

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7544  
ANSWERED ON:22.05.2012  
ADOPTING BHAGWAT GITA AS NATIONAL TEXT  
Dhanaplan Shri K. P.

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there is any proposal to adopt the Bhagwat Gita as the national text;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received any report of banning of the Bhagwat Gita in any foreign country;and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

- (a) & (b): There is no proposal to adopt the Bhagwat Gita as the National text by the Government.
- (c): The Government has not received any reports on a formal ban on the Bhagwad Gita from any country. However, a petition was filed by certain individuals in Russia to characterize a commentary on the Bhagwat Gita as extremist literature.
- (d): The matter was taken up by the government at the senior levels of the Russian Government and with the Russian Ambassador based in India. On 28th December, 2011, the Tomsk Court dismissed the petition to characterize the publication "Bhagwad Gita As It Is" as extremist literature. The External Affairs Minister made a statement on 29th December 2011 in the Parliament welcoming the dismissal by the Tomsk court on 28th December, 2011.