

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:141
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2003
ADVERTISEMENT ON GANDHIJI
KANTI SINGH;RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has issued an advertisement on the Gandhiji's birthday this year inscribing deliberate attempt to belittle Gandhi's Legacy of non-violence quoting him as saying 'I would rather have India resort to arms in order to defend her honour than to remain a helpless witness to her own dishonour' against the established Gandhian philosophy;

(b) if so, whether there has been a strong opposition from various quarters in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a), (b) & (c) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 141 FOR REP ON 11.12.2003.

(a) The quote used in this year's advertisement on Gandhiji's Birthday does not dishonour Gandhian philosophy. Instead, it stresses Gandhiji's concern for India's honour and dignity. The quote used was taken from a book on Gandhiji titled 'Mahatma- Life of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi' (Volume-II) written by Shri D.G.Tendulkar and published by Publications Division, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. The said quote was written by Mahatma Gandhi in an article entitled 'The Doctrine of the Sword' written by him in 'Young India' on August 11, 1920.

(b) & (c) In so far as DAVP /Ministry of I&B are concerned, no reaction from any quarter regarding this advertisement has been received.