GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-995
ANSWERED ON- 04/12/2024

FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR ANCIENT LANGUAGES INCLUDING MAITHILI

995 # Dr. Bhim Singh:

Will the Minister of *Education* be pleased to state:

(a) whether Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Bodo, Dogri, Maithili, Sansthali have been declared as ancient languages;

(b) if so, the details of the funds allocated during the last five years, till date for ancient languages including Maithili; and

(c) the details of promotional activities related to ancient aspects of Maithili language since its declaration as ancient language, year-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(Dr. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (c) The Government of India does not officially recognize the term "ancient language." The policy of the Government of India focuses on promoting all Indian languages. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 emphasizes the promotion of multilingualism and aims to ensure the vibrancy of Indian languages.

The Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL) plays a key role in promoting all Indian languages, while there are separate dedicated institutions for Tamil, Sanskrit, Urdu, Sindhi and Hindi. Significant efforts have been made by the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), through its various schemes for promotion of Maithili language. The National Translation Mission has translated important works into Maithili including the 'Constitution of India'. Bharatvani, the multilingual knowledge portal, hosts 50 Maithili Resources including language learning tools, encyclopaedias, textbooks and dictionaries, making it easier to learn and use Maithili. The Linguistic Data Consortium for Indian Languages (LDC-IL) has developed extensive text and speech resources for Maithili, encompassing over 5.3 million words of text and over 78 hours of speech corpus. These resources are available for academic and technological use.

Fund is not allocated for each of the indian languages separately. However, the grants provided to various institutions for the promotion of Indian languages over the past five years is detailed below:

YEAR	GRANTS (Rs. in crores)
2019-20	562.17
2020-21	458.58
2021-22	328.34
2022-23	346.85
2023-24	388.34

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