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Title: Regarding Smt Sushma Swaraj's statement of declaring Bhagwat Gita as the National Scripture of India.

SHRI E.T. MOHAMMAD BASHEER (PONNANI): Madam, I am raising a very important point pertaining to the Constitution of India and secularism.

The hon. External Affairs Minister, Shrimati Sushma Swaraj's statement that Bhagavad Gita should be declared as the National Scripture of India is tantamount to undermining the secular basis of the Constitution. The Minister's statement was reported as follows:

"Prime Minister Shri Modi gifted the Bhagavad Gita to US President Barak Obama, which means it has already received the honour of National Scripture. What we require is only a formal announcement now to officially declare the Bhagavad Gita as National Scripture." ...(*Interruptions*) Why are you getting annoyed? ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.10 p.m.

**13.09 hrs**

## **The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Ten Minutes**

*past Fourteen of the Clock.*

**14.10 hrs**

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at*

*Ten Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(Hon. Speaker *in the Chair*)

श्री धर्मेन्द्र यादव (बदायूँ) : महोदया, आपने कहा था कि चर्चा होगी।...(*व्यवधान*)

HON. SPEAKER: Item No.12 – Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu.

...(*Interruptions*)

**14.10 ½ hrs**