

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2259
ANSWERED ON - 09/08/2023

ENRICHING THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE AND REGIONAL LANGUAGES IN THE NEP

2259 # SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any action plan has been devised in the New Education Policy (NEP) to enrich the Official Language Hindi and all the regional languages of the country included in the Eighth Schedule;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any effective measures have been taken in the New Education Policy to implement all the provisions of the new education policy in the educational institutions run by all the education Boards of the country;
- (d) if so, whether all the provisions of the New Education Policy would be applicable to English medium educational institutions too; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a) to (e): The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 focuses on the promotion of all scheduled and non-scheduled Indian Languages including Hindi and other regional languages. NEP, 2020 provides, wherever possible, for medium of instruction to be in the home language/mother tongue/local language upto at least class 5 and preferably upto class 8. The policy also provides for making available high quality text books in home language/mother tongue and encouraging teachers to use bilingual approach while teaching. Government of India has taken number of steps for the promotion of Regional Languages. National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) has been conducted in 13 languages. Joint Entrance Exam (JEE) is now conducted in 13 languages. Technical education is being imparted in certain All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) approved institutions in 8 regional languages. Course material including text books and teaching resource are available on Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing

(DIKSHA) portal in 33 Indian languages. There are separate organisations for development and promotion of Hindi, Urdu, Sindhi and Sanskrit languages. Sanskrit Language is promoted through three Central Universities viz, Central Sanskrit University, New Delhi, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri National Sanskrit University, New Delhi and National Sanskrit University, Tirupati. Hindi is promoted by Kendriya Hindi Sansthan (KHS) Agra, Central Hindi Directorate (CHD), New Delhi and Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT), New Delhi, Mahatama Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Viswavidyalaya, Wardha. Central Universities also have a vibrant Hindi Departments and other language departments which promotes these languages. Sindhi is promoted through National Council for Promotion of Sindhi Language (NCPSSL), New Delhi and Urdu is promoted through National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL), New Delhi. Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysuru works for the promotion of all Indian languages including Scheduled/Non-Scheduled languages, Classical Languages and Regional Languages. CIIL runs various schemes like National Translation Mission, Linguistic Data Consortium of Indian Languages, Bharatavani, Scheme for Protection and Preservation for Endangered Languages (SPPEL), etc for development and promotion of Indian languages.

In order to further facilitate education through Indian Languages, Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has also asked its affiliated schools to consider using Indian languages, as enumerated in the Schedule 8 of the Indian Constitution, as the medium of instruction from Foundational Stage till end of Secondary stage i.e. from pre-primary classes till class XII as an optional medium in addition to other existing options.
