

Vishva Hindu Parishad of Australia Inc.

World Hindu Council of Australia

Press Release

We are deeply concerned with recent vile and malicious allegations made by political opportunists in Australia where they have given public statements over social media and in events about Vishva Hindu Parishad of Australia Inc (VHP).

Mr David Shoebridge MP, from Greens Party has intentionally and maliciously made false statements about VHP claiming it as a 'Right Wing Hindu Terrorist Organisation', even when he knew his claims were far from the truth. Mr Shoebridge has publicly communicated in NSW Parliament these false statements to the Australians and to the governments and thus misled the nation into believing something which is not just insulting to the Australian Hindu community but also threatening to the secular fabric of Australian democracy.

This is to inform everyone in the public interest the allegations made by the Member of Parliament have been proved baseless and false.

It is confirmed that there is no reference to Vishva Hindu Parishad in CIA's list.

Please see the list of terrorist organisations noted by Australian National Security and CIA (USA)

- 1. https://www.nationalsecurity.gov.au/Listedterroristorganisations/Pages/default.aspx
- 2. https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/references/terrorist-organizations

NSW Department of Education has confirmed in writing that the Department is not aware of any concerns in respect of Vishva Hindu Parishad of Australia as an approved provider of Special Religious Education and has been a longstanding partner of NSW schools since October 1998. Moreover, NSW Police Force's Terrorism Investigation Squad has also confirmed that VHP is not marked as an organisation of concern in Australia.

Mr David Shoebridge's baseless allegation, intimidation, and malicious attempt to tarnish the image of one of the peak bodies representing Australian Hindus has deeply insulted the Hindu community in Australia who are the most peaceful, law abiding and highest per capita contributors of taxes in Australia. Hindus in Australia and VHP have always lived harmoniously within the community adhering to Australian values and laws with highest integrity and have provided continual support to the vulnerable seeking help regardless of faith.

Vishva Hindu Parishad along with other Hindu organizations demand Mr Shoebridge to immediately withdraw his unfounded allegations made in the parliament and apologise to the Hindu community for his Anti-Hindu statements made in public.

We are confident that the Hindus in Australia will stay calm, united and report any attempt by individuals and organisations trying to destroy multicultural Australia by defaming Hindus. Let us all continue to work together to strengthen and enrich the multicultural fabric of Australia.

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