# SIXTY-THIRD REPORT COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)

# MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION)

(Presented to Lok Sabha on 05.02.2024)



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT NEW DELHI

February, 2024/Magna, 1945 (Saka)

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## COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

Shri Harish Dwivedi -

Chairperson

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- 3. Prof. Sanjay Sadashivrao Mandlik
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## SIXTY-THIRD REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS (SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)

### INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Committee on Petitions, having been authorised by the Committee to present on their behalf, this Sixty-Third Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee to the House on the representation of Shri Rajesh Sharma regarding alleged criminal conspiracy and plagiarism in respect of illegal and unauthorized publication and selling the book, 'The Cosmic Infinity - A Vedic Perspective' written by Shri Gulab Kothari, by the Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) and M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited, New Delhi.

- 2. The Committee considered and adopted the draft Sixty-Third Report at their sitting held on 02 February, 2024.
- 3. The observations/recommendations of the Committee on the above matters have been included in the Report.

**NEW DELHI;** 

HARISH DWIVEDI, Chairperson, Committee on Petitions.

02 February, 2024 13 Magha, 1945 (Saka)

#### **REPORT**

REPRESENTATION OF SHRI RAJESH SHARMA REGARDING ALLEGED CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY AND PLAGIARISM IN RESPECT OF ILLEGAL AND UNAUTHORIZED PUBLICATION AND SELLING THE BOOK, 'THE COSMIC INFINITY - A VEDIC PERSPECTIVE' WRITTEN BY SHRI GULAB KOTHARI, BY THE INDIAN COUNCIL OF PHILOSOPHICAL RESEARCH (ICPR) AND M/S. D. K. PRINTWORLD PRIVATE LIMITED, NEW DELHI.

Shri Rajesh Sharma had submitted a representation dated 15 June, 2023 regarding criminal conspiracy and plagiarism in respect of illegal and unauthorized publication and selling the book, 'The Cosmic Infinity - A Vedic Perspective' written by Shri Gulab Kothari, by the Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) and M/s D.K. Printworld Private Limited, New Delhi (Annexure - I).

- 2. The representationist, Shri Rajesh Sharma, while raising his grievances in his representation, has brought out the following facts:-
  - (i) The Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) is a research oriented autonomous body of the Ministry of Human Resource Development [Ministry of Education], Government of India. It was established in the year, 1977. Its main objective is to bring back the entire tradition of Indian philosophy to its ancient original form, nurture it and provide the necessary impetus to new ideas. Basically, ICPR was formed by the Government of India to achieve this objective.
  - (ii) But, in the last few years, ICPR has indulged in incidents of plagiarism in connivance with some private printers, deviating from its objectives, due to which not only the activities of ICPR have been questioned, but serious allegations are also being made against the Ministry of Education, Government of India.
  - (iii) In this context, he has drawn attention of the Parliamentary Committee on Petitions towards a fact, with the belief that the Committee would seriously consider the same and give its recommendation for conducting an independent inquiry and registering a case under Section 120-B

(Criminal Conspiracy) of the IPC against all the guilty persons and officials of the ICPR.

- (iv) While introducing himself as a permanent resident of 217, Laxmi Complex, M. I. Road, Jaipur, Rajasthan, Shri Sharma stated that he had the privilege of being an associate of Shri Gulab Kothari at the time when Shri Kothari authored a famous book named 'The Cosmic Infinity A Vedic Perspective'. Later on, the book was translated into English by Shri S. L. Gandhi. Thereafter, an application was made before the ICPR for recognition of the said book, and in the process, all the relevant terms and conditions established by law were followed. However, it is a matter of great surprise that ICPR granted tacit approval to M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited having its office located at F-395, Sudarshan Park, ESI Hospital, Metro Station, New Delhi 110015, for printing and selling the said book in the market without author's permission and executing a tripartite agreement in this regard.
- (v) He alleged that there seems to be direct involvement of some high ranking officials of ICPR in this criminal act and that is why despite all their complaints in the matter, neither any inquiry was conducted by the ICPR nor any legal action was taken against M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited.
- (vi) He further stated that recently they had ordered for supply of 50 copies of the book, 'The Cosmic Infinity- A Vedic Perspective' from M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited, for investigation purpose which were made available to them and therefore, contended that this is a clear proof of the fact that the said book is not only being printed by M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited without the permission of the author but the book is also being sold in the open market and large profits are being made by them.
- (vii) In this context, he has also drawn attention of the Committee to the fact that ICPR, in the last few years, has transformed into an institution which is indulging in plagiarism of original authors in connivance with certain 'special printers', which comes under the category of serious criminal conspiracy. While referring to a Notification No. F.7-42/ICPR/2010-U.5 dated 28th October, 2010 issued by the Ministry concerned under which

a Review Committee was formed for reviewing the functioning of ICPR, he stated that when the said Review Committee submitted the Report thereon to the Ministry concerned, the following serious comments were made:-

"The Council must immediately undertake a serious critical review of the status of philosophy teaching and research in the country. In the absence of a credible review, it will not be possible for the Council to fulfill the responsibilities that it is charged with.

The Council does not have any credible mechanism for monitoring its research promotional programmes such as the Fellowship Programme and Seminars, Conferences etc. The Council must constitute credible monitoring committees consisting of serious scholars as members for this purpose. The reports of these monitoring committees must be considered and acted upon by the Council.

The Council must take its responsibility of co-opting members to the Council and nominating members to the Governing Body and the Research Projects Committee with utmost seriousness. During the period of review, the members of the Council simply passed on this responsibility to the wisdom of the Chairman.

It will be clear from the observations above that in the opinion of the Review Committee the performance of the Indian council of Philosophical Research in the last five years or so has been extremely disappointing. Part of the reason for this must of course lie in the fact that the quality of philosophy teaching both at the undergraduate and the postgraduate level is very poor; consequently philosophical research is woefully inadequate. One would have expected that the Council would appreciate the seriousness of this basic issue and invest some of its energy in addressing it. Unfortunately, this has not happened. And this must count as a significant failure of the Council. However, it is the Review Committee's view that there may be another, perhaps even more serious, reason for the poor state of philosophy in the country; and this is the almost complete isolation of philosophy

from all other academic disciplines. This isolation has led to philosophy's loss of moorings in the intellectual environment of our times. This was not the case in the rich intellectual past of the country. It is clear that the most important part of philosophy's responsibility is to bring itself to bear upon our understanding of the human condition of our times- beginning with our own nation and its specific predicaments. This, in our opinion, philosophy can best do now only in the company of disciplines whose creative intellectual labour has made a substantial difference to our understanding of ourselves- disciplines moreover which stand to gain enormously from engagement with genuine philosophical concerns. These are disciplines such as history, literature and literary studies, political thought, linguistics and anthropology. In this connection we think particularly of the achievements of Indian literature -both in English and many of our own languages. Philosophy's rejuvenation may well begin with its coming into close interactive proximity with our literature and the other disciplines we have mentioned. The Government may therefore consider setting up a Council for the promotion of research in humanities which will include philosophy, history, literature and literary studies, linguistics, political thought and anthropology. The Indian Council of Philosophical Research will then merge into such a Council once it is set up. We are aware that such a step will require much deeper thought than we have been able to afford. But we do recommend very strongly that the Government take initiative towards such a step."

3. The representationist, Shri Sharma has therefore, requested to initiate action under Sections 420 and 406, etc., of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) against M/s. D.K. Printworld Private Limited for all its aforementioned illegal acts as well as to file a case under Section 120-B (Criminal Conspiracy) of the IPC against other responsible persons and officials of ICPR, if *prima facie* found to be guilty, as these are involved in publication and sale of the book under reference, in an unauthorized way, for which no tripartite agreement was executed.

- 4. The Committee on Petitions took up the representation for examination under Direction 95 of the Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha. Accordingly, the representation received from Shri Rajesh Sharma was referred to the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) and the Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) on 20 June, 2023 for eliciting their comments on the issues/points raised therein.
- 5. In response thereto, the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education)) vide their Office Memorandum dated 10 July, 2023 while inter alia submitting that Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR), New Delhi is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Education which promotes research in philosophy and all the administrative and research activities are undertaken by the Council itself and the Ministry of Education does not play any role in its administrative and research activities, had forwarded the para-wise comments of ICPR in the matter as under:-

"'Plagiarism' as used by the complainant is strongly denied. Fabricated and untrue allegation. ICPR strongly denied the complaint. Complainant be asked to provide documents evidence in support of the claim.

ICPR, as stipulated practice and framed procedure, gets the manuscript published duly evaluated by two experts on the area of subject of manuscript. On receipt of positive report/recommendation regarding publication worthy, process of publication is undertaken. Tripartite/bipartite Agreement is/was signed between Author and Publisher/Co-publisher and the book gets published.

Proposal received at ICPR and was placed in 87th meeting of the Research Project Committee (RPC) of the ICPR held on 6 February, 2019. The RPC opined 'may be published'. The manuscript was forwarded to two experts for evaluation. Both the experts submitted positive report to ICPR recommending publication of the manuscript. Subsequently, publication process was initiated. M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited, New Delhi, was contacted to assign the publication work. M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited, offered price of the publication as Rs.1990/-. The matter was submitted to the then Chairman of

G. M. Dr.

J. Burry

ICPR who opined price offered by M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited, was on higher side. M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited was requested to review their pricing of the publication vide letter dated 09.02.2021 followed by a reminder 18.11.2021 (Annexures - II & III), but to no avail.

In the meantime, complaint dated 12.02.2022 was received from Shri Rajesh Sharma (Annexure - IV) which is self-explanatory. The said complaint was forwarded to M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited, vide ICPR letter dated 02.03.2022 for offering their comments (Annexure - V). The comment/reply dated 03.03.2022 was received from M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited (Annexure - VI) and the same was forwarded to Shri Sharma vide ICPR correspondence dated 10.05.2022. In response thereto, the observation/reply dated 01.06.2022 of Shri Rajesh Sharma was received (Annexure - VII) which is self-explanatory.

Shri Rajesh Sharma had submitted complaint dated 12.02.2022 to the effect that M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited, got printed the manuscript entitled, 'The Cosmic Infinity - Vedic Prospective', authored by Shri Gulab Kothari and translated by Shri Arvind Kalia in the book form and started selling in open market.

It is confirmed and submitted that ICPR had not entered into tripartite/bipartite agreement with either the Author of the manuscript and/or his authorized agent as regards printing/selling of the book. ICPR has no role and/or involved in printing and/or selling of the book. M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited, and/or Author of the book may be referred to for comments. It is doubly confirmed that no financial deal and/or transaction was made as far as printing/selling of the manuscript entitled, 'The Cosmic Infinity - Vedic Prospective' authored by Shri Gulab Kothari and translated by Shri S. L. Gandhi, is concerned.

As regards involvement of the ICPR officials in alleged unauthorized printing and selling of the said book in the market, this is fabricated and untrue accusation and the complainant be asked to provide documentary evidence in support of the claim

M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited and/or author are the two beneficiaries/benefactors as far as printing/selling are concerned. As mentioned earlier, ICPR has role as it does not have any financial involvement here.

As regards alleged involvement of the ICPR in connivance with the special printers in plagiarism, it is a baseless and fabricated allegation.

Author and/or his authorized agent are free to initiate legal action as per rule of the land."

- 6. Upon examination of the comments received from the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education)/Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR), the Committee on Petitions decided to take up the instant representation for a comprehensive examination.
- 7. For the said purpose, the Committee, in their sitting held on 8 August, 2023 took oral evidence/briefing of the representatives of the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) and the Chairperson, Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) in the matter.
- 8. During the said sitting of the Committee, before hearing their views in the matter, following clarifications were sought from the representatives of the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) and the Chairperson, Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR):-
  - (i) What is the mandate of ICPR? Whether ICPR gives legal recognition for printing and publication of any book related to Philosophy? If so, whether ICPR has received any application or request for recognition of ICPR in respect to book authored by Shri Gulab Kothari? In case such application or request was received, what is the date of receipt and consequential action taken thereon?
  - (ii) If any individual or printer has printed a book and release the same in the market for sale without obtaining the requisite permission from the original Author, whether such act(s) by any individual or printer would come under the purview of 'Plagiarism'? Whenever a case of 'Plagiarism' comes to the notice of ICPR, what consequential action, legal or otherwise, is taken thereon? Further, when the case of plagiarism in relation to the book authored by Shri Gulab Kothari by

- illegally publishing and selling it came to the notice of ICPR, what action has been initiated by the ICPR.
- (iii) Whether ICPR have any kind of relationship, direct or indirect, with M/s. D.K. Printworld Private Limited, New Delhi.
- (iv) What kind of statutory relationship exists between ICPR and the Ministry of Education?
- 9. Thereupon, the representatives of the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education)/ICPR put forth their comments/views, as under:-
  - (i) ICPR is an independent and autonomous organization and has the mandate *inter alia* to promote research in Philosophy and to publish the important and significant Philosophical Work.
  - (ii) On the question as to whether the instant case comes under the purview of 'Plagiarism', the fact of the matter is that the Book under reference has been published by the name of Shri Gulab Kothari, who himself has authored the Book and not by any other individual.
  - (iii) As regards publishing of Books by the ICPR, there exists established practice and procedure. As a matter of fact, after receiving the manuscript for publication, systematic review, thereon, is undertaken by forwarding the same to two experts on the area of subject, without having any knowledge about the author. If satisfactory report/recommendation thereon regarding its suitability for publication is received, the process of publication is undertaken. Agreement is supposed to be signed between the Author and Publisher/Co-publisher and then, the book is published.
  - (iv) The Book, in question, 'The Cosmic Infinity A Vedic Perspective' written by Shri Gulab Kothari, has already been published in Hindi version and ICPR has now decided to publish it in English version.
  - (v) Several meetings were held with Shri Rajesh Sharma, the representationist under the aegis of ICPR, for discussing the instant

issue. In 2022, he had repeatedly contended that M/s. D.K. Printworld has published the Book without entering into any agreement with them. ICPR has advised that the Author and Publisher/Co-publisher should enter into agreement for publication of the book.

10. The Committee, thereafter, specifically desired to know as to whether anyone applied for publication of the book written by Shri Gulab Kothari and if so, when was such application received and what action was taken thereon. In response thereto, the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education)/ICPR, in a written reply, submitted:-

"Mr. Arvind Kalia, National Head, Rajasthan Patrika, applied on 03.02.2019 for publication of the book 'The Cosmic Infinity - A Vedic Perspective" together with consent letters from Mr. Gulab Kothari and Mr. S. L. Gandhi to the then Chairman, Professor S.R. Bhatt, Indian Council of Philosophical Research (Annexure-VIII).

The matter was placed before the RPC meeting held on 06.02.2019, the Research Project Committee (RPC) had approved for publication of the book (Annexure - IX). As per the ICPR procedure, the manuscript was sent for evaluation to two experts on 01.10.2019. The experts sent satisfactory evaluation report and approved for proposed publication (Annexures - X & XI).. On 16.09.2020, communication was sent to M/s. D. K. Printworld by Dr. Sushim Dubey, the then Programme Officer, ICPR, asking price and royalty of the publication. In response, M/s. D. K. Printworld intimated the proposed price and royalty amount of the publication vide their e-mailed letter dated 17.09.2020 as under: Price: Rs.1990/- and Royalty: Rs.25,000/- (Annexure - XII).

11. On the issue of 'Plagiarism', the Committee desired to know if in case a book of philosophy written by a scholar was published and marketed by another scholar without permission/consent from the original writer, whether it is considered as plagiarism in scholarly writing and further, in the event of any such happening, what actions are considered to be taken/initiated. In the context of instant case, the Committee also enquired as to what action has been taken so far if any publisher/printer published the book written by Shri Gulab Kothari illegally and

thereafter marketed the same and earned profit. In response thereto, the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education)/ICPR, in a written reply, submitted:-

"Publication of writing by anyone without the permission/consent of original writer is called Plagiarism. However, if the publication was made in the name of the original writer without permission, it may be called violation of the Copyright Act. In any case, M/s. D. K. Printworld is answerable/responsible. The instant matter was first such happenings in the Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR). The ICPR will be with the author/translator of the book, in question, for any future course of action against M/s. D. K. Printworld for their illegal act. The successor of Professor S. R. Bhatt, Professor R. C. Sinha, Chairman of ICPR (12.03.2019 to 14.03.2022) put observation vide his notes dated 24.10.2020 and 18.12.2020 on the price of the proposed publication written by Mr. Gulab Kothari. Accordingly, M/s. D.K. Printworld was intimated for reviewing of the price of the book vide communications dated 09.02.2021 and 18.11.2021 (Annexures - II & III), but to no avail. The ICPR received complaint letter dated 12.02.2022 from Rajasthan Patrika Publication stating about publication/selling of the book by M/s. D. K. Printworld (Annexure - IV). The complaint letter of Rajasthan Patrika was forwarded to M/s. D. K. Printworld on 02.03.2022 for comments (Annexure - V). The ICPR received written confession dated 03.03.2022 from M/s. D. K. Printworld accepting their blunder. The reply of M/s. D. K. Printworld was forwarded to Rajasthan Patrika for their perusal. On 01.06.2022, Mr. Rajesh Sharma of Rajasthan Patrika informed ICPR not to accept the reply of M/s. D. K. Printworld (Annexure - VII).. In the meantime, several meetings and discussions were held with Mr. Arvind Kalia and Mr. Sushil Mittal, proprietor of M/s. D. K. Printworld. However, no effective action was initiated due to non-availably of competent committees. (Research and Planning Committee)."

12. The Committee when asked as to whether ICPR has any direct and/or indirect business relations in terms of any kind of business transaction with M/s. D. K. Printworld and whether ICPR has given any recognition to the book published by M/s. D.K. Printworld, the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education)/ICPR, in a written reply, submitted:-

"The ICPR has published a number of books as co-publisher with (i) Motilal Banarsidass, (ii) Akshay Prakashan, (iii) Munshiram Manoharlal, (iv) Oxford

University Press, (v) Ridhi India, (vi) Allied Publishers, (vii) M/s. D.K. Printworld, etc. It is stated that M/s. D.K. Printworld is one among the above list."

### OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS

## Initiating appropriate legal action against M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited

- 13. The Committee after undertaking meticulous examination of the issues/points raised by the representationist, Shri Rajesh Sharma in light of the submissions made by the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) and the Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) note that Dr. Arvind Kalia, National Head of Rajasthan Patrika, had applied for publication of the book, 'The Cosmic Infinity A Vedic Perspective', written by Dr. Gulab Kothari and translated by Dr. S.L. Gandhi, along with their consent letters in this regard, to the then Chairman, ICPR, Professor S. R. Bhatt on 03.02.2019. Subsequently, the matter/proposal was placed before the Research Project Committee (RPC) of the ICPR in their 87th meeting held on 06.02.2019, which had approved for publication of the said book with their opinion as 'may be considered under ICPR publication'.
- 14. As regards publication of books under ICPR, the Committee further note that as per stipulated practice and established procedure, ICPR gets the manuscript published after getting it duly evaluated by two experts on the area of subject of manuscript. Thereafter, on receipt of favourable report/recommendation regarding its publication, the final process of publication is invariably undertaken. During this process, a tripartite/bipartite agreement between the Author and the Publisher/Co-publisher is signed and thereafter the book gets published.

- In the context of the instant case, the Committee note that the as per the 15. ICPR's practice and procedure, the manuscript of 'The Cosmic Infinity - A Vedic Perspective' was sent for evaluation to two experts, i.e., Professor S.R. Bhatt and Professor Dayanand Bhargava on 01.10.2019. Both the experts submitted satisfactory evaluation report/positive report to the ICPR and recommended/ approved the publication. Subsequently, on 16.09.2020, a communication was sent to M/s. D. K. Printworld by Dr. Sushim Dubey, the then Programme Officer, ICPR, asking their willingness for considering co-publication with the ICPR, quotation regarding price of the said book and flat-fee as one time royalty of the publication. In response thereto, M/s. D. K. Printworld intimated the ICPR vide their e-mail communication dated 17.09.2020 about the proposed price of the book as Rs.1990/- and royalty amount of the publication as Rs. 25,000/-. However, the successor of Professor S.R. Bhatt, i.e., Professor R. C. Sinha, the then Chairman of ICPR (12.03.2019 to 14.03.2022) made his observation vide notes dated 24.10.2020 and 18.12.2020 on the price of the proposed publication written by Dr. Gulab Kothari and accordingly, M/s. D.K. Printworld was intimated for reviewing of the price of the book vide ICPR Communications dated 09.02.2021 and 18.11.2021, but to no avail.
- 16. Based on the written submissions made by the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) and the Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR), the Committee also note that a complaint dated 12.02.2022 of Shri Rajesh Sharma of Rajasthan Patrika Publication was received by the ICPR regarding alleged unauthorised publication and sale of the book, 'The Cosmic Infinity A Vedic Perspective' by M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited.

Subsequently, the said complaint was forwarded to M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited *vide* ICPR letter dated 02.03.2022 for offering their comments thereon. In response thereto, M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited, submitted their comment/reply through email dated 03.03.2022 to the ICPR in the form of a written confession and accepting their mistake/guilt; however the same was subsequently, forwarded to the complainant, Shri Sharma of Rajasthan Patrika *vide* ICPR communication dated 10.05.2022 for perusal. Subsequently, observation/ reply dated 02.06.2022 of Shri Rajesh Sharma was received by the ICPR wherein, it was *inter alia* requested not to accept the comment/reply of M/s. D. K. Printworld.

17. From the aforementioned chronology of events in relation to the instant case, the Committee are constrained to note that despite the fact the representationist, Shri Rajesh Sharma had, on earlier occasion, approached the ICPR with his complaint/grievance with regard to unauthorised publication and sale of the book, 'The Cosmic Infinity - A Vedic Perspective' by M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited, the ICPR after the receipt of the comments/replies thereon from the M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited wherein, the printer/copublisher, in question had explicitly admitted their mistake/guilt, had merely forwarded the said comments/replies to the complainant, Shri Sharma and thereafter not initiated any tangible action against the M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited as per the relevant Rules, Guidelines, Policies, etc. The relevant comments/replies of the M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited were as under:-

"I must admit that a formal agreement was not signed between the ICPR and M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited due to delay on my part and

moreover, a written consent was not obtained from the ICPR in deciding its price for which I deeply regret and shall take utmost care to complete these formalities before the book is published, in future"

- 18. In this context, the Committee are of the considered view that the legitimate exercise of the ICPR should have been to initiate necessary and appropriate legal action as per the relevant Rules, Guidelines, Policies, etc., of the ICPR, as this was a clear case of violation/infringement of copyrights of the Author and/or the Main Publisher as well as 'Intellectual Property Rights' of a person and/or an organization. Unauthorised publication and sale of the book, 'The Cosmic Infinity A Vedic Perspective' by M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited, becomes all the more serious since the commission of such an act has been carried out by the one who is supposed to be a co-publisher that too in a situation when the negotiations for fixing the price of the book and royalty amount of the publication with the ICPR were underway and remained inconclusive.
- 19. The Committee are further dismayed to note that despite such acts committed by M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited in the instant case, which were evidently in the knowledge of the ICPR, the Printer/Publisher, in question still figures in the list of Publishers associated with the ICPR. Taking into consideration all the facts emerged in the instant case and after threadbare analysis of the submissions made by the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) and the ICPR, the Committee strongly recommend that the Ministry should ask the ICPR to take appropriate legal action against the copublisher, in question, i.e., M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited, as per the

relevant Rules, Guidelines, Policies, etc., of the ICPR, so that it can act as a deterrent for other Publishers for not committing or getting involved in any such offences of manipulation and deliberate mischief along misrepresenting the facts before a Government Organisation/Institution/ Council. Consequently, the ICPR should also consider blacklisting such errant Printer/Publisher who unabashedly practices unethical conduct in a highly literary field. In this sequel, the Committee further recommend the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) to impress upon the ICPR to conduct a time-bound inquiry, primarily to identify their official(s) who were instrumental in suppression of facts, manipulation, misguidance and/or conniving with the Printer(s)/Publisher(s) for committing illegal acts in the form of flouting the extant Rules, Guidelines, etc., for some monetary considerations and thereafter, initiate disciplinary proceedings against such delinquent official(s). The Committee would like to be apprised of the concrete steps taken/ proposed to be taken on all the above aspects within three months from the date of presentation of this Report to the House.

## Expediting the constitution of Research Project Committee of ICPR and completion of Research Projects being undertaken by the ICPR

20. The Committee are dismayed to note that the Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR), in its written comments/replies furnished *vide* Communication No. 6-11/2019-20/P&R/ICPR dated 27.06.2023, which was forwarded by the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) *vide* their Office Memorandum No. 5-2/2023-U.3 dated 10.07.2023 to the Committee on Petitions, has conveniently denied the allegations/accusations made by the

representationist, Shri Rajesh Sharma, in his representation/complaint dated 15.06,2023 in regard to involvement of ICPR in committing 'Plagiarism' in connivance with certain Publishers/Printers, in the context of unauthorised publication and sale of the book, 'The Cosmic Infinity - A Vedic Perspective' by M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited, boldly labeling the allegations as 'fabricated, baseless and untrue'. However, the Ministry/ICPR have failed to record/document contrary to the contention representationist, Shri Sharma. Further, the ICPR, while confirming that no financial deal and/or transaction was made as far as printing/selling of the manuscript entitled, 'The Cosmic Infinity - Vedic Prospective' authored by Shri Gulab Kothari and translated by Shri S. L. Gandhi is concerned and contended that ICPR had not entered into tripartite/bipartite agreement with either the Author of the manuscript and/or his authorized agent as regards printing/selling of the book. ICPR has, further, submitted that it has no role and/or involved in printing and/or selling of the book and M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited and/or author are the two beneficiaries/benefactors as far as printing and/or selling of the book is concerned. However, on the contrary, ICPR, in its written replies furnished vide Communication No. 6-11/2019-20/P&R/ICPR dated 26.08.2023 which was forwarded by the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) vide their Office Memorandum No. 5-2/2023-U.3 dated 11.09.2023 to the Committee on Petitions subsequent to the briefing/oral evidence held on 08.08.2023 in the matter, has explicitly accepted that in any case, be it an act of 'Plagiarism' or a matter of Copyright Act violation, M/s. D. K. Printworld is to be held answerable/responsible. Further, the ICPR has informed the Committee that the instant matter is in fact, the first such case in the ICPR

and the they will be with the author/translator of the book, in question, for any future course of action against M/s. D. K. Printworld for their illegal act. Besides, it was also informed that several meetings and discussions were held with Dr. Arvind Kalia of Patrika Group, the applicant for publication of the book, 'The Cosmic Infinity - A Vedic Perspective' under ICPR and Mr. Sushil Mittal, proprietor of M/s. D. K. Printworld and Co-publisher for resolving the issue(s) relating to the publication. However, no effective action was initiated due to non-availability of competent Committee(s), viz., Research and Planning Committee.

- 21. In the relevant context, the Committee are of considered opinion that undue delay on the part of Publisher/Co-publisher in authorized and legal publication of the book under reference has undoubtedly caused inconvenience, hardship and harassment to, particularly, the Author, Dr. Gulab Kothari; the Translator, Dr. S. L. Gandhi; the Applicant, Dr. Arvind Kalia including the representationist, Shri Rajesh Sharma.
- 22. In this context, the Committee feel that ICPR should exhibit professionalism while exercising their functions as also envisaged under the Memorandum of Association and Rules of the ICPR. For attaining this cherished objective, the ICPR should also make all their Committees/Bodies functional, independent and transparent. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education), while extending all necessary support and help, should impress upon the ICPR to initiate all necessary action(s) with a view to expediting the constitution of

'Research Project Committee' at the earliest so that all the research projects including the publication works being undertaken by the ICPR are not halted any further and completed in a time bound manner.

23. The Committee also wish to recommend the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) to ensure that not only the book, titled 'The Cosmic Infinity - A Vedic Perspective' is published as per extant Rules, Regulations, Orders and Policies of the ICPR at the earliest by overcoming all the impediments but also the other works/books of Philosophy which were already recommended/approved by the 'Research Project Committee' for ICPR publication should be urgently reviewed and tangible action initiated for printing. In addition to this, the ICPR should also consider giving appropriate compensation to the author of the book, titled 'The Cosmic Infinity - A Vedic Perspective' for such prolonged harassment in accordance with the Rules, Orders, Guidelines, etc. The Committee would like to be apprised of the specific steps taken/proposed to be taken on all the above aspects within three months from the date of presentation of this Report to the House.

NEW DELHI;

HARISH DWIVEDI, Chairperson, Committee on Petitions.

02 February, 2024 13 Magha, 1945 (Saka)

Date: 15 June, 2023

Chairman, Committee on Petitions (Lok Sabha), Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi - 110001

Subject:

Petition regarding criminal conspiracy and plagiarism in connection of illegal and unauthorized printing, selling and profit-making of the well-known book "The Cosmic Infinity- A Vedic Perspective" written by Shri Gulab Kothari by Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) in association with M/s. D.K. Printworld Private Limited, New Delhi.

Sir,

It is to submit that The Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) is a research oriented autonomous body of the Ministry of Human Resource Development [Ministry of Education], Government of India. It was established in 1977. Its main objective is to bring back the entire tradition of Indian philosophy to its ancient original form, nurture it and provide the necessary impetus to new ideas. Basically, ICPR was formed by the Government of India to achieve this objective.

- 2. But, in the last few years, ICPR has indulged in incidents of plagiarism in connivance with some private printers beyond its objectives, due to which not only the activities of ICPR have been questioned, but serious allegations are also being made on the Ministry of Education, Government of India.
- 3. Sir, in this context, I would like to draw your attention towards a fact, with the belief that you and your Parliamentary Committee will seriously consider it and conduct an independent inquiry and give its recommendation for registration of a case under Section 120-B [criminal conspiracy] of the IPC against all the guilty persons and officials of the ICPR.
- 4. In fact, I, Rajesh Sharma, am a permanent resident of 217, Laxmi Complex, M.I. Road, Jaipur, Rajasthan. I am an associate in the much talked book: 'The Cosmic Infinity A Vedic Perspective' written by Mr. Gulab Kothari. When this book was written by Mr. Kothari, in which I also had the privilege of being his associate, the book was later translated into English by Shri S. L. Gandhi. Thereafter, an application was made before ICPR for the recognition of the said book, and in this context all relevant terms and conditions established by law were followed. However, it is a matter of great surprise that ICPR granted tacit approval to M/s D.K. Printworld Private Limited, whose office is located at F-395, Sudarshan Park, ESI Hospital, Metro Station, New Delhi 110015, for printing and selling of the said book in the market without the author's permission and without executing a tripartite agreement.
- 5. It is an undeniable fact that there seems to be direct involvement of some high ranking officials of ICPR in this criminal act, that's why despite all our

complaints, neither any inquiry was conducted by ICPR nor any legal action was taken against M/s D. K. Print World Private Limited.

- 6. A recent proof is that we ordered the supply of 50 copies of the said book from M/s D. K. Print World Private Limited, for investigation purposes. These 50 copies of 'The Cosmic Infinity- A Vedic Perspective' were easily made available to us by M/s D.K. Print World Private Limited, which is a clear proof of the fact that the said book is not only being printed by M/s D. K. Print World Private Limited without the permission of the author but the book is also being sold in the market. And large profits are being made by them.
- 7. Sir, I would also like to draw your attention to the fact that ICPR, in the last few years, has transformed into an institution which is indulging in plagiarism of original authors in connivance with certain printers, which comes under the category of a serious criminal conspiracy. A documentary fact of this is that a notification was issued by the concerned Ministry [No.F.7-42/ICPR/2010-U.5 dated 28th October, 2010], under which a Review Committee was formed to review the activities of ICPR. You will be surprised to know that when the said Review Committee submitted the report to your Ministry, the following serious comments were made:

The Council must immediately undertake a serious critical review of the status of philosophy teaching and research in the country. In the absence of a credible review, it will not be possible for the Council to fulfill the responsibilities that it is charged with.

The Council does not have any credible mechanism for monitoring its research promotional programmes such as the Fellowship Programme and Seminars, Conferences etc. The Council must constitute credible monitoring committees consisting of serious scholars as members for this purpose. The reports of these monitoring committees must be considered and acted upon by the Council.

The Council must take its responsibility of co-opting members to the Council and nominating members to the Governing Body and the Research Projects Committee with utmost seriousness. During the period of review, the members of the Council simply passed on this responsibility to the wisdom of the Chairman.

It will be clear from the observations above that in the opinion of the Review Committee the performance of the Indian council of Philosophical Research in the last five years or so has been extremely disappointing. Part of the reason for this must of course lie in the fact that the quality of philosophy teaching both at the undergraduate and the postgraduate level is very poor; consequently philosophical research is woefully inadequate. One would have expected that the Council would appreciate the seriousness of this basic issue and invest some of its energy in addressing it. Unfortunately, this

has not happened. And this must count as a significant failure of the Council. However, it is the Review Committee's view that there may be another, perhaps even more serious, reason for the poor state of philosophy in the country; and this is the almost complete isolation of philosophy from all other academic disciplines. This isolation has led to philosophy's loss of moorings in the intellectual environment of our times. This was not the case in the rich intellectual past of the country. It is clear that the most important part of philosophy's responsibility is to bring itself to bear upon our understanding of the human condition of our times- beginning with our own nation and its specific predicaments. This, in our opinion, philosophy can best do now only in the company of disciplines whose creative intellectual labour has made a substantial difference to our understanding of ourselves- disciplines moreover which stand to gain enormously from engagement with genuine philosophical concerns. These are disciplines such as history, literature and literary studies, political thought, linguistics and anthropology. In this connection we think particularly of the achievements of Indian literature -both in English and many of our own languages. Philosophy's rejuvenation may well begin with its coming into close interactive proximity with our literature and the other disciplines we have mentioned. The Government may therefore consider setting up a Council for the promotion of research in humanities which will include philosophy, history, literature and literary studies, linguistics, political thought and anthropology. The Indian Council of Philosophical Research will then merge into such a Council once it is set up. We are aware that such a step will require much deeper thought than we have been able to afford. But we do recommend very strongly that the Government take initiative towards such a step.

8. Therefore, I request you to initiate action under the Indian Penal Code against M/s D.K. Printworld Private Limited for all the above acts [Sections 420 and 406 etc.], as well as to file a case under Section 120-B [criminal conspiracy] of the IPC against other guilty persons and officials of ICPR, if prima facie convicted, because my clear assessment is, how M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited unauthorisedly printed the book and started selling it in the market, for which no tripartite agreement was executed.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(Rajesh Sharma) 217, Laxmi Complex, M.I. Road, Jaipur, Rajasthan

1251387/2023/U3 Section



## भारतीय दार्शनिक अनुसंघान परिषद्

(भारत संरकार, मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्राहाय)

## INDIAN COUNCIL OF PHILOSOPHICAL RESEARCH

(Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development)



File no: 6-11/2019-20/P&R/ICPR

9th February 2026

Sh. Sushil Mittal Ji D.K. Printworld Pvt.Ltd F-395, Sudarshan Park New Dleih- 110015

Sir,

This is with reference to ICPR Book **THE COSMIC INFINITY A VEDIC PERSPECTIVE** authored by Gulab Kothari. The Higher Authority of ICPR has noted the price seems to be high and decided the publisher should to reduce the price of book. This is for necessary action at your end.

Grateful for your early respones

With warm regards,

Yours Sincerely,

(Mrinmoy Chakraborty) Consultant (P&R)

स्वच्छ भारत अभियान (पर्याचरण को स्वच्छ बनाएं)

E-mail: lcpr@bol.net.in, lopmqrs@gmail.com Website: http://www.icpr.in

াচুন করামন হর্যন গান: 36 ব্রানজানার মান্দিইস্থান্ত দ্বিল, সদ্বীনী অবস্থা বান, গাই বিল্ডী - 110062 ব্যাস: : +91-11/29901516, 29001627 - বিন্ধিকা : 29664750 Head office: Daishan Bhawen, 36, Tughlakabad Institutional Area; M.B. Road, New Delhi-110082 Tel.: +91-11/29901516, 29901527 Telefax: 29964750 ব্যাস্থান বার্মান্ত বার্মান্ত ব্যাস্থান বিশ্ব নাম্প্রাম্থান বিশ্ব নাম্প্রাম্থান বিশ্ব নাম্প্রাম্থান বিশ্ব নাম্পর্কিল বার্মান্ত 1231387/2023/U3 Section



## भारतीय दाशीनक अनुसंधान पारेषद

(शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत संस्कार)

## INDIAN COUNCIL OF PHILOSOPHICAL RESEARCH

(Ministry of Education, Government of India)



#### Reminder-1

File no: 6-11/2019-20/P&R/ICPR

18th November 2021

Shi Sushi (Mittal J)
D.K. Printsvorld Pvt-Ltd R-895; Sudarshan/Park
New Dleih- 110015

Sir,

Kindly refer to this Council's letter dated 09.02,2021 (Copy enclosed) regarding publication of the "THE COSMIC INFINITY A VEDIC PERSPECTIVE" authored by Gulab Kothari. The Higher Authority of IGPR has noted that the price seems to be high and decided the publisher should reduce the price of the book. The Council has not received any response yet.

In this regard, may I request you once again to kindly send us your response. Copy of the letter sent to you by post on 22,02,2021.

With warm regards,

Yours Sincerely,

Mirinmoy Ghakarborty
Gonsultant (P&R)

Eucl. As above

## रवच्छ भारत अभियान (प्रयोवरण को स्वच्छ बनाएँ)

E-mail: lcpr@bol.net.in, lcprhgrs@gmail.com Website: http://www.icpr.in

मुख्य कार्यालयः चर्चन भवतः ३६ तुगलकावाय बंग्वीटयुगानस एतियाः गडरोली बचरपुर रोजः नई दिस्सीः 110082 दुरुवाणः +40141.2020(515,29901527 टेनीन्डेक्चः 29964750 (Head office) Datalian Bhewan, 36, Tughlakabadilnatiltillonal Area, M.B. Road, New Delini-110062 Tel. +94-11-29901516; 29901527 Telefax: 29964750 लाकाक कार्यालयः 3/9, विपूल खब्दः गोगसीः भागरः लावनकः 228010 देलियेक्सः +91-522-2392638/E-malli (cydkw@gmall.com Lucknow Office: 3/9, Vipul Khand, Gomb Napar, Lucknow-226010 Telefax: +91-522-2392636/E-mall: licprikw@gmall.com



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पश्चित प्रकारमन ( सनस्थान पत्रिका था. लि. की एक उन्हाइ !

श्रीमान् सच्चिदानन्दं जी मिश्र सदस्य सचिव आई.सी.पी.आर. दिल्ली

दिनांक: 12.02.2022

विषय : श्री गुलाब कोठारी की पुस्तक 'The Cosmic Infinity'
A Vedic Perspective के प्रकाशन और अवैध क्रिक्री
के सम्बन्ध में।

महोदय,

आई सी.पी.आर. द्वारा राजस्थान पत्रिका के सम्पादक डॉ. गुलाब कोठारी की रचित पुस्तक 'The Cosmic Infinity' A Vedic Perspective की प्रकाशित करने के निर्णय पर हम लोग आप के हृदय से आभारी हैं। वर्ष 2020 में ही सक्ताशन का निर्णय हो जाने के बाद भी पुस्तक नहीं आई ना ही विभाग की वेबसाइट पूर ही पुस्तक का डिजीटल वर्जन डाला गया।

महोदय, डी. के. प्रिन्टवर्ल्ड प्रा. लि. की ओर से हम से संपर्क किया गया था कि उन्हें इस पुस्तक के प्रकाशन का आदेश मिला है। उन्होंने गुरुतक की मूल प्रति के सम्बन्ध में कई सारी तृटियों के संशोधन भी करवाए। इसके प्रकाशित ही के. प्रिन्टवर्ल्ड प्रा. लि. की ओर से हमें सूचित किया गया कि पुस्तक प्रकाशित ही गई है यदि आप चाहें तो हमसे ले सकते हैं। राजस्थान पीतक प्रकाशन ने डी. के. प्रिन्टवर्ल्ड प्रा. लि. की 50 प्रतियां भैजीन को आपश दिया। हमें पुस्तक रुपये 1850/- की कीमत से 33,33 प्रतिशत की कुट कि साथ उन्होंने भेजी। हमें 50 प्रतियों हेतु का 61669:75 समय का जिल संजागायी है। हम इस बात पर आश्चर्यचिकृत एह गए कि पुस्तक के अन्दर प्रा खाल प्रजान की प्रतिक की प्रतिक की महान प्रतिक की कि साथ प्रतिक की प्रतिक क

श्रीयातः, हमते पुस्तुक्ष की क्षीमतः और अन्य स्वानीको हैं। आई सी पी लोक हैं - मेल पुर्भा शिकायत भेजी श्री लेकिन श्रही हैं। जबाज नहीं मिला। सही स्थिति की जानकारी लेके के लिए 11 फ्राइनिंग आपके कार्योक्षय में आक्रार संपर्क किया तो कई आश्चर्य प्रवितत पहेंचीने वाली जापकारियों मिली। वे जानकारियों निम्त है:-

 डी. के प्रिन्टबर्ल्ड प्रा. िंग. की प्रकाशना के लिए पुस्तक की पीडिएन गई थी और एग्रीमेंट के लिए प्रस्ताव भेजा था लेकिन अभी तक एग्री नहीं हुआ है। यदि ऐसा है तो पुस्तक कैसे छम गई? और कैसे उम्मी हो रही हैं?

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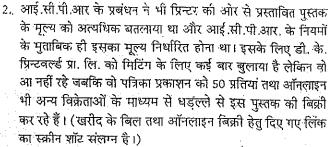


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विभाग द्वारा लेखक द्वारा स्वयं खरीदी जाने वाली पुस्तकों पर 40 प्रतिशत की छूट उपलब्ध कराई जाती है। जबकि इन्होंने हमें बेची गई पुस्तकों पर 33 प्रतिशत की छूट उपलब्ध कराई गई।

4. यह भी पता लगा है कि डी. के. प्रिन्टवर्ल्ड प्रा. लि. एक डमी पुस्तक आपके कार्यालय लाए थे और यह चाहते थे कि 100 पुस्तकें 1995/-रुपए की दर से खरीद लें लेकिन विभाग ने बिना एग्रीमेंट के छपी पुस्तक को लेने से मना कर दिया था।

श्रीमान, सवाल यह भी है जब जनवरी, 2020 में पुस्तक के प्रक्रीशन का फैसला हो गया था तो विभाग प्रकाशन के लिए दो साल इतजार क्यों करता रहा? ये समयबंद्ध क्यों नहीं थां? तथा प्रकारिक द्वारा चयनित मुद्रक ने बिना अनुमतिं के पुस्तक का प्रकाशन कैसे किया? महोद्रम्, यदि रुपरोक्त तथ्य सही हैं तो क्या ही. के. फ्रिन्टबल्ड फ्रां ने कॉपीराइट एवट के उल्लंबन के साथ ही थीखायडी कीएँबिहारीय धोखाधड़ी नहीं की है? आपसे निवेदन है कि सही तथ्यों की की व्यवस्था कराएं। जांच में आए तथ्यों से हमें भी अंदिरी तांकि हम लोग भी डी.के. प्रिन्टवर्ल्ड प्रांति. के खिलाफ आहे कानूनी कार्यवाही कर सकें।

इसके साथ ही निवेदन हैं कि पुस्तक का शीघ्र प्रकाशन करवाया जाए हम आपंके अत्यधिक आभारी रहेंगे।

सलग्नः

1. छपी हुई पुस्तक की मूल प्रति

2. पुस्तंक खरीद का बिल

भेजी गई पुस्तको की बिल्टी रसीद

प्रभारी (प्रस

4. पुस्तक के कवर और बैक की छाया प्रति

2,17% 'लंबम

पुस्तुक की पेज संख्या 3 और 4 की छाया प्रति एम. आई. रोड, जरांपुँ

6. ऑनलाइन बिक्री कर रहे वितरक का लिंक

फोन नं. छाउँ।

e-mail: pulitikapitblication@

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## GULAB KOTHARI

# The Cosmic Infinity

A Vedic Perspective

A Critical Commentary on Pandita Madhusüdana Ojhā's "Vijījāna Vidyuta"

Translated into English by S.L. Gandhi

With a Foreword by Thomas C. Daffern



#### Cataloging in Publication Data — DK

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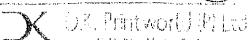
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अधोहस्ताक्षरी को श्री गुलाब कोठारी जी के द्वारा संलग्न पत्र दिनांक 12.02.2022 प्राप्त हुआ है। कुछ गंभीर आपत्तियां उठाई गई हैं कृपया इन आपत्तियों के संबंध में शीघ अति शीघ अपने एक्ष से अधोहस्ताक्षरी को अवगत कराने का कष्ट करें।

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S-2/2023-U.3 Response to your letter of 2 March 2022 for Shiri Gulab Kothari's book on Cosmic Inhinity

Subject: Response to your letter of 2 March 2022 for Shri Gulab Kothari's book on Cosmic Infinity,

From: DK Printworld <indology@dkprintworld.com>

Date: 03-Mar-22, 8:06 PM

To: Sachchidanand Mishra < membersecretary@icpr.in>

Professor Sachchidanand Mishra

Member Secretary
Indian Council of Philosophical Research
Darshan Bhawan,
36, Tughlakabad Institutional Area, M.B. Road
NEW DELHI - 110062
Mob.:

Dear Professor Mishra,

I am writing you in response to the complaint made by Patrika Prakashan, Jaipur to the ICPR regarding publishing of Shri Gulab Kothari's book entitled The Cosmic Infinity, A Vedic Perspective: A Critical Commentary on Pandita Madhusudan Ojha's "Vijnana Vidyut" draft file of its text was provided to us (in pdf format) by Dr. Sushim Dubey through his e-mail dated September 16, 2020 along with a draft agreement to be signed between ICPR (as a publisher) and D.K. Printworld (as a copublishers). As per the draft agreement, ICPR has shown interest to purchase of 100 copies of this book after publication on which 45 % discount was expected from the publishers. In the agreement is also stated that the the author should be provided by the copublisher six copies of the book as complimentary and further copies can be purchased by him at two-third price.

From next day (on 17 September 2020) we started working on the manuscript and sent an e-mail to ICPR asking them to fix its price to the tune of Rs. 1990/- and offered a lump sum royalty of Rs. 25000/-. On this we received a letter from the ICPR stating our price towards higher side and asking us to reconsider the same.

In next few days I received a call from Prof. R.C. Sinha (the present Chairman of the ICPR) stating that the price should be made to the lower side so that 100 copies to be purchased by the ICPR should cost around Rs. one lakh. He also anticipated that Shri Kothri, being a renowned Editor of a very prestigious newspaper which is circulated not only in its homed state (i.e. Rajasthan) but also throughout north India, there is a possibility that he himself may acquire quite a good number of copies for complimentary distribution at his end. During the discussions I principally agreed on his proposal.

A contact details of Shri Kothari was need by me, and I was given mobile number of Mr Arvind Kalia of Dr. Kothari's office by Sushim Dubey Ji and I was in constant touch with him and another person Mr. Laxman Singh from his office who provided me every help in completing the task, i.e. providing me the word file, checking the proofs providing details about Dr. Kothari, solving are the queries raised by our editors. I had numerous calls for them pressurizing me to finish my work quickly without wasting more time as they wanted to get the book released as quickly as possible.

A requirement of acquiring 50 copies of the book arose from their side only, and since they wanted to get the books on priority, I simply decided to send them 50 copies as per their requirement with our invoice dated 30 September 2021 allowing 33.33 % discount by deciding its price to the tune

Response to your letter of 2 March 2022 for Shri Gulab Kothari's book on Cosmic Infinity

of Rs. 1850/-. In this connection I may mention that only bill has been raised by us and we have not yet provided any payment of the same.

In early October I sent 100 copies of the book to ICPR which Mr Chakaborty refused to accept and advised us to get into an agreement first. I could not make out the agreement during these days as my office was disturbed a lot during this pandemic time. Moreover I have high blood pressure problem and specially in winter in increases to a great extent which prevent me from coming to office regularly.

This book has not been given to anyone else except 50 copies to the author. Only 3 copies have been sent to three different distributors in Kolkata for display purpose in the Calcutta Book Fair.

I must admit that a formal agreement was not signed between ICPR and D.K. Printworld due to delay on my part and moreover a written consent was not obtained from the ICPR in deciding its price for which I deeply regret and shall take at most care to complete these formalities before the book is published, in future.

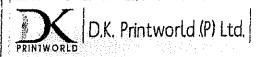
Yesterday, I have sent you an e-mail seeking your advice on two points to finalize the agreement. I am awaiting a response from you.

Regards,

Susheel

Regards,

Susheel Mittal



(*Yeuci Sr*7, F-395, Sudarshan Park (Metro Stn.: Ramesh Ngr.), New Delhi - 110 015 - 11 Phs.: 2545 3975, 2546 6019 e-mail: indology@dkprintworld.com





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regd. office: rajasthan patrika pvt. ltd. kesargarh, J.I.n marg, jalpur - 53 email: info@rajasthanpatrika.com

Dated 01.06,2022

To,
Mr. Mrinmoy Chakraborty,
Consultant (P&R)
Indian Council of Philosophical Research
Darshan Bhawan, 6, Tughlakabad Industrial Area,
M.B. Road, New Delhi-110062.

Ref: File No. 6-11/2019-2020/P&R/ICPR Subject: Reply to the letter dated 10.05.2022.

Dear Sir.

Kindly refer to the captioned letter vide which you have shared the reply submitted by M/s DK Print World (India) Pvt. Ltd. (printer/cc publisher) in response to the grievances raised by us vide letter dated 12.02.2022.

Sir, ICPR is an organization which has been set up for promotion of philosophical research and other works in India. It is, thus, the duty of ICPR to ensure that its platform is not misused by any person for their personal gain by publishing the philosophical work recommended by ICPR without following the due procedure. In the instant matter, we raised grievances about the manner in which printer/co-publisher had printed the book titled 'The Cosmic Infinity' A Vedic Perspective, written by Dr. Gulab Kothari to which a flimsy response has been given by the said printer/co-publisher.

A bare perusal of the aforesaid reply submitted by the printer/co-publisher clearly reveals that he has tried to divert the attention from his own irresponsible conduct. Whilst admitting that a formal agreement was not signed between ICPR and him and no written consent was obtained from the ICPR in deciding its price, he has conveniently omitted not to submit the proper reply to the point wise issues raised by us, in our letter dated 12.02.2022, more particularly about the pricing of the book and selling the same in the market without any intimation to us.

In the above circumstances, we strongly deny the contents of the reply in the manner they have been stated. The contents of the reply pertaining to our office, which state about pressurizing the printer/co-publisher to finish the work quickly without wasting more time to get the book released as quickly as possible are false and far from truth. Rather, while dealing with us, the printer/co-publisher deliberately suppressed the fact that he had not entered into an agreement with ICPR. On the other hand, we remained under the

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bonafide impression that he had been duly authorized by you to undertake the printing task.

ICPR, being the publisher and apex body for development and advancement of philosophical research, is supposed to take action against the errant printer/co-publisher. It is surprising to note that instead of taking action against the printer/co-publisher, ICPR herein seems to extenuate such actions/deeds of the printer/co-publisher and has simply forwarded the reply and agreement to us for our consideration.

It is reiterated that the printer/co-publisher has already started selling the book in the market without seeking any permission from you nor giving any prior intimation to us. This issue requires thorough investigation as it is not only a matter of one book; there may have been many more instances of similar nature which may have remained unnoticed by your good office. Taking into account the manner in which the whole event has taken place, there are serious apprehensions that some of the officials of your good office might be involved with the errant printer/co-publishers.

In view of the above, we request you to not accept the reply submitted by the printer/co-publisher and carry out proper investigation and further take appropriate action in this matter so that such incident should not take place in future. We further call upon you to start afresh, the due procedure for publication of the book under intimation to us including payment of royalty to the writer and launching of the book under your publication banner.

Rajesh Sharma (Incharge Patrika Publication) 217, Laxmi Complex, M.I. Road, Jaipur Ph. 0141-2361600 mall: patrikapublication@epatrika.com

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wiidra Kumar

S R Bhatt [srbhatt39@gmail.com]

Sant.

03 February 2019 20:17

Tex

Upendra Kumar

Subject:

Fwd: Signed letter attached

Attachments:

Letter.jpg; Letter1.jpg.

For record and publication committee

SRBhatt

----- Forwarded message -----

From: S R Bhatt < srbhatt39@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Feb 3, 2019 at 8:16 PM Subject: Fwd: Signed letter attached

To: Dr.Rajaneesh Shukla < rksphilosophy@gmail.com>

17 ( ... ) }

Upandra Kumar To4/02/19

Cor record SRBhatt

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Arvind Kalia <arvind.kalia@rajasthanpatrika.com>

Date: Sun, Feb 3, 2019 at 2:12 PM Subject: Signed letter attached

To: Bhatt ICPR < srbhatt39@gmail.com>

Cc: Gulab Kothari <gulabkothari@rajasthanpatrika.com>, Ashok Bapna <a href="mailto:abapna46@gmail.com">abapna46@gmail.com</a>, Gandhi

Ji S L <slgandhi@hotmail.com>

Respected Prof Bhatt.

Please find attached herewith signed Consent letters from Dr Gulab Kothari and Dr. S L Gandhi as required by ICPR.

hese letters would also be delivered at your office physically on Monday.

Kind Regards

Dr Arvind Kalia

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Date: 02.02.2019

Prof S R Bhatt ICPR Darshan Bhawan, 36, Mehrauli - Badarpur Rd, Tughlakabad Institutional Area, New Delhi, 110062

Dear Prof Bhatt,

As an author of the book, I give my consent to ICPR for the publication of my book- Cosmic Infinity: A Vedic Perspective- as per rules, regulations and policies of ICPR.

Kind regards

Dr. Gulab Kothari

Jaipur

Date: 02.02,2019

Prof'S R Bhatt ICPR Darshan Bhawan, 36. Mehrauli - Badarpur Rd. Tughlakabad Institutional Area, New Delhi, 110062

Dear Prof Bhatt

An Translator of the book, I give my consent to ICPR for the publication of my book. Cosmic Infinity: A Wedic Perspective—as per rules, regulations and policies of ICPR.

Kind regards

st Ga

Dr. S.L. Gandhi Jaipur Minutes of the 87th Research Project Committee (RPC) meeting held at 11.00 am, on Wednesday, the 6th February 2019, at ICPR Office, New Delhi - 110 062

The meeting of the 87<sup>th</sup> Research Project Committee of the ICPR was held on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at ICPR, Darshan Bhawan, 36 Tughlakabad Institutional Area, New Delhi – 110 062.

The following Members of the RPC attended the meeting:

Professor S. R. Bhatt
Professor Bijayananda Kar
Professor Dharmanand Sharma
Professor Dilip Kumar Mohanta
Professor Samani Chaitanya Prajna
Member
Professor Samani Chaitanya Prajna

Professor Rajaneesh Kumar Shukla Member Secretary

Besides these members of the RPC, the following members of the Governing Body and Seminar, Project and Publication Sub-Committees were also present during the meeting as special invitees:

Professor L. P. Singh Special invitee Professor Jatashankar Tiwari Special invitee Professor Kusum Jain Special invitee

From the ICPR Secretariat, Dr. Upendra Kumar, Director (P & R), Dr. Pooja Vyas, Director (A) and Dr. Sushim Dubey, Programme Officer also attended the meeting.

Chairman, ICPR welcomed the members of the Research Project Committee and Special Invitees to the meeting. He advised the Member Secretary to take up the agenda items for consideration of the Members.

### Item No. 1 To confirm the Minutes of the 86th Research Project Committee meeting held on September 11, 2018.

Member Secretary informed that the minutes of the meeting of the RPC held on September 11, 2018 were circulated to the members of the Research Project Committee for their comments. No comments were received. The Members, therefore, confirmed the minutes of the 86<sup>th</sup> Research Project Committee Meeting held on September 11, 2018.

Item No. 2 To report on the action taken on the minutes of the meeting of the RPC held on September 11, 2018.

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Salakat 41

Professor S.R.Bhatt Chairman, Indian Philosophy Congress Chairman, Asian-African Philosophy Congress Mattenal Fellow-Indian Council of Social Science Research, Government of India

Date: -21-4-202

#### My assessment on Dr. Gulab Kothari's manuscript "Cosmic Infinity"

The above referred manuscript is a scholarly commentary on "Vijñāna Vidyuta" of a well known modern Indian philosopherr Pandit Madhusudan Oza , a profound thinker and an erudite scholar deeply steeped in the Vedic lore. He has provided an innovative and scientific exposition of the Vedic wisdom comparable to that of Sri Aurobindo.

Dr. Gulab Kothari, the commentator, is also a versatile genius who could penetrate deep into the philosophical acumen of Pt. Ojha and brought out an excellent elucidation in his commentary. Dr. Kothari could capture the essence of Vijñāna Vidyuta" and has done a marvellous job. In my opinion it is a valuable contribution worth publishing and I recommend to this effect.

#### S.R.Bhatt

Former Chairman, Indian Council of Philosophical Research, Government of India.

Former Professor & Head, Department of Philosophy, University of Delhi

Address: MP-23, Maurya Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi-110034

Mobile no.: +91-9599955780 E mail: srbhatt39@gmail.com Ke Commendation for publication of The Colonic Infinity A Vedice Perspective (by Dr. Gulab Kothari) by 3CPR, New Delhi

It is indicative of something deep in human nature that a person like Dr. Gulale Kothari, who, as Editor of a daily Newspaper, fully enghorsed in burdy worldy matters, should write a book about which an envinent sholar like Dr. Thomas C. Daffern said.

... don't forget that the purpose of this book is to reach a state of wisdom, knowingness, Samadhi, enlightenment, niv vana, keval jnana whatever term you want to use is fine.

This reminds me of the opening remarks of the Life Divin

of Spoi Sti Awabindo: "The earliest preoccupation of man in his awakened thoughts .... manifests itself in the divination of Godhead, the impulse towards perfection, the seasch after five truth and unmixed pliss, the sense of

a secret immostality."

This is supported by the Vedic dictum that there is no fulfillment in the finite but only in the infinite— offerd Frank I start the finite Again, the Vedas hold that the finite has the capacity to limit itself into this world of owns and is given the name of purusa, bur being the limiting line - Iz 23 A ATAII The work under ker iew delineates in detail

The process of finite coming out of infinite front as bura, then as burusa taking those forms of avyaya, assara and psara. There terms have been adopted from the Gita ley Pandita Madhusudana Ofha, a tresplendent luminary in the hotrizen of Vedic literature, but he explained them in his own way. to further explain these terms at physical, supra-- physical and psychological level. He concludes the work with the description of the transcendental aspect of the highest reality. The subjects dealt with in the work ore familiar for the students of Vedic blailosophy. What is remarkable about the book is that it therows an entirely new light on those subjects in a way that an old philosophy loccomes thought provoking even for those modern scientists who are interested in solving the problem of origin of universe In view of the above, I recommend that the work he published by Indian Council of Philosophical Repearch, New Delhi. -Dayanand Bhargava Jaipur 6 08.06.2020 (DAYANAND BHARGAVA) Retd. Professor of Sanshrit tai Narayan Donlyas University, Jodhbuz.



ICPR Publication cpr@gmail.e

### Fwd: ICPR: For Co-publication of the book THE COSMIC INFINITY A VEDIC PERSPECTIVE

2 messages

Sushim Dubey <sushimdubey@gmail.com>
To: publication.icpr@gmail.com

Mon, Sep 28, 2020 at 3:32

Forwarded message --

From: DK Printworld <indology@dkprintworld.com>

Date: Thu, Sep 17, 2020 at 7:52 PM

Subject: Re: ICPR: For Co-publication of the book THE COSMIC INFINITY A VEDIC PERSPECTIVE

To: Sushim Dubey <sushimdubey@gmail.com> Co: Kumar Ratnam <kumarratnam65@gmail.com>

Dear Dr. Sushim Dubey,

Thank you very much for offering us a manuscript The CosmicInfinity: A Vedic Perspective, authored by Dr. Gulab Kothan. We are interested in publishing this manuscript under our imprint. We shall provide a lump sum royalty of Rs. 25000.00 (Rs. twenty five thousand) only immediately after the publication of the manuscript. We shall keep the price in the vicinity of Rs. 1990/- and accept the other terms and conditions mentioned in the draft agreement.

In case the terms are accepted, please let us know if we can start the work. Also please provide us contact details of Dr. Gulab Kothari.

Regards,

Susheel Mittal

On 16/09/2020 17:42, Sushim Dubey wrote:

Dear Sh. Sushil Mittal ji, (Ms. D.K.Printworld, New Delhi)

This is with reference to ICPR Book THE COSMIC INFINITY A VEDIC PERSPECTIVE (composed draft attached). Kindly let us know your willingness for considering Co-Publication with ICPR. In that case a copy of the draft agreement is enclosed herewith for your reference reg. terms and conditions towards co-publication of the Book from ICPR. In the event of co-publication please let us know the price of the Book and flat fee as one time royalty towards its publication.

Thanking you, Yours sincerely, Dr. Sushim Dubey Programme Officer ICPR New Delhi

Dr. Sushim Dubey

Programme Officer

Hindi Officer (Add. Charge)

Darshanam - Managing Editor

# MINUTES OF THE TWENTY NINTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS (SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)

The Committee met on Tuesday, 8 August, 2023 from 1500 hrs. to 1715 hrs. in Committee Room No. 3, Parliament House Annexe Extension, New Delhi.

#### **PRESENT**

Shri Harish Dwivedi

Chairperson

#### **MEMBERS**

- 2. Shri Hanuman Beniwal
- 3. Shri Brijendra Singh
- 4. Shri Sushil Kumar Singh
- 5. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh
- 6. Dr. Jayanta Kumar Roy
- 7. Shri Rajan Vichare

#### **SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri Raju Srivastava

Joint Secretary

2. Shri Tenzin Gyaltsen

**Deputy Secretary** 

#### **WITNESSES**

## MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION)

1. Prof. Sachidananad Mishra

Member Secretary, Indian

Council of Philosophical

Research (ICPR)

2. Shri Subrat Kumar Pradhan

Director

2. At the outset, the Hon'ble Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee.

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[Thereafter, the representatives of the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) were ushered in]

- 13. After welcoming the representatives of the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education), the Chairperson read out Direction 55(1) of the Directions by the Speaker regarding confidentiality of the proceedings of the Committee and invited them to express their views on the representation of Shri Rajesh Sharma regarding alleged criminal conspiracy and plagiarism in respect of illegal and unauthorized publication of selling the book 'The Cosmic Infinity A Vedic Perspective' written by Shri Gulab Kothari, by ICPR and M/s. D.K. Print World Private Limited, New Delhi. However, before hearing their views in the matter, the Chairperson sought clarifications on various aspects in relation to the instant case, as under:-
  - (i) What is the mandate of ICPR? Whether ICPR gives legal recognition for printing and publication of any book related to Philosophy? If so, whether ICPR has received any application or request for recognition of ICPR in respect to book authored by Shri Gulab Kothari? In case, such application or request was received, what is the date of receipt and consequential action taken thereon?
  - (ii) In case any individual or printer has printed a book and release the same in the market for sale, without obtaining the requisite permission from the Original Author, whether such act(s) by any individual or printer would not come under the purview of 'Plagiarism'? If a case of 'Plagiarism' comes to the notice of ICPR,

what consequential actions, legal or otherwise, are taken thereon? Further, if the case of plagiarism in relation to the book authored by Shri Gulab Kothari by illegally publishing and selling it came to the notice of ICPR, what action has been initiated by the ICPR.

- (iii) Whether ICPR have any kind of relationship, direct or indirect, with M/s. D.K. Print World Private Limited, New Delhi.
- (iv) What kind of statutory relationship exists between ICPR and the Ministry of Education.
- 14. The representatives of the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education), thereafter, put forth their comments/views, as under:-
  - (i) ICPR is an independent and autonomous organization and has the mandate *inter* alia to promote research in Philosophy and to publish the important and significant Philosophical Work.
  - (ii) On the question as to whether the instant case comes under the purview of 'Plagiarism', it does not amount to same as the Book under reference has been published by the name of Shri Gulab Kothari, who himself has authored the Book and not by any other individual.
  - (iii) As regards publishing of Books by the ICPR, there exists established practice and procedure. As a matter of fact, after receiving the manuscript for publication, systematic review, thereon, is undertaken by forwarding the same to two experts on the area of subject, without having any knowledge about the author. If satisfactory report/recommendation thereon regarding its suitability for publication is received, the process of publication is undertaken. Agreement is supposed to be signed between the Author and Publisher/Co-publisher and then, the book is published.
  - (iv) The Book, in question, 'The Cosmic Infinity A Vedic Perspective' written by Shri Gulab Kothari, has already been published in Hindi version and ICPR has now decided to publish it in English version.
  - (v) Several meetings were held with Shri Rajesh Sharma, the representationist under the aegis of ICPR, for discussing the instant issue. In 2022, he had repeatedly contended that M/s. D.K. Print World has published the Book without entering into any agreement with them. ICPR has advised that the Author and Publisher/Co-publisher should enter into agreement for publication of the book.

- 15. After hearing the views of the representatives of the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education), the Committee expressed their views, as follows:-
  - (i) The queries raised by the Committee which could not be answered by the representatives of Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education)/ ICPR along with the detailed reply on the issues/points raised by the representationist, Shri Rajesh Sharma in his instant representation, should be forwarded to the Committee Secretariat at the earliest.
  - (ii) If need be, the representatives of Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) and the ICPR may again be called before the Committee for further briefing/oral evidence in the matter.

[The representatives of the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) then, withdrew]

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The Committee, then, adjourned.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Does not pertain to this Report.

### MINUTES OF THE THIRTY-FIRST SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS (SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)

The Committee met on Friday, 2 February, 2024 from 1500 hrs. to 1630 hrs. in Room No.117, 'B' Block, (Chairperson's Chamber), Parliament House Annexe Extension, New Delhi.

PRESENT Shri Harish Dwivedi Chairperson **MEMBERS** 2. Prof. Sanjay Sadashivrao Mandlik Shri P. Rabindhranath 3. 4. Shri Brijendra Singh Shri Sushil Kumar Singh 5. Shri Prabhubhai Nagarbhai Vasava 6. Shri Rajan Vichare 7. SECRETARIAT 1. Shri Raju Srivastava Joint Secretary 2. Shri Tenzin Gyaltsen Deputy Secretary 2. At the outset, the Hon'ble Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee. 3. The Committee, thereafter, took up for consideration the following Draft Reports:-XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX (i) Report on the representation of Shri Rajesh Sharma regarding alleged criminal (ii) conspiracy and plagiarism in respect of illegal and unauthorized publication and selling the book, 'The Cosmic Infinity - A Vedic Perspective' written by Shri Gulab Kothari, by the Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR) and M/s. D. K. Printworld Private Limited, New Delhi; XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX (iii) XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX (iv)XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX (V)

4.	After	discussing	g the	above	mention	oned	Draft	Reports	s (3	Origi	nal	Repo	ort a	and	2 A	ction
Taken	Repo	rt) in deta	il, the	Comn	nittee a	adopte	d all	the five	Re	ports.	with	out a	any	mod	lifica	ation.
The C	ommit	tee also a	uthor	ised the	e Chai	rperso	n to	finalise	the	Draft	Rep	orts	and	l pre	sen	it the
same t	to the	House.														

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The Committee, then, adjourned.

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XXXX Not related to Report.

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