

**Title:** Need to proscribe the book titled "The Company of Women" published by Penguin Books India, 1999.-Laid

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI): Sir, I draw the attention of the Government to the book "The Company of Women" by Khushwant Singh, published recently by Penguin Books India, 1999. To say the least, the book is a gross misuse and abuse of the right to freedom of expression. It is a highly indecent book with also extremely offensive misrepresentations of religious tenets in a derisive, perverted manner (see, for example, pp. 110-112). I appeal to the Government that the book be banned and its copies be confiscated.