

HinduPACT USA

An Initiative of World Hindu Council of America (VHPA)



Utsav Chakrabarti **Executive Director** Ajay Shah Convener

HinduPACT USA Questionnaire for Congressional Candidates

Congresswoman Anna Eshoo's Responses (October 4, 2020)

September 1, 2020

Yes

Domestic Issues

- 1. Will you ensure that the Homeland Security, Justice Department, and the FBI will work closely with the Hindu Mandirs (Temples) and other organizations to ensure that they are provided protection against hate crime and discrimination? Yes
- 2. As an elected representative, will you:
 - a. Consult practitioners of Hindu faith to develop guidelines related to accommodation of Hindus in workplaces, educational institutions, hospitals, prisons etc.? Yes
 - b. Ensure that the textbooks and instructional materials that promote Hinduphobia and reflect misrepresentation of Hindu dharma (faith) in school textbooks are removed. Yes
 - No c. Defund Universities and colleges that continue to institutionalize Hindupobic teachings?
- 3. Over 80% of high skilled immigrants who are eligible for Green Card are Hindus. What are your views on extended delays in Green Card processing times (often more than 20 years) The delays are unconscionable. I have consistently voted for for these legal immigrants? immigration reform, including modernized visa programs for high-skilled and agricultural workers.

Global Issues:

- 1. Will you promote equal rights and security for Dharmic communities (Hindu, Sikh, Jain, Buddhist) in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Bangladesh? Yes
- 2. The United States has a long tradition of offering hope and safe haven to refugees and to those seeking asylum. Will you give persecuted followers of Dharmic faiths who are minorities in these countries, asylum under the "emergency refugee protection" program?
- 3. Will you refrain from interfering in the internal affairs of fellow democracies like India that seeks to give asylum to religious minorities that are legally or constitutionally persecuted in theorratic countries in the region?

 I would support India in their efforts to grant asylum to persecuted religious minorities.

 Will you promote stronger relations with India and support India's role in a new vision for
- the Indo-Pacific, to counter-terrorism and advance our shared security and economic interests in the region? Yes

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