

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: सर, नारेबाजी नहीं, हम कुछ कहना चाहते हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ... जब आप बैठ जायेंगे, तब हम कहेंगे। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति: आप कुछ कहना चाहते हैं, वह ठीक है, लेकिन जो नारेबाजी हो रही है, यह ठीक नहीं है। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी: सर, बच्चों के बारे में सवाल है। ... (व्यवधान) ... इसको पूरा देश देख रहा है। ... (व्यवधान) ... It is my question ... (Interruptions) I should be allowed to reply now ... (Interruptions) ... This is the time of our children ... (Interruptions) ... This time belongs to the children of this country ... (Interruptions) ... They have no right to take it ... (Interruptions) ...

श्री यशवंत सिन्हा: सर, दूसरे हाउस का मेम्बर ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: सर, वह दूसरे हाउस की मेम्बर हैं, वह कैसे बोल सकती हैं? ... (व्यवधान) ... वह ऐज ऐ मिनिस्टर बोल सकती हैं। (व्यवधान) ...

श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी: सर, बच्चों का सवाल है। (व्यवधान) ...

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज: सर, जो इस हाउस की सदस्य नहीं हैं, वह कैसे बोल सकती हैं? (व्यवधान) ...

श्री सभापति: सदन की कार्यवाही 12.00 बजे तक के लिए स्थगित की जाती है।

The House then adjourned at twelve minutes past eleven of the clock.

The House reassembled at twelve of the clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Objectionable facts in text books

†*202. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that highly objectionable facts are being taught regarding gods and goddesses of Hindus, particularly god Shiva and goddess Durga in the syllabus of M.A. (History) conducted by "IGNOU";

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is also a fact that a conspiracy of showing disrespect has been hatched in a well-planned manner to Hindu gods and goddesses in the book titled "Dharmik Paramparyen Aur Bhakti Darshan";

(c) if so, the action Government are going to take against the writers who have prepared the said syllabus; and

(d) if not, the thinking behind inclusion of the facts in syllabus through various Government channels which amount only to hurt the feelings of Hindus?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) The MA programme in History was conceived by IGNOU in the year 2000. The School Board of the University approved the course structure of the programme in April, 2001 and the Academic Council in September, 2001. Course writers were appointed in September, 2001. English version of the study material was printed in October, 2003, and dispatched to students in August/September 2004 for the first time. The Hindi version was printed in the year 2004-05, and was dispatched to students in August-September, 2005.

Some objectionable portions came to notice in the study material of Module-3 (Known as "Religious Traditions and Philosophy of Bhakti" in English and "Dharmik Paramparayen aur Bhakti Darshan" in Hindi) of an elective course, MHI-07 (Religious thoughts and Beliefs in India) of the above mentioned M.A. History programme in April 2006. The University thereupon decided to edit and amend such portions and to constitute an Expert Committee to review the entire course and make suggestions/modifications. It has also decided to discontinue the course for future candidates till it is reviewed and finalized by the Committee. The University has also sent letters to all students who have already cleared this course as well as to the currently enrolled students asking them to ignore the earlier version and informing them that corrected study material would be sent to them for their record/study. According to the University, there was no conspiracy to hurt religious sentiments.

(c) As regard mistakes, IGNOU will take suitable action after receipt of recommendations of the Review Committee.

(d) Does not arise.