

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No-194**  
ANSWERED ON- 27/11/2024

**EDUCATING THE CHILDREN IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

194 Shri N.R. Elango:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether New Education Policy is giving priority to Sanskrit over the other languages; and
- (b) the steps being taken by the Ministry to educate the children in foreign language?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a): The policy of the Government is to promote all Indian Languages. The National Education Policy, 2020 lays a lot of stress on promoting multilingualism and making efforts to keep Indian languages vibrant. The Government of India in the National Education Policy has provided that wherever possible the medium of instruction upto at least class 5 and preferably upto class 8 will be in the home language/ mother tongue/ regional language. The policy emphasize that teaching should be in their home language/mother tongue and learning of Indian languages should be integrated with school and higher education, so that students have the option of studying in any Indian language.

(b): The National Education Policy 2020 has envisaged that foreign languages such as Korean, Japanese, Thai, French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, and Russian are offered at the secondary level, for students to learn about the cultures of the world and to enrich their global knowledge and mobility according to their own interest and aspirations.

Various Central Universities including The English and Foreign Languages University (EFLU) is offering undergraduate, post graduate and doctoral programmes in selected foreign languages such as Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Persian, Spanish and Russian etc.

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