

**Bill No. 107 of 2022**

THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022

By

SHRIMATI DIYA KUMARI, M.P.

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*further to amend the Constitution of India.*

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-third Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. This Act may be called the Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2022. Short title.

5      2. In the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution, the existing entries 17 to 22 shall be re-numbered as entries from 18 to 23, respectively, and before entry 18 as so re-numbered, the following entry shall be inserted, namely: Amendment of the Eighth Schedule.

“17. Rajasthani.”

## STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Language is indicative of the history, culture, people, system of governance, ecology, politics, etc. of a region. 'Rajasthani' is a language of western Indo-Aryan origin spoken widely across Rajasthan and parts of Haryana, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. Rajasthani language is written in the Devanagari script. It has a rich heritage that can be traced back to more than 1500 years. Works of renowned ancient philosophers, astronomers, mathematicians, poets and writers dating back to 7th Century AD in Rajasthani language have also been identified and preserved. Rajasthani language can also be seen in different cultural fields such as music, arts, dance and drama.

Rajasthani language, while being historically and traditionally very rich, is subjected to gross neglect at the national level. This poses a risk of the language eventually losing its existence. Further Rajasthani language has so far not been included in the scheme of examinations being conducted by the Union Public Service Commission. As a result, students proficient in the language are unable to apply it efficiently. Hence by including Rajasthani in the Eighth Schedule, avenues of employment shall also be generated.

There have been persistent demands from the Rajasthani-speaking people for inclusion of the Rajasthani language in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. The National Academy of Letters, the Sahitya Akademi and the University Grants Commission recognize Rajasthani language as a distinct language. Rajasthani language is also taught in the Rajasthan State Board of Secondary Education. Yet, national recognition has not been accorded to the Rajasthani language.

Therefore, in view of the above, in order to protect, promote and preserve the sanctity of Rajasthani language and to protect the culture and the traditions of the speakers of this language, and also taking into consideration the importance of this language, it is necessary that Rajasthani language be given due recognition by including it in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI;

DIYA KUMARI

6 April, 2022

*ANNEXURE*

[EXTRACT FROM THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA]

EIGHTH SCHEDULE

[Articles 344(1) and 351]

Languages

- \* \* \* \* \*
1. Assamese.
  2. Bengali.
  3. Bodo.
  4. Dogri.
  5. Gujarati.
  6. Hindi.
  7. Kannada.
  8. Kashmiri.
  9. Konkani.
  10. Maithili.
  11. Malayalam.
  12. Manipuri.
  13. Marathi.
  14. Nepali.
  15. Oriya.
  16. Punjabi.
  17. Sanskrit.
  18. Santhali.
  19. Sindhi.
  20. Tamil.
  21. Telugu.
  22. Urdu.
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*(Shrimati Diya Kumari, M.P.)*