

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2444**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 22ND MARCH, 2023/ CHAITRA 1, 1945 (SAKA)

INCLUSION OF TULU LANGUAGE IN EIGHTH SCHEDULE

2444 DR. DHARMASTHALA VEERENDRA HEGGADE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka have persistently raised the demand to include TULU Language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not including this language in the Eighth Schedule;

(b) whether it is a fact that according to the 2001 Census report, there are 18,46,427 native speakers of Tulu in the country;

(c) the names of the languages recognized in the Eighth Schedule;

(d) whether Dr Sitakant Mohapatra Committee has fixed any criteria for inclusion of other languages in the Eighth Schedule; and

(e) the details of the dates and basis for inclusion of various languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

(a) to (e): A total of 22 languages of India are included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India. The details of date on which recognition has been granted to each of the languages included in the Eighth Schedule are as under:-

- (i) 14 languages viz. Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Malayalam, Marathi, Oriya, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu were initially included in the Constitution i.e. on 26.01.1950.**

- (ii) Sindhi language was included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution on 10.04.1967.**

- (iii) Konkani, Manipuri and Nepali languages were included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution on 31.08.1992.**

- (iv) Bodo, Dogri, Maithili & Santhali languages were included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution on 07.01.2004.**

As per available information in the 2001 census report, the total population speaking Tulu language as their mother tongue was 17,22,768, and in the 2011 census report it has increased to 18,46,427 persons.

There have been demands from time to time for inclusion of several languages in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution, including Tulu. However, there are no fixed criteria for consideration of any language for inclusion in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. The attempt to fix such criteria through Sitakant Mohapatra Committee has been inconclusive.

As the evolution of dialects and languages is a dynamic process, influenced by socio-cultural, economic and political developments, it is difficult to fix any criterion for languages for inclusion in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. The Government is conscious of the sentiments and requirements for inclusion of other languages in the Eighth Schedule. Such requests have to be considered keeping in mind these sentiments, and the other relevant considerations.
