

Bill No. 157 of 2025

THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 2025

By

SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO, M.P.

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

Short title.

2. In the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution,—

Amendment
of the Eighth
Schedule.

5 (i) In the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution, the existing entries 10 and 22 shall be re-numbered as entries 11 and 23, respectively, and before entry 11 as so re-numbered, the following entry shall be inserted, namely:—

“10. Kudmali.”.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Kudmali is a language related to Bengali, Odia and Assamese. Its origin is linked to the civilization and culture of the Kudmi community. Kudmali language has its own special characteristics which belong to the Aryan language family which is reflected in its phonetic, linguistic and grammatical characteristics. It has its own linguistic idioms, proverbs, tune, rhythm, melody, various songs and a wide and powerful folk literature. There are basic reasons for its separateness. It has a large number of folk songs, folk tales, proverbs and riddles. After folk songs, folk tales, folk songs, riddles and proverbs have a place in Kudmali folk literature. The imprint of Kudmali is clearly reflected in these folk songs, folk tales and proverbs. It is known from the various compositions of these genres that Kudmali literature is as rich as it is excellent in terms of emotional beauty. Its literature is more than 2700 years old.

Kudmali language is mainly spoken in many states of India (mostly in Jharkhand). Mainly in Seraikela Kharsawan, East Singhbhum, Bokaro and Ranchi districts of Jharkhand, Mayurbhanj, Balasore, Kendujhar, Jajpur and Sundargarh districts of northern Odisha, and south western districts of West Bengal like West Medinipur, Jhargram, Bankura, Purulia and North Malda, North Dinajpur, South Dinajpur, Jalpaiguri, districts etc.

According to the 2011 census, there are more than 2 crore speakers of this language in India and some scholars believe that Kudmali is closest to the language of Charyapada. As a trade dialect, it is also called 'Panchpargania', which means it is a language spoken in five parganas.

There has been a continuous demand from the Kudmali speaking people to include Kudmali language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. This language is recognized as a regional language in the state of Jharkhand and this language is also taught in Jharkhand University. Still, Kudmali language has not been given national recognition.

Therefore, keeping the above in mind, it is necessary to protect, promote and preserve the sanctity of Kudmali language and protect the culture and traditions of the speakers of this language and also keeping in mind the importance of this language that Kudmali language should be included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution and given due recognition.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI;
November 6, 2024.

BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO

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. Maithilli.
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 Bidyut Baran Mahato, M.P.)