr. Chaturvedi, you please sit down.
(Interruptions)

SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI: Sir, this House is not the monopoly of five Members. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chaturvedi, I agree with you. But let him finish his question. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI: I. am sorry, Sir. *(Interruptions)* If you ask me to go away, I will go away. *(Interruptions)* But I would like to submit very humbly that I am not going to accept these words from him. *(Interruptions)* He can get up any time! He can get up any time and make comments against anybody and he expects us to keep quiet! He must withdraw the words "keep quiet". *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think instead of asking another colleague to sit down, it would have been better if the the hon. Member had addressed me. That is not a proper thing.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Sir, it is my fault. He stands up ...
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Anyway, you put your supplementary and finish it.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: I will do it in half a second. *(Interruptions)* Sir, this is very unfair. Mr. Chairman, Sir, my first supplementary remains. My first supplementary was whether this is an academic review and whether such an academic review can take place without consulting the editors and general editors and by surreptitiously, contacting the publishers to temporarily withhold the volumes from publication. This was my first supplementary. Now, the hon. Minister is talking about a Review Committee being formed on 20th. About this also, in part (b) of my first supplementary, I wanted to know whether a protest letter has been

issued publicly by one of the members of the Indian Council for Historical Research, questioning the authenticity of the minutes of that meeting. Is it a fact?

My second supplementary is: Who are the members of this Committee? I was watching a private television channel on the 24th of February. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री ओंकार सिंह लखावत: उनका क्या नाम है, क्या वे कामरेड थे?
....*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: Mr. Basu, this is your third supplementary. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You put your question. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't hear him. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't hear him.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: I am very sorry for the spate of these interruptions. ...*(Interruptions)*... What is he doing? ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JIBON ROY: It has become their culture to interrupt. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You put your question. Ignore him. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please ignore him. You put your question. ...*(Interruptions)*... You ignore him. You put your question.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: On 24th February, there was a discussion on a private TV channel. A.R. Khan who is one of the members of the so-called Review Committee, about which the Minister was so eloquent, was publicly saying that only four days back, he got the Partha Sarath Gupta's volume and some RSS people—on AIR it is on records—have raised some objections. I cannot say so. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: What is it?

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Is it a fact that such an interview has been given by a member of the Review Committee? Is it the objection by the RSS that has led to the decision by the ICHR? ...*(Interruptions)*... And about the details of the Committee meeting, ... *(Interruptions)*...

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MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, let him reply. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, please, let him reply.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, if the hon. Member gives me the script of the interview, it can be enquired of Mr. Khan. I have no information about it. I need notice for it.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: It is about the 24th February meeting.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Yes. You give me a written notice. ...*(Interruptions)*... I do not have it. But you see, the record and the minutes supplied to me by the ICHR ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please hear him. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please hear his reply. ...*(Interruptions)*... Hear his reply, please.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: I will again check up the ICHR minutes to see if any member had raised an objection there. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, I am answering his question how the Committee was appointed, who the members of the Committee are—this is the record which is available with me. And whether anybody had raised any objection in the meeting, is not known to me. Anybody making a statement outside; has to be scrutinised and then properly attended to.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Gurudas Das Gupta.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI: Sir, please allow me also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: His name is second. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: About that academic review, you did not answer the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Can it be reviewed?

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Can it be done without the consent and consultation of the editors and general editors?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is right.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Can the ICHR surreptitiously contact the publishing house and tell them to withdraw it?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is right. He will have to answer this

question. ...(Interruptions)... He will answer it.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: I am answering. Sir, the ICHR had earlier taken certain steps in these matters. On 16th June, 1987, Shri Irfan Habib, the then Chairman, had written certain letters to one of the editors. He said:

"Dear Dr. Chopra,

Thank you for the material for Volume-II. I should like to make some preliminary observations and queries. The material does not contain the introduction. May I have the text, please? There is no annotation to documents, not even a description of the documents, and it is printed: "Internal party report....." The translation from Hindi, English languages seems badly done. The headings of the documents are, sometimes, journalistic and many headings should be carefully corrected. The year 1938 saw a considerable growth of the Kisan movement. This is not, however, reflected in the document. The AITS documents themselves do not appear to have been used, nor do the papers of Swami Sahjananda, the famous religious leader ' of Bihar.

Similarly, while there are documents concerning strikes, etc., the documents of the trade union movement themselves do not appear to have been used. On the Communist Party, the documents are ususally external, and no internal party document appears to have been used. As I have said above, these represent my immediate reaction. I know much work has gone behind this election and my purpose in making the above remarks is only to see whether it can be further improved.

With regard to the despatch of the typed script to the printers, I should like it to be withheld until I have time to see the introduction and review the material once again." So, there is nothing in it. ...(Interruptions)... It is something which has been temporarily withdrawn. (Interruptions) Is it academic?

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: The question that has been put has an academic character, an administrative character; and it also

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has a political overtone. Let us be frank to ourselves. *(Interruptions)* It has an academic character, an administrative character and it has a political overtone also. I don't hide my question. Sir, the question is regarding a part of history. The period just at the end of the National Movement and just before the dawn of the Indian Freedom Movement, is sought to be depicted and that has been asked to be depicted in a particular way. Now, Sir, kindly understand that this is a project work. It is a project work assigned to two important historians of standing of our country. Two historians were associated with that work, and one historian, Mr. S. Gopal, son of Dr. Radhakrishnan, is the General Editor. The hon. Minister is referring to certain inadequacies of the earlier volumes. I have carefully noted it. The inadequacies that he has referred to are all of a technical nature. *(Interruptions)*. The name of ICHR has not been mentioned. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: We are not required to trace the question. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Sir, what is this? I have the freedom to put a question. I am only ..*(Interruptions)*. I am only reacting to the statement of the Minister, not to the statement of the Spokesman of a particular party.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ...*(Interruptions)* That's all right. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: The point is, he referred to certain technical inadequacies, technical shortfalls and technical mistakes. They may be there. I assume the statement of the hon. Minister to be correct. I don't go into that. Therefore, the question is: Was the Review Committee appointed to look into, or, to correct, the technical inadequacies? If it is a Committee of a technical nature and it is appointed for bringing about correction of the technical mistakes, then, it is one thing. Let the hon. Minister take this into consideration. This is (a) part of my question. Part (b) of my question is this. There is a controversy over whether there is an index or not. The writers are saying that there is no index, but there is a

calender of documents and there is a chronology of documents. The hon. Minister is himself an intellectual. He himself is a known Professor. He, perhaps, knows that the study of history has a number of methodologies. One methodology is chronological; and another methodology is about particular items. Therefore, there can be a divergence of opinion with regard to the methodology. It can be different also. Therefore, it is not a question of methodology. There can be a difference of opinion on that. The point is that the Review Committee was appointed not for correcting technical mistakes, but for bringing about political corrections, or, academic corrections. That is the point *(Interruptions)* And I am constrained *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: The hon. Member has.. *(Interruptions)*. He has said it. *(Interruptions)* He has said that it is done for a political purpose. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: No; no. I have not said it. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, there are other important issues. *(Interruptions)* In this volume, Mahatma Gandhi's importance has been reduced. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Gandhi has been denigrated. *(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, please ...*(Interruptions)* I think the hon. Minister is capable of replying to the points. He will do it. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: I am putting a question. *(Interruptions)* I know the question. Part (b) of my question is whether this Committee was appointed for a political reason, or, for a political review. There are three persons in the Committee. One is a bureaucrat, another is an architect and the third is a person having experience and knowledge about ancient history. Therefore, there is no competent person at all to look into the inaccuracies, if at all there are any, because he has knowledge of Modern History. It is because of this that I would like the Minister to answer

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whether it is a political decision to bring about a political review of the volume. *(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the hon. Minister answer.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, the three members of the Committee are Prof. Satish Mittal, Professor of History from Kurukshetra University; Prof. Hari Om ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: What is the subject? *(Interruptions)*... What is the subject? *(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: The subject is Modern History. *(Interruptions)*... He is an expert on Modern History. *(Interruptions)*... Prof. Hari Om, Head of the Department in Jammu University and Prof. A.R. Khan, Professor of Modern History in Shimla. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: I am asking about the third, the last Committee, and not the first Committee. *(Interruptions)*... I am asking about the last Committee. *(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: This is the last Committee. *(Interruptions)*... This is the last Committee. *(Interruptions)*... This is the last Committee. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Who are there? *(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Prof. A.R. Khan, Prof. Satish Mittal and Prof. Hari Om. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Who are they? *(Interruptions)*..

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: They are professors. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Of which subject? *(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: History. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Are all of them Professors of History? *(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: All of them are Professors of History. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Are they Professors of Modern History? *(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: They are Professors of Modern History. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Which is the University? *(Interruptions)*... Which is the. University? *(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: One is from the University of Jammu, the second is a retired Professor from Kurukshetra University and the third is from Shimla. *(Interruptions)*...

Now, Sir, I attend to his other questions. *(Interruptions)*... They are outstanding professors. They are Members of the Council. *(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him reply. *(Interruptions)*... Let the Minister reply.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: This is a book written by Mr. Parthasarathy Gupta. About this, it says there are only technical deficiencies. The technical deficiencies were pointed out by the Dy. Director of Publication. Mr. Settari, in his own letter, has accepted that there are matters relating to the quality of the work. I am pointing out certain things from Mr. Parthasarathy Gupta's book. I will bring to your notice the themes of chapters. This is what is given to him. This is "Towards Freedom—Documents on the Movement of Independence of India, 1943-44". These are the things. Now, Gandhi's Charisma has 46 documents. The Role of Communist Party of India has 151 documents. The Role of Radical Democratic Party has 39 documents. *(Interruptions)*...

श्री जलालुद्दीन अंसारी: आर०एस०एस के कितने थे, यह बताइये।(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him speak. *(Interruptions)*... Let the hon. Minister reply. *(Interruptions)*... Please. *(Interruptions)*... Please. *(Interruptions)*... Nobody is heard. *(Interruptions)*... Please, no.

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DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Gandhi's Charisma has 46 documents. *(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAFRMAN: Please let him speak. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir.....*(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Let me finish. *(Interruptions)*... Let me finish. *(Interruptions)*... I am not yielding. *(Interruptions)*...

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Chairman, Sir....*(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Let me finish. I respect you Dr. Manmohan Singh. *(Interruptions)*... I respect you. *(Interruptions)*... Let me answer. I am answering a question. *(Interruptions)*... I am not yielding. *(Interruptions)*... I am sorry I am not yielding. Let me first finish. *(Interruptions)*... Let me first finish. *(Interruptions)*...

श्री सुरेश पचौरी: सभापति महोदय, इस सदन की कुछ मर्यादाएं हैं।(व्यवधान)... विपक्ष के नेता कुछ बोलना चाहते हैं(व्यवधान)... उनको बोलने दिया जाए।(व्यवधान)... सदन की कुछ मर्यादाएं हैं(व्यवधान)...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Let me first finish. Then he will speak. *(Interruptions)*...

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Sir, the Minister is just wasting the time of the House. *(Interruptions)*... The issue is so important. *(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not hearing anything. *(Interruptions)*...

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Gandhi's Charisma—46 documents; The Role of Communist Party of India—151 documents; The Role of Radical Democratic Party—39 documents. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MD. SALIM: Sir, you have to protect us. *(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. *(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. *(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, he is totally misleading the

House. *(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. *(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: They don't want the Minister to answer. *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi is misleading the House. *(Interruptions)*...

डा० मुरली मनोहर जोशी:(व्यवधान)... हम आह भी भरते है तो हो जाते हैं बदनाम, ये कत्ल भी करते हैं तो चर्चा नहीं होती(व्यवधान)...

SHRI MD. SALIM: The question is related to two volumes only. *(Interruptions)* He is answering about the earlier volumes. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: This is not the way. *(Interruptions)*. What is this, Sir? *(Interruptions)* The question has been put and the hon. Minister is answering...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I want him to answer the question. *(Interruptions)* Mr. Minister, are you yielding to Dr. Manmohan Singh for a while? He wants to raise some point. *(Interruptions)*.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Let me first finish this; then I would listen to him. *(Interruptions)* I am in the middle of my reply. *(Interruptions)* The question has been put to a Minister. It is my duty to reply and place the full facts before the House. They can raise their points after my reply is over. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: We are not going to listen him. He is deliberately... *(Interruptions)*.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: I request you to allow a Half-an-hour Discussion on this. *(Interruptions)*.

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): He is replying. The question has already been put. *(Interruptions)* It is the right of the hon. Minister to answer the question. *(Interruptions)*.

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MR. CHAIRMAN: I agree. *(Interruptions)*.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: There is need for a separate discussion on this. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: It is the right of the Minister. He should be allowed to give his reply. *(Interruptions)*.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Sir, please allow a Half-an-hour Discussion on this. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: He is misleading the House. Please, don't allow him...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI MD. SALIM: Look at the Minister. *(Interruptions)* It has been brought to your notice...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: He is misusing the time of the House. *(Interruptions)*. We are not going to listen him. *(Interruptions)* We will never listen to him. *(Interruptions)* He is giving a frivolous reply. *(Interruptions)* He is giving wrong information to the House. *(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Funds for Beautification of Railways in Ghaziabad

†*123. PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:

SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds allocated by Government for development and beautification of Railways in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that highly sub-standard material is being used in construction works;

†Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.