

'ISKCON Biggest Cheat' Alleges BJP's Maenka Gandhi

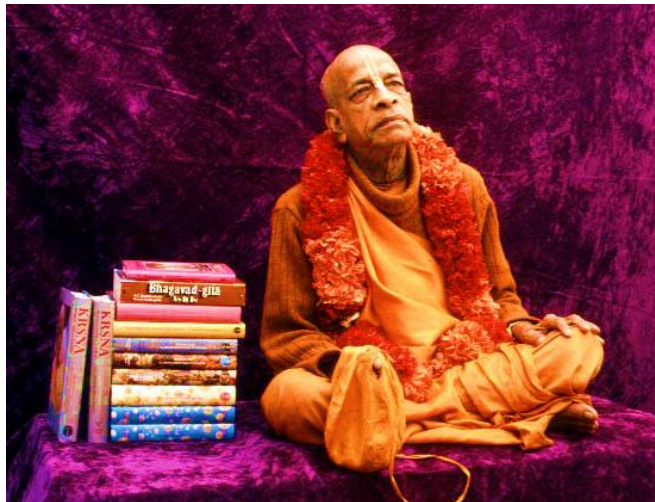
Why In News

- Bharatiya Janata Party Lok Sabha parliamentarian Maneka Gandhi The video of her **attacking the religious organisation** went viral on social media.
- In This She made a scathing attack on the **International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON)**, calling the organization the 'biggest cheat' in the country and alleged ISKCON sells cows from their gaushalas (cowsheds) to butchers.



ISKCON

- The ISKCON, the most influential **Krishna sect in the world**.
- The International Society for Krishna Consciousness or ISKCON, known colloquially as the Hare Krishna movement or Hare Krishnas, is a Gaudiya Vaishnava Hindu religious organization.
- ISKCON was founded in **1966 in New York City** by A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada.



What Was The Claim

- ISKCON establishes **gaushalas** and earns **unlimited benefits** for the same from the government, in the form of huge lands.
- ISKCON is the "**biggest cheat in the country** and it sells cows from its gaushalas (cowsheds) to the butchers".
- They say their entire life is dependent on milk Probably no one has sold as many cattle to butchers as they did.



Reason Quoted

- Narrating her visit to ISKCON's **Anantpur gaushala**, she said that she couldn't find a single cow that doesn't give milk and there were no calves at all.
- "It means all of them were sold".
- ISKCON is selling all its cows to butchers, No one else does as much as they do.



ISKCON Responds To Maneka Gandhi's Claim

- ISKCON refuted Gandhi's claims, and deemed them "**unsubstantiated**" and "**false**".
- ISKCON spokesperson, **Yudhistir Govinda Das**, asserted the religious organisation's commitment to **cow and bull protection**, claiming that these animals are not sold to butchers.



- ISKCON has pioneered cow protection in many parts of the world where beef is a staple diet.

- Within India, ISKCON runs more than 60 gaushalas protecting hundreds of sacred cows and bulls and providing personalised care for their entire lifetime.
- Many of the cows presently served in ISKCON's gaushalas were brought to us after being found abandoned, injured, or rescued from being slaughtered,".



- ISKCON has begun training programs for the farmers and rural households on cow care techniques to help revive the culture of cow worship and care as was the case in previous generations. Several ISKCON gaushalas are recognised and lauded for their high cow-care standards by the government or associate of gaushalas."

