

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.139
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.03.2018**

LANGUAGES INCLUDED IN EIGHTH SCHEDULE

†* 139. **SHRI KIRTI AZAD:**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the languages included in the Eighth Schedule in which curriculum is available along with the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has issued any directions/suggestions to the Government of Bihar/concerned Department for making curriculum available in Maithili language and if so, the details thereof along with the response received from the State Government;

(c) the scripts of the languages included in the Eighth Schedule which have been protected along with the details thereof;

(d) the antiquity of the script of Maithili language and its historical importance; and

(e) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for the propagation of the script of Maithili language?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 139 ASKED BY SHRI KIRTI AZAD FOR 05.03.2018 REGARDING LANGUAGES INCLUDED IN EIGHTH SCHEDULE

(a) to (e) : There are 22 languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India. The curriculum is available in all 22 languages of the Eighth Schedule. The curriculum for teaching in any language of the Eighth Schedule is prepared by the respective State Government where the language is spoken and has official recognition. Further, Higher Educational Institutions are autonomous institutions and they decide the medium of instruction, academic content, syllabi and curricula at their own level. Hindi is one of the languages included in the Eighth Schedule and it is the Official Language of the Union in Devanagari script. Devanagari is used for writing several languages like Hindi, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Dogri, Maithili, Konkani, Bodo, etc. Some languages like Konkani, Sindhi, Santhali, Maithili are written in more than one scripts. Maithili language remained largely an oral language during the earlier periods. When Hindi was made Official Language, the script of Maithili language started to be written in Devanagari. Maithili was also written in Kaithi script for some time. The official communications and textbooks for Maithili are written in the Devanagari script. There is no separate scheme for propagation of script of Maithili language.

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