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Ban on book by Rushdie

NEW DELHI, Oct 14:—Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said today there was no chance of lifting the ban on best-selling author Salman Rushdie's latest novel, reports Reuter.

The Bombay-born author's satanic verses, shortlisted for Britain's respected Booker Literary Prize, was banned last week after Muslim leaders and Opposition politicians complained it was offensive to Islam.

Rushdie who lives in London, protested against the ban in an open letter to Gandhi published widely in the Indian press.