

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No-2250
ANSWERED ON- 09/08/2023

MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION IN UNIVERSITIES AND PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTIONS

2250 Dr. John Brittas:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether Government has started implementing its policy of introduction of Hindi and other local languages as medium of instruction in Universities and Professional Institutions;
- (b) If so, details thereof;
- (c) Whether Government took note of the difficulties to be faced by students hailing from other States while studying in the local language of the State where such Universities or Professional Institutions are situated;
- (d) Whether it is a fact that students from Non-Hindi speaking States will face difficulties while studying in Hindi speaking States on account of this; and
- (e) if so, stand of Government thereto?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a) to (e): As per information received from the University Grants Commission (UGC), Universities being autonomous institutions decide their academic matters including the medium of instruction, academic content, courses, syllabi, curricula and conduct of examination as per provision in their Act/Statute and Ordinances.

Further, promoting multilingualism and the power of language in teaching and learning is one of the fundamental principles of the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020. The NEP, 2020 envisions that more Higher Educational Institutes (HEIs), and more programmes in higher education, will use the mother tongue/local language as a medium of instruction, and/or offer programmes bilingually, in order to increase access and Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) and also to promote the strength, usage, and vibrancy of all Indian languages. The UGC has thus advised the Universities to use local language in teaching learning process and allow students to write exams in mother tongue/ local languages even if the programme is offered in English medium.
