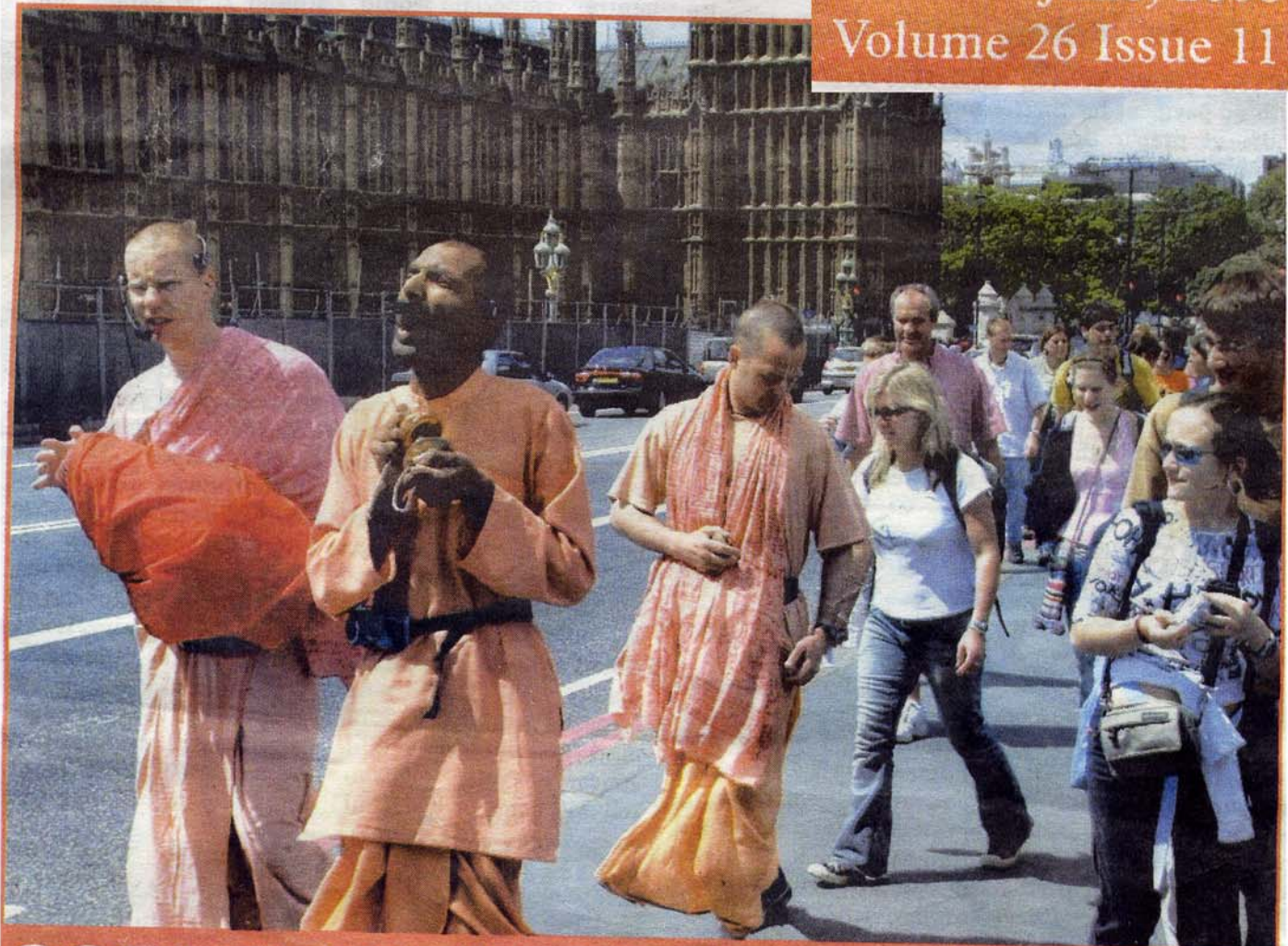


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SODEXHO HARRIES KRISHNAS

Patrick Ward

SOAS students were deprived of a free lunch as Senate House security moved on Hari Krishnas handing out vegetarian food.

The Krishnas, who distribute free food outside several University of London colleges, were relocated just beyond the boundary of the SOAS courtyard.

The move was instigated by

catering giant Sodexho in an attempt to wipe out competition to outlets run by the multinational company at SOAS.

SOAS students' union Co-President-elect Clare Soloman called the move "petty", adding: "It shows how confident Sodexho are in their over-priced, poor quality products if they feel threatened by free vegetarian Indian food.

"We fully support anyone who promotes the wellbeing of cash-

strapped students without expecting anything in return. People's needs should come before private greed."

There have been similar threats by Sodexho in the past, with attempts by the corporation to stop the students' union from selling hot food.

A well-attended SOAS students' union meeting recently voted to boycott Sodexho. The motion was passed with just one vote against.