

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
(DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL & TRAINING)

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3318
(ANSWERED ON 21.08.2025)

PROMOTION OF REGIONAL LANGUAGES IN COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS

#3318. **SHRI RAMESWAR TELI:**

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that before the year 2014, candidates appearing for exams conducted by the Staff Selection Commission (SSC) could take the exam only in one or two languages;
- (b) whether Government has taken steps to provide equal opportunities to candidates educated in regional languages; and
- (c) if so, the detailed information regarding the initiatives taken to expand language options in SSC and other competitive exams?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)**

(a) to (c): Since 2022, Staff Selection Commission (SSC) has been conducting three all-India competitive examinations viz. Multi-Tasking (Non-Technical) Staff and Havaldar (CBIC & CBN) Examination, Combined Higher Secondary (10+2) Level Examination, and Constable (GD) Examination, in 13 regional languages along with Hindi & English.

As regards other competitive examinations, the Civil Services (Mains) Examination conducted by UPSC allows candidates to write answers in any of the 22 languages listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, besides Hindi or English (except in the case of language and literature papers). Other recruitment agencies such as Institute of Banking Personnel Selection (IBPS) and Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) also conduct examinations in 13 regional languages along with Hindi and English.
