

constituted on 26 February, 2003 followed by a sub-Committee under the chairmanship of the Minister of State for External Affairs in August, 2003 to look into this matter and take necessary measures. Keeping in view this objective, the 8th World Hindi Conference was organized in New York on 13 July 2007 and its inaugural session was held at the UN Headquarters, which was attended by the UN Secretary General Mr. Ban Ki-moon. In addition, a World Hindi Secretariat has been set up in Mauritius since 11 February 2008 to promote Hindi as an international language. On several occasions, Indian leaders have delivered statements at the UN in Hindi. Necessary arrangements were made for simultaneous interpretation of these statements in English by the Permanent Mission of India in New York. The Government of India's sustained efforts have also ensured that the United Nations offers its programmes on the UN Radio Website in Hindi also.

(b) to (d) The introduction of Hindi as one of the official languages of the United Nations has several financial and procedural implications which require to be met before a formal proposal can be tabled at the UN. India, as the proposing country, would need to provide sufficient financial resources to the UN to cover the additional expenditure on interpretation, translation, printing and duplication of documents and related infrastructural costs. Procedurally, the UN General Assembly (the legislative body of the UN) would also need to adopt a resolution supported by a majority of the 193 UN Member States. Apart from the additional cost to India, the addition of another official language at the UN entails a significant increase in the budget of the UN (personnel, equipment, and other recurring costs). Member States have been generally reluctant to support proposals entailing any additional financial burden.

Teaching of Hindi to foreigners

3761. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has set up chairs/institutions/centres for teaching Hindi to citizens of foreign countries abroad;
- (b) the number of such chairs/institutions/centres that are working at present;
- (c) the details thereof, country-wise;
- (d) the amount of budget allotted every year for such centres to promote Hindi abroad;

- (e) whether Government has made any documentation of tangible result for such centres;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether Government proposes to set up more centres abroad; and
- (h) the details of centres established in last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) Yes. ICCR has established Chairs of Hindi language in various prominent universities in the world to teach Hindi to citizens of foreign countries. ICCR had established fourteen such Chairs in Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, China, Croatia, Hungary, Poland, Russia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey and Turkmenistan. In addition to these Chairs, ICCR had also deputed five Hindi Teachers to Indian Cultural Centers/Universities in Armenia, Bangladesh, Romania, Sri Lanka and Suriname. Local Hindi Teachers have also been hired for teaching in our Indian Cultural Centers/Missions in Egypt, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

(c) and (d) Country wise details of budget allocated for the Hindi Chairs and Hindi Teachers in the financial year 2010-11 and 2011-12 is given in Statement (*See below*). Expenditure on the locally hired Hindi Teachers is met from the overall budget of the Indian Cultural Centers/Missions abroad.

(e) and (f) Performance and popularity of the Chairs are evaluated by continuous monitoring by the host university, concerned Indian Mission and ICCR. The popularity of a Chair is judged by way of its demand among local students as reported the host University. On the basis of such evaluations and feedbacks, ICCR decides on the justification for continuance or otherwise of a Chair.

(g) Proposals to establish Hindi Chairs are considered from time to time.

(h) In the last two years, ICCR has established two new Hindi Chairs in Czech Republic and Switzerland and deputed three Hindi Teachers in Armenia, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

Statement

Country-wise details of funds allocated for Hindi Chairs:

Sl. No.	Chair	University/Institution and City	Funds allocated in Financial Year 2010-11 (Rs. in Lakhs)	Funds allocated in Financial Year 2011-12 (Rs. in Lakhs)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Azerbaijan	Azerbaijan University of Languages, Baku	20.00	32.00	Nil
2.	Belgium	State University of Ghent, Ghent	24.00	32.00	Nil
3.	Bulgaria	Sofia University, Sofia	21.00	32.00	Nil
4.	China	Peking University, Beijing	23.00	32.00	Nil
5.	Croatia	University of Zagreb, Zagreb	24.00	32.00	Nil
6.	Hungary	ELTE University, Budapest	32.00	37.00	Nil
7.	Poland	Warsaw University, Warsaw	24.00	32.00	Nil
8.	Russia	Jawaharlal Nehru Cultural Center, Moscow	40.00	45.00	Nil
9.	Slovenia	University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana	16.00	26.00	Nil
10.	Spain	Valladolid University, Valladolid	24.00	32.00	Nil
11.	Switzerland	University of Lausanne, Lausanne	Nil	10.00	Started in financial year

12.	Trinidad and Tobago	University of West Indies, Port of Spain	35.00	40.00	2011-12 Funded by Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, Agra
13.	Turkey	Ankara University, Ankara	24.00	32.00	Nil
14.	Turkmenistan	National Institute of World Languages, Ashgabat	21.00	32.00	Nil

Written Answers to

Funds allocated for Hindi Teachers:

1.	Armenia	Yerevan State Linguistic University, Yerevan	24.00	26.00	Nil
2.	Bangladesh	Indian Cultural Center, Dhaka	Nil	25.00	Started in financial year 2011-12
3.	Romania	Bucharest University, Bucharest	25.00	25.00	Nil
4.	Sri Lanka	Indian Cultural Center, Colombo	Nil	Nil	Will start in financial year 2012-13.
5.	Suriname	Indian Cultural Center, Paramaribo	25.00	25.00	Funded by Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, Agra
GRAND TOTAL			402.00	547.00	

[10 MAY, 2012]

Unstarred Questions 103