

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:856
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2012
BANNED BOOK
Viswanathan Shri P.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has banned the book `Satanic Verses` in the country;
- (b) if so, whether any cases of violation of the said ban has been registered under Section 153-B of the Indian Penal Code in the States;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has any proposal to download the eBook through internet under Information Technology Act;
- (e) if so, the details of the punishment for reading out the portion of the banned book in public meeting;
- (f) whether the Union Government had directed the State Governments to confiscate the book under Section 95 of the Cr. P.C.; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a) Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue vide notification No. 405/12/88-CUS-III dated 5-10-1988 banned the import of the book titled "Satanic Verses" under the Customs Act, 1962. A copy of the Custom notification No. 405/12/88-CUS-III dated 5-10-1988 was forwarded on 6-10-1988 to all State Govts/UTs for appropriate action under the law.

(b) & (c): The matter pertains to State Governments and data is not maintained at Central Government level.

(d): No, Madam.

(e) : In view of (d) above, does not arise.

(f) & (g) All Chief Secretaries / Home Secretaries / DGPs /IGPs of all State Governments / UTs were informed vide MHA message dated 10-11-1988 that the Delhi Administration had declared every copy of the book, pamphlet and document containing the said objectionable matter, material, reprints and translation or extracts there from to be forfeited to the Government under Section 95 Cr.P.C. and requested them to take necessary action under law, if any copy of this book or any document or pamphlet containing the objectionable material or its reprints or translation or extracts therefrom are found in circulation in their state.