

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 52**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 07TH DECEMBER, 2022/ AGRAHAYANA 16, 1944
(SAKA)**

**COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENT ON OFFICIAL LANGUAGE & THE OFFICIAL
LANGUAGES ACT, 1963**

52. DR. JOHN BRITTAS:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the remit of the Committee vide Official Languages Act is only to review the progress made in the use of Hindi for official purposes of Union;

(b) if so, whether the recent recommendations of the Committee regarding medium of instruction in Universities and professional institutions is ultra vires of the Act;

(c) whether the said Act stipulates that English shall continue along with Hindi for all official purposes of Union and such other matters; and

(d) whether Sec 3(5) of the Act provides for preserving the language provisions therein until resolutions to contrary have been passed by the State legislatures and Parliament?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI AJAY KUMAR MISHRA)**

(a) & (b): As per the Official Languages Act, 1963, the duty of Committee of Parliament on Official Language is to review the progress made in the use of Hindi for the official purposes of the Union and to submit its recommendations to the Competent Authority. As per the direction of the

Competent Authority, these recommendations are laid on the Table of the Parliament by the Ministry of Home Affairs and thereafter sent to the State Governments, concerned stakeholders including Ministries/Departments of the Government of India for their comments. After considering the comments received from the State Governments, stakeholders etc., orders are finally issued to accept/reject/modify the recommendations of the Committee. The recent recommendations are under process.

Provision regarding medium of instruction in educational institutions is stipulated in the National Education Policy (2020) which envisages imparting more programs in higher education, using mother tongue/ local language as medium of instruction, and/or offers programs bilingually.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir.
