

Title : Need to remove derogatory text mentioned against Sardar Patel in the book 'History of Modern India.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (KUTCH): Sir, I would like to invite the attention of this august House and the Government towards a very shocking news which has appeared in "Sandesh", a Gujarati Daily dated 15th of this month published from Ahmedabad. It is mentioned in this news item that Sardar Vallabh bhai Patel, our great National leader, has been described as communal in the textbook of Delhi University – "History of Modern India". Its authors are Shri Jahur Siddique and Shri Ayodhaya Singh.

To add more insult to this great leader, Sardar Patel, co-author of this book, Shri Ayodhaya Singh has mentioned in this book that at the time of riots, prior to our Independence, behaviour of Sardar Patel was not that of a national leader but it was just like a Hindu communal leader and his friends were fanatic Hindus from RSS.

Further, it has been mentioned in the said book that `Sardar Patel was not acting as per the wishes of the Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in the Ministry of Home Affairs but he was acting as per his own will and instead of controlling the disturbances, Sardar Patel acted to allow to spread the same `more'.

Derogatory mentions about our beloved leader, Sardar Patel in the said book are very serious and the same have hurt the feelings of crores of citizens.

In the circumstances, I urge upon the Government of India to see that the said remarks be immediately withdrawn from the text book and reference book of Delhi University and the same may completely be banned as early as possible.

Sir, it is a very serious matter. Sardar Patel has united the Princely States after Independence. He has devoted his life for the unity of the country. He was known as Iron Man. His contribution prior to and after our Independence was not less than any other leader. To make our students study this book is a very serious matter. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to see that as to whether it is correct. The newspaper item has hurt our feelings. Hence, I urge the hon. Minister to see that this book may be banned immediately.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B. K. HANDIQUE): Sir, I am bring this matter to the hon. Minister of HRD.