

Play glorifying Nathuram Godse in BHU

2325. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

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

(a) whether Government is aware that a play glorifying Nathuram Godse and portraying Mahatma Gandhi in poor light, had been permitted by authorities of Banaras Hindu University, during a cultural fest recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has inquired into the matter and has fixed responsibility in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b) The Banaras Hindu University (BHU) has informed that the University annually organizes its inter-faculty youth festival namely "Spandan", wherein students from the University and its affiliated colleges participate. During the screening process meant for selection of participants for this annual festival, the participants presented performances based on the topic of their choice for a maximum of 5-minutes which is done extempore and the organizing committee or the judges do not have prior knowledge or information of the topic. In this screening programme, a participant performed a five-minute long mono-act on Godse. The University has further informed that this particular performance was disqualified for selection in the youth festival by the judges and the core organizing committee. The Fact Finding Committee constituted by the University to investigate the complaint received in this regard, found that the performance was merely a part of the screening procedure for selection in the main youth festival and the organizing committee had no prior information of the subject.

(c) to (e) Do not arise, in view of (a) and (b) above.

Enrolment of girls across various socio economic groups

2326. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of girls enrolled in primary schools across socio-economic groups of SC/ST, minorities and in rural-urban areas during the last three years, State-wise;