

Bill No. 145 of 2025

THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

By

SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA, M.P.

A

BILL

further to amend the Constitution of India.

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

1. (1) This Act may be called the Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2025.

Short title and
commencement.

5 (2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

2. In the Eighth Schedule to Constitution,—

Amendment
of the Eighth
Schedule.

(a) existing entry 6 shall be re-numbered as entry 7 and before the entry 7 as so re-numbered, the following entry shall be inserted, namely:—

“6. Ho”; and

10 (b) existing entries 20 to 22 shall be re-numbered as entries from 21 to 23 and before the entry 21 as so re-numbered, the following entry shall be inserted, namely:—

“20. Soura.”.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

There have been persistent demands from the Soura-speaking and Ho-speaking people for the inclusion of the Soura and Ho language in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. At present Soura is a language spoken by Soura people which is an ethnic group in eastern India, mainly concentrated in the State of Odisha. Soura is also recognized as an endangered language by UNESCO. On the other hand, Ho is spoken by the Ho tribal people living in the Kolhan region encompassing the State of Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal and Assam. These languages have a rich ethnic and phylogenetic vocabulary which needs to be preserved. The Bill seeks to give effect to the same.

The Bill, therefore, seeks to amend the Constitution with a view to include “Ho” and “Soura” language in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI;
November 7, 2024

SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA

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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(Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka, M.P.)