

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1204**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 30TH JULY, 2025/ SRAVANA 8, 1947 (SAKA)

STATUS OF INCLUSION OF NEW LANGUAGES IN THE EIGHTH SCHEDULE

1204 # SHRI MADAN RATHORE:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering any proposal to include new languages in the Eighth Schedule;**
- (b) whether Government has received any formal proposal for inclusion of Bhojpuri and Rajasthani languages;**
- (c) whether Government has constituted any committee on the social, cultural and educational importance of these languages; and**
- (d) whether any timeline has been set for providing Constitutional status to such languages?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

(a) to (d): There have been demands from time to time for inclusion of several languages, including Bhojpuri and Rajasthani, in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. However, there are no fixed criteria for consideration of any language for inclusion in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. 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 earlier attempts, through the Pahwa (1996) and Sitakant Mohapatra (2003) Committees, to evolve such fixed criteria have been inconclusive. 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. Since at present, there are no fixed criteria for any language to be considered for inclusion in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution, no time-frame can be fixed for consideration of the demands for inclusion of more languages in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution.

As per available information, a High-Powered Committee, namely, 'Bhartiya Bhasha Samiti' has been constituted to explore and recommend pathways for the holistic and multidisciplinary growth of Indian Languages as envisaged in the National Education Policy, 2020. The Committee's mandate is, inter-alia, to advise the Government on all matters pertaining to revitalization of existing language teaching and research and its extension in various institutions in the country.