

# *Peruvian minister's responses to questions prompt harsh criticism*

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**Peruvian Minister of Education was harshly criticized for his offensive comments on indigenous women**

Havana, March 31 (RHC) The Peruvian Minister of Education, Óscar Becerra, was harshly criticized this Friday for his responses to a parliamentary questioning motivated by his offensive comment towards indigenous women who were protesting with their children tied to their backs.

The reproaches are also directed at the parliamentary majority, which supports the Government and defended it, justified or minimized the headline's statement.

Becerra said that even animals protect their young and do not expose them to danger, when asked about the repression of women despite the fact that they were marching with their little ones. The minister maintained that he never spoke of the Aymara women, but rather made a general comment about the obligation to protect children, refused to apologize, and stated that police repression and the native women who demanded President Dina Boluarte's resignation was a matter of the Ministry of the Interior.

The leftist congressman, Jaime Quito, described Becerra as "the racist education minister who insulted the Aymara mothers who protested in the capital with their children."

"Instead of making fun of the citizenry, he should resign from office," he added about the head of Education, who during the debate on the interpellation motion ate cookies and maintained an indifferent attitude.

The progressive legislator, Sigrid Bazán, questioned that the minister said that he defends the health and integrity of children. "How can you talk about defending life if this is the government of death and impunity?" she added, noting that of the more than 60 deaths during the protests, at least seven were children.

The center-right parliamentarian, Carlos Anderson, commented that Becerra's questioned statements are indefensible, and declared that Becerra "has only previously expressed general apologies and had the opportunity to make an act of contrition before the country in the Legislative Assembly".

The centrist parliamentarian and former Minister of Education, Flor Pablo, added that Becerra made a long list of lamentable statements, and described his ministerial management as incapable. (Source: Prensa Latina)

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