

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1581
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.03.2025

PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION OF GONDI LANGUAGE

1581 # Shri Digvijaya Singh:

Will the Minister of **Tribal Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) the efforts being made by Government for the preservation and promotion of the Gondi language, also known as Koitur 'Parsi' of the Gond tribal community in the country;
- (b) whether Government is considering to constitute a separate institution or commission for the preservation and promotion, writing, and training of the Gondi language i.e. Koitur 'Parsi'; and
- (c) if so, by when it would be constituted?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI DURGADAS UIKEY)

(a) Gondi language of the Gond tribal community is primarily spoken in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Telangana and Odisha. Tribal Research Institute of Odisha, Maharashtra and Telangana have developed Primers, Varnmala, local rhymes, Dictionaries and stories in Gondi Language.

Tribal Research Institute Madhya Pradesh had documented Gondi language through folktales, folklores etc. They have also organized cultural festivals/conferences/exhibitions to promote Gondi language in Balaghat, Dindori and Mandla Districts.

Ministry of Tribal Affairs is administering the Centrally Sponsored Schemes “Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs)” and Central Sector Scheme “Tribal Research, Information, Education, Communication and Events (TRI-ECE)” under which 100% funds are sanctioned for various activities undertaken by 29 Tribal Research Institutes and Research Organizations / NGOs / Universities / State Governments / PSUs. The Ministry has taken various steps to preserve, promote and protect the indigenous tribal languages including Gondi language of the Gond tribal community. Under these schemes, funds are *inter alia* sanctioned for:

- i. Preparation of Bilingual Dictionaries and Tri-lingual Proficiency Modules in tribal languages.
- ii. Preparation of Primers for students of Class I to V in tribal languages under Multi-Lingual Education (MLE).
- iii. Publication of Varnamala, local rhymes, and stories in tribal languages.
- iv. Publication of books, journals on different tribal languages to promote tribal literature.
- v. Documentation of folklore, and folktales of different tribes for preservation and promotion of tribal folk tradition. Collecting oral literature (songs, riddles, ballads etc.).
- vi. Conducting conferences, seminars, workshops, and poetic symposiums to facilitate tribal social development as well as preservation and promotion of their socio-cultural heritage.
- vii. Research studies/documentations including audio visual documentaries for promotion, preservation and conservation of the rich tribal cultural heritage.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration to constitute a separate institution or commission of the Gondi Language.

(c) Does not arise.
