

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 681**  
ANSWERED ON 26.07.2023

**Inclusion of Indian Sign Language (ISL) in curriculum**

681 Shri Binoy Viswam:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) number of centrally aided institutions and educational programmes having sign language as a subject;
- (b) number of teachers trained in Indian Sign Language (ISL) at these institutions;
- (c) amount of money spent and number of sessions conducted for the same; and
- (d) number of NCERT-based textbook videos in ISL, out of total NCERT books?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (d) The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) has strived to provide inclusive and barrier free educational opportunities to interested learners since its inception in order to achieve its vision of sustainable inclusive learning. Indian Sign Language (ISL) as a language subject at secondary level is one of the major initiatives that have been taken by NIOS. ISL as a first language subject has been introduced and launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India in 2021. NIOS has already developed 945 videos in ISL based on textbook (Self-Learning Material) of NIOS.

Further, as per information received from Rehabilitation Council of India, RCI has approved 13 Institutions to run Diploma in Indian Sign Language Interpretation (DISLI) course. Out of these 13 Institutions, 6 Institutions are Government Institutions and others are Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). RCI has also approved 6 Institutions to run Diploma in Teaching Indian Sign Language (DTISL) course. Out of these 6 Institutions, 2 are Government Institutions.

There are 346 registered Indian Sign Language Interpreters (ISLI) and 71 registered Indian Sign Language Teachers (ISLT), as per the Central Rehabilitation register (CRR) maintained by RCI.

National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has produced 935 textbooks based ISL videos in collaboration with Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC) from the textbooks of classes I to VI (number of books covered - 38). There are 369 textbooks published by NCERT in Hindi, English and Urdu languages.

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