



हिन्दू स्वयंसेवक संघ

Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh (UK)

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Your Excellency The Ambassador of Russia  
London

Your Excellency,

It pains us to read in the Press that the Bhagwat Gita, one of the holiest books of Hindus, may be banned in Russia on the grounds that it preaches violence and extremism. Anyone who has read this eternally inspiring and divinely book will find it wholly ludicrous and smack of gross ignorance. If this book teaches violence and extremism, then you would have witnessed this manifested in the Hindu community. On the contrary, Hindus all over the world are considered very peace loving, law abiding and net contributors to the welfare of the society in which they live.

India has always considered Russia as its very close and reliable friend. There has been numerous cultural exchanges and interactions between the two countries. There is a sizable population in Russia which takes keen interest in Indology and Indian studies. In view of these facts, it is very shocking to learn that a holy book of Hindus may be proscribed under false charges in Russia.

We think that the reasons behind the move to ban Gita have nothing to do with its content. It is the prejudice and ultra-conservative, fundamentalist ideology of the Orthodox Christian Church which has brought about this demeaning situation. It does not benefit the culture and civilisation of Russian people.

On behalf of our members and Hindu community at large, I urge you to convey our deep concerns and hurt on this matter to your esteemed Government and advise it to stop this action of banning the holy Gita.

With best wishes,

Dhiraj D Shah  
President, Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh (UK)  
National Organisation of Hindus and a Registered Charity